

ENGG ANNUAL REPORT

1988



SECRETARIES REPORT TO THE 1996 C. N. C. C. A. G. M.

ANCHOR RE-PLACEMENT PROGRAMME

Anchors have been re-placed at a steady rate throughout the past twelve months. The bulk of the re-placement work is now undertaken by the C. N. C. C. technical group, other work undertaken by C. N. C. C. T. G. is the recording, documentation, maintenance, testing, production of rigging guides and cards. A full report of the past years work and the programmed work for 1996 is included in the C. N. C. C. T. G. report to the C. N. C. C. A. G. M.

CAR BREAKINS & THEFTS

The occurrence of incidents is on the increase, Alum pot lane is top of the hit list with most weekends. I have spoken and written to P. C. Lund at Skipton police station. One possible solution is to approach the farmers at the top sites (Alum pot lane, Kingsdale) and try to 'rent' a safe room/building that cavers could put their clothes etc. in, an obvious choice is Selside farm where cavers already go and pay their access fee, maybe for a small increase the farmer may allow us to rent such a facility. I am sure that if this possible, a number of metal lockers could be installed. The only advise that the police can offer at present is the obvious one, leave as little as possible in your vehicle. The police assure me that they have increased patrols in these areas.

ADMINISTRATION

The amount of paper work for the past period is up on the previous period, the only drop in work load is individual enquires on club information. A lot of my time is wasted on clubs who for some reason or other have failed to read the newsletter or the access handbook. To allow more time for other C. N. C. C. tasks, I try to deal with the majority of enquires by phone, otherwise, I can spend literally hours at the keyboard.

N. C. A. EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

I have where possible attended these meetings and have continued to test and research the techniques of anchor systems and installation. Although I feel that most times I am wasting valuable caving time attending these meeting some salient points have been fought and won. Whether I continue to attend these meetings on a regular basis is dependant upon the direction in which the equipment committee go, and, whether they are prepared to listen to me occasionally. I am concerned about the equipment committee taking on the role of techniques, my personal feeling is that there is not enough expertise or experience in certain facets within the committee, I have passed my comments on to J. Cliffe.

999 TELEPHONE AT BULL POT FARM

After the last bill for the above phone I was asked to make some enquires regarding the facility of the 999 phone and the billing structure. I have been in contact with both B. T. and Mel Wilkinson (R. R. C. P. C.) regarding the matter. The result; the increased costs in line rental, are because the line to Bull pot farm is a business line and B. T. over looked that fact for a number of years, this will in future be charged as one. The 999 phone facility is also on this line for which there is an emergency maintenance fee. If the only phone at Bull pot farm was the 999 facility, then we would only have to pay the emergency maintenance fee and equipment rental. This though, would entail R. R. C. P. C. having the business line removed, this they are reluctant to do. In future I suggest that the C. N. C. C. only pays for the emergency maintenance fee and equipment rental, the cost of the business line is therefore borne by R. R. C. P. C.

Les Sykes

C. N. C. C. secretary 07. 03. 1996

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Minutes of the C.N.C.C. A.G.M. held on 9th March 1996 at the Hellfield Village Institute

Present:

R.Myers C.P.C., A.Bolton Y.S.S., C.Danilewicz N.P.C., C.Smith P.C.C., P.Ramsden F.A., G.Jones W.S.G., J.Sloane L.U.G., J.Harland A.C.C., M.Slater B.P.C., R.Wilding O.C.G., B.Quinton O.C.G., M.Hughes W.V.P.C., P.Muckalt R.R.C.P.C., B.Bond B.C.C., G.Barber P.P., P.Allwright D.H.S.S., R.Holmes D.H.S.S., L.Sykes L.U.G., A.Hodgson R.R.C.P.C., H.Lomas Y.R., D.Shepley D.H.S.S.

Apologies:

D.Leonard A.N.T., J.Green P.P., S.Marshall B.P.C., R.Halliwell C.P.C., P.Parker W.R.P.C., A.May N.S.G., M.Omeroyd L.M.R.T., P.Wilson B.P.C.

The meeting commenced at 10.10 am.

MINUTES OF THE 1995 A.G.M.: No amendments, signed as a true and correct account.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: The issue of a Training officer/co-ordinator, to be discussed at this meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

SECRETARIES REPORT:

Written report submitted. L.S. asked for comments. Car break-ins/thefts, (para 2). B.B. & R.H. said that because most people did not report them, the crimes were not mentioned in police statistics. G.B. noted that it was worth publishing the suggestion of taking down car numbers in the area. There was then a general discussion among members from which; taking down numbers, and having someone stay with the cars was considered the ideal policy. Para 5, telephone at Bull Pot Farm, L.S. outlined the story so far. A.H. then went on to complete the picture. The matter is near resolution. The secretaries report was accepted.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Written report submitted. G.J. then went on to introduce the most contentious part of his report, that of claiming funding from the N.C.A. What action do we take? Do we accept fudging?, do we continue to argue our corner?, and, future projects need serious financial appraisal, and detail. C.N.C.C.'s contribution to the N.C.A. has risen in the last year from £330 to £600? for 1996. However the C.N.C.C. can only claim for training; and things look to be getting tighter., G.B. queried the N.C.A. claims limits. P.R. explained the position of the N.C.A., as he understood it, regarding funding. The N.C.A. treasurer (N.Williams) has told G.J. to claim for monies due under the heading of training money; and not access and conservation as is the true definition of this claim. G.B. stated that surely access and conservation is the priority in the north, what with so many cave sites. P.R. added that the N.C.A. see their role as that of a financial body. R.H. said that there is no point in them existing if they cannot control access and conservation, as this is one of the prime negotiating roles nationally that they were set up for. L.S. noted that a D.C.A. proposal to the N.C.A. A.G.M. was for a conservation officer, to be funded by other local bodies. G.B. said that there was no chance of this from E.N. E.N. look to funding individual conservation projects, they do not finance bodies like the N.C.A. or posts within it. G.J. needs to be in attendance at the N.C.A. A.G.M. to put our points forward. If the only benefit of being in the N.C.A. is to claim back money that we have paid them, then what is the point? P.R. thought that the N.C.A. should be protecting cavers, not penalising them for what it doesn't get from the sports council. The feeling expressed by the meeting was that it objects to claiming money from the N.C.A. fraudulently, it needs to be under the correct category for our own honest satisfaction in the north. G.J. was backed to object to the N.C.A. about being encouraged by their officer to 'fudge' legitimate claims. G.J. resultant future claims for projects will have to be budgeted 'up front' by groups wishing to claim expenditure. He noted that C.N.C.C. payment for work on caves should guarantee access for cavers in the C.N.C.C. and not just individuals who think that it is their own cave. L.S. asked about the increase in N.C.A. subs for the C.N.C.C. G.J. said that it was due to the number of member clubs etc.. After a proposal from R.M. the treasurers report was accepted.

