

# Scarborough

## Caving Club



### 10th June Meeting 1995.

This months meeting was relatively short with a good attendance. The meeting this time was held in the pool room as the pigeon club were using our usual haunt this didn't cause any problems although the vibrating floor and chairs raised a few eyebrows.

It has been decided that the non permit trip to Bull Pot the Witches will be on **Sunday 25th** and not on Saturday 24th June. This is due to several members requesting more trips on Sundays.

Several local digs and trips are taking place on Thursday nights anyone interested in helping out or just want to have a look contact Jerry. Lee and Chalky have reported that Silpho Quarry Cave dig is progressing very well but problems are occurring due to the lack of man power to move boulders, dirt etc. anyone wishing to get dirty and help the advance should contact Lee for details.

The "Elite 4" (Jerry, Keith, Jamie and Nial) spent the last Bank Holiday Weekend in Wales and had an enjoyable but slightly disappointing time. According to Jerry it rained for most of the weekend and so a lot of their plans were dashed but they completed several caves, of which some are renowned to be tight by the Welsh but the "Elite 4" made easy work of them. (According to them anyway??). Jerry has also reported that there is still a lot of potential for discovering new caves in Wales and suggested a club trip as a digging weekend to put a typical Yorkshire named cave, pothole on the map in the middle of the Welsh countryside.

While the "Elite 4" were in Wales a few members went on the Ibbeth Peril trip and have said that it was well worth the effort and recommend it for a look and for photographic potential if nothing else.

Due to popular demand we are negotiating another trip to the old Bempton radar station judging by the photographs it is worth a good look. Details to follow when available.

Coming up next month is a camping weekend July 29 & 30th at present we don't have a camp site arranged as our usual place, Condor Farm, Dent has put up its prices which for the facilities is extortionate so anybody with any ideas for a venue please come forward. Places already suggested are The Flying Horseshoe, Clapham and The Moorgarth, Ingleton.

Finally your permit requests have now been sorted and applied for. As soon as we have confirmation a list of dates will be published.

MARK

# Scarborough

Council Office



10th June 1997

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4/1/97



**Free** - but how about a donation to the local Cave Rescue Service?

## BRITISH CAVE RESCUE COUNCIL

Incident Report for Period 1 January 1994 - 31 December 1994

	Cave Rescue Organisation	Cumbria Ore Mines R. U.	Derbyshire C.R.O.	Devon C.R.O.	Gloucestershire C.R.G.	Irish C.R.O.	Mendip R. O.	Midlands C.R.O.	North Wales C.R.O.	Scottish C.R.O.	South East C.R.O.	South Wales C.R.O.	Swaledale F.R.A.	Upper Wharfedale F.R.A.	other teams (1)	TOTALS
Caving Incidents	14	0	4		2		10	1	1			10	1	3	2	48
Persons Assisted	46	0	7		2		11	1	0			39	1	3	2	112
Fatalities	3	0	0		1		0	0	0			0	1	0	0	5
Injured	7	0	2		1		3	1	0			2	0	3	1	20
Animal Incidents	11	1	1		0		0	0	0			3	0	3	1	20
Assistance to Other Teams		1 <sup>(3)</sup>						1 <sup>(2)</sup>								
<b>Total Underground Incidents</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>68</b>
Surface Incidents	20	2					1					1	3	6		33
Persons Assisted	23	17					1					3	3	10		57
Fatalities	2	1					0					0	0	0		2
Injured	13	0					0					1	0	4		18
Assistance to Other Teams	9 <sup>(4)</sup>	1													2	
Animal Incidents	5												2	2		9
<b>Total Surface Incidents</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2</b>					<b>1</b>					<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>42</b>

### Notes:

(1) The 'others' column reflects underground rescues carried out by member teams of the M.R.C. and whose incident reports have been submitted to the BCRC. These are shown in the incidents list (incidents 7 and 26).

(2) West Midlands were called out to assist South Wales in incident 3.

(3) C.O.M.R.U. were called out to assist Swaledale F.R.O. in a search for a missing person incident 33.

(4) C.R.O.'s assistance to other teams includes 6 calls for search dogs only, involving 6 persons and 3 fatalities.

### NCA ROPE TESTING PROGRAMME

This is producing some very worthwhile information on ropes generally as well as informing individual cavers of the state of their ropes. The Rig will be in action at the Cavers Fair or you can post your sample to be tested to Owen Clarke (address on p.4).

