

Membership 2006 Summary

BCA membership fees for individuals are reduced for 2006. This is a reflection of the fact that the more members in the Association, the smaller everyone's contribution is to the insurance policy. *The definitive table of fees for 2006 is on page 4.*

From 1/1/06 cave divers do not have to pay a higher membership fee to BCA. There are, however, still special arrangements for members of the Explosives Users Group.

The additional BCA fees for Clubs providing Accommodation and Access Controlling Bodies are halved for 2006.

BCRA Membership Fees

At its AGM in September, BCRA members voted to accept the motion to amend the constitution to read, *"Membership of the Association shall be open to all those members of the British Caving Association interested in furthering its objects"*. This means that from January 2006, the route to becoming a member of BCRA will be to join BCA and to pay a £10 supplement for BCRA membership. *The definitive table of fees for 2006 is on page 5.*

Why BCRA members should join BCA

Some BCRA members have voiced the view that they should not have to join another body in order to support BCRA – particularly if they are not an active caver. But BCRA Council is firmly of the view that we are now a *single* caving organisation.

Moreover, membership of BCA is the method by which you can contribute to the process that makes caves available to you, as a scientist. Even if you never go caving, you are reaping the benefits of others that do, and this depends on access agreements, insurance for landowners and so on. Anyone who has a connection with caving, but be-

lieves that they should not have to contribute towards the cost of this insurance is entitled, of course, to hold that opinion; but BCRA Council believes that our members should contribute to this 'caving tax' in order to secure the future of cave science in the UK.

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**2006 BCA & BCRA
Membership Fees
Definitive Guide on Pages 4 & 5**

News and BCA Updates

BCA HANDBOOK

2006-2007

(due to be published early April 2006)

Work on next year's Handbook is now well in hand but there is a limit to what one person can do. I need contributions from all concerned, not just corrections, changes of name or address or personnel, etc, but also suggestions for new items of interest/information. Apart from major club events, e.g. annual Gaping Gill Winch Meets, I cannot include local caving club activities, but larger events, sponsored or involving the Regional Caving Councils, the Specialist Groups, e.g. BCRC, BCRA and CRG, can and should be included. I am interested not just in forthcoming events, but also in anything that you might feel to have been a great success that occurred with the current year (April 2005 to April 2006).

Also I would like to develop the adverts side of things, both the club freebies and the paid ones, (page 44 of the current Handbook sets out the parameters for this).

Please check through your (or your club's) copy of the 2005-2006 Handbook and let me have your updates, revisions, additions, etc.

Final closing date for contributions is 1st March

2006 – but please don't wait until the last minute (a steady flow is much easier to deal with). Thank you.

E-m: d.judson@bcra.org.uk or post Hurst Barn, Castlemorton, Malvern. WR13 6LS

NEW LOOK BCA WEBSITE

The BCA website has recently been revised and will continue to be updated and ammended in the near future. It aims to provide an easy to use quick reference guide to all that we do at BCA. Please be patient over the coming months as we complete the work!

www.british-caving.org.uk

Cave & Karst Science

Please note that all members of BCRA will continue to receive C&KS on paper until they are given the option of choosing otherwise.

At this future time, it is likely that there will be a decrease in subscription for those who want to receive it electronically and an increase for those who wish to receive it on paper. The methods of electronic delivery (CD-ROM or web download) have not yet been decided. We will continue to offer C&KS on paper for as long as it is economically possible to do so.

Speleology Magazine

We are pleased to announce that BCRA have appointed a new editor – Erin Lynch – who will receive a small remuneration for her work. We are confident Erin will do an excellent job, and that that Speleology will appear regularly in 2006!

Speleology is now being published by BCRA on behalf of BCA. It will be sent to all BCA members whose membership package entitles them to receive a copy.

Those of you who have submitted material for publication and have not yet seen it in print are asked to contact Erin to check that it is still on file. It is possible that one or two book or magazine reviews remain buried amongst the paperwork.

Contact Details: Erin lives in China, and although email access is generally good, she reports that the post can be very slow. For this reason, David Gibson will continue to act as the UK contact point for post and telephone: EDITORIAL OFFICE

12 Well House Drive, LEEDS, LS8 4BX. Tel: 0113 248 1218 Fax: 0870 164 0389

E-m: d.gibson@bcra.org.uk

Email to speleology@bcra.org.uk will go direct to Erin in China. If you have large files to send, please contact Erin first for advice.

Report: David Gibson

BCA Newsletter Editorial Address

BCA N/L Editor, Jim Cochrane, BCA N/L Editor, 148 Mackintosh Place, Cardiff, CF24 4RS

E-mail: newsletter@british-caving.org.uk

Note: The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the formal view of the British Caving Association.