ACCESS & CONSERVATION OFFICERS REPORT

Written report submitted. After reading through the report R.M. noted that clarification must be placed on who will be the central negotiator to liase with the National Trust. R.H. or P.P. L.S. said that he thought P.P. was more into conservation and thus R.H. should deal with the access issue. R.M. said that there was good input from both R.H. & P.P. G.B. suggested that R.H. might be the better to negotiate as local meets secretary, P.P. was then available to be called upon if required. A.B. drew attention to the fact that it was R.H. who was approached by N.T. in the first place. L.S. saw it as part of R.H.'s job on the fell. R.M. noted that the main issue with N.T. was being able to obtain access to Robinson's Pot. The report was accepted.

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

No report submitted, no comments.

MEETS SECRETARIES REPORT

LECK FELL

Two sheets of statistics were produced by C.D. which he proceeded to give a breakdown off. A letter was read from Grosvenor Caving Club as an example of the ignorance of some of the applicants to the permit booking rules. Reference was made to the C.N.C.C. handbook page 1:9 one months notice being for the meets secretary not the applicant. It was also noted to the members that Pippikin is administered by P.M. and not C.D. P.M. noted that mid-week access is handled by the Estate office. L.S. noted that in future there would be one agreement for Leck and Casterton Fells, as opposed to two separate ones. He then talked of a change to six months in advance for weekend permits, as not enough notice was being given by clubs seeking permits. R.M. then went on to outline a series of complaints regarding C.D.'s role as meets secretary, made at the last committee meeting, and notified to him (C.D.) by letter from the committee. C.D. defended his position. R.M. suggested an open selection of those wanting to do the job. P.R. proposed a vote of thanks to all meets secretaries in the C.N.C.C. L.S. stated that there was a good cross section of clubs represented for a vote to take place. 17 clubs represented. C.D. mentioned that there was an allocation of permits to be sorted out. In fairness to all clubs L.S. & R.M. suggested a working party of meets secretaries to discuss, and resolve this, which the Chairman could lead. C.D. denied that he takes ages to reply to letters. B.B. asked, which of the meets secretaries administers the most permits? P.M. said that he has the most because C.D. has the closed Season to contend with.

CASTERTON FELL

No written report presented, P.M. out lined one. or two issues which cause un-necessary complications to permit applicants: not on club headed note paper. no S.A.E. etc.. The regular change over of secretaries at universities was also complicating matters. L.S. suggested a information pack for universities, of things to do during in the university caving club year. L.S. then asked for a copy of the old Casterton Fell agreement to be seen by the C.N.C.C. before new negotiations take place. R.M. then went on to out line the progress that had been made at the meetings with the Estates and landowners. After surveying the top path (moorland route to County Pot) a solid replacement was needed, also pressure was on to abandon this top route. L.S. said that this 'the black route' should only be used in emergencies. L.S. went on to give an update between the C.N.C.C. and the landowners. R.M. asked for contributions regarding the access route from those in attendance. L.S. said that a hard path should stop further damage. G.B. asked has E.N. and Mr. Bowring signed an agreement to cut access over 'the black route'? R.M. answered 'yes', they (EN) have put pressure to reduce usage of the top moorland area. After a discussion, G.B., R.M. & L.S. came to the conclusion that such an agreement was reliant on a good alternative footpath, which may then educate cavers to use a different route.

BIRKS FELL & MONGO GILL AREA

Written report submitted by R.H. Report accepted by the meeting.

PENYGHENT, GINGLING & HAMMER AREA

Written report submitted by S.M. Report accepted by the meeting.

OTHER AREAS

Newby Moss footpath, J.H. outlined the background to this issue, B.B. & R.H. proceeded with the discussion on this topic. H.L. noted that this was a quiet way onto the moor (Ingleborough), and that it may attract extra interest from ramblers if they get to know of the problem. J.H. suggests writing to the management committee on behalf of the C.N.C.C. advising them of caving access and the history along this route, and over the stile that has now been taken down. The stile was specifically for access to caves; the status quo should of been respected. It was agreed that J.H. should write to the management committee on our behalf.

R.H. reported good progress made at Upper Hackergill, after his approach to Mr. Mason for access. Mr. Mason needs asking first for permission out of due respect.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

L'O	Proposed L.U.G.	seconded Y.S.S. Accepted
Wharfedale Pothole Club	Proposed D.C.C.	seconded B.C.C. Accepted ¹

APPLICATIONS FOR FULL MEMBER STATUS None

¹ Queried by M.Hughes Wharfe Valley Pothole Club

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

L.S. read through 6.2 from C.N.C.C. handbook, carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE: The officers were retained enblock. Training officer, P.Ramsden was prepared to accept this post and be retained in a official capacity.

COMMITTEE

Orcus Caving Group will replace Y.S.S. in the now vacant committee position.

LECK FELL MEETS SECRETARY VOTE

At this time the result of the Leck Fell meets secretary vote became known. Out of the three candidates (C.Danilewicz, J.Sloane, R.Wilding) the winner by a close vote was J.Sloane, thereby J.Sloane was duly elected to the post of C.N.C.C. meets secretary for Leck Fell. A vote of thanks for services in the past was given to C.D.

