NORTHERN CAVING 85

Handbook of the Council of Northern Caving Clubs

CAVES IN THE NATIONAL PARK

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee published in 1984 its first Review of the <u>National Park Plan</u> to identify its responsibilities and policies. The importance of caves as features of the landscape was duly recognised and attention was drawn to the main related issues as follows:

Cave Systems

The karst scenery of the Park provides the setting for the foremost caving area in Great Britain (ref. 12.65). The North Pennine Cave Area, which is centred on the National Park, contains more cave systems than the rest of England. The area is of outstanding interest to geologists, geomorphologists, biologists, archaeologists and hydrologists as well as the recreational caver. Over half the caves in the Park, however, have been damaged to some extent, mainly through over—use, and there is still a problem of a few incidences of unauthorised digging on private land.

In 1977 work began on the collection and collation of information on cave systems. When completed this work will be of considerable practical assistance in the conservation and management of use of the systems. As part of a national appraisal the Nature Conservancy Council has recently undertaken a Geological Conservation Review of caves in the Yorkshire Dales. The National Park Authority has been notified of 12 sites; those which are not already SSSIs are shortly to be scheduled.

The National Park Committee will:

- (a) seek to conserve all cave systems of scientific importance;
- (b) continue to assemble information on cave systems and their use for recreational and other purposes;
- (c) liaise with the Nature Conservancy Council, the National Caving Association and the British Cave Research Association on all matters relating to the conservation and management of nationally important cave systems;
- (d) through the teaching and advice offered by Whernside Cave & Fell Centre, and otherwise, promote a better understanding amongsy those using the systems of the need to protect valuable underground sites from degradation.

The fact that these cave systems are underground does not protect them from damage. Over half of all caves in the National Park have damaged formations. The quarrying of limestone is a particularly fundamental threat to some systems and may in extreme cases bring about their complete destruction. Cavers themselves are responsible for the high level of erosion in some of the more popular systems by the collection of specimens and, in some cases, the wilful destruction of formations in order to facilitate access. Pollution caused by cavers and the dumping of rubbish and dead livestock down potholes may be a serious threat, not only to caves, but also to cave fauna.

The Yorkshire Dales National Park may have powers to assist if serious and intractable access problems, quarry developments, or excessive farm dumping threaten important caves in future. The more insidious, but equally serious damage to caves caused by internal wear and tear is something which can only be combatted by cavers themselves. Each of us has an individual responsibility.

Whernside Cave & Fell Centre

The limestone features of the National Park are of outstanding interest to geologists, geomorphologists, biologists and hydrologists as well as to recreational potholers. The Northern Pennine area which is centred on the Yorkshire Dales is the classic limestone area in Britain.

The National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949 and the Countryside Act 1968 enable the National Park Committee to provide study centres and other facilities for learning about the history, natural features, flora and fauna of tha National Park.

Whernside Cave & Fell Centre was acquired by the National Park Committee in May 1976 from the Scout Association, which had founded the centre in 1968. The purchase and remedial works were assisted by grants from the Sports Council and Countryside Commission. Since 1977 the Centre has maintained its national importance in the field of caving and has provided a wide range of opportunities for the public to develop knowledge and skills in caving and to experience the safe and proper use of upland countryside. It has recently been recognised by the National Caving Association as the National Cave Training Centre.

The Whernside Cave & Fell Centre is a residential and day centre with an important role to play within the National Park Committee's general strategy for the promotion of understanding and considerate behaviour.

The course programme gives special emphasis to training and study in the field. It embraces caving both as a recreational and a scientific pursuit, fell and mountain craft, the study of various aspects of limestone geomorphology, flora and fauna, and various aspects of the social and economic history and life of the Dales. It remains the only centre in the country to undertake officially recognised training and assessment for cave leadership and has an international reputation for the development and dissemination of new and safe techniques. All courses, including those of a specialist caving nature, serve to promote national park objectives. In addition to those using the accommodation in the Centre or in the bunkhouses, many non-residents take advantage of the day instruction, tackle hire, shop or camping facilities.

Published by the Council of Northern Caving Clubs

Hon. Secretary: B. Rhodes, 23 Thorpe Lane, Guiseley, Leeds LS20 8LQ

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Important Note: Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information given in the following pages is accurate, the Council of Northern Caving Clubs cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies which may occur.

Less than thirty years ago, cave access problems were almost unknown in the Yorkshire Dales. Farmers generally took little notice if the occasional bunch of potholers crossed their land, and were not very concerned about which particular hole they might be making for. It was only during the sixties, when the rapidly growing numbers of visitors brought an increasing incidence of such things as wall damage, shakehole digging, and cave rescues, that farmers — and more particularly their landowners — began to object.

INTRODUCTION

The Council of Northern Caving Clubs came into being in 1963 as a direct result of the complete ban on caving imposed by the landowners of Leck and Casterton Fells. Lengthy negotiations took place before Access Agreements were drawn up to regain access to these very important caving areas. The restricted permit requirements were accepted by C.N.C.C. only because there was no realchoice, either on these fells or on the other areas subsequently threatened with closure unless the Council introduced controls. Elsewhere around the Dales, however, the majority of farmers have been - and still are - quite content if cavers make a courtesy call for permission to cross their land.

The first comprehensive list of farmers' addresses applicable to specific caves and potholes was drawn up by the Cave Rescue Organisation and made available to clubs in 1963. This booklet, 'Permission to Explore Northern Caves and Potholes'. was republished with amendments by C.N.C.C. and was followed in 1969 by the Northern Cave Handbook which enjoyed a much wider circulation. In addition to listing new access details, the Handbook included bibliographic and survey references for as many caves as possible. The publication served a useful purpose during the period when 'Pennine Underground' was grossly out of date, as well as out of print, and before the new guidebook series appeared. Although a number of Amendment Sheets were circulated to clubs in subsequent years, the task of listing references to the numerous new discoveries, as well as checking all the names and addresses of farmers or landowners, eventually became too great for a revised Handbook on the same comprehensive lines. The demand for such information was relieved considerably when the new 'Northern Caves' guidebooks were marketed by the Dalesman Publishing Co. because they proved to contain adequate details for the majority of caves and potholes. There has been a continuing need, however, to inform clubs and individual cavers about the problem areas where more complex access procedures have evolved. This is the main purpose of this new Handbook which is intended for all active cavers, not just club secretaries.

It is no coincidence that the areas where access restrictions have arisen include some of the finest potholes, with new discoveries increasing the demand for access. There is always a threat that the activities of 'pirate' cavers, or a serious cave rescue incident, could induce a landowner to cancel an Agreement or even take the ultimate step of filling in entrances. Such measures would undoubtedly have been taken if the permit requirements had not been accepted by the great majority of caving groups. This should be borne in mind by the selfish and impatient few who choose to ignore the agreed procedures. Cavers in the North of England should consider themselves fortunate in the degree of freedom and range of choice available for their activity in comparison with other caving regions. Despite growing pressures from landowners and authorities concerned about safety, damage and possible legal liabilities, the Council of Northern Caving Clubs has so far successfully opposed such restrictive developments as the gating of cave entrances, the levying of fees for visiting open caves, or the vesting of restricted access controls in the hands of individual clubs.

The uncertainties of the laws concerned with access to the countryside and landowners' liability have been a major stumbling block in negotiating permitted access to certain caves and areas which has meant that any caving visits have been clandestine ones. In most cases the tenant farmers have been fully aware of such

activity but would still refuse permission if asked. Through the National Caving Association this unsatisfactory state of affairs was drawn to the attention of the Central Council for Physical Recreation on which other similarly affected outdoor pursuits had representation. It is pleasing to note that, as a result of pressure exerted by the C.C.P.R. on theLord Chancellor's Office and in parliamentary lobbies, new legislation should shortly be approved which should eliminate the main ambiguities.

