



Mendip Caving Group Newsletter

MENDIP CAVING GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO. 127

JULY 1979

EDITORIAL Tony Knibbs resigned his post of editor at the 1979 AGM. Looking back through previous Newsletters, I came across his first editorial in which he said he was "just filling in until a real editor emerges". That was in 1977. I feel that I am in the same position. There were no nominations for editor at the AGM. Afterwards, I offered to try and produce the Newsletter until someone else comes forward. - I couldn't stand for election since I was still a probationary member.

At the time, I was studying for my finals (I was a student at Kingston Poly) which explains the delay in producing this issue. Now that I have more time, I hope to return to producing more regular issues. But, to do so, I need articles to publish, no matter how short.

So, if you have any news about members, new caves, old caves, meets, gossip, or can provide news reviews or extracts from other sources (BCRA, NCA, other club newsletters, equipment news etc) or even longer articles (caving reports for example) please let me have them. I would also like any photos suitable for publication - preferably black and white prints, but colour slides will do.

My address is Martin Rowe
37 St Andrews Sq.
SURBITON
Surrey

Tel. home 01 399 1841
work 01 549 9961

Remember, its your newsletter, not mine. All I do is get it typed and printed!

CESSPIT EMPTYING Free beer to the person who can guess the date that the cesspit will first need emptying! Entries on a postcard to the editor. First prize: two pints of Fullers or Badgers (but you have to find me first!) Runners up will receive souvenir toilet rolls as a consolation.

STATE OF THE COTTAGE The recent heavy use of the cottage has resulted in an untidy mess on a few occasions, and some complaints have been received. Remember, It is your cottage and you are in charge when guest clubs are using it. So, next time you are in the cottage and it looks like a bomb has hit it, organise some labour and get it cleaned up!

COMMITTEE CHANGES Tony Knibbs (Editor) and Ron Saunders (Treasurer) both resigned at the AGM. Tony had been on the committee since November 1977, and Ron since about 1968. Together, they helped guide the club through a difficult period of cottage building. Ron must have worked miracles to keep the club solvent despite having a small membership to fall back on, and Tony as editor, did a marvellous job not only keeping people informed of progress, but also in persuading people to turn up and work. I feel sure that all members will join me in thanking them for all their hard work, and in wishing them the best for the future.

The new Treasurer is Eric Dowley, 32 Chequers Orchard, Iver, Bucks.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Richard Norris now lives at
12 Brampton Road
ROYSTON
Herts
(telephone Royston 41598)

Who's trying to kid us he lives in a caving area?

Glenn Fletcher has recently joined an oil exploration company which operates worldwide. His address for the next 12 months will be
c/o Exploration Logging International
2006 orchard Towers, Orchard Rd. Singapore 9

Peter Mathews daytime phone number is now:-
Welwyn Gdn. 23434 extn 3436/3425

Bryan Terry is now on the phone 01-368-9877

NEW MEMBERS INCLUDE

Michael Mintram phone 01-399-7791
72 Westfield Road
SURBITON
Surrey

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS include

David Payne
46 Rotherwood Road
Putney
London
SW15 1JZ

Linda Yeats
42 Dordrecht Road
Acton
LONDON W3

BELOW! Several well-visited caves on Mendip decided to alter their dimensions since the last newsletter. In Eastwater the boulder ruckle began moving (again!). A large "car size" boulder fell in Swildons near the junction of the Wet and Dry Ways, just 1 day after Greg Smith was in there. The cave was closed for some tidying up to be done and remained closed to inexperienced parties for several weeks after. It now looks very different. And in GB a large boulder is hanging loosely in Ladder Dig, blocking the route to the Boulder Chamber.

Longwood was also out of bounds for a while, due to some brown slime which somehow got into the cave at Christmas, making it very unpleasant. Recent reports indicate that the slime has gone, possibly due to land drainage improvements nearby which have increased the size of the stream entering the system.