N.C.A. REPORTS

N.C.A. TRAINING Written report submitted by P.R. he proceeded to give a breakdown of the items in more detail to those present. Para 6, a discussion ensued when radon was mentioned.

N.C.A. EQUIPMENT See report attached to secretaries report.

N.C.A. STRUCTURE P.P. had been attending these meetings, but hasn't submitted a report. L.S. drew attention that the N.C.A. want to get money from cavers for caving in the north etc.. Will B.C.R.A. N.C.A. fees be linked? what is happening? N.C.A. structure meetings are attended by people who can inadvertently shape the state of caving over the next few years, they need to be watched very carefully. G.J. said that he disagreed with paying for posts in the caving world. P.R. asked what do people want from an official body in caving? It was felt that N. Williams etc.. need taking to task regarding structure, finance etc.... As many people as could, were asked to attend the N.C.A. A.G.M. on behalf of the C.N.C.C.

A.O.B.

C.N.C.C. TECHNICAL GROUP Report paper submitted. P.R. commented that the N.C.A. would be a lot better off spending money on this kind of work, than cavers fairs and the like. L.S. said that the objectives was to place safe anchors in caves, however, after so much work being done personal ropes had been destroyed, and the C.N.C.C. Technical Group should have it's own ropes. R.M. asked how much £? G.J. said that a £500 fund would replace equipment. and that the C.N.C.C. anchor replacement program was self financing, with NO N.C.A. involvement. G.B. asked if it was worth approaching the sports council as a new group for help in financing the project. All were in favour of our own fund.

DATE & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING, 7th June 1996 at 8pm. at the Hellifield Village Institute Hellifield.

The meeting closed at 1-45pm.

A.G.M. minutes taken and prepared by A.Bolton assistant secretary C.N.C.C.

Signed as a true record..........chairman

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Secretaries report to the C.N.C.C. committee dated 07.07.1996

Includes; C.N.C.C. Technical Group report part 1, N.C.A. Equipment report part 2, C.N.C.C. secretaries report part 3.

PART 1

ECO-RESIN RIGGING GUIDE No.2

This has been produced and published and is on sale in Inglesport, Bernie's cafe, it is also available from the secretary. The cost of the rigging guide is £4. Apart from the usual test information and rigging topos, it also has a section by D. Elliot on the care and maintenance of ropes. So far it has only been produced in A4 format because of the cost and ease of copying and binding. It is actually cheaper for us to produce it in A4, but, should demand dictate, then we will consider reducing the size to A5.

RIGGING CARDS

As the more popular and complex caves are completed, we are producing a rigging card for the system, there are currently 8 caves covered by the rigging cards, these being; Rumbling Hole, Notts Pot, Sell Gill holes, Juniper Gulf, Alum Pot, Rowten Pot, Jingling Pot and Bull Pot.

RE-PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Within the next couple of months Marble Steps Pot and Ireby Fell Cavern will be completed. We are also drawing up a structured list to program the caves where the old M8 anchors are failing. The removal of 'other' fixed anchors has become a time consuming part of the program, unfortunately people are still placing them. Due to the number of anchors requiring testing every 2 years, we are proposing a change to the test procedure, this will be fully examined and when complete presented for consideration.

PART 2

There has not been any N.C.A. equipment committee meetings since the last C.N.C.C. meeting. Hilti contacted me regarding O. Clarke giving the S.W.C.R.O. a S.W.L. for resin anchors. I responded to hilti and referred them to a letter that I had previously written to Owen regarding the matter. Should our local C.R.O's require such information then the C.N.C.C. is able to give it, as calculated by industry standards. There has been a change of N.C.A. equipment officer, this is now N. Williams. I have offered to attend the equipment committee meetings and represent the C.N.C.C.

PART 3

The sale of handbooks is ongoing, the updated pages for 1996 are available and will be sent out to all paid up clubs with the next mailing. Extra copies and for those who bought their books will be available at Inglesport and Bernie's cafe.

Rigging guide No.1, I still have about 200 copies left from the original batch, and these are selling steadily. There will at some stage be the necessity to combine both, or all three rigging guides into one.

Les sykes Hon. Secretary

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

AGM - 9th MARCH 1996

TREASURERS REPORT

CONTENTS:

- 1 - Accountants' Report
- 2 - Photocopier Business Case
- 3 - Concerns Over Future Funding From The NCA

I am prepared to stand as Treasurer for the next 12 months.

Glenn Jones, Treasurer of CNCC

1. ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

The attached Accountants' Report summarises the accounts and financial transactions of the CNCC upto 31st December 1995. Whilst not intending to duplicate the accountants report, I feel it necessary to explain some items contained in the report.

ASSETS

CNCC ASSETS

ITEM	COST/VALUE (£)	YEAR PURCHASED
2 X 24v ni-cad dry cells & charger	£141.00	1995
1 X Exchem resin applicator	£40.00	1995
1 X Rexel CB3000 binding machine	£129.24	1995
3 X Hilti 18mm drill bits	£30.00	90/92/94
2 X Yuasa 1/a batteries	£22.00	1993
2 X Putsy pumps	£12.00	1990/93
2 X 2 Yuasa 1/a batteries (in ammo boxes)	£52.00	1990/91
2 X Hilti resin applicators	£60.00	1990

Debtor; £1,430.36

This sum was claimed from the NCA for various expenses for the year ending 31st Dec '95. The amount has now been received and paid into the account.

LIABILITIES

Subscriptions Paid in Advance; £735.00.

This sum represents subscriptions to the CNCC, from member clubs, paid in 1995, for the 1996 membership year.

Creditors; £452.76.

