

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Agenda for the Annual General Meeting

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 1989 AGM, previously circulated
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Officers reports : Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Access and Conservation Officer
Assistant Secretary
5. Meets secretaries reports : Birks Fell/Mongo Gill
Penyghent/Fountains Fell
Leck Fell
Pippikin/Link
Casterton Fell
6. Constitutional amendments : None proposed
7. Election of officers and committee
8. National Caving Association representative's report
9. Any other business : (a) Commercial organisations and CNCC membership
(b) NCA subscriptions and grants
(c) Future committee meeting venues
(d) Any other items
10. Next committee meeting

Note :- as previously advised the meeting will be held on Saturday 10th February 1990, in the Workshop, Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton, commencing at 2.00pm.

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 10th February, 1990 at the
Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton, chaired by R. Myers.

Present : P. Beeston (SRCC), J. Birchall (RRCPC), B. Bond (Burnley)
C. J. Danilewicz (NPC), D. Fecitt (SRCC), A. S. Hall (RRCPC)
R. Halliwell (CPC), A. Hole (HPUCC), R. Holmes (DHSS),
B. M. Hunt (EPC), M. Lavender (Orcus), S. Marshall (BPC),
P. Muckalt (RRCPC), R. Myers (CPC), P. H. Parker (WRPC),
J. Rattray (BPC), D. Shepherd (EPC), S. Simpson (SRCC),
J. Sloane (LUG), L. Sykes (LUG), S. Sykes (LUG),
A. Tate (YSS), R. Wilding (Orcus)

Apologies : P. Ramsden (NCA rep), P. Wilson (Burnley), U. K. L. F.
School of Adventurous Training.

Minutes of 1989 A.G.M. : Previously circulated and taken as
read.

Matters arising : None

Officers Reports :

Chairman - R. Myers gave a brief run-down of the year stating
that not a great deal of note had occurred. He offered his
services as chairman for the next year.

Secretary - P. H. Parker commented upon the attendance at
meetings which had, yet again, been poor for the whole of the
year. He offered to continue as secretary for the next year.

Treasurer - D. Shepherd issued his report which showed figures
of a surplus of £742 for the year and an overall balance of
£1982. However he advised the meeting that outstanding costs for
the year might reduce the figures by £150. The N.C.A grants for
1988 and 1989 were supposedly 'in the pipeline'. If these two
items were taken into account the overall balance would be in
the region of £2,500.

Nine clubs had paid back subscriptions for 1988.

At the start of 1989 23 clubs had paid subscriptions in advance,
but at the start of 1990 the figure had improved to 45 clubs.

In answer to a query D. S. advised the meeting that C.N.C.C. had
not yet paid for the hire of a skip for the Kail Pot clean-up.
After discussion the accounts were approved unanimously.

C & A Officer - A.Hall presented a comprehensive written report on the years happenings which had been fairly quiet. The matter of the White Scar Cave tunnel planning permission was raised with regard to the apparent resistance by one of the Park councillors.

The meeting approved the report.

Assistant Secretary - Not present.

Meets secretaries reports :

Birks Fell/Mongo Gill - Written report presented by R.H. He advised the meeting that the National Trust (now landowners in Wharfedale/Langstrathdale) have a caver on their local staff. On the matter of Sleets Gill/Dowkerbottom access it was confirmed that access is refused at the moment but that C.P.C. have made low key representations to the farmer. The problem is due to large mid-week groups and uncontrolled dogs. Report approved unanimously.

Pen-Y-Ghent & Fountains Fell - Written report presented by J.R. Problem of a dig in Dub Cote Scar Pasture (para 4) probably resolved as it was believed that the dig had been filled in. S.R.C.C. reported that the entrance to Shrapnel had collapsed and that if permission could be obtained they would carry out repairs. J.R. will contact the farmer to obtain permission. The report was approved unanimously. Noted that J.R. is resigning in the near future due to work and home commitments and that Stuart Marshall is willing to take on the post.

Leck Fell - - C.J.Danilewicz's year had been quite peaceful despite the issue of considerable numbers of permits such that weekends were booked up to the end of August. D.S./B.M.H. confirmed that another couple of trips should see Gavel Pot re-opened and it could go back on the permit list after the closed season.