DIGGING AND CAVING Believe it or not, despite the high level of activity on the new cottage, some members have actually found time to do some caving and one or two have started digging again, although they have not yet found much.

MEET PROGRAMME

John MacMillan is arranging club meets again in Yorkshire and South Wales. - see for details. He would also like to point out that he will book caves on behalf of any MCG members who want him to do so.

July, 14th	S. Wales	Dan yr Ogof/OFD (acc. SWCC).
Sept, 29th	S. Wales	Dan yr Ogof/OFD (acc. SWCC).
Oct, 6th	Yorks	Lost Johns

BEEHIVE LECTURES Since the last newsletter, there have been three Thursday evening lectures/slide shows at the Beehive, Brentford. Malcolm Cotter entertained us with two interesting slide shows, 1 based on '25 years of the MCG'. and the other on the Caves of Malaya - Malcolm spent some time working out there a few years back. Robby Charnock also provided an interesting talk on American caves, with some additional slides of the Grand Canyon, all very impressive. The Thursday talks will hopefully continue after the summer, any offers from anyone?

BERGER Several members are off to the Gouffe Berger in August. The trip has been arranged with the NPC. A report of the trip will appear in the next newsletter (I hope!).

NEOPRENE SOLD OUT Stocks of cut-price neoprene sheets advertised in the last newsletter (No.126) have now been sold. Demand was very high indeed and many potential customers had to be turned away. Further supplies of manufacturer's reject neoprene will be available as soon as more sheets are made to a less-than-acceptable standard. We'll keep you posted.

NEW SHOW CAVE Ogof-yr-Esgyrn (Bone Cave) opened as an archeological show cave at Easter. It is part of the Dan-yr-Ogof complex: entry is through the Dinosaur Park.

The cave includes sections of a modern dig, burial of the period, cave animals and a Bronze Age family.

TUSKERS DIG is a thing about 200 yds down the valley from Longwood Swallet; it goes for about 60 ft.

FLINT RIDGE - MAMMOTH CAVE At present this cave offers 307 km of passage to get lost in. There is much excitement over recent finds which may well extend this quite considerably.

A new streamway has been discovered extending the system below Joppa Ridge. This is the third major ridge in the region. It has long been suggested that this too contains a major cave system.

EXCHANGES The club has recently arranged to exchange newsletters South Wales Caving Club and Swindon Speleological Society. Their publications will be available from the library as we receive them.

NEW COTTAGE As anyone who has been on Mendip recently will know, the cottage is approaching completion. The cess p t was finished around June and since then work has been concentrated on the interior of the building. Upstairs, all plastering and painting has been done; the only remaining major job is constructing the bunks. Downstairs, there is still a fair amount to do.

Wayne Hiscox estimates that the cottage could be in use by winter but only if work continues at the present rate. The first weekend of each month has been put aside for 'cottage building', but members are welcome at other times also. Wayne would like people to contact him beforehand so he can arrange for materials to be available when you arrive.

FINANCES Our new treasurer, Eric Dowely, is wondering how to make ends meet. The first instalment of £333 is repayable on the NPA loan in August, but the total funds of the club are at present £62. This is simply due to the progress on the cottage - the amount being spent on items to continue work is exceeding income from hut fees.

The £333 will however be found by August. Malcolm has promised £100 from the MCG shop and Wayne reckons hut fees from July and August should be around £160.