BCA AGM 2006

BCA Annual General Meeting 2006

The 2006 AGM of the British Caving Association will take place at 10.30am on Saturday, 25th March 2006 at the Baptist Church Hall, Alvechurch. Items for the Agenda must reach the BCA Secretary not later than midnight on Saturday, 21st January 2006.

A Candidate form for members wishing to stand for election to BCA Council for 2006, plus descriptions of the available roles are on **pages 6 and 7** of this Newsletter. The form plus an election statement must be returned not later than midnight 21st January 2006 to the BCA Secretary.

How to find the Baptist Church Hall!

Travel from M42, Jn 2 (approx. 5 minutes)

1. Take A441 towards Birmingham
2. Left at 1st roundabout (signed Alvechurch)
3. Ahead at 2nd roundabout (signed Alvechurch)
This is Birmingham Road, leading through Alvechurch village
4. Take 1st. road on right as you come into the village, (called *Tanyard Lane*) immediately before the Red Lion Inn
5. Turn 1st. left (behind the Red Lion) and past the recycling Centre into signposted car park. (Free public car park with public toilets)
6. Through gate in railings and down left hand side of Church Hall (side opposite the Red Lion)

For Council Roles 2006
and Candidate Form
See Pages 6 & 7

BCA / BCRA MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

Lynne Bailey, Hafod Swn-y-Dwr,
The Dardy, Crickhowell, NP8 1PU.
01873 811662

membership@bcra.org.uk

BCA OFFICERS 2004-05

Chairman:

Mick Day,
Bryn Aur, Brecon Road, Penycae,
Swansea, SA9 1FA Tel. 01639-730125
E-m. chair@british-caving.org.uk

Secretary:

Paula Grgich-Warke,
Rock Climbing and Caving Centre,
Rock House, Station Hill, Chudleigh,
Newton Abbot, TQ13 0EE.
Tel: 07821 426107
E-m. secretary@british-caving.org.uk

Hon. Treasurer:

Jonathan Roberts,
Bridge House, High Street, Wanstrow,
Somerset, BA4 4TE.
E-m. finance@british-caving.org.uk

Conservation Officer:

Elsie Little,
Hennoyadd Villa, Hennoyadd Road,
Abercrave, SA9 1UR. Tel. 01639-730331
E-m. conservation@british-caving.org.uk

Equipment Officer:

Andy Pryke,
2, St. Maurice Road, Plympton, Plymouth,
PL7 1JS. Tel. 01752-205853
E-m. equipment@british-caving.org.uk

Training Officer:

Idris Williams,
Glen Cottage, Holden Lane,
Ruyton-XI-Towns, Salop. SY4 1JD.
Tel. 01939-260412
E-m. training.officer@british-caving.org.uk

Legal & Insurance Officer:

David Judson,
Hurst Barn, Castlemorton, Malvern, Worcs,
WR13 6LS.
Tel. 01684-311057
E-m. landi@british-caving.org.uk

Publications & Information Officer & Webmaster:

Les Williams,
51 Churchill Road East,
Wells, Somerset, BA5 3HU.
E-m. webmaster@british-caving.org.uk

BCA Membership Fees & Benefits for 2006



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	BCA Direct Individual Member	BCA Club Individual Member	BCA Member Club / Organisation	Associate Members
	You can join BCA as an individual or joint member, and as a caving or non-caving member	You can join BCA via a club or organisation You would do this primarily for insurance reasons, and you will not be sent any publications	A club pays a membership fee based on the size of the club Club Members have the option of joining as DIMs or CIMs: <i>see left</i> . You do not have to join BCA individually, but your club may require you to do so, so that it can benefit from BCA's P.L. insurance	This membership category is intended for outdoor activity service providers, businesses and other 'corporate' bodies which wish to become members of BCA but are not clubs or access controlling bodies
Publications	BCA Newsletter, handbook, Speleology magazine	none	BCA Newsletter, handbook, (& magazine *) * To receive Speleology magazine: add £5	BCA Newsletter, handbook, Speleology magazine
BCA Membership Fees	Basic fee: £15 [note 1]	Basic fee: £0	Number of Members Club Fee 4 to 10 £20 up to 20 £30 up to 30 £40 up to 40 £45 over 40 £50	Basic Fee: £45
	Caving members [note 2] : add £15 each Non-caving Members: add £5 each			
	Members of BCRA's EUG need to pay an additional contribution to the cost of the insurance			
BCRA fees	For membership: add £10 [1]	<i>Not applicable to CIMs</i> [note 3]	For BCRA membership: add £10 [note 4]	For BCRA membership: add £10
Insurance	All Full Members benefit from the third-party public liability insurance scheme. However, some aspects of this insurance are only applicable in certain circumstances or if additional contributions are paid			<i>Insurance and voting benefits are not applicable to Associate Members</i>
Voting	All Full Members can vote at BCA General Meetings DIMs & CIMs have a vote in the House of Individuals, whilst clubs etc have a vote in the House of Groups			
Benefits	Not applicable to CIMs: ♦ Discounted entry to BCA events ♦ Access to BCA information services ♦ LCMLA & CIC Training Awards (DIMs only) ♦ Eligibility to join BCRA SIGs [5] ♦ Access to library [6] ♦ Membership of Regional Caving Councils (RCCs). Note: BCA Clubs can join RCCs but some RCCs may not have other applicable membership categories – see BCA and RCC handbooks ♦ Access to caves, where controlled by applicable agreements. (Note: Some Access Agreements may provide access to BCA Individual Members; others may restrict access to BCA clubs or organisations. Please refer to the BCA and RCC handbooks).			

