

WESSEX CAVE CLUB

U P D A T E

NOVEMBER 1995

Club notes

Due to the advent of Christmas and the amount of news that needs to be available to members before then, it was decided to produce this Newsletter; simply to update members on forthcoming events. It is anticipated that the next Journal will be in the post over Christmas and so will give members something to read with their sherry and mincepies!

Over the **New Year** period, some members of the Club hold *mass dinners* at the Club which can involve up to 25 people. Be aware that this can sometimes make it difficult to cater for small groups in the Hut.

Along with much work that has been done on the Hut, is the addition of a **photoboard** aptly named "*Wessex Caught on Camera*". Any interesting/embarrassing photos welcome.

The **new Swildon's Survey** has been brought out by the Wessex and is available, price £3.50 (price £5 for non-members) from the Hut, or by mail order (add P+P) from:

Maurice Hewins
31 Badshot Park
Badshot Lea
Farnham
Surrey
GU9 9JU
Tel: 01252 29302

A reminder to members that **Black Wal's Cupboard** at the Hut contains items such as: basic food, toiletries, Mars bars, etc which can be purchased at cost price for the benefit of members and guests staying at Upper Pitts. Members who hold keys include:

Black Wal, Nigel Graham, Phil Hendy, Pete Hann, Mike D.York, Aubrey Newport, Debs Morganstem and Glyn Bolt.

If anyone has an **old chest of drawers** they would like to donate to the Wessex for storage of sales items, the Sales Officer (Debs) would be very grateful.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Following the recent AGM, membership fees are due for the forthcoming year. The early renewal rates are valid until 31st December 1995 - after this, prices increase by approximately one third. The prices for renewal of membership are as follows:

Single member	£18	Locker	£5
Joint (1 vote)	£22.50	Food box	£2.50
Joint (2 votes)	£31.50		
OAP (non-caver)	£6.30		
Journal only	£12.50		

To renew your membership, please send a cheque with your name, address and tel. no. (and details of the rates paid) to: Dave G Cooke
33 Laverstoke Gardens, London, SW15 4JB
Tel. 0181 788 9955

If you have renewed your membership for this year, please find enclosed your sticker to stick on the reverse of the card. If you have lost your plastic membership card, please contact Dave Cooke on the number above - the cost will be 50p and please enclose an SAE.

Social events

Artists in the Underworld

An exhibition of cave paintings and drawings is being held in the Studio Bar Gallery, Kings of Wessex Leisure Centre, Cheddar. 10am - 9pm daily until Friday 1st December.

6th January 1996

Wessex v. BEC Skittles Match

At 7.30pm in the New Inn, we will be battling against the BEC for the much coveted "Golden Gnome Award", won by the Wessex last year. Cost will be £1.50 per head, with teams limited to 20 people. Remember, the "Golden Gnome" and the honour of the Club are at stake! Any queries, contact Phil Hendy on 01749 830802.

Other news

Recently the Wessex have been making major finds in **Ogof Draenen**; so much so that the original Wessex *Extensions* have been renamed the *Wessex Series*. It is hoped to cover the progress of the discovery of these passages in a future Journal.

Longwood/August and Rhino Rift: the locks are currently broken. CCC Ltd are in the process of replacing them, but check before you go that you'll be able to get in.

The post of **CSCC** (Council of Southern Caving Clubs) **Training Officer** is currently vacant. Is anyone interested in filling this post?

There will be a Ghar Parau Foundation **Expedition Seminar** in North Wales on 10/11th February for anyone interested in organising or going on a caving expedition anywhere in the world. Approx. cost will be £25 for food, accommodation and course notes - more details in the next Journal.

Caving events

With the start of a new club year, a plethora of Wessex Meets are on the horizon. Further details will be made available in the next Journal, but below are the dates that you may like to make a note of so that you can make arrangements in good time:

Saturday 13th January (provisional) Wookey Hole

The date has been changed from the 6th January to the 13th, but is still to be confirmed for definite. It will take place on the Saturday evening after the showcave shuts, when the Wessex will have a free run of the cave. Please note, diving will not be permitted. Please check with Les Williams nearer the time (01749 679839) if you are interested in going.

Saturday/Sunday 20th/21st January Rescue training on the Saturday, all are welcome, followed by a rescue practice on the Sunday - SRT kit required.

Late January/early February Derbyshire Meet

Exact dates to be confirmed. Staying at the TSG in Castleton; the trip will include a visit to Peak Cavern.

8th-10th March Wales Meet

Llangattock and Clydach Gorge area

An opportunity to visit Ogof Draenen, Craig A Ffynnon, Agen Allwedd, Daren Cilau, etc as well as being an excellent area for walking. The Wessex has booked out an entire outdoor centre very close to Ogof Draenen. Price depends on numbers, but is likely to be between £5-£7 for the accommodation over the weekend. More details in the next Journal.

4th-6th May Wales Meet

Ystradfellte area

Staying at the WSG, we will be visiting caves such as OFD, Dan Yr Ogof, Little Neath and Tunnel Cave.

WCC Headquarters, Upper Pitts, Eastwater Lane, Priddy, Somerset, BA5 3AX.
Telephone 01749 672310

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Opinions expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Club or the Editor.