This will cover the repayment to the NPA but leaves the club very short of cash £500 can be claimed on VAT when the cottage is complete. In the meantime, it will be necessary to raise some money to continue the cottage work, (estimated at £800). This can be achieved in two ways. Members can make small loans available to the club - sums of £5 or £10 from say each

member would almost cover the £800 needed, and there is a form for this at the back of the newsletter. Alternatively, we can organise fund raising events. Already, there are plans to hold a Barbecue on Mendip (probably the Mineries) in the Autumn. Other ideas include paying 1980 subs in advance, a sponsored walk, encouraging more guest bookings especially in midweek, running a stall outside the new cottage, a jumble sale, Xmas cards and a lottery. But ideas are not enough - we need people to put them into practise. So if you can help or if you have any ideas of your own, please get in touch with the committee now. Unless we raise the £800, progress on the cottage will begin to slow down, which would be a pity since it is so near completion.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING The AGM this year was held on 28th April in the old cottage (and will probably be the last AGM there before we move to the new one). For the convenience of those members who couldn't make it, the reports of the various committee members are printed below with the accounts.

Discussion centered on cottage building and the clubs financial position (which has since changed - see above). The Annual Dinner was held later in the evening, and was something of a dissapointment. There were complaints about poor service, small portions and cold meals. One member even found a beetle in his meal, which the manager assured him must have landed on the plate from a nearby bush, under its own power. It was however well cooked! Despite the problems, most members managed to get inebriated enough to have a reasonably good time afterwards, and Eric even came up with a new song. Unfortunately, I was too drunk to remember what it was about.

Talking about Eric reminds me that several members still owe him the £4.00 for the dinner, not to mention this years subs. I am sure he will still accept the money now.

HON. SECRETARIES REPORT Pete said that nothing much was received from the National Caving Association.

Oliver Lloyd had been round locking a lot of caves. There had been an increase in applicants for membership. Some complaints had been received about guests leaving the washing up undone and the building untidy. It was up to members to run the groups affairs and organise visitors. If this was done properly it could even end up with the organisers having their work done for them!

Tony Knibbs asked why Oliver Lloyd was locking caves. Pete replied that since Oliver Lloyd organised the work on GB Cave he was also asked to do Lamb Leer and singing River Mine.

HON. TREASURERS REPORT

On 31st December 1978 the Group's finances were

G.P.F. Bank Credit (Deposit & Current a/cs)	110.09
L.P.F. " " (" " ")	<u>536.77</u>
	<u>646.86</u>

The bank accounts have been separated for V.A.T. purposes so that building expenditure is paid out of a separate bank account. This was a request by Customs and Excise.

The G.P.F. main source of income is from subs. and cottage fees. The subs. for the current year are brought in at £110 but £113 had been paid during the previous year in order to assist with cottage building payments.

	<u>Subs</u>	<u>Cottage Fees</u>	<u>Total</u>
1974	114	170	284
1975	91	220	311
1976	163	173	336
1977	203	447	650
1978	223	489	712

	<u>Outgoings</u>
1974	324
1975	331
1976	282
1977	508
1978	378

It is apparent that until 1978 we have been very dependent on supplementing our G.P.F. income from other sources, sales of surveys, books, permits, etc. in order to keep the funds in credit.

Although the G.P.F. a/c shows cash @ the bank £502 it was necessary during the year to transfer various sums into L.P.F. in order to pay for our building materials with the result that the G.P.F. bank a/cs are in credit of £110.09

MEMBERSHIP 48 members paid subs. during the year and 3 more have paid in 1979.

LAND PURCHASE FUND We have only been able to meet our commitments because we have had the National

Playing Fields Association	£999
Loans	£125
Withdrawn from G.P.F.	£392

In the 1977 report the estimated cottage expenditure to finish the job was £1200. We have spent £1632 on building materials during 1978; and so far in 1979 we have spent £462.

On 20th April 1979 our bank balances were

L.P.F. Current	239.54
Deposit	<u>96.25</u>
	<u>335.79</u>
G.P.F. Current	376.51
Deposit	<u>8.76</u>

Treasurer's Report	brought forward	£721.06
<u>V.A.T. recoverable</u>		
1976	171.27	
1977	276.99	
1978	121.54	
to Ap.1979	34.72	604.52
<u>Sports Council Retention</u>		
If we finish the job on time we get		352.00
		<u>1677.58</u>
This summer we are due to repay the Playing Fields Association		
the first instalment of loan	£333	333.00
We have a triple extension ladder to pay for approx		110.00
Loans to members		<u>1920.58</u>
		<u>2363.58</u>

We are therefore even on the most favourable showing still £700 in debt. It is in our interests to maintain our fund raising activities.

