

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 1985

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 9th March 1985 at Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton, at 3.00pm

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 1984 AGM (previously circulated)
3. Matters arising from minutes
4. Chairman's Report
5. Secretary's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Access and Conservation Officer's Report
8. Meets Secretaries Reports
 - (i) Leck Fell
 - (ii) Casterton Fell
 - (iii) Penygent/Fountains Fell
 - (iv) Birks Fell/Mongo Gill
9. Election of Officers and Committee
10. Matters relating to N.C.A. and reports from N.C.A. representatives
11. Any Other Business

Members are reminded that voting will be restricted to one representative from each paid-up Full Member Club.

Representatives from Associate Member Clubs are welcome to attend and join in discussion.

Nominations for the post of Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, C&A Officer, Treasurer, and the eight Committee places, all of whom must represent a different Full Member Club, may be sent to the Secretary or be made at the meeting.

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Minutes of Committee Meeting and A.G.M. held at Ingleton Community Centre opened at 3.10pm and was chaired by M Rhodes 1985

COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM 1 Attendance

B Smith (BPC), M Rhodes (ACC), A Tate (YSS), B Rhodes (BPC), I Wilkinson (BPC), B Hindle (SUCPC), P Mulkalt (RRCPC), R Sutcliffe (GC), D Shepherd (EPC), P Morgan (EPC), P Croasdale (EPC), A Dewhurst (EPC), D Mellor (CPC), B Bond (BCC), B Sudell (NPC), C Bullough (NPC), A Hall (RRCPC), A Hardy (CPC)

ITEM 2 Apologies

P Ramsden (WM), G Barber (WM), B Boardman (CRO)

Minutes of previous meeting taken as read, previously circulated.

There were no Matter Arising.

ITEM 3 Applications for Membership

Associate Northern Section Cave Diving Group
proposed B.P.C. seconded W.R.P.C.
accepted on receipt of seconders letter from White Rose.

Nottingham Fire Service Sports & Athletic Association C.C. proposed B.P.C.
Associate Membership accepted on receipt of seconding letter.

A.G.M.

ITEM 1 Attendance - as above

ITEM 2 Apologies - as above

ITEM 3 Minutes of last years AGM - taken as read, previously circulated.

There were no matters arising.

ITEM 4 Chairman's Report

MR apologised that report had to be given verbally. He thanked all Meets Secretaries and officers of C.N.C.C. for their work throughout the year and proposed a vote of thanks to Brian Smith for all past help and work with C.N.C.C. matters over the past years. MR also reported on A.C.C. find Swan Dike Hole and asked for offers to help stabilise the entrance and other areas within the cave.

MR stated that he would be willing to stand this year if there were no other proposals.

ITEM 5 Secretary's Report

BS thanked MR for his words and formally announced to the meeting that he would be standing down as Secretary. He also thanked Meets Secretaries and Officers for making his task easier over the last few years, and hoped that the stability would continue. BS also stated that he would 'see through' the publication of the new C.N.C.C. handbook due out shortly.

ITEM 6 Treasurer's Report

Letter report received from G Barber.

Accounts were circulated at Meeting. GB hopes that the amounts spent on administration can be reduced in '85. CNCC had 173 paid up member clubs to December '84, over half this number have paid subs for '85.

NCA grant for '84 still not received.

GB stated that due to management changes at Whernside Manor he no longer represents the Manor at CNCC meetings, he also expressed his willingness to carry on as Treasurer if co-opted.

AT reported that of the money paid to the YSS for Smeaton Pot £136 had so far been spent on materials to cap the entrance. Work was temporarily halted due to the quarry carrying out new work.

ITEM 7 Access and Conservation

Additions to written report:

- 6) Application from RRCPC members for a reference in connection with Kodak Limited for Photographic Bursary Projects on Lancaster/Easegill System.

Cave Conservation Year car stickers available from AH, price 50p.
Monies will go to NCA Cave Conservation Fund.

NCA National Conservation Officer asked for regional councils to contribute to cost of producing car stickers and publicity leaflets.

After open discussion the feeling of the meeting was that the NCA should fund this item.

