

Introduction

Welcome to the Crewe Climbing and Potholing Club's Peak District Rigging Guide. The aim of the guide is to cover the worthwhile SRT trips in the Peak District. The guide was first produced in 2001 and has been through many editions since. In 2012, Edition 11 was the last version produced purely as a paper guide book, to be sold in caving shops. In 2020 the guide moved on-line, free to view and download for personal, club and professional use. Our only restriction is that guides downloaded may not be sold. Copyright remains with Crewe Climbing and Potholing Club.

Going on-line allows us to update the guide more easily and gives the caving community the most up to date topos. For updates, check the rigging guide web page. Updated pages can be substituted in your paper copy. <https://www.ccpc.org.uk/rigging.html>.

The provision of a rigging topo, or other rigging details does not mean that access to the cave is allowed, or safe. Check on the Derbyshire Caving Association's (DCA) Peak District Caving web site for the latest access information (<https://www.peakdistrictcaving.info>). Peak District Caving also gives the entrance location and often an entrance photograph and other useful information. A QR Code is included with each rigging topo. Scanning the code with a smart phone will take you to the appropriate Peak District Caving page.

Guide books, especially the DCA's Caves of the Peak District (2010) should give you the rest of the information required for a successful trip. The rigging guide is divided in to regions, based on geographical watersheds and then alphabetically by cave, in the same way as the Peak District Caving web site and Caves of the Peak District to allow easy cross referencing.

Thanks must go to all the members of the caving community who have helped with the bolting programme, subsequent maintenance and the production of this guide.

Happy Caving!

Jenny Drake. February 2020

Warnings and Disclaimers

Derbyshire Caving Association and its member clubs have undertaken a programme to replace the old 8mm "spits" with resin fixed eco hangers (P-bolts, DMMs) These anchors are inspected on a regular basis and are safe at the time of inspection. However no anchor can be considered totally safe and it would be unwise to trust your life to a single anchor. Adequate back-ups are always available. Anchors other than these are not checked by DCA and should be treated with the same amount of caution.

Caving is not without its dangers; if you are unsure about SRT techniques then we recommend joining a reputable club, or attending a training course. These rigging guides are provided for the use of experienced cavers only. The provision of a guide does not mean that the route is safe and the caver must use her, or his own judgment when rigging and descending the cave. Weather conditions, deterioration of the anchors, loose rock, the cavers skill level, fitness and many other factors can affect the safety of the route.

We've made our best efforts to make this guide as accurate as we can. CCPC can accept no responsibility for any errors, or omissions in the guide. If you find any errors, or wish to make any suggestions, then please let us know. There is a feedback form on the rigging guide web site.

Resin Fixed Anchor Safety

All anchors should be checked prior to use. With resin anchors insert a karabiner and apply a twisting motion, a slight flexing of the bolt is acceptable, any movement is not.

Other points to check are:

- Grooves worn in the outer curvature of the hanger.
- Rotation of the bolt within the resin.
- Rotation of the resin in the rock.
- Fracturing of the rock within 20cm of the placement.

Should any defects be noticed these should be reported immediately to Derbyshire Caving Association giving the following information:

- Name of cave.
- Precise location of the anchor (name of pitch, route)
- Location of anchor (counting from the start of that group of hangers.)

The Eco hanger has been approved by British Caving Association (BCA) as a fixed aid for caving. They are placed by trained personnel and checked on a regular basis. There is no absolute guarantee of their safety. Never trust your life to a single bolt however sound it may appear. Other types of anchor are not approved by the BCA and are not subject to regular inspection by the DCA.

Fixed ropes, especially those heading upwards, should be treated with the greatest of caution.