

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

The Annual General Meeting of the Council will be held at Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton, on Saturday 10th June 1978 at 3 p.m.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of 1977 AGM (previously circulated)
3. Matters arising from minutes.
4. Officers Reports
  - i) Secretary - enclosed
  - ii) Treasurer - enclosed
5. Meets Secretaries Reports
  - i) Leck/Casterton - enclosed
  - ii) Penygent/Fountains Fell - enclosed
  - iii) Birks Fell/Mongo Gill - enclosed
6. Thackthwaite Beck Cave
7. Whernside Manor
8. Election of Officers and Committee
9. A.O.B.
  - i) Fixed Aids
  - ii) Theft from cars } Sec.

W.R.P.C prep W.V.C.C

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

Representatives of Associate Member Clubs are welcome to attend and express opinions.

Nominations for the posts of Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and the eight Committee Members will be accepted at the meeting, or in advance from a Full Member Club secretary. The 4 Officers and 8 Committee Members must each represent a different club.

## COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 10th June  
at the Community Centre, Ingleton.

ATTENDANCE: A Beecroft (EPC) B Smith(BPC), D Leonard(ULSA) J Clegg(WM), P Llewellyn (RRCPC), A Hall(RRCPC), R Greenwood(ULSA), B Greenwood(ULSA), A Barber(BCC), J Lally (BSC), M Wood(BSC) D Mellor(CPC) P Rose(PC) A Ball(FUG) P Windcalt (YSS) F Simpson(YSS) K Denton(MCC) T Mc C Paterson(SUPC) P Hindle(SUCPC), D J Griffiths(SUCPC), R Cundy (ACC), M Gaffney(ACC), M Rhodes(ACC) I Wilkinson (BPC) D Coates(SSPC) , D Newby (SSRC) B Tittotson(SSPC), R Sutcliffe (GC), J Wilcock(KCC), K Stead(WRPC), I Jopson(RPCPC), C Ottway(ULSA)

APOLIGIES were recieved from P Ramsden B Lyon, and H. St Lawrence.

MINUTES - of 1977 A.G.M. Previously circulated and taken as read.

### 4. OFFICERS REPORTS

1. Secretary - The secretary's report was attached to the minutes but he added that there were 127 member clubs but there was only a 15% turn out, which was very poor. Perhaps in future years people would make a greater effort to attend.

2. Treasurer - The Treasurer's report was attached to the minutes. The balance sheet was now prepared and copies were distributed at the meeting. The Treasurers had looked into the matter of insurance abroad the approximate cost for 24 days cover in Europe was approximately £12 this is for personel accident and rescue costs . The council will finance the fencing of holes which are in an unstable and poor condition.

### 5. MEETS SECRETARIES

1. Leck Casterton. P Llewellyn and B Smith had been to see Lord Shuttleworth, his agent and the farm manager with regard to having increased access on Leck Fell. They would think about the situation.

Penyghent/Gingling Hole - report circulated but I Wilkinson would like to add that an approach had been made for access to Hammer Pot the farmer would consider the matter and let us know, also the landowners on Penyghent were considering the possibilities of increased access to certain parts of Penyghent.

Birks Fell/Mongow Gill - Report circulated, nothing to add apart from cavers still going down Mongow Gill without permission, these people are thought to be Non-members of the CNCC)

6. Thackthwaite Beck Cave - comments were put to the meeting regarding locked gates on cave entrances after a short discussion it was proposed and seconded that the council is opposed to locked gates on any cave entrance the vote was carried unanimously.

7. Whernside Manor - It was discussed whether Whernside manor should be allowed to become a full member club. Comments were put forward in favour and against, a solution could not be found so the item was deffered.

8. Election of Officers and Committee - proposed and seconded:-

Chairman	A Ball (FVG)	CPC	BPC
Secretary	B Smith(BPC)	CPC	EPC
Ass Secretary	A Beecroft(EPC)	BPC	WRPC
Treasurer	"	"	"

Committee Members

<u>Club</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Secunder</u>
WRPC	WVCC	BPC
CPC	FUG	EPC
ULSA	KCC	BPC
RRCPC	BPC	FUG
YSS	BPC	SUCPC
GC	WRPC	EPC
BCC	MCC	GC
ACC	BPC	WRPC

9. Report of NCA

Report on Equipment Committee

The regular work of the committee involves circulation of information on Equipment. Obviously this is a two way process as already mentioned by the secretary in his report so if you have any information on equipment failures or near misses which you feel others would benefit from knowing about, or infact any other relevent topic, please contact Paul Ramsden at Whernside Manor. An ongoing subject is the drawing up of a specification for a possible British Standard Caving Rope Paul Ramsden and Andy Eavis are the representatives of NCA on the BSI committee.

NCA Training Committee Representatives

Report - The NCA special committee for novice training had the "novice" removed from its title.

B Lyon as CNCC representative asked the A.G.M if he was following the wishes of CNCC. The A.G.M. read the report and his views were what the A.G.M. wished for.

Thefts from cars - are still taking place most weekends, we would like to remind cavers to be extremley careful not to leave valuables in view when leaving your cars.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 7th July at Helwith Bridge Hotel at 8.15 p.m.