This represents the cost of the Accountants Report (£70.50), and other invoices received at the end of '95, which will be paid from the '96 accounts.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

INCOME to the year end 31st December was; £3,119.30
and was made up of;

Subs;	£1,344.00
Book Sales;	£537.40
Resin & hanger sales;	£1,064.56
Interest;	£173.34

EXPENDITURE to the year end 31st December was; £3,177.16
and was made up of amongst other things;

NCA Subscriptions;	£340.00
Rigging Guide printing costs;	£204.43
Resin and ECO hanger purchase;	£1,682.30
Fencing for Shuttleworth Estates	£598.00
RRCPC Phone bill	£229.97

NET DEFICIT* £57.86

RE-BOLT PROGRAM

The cost of the re-bolt program for 1995 was: £1,422.74

and was offset by income generated from the Rigging Guide and the onward sale of resin and anchors: £1,607.22

Balance of the two accounts as at 31st December 1995;

Community account; £547.34

High interest account; £5,784.35

* The net deficit of £57.86 is misleading. It was agreed at the January meeting that the cost of providing fencing to the Shuttleworth Estates (£598.00) be considered an exceptional one off payment, made from the CNCCs' high interest account. Taking this into consideration, the net deficit becomes a net surplus of £540.14. Also to be taken into consideration is the claim, now received, for expenses from the NCA.

Given that the CNCC's overall operating costs are more than adequately covered by the current level of income, I can therefore see no reason to request a raise in the level of CNCC subscriptions, for member clubs, for 1996.

The Council of Northern Caving Clubs

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1995

ASSETS

-	Equipment		486.24
6966	Cash at Bank	6331.69	
474	Debtors	1430.36	
330	Payments in Advance	-	
<u>7770</u>		<u> </u>	<u>7762.05</u>

LIABILITIES

730	Subscriptions Paid in Advance	735.00	
138	Creditors	452.78	
<u>(868)</u>		<u> </u>	<u>(1187.78)</u>
			<u>7060.51</u>

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

6055	Balance brought forward		6902.37
-	Equipment written off in previous year		216.00
847	Add Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(57.86)
<u>6902</u>			<u>7060.51</u>

Accountants' Report

In accordance with instructions given to us we have prepared, without carrying out an audit, the annexed accounts from the accounting records of The council of Northern Caving Clubs and from information and explanations supplied to us.

John Greenall & Co.

Sandbach

27 February 1996

Accountants

Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 1995

INCOME

2648	Subscriptions/Grants	1344.00
847	Handbooks and Rigging Guides	537.40
81	Resin and Hangers	1064.56
105	Interest Receivable	173.34
<u>3681</u>		<u>3119.30</u>

EXPENDITURE

670	Subscriptions	340.00
519	Printing and Stationery	204.43
162	Officers Expenses	-
59	Accountancy Fees	70.50
376	Repairs	117.33
7	Room Hire	32.67
505	Resin and Hangers	1682.30
432	Telephone and Postage	650.48
74	Sundry Expenses	48.45
29	Petrol	21.00
1	Bank Charges and Interest	-
-	Insurance	10.00
<u>2834</u>		<u>3177.16</u>
<u>847</u>	Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<u>(57.86)</u>

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

BUSINESS CASE FOR: The purchase of a photocopier.

Proposed expenditure: £916.49

Current cost of photocopying; £643.00pa

Projected cost of photocopying; £466.64pa

Projected overall saving per annum; £176.36

Proposed by.....*Les Sykes*.....
Les Sykes, Secretary CNCC Date.....*10.01.1996*.....

Checked by.....*R. Myres*.....
Russell Myres, Chairman CNCC Date.....*12th January 1996*.....

Approved by.....*Glenn Jones*.....
Glenn Jones, Treasurer CNCC Date.....*16th January 1996*.....

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

BUSINESS CASE FOR: The purchase of a photocopier.

Proposed expenditure: £916.49 (which includes VAT and a 3 year warranty).

CURRENT COSTS FOR PHOTOCOPYING

Currently, the CNCC spends £643.00 per annum on photocopying. This is based on analysis of CNCC accounts/expenses for the years 1994 and 1995 and is calculated as below:

REASON	X pa	Sheets	Amount	Total
AGM minutes	1	10	200	2000
Com Minutes	3	6	200	3600
Newsletters	4	4	200	3200
H/book updates	1	8	400	3200
AGM agenda	1	1	200	200
Com agenda	3	1	20	60
Other				600
TOTAL				12860

12,860 sheets @ 5p per sheet = £643.00, total cost of identified copying per annum. (The rate of 5p per sheet is actually very good. Most high street print shops charge 10p per A4 side).

To the above must be added the cost of printing additional CNCC handbooks at 50 per year, the cost of CNCC ECO Rigging Guide Nos. 1&2 and production of the new ECO rigging card.

RATIONALE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PHOTOCOPIER

Proposed expenditure: Purchase of Xerox 5309 photocopier: £916.49 (which includes VAT and a 3 year warranty).

It is proposed that 80% (£733.19) of the cost of purchase is written off over a period of five years. The outstanding balance of 20% (183.30) being the anticipated residual value of the photocopier (that is, its assumed value in five years hence).

The projected cost of purchase over that five year period is then represented as £146.64 per annum. On going user costs (based on current photocopying usage) are;

3 X toner packs @ £90.00 - £270.00
5 X paper packs @ £10.00 - £50.00

Therefore, the projected annual cost for photocopying will be; £466.64

Current costs for photocopying are £643.00pa, therefore, the purchase of a photocopier will produce a saving of £176.36pa, which represents £881.80 over the projected five year period.

ADDITIONAL/INTANGIBLE BENEFITS

- Current photocopying relies on the good will of several people (mainly Russell Myers) to produce photocopying on a best endeavours basis. This can result in late delivery of photocopied material.
- Some bulk copying (handbooks/rigging guides etc) can only be ordered in minimum quantities of 100, which needlessly ties up money until those items are sold. Producing handbooks etc, on an as and when basis, will be more cost effective.
- It may be possible to increase CNCC income by providing a photocopying/binding service for other caving associations and clubs.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION; CNCC accounts for 94/95. Makro wholesalers and Viking Direct (stationary and office supplies).

3 - Concerns Over Future Funding From The NCA

I am growing increasingly concerned over reports from within the NCA over future funding to regional councils. In brief, it would appear that the CNCCs subscription to the NCA will increase from £330.00 (in 1995) to around £600.00 for 1996. In previous years, the CNCC has been able to claim various expenses back from the NCA (and therefore the Sports Council), that have been incurred in the pursuit of:

- Administration
- Training
- Access
- Conservation

Due to a recent change in the way the Sports Council allocate grants, the NCA are now limited to only paying expenses, from Sports Council funding, that come under the heading of training.

