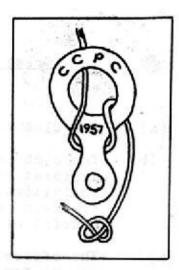
Newsletter



APRIL 1994.

ECO - HANGER HEATING.

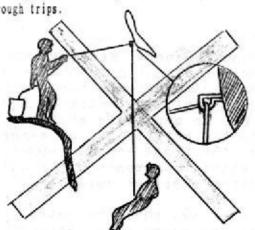
WARNINGS concerning the incorrect use of resin bonded anchors (Eco - hangers) have been made, following a report of a loose anchor in Heron pot. Leaders have been observed abseiling down the pitch, then lowering novices with the rope running directly through the anchor, rather than through an

attached maillon or karabiner.

It is possible that heat generated by rope friction could loosen the anchor, as well as causing damage to the rope. Owen Clarke, the NCA equipment officer, has conducted a simple test where he ran a used rope backwards and forwards through an Eco-banger set in resim, with about 10kg loading and 30m of rope travel per 50s, simulating hauling a tackle bag. Immediately after stopping a temperature rise of 50 degrees C was measured at the intact point in the hanger, dropping to 10 degrees C after two minutes. It is felt that this temperature rise over the course of successive activities could damage ropes and resin, not to mention cavers.

Eco-hangers must not be used with ropes running directly through them. A pulley should be used for lifelines or when lowering, and two hangers must always be used for

pull-through trips.



Varning: This practice is dangerous.

FORTHCOMING MEETS.

April.

Sat 16th: - Gaping Gill, GR-III/V, MGR, SD 751727. L-11.6kg, 0-155g.

Sat 30th: - Otter Hole, GR-V, Max 5 People,

May.

Sun 1st:- Oxlow Cavern, GR-III/V, MGR-125822. L-1.4km. 0-145m.

Sun 15th: - Simpsons Pot/ Swinstoe Hole. EXCHANGE.

Sun 22nd: - Penyghent Pot. GR-V. NGR. SD 829773. L-5.2km. D160m.

June.

Sun 5th:- Birksfell Cave. GR-IV. MGR, SD 931769. L-3.6km. 0-142m.

Sun 19th: - Little Hull Pot. CP-TV. NGR, SD 821744. L-1097m. D-98m.

Sat 25th: - Dan-y-ogof, South Wales, L-? D-?

Crewe Climbing and Potholing Club Rules

- I (a) The Club shall be called the Crewe Climbing and Potholing Club.
 - (b) The club is established to provide the opportunity for underground exploration and its associated sciences, climbing and associated activities. In the furthering of these objectives the club may arranged some recreational and money-raising activities for the benefit of the club.
- The officers of the club shall be:- Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer one or two Equipment officers, and Training officer. The officers of the club shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and subject to termination of office by resignation or otherwise shall remain in office until their successors are appointed at the Annual General Meeting following their appointment. The retiring officers shall be eligible for re-election.
 - (b) All members shall be liable upon any contract entered into and for any financial liabilities incurred by an officer of the club upon the express authorisation of the club members and for these purposes the officers of the club shall be agents of the club and of all the members.
 - Every candidate for membership shall be proposed by a member of the club and the election shall be at the discretion of the club members.
 - No person under the age of IS years may apply for full membership of the club. Persons under the age of IS years who have passed their 16 Birthday may apply for Junior membership. Junior members must be sponsored by a full member, at no time may a full member be acting as a sponsor for more than one Junior member. Junior members will pay fees as for students but have no voting powers but may attend meetings. Parental consent must be given in writing with each application. Associate members shall have the same rights as Junior members.
 - The Club Members shall have the power to request any member to resign or to terminate any membership but for the purpose of this rule agreement of not less then two thirds of the whole club shall be necessary. Upon termination of membership under this rule the subscription paid for the current year and in the case of a member who has been elected during the current year, the entrance fee, may be returned to the member wholly or in part at the discretion of the club members.

