

This astonishing bumper production is unique in that only 25 copies are being produced - to enhance the rarity value - and that copies are FREE to all paid-up MSG members. New members paying their subscriptions in January shall also receive gratis copies. The prime reason for the production of this newsletter is to officially print the Constitution, produced at the first Annual General Meeting. Also printed is a membership form, which can be detached, filled in, and sent to the Treasurer - either at 81 Greenbank Road, or 15 Mill Road, Cambridge, CB1 2AB. The final clause on the form is apparently a legal necessity, to prevent vast claims being made from the Treasurer, who would then have personally to declare himself a bankrupt company, or be thrown into a debtor's prison.....

The next MSG publication may well be 'Report 4', appearing sometime around Easter. As postulated, this will be a fairly thick publication, without the elaborate cover of the much lauded Journal. The price will possibly be around 3/- or so (if any member can get stencils, etc, cheap, can they please contact the Sec. at once and tell him so). There are already a few surveys of bits and pieces to go in the Report, and three large surveys await one trip to complete them - Windmore End, Hard Level Gill and Jacob's Well.

Suggested MSG work for the next few months (after finishing the surveys). Stuart suggests at Easter a camp (and caravan?) at Swindale Pits. The Sec. seconds this and suggests that a competent cave-diviner, complete with rods, be lured to the area, so we know which pots to force to get into the Master Cave. A recent visit has revealed a sad event - the Swindale West Sink (the larger of the two stream sinks, which had an open pot, undescended by MSG) has suffered a collapse, and the Pot Entrance - a rift about 10' long by 2' wide, is no longer open, although half a days' digging might remedy this. This meet could be combined with further work at Lunthead - possibly digging Cleve Beck Head, if permission can be got. The whole Lunthead-Swindale area could produce something easily of Smeltnill Scale, and remedy the sad lack of major MSG finds in the post-Smeltnillian era (incidentally, enquiries are being made about getting the S'mill survey done cheap). Many other areas are bursting at the joints with promise - XXXX Gill, ~~XXXX~~ Beck Head and EEEE Pot, for example.

Cave News... reviewing some recent Yorkshire discoveries.

Slape Gill Caves - YURT finds, two resurgences, 1050' and 340'.

The MSG have just received their copy of ULSA Review 4, which notes the following recent finds - Pasture Gill Pot, Yockenthwaite, 340' deep, Birks Fell Cave, Wharfedale, CPC Extension 4000', Rigg Pot, 300' extension, Newby Moss Pot, Ingleborough (Gritstone Club), 900' long and 280' deep, Slets Gill Cave, ULSA Extension, over 2000', Sunset Hole, 120' deeper, Black Shiver Cave (ULSA) 600', Rift Pot Extension (ULSA) 400', Ireby Cavern (NCC), 1/2 mile extension, Growling Hole, Kingsdale, (BSA) several hundred feet long, 340' deep, with 256' wet pitch, Langcliffe Pot, Wharfedale (ULSA), 200' deep, 3 miles + long, and Cote Gill Pot (Littondale, 276' long 42' deep) reopened.

.....
Its only a matter of time when all these active clubs pour northwards into hallowed MSG territory and find even more and bigger caves. When are we going to get down to work and find something more than Blind Gill Hole (MSG) 96' long, Hope Level Cave MSG Extension, 16', Woffell Scar Cave (MSG) 25', etc. etc. etc. etc. ?????

ALL CONTRIBUTORS of articles at least 1 page long to MSG REPORT @ will get a shiny FREE COPY. Illiterate non-contributing members will get one reduced. Contributions from the Mine Exploration Group are particularly asked for. The Secretary is sick of writing all all reports, and would greatly appreciate assistance.

Tackle - once again it seems that we will have to rely on tackle borrowed from University clubs during vacations, if anyone can get any. Colin's personal 25 1/2 ladder, on loan to the MSG, has a very bad fray half way, and is far too unsafe to use without repair - possibly at all.

CONSTITUTION OF THE MOLDYWARPS SPELEOLOGICAL GROUP.

- (1) That the name of the Group shall be as above.
- (2) Aims and Purposes - that the aim of the M.S.G is the furtherance of speleology and all aspects of underground exploration in the Northern Dales.
- (3) Officers - that there shall be a Committee consisting of Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Outside Meets Secretary and Tackle Master. The Committee shall be elected annually at an Annual General Meeting, held at Christmas. All fully paid up members should have three weeks prior notice of this event.
- (4) Duties of Officers - the Treasurer shall be responsible for finance. The Secretary shall be responsible for compiling publications, surveys, reports, correspondence, and arranging local meets. The Outside Meets Secretary shall be responsible for arranging and 'booking' meets in areas other than the Northern Dales, and shall write reports on these meets. The Tacklemaster shall be responsible for any tackle.
- (5) Members. There shall be two classes of members. Ordinary members shall pay a subscription of £1 per annum. Associate members shall pay a subscription of 10/- per annum, and may not vote or stand for the Committee.
- (6) Quorum - a Quorum shall comprise 60% of all Ordinary members.
- (7) Subscriptions - must be renewed within one month of the Annual General meeting, and if not paid, membership shall not be recognised.
- (8) Finance and Assets.

.....
Officers for 1969.

Chairman Colin Carson (formerly O. M. Sec.), 22 Dale Road, Darlington, or Wantage Hall, Upper Redlands Road, Reading.

Treasurer John D. Cooper (unchanged), 81 Greenbank Road, Darlington, or 15 Mill Road, Cambridge, CB 1 2 AB.

Secretary Peter F. Ryder (unchanged) 73 Abbey Road, Darlington,

Outside Meets Secretary. Stuart D. Hodgson, 'Greenlawns', Grammar School Lane, Northallerton, or

Tackle Master. Christopher Langthorne, 'The Anchorage', Sadberge Road, Middleton St George, nr. Darlington.

Mine Exp. Group Secretary. Alan Holmes, via. 6 Somerset Grove, Darlington.

Cottage Committee. J. David Atkings, 48 Trafalgar Terrace, Darlington.
John C. Longstaff, 61 Barron Street, Darlington.
Peter F. Ryder, 73 Abbey Road, Darlington.

.....

If any member has access to supplies of Edison, Nife or similar cells, can they please let the tacklemaster or secretary know? Addresses etc. can be printed in the next newsletter. Is the tacklemaster going to buy bulk carbide to sell to members?

Polythene fertiliser bags, with holes cut for neck and arms, make very cheap substitutes for wet-suit jackets, although not quite so efficient. Non-wet-suit cavers will find them advantageous in damp caves. The tacklemaster offers these bags at a mere 6d. each to members.