In addition to the Sports Council funding, the NCA receives income from the Regional Councils. It is assumed that that income is exempt from the "training only" restriction and that it can be allocated to Access and Conservation claims - given that the amount available will be significantly less than in previous years.

(One of the problems is that the terms "Access" and "Conservation" can be interpreted in several ways. For the purpose of this report, Access includes personal projects undertaken by specific cavers (digs) and Conservation includes maintenance projects such as Mongo Gill and clean up projects such as Ibeth Peril).

What this means for the CNCC (and presumably other regional councils), is that claims to the NCA for access and conservation can only be made for (presumably) an amount that equates to that Regional Bodies NCA subscription. Specifically, this means that the principle of payments made to reimburse individual cavers for personal projects (digs), which the CNCC has had no objection to making in the past, needs to be reassessed.

I therefore seek the views of this meeting with regard to:

- paying future claims, made by individual cavers, for the reimbursement of expenses incurred in pursuit of those projects.

and, given limited funds for paying expenses incurred in Access and Conservation:

- how should those funds be allocated between Access and Conservation?

Meanwhile, I am working with Nick Williams to formulate guidelines and procedures to be used when making claims to the NCA.

Glenn Jones
CNCC Treasurer

REPORT ON N.C.A. TRAINING COMMITTEE TO CNCC AGM 9/3/96
From Paul Ramsden

- 1 I have the annual reports of the NCA Training Officer and Training Co-ordinator if anyone would like to see them.
- 2 The NCA Training Committee continues to offer grants towards training (usually up to 25% of the overall cost). Details from Paul Ramsden or the NCA Training Co-ordinator. Grants are considered on a first come first served basis. I am surprised that so few northern clubs have requested assistance - the money will just go elsewhere.
- 3 The "Activity Centre (Young Persons' Safety) Act became law in 1995. Discussions have taken place with the HSE for regulations and guidance required to implement the Act. This act is a result of the Lyme Bay canoeing tragedy and involves licensing commercial operators involving under eighteen year olds. There is concern that most of the fatalities over the last twenty years in outdoor activities would have been unaffected by this legislation, as they involved exempted organisations such as schools, scouts, youth service, etc.
- 4 There has been a lot of interest in the leadership schemes: Cave Instructor Certificate (C.I.C.) and Local Cave/Mine Leader Assessment Scheme (L.C.M.L.A.), probably associated with the above legislation. Sub-committees have been set up to administer these schemes and assessors' workshops run in all regions.
- 5 The H.S.E. have reminded commercial operators using mines for adventure activities of their responsibility to ensure that the venue is checked for stability by an appropriately qualified person.
- 6 The NCA Radon Working Party have produced draft guidelines for the NCA ACM (16/3/96) on radon exposure for cave and mine exploration. This will need sensitive handling to ensure that access is not restricted. Implication for those in the "at work" situation may be considerable.
- 7 The committee has had requests for support for a) an artificial cave at the Warehouse in Gloucester, which provoked mixed reactions, b) for SRT facilities at Leeds wall which opened on 23/2/96, c) a lottery bid for Craven College at Skipton.
- 8 Following a fatality in a university fell walking club incident, many university clubs have required leaders to hold qualifications. NCA has always felt that compulsory qualifications are not appropriate for adult club caving, and have produced draft guidelines. The logic is that education toward what is regarded as good practice be made available through checklists, which would prompt relevant questions from both inexperienced and experienced alike, to ensure that the group are able to operate safely.
- 9 Having done the work for university guidelines, it could be extended to other caving clubs if it is considered useful?
A checklist would prompt cavers to check things like access, conservation, weather forecast, effect of weather on the cave, guidebook/survey, suitable clothing, emergency gear, rescue call-out procedure, knowledge of hypothermia (prevention), personal competences in lifelining (dealing with problems like tired person/leg through rungs), SRT (dealing with common techniques), rigging (understanding safe use of the equipment, fall factors, shared loading, etc), knowledge of equipment (inspection, checking, discarding), group briefing prior to departure covering safety points to satisfy experienced and inexperienced alike.
- 10 I am sure everyone can tell horror stories of what strange/dangerous techniques they have seen. In order to improve the situation it has been suggested that all clubs consider having a training officer to co-ordinate/facilitate training to encourage good practice. A workshop for training officers/interested people could be mutually beneficial. In case people are getting concerned, this is only a proposal highlighting the benefits of training and has no requirement (as in the commercial sector) for any assessment as has been suggested elsewhere.
- 11 At a joint meeting with the NCA Equipment Committee it was suggested that an attempt be made to collect details of accidents/incidents/near misses which could be reported objectively (without names/blame) to help prevent reoccurrences. This could be published in the new training section of Speleoscene (details to NCA Training Co-ordinator).
- 12 I will be pleased to discuss any suggestions for future training events or initiatives. Ring me on 015396 - 20828 after 7.00pm.

THE COUNCIL OF ...
Conservation and Access Officer's Report to the 1996 A.G.M

Once again I am able to report that we appear to have had an easy year on the access front.

The Casterton Fell situation appears to be improving although the earlier fruitful discussions on the provision of an access path and the returning of access administration to the CNCC, as yet, have not turned into action. It is to be hoped that we may be able to make real progress during the course of this year.

Across the beck Leck Fell has been as quiet as ever with, to the best of my knowledge, not even a complaint about too many cars at the parking spot. The Starting Handle Hole saga was resolved soon after the start of the (caving) year and presumably Colin is still beavering away at the dig site. The Boxhead Pot entrance was successfully stabilised.

At the bottom end of the Kingsdale Valley the Illusion Pot diggers made an excellent job of turning the entrance shaft into a safe access and "an easy day for a (Victorian) lady". It is pleasing to see conservation work in the shape of formation taping and the installation of warning notices taking place at this site.

