

* MENDIP CAVING GROUP BULLETIN *

NUMBER 14

1991

NEW EDITOR & TREASURER CO-OPTED

The Mendip Caving Group Committee welcomes, Bryan Pittman as Editor and Bernard Reeves as treasurer.

COMMITTEE CONTROVERSY EXPLAINED

As a newcomer to the current M.C.G. Committee, I would like to think that I am relatively unbiased concerning the recent controversy, which finally resulted in the resignation of Martin and Yvonne Rowe. Trying to read between the lines, and having spoken to all the aggrieved parties recently, it seems to me that the problem lies in personality differences which make it impossible for the two contenders to see eye to eye, so there would always be infighting and accusations flying as long as they both serve on the same committee. Therefore I believe that although it is regrettable that Martin and Yvonne have felt it necessary to resign, the club committee could not continue to function satisfactorily while the past disagreements carried on.

I would like to put the record straight on two points -

1) Malcolm Cotter was democratically elected as Secretary by a Majority vote of the membership, and there was no ballot rigging involved - all voting papers were counted by the Recorder Wayne Hiscox, with no collaboration with any of the aggrieved parties.

2) The newly elected Secretary was certainly doing the job he was elected for, in trying to find someone to fill the vacant committee posts, so that the club could continue to function satisfactorily. Each surviving member of the committee was contacted and asked for approval, which a quorum did, so Bryan Pittman as Editor and Bernie Reeves as Treasurer were duly co-opted.

I trust this letter will clarify two points which I know have upset some people. Finally I'm sure you all will join me in thanking Martin and Yvonne for their hard work and the dedication that they have shown during their time on the committee. The Editors job I am told is very time consuming, but can be very rewarding, and the Treasurers job I know from my own personal experience, is very taxing - pardon the pun - at times. Welcome to the new comers.

I now hope that the final resolution of past difficulties will allow the committee to carry out their task of running the club efficiently!

Arthur Spain

EDITORIAL

I first wish to thank Yvonne and Martin for all their hard work on behalf of the M.C.G., neither of the posts they held are easy, and both involve a lot of dedication. It will indeed be very difficult to match Yvonne's very enjoyable and informative newsletters. However Arthur's letter brings this unfortunate phase of the group's history to a close. No more correspondence concerning the recent committee problems will be published without the agreement of the Committee.

Editor.

++++ MCG 1991 MEETS PROGRAMME ++++ BANK HOLIDAY WEEKENDS IN ITALICS ++++

Meets and Leaders are published as an on-going programme throughout the year.

DATE	AREA	MAIN EVENT	CONTACT	TELE. NO.
17 Aug	Chepstow	Otter Hole	DAVE TOOKE	0923-241522
07 Sep	Mendip	Charterhouse Cave	YVONNE ROWE	0252-872006
02 Nov	Mendip	HYGM/Barn Dance/Bonfire	ARTHUR SPAIN	0749-679358

Accommodation in Yorks & S.Wales can be booked by through the relevant cottage warden:

Yorkshire	Northern Pennine Club	Steve Thorpe	0532 559214
South Wales	South Wales Caving Club	Janice Richards	0985 219111

WEEKLY MEETINGS are held at the Group's Mendip headquarters on Wednesdays at 7.00pm. and at the Eclipse Inn, Egham Hill, Egham, Surrey, on Thursdays from 8.30pm.
 CAVING ACCOMMODATION for 30 people is available at the MCG headquarters, Nordrach Cottage, Charterhouse-on-Mendip, Blagdon, Bristol, BS18 6XW Tel.0761-462797
 National Grid Reference 5147.5606 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 sheet 182

COTTAGE FEES per night: MCG members, member's children, SWCC and NPC £1
 Guest clubs and member's guests £2
 ANNUAL SEASON TICKET: Optional exemption from cottage fees, for members £10
 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: Full and Probationary Members: £20; Associate Members: £10
 The subscription includes free day-time access to the cottage by the member, their children, and their accompanied guests

* Cottage Phone number is prefixed with 4 from 21.8.91.