I am not aware of any other outstanding accounts and am pleased to say that we have paid our creditors as they rendered their accounts - this has been of considerable assistance in achieving and maintaining goodwill with Taviners who have continued to supply us on credit.

AUDITORS I am most grateful to Val Knight and Arthur Spain for continuing to audit the books - they corrected one error of mine which I had not been able to discover. However I have not been able to reconcile the analysis in the accounts with the audited figures in the books and you will see that there is a discrepancy in cash in hand between the G.P.F. a/c £25.28 and the bank statement (i.e. on the books) £16.62 -- I have taken the larger figure as the relevant one and made good the difference.

DEEDS OF COVENANT I have not presented the Deeds and tax deduction certificates to the Inspector of Taxes - the only excuse is that I have tried to collect all the certificates before submitting the claim. I do not anticipate any difficulty in claiming for 3 years at one time - once the Civil Service ends its strike.

I have not collected tax deduction certificates for this year as there has been a change of procedure and the Inspector no longer requires annual certificates once the Covenants have been lodged.

HON. AUDITORS Phil Ingold proposed Ron Saunders for auditor. Ron was willing to stand if one of the present auditors wished to stand down. Pete Mathews said that Ron had been an excellent treasurer for 10 years. A number of members also agreed that Ron had done an excellent job. Wayne Hiscox proposed a vote of thanks which was seconded by Tony Knibbs.

MENDIP CAVING GROUP

BANK ACCOUNTS

New Accounts opened 1st November, 1978, for
Land Purchase Fund for VAT purposes.

Balances at 31st December, 1978

General Purpose Fund - Current Account	101.33
Deposit Account	8.76
	<u>110.09</u>

Land Purchase Fund - Current Account	6.86
Deposit Account	529.91
	<u>536.77</u>

Funds in hand 1/1/79	£646.86
	=====

Balances as per

L.P.F. Account	139.09½
G.P.F. Account	502.76½
Cheque to Charterhouse not presented 598728	5.00

	<u>£646.86</u>
	=====

Cash in Hand GPF

16.62

	<u>£653.48</u>
	=====

MENDIP CAVING GROUP

LAND PURCHASE FUND
Year Ending 31/12/78

<u>1977</u>	<u>INCOME</u>		<u>1977</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
1355	Barclays Bank Deposit a/c 31/12/77	18.23	270	Repayment of	
-	Current a/c 31/12/77	401.38½		Temporary Loan	250.40
56	Interest on deposit a/c	9.75	-	National Playing	
-	Cash in hand @ 31/12/77	1.00		Fields Assoc.	
57	L.P.F. collections	7.60		Administration	
	Levy (£122 previously)			Charge	2.00
	(paid in 1977)	91.00	4351	Building Mat.	1632.36
100	Donations	4.75		<u>Insurances</u>	
60	Jumbles (2)	122.67½		New Building	9.00
126	Dance	60.00	140	Public	
1221	Loans (individuals)	125.00		liability	<u>70.20</u> 79.20
-	National Playing Fields Assoc.			Cottage	
	Loan	999.00		Warden's float	88.10
1333	Sports Council payment	225.00	420	Cash @ Bank	139.09½
-	Transfer from G.P.F.				
	correction from 1977	3.50			
	Transfer from G.P.F. for				
	Warden's float	88.10			
	Transfer from G.P.F.	34.16½			
		<u>£2191.15½</u>			<u>£2191.15½</u>