- NOTES**
- ♦ 1 Joint members pay this fee only once
 - ♦ 2 From 1 January 2006 this includes cave divers
 - ♦ 3 CIMs should upgrade to DIMs in order to join BCRA. Alternatively, CIMs who wish to receive *Cave & Karst Science* can subscribe directly
 - ♦ 4 Clubs wishing to join BCRA by paying the £10 fee must first pay a £5 fee to receive Speleology
 - ♦ 5 CIMs are eligible to join BCRA SIGs, but receive no other BCA benefits
 - ♦ 6 The National Caving Library is open to all personal callers, whether or not they are members of BCA. However, the services of the librarian (e.g. photocopying; answering postal enquiries) are only available to members of BCA

BCRA Membership Fees & Benefits for 2006



BCRA

	Personal Membership	Corporate Membership	
	Individual or Joint Membership via BCA on payment of the fee shown below Honorary Membership is awarded by BCRA Council, and conveys the same benefits as Individual Membership	Club Membership Caving Clubs can obtain membership of BCRA via BCA on payment of the fee shown below	Commercial and Affiliate Membership Organisations that do not qualify for Club Membership can join as Affiliate or Commercial members, by joining BCA as an Associate Member. This entitles you to the listed BCRA benefits without payment of any additional fee.
Membership Fees	£10 [note 1] + BCA fee	£10 [note 4] + BCA fee	£10 + BCA fee
Publications	BCRA newsletter and Cave & Karst Science [note 7,8]		
Discounts	All BCRA publications including Speleo Abstracts and Cave Studies booklets are available at a 20% discount.		
Other Benefits	♦ Discounted entry to BCRA events (Individual Members only) ♦ Access to BCRA information services ♦ Eligible to join BCRA SIGs [9] ♦ Voting at General Meetings ♦ Eligible for membership of Council ♦ Access to library [6] ♦ Eligible to receive Research Grants ♦ Reduced rate advertising in Speleology [10]		<i>The benefits listed left are not applicable to Commercial and Affiliate Members</i>
Student benefits	Student Benefits applicable to non-members of BCRA / BCA ♦ Undergraduate students can receive a discount on entry to the BCRA Science Symposium ♦ Undergraduate students in groups of six, who book in advance, can receive a discount on entry to the National Caving Conference ♦ Cave & Karst Science is available at a discount of 50% to undergraduate students		

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- NOTES**
- ♦ 1 Joint members pay this fee only once; and receive one set of publications per subscription fee. However, both joint members receive a vote at general meetings
 - ♦ 4 Clubs wishing to join BCRA by paying the £10 fee must first pay a £5 fee to receive Speleology
 - ♦ 6 The National Caving Library is open to all personal callers, whether or not they are members of BCA. However, the services of the librarian (e.g. photocopying; answering postal enquiries) are only available to members of BCA
 - ♦ 7 Members who wish to have their publications posted to an overseas address must pay a surcharge of £3 for postage to western Europe or £5 to the rest of the world.
 - ♦ 8 All members will continue to receive C&KS on paper until they are given the option of choosing otherwise. At this future time, it is likely that there will be a decrease in subscription for those who want to receive it electronically and an increase for those who wish to receive it on paper. The methods of electronic delivery (CD-ROM or web download) have not yet been decided. We will continue to offer C&KS on paper for as long as it is economically possible to do so
 - ♦ 9 BCA Individual Members may also join BCRA SIGs
- 10 This benefit is limited to Caving Clubs (whether or not a member of BCA), who can place an 1/8th page advert for £18 including VAT

BCRA Subscriptions for non-members

Publication	Subscription rate including postage to UK	postage to Western Europe	postage to rest of world
Speleology	£8 (three issues)	add £3	add £5
Cave & Karst Science	£16 (three issues)	add £3	add £5

BCA Council Post Descriptions

There follows a brief overview of the roles available on BCA Council for 2006. To apply, complete and return a Candidate form (Opposite) plus an Election Statement as directed.