In answer to the December '89 meeting's queries C.J.D. advised that the Liverpool Club with a 'valid' permit but not on the monthly list could well have either had some form of forged permit or no permit at all. The B.P.C. complaint was due to there not having been an original permit request for him to answer. A.H. had written to the Estate Manager concerning the matters of unauthorised digging and caving on the fell. S.R.C.C. commented that Notts Pot appeared to be permanently rigged and C.J.D. advised that this was for diving exploration access.

Report approved unanimously.

Pippikin/Link - P.Muckalt reported that the problem of people approaching from Casterton Fell rather than Leck fell was still in evidence, as was pirating!

Casterton Fell - F.M. advised the meeting that although the agreement is still in operation too many individuals are going down the system 'with their mates' outside the scope of the agreement.

The rope on the climbs in Wretched Rabbit has been removed by A.N.Other and will not be replaced for the time being.

Permission for Aygill Caverns should be obtained from the Estate Office - not P.M.

R.R.C.F.C. are thinking of removing the iron ladders from the Ease Gill system because of their age and their potential for thus causing accidents, and to help conserve the system. After animated discussion a show of hands on the matter came down heavily in favour of their removal.

Voting in favour 17, Against 2, Abstention/Did not vote 4.

Constitutional amendments : None proposed

Election of officers and committee :

The following persons and clubs were proposed and seconded and in the absence of any other nominations were duly elected.

Chairman - R.Myers (CPC)

Secretary - P.H.Parker (WRPC)

Treasurer - D.Shepherd (EPC)

A & C Officer - A.S.Hall (RRCPC)

Ass.Secretary - No nomination.

Ordinary committee - Bradford P.C., Burnley C.C., Dent House S.S.
Lancashire Underground Group, Northern
Pennine Club, South Ribble Caving Club,
Yorkshire Subterranean Society.
One place unfilled.

N.C.A. - P.Ramsden sent a written report in which he noted the happenings of the past year, and offered his services as N.C.A. representative for a further year.

The meeting was advised of the N.C.A. A.G.M. to be held on 17th March 1990 and the following C.N.C.C. representation was agreed - R.Myers, P.H.Parker, P.Ramsden, A.Hall (possibly).

Any other business :

(a) Commercial Organisations and C.N.C.C. membership - after discussion it was agreed that differentiation between different types of caving group was outside the scope of the constitution

(b) N.C.A. subscriptions and grants - covered during Treasurers report and grant is due to be received shortly.

(c) Future committee meeting venues - To be left to the next committee meeting.

(d) Magnetometer Pot entrance repair - meeting advised that Gordan Batty would undertake repairs if material costs, estimated at £150, were underwritten. A motion to provide the financial help was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously.

(e) Cavern Climbers Caving Club - the meeting was advised that this club had been writing to various other clubs seeking sponsorship for C.N.C.C. membership. Nobody present at the meeting knew of them, other than by their letters, so no membership support was forthcoming.

(f) Derbyshire Caving Club applied for, and was granted, membership.

(g) J.R. mooted the idea of an annual C.N.C.C. dinner or get together for member clubs. The response being only 'luke-warm' the idea was dropped.

(h) After a query it was confirmed by D.S. that the subscription rate was to remain at £10.

Next committee meeting - Friday 6th April 1990 at The Golden Lion in Horton-in-Ribblesdale.

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THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Please reply to:

1990 AGM Attendance list

If signature not legible please print name !!