On Ingleborough, all was quiet until a few weeks ago when, at the instigation of the Ingleborough Management Committee, the YDNP had to remove the stile situated at the start of the path that approaches Ingleborough via Long Kin West. It might be argued that there are grounds for considering that this path should be recognized as a right-of-way. Anyone who has a view might care to talk to Janet Harland about the matter.

Elsewhere both Ric (Hailiwell) and I had meetings with the local National Trust senior warden to discuss caving on National Trust land. At the moment his attitude seems very reasonable with no desire to change established practices. It does seem likely that in the near future we will be able to agree an arrangement for access to Robinson's Pot on Darbrook Fell.

On the conservation front I am pleased to welcome the appointment of an assistant conservation officer - Janet Harland - who will be a great help in moving matters forward. Conservation matters do not seem to have been making headlines in the past year so we will have to see what steps can be taken to improve matters.

shove:

At national level it was pleasing to see that the national conservation policy document finally saw the light of day and now we await the formal production of the conservation handbook. Also at national level we saw the resignation of Dave Morrison from the position of NCA C & A officer partway through the year, Graham Price resuming the role initially on a fill-in basis that will almost certainly be formalised at the NCA AGM later this month.

P H Parker
Conservation and Access Officer

7th March 1996

Council of Northern Caving Clubs

Meets Secretary's Report for Birks Fell & Mongo Gill

General

This is my seventh year as access controller and I know of no problems regarding access to Birks Fell. When the National Trust purchased Darnbrook Farm, I approached them to see whether or not they would be willing to permit access to Robinson's Pot, but so far I have received no response. They have said that they see no reason to change access arrangements for Darnbrook or Cherry Tree. At the request of the landowner, major work has been undertaken to stabilise the entrances to Mongo Gill.

Birks Fell

The National Trust have made no comment on the working of the Access agreement to date. For the record I have continued my predecessor's tradition of giving statistics of past years' permits. Bookings remain heavy with 29 (28) bookings already made for 1996, but this does represent a further decrease on the pattern of a few years ago.

1977	32	1978	35	1979	40	1980	41
1981	50	1982	47	1983	52	1984	63
1985	46	1986	55	1987	44	1988	28
1989	32	1990	25	1991	41	1992	49
1993	35	1994	41	1995	39		

Average number per year for the last 10 years - 39 (40)

Mongo Gill

As a result of complaints to the Landowner just over two years ago I was asked to investigate the stability of both North Shaft and Shockle Shaft. During the past year the Burnley Caving Club have dug out the base of Shockle shaft and this has been further excavated by Hull University Speleological Society. The Craven Pothole Club with assistance from a number of other clubs has recapped North Shaft and attempted to restore the site by spreading earth and grass seed over the new cap. The costs of materials were met by CNCC.

A total of 17(17) bookings have been made so far for 1996. The decrease in bookings for both last year and the current year reflects the decrease in activity by the UK Landforces Adventure Training Centre at Ripon.

1981	28	1982	39	1983	30	1984	44
1985	24	1986	28	1987	29	1988	36
1989	38	1990	38	1991	36	1992	43
1993	34	1994	36	1995	20		

Average number per year for the last 10 years - 35 (35).

Ric Halliwell

Club	1995	1996	Total
Penyghent Pot	48	48	96
Little Hull Pot	36	36	72
Hull Pot	2	2	4
Hunt Pot	10	10	20
Gingling Hole	29	29	58
Hammer Pot	16	16	32
Washfold Pot	12	12	24
Echo Pot	1	1	2
Pillomelane Pot	1	1	2
High Hull Pot	1	1	2
TOTAL	146	146	292

NATIONAL CAVING ASSOCIATION.

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS.

PENYGHENT AND FOUNTAINS FELL.

MEET SECRETARY'S REPORT.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, MARCH 9th 1996

1995 was a very quiet year with no problems.
The breakdown of club trips for 1995 is as follows.....

- Penyghent Pot.....48
- Little Hull Pot.....36
- Hull Pot.....2
- Hunt Pot.....10
- Gingling Hole.....29
- Hammer Pot.....16
- Washfold Pot.....12
- Echo Pot.....1
- Pillomelane Pot.....1
- High Hull Pot.....1

TOTAL...146 trips.

Club trips for 1996 have already reached a total of 136 so a busy caving year seems in prospect. All the Dalehead Pot is still blocked, surprise surprise!! All the scaffolding and materials are down the pot ready to be put in place as and when caving time and motivation permits!! A large amount of material still needs to be removed to stabilise the entrance and offers of assistance or whatever would be welcome!!

Regards

Stuart Marshall.
Meet Secretary.

National Caving Association

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Please reply to,

L. Sykes
49 Manfield
Ashurst
Skelmersdale
Lancs
WN8 6SU
Tel: 01695 728673

C.N.C.C. TECHNICAL GROUP

The acceptance of the secretaries report at the committee meeting 05.01.1996 allowed the setting up of the above named group.
All work will be carried out for and on behalf of the Council of Northern Caving Clubs.

THE GROUP

The C.N.C.C. Technical group shall consist of trained anchor installers, who, are dedicated to the long term anchor placement and maintenance program.

AIMS

To install fixed anchors and aids, to ensure the safe descent and ascent of vertical sections and exposed areas and traverses of caves and potholes.

REGULATION

All anchor placements, maintenance, testing and documentation, shall be carried out within the guide lines and procedures laid down in:

- 1: N.C.A. Permanent resin bonded anchors, installation guide lines.
 - 2: N.C.A. Permanent resin bonded anchors, training, testing and documentation.
- Other fixed aids will be tested where practical to industry standards.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The installation of fixed resin bonded anchors and other fixed aids. The testing, maintenance and accurate documentation of anchor placements and fixed aids. The research and testing of new products and materials that may be suitable as fixed anchor points.

INFORMATION & CONTACT

A news/report sheet will be produced at regular intervals. The C.N.C.C. Technical group shall ensure adequate contact with the C.N.C.C., Local cave rescue teams, Northern cavers, N.C.A. equipment committee and other regional anchor placement teams.