The Occupiers' Liability Act, 1957, and the Unfair Contract Terms Act, 1977, will be clarified to imply that their restrictions will not apply in the case of recreational visitors to land or premises who willingly accept the risks involved. This has always been taken for granted by cavers and assumed by most farmers and landowners too, but, where there is less understanding the revisions ought to eliminate doubts. It remains to be seen whether this clarification in the law is translated into greater freedom of permitted access. It will only do so if cavers behave sensibly and responsibly and request permission from the farmers to cross the land which gives them their livelihood.

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

1. The role of CNCC

The Council was formed in 1963 to negotiate access to certain important caves and potholes which had been closed to cavers. The Access Agreements reached with the respective landowners for Leck and Casterton Fells, Penyghent, Fountains Fell and more recently Mongo Gill Hole, Birks Fell Cave and Washfold Pot, all require the Council to issue permits and to notify the owners in advance of the bookings made. The administrative work involved with these agreements has always been one of the main functions of the CNCC.

In addition, the Council has gradually had to assume the role of a general representative body for the recognised caving clubs active in the North of England. As such it is the regional constituent of the National Caving Association, the formation of which was first proposed by CNCC in 1964 - five years before its constitution was first accepted by all the other bodies involved. Membership of CNCC reached 100 Clubs in April 1975 and is now over 150.

The affairs of the Council are managed by the elected Officers and Committee, made up of representatives from 12 full member clubs. The Committee appoints Meets Secretaries to deal with permits and also invites to its meetings observers from the British Cave Researsh Association, the British Association of Caving Instructors, the Cave Rescue Organisation, Whernside Manor and a Warden of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. CNCC delegates attend meetings of the various committees of NCA and of the Yorkshire and Humberside Sports Council Countryside Committee.

2. Aims, principles and policies

The following aims and objects are stated in the Constitution:-

- to ensure and maintain access to caves and potholes by negotiation and/or agreement with farmers, landowners or authorities;
- ii) to secure and maintain good relations with, and act as general coordinating body between, cavers and farmers, landowners, gamekeepers, local residents and other interested parties;
- iii) to encourage and educate cavers to respect and conserve caves and the countryside;
- iv) to represent the general interest of member clubs and Northern Cavers;
- to act as a general disciplinary body and arbitrator in the event of any act considered detrimental to the Council as a whole;

The Council also adheres to these principles:-

- vi) it cannot interfere with the individuality of any club;
- vii) caving is far more than just a form of physical recreation;
- viii) the Yorkshire Dales region is the most important area of caves and karst landscape in Britain.

The following policies have so far been adopted:-

- a) CNCC does not interfere with existing cave access agreements which are acceptable to member clubs, except where access to some other important cave is being adversely affected;
- cNCC has generally maintained a 'low profile' and has not set itself up as a 'pressure group' to influence public opinion;
- it avoids publicising caving in ways which might attract more people to the sport;
- access agreements involving restrictive controls have only been entered into where informal procedures have impossible;
- the onus for obtaining permission to visit caves or cross land remains with individual parties or clubs;
- f) CNCC supports the cave rescue organisations in promoting a safer approach to potholing generally;
- g) CNCC supports BACI in efforts to improve standards of cave leadership and in controlling the caving activities of schools, youth groups and other novice parties;
- h) CNCC supports BCRA and NCA in protecting caves threatened by damage, and and in educating cavers not to abuse caves.

1. USE OF THE HANDBOOK

This handbook is intended to be used in conjunction with the current series of guidebooks published by the Dalesman Publishing Co. Ltd., 'Northern Caves' Vols. 1 to 5, and 'Underground in Furness', 2nd Ed. For many of the most popular caves and potholes, the access instructions need explaining in more detail than has been found possible in the guide books. The following pages present these details in much the same order as the guidebook areas, and also include a few Survey References for some of the longer cave systems which cannot be fully portrayed in the guidebooks. Whilst some cave surveys are obtainable as separate sheets through stockists of caving gear, others will only be found in Journals held in Caving Club libraries.

2. OBTAINING PERMISSION

Obtaining permission to cross land and visit caves is not just a matter of courtesy. It is in many cases <u>essential procedure</u> if access to particular caves is to be maintained. Failure to observe the access requirements of a farmer or landowner will only aggravate the situation and lead to more restrictions for everybody, or even in the filling in of cave entrances, as has happened in the past. In many cases it is sufficient to call at the stated farm on the way to the cave or pothole but some popular systems get booked up well in advance and advance written application is advisable. Always give plenty of notice and enclose a stamped addressed envelope for reply.

For the caves and potholes where access is controlled by the Council of Northern Caving Clubs on behalf of the Landowner, a minimum of one month's notice is required normally - often much more to secure a weekend booking - because details have to be supplied to the landowners and agents on a monthly basis. It is useful, also, to give alternative dates when writing. All requests for permission should be made on Club notepaper, signed by an officer of the Club, and enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. These access agreements stipulate that CNCC may only issue permits to Member clubs; details of their terms are summarised on Pages 18-20 of the Handbook, followed by a brief 'history' which indicates why some of the restrictions were imposed in the first place.

CNCC MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

As required by Clause 4.2 of the constitution, applications for membership must be supported by letters from proposing and seconding clubs, except when the applicant club is already a bona fide member of one of the other three Regional Councils. These letters should be sent to the CNCC Secretary separately or with the application, signed by the Secretary or Chairman of the supporting clubs which must be CNCC members themselves.

No forms are required to be filled in by applicant clubs. Application should be by letter, including details of the Club's size, age, experience, and the names and addresses of its officers or leaders. Applications will be considered by CNCC committee at its first meeting following receipt by the Secretary of both the written application and the two supporting letters.

The Council's Meets Secretaries will deal with applications for permits to controlled areas and potholes from accepted member clubs, following confirmation from the Treasurer that dues have been paid $f_{\Theta}r$ the year in which the permits are required. (See also Clause 4.7)

All correspondence, enquiries and applications should be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope if prompt attention is expected.

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook 'Northern Caves' Volume 1.

NIDDERDALE

GOYDEN POT NEW GOYDEN POT and MANCHESTER HOLE Call at Limley Farm No. 1 (on left) after approaching via the Water Authority toll road from Lofthouse. Cars may be parked in lay-by beyond Limley Farm entrance. Approach New Goyden by river bed only.

Caves are subject to total flooding and a check with the Superintendent at Scar House Reservoir (tel. Ramsgill Dale 202) is recommended about the likelihood of any abnormal discharge of water.

EGLIN'S HOLE and HOW STEAN LOW EGLIN'S HOLE Call at How Stean Cottage and approach direct from car park.

Hazel Close Farm, Middlesmoor. No need to call if cave

is approached from How Stean Car Park.

BLAYSHAW GILL POTS

Mr. Walker, High Blayshaw Farm, Lofthouse, Harrogate. Permission unlikely at present.

NEW GOYDEN POT

Approach by footpath on east side of river bed. Never cross field direct from Waterworks road. Call at Limlay Farm No. 1 as for Goyden, and follow river bed. Check flood risk.

STUMP CROSS AREA

MONGO GILL HOLE

Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4) which must be produced to staff at Stump Cross Caverns. Park further up road - not at show cave. Vehicles are not permitted down the track through the gate. Replace shaft covers. No permits issued between 1st May and 31st July. Survey ref: Craven Pothole Club Journal 3 (4) 1964

STUMP CROSS CAVERNS

Permission unlikely.

Write to:- Mrs. B. Gill, STump Cross Caverns, Greenhow Hill, Pateley Bridge, Harrogate.

Survey ref: Craven Pothole Club Journal 3 (4) 1964.

