

# The Dodger's Dispatch

Mid-Summer Edition

[www.DerbysCC.org.uk](http://www.DerbysCC.org.uk)

July 2004

This is a brief newsletter to bring members up to date and, particularly to go out with BCA insurance cards for the cavers. Many thanks to all of those who have continued to support the club whether as an insured caver or not. The club needs supporters just as much as cavers.

## MAGPIE MINE

A great time was had by all at the PDMHS Field Centre at Magpie Mine. Thanks to Pete or Bill for organising, Len for the excellent food and to Steve for entertainment on Saturday night. 16 members attended including 6 out of 9 of the committee, all of whom went underground that weekend! Looks like we will organise another one in the winter as the venue was so successful.

## INSURANCE

If you are one of the 38 members (out of the 83 paid up members for this year) who has paid for caving insurance, you should find an official BCA card attached to this letter. The most recent payers may have to wait a little longer. The BCA is the British Caving Association which has replaced the BCRA and the NCA.

## MATIENZO

There is a strong team going out to Matienzo this summer. Anyone interested in joining in contact Nigel, Bill, Tony or others. There are plans to push in 489. Candenosa, a site dug last summer for a day, is now sitting over the top of a 4 km extension to the Cobadal system!

## TV PROGRAMMES THIS SUMMER

Look out for the Extreme Archaeology programmes on Channel 4, Sundays at 8 pm. One is on Parys Mountain with Dave Wagstaff (11 July) and another is on Wet Sink in the Forest of Dean with Paul Taylor (8 August). Quality so far has been c\*\*p but we can only hope that the underground programmes are better. So far, it is all about how extreme can they make the experience, not how good is the archaeology they are aiming for.

## ANNUAL DINNER

Put this date in your diaries now: **27<sup>th</sup> November 2004**. The Acton Court, Stockport has been booked for the Annual Dinner and Stomp on the Saturday night. Tickets will be available soon and there will be a choice of menus (as in previous years). Rooms will cost about £45 for two people so staying overnight will be a reasonable option to driving home.

## OPEN WEEKENDS

Next Open Weekend is Wood Mine in September. YOUR HELP IS ALWAYS WELCOME. It's a good opportunity to meet with other club members as well as raise money to keep the club's activities afloat. There will also be a social/caving weekend at Alderley in the autumn for members only.

## NATIONAL TRUST CHANGES

Paul Rutter has moved to Gloucestershire and his post is being covered temporarily by Chris Widger who was previously at Styal Country Park. We wish Paul the best in his new job and welcome Chris to the Edge. Also, we have had more contact with the regional archaeologist (Jamie Lund) and health and safety adviser (Sam North) than before. Both have visited the Edge and the mines and are pleased with what they see. We now have to prove that we do what we say we do which means things such as safe digging, getting permission before we dig, reporting finds, and so on. Any queries about these matters can be referred to Doug, Warrington Pete or Nigel.

## LENNIE'S BEDROOM IS EMPTY!

Yes its finally happened, Len has his bedroom back in use again as the library and records have been moved to new accommodation in the National Trust offices at Alderley. Access is available during normal working days. Tony has sold the club a PC at a very reasonable price and work will start on checking through the records and library now we have some more space. Special thanks are due to Len for putting up with the boxes and filing cabinets for so long.

## CAVING

Peter and Tony, as well as Simon and Alan, (and even Colin occasionally) are caving fairly regularly in the Dales and Derbyshire. If you do fancy a trip please get in touch – especially if you are one of the members who keeps saying they are keen to cave but never quite make it!. New members and potential members are also welcome.

## PRE-MATIENZO TRIP

If anyone fancies a pre Matienzo trip then one is planned for Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July, in the Dales, possibly Rowten but the cave can always be adjusted to suit whoever turns up, so if you've forgotten which way round your wellies fit, or haven't used your SRT kit since 1982 and fancy a refresher trip drop Tony or Peter an email, or phone.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Tony says that he knows some people have a ridiculous number of old phone numbers for him. *[Detail removed from website version.]*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

July 2004	10/11 - Magpie Mine caving/walking/singing/drinking/eating weekend 17 - DCA Council Meeting 10am Monyash Village Hall 26 - Committee Meeting 25 - Caving Club Training Scheme (Contact DCA Training Officer)
August 2004	Matienzo expedition with MUSS 31 - Alderley Meeting
September 2004	4/5 - Open Weekend at Alderley Edge 6 - Quarterly General Meeting
October 2004	2/3 - National Caving Conference (check: <a href="http://www.bcra.org.uk/hidden-earth/">http://www.bcra.org.uk/hidden-earth/</a> for details) 16 - DCRO Fund Raising Event, Pindale Farm. Rope skills day 25 - Committee Meeting
November 2004	27 - DCA Council Meeting 10am Monyash Village Hall 27 - Annual Dinner, Acton Court Hotel, Stockport 30 - Alderley Meeting
December 2004	6 - Annual General Meeting

Sorry, still no DCRO practice dates.

For information on DCC and DCA events, contact Pete Clewes on *[Detail removed from website version.]*

For information on DCRO training, contact Huw Williams on *[Detail removed from website version.]*

For information on DCRO meetings contact Mark Loftus on *[Detail removed from website version.]*

Any comments, items for the next edition, volunteers to be editor, etc. to Nigel Dibben  
*[Detail removed from website version.]*