SECRETARY: MALCOLM COTTER tel: 07842-52643
 249 Feltham Hill Road, Ashford, Middlesex, TW15 1LU
TREASURER: BERNARD REEVES tel: 081-864-3559
 16a Newbury Way, Northolt, Middlesex.
MEET SECRETARY: DAVID TOOKE tel: 0923-241522
 117 Leavesden Road, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD2 5ER
COTTAGE WARDEN: BRIAN MURLIS tel 0934-412048
 1a Arundell Road, Weston - super - Mare, Avon, BS23 2QG
TACKLEMASTER: ADRIAN DUCKETT tel: 081-568-6211
 68 Roxborough Avenue, Isleworth, Middlesex, TW7 5HJ
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 36 Manor Way, Egham, Surrey, TW20 9NG
RECORDER: WAYNE HISCOX tel: (WOKK) 0749-72081
 3 Keward, Glastonbury Road, Wells, Somerset
ORDINARY MEMBER: ARTHUR SPAIN : 0749-679358
 Waitangi, Long Lane, Dinder, Somerset, BA5 3PQ

*The Mendip Caving Group is a registered charity, number 270088
 The Group's Trustees are: Ron Saunders, Malcolm Cotter, Pat Walsh and Peter Matthews*

AGM AND DINNER 1992

The Annual General Meeting of The Mendip Caving Group will be held at the Hunters Lodge at 11.00 a.m. on 4th April 1992.

The Annual Dinner will be held at:-

The Crossways Inn,
North Wooton,
Nr. Wells.

Tickets will be between £9 and £11.

HYGM/EGM

The halfyear meeting will be held at the cottage at 2.30 p.m. 2nd November. It will be an EGM as we need to change the signatories for the TSB account, and this can only be done by a General Meeting of the Group. The committee will also be putting forward some further resolutions with regard to the MCG shop, and the co-option of members to the committee.

The committee also felt that it would be no bad thing to see some younger faces on the committee. If there's anybody that wants to stand for either of the co-opted posts, let Malcolm know.

FIREWORKS

A firework display and bonfire will follow the halfyear meeting. So could everyone bring some fireworks. Arthur would like a volunteer to take charge of the arrangements for the bonfire and fireworks.

BARN DANCE

Simon and Val are booked for the Barn Dance in Priddy Village Hall at 8 p.m. after the fireworks on 2nd November. Tickets will be £5, children under 10 half price. A coach between the cottage and the hall return will be laid on costing £2.50. per head.

BUFFET - Volunteers will be needed to supply and prepare the usual buffet which will be available at the Barn Dance, both before and after.

The food will need preparing beforehand and there will be clearing to do afterwards on Saturday and cleaning the floor on Sunday.

Food required - Baked potatoes, Rolls, cold meats, sausage rolls, quiches, salad ingredients, cheese, sausages, coleslaw, and anything else that may be desirable, costs will be reimbursed.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Brian and Tracy Murlis on the birth of their 8lb 2oz son Robert James on the 18th June

PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been received for probationary membership:-

Lorna Cotter,
249 Feltham Hill Road, Ashford, Middlesex. TW15 1LU
Proposed by B.Parker and D.Tooke

Jane Deaning,
8 Selhurst Place, South Norwood, London. SE25 5PY
Proposed by A.Thomas and J-P Burch

Simon Hewlett,
Tainewyddion, Tyn-y-Maes, Bethesda, N.Wales
Proposed by B. Murlis and K.Arnold

PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP

R.Diment, J.Corrigan, N.Gibson, I.Brimson, J.Dean, S.Marshall,
R.Arkless, R.Ghandi, and D.Miles, have all been elected probationary members.

FULL MEMBERSHIP

Congratulations to C.Allison, R.Wittington, K.Arnold, and D.Hastilow on being accepted as full members.

BOX MINES ACCESS

Backdoor: ST 8365 6930
Lady Hamiltons 2: ST 8332 6874
Jacks Workings: ST 8328 6862

No one is to proceed beyond the MOD barriers in the Wind Tunnel. MOD Police have requested that they are informed of any visits at least one hour in advance by phone to Copenacre Control Room on 0225 810711. I checked with the MOD Police and they confirmed they require your car number when you call.

NEW CAVE IN THE FOREST OF DEAN

There is a new cave 4 km long in the Forest of Dean called Slaughter Stream Cave. For further details see Descent No 100.

NEW LIBRARY ADDITIONS

New OFD survey (with Wayne Hiscox)
The Ease Gill System
A Mendip Cavers Ropework Guide

BCRA

BCRA National Conference is on September 21/22 at UMIST