Cast of Membership:

- An entrance fee, as agreed at each Annual General Meeting, shall be payable by each person upon his or her election to the membershi of the club, which includes a club badge, membership card, copy of the club rules and a current membership list. The entrance fee shal be payable with the first subscription. No candidate who has been elected a member shall be entitled to the priviledges of membership until payment of the entrance fee and the first annual subscription has been paid. If fees are not paid within one month after notice of election has been given, the election shall be void.
- (b) An annual subscription, as fixed at each AGM shall be payable by all members upon the 1st January each and every year. Payment of the entrance fee and annual subscription by any person accepted

as a member after 1st October in any year shall cover his membership to the 31st December in the following year, without further payment of subscriptions. New members joining before 1st October in any year shall pay 'Pro-Rata' for the remaining 0 months of the year.

The club cannot be held liable for any personal injury or damage to the property of any member whatever the cause of the injury or damage.

The members shall have the power to alter the rules, but no such alteration shall take effect until the same has been confirmed at the annual general meeting or a special general meeting convened for the purpose.

The members shall have power to make regulations governing the conduct and affairs of the club and its members providing the same are not inconsistent with these rules.

A General meeting of the club shall be held in each year not :0 later than the end of January to transmit the following business:-To consider and, if approved sanction any duly made alteration (a) to the rules.

To receive and if approved, adopt a statement of the clubs

accounts of the previous year.

To appoint the officers of the club. To deal with any special matter which a member may wish to bring before the club members notice covening the annual general meeting shall be sent to the members not less than twenty-one days before the meeting.

A special general meeting may be convened at any time by the members for the following purposes:To consider and, if approved, sanction any duly made alterations

to the rules.

To deal with any special matter, including the expulsion of a (b)

(b)

(a)

11

To receive the resignation of an officer or to remove any member (0) from office and to fill any vacancy or vacancies caused thereby.

Notice covering this special general meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 14 days before the meeting and shall specify the matter to be dealt with.

At General Meetings, one third of the membership shall form a quorum, solati seem eldestenegat edit pi esolo grennparias le

Instruction: - The club shall be enpowered to appoint suitable 13 club members to carry out instruction on its behalf. A committee consisting of existing instructors shall consider application for ' Instructor and Assistant Instructor.

These rules are as amended by the AGM January 1983.

A SUMMER IN FRANCE.

by Ralph Johnson.

Having spent a couple of weeks with Five Towns Mountaineering Club in the Ecrin National Park. Ross, Darren, Melv, Sharon, Marguerite and yours truly finally arrived at at our usual site in Tardets.

Our first day in the Pyrinees began with a sunbathing session, an excuse to recover from a harrowing descent of the Ardeche by canoe and kayak "up side down in Darrens case!!" that was everyone except me who had arranged to meet Micheal Lauga an old friend from a past PSM trip. Accompanied by Marguerite (as interpreter) I finally extracted a list of suitable easy to find (joke) trips that were not to remote. These were to replace our trips with the Belgians, to Couey Lodge and Lonne Peyret which due to a total cock up with dates had been abandoned - perhaps as well but more of that later.

We decided to spend a day locating the most likely three holes before planning our intinery. What an utter and total disaster, we got totally lost. Savaged by dogs, soaked to the skin, found only two of the holes, and manage to loose Melv completely.

Undermined we planned to do the first trip down Karhalzeta Ko Karbia (No.1) with Sharon, Ross and Darren rigging, and with Melv and Ralph derigging (at least that was the plan). This hole was probably something of a joke, being tight, muddy and infested with — wait for it — Squirrels!!!! Our greatest concern was whether or not they would decide to sharpen their incisors on our rope. Needless to say the trip took about three times as long as expected, leaving us only minimal eating, drinking and carding time before having to crawl into bed, for an early night some time well before dawn!

Aven Bouche De Lucucillo was similar in many ways being difficult to find and awkward to rig, extremely tight (we almost abandoned Ross) and muddy. Another of Michel's jokes! He did comment that British Cavers would find the tight bits interesting.