HELL HOLE

Mr. W. Sutcliffe, High Hall, Appletreewick

TROLLERS GILL

Mr. C. E. Hammond, White House Farm, Skyreholme

GRASSINGTON AREA

ELBOLTON. THREAPLANDS and SKYTHORNS CAVES

These groups of caves are in enclosed land and it is important to call at the addresses stated in 'Northern Caves' Volume 1.

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook 'Northern Caves' Volume 1.

GREAT WHERNSIDE

DOW CAVE and PROVIDENCE POT

Knowledge of both ends of Dowbergill Passage should be obtained before attempting a through trip.

LANGCLIFFE POT

Mr. J. Lambert, Mile House, Kettlewell, Skipton. Permission unlikely.

ODDMIRE POT

Mr. B. W. Appleton. Westgate, Kettlewell, Skipton.

UPPER WHARFEDALE

BIRKS FELL CAVE

Club access only with CNCC Permit (see Page 4) which must be produced at Redmire Farm (Mr. F. W. Horner), Buckden. No permits can be issued between 1st Nov. and 15th April. Use Buckden car park and approach by public path only. Survey ref: Craven Pothole Club Journal 4 (3) 1969

BIRKS WOOD. REDMIRE POT etc. Mr. F. W. Horner, Redmire Farm, Buckden, Skipton.

FOSS GILL CAVE and POT

Mr. T. Lister. Bushey Lodge Farm. Starbotton.

LANGSTROTHDALE

BOUTHER GILL and BRACKEN CAVE

Mr. J. Huck, Church Farm, Hubberholme, Buckden

LANGSTROTH CAVE and POT

Mr. J.B. Cockerill, Raisgill Farm, Hubberholme, Buckden, Skipton

PASTURE GILL POT

YOCKENTHWAITE POT

Mr. D. L. Mudd, Top Farm, Yockenthwaite, Buckden, Skipton

STRANS GILL POT and

Mr. S. Hird. Yockenthwaite, Buckden, Skipton.

Note: Permission is unlikely for either pot. Restrictions were imposed by landowner following rescue incidents in 1973.

LOWER LITTONDALE

COTE GILL POT

Mr. M. J. Foster, Arncliffe Cote Farm, Arncliffe, Skipton. (Permission unlikely).

DARNBROOK AND COWSIDE

CHERRY TREE HOLE DARNBROOK POT etc.

Mr. Taylor, (Farm Manager), Darnbrook Farm, Arncliffe. A call at the farm is sufficient, and is important so that good relations are maintained. Unless instructed otherwise, route to pots is through gates from Thorogill barn, where cars may be parked.

Survey Refs: Craven Pothole Club Journal 4(4) and 4(5)

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook, Northern Caves Volume 1

UPPER LITTONDALE

BOREHAM CAVE Mr. J.E. Metcalfe, Old Cotes, Arncliffe, Skipton

Ref: Kendal Caving Club Journal (8), 1974
Access for C.D.G. members only. Contact C.D.G.

Northern Section via J. Abbott, 12 Banksfield Cres.,

Yeadon, Leeds LS19 7JY.

CRYSTAL BECK POT Call at Armistead Farm, Litton,

Survey Ref: White Rose P.C. Journal 1 (5), 1968

SPITTLE CROFT CAVE Call at West Farm, Litton

PENYGENT GILL

OUT SLEETS BECK POT Mr. J.E. Cowan, Manor Farm, Halton Gill.

Survey Ref: Journal of Speleological Assn., 6 (42), 1968

DAWSON CLOSE and

LOCKEY GILL AREAS

Mr. R.R. Mallender, Nether Heselden, Litton

Call at Penygent House Farm.

SNORKEL CAVE and COW CLOSE AREA

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook, 'Northern Caves' Volume 2.

MALHAM

PIKEDAW CALAMINE

CAVERNS

Mr. J. Heseltine, Hilltop Farm, Malham, Nr. Skipton No need to call or write in view of proximity to public path (no vehicles allowed). Entrance cover

must be replaced.

STOCKDALE

Mr. R. Cowperthwaite, Stockdale, Settle

ATTERMIRE

Prior permission for caves not necessary if approached

by recognised footpaths.

FOUNTAINS FELL

GINGLING HOLE and all other holes on Rainscar land (see Guide Book) including HAMMER POT

Club access only with CNCC permit (see Page 4) which must be produced at Rainscar House (Mr. E. Coates) Applications to CNCC Meets Sec. before 1st February each year, when meets list is approved by Mr. Coates

MAGNETOMETER POT

FORNAH GILL, ANTLER HOLE

and ECHO POT

Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4) which must be produced at Neals Ing, where cars may be parked in farmyard. A nominal charge is payable.

Echo Pot Survey Ref: Univ. Leeds S.A. Review (13).

DALE HEAD POT

Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4) which must be produced at the gamekeeper's cottage - Brackenbottom, Horton in Ribblesdale (Mr. G. Perfect) Survey Ref: Northern Pennine Club Journal 1979.

PENYGHENT POT

PENYGHENT

Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4) which must be shown at the Gamekeeper's cottage, Bracken-

bottom, Horton in Ribblesdale (Mr. G. Perfect).

HULL POT and LITTLE HULL POT Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4)

HUNT POT and HIGH HULL POT

Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4) which should be shown at Holme Farm Campsite, Horton in

Ribblesdale (Mr. C. Sutcliffe)

COWSKULL and CROSS POTS

P. Wood, Top Farm, Horton (2nd on right beyond

Newhouses)

BIRKWITH

RED MOSS POT

Following specific instructions from the Land agents, the tenant, Mr. P. Wood cannot give permission under

any circumstances.

BROWGILL/BIRKWITH

Call at High Birkwith Farm. (Mr. J.A. Morphet)

RIBBLEHEAD

BLACK REEF CAVE

Mr. C. White, Greengates Farm, Brackenbottom Survey Ref: Cave Science 4 (32), 1962 (publ. Brit.

Spel. Assn.)

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AS

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook 'Northern Caves' Volume 3. Moorland gripping has seriously increased risks of flooding in virtually every hole in this area.

ALUM POT AREA

WASHFOLD POT

Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4) which must be produced at The Shaws, Selside (Mr. J.A. Morphet). Agreed access route follows track from gate by Coltpark Cottage.

Survey Ref: Craven Pothole Journal 4(5). 1971.

ALUM POT LONG CHURN CAVES etc. Park in lane leading to pot and call at Selside Farm. (a small charge is payable). Lower Long Churn is liable to be busy on most weekends.

Survey Ref: 'The Caves of the Alum Pot Area' published by Univ. Of Leeds S.A. 1972.

THE ALLOTMENT

NICK POT, SULBER POT

JUNIPER GULF LONG KIN EAST RIFT POT, MARBLE SINK etc.

GAPING GILL

ALL POTS including BAR POT, CAR POT, GRANGE RIGG POT, DISAPPOINTMENT POT, STREAM PASSAGE POT, FLOOD ENTRANCE POT, HURNEL MOSS POT etc.

INGLEBOROUGH CAVE

Call at South House Farm (Mr. R. Kenyon), nr. Selside

Write for permit to Dr. J. A. Farrer, Ingleborough Estate Office, Clapham via Lancaster, giving plenty of notice and enclosing s.a.e. Compass and map should be carried - it may be dark and misty when you emerge. Parking permitted at Crummock Farm for small fee.

Write for permit to Dr. J.A.Farrer, Ingleborough Estate Office, Clapham via Lancaster. (tel: Clapham 302) giving plenty of notice and enclosing s.a.e. when approaching from Clapham, do not upset villagers by changing in village. Use official car park or change on Fell. There is no right of way for vehicles

up Clapdale Lane or Long Lane.

Enquiries about visits to the further reaches beyond the showcave should be addressed to:
Ingleborough Cave, Clapham via Lancaster (tel: Clapham 242).