### CAVE HERITAGE CENTRE

The Millennium Project, to set up a British Speleological Centre, is now well under way. The members of working party have visited over 20 potential sites in the last two months and are now concentrating on the two or three most likely prospects from amongst these.

### SUMMARY OF INCIDENT REPORT, 1994

These figures are for the Underground calls - the full Incident Report details other incidents in which the teams have been involved

- There were five underground fatalities in 1994:
  - one caver who died from injuries suffered in a rockfall (incident 5)
  - one cave diver (23)
  - one caver who drowned in a flood (32)
  - one suspected suicide (33)
  - one from natural causes (44)

#### 2. Injuries which occurred underground were:

- 1 suspected head and back injuries
- 1 suspected neck injury
- 5 cavers with spinal injuries
- 1 slipped disc
- 1 pelvic and internal injuries
- 1 bruised pelvis
- 1 dislocated shoulder
- 1 fractured clavicle
- 1 fractured wrist
- 5 injured or dislocated knees
- 2 ankle injuries
- 2 fractured ankles

#### 3. The main causes of incidents recorded in 1994 were:

overdue	10	flood	3
fall when caving	7	rock fall	2
exhausted	6	lost	1
medical problems	5	trapped by tide	1
fall from pitch	4	cave diving	1
searches	3	hoax	1
physically stuck	3	suicide	1

**TOTAL 48**

4. The Cave Rescue Organisation is based in Clapham, North Yorkshire.

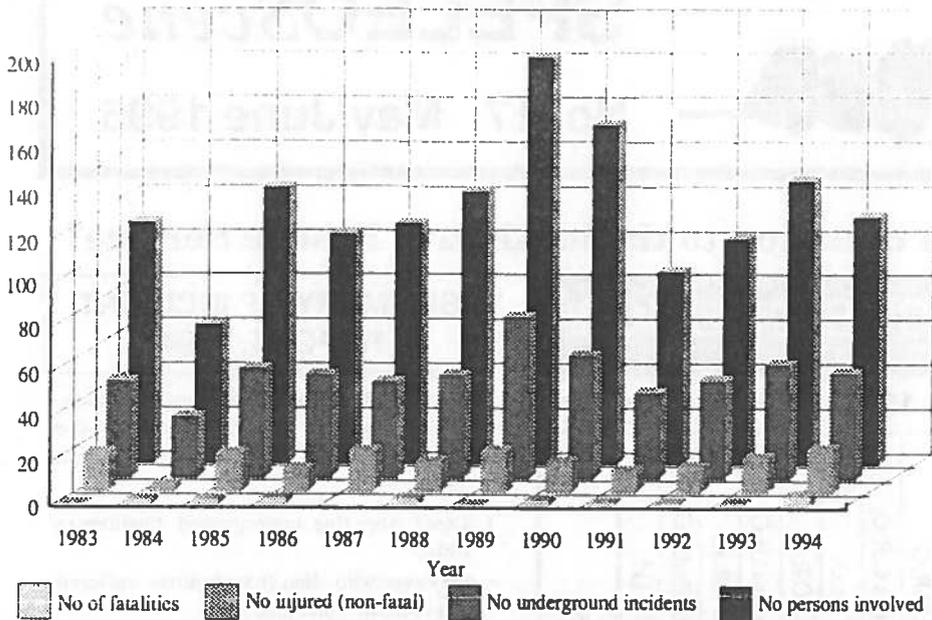
5. The underground animal incidents involved 3 sheep, 6 lambs, 1 calf and 7 dogs.

6. 'Surface Incidents' include fell/moorland rescues and searches. Teams, chiefly in the north, carry out these duties as part of their normal workload. These incidents are also recorded in the Mountain Rescue Council Incident Report for 1994.

7. Alerts and standbys are not recorded. Also those incidents dealt with by local knowledge over the telephone and not involving a team callout are not recorded.