Reseau De La Bidouze was perhaps the best of all being sporting with lots of wet pitches, good formations and even a small group of salamanders close to the impenetrable sump. Unfortunately it was rather short so some did it twice. Nearby was the entrance to some thing on Otter, rather like a miniature Peak Cavern but unfortunately this rapidly terminated in an ominous looking sump.

Probably the best trip of the holiday proved to be Canyoning. (see map) A really sporting trip where I managed to loose my glasses and almost drowned along with Sharon. -more of that later-The Canyon is easy to find being sign posted, but the pitches didn't seem to correspond exactly to the guide, which we had tried to memorise (in french). Some of the belays were questionable to say the least, I would suggest taking some tape slings and even pitons if the trip is planned.

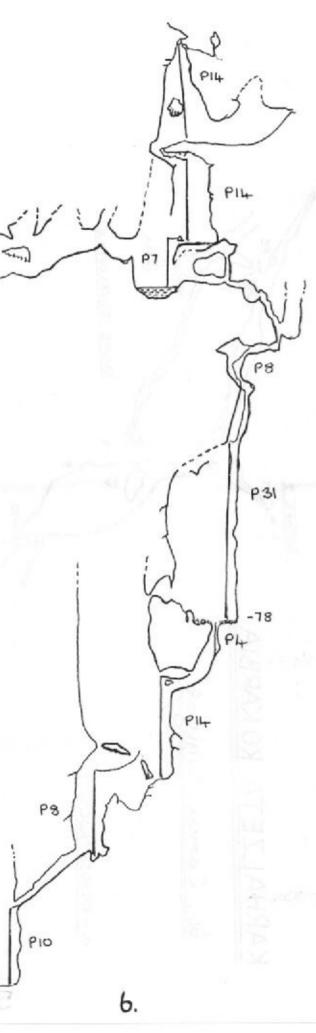
AVEN BOUCHE DE

Cne d'ALCAY (P.A.)

COUPE DEVELOPPEE



ECHELLE : 1/500



The canyons proper end is in a second canyon, with a deep pool of about 50m. Darren in full wet suit set off tailing a rope which he and Melv were going to use to assist Sharon and I who were only wearing thin neoprene long johns. The first epic came when the rope sank and looped under a tree. I managed to let go but a loop caught round my ankle momentarily submerging me has Sharon shot passed at great speed due to Melv's and Darren's efforts.

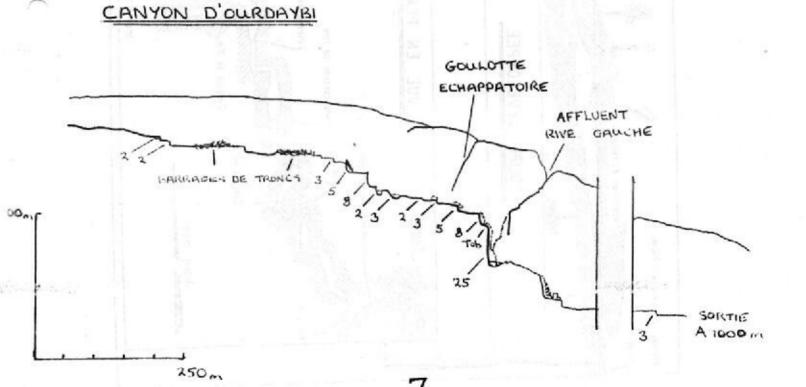
I surfaced as she shot passed, but just managed to grab hold of a tackle bag being towed. Here the fun really started. The speed of tow seemed to be critical. Too fast - we sank. Too slow - we sank. Unfortunately we never did find the optimum speed and since our mouths filled with water each time we tried to shout

information it was a tense few moments.

Needless to say we survived and were able to watch some french experts cross the pool (and later jump from the roadside into it - very spectacular). Only later to find out they were wearing neoprene vest, neoprene long johns and wet suits.

Unfortunately the day didn't end to well with me driving over to see the Belgians in time to learn that they had had a serious accident in Covey Lodge (later found to be a punctured lung as a result of broken ribs and clavicle). Their expedition was abandoned.

Anyone likely to be in the area wiling to locate these systems contact one of the group. - A good map is essential -



No 3