

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

British Caving Association

Agenda for Annual General Meeting 7th March 2020, Hellifield Village Institute, 10:00am

Reminder: All voting representatives of full member clubs must bring a letter of authentication. This should identify the bearer as the accepted voting representative of the club and should be signed by a club officer. This letter may be provided electronically to the Secretary in advance. Please don't forget, as without this letter you will not receive a voting card!

1) Apologies for absence.

2) Applications for full membership.

One application for full membership has been received this year:

a) Lancashire Climbing and Caving Club

Statements to support this application will be circulated separately to full member clubs. A representative of the club has been invited to the meeting to answer questions. A vote on whether to accept them as a full member will be held. If successful, this new member will gain immediate voting rights for agenda item 3 onwards.

3) Acceptance of minutes from the 2019 AGM (draft available on website).

4) Any matters arising or updates on action items from the 2019 AGM.

5) Officer reports Reports (to be online approximately one week before the meeting).

i. Chairman's report

ii. Secretary's report

iii. Treasurer's report

iv. Conservation Officer's report

v. Access Officer's report

vi. Any other reports received

6) Election of CNCC Committee for the year 2020-2021

The CNCC requires between 10-14 clubs to comprise the Committee. All full member clubs were asked to provide notification of their intention to stand for Committee by the 11th January deadline (a requirement of the constitution). Notifications are shown in **Appendix A** along with supporting statements. No application has been received for the Individual Caver (IC) Representative.

7) Election of CNCC Officers for the year 2020-2021

- a. Chair
- b. Secretary
- c. Treasurer
- d. Conservation Officer
- e. Access Officer
- f. Training Officer

Notifications are shown in **Appendix B** along with statements.

8) Proposal for Constitutional Amendment

The following constitutional amendment has been put forward by Matt Ewles, CNCC Secretary:

Removal of section 6;a;(vi) Training Officer

This action would remove the position of Training Officer from the list of CNCC officers.

9) Dates for the coming year.

Suggested dates for 2019-2020 meetings are presented below for discussion (and if necessary, revision).

Committee Meetings:	Saturday 27th June 2020, 09:30am
	Saturday 17th October 2020, 09:30am
	Saturday 16th January 2021, 09:30am

Annual General Meeting:	Saturday 20th March 2021, 10:00am
-------------------------	-----------------------------------

10) Any other business?

Appendix A: Committee Elections

The. 2019-2020 Committee and their figures for Committee meeting attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Meetings with voting reps present (out of 3)</u>
Bradford Pothole Club	3
Craven Pothole Club	3
Earby Pothole Club	3
Grampian Speleological Group	3
Kendal Caving Club	3
Northern Boggarts	3
Northern Pennine Club	2
Red Rose Cave and Pothole Club	3
Sheffield University Speleological Society	0
University of Leeds Speleological Society	3
White Rose Pothole Club	3
York University Cave and Pothole Club	2
Yorkshire Subterranean Society	3

Clubs which have provided notification to stand for CNCC Committee in 2020-2021
(Listed in chronological order of notification receipt, earliest to latest, total = 13)

Re-standing:	Kendal Caving Club
Re-standing:	Bradford Pothole Club
Re-standing:	Craven Pothole Club
Re-standing:	Yorkshire Subterranean Society
Re-standing:	University of Leeds Speleological Society
Re-standing:	Northern Pennine Club
Re-standing:	Earby Pothole Club
New applicant:	York Caving Club
Re-standing:	White Rose Pothole Club
Re-standing:	York University Cave and Pothole Club
Re-standing:	Red Rose Cave and Pothole Club
Re-standing:	Northern Boggarts
Re-standing:	Grampian Speleological Group

Therefore, we have 13 applicants and 14 available positions. We need to appoint at least 10 of these applicants to form a Committee.

No applicant has come forward for the Committee position of Individual Caver (IC) representative.

Appendix A (continued): Statements from clubs standing for Committee

Kendal Caving Club: No statement provided

Bradford Pothole Club:

As a long established club, having a presence in the caving community for over 80 years and with a consistently growing membership of over 300 members we are not only one of the largest clubs in the country but also have a very active caving membership (above and below water) not only in the Dales, but also have members involved in exploration in other parts of the UK as well as taking part in a number of foreign expeditions every year.

As a club we have been involved with the CNCC from the outset and have a number of members involved in cave conservation projects as well as with Natural England.

The club arranges caving meets every other weekend which are open to both members and guests and provide visiting cavers whether from university clubs or other established clubs accommodation and local knowledge as well as a warm welcome.