MENDIP CAVING GROUP

GENERAL PURPOSE FUND
Year Ending 31/12/78

<u>1977</u>	<u>INCOME</u>		<u>1977</u>	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
208	Cash at bank 31/12/77	387.24½	13	Rent	13.00
6	" in hand	4.98½	20	Electricity	40.00
-	Bank Interest	7.76	1	Cottage Maintenance	2.67
	Subs 1978 (£113 previously)		9	Water Rate	6.36
	(paid in 1977)	110.00	22	General Rate	24.66
	1979	5.00	26	Insurances	31.77
448	Cottage Fees	489.08	166	Fuel	137.00
-	Indemnity chits	0.51	62	GAS	51.20
-	Sale Electrolyte	21.70	4	Treasurer's postage	4.82
13	Profit on dinner	1.79	45	Toiletries	46.28
				<u>Subs to other clubs</u>	
				Charterhouse	£5
				CSCC	3
				CNCC	2
				Cambrian	3
			15	BCRA	<u>7</u>
					20.00
			387	Cash @ bank	502.76½
				Transferred to LPF	
				for Wardens Float	88.10
				Transfer to LPF	34.16½
				Cash in hand	<u>25.28</u>
					<u>£1028.07</u>
		<u>£1028.07</u>			

HON. EDITORS REPORT Tony is also retiring. Tony said that members were rather tardy in submitting articles. A lot of words had been said on the new building a subject which helped to make copy. Tony appealed to members on behalf of the new editor to submit articles. The reports of the Thursday evening lectures were very useful and had been well received.

Pete Mathews proposed a vote of thanks to Tony. He said that there had been a pronounced upturn in funds and work on the building as a result of newsletter publicity. Ron Saunders supported this view and Wayne Hiscox seconded the proposal.

HON. MEET SECRETARY John MacMillan said that meets had been deliberately kept down because of building work, however some away meets had been arranged this year. Several private parties had gone away caving. If any booking was required John would do it.

HON. TACKLE MASTER Phil Ingold said that John Mirriam and Doug Anderson were doing an excellent job looking after tackle. John was ladder stockeeper and Doug was continuing to treat them with preservative. We now had 150' of lifeline.

Tony Knibbs thought we should have more rope. Phil replied that the 150' was all that the committee would allocate due to expense.

HON. RECORDER Malcolm Cotter. On the library side we continue to receive periodicals from other caving organisations. These items are taken to our Thursday meeting venue at Brentford for a month or so before being boxed at my home pending their transit to Mendip. I also list the items received for our newsletters which thus show our receipts. Nearly all of our items are received on an exchange basis. It is therefore apparent that our publications are of benefit to members beyond the news conveyed to them. Other club newsletters and journals are a valuable source of information on the caving state throughout the country and indeed the world. The use we make of our library additions could be enhanced by abstraction and commentry. If any members read an article which they think of high news value please do write a comment and pass it on to the editor, in the meantime let me know to save possible duplication of work. The library room in the new cottage has just about reached the fitting out stage. My comment to the architect is that it should be better than what we have at present and may just about house our holding. I do not wish the fitting out to be solely based on my ideas, and thus welcome discussion on the matter. This evening would be a good time to start. Help would be especially valuable from cabinet makers. Steve Conquest is in the process of producing loan slips for library items. A system of this type should make it easy to keep track of publications. I have come to the conclusion that backup copies of our hold-

ings are desirable especially our own publications. Thus any member wishing to turn out old copies please give it to the Group rather than the dustbin.

On the recording side two significant facts show themselves. The first is the large amount of time spent at Committee discussing cottage building business. The work done by Pete, Wayne and Ron behind the scenes must take up a great deal of their time and I suspect some of their cash. In addition to the general hut committee there is also the Cottage committee, (If minutes are produced on this sub-committee by the way I would like them for the records). The second fact has been the lack of people applying for membership, although this has recently shown signs of change. My view is that we need active people now especially if they show an interest in the building. A new input of enthusiasm and muscle power is the only way our building project can be completed. The lids can then come off the caves and digs to allow us to take the challenge of the exciting exploration prospects which lay ahead.