SPECIALISTS ECT.

The C.N.C.C. Technical group shall invite other interested parties and specialists (eg. Hilti, Exchem ect) into the group as and when the need arises.

C.N.C.C. TECHNICAL GROUP ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE C.N.C.C. A.G.M.

INITIAL & ANNUAL TEST ON ANCHOR PLACEMENTS 1995

Anchor placements in the following caves were subjected to the initial test (C.N.C.C./N.C.A. test procedure). Pillar Holes, Calf Holes, Juniper Gulf, New Rift pot, K.M.C. rescue traverse, Lost Johns cave Mud/Centipede route, Lost Johns cave cathedral/Dome route, Notts pot Left hand route, Notts pot Adamson's route, Top sink.

Anchor placements in the following caves were subjected to the progressive annual test carried out at two yearly intervals. Cow pot, Lancaster Hole, Pool sink, New Goyden pot, Rowten pot, Tatham wife hole, Notts pot centre route, Heron pot, Alum pot, Dolly tubs pitches, Fall & Stake pots.

PROGRAMMED WORK FOR 1996

ANCHOR PLACEMENTS FOR TEST 1996

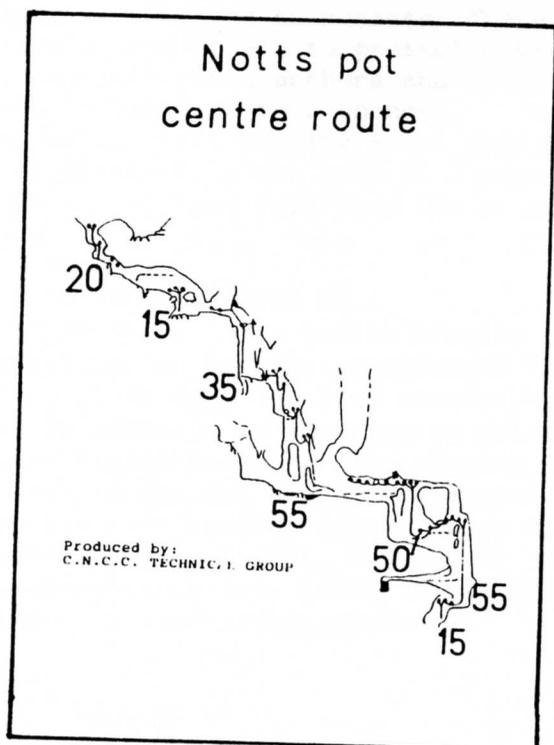
The following caves will have the anchor placements tested during 1996. Sunset hole, Hardrawkin pot, Swinsto hole, Jingling pot, Gaping Gyhll direct route, Notts pot left hand route, Notts pot twilight zone.

The following caves will have complete anchor re-placement carried out in them during 1996: Rumbling hole, Marble steps pot, Hurnell Moss pot, Little Hull pot, Gaping Gyhll Jib tunnel, Sell Gill holes wet route, Ireby fell cavern.

In addition to the above Bull pot kingsdale and Simpsons pot require additional work to bring them up to the required standard.

PUBLICATIONS FOR 1996

C.N.C.C. RIGGING GUIDE No.2, in addition to the rigging guides, we have been researching the interest in a 'rigging card', credit card sized and encased in plastic it has all the information for each cave as in the rigging guides (sample below actual size). A number of the caves from the rigging guide No.1 will be reproduced in the plastic card format. When taken up these will be produced on a demand basis.



LOCATION: Leck Fell NGR: 671778 GRADE: 4

ROUTE TO CAVE:
Park at parking area opposite Lost Johns cave. Walk down the road to the shooting huts, go through gate on left, follow ruined wall for about 1/2 mile then follow the vague dry valley to an obvious large shake hole with open shaft at base, a small stream sinks close by.

ACCESS:
Club access only with C.N.C.C. permit, See C.N.C.C. handbook page 3:8.

WARNING:
A complicated vertical system, requiring careful analysis of the routes to be taken. During wet weather the short climb can become wet and the passage take a stream. Parts of this cave and especially the lower section are subject to flooding in wet weather.

In the main chamber an obvious shaft descends under the wall, there are ample deviation points to re-direct the rope, follow shaft down to meet the stream and the junction for the other routes. Down stream is meandering stream canyon, traverse on ledges, to the start of the traverse and pitch through a slot. Climb up to a ledge and traverse up to an oxbow for the penultimate pitch into the final chamber.

MINIMUM EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:

Entrance pitch		20m rope
Second pitch	short sling for 'Y' hang	15m rope
Centre route 1st pitch	2 long slings	35m rope
Pitches 2,3,4	4 slings (2long, 2short)	55m rope
First traverse & pitch	1 sling	50m rope
Second traverse & pitch	2 slings (1 wet deviation)	55m rope
Final pitch		15m rope

During the recent anchor tests in Alum pot/Dolly tubs, it was noted that a hand line has been tied off from above the Greasy slab to the last traverse anchor. It is obvious that this rope was placed to protect the traverse. Persons using this rope do so at their own risk, it is neither tested or insured. If this traverse warrants a fixed rope/aid then it should be a fixed aid that is included on the anchor re-placement insurance policy and tested to, industry standards. The hand line is subject to freeze, thaw conditions and un specified usage, and, even though it appears in good condition it may compromise the safety of those (novices ect?) who use it. We suggest this A.G.M. consider the above points, and if a fixed aid is required, then a steel cable similar to the one in K.M.C. is installed. This cable would be within the anchor re-placement insurance policy and would be tested to industry standards at regular intervals as per the anchor placements.

Even though HIT C50 is still available, we have started to install anchors using RESIFIX 3+, in caves where of multi pitches where HIT C50 and resifix 3+ has been used, the rigging documents will be endorsed '3+' to indicate the change. Caves where RESIFIX has been used throughout, it will be indicated at the top of the record sheet.

The C.N.C.C.T.G. has distributed it's first information circular, these will be produced after maintenance work or a change of rigging has taken place within caves, and will be distributed to all member clubs including the caving press.

