

* MENDIP CAVING GROUP BULLETIN *

NUMBER 11

SEP 1990

MCG HALF-YEARLY

SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 1990

There will be an informal general meeting of the Group starting at 3pm on Sat 3rd November at Nordrach Cottage. The "fun and games" bit of the secondary event of the year will commence earlier than normal, due to the date being close to Bonfire Night.

As previously advertised, a small bonfire party will be held at a location close to the Cottage which will include refreshments in the form of punch, (we don't want people getting too drunk, too early, do we?) and a display of fireworks.

Then it's all up to Priddy Hall for our regular Barn Dance where ticket holders will be entertained and fed and where alcoholic beverage may be purchased to excess! Tickets are available, at a modest £4 each, from your nearest committee member.

To reduce the burden on the organisers(!), volunteers are required for various duties, a list of which follows:

1. BONFIRE PARTY

- a) Bonfire All to bring a few pieces of dry timber.
- b) Fireworks All to bring at least one display quality firework (NO BANGERS).
- c) Firework Display Two volunteers to run the display.
- d) Refreshments Two volunteers to supply approx. 2 gallons of punch.

2. BARN DANCE

- a) Transport There is a probability of a mini-bus at a cost of £1 per person (each way!). This volunteer will be contacted direct!
- b) Food JB will arrange main food supply.
One volunteer for purchase of vegetarian foodstuff.
One volunteer for purchase of salad items and utensils.
Two volunteers for preparation and serving of food.
Two volunteers for washing up.
- c) Hall JB will arrange preparation and layout.
Two volunteers for clearing and stacking chairs/tables at end of evening.
One volunteer to collect monies/check tickets on door.
Four volunteers to clean floor on SUNDAY morning.
- d) Bar Roger Dors will supply.
- e) Music Val and Simon et al.

John Beauchamp is co-ordinating the events and would be grateful to hear from volunteers so that their various tasks can be discussed. Please contact him as soon as possible on 0761-62929

ON THE MOVE

Lesley and Andy Beare have moved to:
27 Watmore Lane, Winnersh, Reading,
Berkshire tel: 0734-790764

Vanessa Gill has moved to:
11 Rose Walk, Fishponds, Bristol, Avon,
BS16 4JN tel: 0272-652585

BOOKING RECORD

Guest groups and members are not using the booking sheets correctly, making it impossible for the Treasurer to reconcile cottage fees. ON ARRIVAL AT THE COTTAGE would you please write your name on the booking sheet by the bunk you are to take. Large parties please write your INDIVIDUAL NAMES against your bunk number, not bracketed together as a group under the group name. Remember to put your cottage fees in the lectern and record the amount paid on the sheet. Season ticket holder's should enter "S/T" in the "amount paid" column. One person should collect all fees at the end of the weekend, initial the "received by" column on the sheet and delete the names of any people who booked in advance but did not attend. The "amount paid" column should be totalled and the amount carried over to the reverse of the sheet where details of CCC permits issued (30p each) can be added, any expenditure deducted and any other adjustments made. The completed sheet should be sent to Martin Rowe, together with a cheque/cheques for the fees collected, in the envelopes provided in the lectern.

GROUP BOOKINGS

The general level of guest bookings has been noted by the committee following complaints from members that too many large (12+) group bookings are being accepted for weekends. Existing bookings are to be honoured, but in future at weekends the maximum number of guests will be limited to 18. Due to limited space in the kitchen, it has been decided to further limit the maximum size of any one party to 12 (ie a minibus full). This will prevent large parties monopolising the kitchen and other facilities, while still allowing members and/or another small group to use the cottage at the same time.

MCG AMNESTY

The committee was a bit alarmed to hear that there were once 25 ladders but now there are only 13! If anyone can throw any light on their whereabouts eg. in digs, thrown (worn) out, or still in the boot of someone's car, could you inform Adrian Duckett, the tacklemaster, or return them the next time you are going to the cottage.

We believe that quite a few ladders are down various digs but the tacklewarden would still like to know officially where and ladder numbers. If none of the ladders are recovered or recoverable then Adrian will replace them, but to ensure that new tackle remains available for everyone in the Group to use, he will most probably keep them and issue them only on request. If you intend to book out a ladder, or any other item, for a long period it is courteous to notify the tacklewarden first.

The winch and rock drill haven't been seen at the cottage for some time. Are they missing or on loan to another club? If anyone can shed any light on this situation could they inform the committee as in the present circumstances they would not be insured for loss or damage.

Five short ropes are also missing so Adrian will cut some 110ft ropes into shorter, more useful lengths. He is also buying some new spreaders.

It was thought that the Aven Inspection Lamp was also missing but in fact it had been taken away for repairs. This is just a reminder to the repairer that quite a few people have been asking for it so its early return would be much appreciated (with anticipated thanks for mending it).

YV'S DROPPINGS

DT (hungover): "... it was Chatreuse".
JG: "Shattreuse! Is that how you feel this morning?"

Matthew Carson (aged 5, after his first caving trip): "Dave, I'm a caver now!!"

YR: "I was full of adrenaline and nothing to do with it!"