ITEM 8 Meets Secretaries Reports

i) Leck Fell

AH had additions to report. He had received two letters, one from D Lowe for bookings for Notts Pot for permits in connection with Phd project. Also one from J Upsall (EXCES) for surface digging permission between Notts and Ireby. Lord Shuttleworth was sent request and replied he was in general agreement with the requests but maintained they must be included in current access agreements. AH to reply to people concerned stating this.

ii) Casterton Fell

PM stated nothing to add to report, but mentioned that tenant farmers were complaining at Fell Walkers damaging walls. Could cavers help by keeping an 'eye' out for any instances and report back to council?

iii) Leck and Casterton Access

AH had written to Sports Council on legal position on unwritten Access Agreement. Reply received stating that they could not do anything further than CNCC at the moment, but will continue to try to get more information!

Letter received from Lord Shuttleworth revising written Leck Fell agreement to include maximum cavers of 10 per permit, this did not meet with the meetings approval. After much argument and open discussion BS proposed that AH comes back with all relevant points discussed on Limits, Closed Season, etc. on draft agreement for alteration and discussion at committee meeting in April. Agreed.

iv) Pen-y-Ghent/Fountains Fell

Nothing further to add to report.

v) Birks Fell/Mongo Gill

Nothing to add except to remind clubs that Birks Fell is closed November to April.

ITEM 9 Election of Officers and Committee

		<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>	
Chairman	M Rhodes (ACC)	B.P.C.	Y.S.S.	unopposed
Secretary	B Rhodes (BPC)	B.P.C.	Y.S.S.	unopposed
Asst. Secretary	A Tate (YSS)	A.C.C.	B.P.C.	unopposed
Treasurer	G Barber was co-opted with note taken of his wishes as reported earlier.			
Access & Cons. Officer	A Hall (RRCPC)	G.C.	R.R.C.P.C.	

The following clubs were elected to Committee.

	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
N.P.C.	Y.S.S.	R.R.C.P.C.
E.P.C.	A.C.C.	Y.S.S.
C.P.C.	G.C.	R.R.C.P.C.
B.C.C.	Y.S.S.	A.C.C.
S.U.C.P.C.	B.P.C.	A.C.C.
G.C.	B.P.C.	C.P.C.

ITEM 10 N.C.A.

See attached report on Training Committee from Paul Ramsden.

PR stated that he was willing to remain as C.N.C.C. rep. on Training Committee.

It was reported that problems have arisen in attendance at C.N.C.C. meetings with reps based at the Manor, due to a new Administration Structure.

N.C.A. AGM 23rd March 1986, 10.30am Railway Hotel, Buxton.

J Sheppherd, A Tate and M Rhodes will try to attend.

R Sutcliffe gave a brief summary of last Whernside Management Committee Meeting.

ITEM 11 Any Other Business

None

ITEM 12 Date and Place of Next Meeting

Friday 26th April 1985 at Rose & Crown Hotel, Skipton (prov.)

Meeting closed at 5.30pm

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

SECRETARY'S REPORT for AGM, 1985

At the last AGM I agreed to remain as Secretary for one more year principally to undertake the compilation of the new handbook. During the year, with invaluable assistance from the Meets Secretaries, Andy Hall and Roger Sutcliffe as well as many Committee Members, I was able to complete this task and produced a draft version at the Committee Meeting in November.

All that now remains is to finalise one or two Access arrangements (principally any revision to the Casterton agreement) before publication sometime in 1985.

I feel therefore that now is the time for me to stand down, although I will see the above task is completed, so that the new Handbook includes the name of the new Secretary from the outset.

With this in mind, I would like (on behalf of Bradford Pothole Club) to propose Brian Rhodes for Secretary at the AGM. He has expressed interest in the post, and one volunteer is worth any number of pressed men!

Once again many thanks to the Meets Secretaries for their work during the year.

Keep up the good work lads!

Brian J Smith
January 1985

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

TREASURER'S REPORT TO A.G.M. 1985

A breakdown of where the money went.

£420	on access in the form of work on Smeaton Pot (£250), Stream Passage Pot (£15), Fountains Fell (£61), travel in relation to Leck/Casterton negotiations (£40), good will presents etc to various landowners and farmers on Penyghent (52)	
£100	Donation to YDNP for weather forecast facility	
£ 92	Emergency phone at Bull Pot Farm	
£ 50	Liability insurance	
£ 30	Audit	
£175	NCA subs 1983 and 1984 (change of financial year)	
£350	as printing, postage and telephone expenses.	
	Sports Council	228
	Brian Smith	44
	Ian Wilkinson	15
	Pete Mukalt	5
	Andy Hall	40
	Don Mellor	9
	Allan Tate	2
	Geoff Barber	6
	Travel expenses	9
		12
		7
		<u>28</u>
£ 28	Travel expenses.	