Appended to this report is break down of the 'hidden costs' that we have incurred during the past 4 years, while pursuing the re-placement programme, We would like this A.G.M. to consider a donation/financial assistance to the C.N.C.C.T.G. so that the group can purchase it's own ropes and equipment. All equipment bought would become a C.N.C.C. accountable asset and full documentation kept. The C.N.C.C.T.G. should be independent of support from member clubs to avoid conflict of interests of member club/group equipment, otherwise, it is inevitable that friction will be caused between club members, where individuals are continually using and damaging club equipment and rope on anchor re-placement trips. To avoid such friction it is imperative that this A.G.M. seriously consider some form of financial assistance to purchase rope and equipment.

Caves used primarily by novices Eg. Sunset hole, Upper Long Churn. Certain caves that do not present a hazard while climbing or traversing to the experienced caver, do present a hazard to novices. There are certain climbs that have un-authorized anchors placed solely to protect novice or in-experienced cavers. Should we remove these un-authorized anchors and re-place them? not to do this will only encourage others to place dubious anchors.

Some one is still placing Petzl glue insin stupid places, the most recent is in the floor at the pitch head in Sunset pot, one anchor could actually cause the unwary to trip and fall down the pitch, these will be removed in the very near future.

C.N.C.C. RIGGING GUIDE No.2

Due to spending three months tidying up and finishing caves that others had lost interest in, we have not progressed as far as anticipated, therefore, the rigging guide will be delayed, I do however, anticipate having it on sale by the end of the 1996. In addition to the rigging guide, rigging cards are being produced as and when we finish a system. The rigging card will give the essential information required to descend and ascend a cave.

A new addition in the rigging guide will be two articles; ropes, care and maintenance by D.Elliot; basic safe rigging practices by P.Ramsden. I also intend to some research into knots, those used frequently in rigging, this will also be included in the rigging guide.

REPORT PRODUCED BY:
L. SYKES. G. JONES.

Rope suffers considerably on anchor re-placement trips, not only from accidental resin soiling, but, from drilled limestone dust that settles on the rope which is then compacted into the rope as the party moves it self and equipment up and down the pitches.

Rope that has been condemned due to; resin soiling; stiffening due to limestone dust soiling; wear and tear due to constant use and carrying and hauling bulky equipment, Edelrid 11mm 27m., Edelrid 10mm 37m., Blue water 10mm 35m., Edelrid 10mm 55m., Edelrid 10mm 40m.

Other expenditure to which no actual amount can be attributed is; battery charging 6 lead acids @ 5 hours each, 2 ni-cads @ 16+ hours each.

Les Sykes

C.N.C.C. ANCHOR RE-PLACEMENT PROGRAMME
THE HIDDEN COSTS

Since the start of the anchor re-placement programme at the end of 1991, I have become more aware of the personal cost that I am contributing to this good cause. This short report is not to be seen as a cry or winge, but, to make the committee more aware of the costs (travel, rope, personal equipment) that I have incurred. At this stage I must add that, I enjoy the work and much personal satisfaction is gained from it, and that, I am willing to continue until my body gives in.

The re-placement programme has been sustaining it's self financially since it started in 1991. The rigging guide has continued to sell well and I feel that the second guide will sell equally as well.

The long term aspect though also has to be considered, maintenance and testing for example. The new C.N.C.C. technical group will need it's own stock of ropes etc. The cavers who are willing committing their cave time to the anchor re-placement programme need a firm commitment from the C.N.C.C. so that some funding can be diverted into the technical group. The technical group is capable of generating some income mainly from training and re-fresher courses.

The source of information for this breakdown of cave trips undertaken in the anchor re-placement programme is from the C.N.C.C. anchor document.

CAVE	ANCHOR RE-PLACEMENT No. TRIPS	MAINTENANCE No. TRIPS	TESTING No. TRIPS
Pillar holes	4		1
Harddrawkin pot	1		2
Sunset hole	1		2
K. M. C.	6	1	1
Swinsto hole	8	4	1
Cow pot	1		2
Heron pot	2	1	1
Bull pot	4	1	3
Notts pot	3	1	3
Lost Johns cave	2	1	3
Rumbling hole	3		
Lancaster hole			2
Pool sink			2
New Goyden			2
Rowten pot			2
Tatham Wife hole			3
Alum pot			2
Fall & Stake pots			2
New Rift pot			1
Top sink			1
Calf holes	1		1
Sell Gill holes	1		1
TOTAL	37	9	38

TOTAL TRIPS FOR ANCHOR RE-PLACEMENT PROGRAMME 84

APPROXIMATE MILES FOR THE ABOVE 11,200

CNCC TECHNICAL GROUP

The following expenses have been incurred by myself whilst participating in the CNCC re-bolting project.

Travelling:

02;03;96	Sell Gill
24;02;97	Sell Gill
17;02;96	Bull Pot
27;01;96	Sell Gill
06;01;96	Notts Pot
09;12;95	Rowten Pot
25;11;95	GG Direct
21;10;95	Notts Pot
07;10;95	Rowten Pot
20;05;95	Juniper Gulf
25/26;02;95	(New) Rift Pot
26;11;94	Notts Pot
23;10;94	Juniper Gulf
31/30;10;93	Juniper Gulf
16;10;93	Notts Pot
27/26/06;93	Rowten Pot
23;05;93	Marble Steps
06;03;93	Notts Pot
02;02;93	Notts Pot
12;12;92	Notts Pot
28;11;92	Notts Pot
14;11;92	Notts Pot
08;11;92	Notts Pot
18;10;92	Notts Pot
11;10;92	Notts Pot
20;09;92	Notts Pot
04;07;92	Notts Pot

27 journeys of 210 miles @ 10p per mile = £567.00

The following rope lengths have been used for bolting trips and should now be replaced due to soiling from limestone dust and resin:

2 X 50ft, 1 X 60ft, 1 X 90ft, 1 X 100ft, 1 X 150ft, 1 X 160ft,
thats approximately 232 metres at approx. £1.00 per metre =
£232.00

Glenn Jones, CNCC Technical Group