

The Dodger's Dispatch

Another Millennium Edition

May 2000

“What's for dinner?”

The Derbyshire Caving Club celebration of 40 years of caving, mining, walking and boozing is now less than two months away. Forty members, ex-members and friends have booked and we have invited Bill Whitehouse, involved for many years in the DCRO, as our guest. *Are you on the list?* The booking form

enclosed will only show your name if you are!

IF YOUR NAME IS NOT ON THE FORM ENCLOSED, YOU DO NOT HAVE A PLACE RESERVED AT THE DINNER.
CALL ME **NOW**.

This year, you have a choice of dishes which is explained in the booking form. You can also say who you would like to sit with. As far as possible, we will try to meet everyone's wishes but the Committee will have the final say. Please reply promptly — no last minute

Tom's Shaft

Those of you who are not regular Alderley Visitors may not have heard of Tom's Shaft. This 45 foot deep shaft was excavated between December and March in the floor of the DCC room at the Visitors' Centre at the Edge. The builders who were refurbishing the building removed the wooden floor and the shaft opened up at their feet! The Club can now show visitors a real mine shaft from the comfort of the Visitors' Centre. The room was re-equipped with displays in time for the re-opening of the National Trust Centre in March and it is once again proving to be an important feature of the Edge for visitors. While Tom is less able to come to Alderley Edge on a regular basis, volunteers to stay in the room on Sundays will always be welcome but the room is now opened to visitors by the National Trust when their part is open.



Jeremy Milln of the National Trust winding the winch on Tom's Shaft

Safety Committee

The Safety Committee for Alderley Edge Mines has met twice since the AGM last December and reported back to the March QGM. Actions so far include writing "safe working practices" for several of the common jobs done by the Club. YOUR SAFETY depends upon what you and others do. If you are at all unsure whether what you are planning is safe (or legal), contact anyone on the main Committee.

Events for all (revised)

The Club is planning to provide a choice of events for the 40th Dinner Weekend. These will include walks, caving trips, exhibitions and slide shows, as well as the Dinner and Dance. Firm plans have yet to be finalised. If you have any ideas yourself, get in touch with a DCC Committee member.

DAYTIME EVENTS

- Saturday afternoon and Sunday. Walks will probably start from the Monsall Head Hotel.
- There are plenty of caves and mines in the area.
- For the shopoholics, Bakewell is only a few miles away and has a good market on Saturday.

SATURDAY EVENING

- The Dinner will seat a maximum of 80. Pre-booking essential.
- There will be a couple of speeches and possibly a slide show.
- Todge is planning a sing-song and will have DCC Song Books available.
- The entertainment will be a disco as we can control the volume better! There is a quiet area.

DISPLAYS, EXHIBITIONS, etc

- Offers welcome: how about a sample from the Club Records, photos of the Club through the years.
- There are plans for a group photograph on the night. If you want to be in it, be there by 7.00.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

12 June	Quarterly General Meeting
17 June — 18 June	Forest 2000 – Caving weekend in Forest of Dean
AND	British cave Rescue Council National Conference at Bull i' th' Thorn, Derbyshire
24 June — 25 June	40th Birthday Celebration Dinner
7 July — 9 July	Cavers Fair at Pindale in Derbyshire
10 July	Committee Meeting
14 July — 18 July	NAMHO International Conference in Cornwall
21 August	Quarterly General Meeting
2 September — 3 September	Open Weekend
15 September — 17 September	BCRA Conference (Hidden Earth 2000) at Bristol
15 October	Practice Rescue at Alderley
13 November	Committee Meeting
11 December	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CONTACT ADDRESS FOR DINNER