All figures have been rounded off.

Total expenditure was £1250

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER, 1984.

INCOME

	597.00	SUBSCRIPTIONS	715.00	
	417.99	GRANTS (N.C.A. 1983)	501.82	
1063.68	<u>48.69</u>	BUILDING SOCIETY INTEREST	<u>54.21</u>	1271.03

EXPENDITURE

	7.80	ROOM HIRE	7.80	
	50.00	INSURANCE	50.00	
	80.00	N.C.A. SUBSCRIPTION (1983 & 1984)	175.00	
	204.14	PRINTING & STATIONERY	349.69	
	73.52	OFFICERS EXPENSES	28.10	
	126.19	WORKING PARTY	420.07	
	28.75	AUDIT	28.75	
	82.00	EMERGENCY TELEPHONE	92.00	
	100.00	DONATION TO C.R.O.	-	
	101.00	N.C.A. ROPE TEST PROJECT	-	
	-	Y.D.N.P. CONTRIBUTION TO WEATHER FORECAST	100.00	1251.41
<u>853.40</u>				

<u>210.28</u>		<u>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>19.62</u>
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1984

ASSETS.

	737.95	CASH AT BANK	703.36	
1586.19	<u>848.24</u>	BURNLEY BUILDING SOCIETY	<u>902.45</u>	1605.81

REPRESENTED BY:-

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	1375.91	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	1586.19	
<u>1586.19</u>	<u>210.28</u>	EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR TO DATE	<u>19.62</u>	<u>1605.81</u>

PREPARED FROM AND CERTIFIED TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BOOKS AND INFORMATION SUPPLIED TO US.

85, CHURCH STREET,
LANCASTER

Scott. Wilkinson

25TH JANUARY, 1985.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

ACCESS AND CONSERVATION OFFICER'S REPORT 1985

Again I have managed to attend 3 out of 4 NCA C&A meetings. Over the year we have been dealing with several matters including a) Access to Mines and Quarries for Recreational Purposes and the Health and Safety at Work Act, b) Occupiers Liability Act, c) The Conservation Emergency Fund, d) "Legal Aspects of Caving" - NCA booklet.

1985 has been designated "Cave Conservation Year". This has been slow to get off the ground but publicity literature, car stickers etc, should soon be available. I can only hope the clubs come forward with projects. Tape for formations is available from me.

I have dealt with several matters in the Northern Region concerning C&A. I have replied to several letters expressing our policies. I will not go into detail but I will be willing to explain to anyone interested. Contacts made as below:-

- 1) Control of Mineral Workings in N Yorks - Project Brief from N Yorks County Council
- 2) Caving on Ingleborough, Scar Close N.N.R. from Nature Conservancy Council.
- 3) Gripping on Grossington Moor from Yorkshire Dales N.P.
- 4) Moorland Gripping Problems from Tony Waltham and N.C.C.
- 5) Proposed S.S.S.I. Fairy Hole Cave, Durham (Weardale) from N.C.C.

February 1985

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

MEETS SECRETARY'S REPORT - 1985

Leck Fell

During 1984/5 some 224 permits for Leck Fell were issued plus those for Pippikin issued by the Casterton Fell Secretary. Again there has been a small increase in mid-week bookings. A new farm manager Mr Brian Longton took over on Leck Fell in May. He has been very reasonable and I would remind cavers to approach him tactfully.

Negotiations on Leck and Casterton Fells regarding the new access agreement has progressed slowly as outlined below:-

In June myself and P Muckalt met Lord Shuttleworth, Mr Challenor and their gamekeeper on Leck Fell for discussions. They agreed to propose a draft access agreement for us to consider. Mr Challenor (agent for Casterton Fell) wanted several conditions including.

- 1) Closed season April, May, June
- 2) 10 people / permit.

The CNCC at a later meeting felt that they could not enforce these conditions on their member clubs. I was instructed to inform the owners this. I have yet to receive a reply on this from Mr Challenor.

In September I met two members from the Nature Conservancy Council regarding our application for grant aid for the Leck Fell Catchment Area S.S.S.I. especially for work on the Casterton Fell footpath. They were impressed with our proposals and I agreed to get firm estimates of the costs. In November I met members of the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and they have since sent me estimates for the work which I have forwarded to the N.C.C. and the land owner's agent for their approval.