NEWBY MOSS

ALL POTS

Write for permit to Dr. J.A.Farrer, Ingleborough Estate Office, Clapham via Lancaster (tel: Clapham 302) enclosing s.a.e. Grey Wife Hole (blocked at present) Survey Ref: Kendal C.C. Journal (4), 1969, or 'Descent' (3), April 1969 Newby Moss Pot Survey Ref: Gritstone Club Journal (3) 1969.

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook, 'Northern Caves' Volume 3.

WHITE SCARS

DOWLASS MOSS AREA & QUAKING POT Approach by public footpath via Crina Bottom. Quaking Pot Survey Ref: B.C.R.A. Bulletin (6), Nov. 74.

SKIRWITH CAVE

Mr. Smith, Whinny Mire Farm, Ingleton. (2 miles along Settle road).

TATHAM WIFE HOLE and area

On common land but shortest access route crosses land farmed by Mr. W. Guy, Dale House, Chapel-le-Dale. This is permitted provided that the route indicated on map in 'Northern Caves' is adhered to. From old 'Granite' quarry, make for top left corner of pasture, wherepath ascends gap in scars to stile over wall.

WHITE SCAR CAVE

The Manager, White Scar Cave, Ingleton. Access beyond the Show Cave is allowed only for recognised speleological research at present. (Permission unlikely at present). Survey Ref: Transactions B.C.R.A. 4 (3), 1977.

CHAPEL-LE-DALE

BLACK SHIVER POT, MEREGILL HOLE, SUNSET HOLE, etc.

Approach via Southerscales, or from the Hill Inn, following the Ingleborough footpath. There is no right of way from the road near God's Bridge.

SOUTHERSCALES POT

Approach via Great Douk Cave, as above. Use original entrance on S.W. side of wall. New entrance now lies in restricted Nature Reserve (see below).

Survey Ref: Univ. Leeds Spel. Assoc. Explorations Jnl. 1969.

JINGLE POT HURTLE POT MIDGE HOLE JOINT HOLE etc. Normally no access restrictions, but as these caves are only of interest to divers, contact the Cave Diving Group, Northern Section, for current situation.

WEATHERCOTE CAVE ELLERBECK HOLE No access at present.

PARK FELL

BARGH'S CAVE & POT, KELD BANK SINK & SCAR CLOSE CAVE area.

These caves now lie in Scar Close National Nature Reserve. Permission should be sought from the Nature Conservancy Council, Regional Land Agent, Blackwell, Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria LA23 3JR.

Survey Ref: Univ. Leeds Spel. Assoc. Explorations Jnl. 1969.

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook 'Northern Caves', Volume $4 \, \text{A}_{\bullet}$

BRUNTSCAR

ELLERBECK AREA

Call at Ellerbeck Farm (Mr. A. Brennand).

GATEKIRK/HAWS GILL AREA Call at Broadrake Farm. Approach by footpath and river bed. Survey Ref: Gritstone Club Journal (New Series) (5), 1975.

SCALES MOOR

Area Ref: Lancaster Univ. Speleological Soc. Journal 1 (3) 1973.

DALE BARN CAVE

Call at Twistleton Dale House. Cave must not be visited when

adjacent bungalow is occupied.

Survey Ref: Northern Cave Club Journal (4) 1980.

EAST KINGSDALE

ALL POTS

Call at Braida Garth Farm (Mrs J. Coates). Please close gates. Growling, Spectacle and Heron Pots: Survey Ref: L.U.S.S. Jnl. 1 (3). Vesper Pot: Survey Ref: Northern Pennine Club Journal 1979. King Pot: Survey Ref: Northern Cave Club Journal (4) 1980.

WEST KINGSDALE

ROWTEN POT & SIMPSON'S POT

Mr. E. Cockett, Foredales, Ingleton, via Carnforth. Survey Ref: 'West Kingsdale System' (Univ. Leeds Spel. Assoc.)

SWINSTO HOLE & VALLEY ENTRANCE

Mr. R. Shuttleworth, Thornton Hall Farm, Westhouse, Ingleton. Prior permission not normally required. Do not climb walls, close roadside gate, leave no litter and avoid obstructing road. Survey Ref: 'West Kingsdale System' (Univ. Leeds Spel. Assoc).

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook 'Northern Caves', Volume 4B.

LECK FELL AND MASONGILL

IREBY FELL CAVERN

Prior permission not required. Approach only via stile at $\underline{\text{top}}$ of the Turbary track (where cars can be parked) and hence to

the next stile beyond Low Douk.

Survey refs: Cave Science 2 (9) 1949

Northern Cave Club Journal 2 (2) 1969. (Ireby II).

MARBLE STEPS POT

Call at Masongill Farm (Mr. J. Hartley), Westhouse, Ingleton.

Approach only by stile at top of Turbary track.

Survey ref: Journal London University Caving Clubs (7) 1968

RIFT POT

Call at Masongill Farm. Approach as for Marble Steps.

LECK FELL POTS -LOST JOHNS DEATH'S HEAD GAVEL, NOTTS RUMBLING Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4) which must be produced at Bank House Farm (on left at first gate). No caving allowed during April, May, and June (grouse breeding

and lambing)

Survey refs: 'The Leck Fell Cave Systems' (A.C. Waltham) 1970. Notts Pot: Birmingham Univ. Speleological Soc. Survey, 1970.

EASEGILL

PIPPIKIN POT NIPPIKIN POT PETERSON POT etc. Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4) as for Leck Fell Pots. Call at Leck Fell House (Mr. A. Middleton) where parking is usually permitted, except during April, May or June when the approach from Bullpot Farm, via Easegill Beck, must be used.

CASTERTON FELL EASEGILL CAVERNS
LANCASTER HOLE
BULL POT, COW POT
LINK POT, PEGLEG
POT and all holes
close to Easegill

Club access only with CNCC permit (see page 4). Approach from Bullpot Farm via marked paths and use the 'destination' board to state objectives.

Survey Refs: Lancaster/Easegill: Transactions Cave Research Group 9 (2) 1967 Bull Pot of Witches: Red Rose Cave & P.C. Journal (5) 1970 Gale Garth Pot/Pegleg Pot: Red Rose Cave & P.C. Journal (6) 1972 Link Pot: Northern Pennine Club Journal 1979

BARBONDALE

Beck.

Call at Fell House, Barbondale, or apply Estate Office, Cowan Bridge, via Carnforth,

BARBON POT, CRYSTAL CAVE, DOG HOLE etc.

Survey Ref: Gritstone Club Journal (New Series 3), 1969.

SHORT GILL CAVE

Survey Ref: Gritstone Club Journal (New Series 4), 1972.

Hammun Joj

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook 'Northern Caves' Volume 5.

DENTDALE

River Dee caves: IBBETH PERIL etc.

No permission required if approached from parking area at North side of Ibbeth Peril gorge, or footbridge near Tub Hole.

TUB HOLE

Use public path to footbridge, then follow river bed. Survey Ref: Kendal Caving Club Journal (5), 1969.

NETTLE POT

Approach via stream bed from bridge in Gawthorp, but do not

change in village.

WENSLEYDALE

FOSSDALE BECK caves

Approach from Buttertubs road,

Survey Ref: Moldywarps Speleological Group Journal (6), 1973.

KELDHEADS CAVE

Apply Bolton Estate Office, Wensley, Leyburn, N. Yorks.

Survey Ref: Moldywarps Speleological Group Journal (4), 1971.

THACKTHWAITE BECK CAVE Apply Bolton Estate Office, Wensley, Leyburn, N. Yorks.

BISHOPDALE GAVEL & STAKE MOSS POTS Best approached from Kidstones Pass.

SCRAFTON POT

Apply Secretary, West Scrafton Village Committee, Coverdale.