BRITISH CAVE RESCUE COUNCIL

Quick Summary of last 12 years (including cave diving incidents)



Cave Diving Incidents - Quick Summary of last 12 years  
Plus incidents where cave divers assisted at non-diving incidents

	'83	'84	'85	'86	'87	'88	'89	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94
Cave diving incidents	-	-	1	-	1	1	3	1	-	1	-	1
No of persons involved			1		1	1	3	1		1		1
Diving fatalities			1		0	1	0	0		1		1
Diver assisted at incidents	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	-



**BCRA NEWS**

**CONFERENCE ON COURSE**

Arrangements for the 1995 BCRA Conference are now well advanced for the weekend of 30th. Sept./1st. Oct. at the Floral Hall Complex, Southport, Lancs.

If you have some ideas for a talk/slide-show, etc. which you would like to present, the Lecture Secretary would love to hear from you! Contact Alan Speight, 63 High Green Road, Normanton, Yorks. WF6 2LG. Tel. 01294-892287.

Clubs are encouraged to put on a stand and there is a prize for the best: contact Pete Cousins, 8 Giffords Croft, Lichfield, Staffs. WS13 7HG. Tel. 01543-251791.

**BCRA NOW ON WORLD WIDE WEB**

BCRA now has a World Wide Web page which has been set up courtesy of Andrew Books at Dundee. This gives current information about publications, the National Caving Library, Conference, Regional Meetings, membership, insurance, etc. Each of the Special Interest Groups also has a page. Those interested in surfing the Internet can find the page at this address: <http://www.sat.dundee.ac.uk/~arb/>

**NAMHO NEWS**

**MINING HISTORY CONFERENCE**

The big NAMHO event of the year is the Mining History Conference at Lillishall National Sports Centre, Newport, Shropshire on July 14-17th. There will be talks, seminars, field trips (both underground and surface), trade stands, club displays, etc. If you haven't already booked, you can obtain details and booking form if you send S.A.E. to Adrian Pearce, 72 Hopkins Heath, Shawbirch, Telford, Shropshire. TF5 0LZ. Tel. 01952-405362.

**NAMHO MAINTAINS ITS MEMBERSHIP OF NCA**

NAMHO members agreed at their AGM in April that it will not, after all, resign from NCA. This means that its member clubs will continue to benefit from the NCA insurance scheme and that NCA members will continue to get the best deal because of the large numbers in the scheme.

The root of the problem appeared to be financial since NAMHO has a relatively small number of active exploration groups compared to some regional councils, but has many museums and libraries in membership. Discussions with Nick Williams, NCA Treasurer, have now resolved the problem.



**CLUB HUTS: RATEABLE VALUES**

The CCPR has just distributed a document called "Sports Grounds and Recreational Premises: Memorandum of Guidance" dated 1995, which gives advice to club officials concerned with the financial welfare of clubs. It deals, in particular, with the Rating system.

A number of caving clubs own "huts" and most, at present, seem to have been able to obtain reductions in rates, often to the point of not having to pay anything! However, the system keeps changing and it is well to be prepared so this document is a must for clubs who own a building. It deals with Rating exemptions, methods of valuation, etc. and also gives advice on appeals, particularly useful as preliminary information suggests that from 1995 there may be heavy rateable value increases for club premises.

If you would like a copy, please send an A4 S.A.E. to the NCA Hon. Secretary, whose address is on p.4.

**UNDER 18'S CAVING**

There is some confusion arising from the Jamieson Bill (brought into law in the aftermath of the Lyme Bay canoeing incident) in relation to the liabilities of clubs who take under 18's caving. The Bill aimed to deal with "outdoor centres" but its definition of such is rather vague, as is its definition of "leading". Not all outdoor centres are commercial ventures, hence the Bill also aims to set standards for such bodies as LEA centres, etc.

The Bill only relates to centres which deal with minors, hence caving clubs may find themselves involved if they take minors caving, either as club members or, as some do occasionally, acting as informal leaders for a youth group caving trip. At present many clubs have a lower age limit of 16 but it is just possible that clubs could find themselves in difficulty if they accept members who are under 18. The position is not clear at the moment and the NCA Training Committee is keeping a close watch on the situation and is seeking legal advice.

**UNIVERSITY CLUBS**

Some University authorities, concerned at possible legal liability, are beginning to seek guidance before they agree to fund caving clubs under the normal Student Union system of grants. The NCA Training Committee is looking into this so that it can, if requested, provide a set of guidelines for issue to University authorities. There are a number of established University caving clubs who exist and function without difficulty and who may be members of regional councils. Such clubs may provide the model for any recommendations which may be prepared.