HON. COTTAGE WARDEN Wayne reported that cottage booking had been very good to date and in some cases too good! (some muttering & laughter). There was now a little dropping off. The wood which Pat Walsh had supplied for the store had enabled a great financial saving to be made this winter. Only one ton of fuel was purchased.

THE NEW COTTAGE Wayne Hiscox said that progress had been good this year. If it had been as good last year we would be in habitation now. The inside should be almost complete by the year end. It was important to finish outside.

It seemed that Jim Fry was approachable to the question of selling us more land.

Roby Charnock asked for an outline of future work. Wayne replied that this was listed on the board and in the N.L. Wayne asked for loans to be made into donations. Pete and Ron agreed that this could be done at any time but it was entirely up to the member to decide. Pete thought we couldn't have monetary shortage once the cottage was complete. Other Mendip property owning clubs seemed to have more cash than they knew what to do with.

Malcolm Cotter asked if the cottage could be completed by the 13 May. Could basic services such as toilets and kitchen be completed ahead so that the building was habitable?

Wayne said the building would not be ready by the 13th May. Toilets etc. could not be ready in advance because of the order of work. Walls must be completed ahead of the floor which must be done throughout a one layer. Water and drainage cannot be put in ahead of floor.

Phill Ingold proposed that we purchase hospital mattresses which Roby pointed out were all sterilized before disposal.

ROYSTON CAVE

The town of Royston is situated on the Hertfordshire/Cambridgeshire border approximately 12 miles south of Cambridge. It is built around the crossroads of the Icknield Way which was the prehistoric route from the West of England to East Anglia and the more recent Ermine Street, the Roman road from London to York. Almost directly beneath the crossroads is Royston Cave. The original motives for excavating the cave are unknown. Several hypotheses have been put forward as to the most likely reasons for its origin, the most plausible being an underground chapel for the Knights Templar. It is thought to have been dug out of the chalk in the 11th-12th Century A.D. and to have been filled in by local residents when the Knights Templar were accused of heresy and driven out of the country in the early 14th Century. It was discovered by accident in 1742 when local workmen were erecting a post in the Butter Market and found a millstone beneath the surface of the ground. They removed the millstone and exposed the top of the cave. A small boy was lowered down on a rope and found the cave to be half-filled with rubble. Rumours suggested that treasure lay at the bottom and the cave was emptied of debris with great speed only to reveal a few bones and a series of figures carved in the walls of the cave.

The cave is bell-shaped, approximately 30 feet high and 20 feet in diameter. The walls are covered with many carvings and some of the figures are identifiable as saints, characters at the crucifixion and various apostles and martyrs. The public are admitted on Sundays throughout the summer, between 2 and 5 o'clock, and entrance will cost explorers 10p. At the present time nothing has been discovered anywhere in the world to resemble the strange cave underneath Melbourne Street, Royston. If any club members think of paying the cave a visit, may I suggest a slight detour on either the way to or from the cave to the village of Reed. It is about 2 miles south of Royston on the A.10 and the village pub called the Cabinet sells, straight from the barrel, the best Abbot Ale, Adnams Bitter, Tollylobbolds Contab and Marstons Pedigree that you will purchase anywhere (take a chauffeur).

Richard Norris

MORE HAPPENINGS AT ROYSTON Although it is popularly supposed that Royston Cave was associated with crusader movements, and especially Richard the Lionheart, this is unlikely to have been the case. The style of the religious carvings is typical of the 16th century. The kingly figures and knights etc. may possibly be earlier. Certainly the carvings were done by numerous hands. Some of the figures show traces of red, blue and yellow pigment and dark pigment was sometimes employed to accentuate the relief.