Survey Ref: Craven Pothole Club Journal 4 (2), 1968.

All other caves

Call at nearest farm on route.

SWALEDALE - GRETADALE

GUNNERSIDE GILL HARD LEVEL GILL PUNCHARD GILL Caves lie on sheep grazing land shared by groups of farmers represented by local Moor Committees. Surface digs, wall

damage, etc., could cause access problems.

WINDEGG MINE CAVERNS

Call at Shaw House Farm (NGR NZ 005.052)

Survey Ref: Moldywarps Speleological Group Journal (5), 1971.

GOD'S BRIDGE

Call at Pasture End Farm, near Bowes (NGR NY 955.129).

CAVES

Survey Ref: Moldywarps Speleological Group Journal (2), 1968.

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook, 'Northern Caves', Volume 5.

MALLERSTANG

ANGERHOLME POTS

Call at Aisgill or Hazelgill farms, depending on approach.

CLIFF FORCE CAVE

Ref: Moldywarps Speleological Group Journal (9), 1978.

EAST GILL & SWINNERGILL

Call at Greenses Farm, Keld.

Survey Ref: (East Gill Caves): Moldywarps S.G. Journal (8), 1976

KISDON POTS

Call at nearest farm on route.

RAWTHEY CAVES

Call at New House, or Tarm Farm, Fell End.

BROUGH

LUNEHEAD MINE CAVERNS

Ref: Moldywarps Speleological Group Journal (8), 1976.

TEESDALE

& POT

MOKING HURTH

Call at Underhurth, Forest in Teesdale.

.....

Survey Ref: Moldywarps Speleological Group Journal (1), 1967.

WEARDALE

FAIRY HOLES

APCM Ltd., Weardale Works, Eastgate, Bishop Auckland.

No access at present: entrance sealed and in active quarry face.

ALSTON & CROSS FELL

AYLEBURN MINE

Call at Clargill Hall, Ayle, Alston.

& CAVES

KNOCK FELL

CAVERNS

This cave, together with Silverband pots, lies in Moor House National Nature Reserve. Permission should be sought from the

Regional Land agent, Nature Conservancy Council, Blackwell,

Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria. LA23 3JR.

BOWLAND

WHITEWELL POT

Duchy of Lancaster Estate Office, Forton, Lancaster.

For current access situation, contact Valley Caving Club (see

list of CNCC clubs.).

The access information on this page supplements the guidebook, 'Underground in Furness' by E.G. Holland; 2nd edition 1967.

MORECAMBE BAY

WARTON CRAG AREA incl. DOG HOLES

Mr. Gardner, Crag Foot, Warton, Carnforth.

Survey Ref: Red Rose C. & P.C. journal (2), 1963.

CRAG FOOT MINE

These mines are both blocked at present and in a dangerous

condition.

HAZEL GROVE CAVES

Entrance in caravan site; permission essential from Hall More

Farm.

Survey Ref: North-West Speleology 1 (1), 1969 (publ. LCMRS).

FURNESS

ROUDSEA WOOD CAVES Write for permit to: Regional Land agent, Nature Conservancy Council, Blackwell, Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria LA23 3JR.

Survey Ref: 'Limestones & Caves of N.W. England'. published 1974

by David & Charles.

DAYLIGHT HOLE

Call at Whinfield Farm, Whifield, Lindal.

HENNING VALLEY

Call st High Farm, Lindal, Dalton-in-Furness .

<u>Survey Ref</u>: 'Limestones & Caves of N.W. England', published 1974.

CAVE (& Pylon Pot

etc.)
TUTUP AREA MINES

Call at Tutup Farm, Dalton-in-Furness.

ACCESS AGREEMENTS

A summary of the terms of the Access Agreements negotiated by the Council for areas, or specific potholes, where access had formerly been denied. In some cases there have been variations to the terms of the original agreements, and in such cases the present terms are shown below. One important common feature of most of these agreements is the requirement to give at least ONE MONTH'S NOTICE when writing for permits.

LECK FELL

Agreement with Lord Shuttleworth, Leck Hall, Leck, via Carnforth, Lancs., to cover the whole of Leck Fell, including land then owned by Mr. G. Gillibrand.

- 1. Only 2 per day allowed on the fell, plus one club in Pippikin.
- 2. Written application to CNCC 1 month in advance.
- 3. Right reserved to withdraw permits for shooting.
- 4. Routes to caves must be strictly adhered to.
- 5. Permit to be shown at Bank House Farm (Mr. Longton).
- 6. No potholing between 1st April and 30th June.

CASTERTON FELL and PIPPIKIN POT

No separate formal agreement was drawn up for Casterton Fell. 3 clubs on fell on any day. The owner, Mr. Bowring, accepted that the general terms of the Leck Fell Agreement should also apply on his land. No closed season. Access to Pippikin during April, May and June via Bull Pot Farm. Please use destination. Agents: Davis & Bowring, Kirby Lonsdale.

PENYGENT & FORNAH GILL (FOUNTAINS FELL) AREAS

Agreement with Messrs. Davis & Bowring of Gisburn for access to land owned by the Dawson family in the Langcliffe and Horton-in-Ribblesdale Estates. (October 1964).

- 1. Written applications to CNCC to be made at least 1 month in advance.
- 2. Only 1 club per pothole to be permitted on any one day.
- 3. Right reserved to withdraw permits for shooting days in August, September and October.

Penygent Area (West of the Stainforth - Halton Gill road).

The Gamekeeper, Mr. G. Perfect, Brackenbottom, Horton-in-Ribblesdale, to be informed of permits granted and called on by clubs on way to pots.

Neals Ing Area (Antler, Echo, Fornah Gill and Magnetometer Pots)

Mrs. Caton, Neals Ing, Stainforth to be informed. Club must call at Neals Ing.

- 4. The Country Code must be adhered to. The shooting hut at the top of Horton Scar Lane is not to be entered.
- 5. Permits to be issued only to approved, properly constituted clubs.
- 6. All persons visit the potholes at their own risk.

FOUNTAINS FELL (Gingling Hole/Hammer)

No formal agreement governs access to potholes on the moorland area of the Fell because the farmer, Mr. Coates, Rainscar, Stainforth, prefers to renew the situation annually and the Council presses for more available dates each year. A list of proposed club meets is submitted annually. Applications should be submitted to the Meets Sec. by the end of January of the year in question.

MONGO GILL HOLE (and SHOCKLE SHAFT) Sunside Allotment, Greenhow.

Agreement with Major J.E.E. Yorke, Halton Place, Hellifield, Lord of the Manor of Appletreewick. (April 1965).

- CNCC shall be responsible to the Owner for the control, co-ordination and discipline of the potholing activities of its members.
- 2. The agreement shall be from year to year (commencing 1st August) at a nominal rent of 5p per year. No potholing during May, June and July. Either party may terminate the Agreement not later than the previous 30th April.
- 3. a) Descents of hole to be limited to member clubs except by special arrangement. The Council is to supply a list of member clubs and monthly list to owner.
 - b) Copy of meets lists to Mrs. B. Gill, Stump Cross Caverns. Visiting club leaders must sign record book at Cavern office to indemnify the owner if required..
- 4. No surface digging or underground blasting without prior consent. No interference with mineral workings in area.
- 5. The Council shall maintain entrances in stockproof condition and instruct club members to keep to marked path from Stump Cross. No dogs allowed.
- 6. Any legal or other costs regarding the Agreement to be paid by CNCC.

N.B. The owners of Stump Cross Caverns do not wish cavers' vehicles to be parked on their carpark. Vehicles should not be parked on the roadside verge beyond Stump Cross. Vehicles should NOT be taken down the track to old mine buildings.

BIRKS FELL CAVE Redmire Farm, Buckden, near Skipton.

Agreement with Messrs. Dacre Son & Hartley for and on behalf of W.A.G. Watson. (June 1970).