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - June 10th 1978

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Council now has 127 members, an increase of 12 on last year's figure. There are 29 Full Member clubs, and of the Associate Members, 38 are members of other Regional Councils and 28 are University, College or School clubs.

During the year there have been four committee meetings, which have been well attended by both committee members and observers.

The work load of the meets secretaries continues to increase, as can be seen from their reports, and it is much to their credit that the various Access Agreements continue to run relatively smoothly in most areas. Future negotiations for increased access in certain areas can only be hampered by clubs who choose to ignore the accepted procedures. Clubs can greatly assist the Meets Secretaries by ensuring that all applications are made to the correct person (some still come to me, some go to the Sports Council.), and are sent in good time, stating clearly the full name of the club, caves or entrances to be visited, enclosing stamped, addressed envelope, etc. etc.

Access problems in areas where no agreements exist, i.e. where application should be made directly to the farmer or landowner, have been few, although the problem of Thackthwaite Beck Cave remains to be discussed at the AGM.

The Council is still well represented on the various NCA Committees by R. Sutcliffe (Conservation and Access), P. Ramsden (Equipment), M.K. Lyon (Training) and myself (Executive Committee). The work of these committees is a two way process - information is dispensed by them (e.g. Equipment Failure Reports, etc), but your comments, experiences, opinions are equally important as feedback. Any of the aforementioned may be contacted if you have any comments at any time of the year regarding NCA matters.

B.J. Smith  
May 1978

High Hulf 1  
Hulf 2  
Eton Pot 8  
Little Hulf 14  
Hunt Pot 15  
Gingling Hole 25  
Washford Pot 18  
Oats Head Pot 28  
Magnetometer Pot 33  
Penyghent Pot 51

Continued over...

TREASURER'S REPORT 1977/78

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The C.N.C.C. finances over the year 1977/78 have continued to improve, due in part to the work started by Jim Wilcock getting in late subscriptions, and also the grant aid from the Sports Council via N.C.A. Money has also come in from royalties on the book "Know the Game Caving and Potholing".

To offset this income the cost of circulation of minutes and newsheets is increasing with every rise in postage. However, with the aid we receive from N.C.A., I am happy to report that no rise in subscription will be necessary in the next 12 months, and that money is available for any worthwhile project concerning caves in the north. Application for this should be made to the committee.

The 1977/78 balance sheet prepared by accountants will be available at the A.G.M.

J.J. Clegg - Treasurer  
May 1978

MEETS SECRETARY, RIBBLESDALE AREA - ANNUAL REPORT 1978

The year has seen an increased use of the area with some 195 permits issued for 1977.

The caves visited are listed below with the number of permits issued :-

Penyghent Pot	51
Magnetometer Pot	33
Dale Head Pot	28
Washfold Pot	18
Gingling Hole	25
Hunt Pot	15
Little Hull	14
Echo Pot	8
Hull	2
High Hull	1

B.J. Smith  
May 1978

Continued over...

Permits already issued for 1978 amount to 190 so a further increase in use can be anticipated with more clubs requesting permits a full year in advance.

#### Gingling Hole

A total of 32 permits have been issued for 1978 but this figure can be regarded as the total for the year as the farmer regards 30 as the maximum number allowable in future.

Permit applications for 1979 must be in my hands by February 1st 1979. The fell will be open from Easter to November.

All clubs must see Mr. Coates at Rainscar Farm before descending. This is a condition of access and any failure of member clubs to comply with this will result in the closure of this fine pot.

Mr. Coates reserves the right to refuse permission on the day if there is a danger of flooding, he does however promise any club so affected an alternative date to be agreed then and there or through myself by letter.

#### Hammer Pot

There is no access to Hammer at the moment and the entrance is blocked. But consideration is being given by the farmer to limited access in return for the shaft being made safe against sheep with suicidal tendencies.

#### Penyghent Fell

Negotiations aimed at securing all year round access to the fell have met with a sympathetic response by the Landowners. The fell is closed at present between 15th April and 15th June, but separate negotiations with the Authorities over public access to Penyghent are holding up any finalisation of our proposed alterations to our access agreement. Maybe next year?

#### Ian Wilkinson.

### MEETS SECRETARY'S REPORT 1977/1978

#### Birks Fell Cave, Buckden

Access to this cave is still restricted to just over 6 months per year. Provided no problems arise this year I consider it appropriate to try to negotiate increased access with effect from the end of this year. In 1977, 37 permits were issued, and 28 so far this year.

Continued...

The access agreement relates specifically to Birks Fell Cave, and the tenant farmer has refused access to another hole nearby. He has stated that he does not want other holes on his land being used. The Council has to decide whether an approach to the landowner is justified, or whether this might prejudice the existing agreement relating to Birks Fell Cave.

Mongo Gill Hole, Greenhow

There has never been a problem of over-booking for this hole. Very many parties, including a number from CNCC member clubs, have been to Mongo Gill in recent years without obtaining a permit.

Following the death of George Gill, Stump Cross Caverns is being managed by his widow, Mrs. Barbara Gill. Permits must still be produced at Stump Cross.

