

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING. 7TH. FEB 1976.

Mike Hartland.

AGENDA

Club Reps.

1. Apologies for absence.

Sec. Treasurer. Assist Sec.

2. Chairman's Statement.

3. Meets Secretary's Statement: Leck / Casterton Fell.

4. Meets Secretary's Statement: Penyghent / Fountains Fell.

5. Meets Secretary's Statement: Mongo Gill / Birks Fell.

6. Action to be taken.

The following are a few ideas discussed by the Committee:

1. Fines

2. Wardening System.

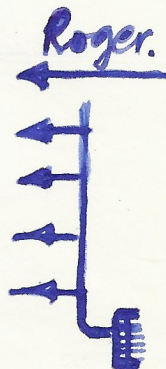
3. Good Behaviour Bond.

4. Publicising the names of Pirate clubs.

7. Communications and action required to improve them.

8. Any other business.

①. Paul - NCA Equipment Committee.



7 ass.

31 clubs

Present.

100.

75% members.

40 returns.

Fountains. ok - No complaints from members or land owners.

Further res could be fruitful.

Fountain. spare dates for Guingliag.

Penyghent -

Could imp. { Leck.  
Casterton.  
Birks Fell.  
Mongo. }

dodgy - fully Rescue - ok but resp. for any damage.





Jan.

history of CNEC. pin on inc. even wk end.

Casterton - more - Leck not so - Letter from E. J. Mann  
Canvas tagging on to other club.

Checkpoint at gate?

Lack of communication.

LDSA - Pictos? Members

Kendal limited access...



Action

Disciplinary action relax controls on periphery?

Early Prop: Further access on Leck.  
in certain areas.

Ben on Leck P.G. crash. access and demand that  
clubs reduce privatizing.

Kendal not a good idea.

\* Committee - Free access? or booking.

Free access in controlled areas.

Clubs should take disc action if members found  
privatizing.

Sanctions - that people have been disc. before  
permits.

{ Ben Red Rose access more flexible arrangements.

Mellor: Cancel agreements altogether.

Handbook? ? Improve & enlarge.



## THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

### NOTICE TO ALL MEMBER CLUBS

#### Potholing banned on Northern fells!

It was, thirteen years ago, and could easily happen again in 1976. This threat is serious enough for a Special General Meeting of CNCC to be called next month.

Did you know that, in 1962, caving was banned on Leck Fell, Casterton Fell and Fountains Fell?

Did you know that clubs got together to form CNCC because they could not negotiate access separately? Access Agreements covering Leck and Casterton Fells were signed in 1963, and for part of Fountains Fell in 1964.

Did you know that the other holes covered by CNCC permits were also closed or threatened with closure before access agreements were negotiated?

Did you know that, as a CNCC Member, your club has accepted the Constitution and the terms of all the Access Agreements?

Do all the active members of your club know these facts?

If the agreed permit systems cease to work, or if member clubs choose to ignore them, then the landowners will terminate the Agreements and access rights will be withdrawn. Is that what your club wants? The arrangements have worked reasonably satisfactorily for several years but yet 'pirating' is becoming increasingly prevalent. Why? The Council's Committee knows that communications with clubs have been far from perfect and that this may not have helped but without the full co-operation of clubs, they could never hope to reach the main body of active cavers who have little time for reading minutes even if they were given the opportunity.

It is the member clubs who are C.N.C.C., not the few long-suffering individuals elected, or delegated, to the Committee. If clubs do not regard themselves as part of the organisation and ensure acceptance of agreed rules by their own members then the Council itself becomes a mockery and might just as well cease to exist. The general attitude of cavers in most Member Clubs, including Full Member Clubs, prevents CNCC from resisting the very real threat which hangs over our access to many fine caves. Recent incidents at certain holes have brought matters to head and pending landowner changes in other areas are not going to make things any easier.