- 1. Access to cave by track from Redmire Farm only.
- Agreed access is through Birks Fell Cave entrance <u>only</u> unless written consent is obtained from the Agents and Tenant of Redmire Farm.

- 3. No cars to be taken to Redmire Farm. Buckden car park to be used.
- 4. All gates on the access track must be closed.
- 5. No camping permitted. Old state and the Landston and an add
- 6. Access to be granted to member clubs, one per day.
- 7. No access between each 1st November and 15th April the following year.
- 8. CNCC to be responsible for making good any damage resulting from the acess to the cave and my claim arising from the damage.
- 9. CNCC will indemnify Mr. Watson, his agents, and tenants against any claims for accidents or damage. All persons will visit the cave at thei own risk.
- 10. Agents and tenant (Mr. Horner) to be notified monthly in advance of all bookings.
- ll. Member clubs <u>must</u> call at Redmire Farm when going to and when returning from cave but the tenant does not accept responsibility for notifying Authorities in an emergency.
- 12. The tenant may deny access on any one day by giving reasonable notice.
- 13. The Owner retains the right to terminate the agreement at any time by giving written notice.

C.N.C.C. - the first twenty one years.

A brief summary of the main eventswhich led to the formation of the Council of Northern Caving Clubs and the major problems, negotiations and achievements which have been recorded in subsequent years.

1962 The grouse moors of <u>Leck and Casterton Fells</u> were closed completely to cavers following the rescue of cavers from Pegleg Pot, which they had visited without permission. The landowners refused to negotiate with individual clubs but indicated that an access agreement would be considered if responsible clubs got together and controlled access.

1963 C.N.C.C. was formed by ll established clubs as a joint negotiating body. Access to Leck and Casterton Fells was restored following signing of an agreement, although initially only one club per Fell was permitted on one day. Attention was then turned to Fountains Fell which had been closed to potholers, and the respective landowners for the Allot ment area, and Alum Pot, were also approached following reports from clubs of access difficulties.

1964 An agreement covering the Fornah Gill area of Fountains Fell was signed with the inclusion of the Penyghent potholes in the permit arrangements at the landowner's insistence. Access to Rainscar land (Gingling Hole, etc.) was still being refused and West Riding County Council turned down a request to consider serving an Access Order. Clubs were advised to refuse payment of an access charge being levied at Alum Pot because a 'right of way' was indicated on the Draft Footpaths Map. A six months close-season' was called for by theLandowner on the Allotment area. Fairy Holes, Weardale, was lost' to a quarry company following a public inquiry. Marker posts and stiles were erected on Casterton Fell by C.N.C.C. Membership reached 25 clubs.

1965 Fountains Fell: very limited access to Gingling Hole was negotiated. At Mongo Gill Hole the landowner called for an access agreement and permit system following a spate of digging and other unauthorised activity. Attempts by farmer to charge clubs for access to Swinsto Hole were successfully resisted. Correspondence continued with Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee and other authorities over growing access difficulties. Membership reached 48 clubs. An inter-regional meeting rejected the National Body proposed by C.N.C.C.

1966 Dale Barn Cave entrance blocked with concrete on Owner's instructions following contamination of private water supply by fluorescin. Increased number of Gingling Hole meets negotiated. Access difficulties investigated at Marble Steps, New Goyden and Swinsto. Membership of C.N.C.C. reached 57 clubs.

1967 Dale Barn Cave: unsucessful attempts to contact landowner; case prepared for scheduling as S.S.S.I. Ireby Fell boundary wall stile provided.

1968 Foot and Mouth Outbreak: full cooperation of member clubs in staying away from the Dales for 2 months. Bar Pot: landowner persuaded not to proceed with proposed gating. Satisfactory outcome of meetings with Settle RDC over caves affecting public water supplies. Dale Barn Cave: no pregress. Birks Fell Cave: reports of refusal of permission. Tatham Wife Hole: route of access agreed with farmer. Whernside Manor opened by Scout Association with C.N.C.C. advice and representation on Management Committee. Member clubs: 68.

1969 Leck and Casterton Fells: warnings from landowners about pirating.

Dale Barn Cave: letters to landowner get no reply; solicitors finally say no to any discussions. Local weather forecast service commenced. Northern Cave

Handbook published. National Caving Association constituted.

1970 <u>Casterton Fell</u>: Landowner agreed to ending close season. <u>Leck Fell</u>: tighter controls introduced following threats of closure due to pirating.

<u>Dale Barn Cave</u>: problem referred to WRCC Nat. Park Planning Committee with backing of Yorks. Sports Federation. <u>Mossdale Caverns</u> sealed following flood tragedy. Membership reached 84 clubs.

1971 Birks Fell Cave: Access agreement with landowner brought renewed access.

Washfold Pot; permission refused. Red Moss Pot: entrance blocked on landowner's instructions following newspaper reports of discovery.

1972 No progress at <u>Washfold Pot</u> or <u>Red Moss Pot</u> despite correspondence and discussions with farmers concerned. <u>Cherry Tree Hole</u> and <u>Darnbrook Pot</u> entrances filled in by farmer following minor rescue incident. Reports of refused permission at <u>Pikedaw</u>, and also at <u>Langcliffe Pot</u> following much publicised rescue.

<u>Leck Fell</u>: fences erected round open shafts by CNCC volumbeers.

Revised C.N.C.C. Constitution agreed. Subscriptions raised to £2 per member club.

1973 Leck Fell: permits raised to three per day.

Washfold Pot: Farmer agreed to permit system and access restored. Rescues at

Birks Fell Cave and Langstroth and Strans Gill Pots caused bad publicity and access restrictions. More trouble with farmer for Swinsto because of unauthorised digging. Enquiries commenced about wgaining access to Fairy Holes, Weardale.

CNCC volunteers played major part in an organised 'clean up' of farm refuse, dumped vehicles, etc. from stream beds, cave entrances, and shakeholes in Chapel-le-Dale and elsewhere. Pikedaw Caverns: landowners threaten to seal entrance shaft.

1974 Birks Fell Cave: Agreement terminated by landowner following aforementioned rescue incident; negotiations later regained limited renewal but with extended 'close season'. Moves for increased access on Leck Fell prevented by continued pirating. Pikedaw Caverns: owners agree to provision of unlocked lid in proposedcover slab following CNCC pressure and offer to cover costs; work carried outby a Member Club to the owner's satisfaction. Council membership reached 90 clubs.

1975 White Scar Cave: Campaign in support of proposed purchase by Yorkshire Dales National Park to protect from Quarry threat; YDNP outbid at auction (by businessmen) but agreement reached with new owner about limited access to cavers for survey and scientific work. Campaign to save Whernside Manor from threatened closure commenced. Legal agreement to cover limited access to Pairy Holes, Weardale, signed with quarry company but temporarily withdrawn because of difference of opinion over safety of the excavated entrance. Cherry Tree Hole and Darnbrook Pot reopened following ownership change.

C.N.C.C. membership reached 100 clubs.

- 1976 Casterton Fell permits increased to three clubs per day. Yorkshire Dales National Park (NYCC) purchased Whernside Manor following supporting campaign by C.N.C.C. and N.C.A. Temporary access to Fairy Holes agreed for survey purposes but hopes receded for locating new entrance away from advancing quarry. C.N.C.C. Constitution amended to allow election of Officers each year, instead of every second year.
- 1977 Gingling Hole owner agreed to increased number of permits. Thackthwaite

 Beck Cave entrance filled by landowner who considered it 'hazardous'. Sundry

 refusals of permission to visit caves elsewhere in the Dales blamed on Landowners'

 fears about possible legal liability. 'National Park Plan' published, giving

 recognition to the importance of caves and potholes.