We provide an interface between cavers and the general public through our activities at our annual Gaping Gill meet by providing access to the system either via a winch directly into the main chamber or by rigging the major routes in to the system for visiting cavers to use.

We support a number of local charities and have a number of members who are active in the local cave and fell rescue teams.

Craven Pothole Club:



Craven Pothole Club Limited

*Registered Office: Ivy Cottage, Horton in Ribblesdale, Settle, North Yorkshire BD24 0HF
Registered in England 31935R*

Matt Ewles
Secretary
CNCC

From the office of the Hon. Secretary

Please reply to: Dr John A Helm
31 Badger Gate
Threshfield
Nr Skipton
North Yorkshire
BD23 5EN

Tel: 01756 752068 Mob: 07870192910
Email secretary@cravenpotholeclub.org

26th December 2019

Dear Matt

The Craven Pothole Club wishes to stand for election to the CNCC Council at the forthcoming AGM.

The reasons for this are:

CPC Ltd is a long established Dales club and founder member of CNCC with a wealth of local knowledge, which we are happy to share with CNCC for the benefit of all. The club has always played an active role providing access controllers and a past Chairman. We have negotiated access agreements on behalf of CNCC on several occasions

Our long and active association with the CNCC means we know the people and systems to make things happen. We have been voluntary auditors for the past decade or so and have taken an active part in all the rewrites of the constitution.

The club is keen to continue its long-standing contribution to CNCC.

Pat Halliwell (CPC Hon. Recorder and Librarian) will generally be our representative however should she not be available then Steve Kirk (CPC Hon. Editor & IT) will be her stand in.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J A Helm', written over a light grey rectangular background.

John A Helm

*Registered Office: Ivy Cottage, Horton in Ribblesdale, Settle, North Yorkshire BD24 0HF
Registered in England 31935R*

Yorkshire Subterranean Society: No statement provided

University of Leeds Speleological Association:

**U
L
S
A**

c/o 4 Willow Wood
Langcliffe
Settle
North Yorkshire
BD24 9NT

2nd January 2020

Re: ULSA representation on the CNCC committee

ULSA would like to stand for re-election to the CNCC committee at the AGM this year. We have played an active role on the committee for six years, supporting improved access to caves for all cavers, and improving representation for DIMs. We will continue to ensure that the interests of student cavers are represented. In the Dales, our members are active in sports trips, digging, surveying, conservation and bolting. Many are also members of different caving clubs around the country. As a University club, we introduce many new people to caving. New cavers are the future of caving, and we would like to help ensure that the CNCC's good work will continue.

Many thanks

Lyndon Easterbrook

President, ULSA

Northern Pennine Club: No statement provided

Earby Pothole Club:

The Earby Pothole Club is amongst the oldest caving clubs in the UK. Founded in 1945 we have had a long association with and have actively supported the CNCC since its inception.

Mainly active in the Northern Region, although small we have been involved in many successful digging projects, cave archaeological finds and conservation work with members taking part in numerous overseas expeditions.

Many members are also members of other caving clubs in the UK.

We would wish to continue this active support of the CNCC by continuing our position on the Committee.

York Caving Club:

York Caving Club would like to stand for a first-time position on the CNCC Committee in 2020.

Last year we celebrated our 10th anniversary, having started in January 2009 and grown from our five founder members to 30 active cavers, most based in York, although we have members all over the country now. We cave predominantly in the north. We have been a CNCC full member club for about six years now, and at least two of our members have been at every CNCC meeting since 2014 in their disguise as Secretary and Webmaster. We thought it was a shame that in 2019 there weren't enough clubs to form a full CNCC Committee (i.e. only 13 out of 14 available places taken), so we thought it would be nice to put ourselves forward for 2020 to try to help ensure greater representation and participation.

White Rose Pothole Club: No statement provided

York University Cave and Pothole Club:

YUCPC believes that its presence on the CNCC committee is useful in it's representation of independent student caving clubs, and the interests of the younger generation of cavers. Further, YUCPC has an ever growing base of members, visiting the dales on a regular basis, meaning that club members have a significant interest in the work of the CNCC and a desire to do what they can to assist that work and contribute a youth focused viewpoint to CNCC discussions.

Red Rose Cave and Pothole Club:

The RRCPC continues to be an active hub for cavers in the Dales with close links to other northern and visiting clubs. Our members are busy with conservation, digging, photography and surveying work and a good number of members are active in the Cave Rescue. We continue to promote friendly relations with the local community and the benefits of cavers and caving both locally and beyond. We're also welcoming new members, not just from the visiting clubs but people living in the area with an interest in caving.