- 14 R. Myers. Craven Pothole Club.
- 6 Andy Ham RRCC
- 3 B. Bond. Burnley C.C.
- 16 J RATTRAY BRADFORD POTHOLE CLUB.
- 12 S. Marshall. - S.P.E.
- 9 R. Adams D.H.S.S.
- 20 L. SYKES } L.U.G.
- 19 J. SLOANE } L.U.G.
- 21 S. SYKES } L.U.G.
- 10 B.M. HUNT } EARBY P.C.
- 17 D. SHEPHERD } EARBY P.C.
- 7 Ric Hollis - CAC
- 22 Alan Tate - YSS.
- 13 P. MURPHY. RRCC
- 8 A. Hollis. HRCC
- 14 CJ DANILEWICZ NPC
- 23 Rosanne Wilding Orcus Caving Group.
- 11 Mark Lavender " " "
- 11 LAVENDER " " "
- 1 PETER BEESTON SRCC
- 18 SHARON SIMPSON "
- 5 DAVE FECITT "
- 15 Phyllis H. Parke WRPC

The Council of the Northern Caving Clubs

Income and Expenditure Account

for the year ended 31st December, 1989

INCOME

Subscriptions	1143
Grants	461
Building Society Interest	96
	<hr/>
	1700

EXPENDITURE

Room Hire	27	
Insurance	150	
NCA Sunscriptions	150	
Printing / Stationery	104	
Officers Expenses	67	
Working Party	-	
Travelling Expenses	34	
Audit	34	
Emergency Telephone	119	
Repairs	73	
Sundries - Grant	200	958
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Surplus / (Deficit)		742

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1989

ASSETS

Cash at Bank	745	
Nat & Prov Building Society	-	
Britannia Building Society	1721	2466
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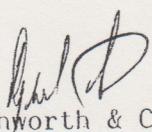
LIABILITIES

Subscriptions paid in advance	450	
Creditor	34	484
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		£ 1982
		<hr/>

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

Balance Brought Forward		1240
Surplus		742
		<hr/>
		£ 1982
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Prepared by:


Dymond, Ashworth & Co.

6th February, 1990

1990 CONSERVATION & ACCESS OFFICER'S REPORT

This has been a fairly quiet year on the C & A front. There have been a few minor problems but nothing to compare with earlier years. Contact with the Nature Conservancy Council has proceeded fairly well and a liaison meeting was held at the back end of last year. Richard Wright has taken over from Laurie Richards at the N.C.C. and the meeting was held at the Leyburn office. Notification of all the S.S.S.Is. in the north is proceeding. Only the following sites have yet to be fully notified.

Hale Moss
Knock Fell Caverns
Upper Dentdale

Fairy Holes Cave
Crackpot Cave/Cliff Force
Black Keld Catchment
Stansgill Pot

Some discussion took place over access by cavers to N.C.C. owned land. Many cavers are still ignorant of the fact that the N.C.C. is not opposed to digging on their land in general as long as digs are vetted. It is hoped to publicize this more in the future, in the caving press. As a good will gesture I have agreed to take some of the local N.C.C. officers on a caving trip in the near future, probably in Wharfedale, on the 4th March. Any volunteers to help out would be appreciated. The situation on Casterton Fell was discussed at some length and it was agreed that it might be a good idea to set up some form of management group for the area involving the landowner, RRCPC, NCC, and ourselves in order to establish some sort of conservation plan for both the surface and underground features of the site.

There have been a few problems on Leck Fell with which I have been involved but I trust that these will be dealt with by the Leck Fell officer and secretary in their reports.

I have been involved with the N.C.C. submissions on the planning applications by the owners of White Scar Cave, to drill an explanatory borehole into the Battlefield, and to mine a tunnel from near the present entrance to the Battlefield. Both applications have been approved by N.C.C. with several provisosoes on the construction of the tunnel and development of the Battlefield.

I have not been able to attend as many N.C.A. C&A meetings as I would have liked but I have kept in touch with what is happening nationally. The new edition of the handbook is proceeding slowly as other matters have taken precedent.

A.S.H.

Council of Northern Caving Clubs

Meets Secretary's Report for Birks Fell & Mongo Gill

General

I took over from Dave Milner in September and I know of no problems from Dave's time or mine regarding Mongo or Birks Fell. There was some correspondence with the National Trust over access to Hagg Gill but the problem seems to have been resolved amicably and there is still open access to this cave. The only other minor problem has been of an administrative nature with clubs who appear not to have paid their subscriptions requesting permits.

Birks Fell

The National trust have made no comment on the working of the Access agreement to date. For the record I have continued Dave's tradition of giving statistics of past years permits. The downturn in numbers which he recorded in 1988 continued into 1989 and so far only 15 bookings have been made for 1990.