 _C.N.C.C. Membership reached 120 clubs.
- 1978 Leck and Casterton Fells: Over 500 permits issued during year; additional Meets Secretary appointed. Ling Gill Nature Reserve: threat of cave gating averted. C.N.C.C. Membership reached 133 clubs.
- 1979 Leck and Casterton Fells: Separate Meets Secretaries appointed to cope with growing demand. Limited access to Hammer Pot regained aftermany years! official closure. Birks Fell Cave access agreement threatened by moute incident during 'close season' involving CNCC Members. Protests made to National Park and Ministry of Agriculture about proposed afforestation of South House Moor the Alum Pot catchment area. C.N.C.C. Handbook published.
- 1980 Leck Fell access increased to three clubs per day. Casterton Fell: Meets Secretary drowned in diving accident. Bullpot emergency telephone installed.

 Alum Pot area: South House Moor Afforestation plans dropped because of opposition.

 C.N.C.C. membership reached 146 clubs.
- 1981 Leck and Casterton Fells: further surge in demand for permits following news of the Link Pot discoveries. Littondale access denials by several farmers follow unauthorised digging activity. C.N.C.C. membership reached 164 clubs (a peak).
- 1982 C.N.C.C. Access and Conservation Officer made an Official post. Effects of widespread gripping on the fells felt with flash floods and serious rescue call outs in several areas. Slight drop in C.N.C.C. membership to 158 clubs.
- 1983 National Park offer to resume <u>Weather Forecast Service</u> in conjunction with C.N.C.C. Council contributes towards purchase of equipment for answering service based at <u>Whernside Manor</u> to provide Weekend Weather Forecast for Northern Caving regions.

THE COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Constitution

The organisation shall be called The Council of Northern Caving Clubs.

2. <u>Definition</u>

- 2.1 The Council is a voluntary association of responsible caving clubs.
- 2.2 The Council cannot interfere with the individuality of any club.

3. Aims and Objects

- 3.1 To ensure and maintain access to caves and potholes by negotiations and/or agreement with farmers, landowners or authorities.
- 3.2 To secure and maintain good relations, and act as general co-ordinating body between cavers and farmers, landowners, gamekeepers, local residents and other interested parties.
- 3.3 To encourage and educate cavers to respect and conserve caves and the countryside.
- 3.4 To represent the general interest of member clubs and Northern caves.
- 3.5 To act as a general disciplinary body and arbitrator in the event of any act considered detrimental to the Council as a whole.

4. Membership

- 4.1 There are two classes of membership: Full and Associate.
- Applications for membership must be proposed and seconded by member clubs before being considered by the Committee, except in the case of clubs which are already members of another Regional Council.
- 4.3 Initial election shall be to a class of Associate Membership.
- After a period of twelve months, a club may apply for Full Membership, which shall be decided by the Committee. Full membership of the Council will only be granted to responsible and properly constituted clubs which are owned and controlled by their own members and are primarily based in the North of Britain.
- 4.5 Newly elected clubs shall pay an entrance fee decided upon at a General Meeting of the Council.
- 4.6 Clubs not elected to Full Membership will remain Associate Members.
- 4.7 Membership shall lapse when a club is six months in arrears with its Annual Subscription.

5. Subscription and Finance

- 5.1 Full and Associate Member clubs shall pay an annual subscription due on the first day of January each year.
- 5.2 The amount of the Annual Subscription shall be decided upon at a General Meeting of the Council.
- 5.3 The Council shall have the power to raise funds from other sources.

6. Officers and Committee

- 6.1 A working committee shall be elected every year at a General Meeting.
- 6.2 The committee shall consist of eight elected members, plus a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary and Access and Conservation Officer, all of whom shall represent different Full Member clubs.
- 6.3 The Committee shall be empowered to co-opt additional members who shall not be eligible to vote.

- 6.4 If a club which is represented on the Committee fails to send a representative to two consecutive Committee Meetings without good reason being given in writing, the Committee may elect another club to provide a Committee Member in its place.
- 6.5 The Committee shall meet at least three times per year as convened by the
- 6.6 The Secretary shall call a Committee Meeting if requested by three or more other members of the Committee.
- 6.7 A quorum at a Committee Meeting shall consist of six Committee Members, at least one of whom shall be an Officer of the Council.
- 6.8 Minutes of Committee Meetings shall be taken and copies circulated to all member clubs.

7. General Meetings

- 7.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held in February or March every year.
- 7.2 A Special General Meeting shall be called if requested in writing by ten member clubs.
- 7.3 All member clubs shall be sent notice of a General Meeting at least four weeks in advence.
- 7.4 General Meetings shall be open to all member clubs but voting shall be restricted to one representative from each paid—up Full member club present.
- 7.5 Eight Full Member clubs shall constitute a quorum at a General Meeting.
- 7.6 Minutes of General Meetings shall be taken and copoes circulated to all member clubs.
- 7.7 The Constitution shall only be amended at a General Meeting of the Council.

8. Access Procedure

Where special Access Agreements have been drawn up between landowners and the Council the following procedure will apply:

- 8.1 All rules and conditions must be adhered to as laid down in the respective Agreements.
- 8.2 All member clubs shall be issued with full details of Agreements when completed or revised.
- 8.3 The Committee shall appoint Meets Secretaries as necessary to issue permits to visit caves and potholes covered by Agreements, in accordance with the stipulated conditions.
- 8.4 Meets Secretaries shall be considered as co-opted Committee Members with no voting rights.
- 8.5 Applications for permits will only be accepted from paid-up member clubs of the Council.
- 8.6 The Meets Secretaries may restrict the issue of permits to a particular cave or area in accordance with the Committee's instructions if:
 - (i) the demand for access exceeds the available dates. or
 - (ii) a threat to the Agreement as a whole might arise as a consequence of some special circumstance.
- 8.7 All member clubs must accept responsibility for the activities and behaviour of their individual members and guests in the areas subject to Agreements.

9. General

- 9.1 Member clubs shall apply for permission to enter any land and abide by any special conditions imposed.
- 9.2 The Council cannot accept liability of costs for any damage, fire, theft, legal fees, injury etc.
- 9.3 In the event of a serious breach of the Constitution by a member club, a Special General Meeting may be called to consider what disciplinary action should be taken which may include expulsion from the Council.

Applications for meets should be addressed to the relevant Meets Secretary.

MEETS SECRETARIES

Leck Fell:

A. Hall
342 The Green, Eccleston, Chorley, Lancs.

Casterton Fell:

P. Muckalt
96 Low Lane, Torrisholme, Morecambe.

Birks Fell/Mongo Gill:

D. G. Mellor
9 South View, Farnhill, Keighley, W. Yorks.

Penygent, Fountains Fell:

I.P. Wilkinson

5 Delph Drive, Glayton, Bradford, W. Yorks

Subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer.

TREASURER:

G. Barber
Whernside Manor, Dent, Sedbergh, Cumbria.

All other correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary.

SECRETARY:

B. Rhodes
23 Thorpe Lane, Guiseley, Leeds LS20 8LQ

Enclose s.a.e. with all enquiries, applications for meets etc.

