

THE MENDIP CAVING GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO. 28

NOVEMBER, 1964.

By now, nearly all of us will have learned with great regret of the death in a road accident of our good friend and Editor, Barry Ottewill..

Our sympathy goes out to his family, his Scout Group and not least to Brian Mee who was himself badly injured.

It is not until those close to one are affected that road casualty figures cease to be mere statistics.

MINUTES OF THE HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING held at the new cottage at the Stirrup Cup, Nordrach-on Mendip, 10th December, 1964.

PRESNNT - 18 members, 1 associate member and 5 guests.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Simon Knight, Peter Goddard and Mike Brace.
2. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING of March 21st. were read and signed as being a true record.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT. The audited accounts, showing a credit balance of £42 in the General Fund and £66 in the Cottage Purchase Fund, were adopted.
The Voluntary Loan Scheme had so far produced about £8 but more funds were urgently needed.
4. TACKLEMASTER'S REPORT. The tackle had been little used during the cottage-building and stocks remained the same as in March. Carbide lamps are on sale from the Tacklemaster.
5. MEET SECRETARY'S REPORT. Plans are in hand for regular meets to begin again in 1965. An expedition to Ireland is contemplated. Those interested should contact the Meet Secretary.
6. EDITOR'S REPORT. Four Newsletters had been produced during the half year. Typing and printing had begun on the Longwood/August special publication and the 1964 Journal.
7. COTTAGE WARDEN'S REPORT. As Pat said, "Look around". Much had been done in a short time, but there was still much to be done. Cottage fees will be charged as soon as Pat regards the Cottage as habitable. Work is always available for voluntary labour.
8. SECRETARY'S REPORT. Membership had increased by five since March to a total of forty-seven. This was an increase of one over last October.
The Group had played host to the C.R.G. Southern Area Meeting, which was most successful.
Information pamphlets for prospective members had been revised and reprinted. The Secretary had helped two ignorant young ladies to write theses on Caving.

Secretary's Report - contd.

New Group notepaper was now in use. During 1964, the Group's status on Mendip had been increased, but there was a need for new ACTIVE members to maintain our progress in digging and exploration.

9. CONSTITUTION AND RULES. The following changes in the C. & R., having been circulated to members in May, 1964 and included in Newsletter No. 27, were approved.

RULE 3(A) Delete in line 4 "for one year" and substitute "for at least six months, who have completed a training trio"

RULE 3(B) Probationary members. Delete all after "one year" and substitute "at least six months. They shall not have the right to vote, stand for election to the Committee or sponsor guests at the Cottage".

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EXTRACT FROM THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BRADFORD POTHOLE CLUB.

"The exploration of this system is a sporting but exacting trip, which should not be carried out by large parties; say, a maximum of FIFTEEN. (Let 'em try Easy Street)

C.R.G. Publications. These are available from -
Mr. C.H. Inett Homes,
Upleadon, Trumpet,
Ledbury, Herefs.

Alan Ashwell no longer holds stocks.

A complete list of these publications may be had from the Recorder or Secretary, including those out of print.

LECTURES ON MENDIP.

M.N.R.C. have invited members of Mendip Clubs to attend the Winter Series of Lectures in the Wells Museum at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday evenings. The Programme is as follows-

Dec. 15th. "Caving trip to France" Luke Devenish.

Feb. 13th. Photography above and below Mendip" A. Hagan.

Mar. 6th. Bat Research" with ultrasonic recordings. R. Denny
et alia.

Tickets are free to club members; apply in advance to -

Mr. P.E.E. Stewart, Hon Sec., M.N.R.C., 8, Linden Rd. Redalnd, Bristol, 6.

The Pengelly Research Association. Their 3rd newsletter, now in the library, contains details of progress, scientific and otherwise, at Higher Kiln Quarry. The first A.G.M. of the Assoc. at which a film of invertebrate life in a French underground laboratory will be shown, will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Sat. 5th December, in Room 440, Mech. Engineering Dept., Imperial Coll. South Kensington.