The owner, Mayor Yorke, seems fairly content with the present position, but were he to learn of the great amount of "pirating" I suspect would adopt a very different attitude towards the access agreement.

D.C. Mellor  
3.5.1978

Perryngent Fall

Negotiations aimed at securing all year round access to the fall have met with a sympathetic response by the landowner. The fall is closed at present between 15th April and 15th June, but separate negotiations with the Authorities over public access to Perryngent are holding up any finalisation of our proposed alterations to our access agreement.

Ian Wilkinson

MEETS SECRETARY'S REPORT 1977/1978

Birks Fell Cave, Guckden

Access to this cave is still restricted to just over 6 months per year. Provided no problems arise this year I consider it appropriate to try to negotiate increased access with effect from the end of this year. In 1977, 27 permits were issued, and 28 so far this year.

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING

Leck and Casterton Fell - Meets Secretary's Report 1977/78

Last year I issued over 500 permits for the two fells, and am pleased to say there have been no major problems. Clubs are booking up to twelve months in advance, and unfortunately with the exception of Lost Johns, the next available weekend dates on Leck Fell e.g. Notts Pot or Gavel are now in January, 1979.

May I remind members that Leck Fell is closed during April, May and June, with the exception of Pippikin which can be approached from Bull Pot Farm. I hope that clubs will continue to co-operate by adhering to the correct procedure, both on the Fells and in their permit requests.

In the future I would like to reconsider my position as Meets Secretary, and it could be prudent to split the Fells between two meets secretaries, perhaps the meeting will have views on this.

Pete Llewellyn  
16th May, 1978

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1978.

1976/77

1977/78

INCOME

319.00	SUBSCRIPTIONS	262.00	
.60	SALES OF ACCESS BOOK	1.30	
134.60	GRANTS (N.C.A.)	239.00	
- -	ROYALTIES	56.05	
2.50	DONATIONS	- -	
8.33	BANK DEPOSIT INTEREST	8.64	
465.03	BUILDING SOCIETY INTEREST	1.64	568.63
			<u>568.63</u>

EXPENDITURE

2.00	ROOM HIRE	4.35	
35.00	INSURANCE	35.00	
50.00	N.C.A. SUBS.	60.00	
1.00	LANCS. SPORTS FEB.	- -	
3.00	YORKS. SPORTS FEB.	- -	
110.50	PRINTING AND STATIONERY	104.67	
58.87	OFFICERS EXPENSES	31.83	
1.90	BANK CHARGES	2.85	
- -	WORKING PARTY	30.00	
267.78	SUNDRY	- -	268.70
			<u>268.70</u>

£ 197.25                      EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE                      £ 299.93

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1978.

ASSETS

175.93	CASH AT BANK - CURRENT ACCOUNT	181.59	
221.37	CASH AT BANK - DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	- -	
- -	CASH IN HAND	14.00	
397.30	BURNLEY BUILDING SOCIETY	501.64	697.23
			<u>697.23</u>

REPRESENTED BY :-

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	397.30	
£397.30	EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR TO DATE	299.93	£697.23
			<u>£697.23</u>

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

*Scott & Wilkinson*

85 CHURCH STREET  
LANCASTER

18TH MAY, 1978.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.

C.N.C.C.

N.C.A. TRAINING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

The N.C.A. Special Committee for Novice Training had the 'novice' removed from its title at the last A.G.M.

Its main function in 1978 is to see to what extent N.C.A. can involve itself, or not involve itself, in the work of the Cave Leadership Training Board, which administers the Cave Leadership Training and Certificate Scheme.

It has been decided to hold joint Training Committee/Cave Leader Training Board meetings during 1978, and the Training Committee will report its conclusions back to the N.C.A. at the end of the year.

As C.N.C.C. representative I would like the opinion of the A.G.M. as to whether I am following the wishes of C.N.C.C. My views are:-

1. Some sort of Cave Leader Training and Vetting will continue to be legitimately required.
  - a) by Local Education Authorities
  - b) by cavers who get fed up of seeing badly-led parties of youngsters underground.
2. Such training is best handled within the network of caving organisations than by external educational or other bodies.
3. The N.C.A. as the National organisation for caving is better suited to fulfil this role than the present Cave Leader Training Board, as that is a subsidiary of the B.A.C.I., which is not large enough to represent all views and interests on its own.
4. The N.C.A. should therefore, through its Training Committee, take over responsibility for the existing Cave Leader Certificate Scheme and review and adapt it to meet the legitimate need for training of cave leaders.

In case this sounds revolutionary I should explain that at the moment I am Chairman of the C.L.T.B. and Training Officer of the N.C.A. An amalgamation would mean half as many meetings! Obviously most cavers want to get on with their own caving, but the few involved in training should be under the wing of the National caving body - The N.C.A. has no jurisdiction over regional matters, if C.N.C.C. wanted to become involved in regional training in the future it could do so as it thought fit.

I apologise for not being able to attend the A.G.M. - I'm underground training cave leaders for Cumbria Education Committee!

M.K. Lyon