CAVING ORGANISATIONS (Current addresses 1985)

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Hon. Sec: B. Rhodes

23 Thorpe Lane, Guiseley, Leeds LS20 8LQ

Chairman:

M. Rhodes

3 High Park Drive, Heaton, Bradford 9

Treasurer:

G. Barber

Whernside Manor, Dent, Sedbergh, Cumbria

DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

c/o East Midlands Sports Council, 26 Murters Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7PL

CAMBRIAN CAVING COUNCIL

Hon Sec:

F.S. Baguley

15 Elm Grove, Gadlys, Aberdare, Mid-Glam. CF44 8DN

COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CAVING CLUBS

Hon. Sec:

M. Grass

80 Whitepost Field, Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

NATIONAL CAVING ASSOCIATION

Hon. Sec:

F.S. Baguley

15 Elm Grove, Gadlys, Aberdare, Mid-Glam. CF44 8DN

BRITISH CAVE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Hon. Sec:

R. Willis

56 Granby Hill, Clifton, Bristol

CAVE DIVING GROUP (NORTHERN SECTION)

Hon. Sec:

G.W. Crossley

148 Acre Street, Denton, Manchester M34 2AY

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF CAVING INSTRUCTORS

c/o Yorks. & Humberside Sports Council, Coronet House, Queen Street, Leeds 1

CAVE RESCUE ORGANISATION

Hon. Sec:

T. Howarth

188 Brownhill Avenue, Burnley BB10 4QH

UPPER WHARFEDALE FELL RESCUE ASSOCIATION

Hon. Sec:

P. Miller

4 Oakburn Road, Ilkley, W. Yorks.

COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS - LIST OF MEMBER CLUBS

The following list corresponds with the Council's mailing list of Full and Associate Member Clubs in May 1985. Club Secretaries will have changed in some cases, and contacts through the listed addresses cannot therefore be relied upon. Member Clubs are requested to inform the C.N.C.C. Hon. Secretary of changes as quickly as possible.

FULL MEMBER CLUBS

AIREDALE CAVING CLUB

J. Sharp, 34 Norwood Avenue, Shipley, W. Yorks BD18 2AU

ASSOCIATION OF NIDDERDALE TROGS

E. Leonard, 30 Wentworth Crescent, Starbeck, Harrog te HG2 7JY

BOLTON SPELEO CLUB

J. Lally, 100 Coronation Drive, Leigh, Lancs

BRADFORD POTHOLE CLUB

B. Schofield, 569 Pilling Terr., Manchester Road, Baxenden, Accrington, Lancs

BURNLEY CAVING CLUB

P. Glover, 71 Lindsay Street, Burnley, Lancs BB11 2SF

CAVE PHOTO GROUP

P. Sanderson, Streamhead House, Lower Streamhead, Thornton, Bradford, W. Yorks

CRAVEN PCTHOLE CLUB

R. Myers, 16 North Street, Sutton-in-Craven, N. Yorks

DENT POTHOLE CLUB

R. Sewell, Hartley House, Hartley, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria CA17 4JJ

EARBY POTHOLE CLUB

D. Shepherd, Green Head Farm, Weir, Bacup, Lancs

GRITSTONE CLUB

J.R. Sutcliffe, 16 Ryelands Grove, Bingley Road, Bradford, W. Yorks BD9 6HJ

HYPERION CLUB

S. Filmore, 98 Northgate Road, Edgeley, Stockport SK3 9PQ

KENDAL CAVING CLUB

D.W. Holden. Woodlawn, Church Hill, Arnside, Carnforth, Lancs

LANCASHIRE CAVING & CLIMBING CLUB

P. Cosgrove, 3 Slackcote Cottages, Delph, Oldham OL3 5TP

LANCASHIRE UNDERGROUND GROUP

D. Potter, 21 Tower Green, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs

NORTHERN DALES CAVING CLUB

D. Metcalfe, 66 Ruskin Avenue, Long Eaton, Notts

NORTHERN MINE RESEARCH SOCIETY

J. McNeil, 166 Irlam Road, Flixton, Urmston M31 3NB

NORTHERN PENNINE CLUB

The Secretary, Northern Pennine Club, Greenclose House, Clapham, via Lancaster

NORTHERN SPELEO GROUP

A. Brook, 24 Spa Mill Terrace, Slaithwaite HD4 5BD

RED ROSE CAVE & POTHOLE CLUB

J. Birchall, 26 Belle Vue Drive, Lancaster LA1 4DE

ROCHDALE CAVERNOPHILIOUS

D. Davies, 3 Mabel Street, Shawclough, Rochdale, Lancs

SALFORD UNIVERSITY CAVE & POTHOLE CLUB

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UNIT 2 CAVE RESEARCH & EXPLORATION

K. Steel, 16 East Court Road, Worthing, W. Sussex

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R. Bartlett, 88 Uplands Road, Oadby, Leicester

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WESTMINSTER SPELEOLOGICAL GROUP

N. Dallman, Flat 3, 65 St. Margaret's Road, Twickenham, Middlesex

WHITE HALL OPEN COUNTRY PURSUITS CENTRE

Long Hill, Buxton, Derbyshire

SAFETY

1. If you have doubts about the fitness or competence of your party, don't go.

2. Make sure everyone is adequately dressed, fed, and equipped for the proposed trip.

3. Take note of the weather situation and forecast, together with the present state of streams etc. A large number of caves and potholes flood seriously. Run-off from the fells can be very fast, storms and heavy showers can be very local, and a sudden thaw can melt the snow in winter.

4. Leave full information with someone on the surface about where you are

going and for how long.

- 5. Test ladders, belays and ropes on the surface before using underground. Check them frequently for damage, wear or corrosion.
- 6. Beware of the possibility of accidents or of situations developing from which rescue will be necessary. The main causes of accidents are:

Exposure and exhaustion

(b) Falls on ladder pitches and traverses (test belays and use lifelines always)

(c) Flooding, affecting pitches and low crawls

- (d) Losing the route and light failure
- (e) Loose boulders and tight places.

FIXED AIDS UNDERGROUND - A WARNING

All fixed aids, such as belay bolts, rigid ladders etc., should be regarded with suspicion because many were installed only for the short-term convenience of the parties who placed them. Do not take their soundness for granted - even if mentioned in the Guidebook. Alternative, or additional natural belays are usually available.

PROCEDURE IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT

1. The leader of the party must assess the situation and decide whether the accident is of a minor nature and can be dealt with by his own party, or whether the services of the Cave Rescue Organisation are required.

2. Competent persons should be sent out to call out the C.R.O. They should take as much information as possible about the state of the casualty and the circumstances of the accident.

3. Never underestimate the possible injuries or the difficulties of rescue.

The only way to call out the C.R.O. is to telephone:

SETTLE POLICE STATION - Tel: SETTLE (07292) 2542

If you are in Wharfedale, Littondale or Nidderdale, call out the Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Association by phoning:

GRASSINGTON POLICE STATION - Tel: GRASSINGTON (0756) 752222 or SKIPTON POLICE STATION - Tel: SKIPTON (0756) 3377

In the Northern Dales, ask the local police to call out Swaledale Fell Rescue.

In East Yorkshire, ask the local police to contact Upper Wharfedale F.R.A.

- 5. Details asked for by the Police will include:
 - (a) Name and area of cave or pot, and position of casualty in it

(b) Name, age and address of person(s) injured

Name of club and number in the party

- Condition of casualty and details of clothing
- (e) General conditions in the pot and on the surface.
- 6. The party underground should give First Aid and make the patient comfortable and warm. If feasible, and especially if the casualty can assist himself, a start should be made to move the patient towards the surface. Exposure and shock are more likely to prove fatal than further physical damage caused by moving him. The casualty should never be left alone and he should be belayed if his position is insecure.

CAVE CONSERVATION AND THE CAVER

Many of the caves in the North of England have suffered damage due to cavers. Remember these simple rules in order to conserve your caves for future generations:

Never damage formations.

Never disturb cave life.

Never leave litter or spilt carbide.

Never cross marker tapes.

Always inform novices about cave conservation.

Always realise the importance of conservation.

Always remove rubbish from the cave.

Always let C.N.C.C. know of any developments which may damage caves.

Contact:

Access & Conservation Officer A. Hall 342 The Green Eccleston Chorley PR7 5TP

WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST

Whernside Manor: 05875 462

This is a pre-recorded forecast for caving areas interpreted by Whernside Manor Caving Centre from Meteorological Office forecasts.