The Committee clubs have agreed that a Special General Meeting should be called to fully discuss the issues involved: issues such as what action could, or should, be taken against clubs whose members blatantly disregard access agreements? What changes are called for in CNCC policy or organisation? Should the Council remain in existence?

It is hoped that as many Full, and Associate, Member Clubs will send a delegate to this meeting which could make some decisions with quite far-reaching consequences. Please indicate whether your club is concerned by returning the attached reply slip. The Meeting will be at Ingleton Community Centre, commencing 2 p.m. on Saturday 7th February 1976.



COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Will a representative of your Club attend  
the Special Annual General Meeting at  
Ingleton on 7th February 1976?

If not, why not?

Is C.N.C.C. information reaching the  
right man in your Club?

What is the present name and address of

(1) the Secretary of your Club?

(2) the meets Secretary of your Club?

Please complete and return to Jack Rasdell, Chairman C.N.C.C.,  
6 Monkroyd Avenue, Barnoldswick, via Colne, Lancashire.



Comm. Mtg. 30 Jan

New member priorities:- leaflets distributed at  
strategic points. Cave & Cras. Nat Park Centre  
P Bayes Cras Herjco. Bernardo.

Action for each item.

Gates?

Leave caves / access agreement.

Renegotiate agreements. - Give a bit.

Discipline of member clubs - unpaid subs.?

Charging for access?

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List of Recommendations for discussion.

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Cave for Cras - but agreement exists must be  
adhered to!

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Item more paper  
Item Re-Negotiate agreements.

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Lancaster - overuse - conservation.

Hall - seating before meeting.



# Special General Mtg. 7 Feb '76.

Name	Club.	Name	Club.
J Rasdell	Bolton Speleo. (Chair)	M SMITHSON	MULLARD POT HOLE CLUB
J.R. Sutcliffe	G.C.	P STOTT	ASHFORD. S.S.
L. White	L DSA.	B. BOND.	Bumley. C.C.
G White	L DSA	JH. McNeil	B.C.C. ex m.r.s
E. Waugh	SUNDERLAND C.C.	J. Mount	Bumley C.C.
P.M. George.	Sunderland C.C.	Al Barber	SALFORD UNIVERSITY
M. Upsall	Ex - Cambridge	D.C. Mellor.	CPC.
J. Upsall	sp.	C Ball.	F.V.G.
Martin Evans	Cambridge U.S.C.	R. Myers.	C.P.C.
La Jopa	RED ROSE C.P.C.	Phil Tappin	P.C.C.
Richard Ellwood	Northern Exploration Group	A. JORDAN	BAC.
David Leonard	BACI (+ U.L.S.A.)	S. SCULTHORPE	BAC.
Dan Brook	ULSA.	M. Pratt	U.D.U.P.C.
Brian J Smith	BPC + BESCC	A. Scott	UBU PC
Phyllis	B.P.C.	M. Lowett	UBV PC
A Wellmott	B.P.C.	PR. Sanderson	C.F.G.
B.T. Willmott	BPC	D. PATTISON	W.V.C.C.
P.R. Birby	LDSA	S. Dawley	V.C.C. COG B.C.
P.G. Clarke	Michelin CC.	A. Fritch	M.U.S.S.
K. Denton	Early P.C.	B. Brew	U.L.S.A.
Peter Morgan	N.P.C.	Jenny Potts	Orpheus C.C. & D.C.F.
Jack Pickup		x.m. machin	V C P C.
J. Forder	G.C.	M. Red.	W.R.P.C.
Sp. K. K. K.	BSC.	Z. St. J.	U.R.P.C.
Willis	B.S.C. & N.S.C.C.	Ray W Dennis	V M C
P. Ramsden NSCC (NEA Equip Commit Rep)		L. Puck	W.V.C.C.
		R.P.M. Seaman	H.U.S.S.
		A. Mansden	W V C C