Northern Boggarts:

To all Northern Cavers,

The Northern Boggarts, a local northern caving club based in Clitheroe, is standing again for the committee for the CNCC in 2020. Our club has been on the committee since June 2009 and during this time has played an active part in promoting the interest of northern cavers. Our club has contributed to some of the CNCC Newsletters, helped with the design of a leaflet on digging guidelines and one of our members helped with the publication on the opening up of Shuttleworth Pot and Witches 2. Several of our members continue to play an active part in conservation projects and have helped publicise and make photographic records of many of these. Our club continues to play a lively part in the running of CNCC. Two of our club members are officers in the CNCC; one is the retiring Treasurer and the other is the Conservation Officer. We are happy to play an active role in the CNCC and look forwards to your continuing support.

Pete Monk, Secretary, Northern Boggarts, January 2020

Grampian Speleological Group:

I would like to re-stand for 2020 on behalf of the Grampian Speleological Group. My reasons are (a) to represent truly *Northern* cavers (ie in Scotland) and (b) to reciprocate for many years of CNCC representation by offering some Scottish input and assistance by way of return. Although we in Scotland enjoy relaxed access and do not suffer the same over-populated caving regions, we support the aims and aspirations of CNCC and wish to apply similar policies here.

Appendix B: Officer Elections

The following individuals have provided notification of their intention to stand:

Chair: Andrew Hinde

Secretary: Joshua Young

Treasurer: Ben Wright

Conservation Officer: Kay Easton

Access Officer: Tim Allen

Training Officer: Ian Patrick

Application from Joshua Young:

I have been involved with the CNCC since 2017, when I began representing YUCPC on the committee. Since then, I have greatly enjoyed attending the Committee meetings, and being up close to the fantastic work being done by the CNCC on behalf of all those who cave in our region.

When the opportunity arose to become Assistant Secretary, I jumped at the opportunity to have a more active role in supporting and enabling this work. Since June I have been fully immersed in all the responsibilities of the Secretary, and have worked with Matt to ensure everything continues to run as smoothly as possible. This has included all meeting administration for this AGM and for the October and January Committee meetings; ensuring documents are in place and clear to read, meetings are organised as they should be, minutes are accurate and easily available, and constitutional requirements are upheld.

With this experience I am now well prepared to take on the full role of Secretary, ensuring that the CNCC communicates effectively, and working more closely with the Officers to ensure they are able to accomplish their goals as easily as possible. I can't wait to get started!

Application from Ben Wright

I would like to put myself forward for the role of treasurer of the CNCC. I have been caving for most of my life, originally with my Dad's club, the Haymarket Caving Club in Newcastle (of Sleets Gill fame!!), then with MUSC when I was at University. About 10 years ago, I joined the BPC and have been the treasurer for the last 5 years. I'm also a qualified diver and Training officer in the CDG Northern Section.

The CNCC is a respected organisation and does a huge amount for northern caving and its been great seeing it go from strength to strength over the past few years. I would like to give something back to the organisation by using my skills gained as being the treasurer of the BPC as well as help continue to improve things for northern caving.

Application from Kay Easton

I have been Conservation Officer for the last five years, and in the last year have organised or facilitated around 30 projects. I am a member of the Bradford PC and Northern Boggarts. I perform a facilitative role, helping people access the support and information they need to carry out the conservation projects that they are interested in. If I am elected, I will continue to work closely with Andrew Hinde on projects funded in the final year of the Stories in Stone project.

Application from Tim Allen

Dear all - I would like to stand again as Access Officer of the CNCC and continue the work of renegotiating our access arrangements on behalf of the committee. By the time of our AGM there may still be work required to finalise the on-line booking system for Casterton Fell caves and I should like to see this through. I should also like to see if any improvements could be made to the caves on National Trust land as well as dealing with any access situations as they arise. Beyond this it may be time to hand over the baton to a new person to take on the role so I would encourage you all to think about who that person might be. I will be happy to help anyone in the role going forward.

Application from Ian Patrick

I have been caving for approximately 15 years and also an active member of the Craven Pothole Club.

I am a very active caver with a keen interest in SRT.

I have run numerous SRT related training days for the Craven Pothole Club and separately as a professional instructor (Both direct and hired in from local companies).

I believe recreational caver training should come from a variety of sources. Books, videos, peers, clubs and also from a more "structured" framework.

As the CNCC training officer and a member of the BCA training committee, I would like to see as many "Structured" training opportunities as possible.

These sessions made as accessible as possible to as many people as possible.

To encourage new people into caving, clear simple opportunities in how to become a "caver" in my opinion would be a great benefit.