1977 - 32	1981 - 50	1985 - 46	1989 - 32
1978 - 35	1982 - 47	1986 - 55	
1979 - 40	1983 - 52	1987 - 44	
1980 - 41	1984 - 63	1988 - 28	

Average number per year for the last 10 years - 46

Mongo Gill

No access problems to report. Again the trends identified by Dave have continued with an increase in midweek bookings from just under 50% in 1988 to just over 60% in 1989. However although the number of bookings is increasing the number of different organisations making the bookings is decreasing. For 1990 there are already 30 bookings but 25 of these are midweek.

1981 - 28	1984 - 44	1987 - 29
1982 - 39	1985 - 24	1988 - 36
1983 - 30	1986 - 28	1989 - 38

Average number per year for the last 9 years - 33

Ric Halliwell

File : CNCC90
7 February 1990

NATIONAL CAVING ASSOCIATION

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

PEN-Y-GHENT & FOUNTAINS FELL AREA REPORT 1989-90

Bookings this last year have been about average in number (243). Many of these bookings have been for Penyghent pot. This was due mainly to a great number of exploration trips by U.L.S.A.

There was only one notable rescue last year and that was in Penyghent pot. The name of the club has strangely slipped my mind.

Bradford Pothole Club has adopted Penyghent pot as their project for the cave conservation drive. The entrance requires a lot of work to stop it collapsing so this will require a little negotiation with other clubs as far as bookings are concerned and also the land owners will have to be consulted.

This leads me on to a not so savoury point. I have just received (1FEB90) a letter from Davis and Bowring (Langcliffe & Horton in Ribblesdale estate agents) complaining of an excavation in Dub Cote Scar Pasture and they require a full explanation. This complaint is under investigation and I shall be reporting my findings to the committee as soon as possible.

Next, I would like to apologise for my absence from many of the past year's committee meetings. This has been unavoidable due to having to work abroad but fortunately this has not affected getting permits out. This year I am expecting a new addition to my family and feel I might not be able to carry out my responsibilities to CNCC as well as I ought. So, I will be tendering my resignation in the near future. Stuart Marshall, a member of Bradford Pothole Club, has volunteered to do the job with the committee's approval.

Finally I would like to thank all those clubs who sent me Christmas cards. I think this indicates that the frequent use of the telephone for provisional bookings and sorting out problems gives the post of Meets Sec a more human face. Thanks.

Jimmy Rattray
CNCC Meets Secretary Penyghent & Fountains Fell

REPORT TO CNCC AGM, 10 FEBRUARY 1990, ON NCA BUSINESS.

THE TRAINING COMMITTEE

The Training Committee now has a part-time paid Training Co-ordinator subcontracted to work for the NCA. He is John Cliffe, 45, Gwernyfed Avenue, Three Cocks, Brecon, Powys, LD3 0RT.

Major items discussed during the year include Local Cave Leader Assessments, Cave Instructor Assessments, validation of assessors, Regional Caver Training (eg Ingleton Nov 89) and Radon, which has a separate committee looking at its relevance and monitoring.

THE NCA EXECUTIVE

The NCA Executive has reports from officers and special committees, often allowing little time for discussion. There have been more constitutional confusions than normal this year following the Special General Meeting in June.

The Insurance Officer has been offered a policy which seems to offer cover for NCA officers and constituent bodies as well as similar terms to that offered by BCRA insurance - a better package for a similar price? He wants to know how many regions / clubs / individuals are interested. (see leaflet)

There is very poor representation on the Equipment Committee - no one from CNCC.

THE WORKING PARTY

The Working Party looking at the structure of British Caving has not met since June when the last questionnaire was drafted - 1200 copies were produced for return by Jan 1990. A preliminary report suggests that only about 470 were returned and roughly equal numbers supporting federal structure and individual representation. It is disappointing if nothing conclusive comes of time and money spent on this topic, which has dragged on for years. The obvious comment is that apathy is widespread in constituent bodies.

PAUL RAMSDEN
5 - 2 - 90

I am willing to continue representing CNCC at NCA meetings next year.