Origins of the cave may be based upon two dates high up on the walls of the chamber. These are in arabic and have been read as "1347" and "Martin 1350 February 18". Clearly, this interpretation is erroneous as arabic numerals were not in use in this country at that time. In addition the name Martin and the spelling of February are typical of the 16th century. The dates should have been taken to read 1547 and 1550 and probably the date when the cave was filled in.

Perhaps a clue as to the purposes of Royston Cave may be found in the nearby village of Bassingborne? The Churchwarden's receipts for 1506 record "Gyff of 20d recd off a Hermytt deptyng at Roiston in ys pysh". It seems unlikely that there would be more than one hermitage in Royston at that time.

It is difficult to estimate when the cave was excavated. The bell shaped chamber appears to have been enlarged from an earlier shaft, about 2ft diameter, which is visible above and below the chamber. When rediscovered in the 18th century the upper section of the shaft was cut with regular holes, and was probably the original entrance. The steps leading to the bottom of the chamber are modern.

Royston cave is quite unique and well worth a visit if you are in the area.

Ogofwr Ddn

Reference - S. Baring-Gould; Cliff Castles and Cave Dwellings of Europe, (Seeley & Co. 1911).

NEW COTTAGE WORK OUTSTANDING

1/7/79

INTERNAL 1st FLOOR	INTERNAL GROUND FLOOR	EXTERNAL BUILDING	EXTERNAL OTHER
1.	Plaster ceiling/ walls.		
2.	Fit basins, toilets gas supply, incl. plumbing and shower extractor fan.		
3. Paint ceilings and walls.	Paint ceilings and walls.	Paint window frames and door surrounds.	
4.		Render block- work roughcast finish.	
5. Fit bunks.	Fit kitchen work tops.		
6. Fit floor covering.			
7.			Clear site, lay out parking, landscape.
8.	Make strong tables and benches.		

GROUP ORGANISATION

COMMITTEE

- Secretary - PETE MATHEWS, 31 Brewhouse, Hill,
Wheathampstead, Herts.
Tel. (home) Wheathampstead 2521
- Treasurer - ERIC DOWLEY, Chequers Orchard,
Iver, Bucks.
- Meet Secretary - JOHN MacMILLAN, 11 Whitehouse Way,
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(work) Slough 33611
- Cottage Warden - WAYNE HISCOX, 3 Keward, Glastonbury Road,
WELLS, Somerset.
Tel. (work) Wells 72995 ext. 41
- Tacklemaster - PHIL INGOLD, 31 Spring Lane,
Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
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Tel. (home) 01 399 1841
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WEEKLY MEETINGS of the Group are held every Thursday evening at the BEEHIVE HOTEL, 227 High Street, Brentford Middlesex.

CAVING ACCOMMODATION is available at the Group's Mendip headquarters cottage:
The Stirrup Cup, Nordrach-on-Mendip,
Blagdon, Somerset. (NGR ST55/5150.5605).

29 beds are available, together with cooking facilities and other amenities including caving library. Guest bookings must be made to the Cottage Warden.

MENDIP CAVING GROUP



PATRON: THE MARQUESS OF BATH

A P P E A L

A rush of spending on materials to complete the Cottage has left our funds in a very serious position. Our debts include a £500 bill from Taviners of Harptree and £350 due to the N.P.A. in August. Unfortunately, we only have about £400 in the bank. On the bright side, we are expecting £700 from the VATman, £350 from the Sports Council and £100 from the book-shop - but not for a month or two.

A drastic solution is needed in the short term. We urgently need approx. £300 for about three months. This we can raise by, say, 15 loans of £20 or a subvention of £6 a head. The former is much preferred.

Please return the slip below,

Peter Mathews
- Secretary -

Return to the Treasurer, Eric Dowley, 32 Chequers Orchard, Iver, Bucks.

I am prepared to help the Group by :-

- i) offering a loan of £... for a period of
- ii) organizing a Barn Dance/Jumble Sale/Lottery/Christmas Cards Sale

Signed

Date