A S Hall
February 1985

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

MEETS SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1984

Casterton Fell

1984 has been a busy year, the number of permits issued has increased by 18 since 1983 bringing the total distributed for Casterton Fell to 388.

However, Pippikin has not been used to its full potential in fact 2 less than 1983 and a total of only 55 permits have been issued.

Problems which have arisen over the year can be attributed to a lack of communication between some Club Secretaries understanding the system of access. Very often University Clubs have tried to monopolise the Fell by booking solidly for a particular date and at the same time they do not give alternative dates.

Thanks to the Clubs who comply to the booking procedure.

"PIRATING" still takes place on Casterton endangering the future access agreement.

Conservation work has been undertaken in the Easegill System in the guise of clearing up the ever increasing amounts of carbide, tins, old rope, etc.

P Muckalt
23rd January 1985

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

MEETS SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1984

Ribblesdale Area

A total of 272 permits have been issued, just 2 up on last year. The distribution is shown below.

	Number of Permits Issued
Pen-y-Ghent Pot	66
Gingling Hole	35
Magnetometer Pot	34
Dale Head Pot	29
Little Hall Pot	29
Hunt Pot	27
Hammer Pot	25
Washfold Pot	11
Hull Pot	7
Echo Pot	5
High Hall Pot	4

The heaviest period for bookings remains April to July with clubs requesting permits up to 18 months in advance. Most clubs now give alternative dates for permit requests and this has enabled the vast majority to be granted.

Access to Gingling and Hammer was the same as 1983, that is 35 permits available for Gingling and 25 for Hammer. Agreement has been reached to increase the number of permits for 1985 to 45 and 30 respectively. This should allow all requests for permits for 1985 to be granted.

If all the permits are not taken up by 1st February 1985 the numbers can be made up by the submission of a second list later in the year. Any club wishing to take advantage of this must give 6 weeks notice on their prospective date.

If a club has to cancel due to bad weather, or any other reason, they should contact Mr Coates (address on permit, call or ring), who will give them an alternative date.

All requests for permits must be accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

Ian Wilkinson
January 1985

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

MEETS SECRETARYS' REPORT - 1985

Birks Fell Cave

The popularity of this cave is still increasing - a total of 66 permits were issued in 1984, and although there were one or two vacant weekend dates in August, most of the available Saturdays and Sundays were booked months in advance. The tenant farmer seems reasonably happy with the access arrangements although he has telephoned me on two separate occasions recently when parties have arrived (in the "close" season) stating that they had permits but had forgotten to bring them. This could lead to problems if further parties try this on.

Mong Gill Hole

More clubs are applying for permits, but there is still "pirating" particularly on wet weekends and summer evenings, which causes annoyance to the Stump Cross Cave Management, and which could lead to access difficulties.

D C Mellor
2nd February 1985

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

REP. ON NCA TRAINING COMMITTEE (1984-85) REPORT 6.3.85

The year has seen several new faces on the Committee especially myself from Whernside and Dave Edwards from Whitehall Centre, Derbyshire. We have looked at the needs of caving without the knowledge of what has gone previously. This caused some confusion, with Ben Lyon being away in Mulu for the first meeting and no-one really being able to answer questions raised about the cave leader and instructor schemes.

Ben Lyon is now stepping down from the Training Committee and the last meeting unanimously nominated Dave Edwards to be the new training officer. One of the proposals at the NCA AGM is for Whernside to take over the administration side of the Committee dealing with the cave instructor certificate etc. (work previously done by the Sports Council). It is also hoped to get a place on the Committee for a Whernside Rep. because of the centre's special interest in training.

The main areas of discussion have been:-

- 1) Ensure that Training Committee looks at training for cavers - who do not need assessments and certificates.
 - 2) With respect to Sports Council grant aid - seek to gain assistance for training which is relevant to caving in general, rather than the present just the Instructor system, as at present.
 - 3) A seminar on instructed caving later this year for all interested parties with possibly another on more general matters perhaps at BCRA. Conf.
 - 4) Provide a progressive series of techniques courses at various levels and commend these to beginners, colleges etc. who have problems finding experience within the club system.
 - 5) The local cave leader scheme has special problems because of different procedures in each region.
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