NAME	CLUB	NAME	CLUB
Ben Ly	NSCC	Ben Ly	NSCC
T. Wilson	HUSS	T. Wilson	HUSS
C. Huxton	LECC	C. Huxton	LECC
Edward Adland	R.C.C.	Edward Adland	R.C.C.
Shkin	KCC. F.C.D.G.	Shkin	KCC. F.C.D.G.
Lank Mills	M.U.S.S.	Lank Mills	M.U.S.S.
K.C. Plumb	MUSS	K.C. Plumb	MUSS
H. Rottwell	NEG.	H. Rottwell	NEG.
G. Bonyak	R.R.C.P.C.	G. Bonyak	R.R.C.P.C.
P. Halliwell	—	P. Halliwell	—
Ric Halliwell	CPC/Huss	Ric Halliwell	CPC/Huss
R. Whitehead	—	R. Whitehead	—



The Council of Northern Caving Clubs.  
Special General Meeting. 7th Feb. 1976.

Chairman's Address.

Firstly welcome to the Meeting.

It has been called as you have already been informed to discuss the future of the Council, which the Committee Clubs feel is in some jeopardy.

Should the Meeting establish that the Council has a future, then ~~the~~ Committee Clubs will require clear directives from the Meeting by which it may tackle the problems facing us at present.

The biggest of these problems is not so much the closing of fells and the caves thereon but the old, <sup>related</sup> ~~old~~ problem of pirating.

Pirating has now reached <sup>an</sup> unacceptable level and has taken an <sup>alarming</sup> ~~new~~ new turn. The trend is now, not only to pirate the holes that the diligent secretaries of the majority of Clubs have had the foresight to book, but to pirate their equipment as well. The folly <sup>of</sup> ~~in~~ this method of caving is self evident. The inevitable and to myself at least, the most welcome result, is that member clubs are beginning to complain bitterly. These people and they include



member clubs are fully responsible, ~~for~~ not only for damaging our hard won access arrangements, but also of creating bad ~~feeling~~ <sup>feeling</sup> within the Council itself. The Committee feels that whilst these conditions exist, there seems little point in attempting <sup>to</sup> improve access agreements or even in administering the access arrangements as they stand at present.

With pressure from landowners to restrict caving to the agreed numbers on the one hand, and the refusal of many cavers to even vaguely concern themselves with the essential rules on the other hand, the whole system must inevitably collapse. Its weakness seems to be in that it is based on trust.

Cave politics are, unfortunately, very much a part of our caving activities and are here to stay. The pressure on the caves of the N. of England is now such that rules must exist and must be adhered to. There are no special privileges for long service. The elected Committee Clubs are represented by active cavers, who perform their often thankless tasks in the sole interest of Cavers and Caving. You elected them and you are morally bound to give them your support. That is what I'm asking you to do. ~~The ball is fairly & squarely in your court~~

The agenda is very loose and gives ample opportunity for you to air your views. please do.



Special General Mtg. 7th Feb. 1976.

Michelin Caving Club. FM. ✓  
Leeds & District Speleo Ass. FM?  
Vibram Mountaineering Club. FM? OK. Nov. <sup>28th</sup> Mtg.

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Roger. Prop: <sup>with</sup> ~~then~~ for intgs ~~these~~ landowners ~~as instructed~~  
Cnec should <sup>and</sup> ~~lay~~ <sup>cards</sup> on the table on ~~action~~  
~~explaining~~ <sup>areas</sup> where agreements are in force with view to  
relaxing control in certain areas and in areas where  
difficulties have arisen and where  
See Kendal Unanimous..

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Sell newsletters rather than give.  
See Treasurer for estimates.

Increase of sub this year apart from mtg.

meets Secs address to Vibram.

ask for permits - if you don't get replies - raise hell.

Paul: NCA Equipment Committee ?

All Clubs:

How do you use ropes?  
What are your specs with dia (Ideal rope).  
Near misses accidents equip failures.

Test facilities.

Prof qualified Test Personnel?

Ideas on devel.  
Which may be useful.

Publish and data