CHAIRMAN

- Chair meetings of Executive and National Council; & General Meetings when invited to do so.
- Supervise production of an Annual Report
- Subject to National Council and between its meetings:
 - Interpret the constitution
 - Ensure that proper historical and financial records are maintained
 - Encourage and guide Officers & Convenors between meetings in the performance of their duties
 - Co-operate with the Secretary and Treasurer and other Officers in liaison with external bodies and the public
 - Perform or delegate to others tasks for which no incumbent is in post

CONVENERS

- Call & Chair meetings of the relevant Special Committee
- Perform or delegate to others the secretarial and financial tasks appropriate to the work of that Special Committee
- Report to the National Council and between its meetings:
- Periodically review Terms of Reference of the Special Committee & make recommendations where necessary
- Ensure that proper historical and financial records are maintained
- Encourage and guide members between meetings in the performance of their duties
- Liase with other Officers and with external bodies and the public

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

- To represent the interests of the general club membership on the National Council

INDIVIDUAL REPRESENTATIVES

- To represent the interests of the individual members on the National Council



British Caving Association, AGM Saturday, 25 March 2006

Candidate to BCA National Council – Form

Members are invited to stand for the following posts on BCA National Council*

Chairman (to serve for a 3 year term)

Training Officer/Convener (to serve for a 3 year term)

Two Club Representatives (to serve for a 2 year term)

Two Individual Representatives (to serve for a 2 year term)

* The period of office is in accordance with the sequence for the election of candidates agreed at the NCA/BCA Council Meeting of the 20 March 2004 (point 9a and Annex 1). This will provide a staggered sequence for the re-election of officers in future years with only 1/3 of officers being re-elected at any one time.

Note that the following officers remain in post:

Treasurer (to serve the remaining 2 years of a 3 year term)

Publications & Info. Officer/Convener (to serve the remaining 2 years of a 3 year term)

Equipment Officer/Convener (to serve the remaining 2 years of a 3 year term)

Conservation & Access Officer/Convener (to serve the remaining year of a 2 year term)

Legal and Insurance Officer/Convener (to serve the remaining year of a 2 year term)

Two Club Representatives (to serve the remaining year of a 2 year term)

Two Individual Representatives (to serve the remaining year of a 2 year term)

Candidates are expected to supply evidence of membership of BCA (membership number) and a brief profile/election statement. The statement must be a maximum of 300 words in length (this is about ½ side of A4). The cost of reproducing and circulating these will be borne by BCA.

A Candidate will not be considered until the BCA Hon. Secretary receives both the appropriate profile/election statement and proof of membership in the form of the BCA membership No. All Candidates will be acknowledged by the Hon. Secretary.

Please return the completed Form and Election Statement, to arrive not later than midnight on 21st January 2006, to:

British Caving Association

Hon. Secretary

Rock House,

Station Hill,

Chudleigh,

Devon. TQ13 0EE

BCA Council Post Candidate wishes to stand for: _____

Name of Candidate: _____

BCA Membership No: _____ Signature: _____

Address of Candidate / Phone / E-mail: _____

Regional News & Access

Mendip

Regional Council - COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CAVING CLUBS

For information on CSCC, send S.A.E to: Hon. Secretary: Steve King, 33 Ottery Way, Didcot, Oxon. OX11 7UG.

E-m: secretary@csc.org.uk

Website: www.csc.org.uk

Rhino Rift Hanger

Reports of a possible loose hanger on "the main y-hang on the first pitch in Rhino Rift" have been investigated and the CSCC advises that the second hanger for the y-hang is indeed loose (to both a pull and a twist) and that the rock in the immediate vicinity is cracked. (Whether or not the hanger shows movement appears to depend on the method and direction of loading). A warning sign has been attached to the bolt pending further examination/replacement.

Thrupe Lane Swallet

The CSCC has also received information that on the Slither Pot route in Thrupe Lane "the two spits for the "Y" hang down onto Atlas Ledge both have completely stripped threads and are unusable".

Thrupe Lane was already one of the CSCC's priorities for further P-bolting on Mendip as many of the existing spits have been in place for some time and/or have experienced a lot of use. The programme of replacement is ongoing."

Reports: Steve King

Derbyshire

Regional Council - DERBYSHIRE CAVING ASSOCIATION

For information on DCA, send S.A.E to:

Hon. Secretary, Jenny Potts, 3 Greenway, Hulland Ward, Ashbourne, Derbys. DE6 3FE.

Tel: 01335-370629, E-m: dca@theDCA.org.uk

Website: www.theDCA.org.uk

CAVES OF THE PEAK DISTRICT in the pipeline (it's a long pipe).

Iain Barker, Bob Dearman and John Beck of the DCA have started work on bringing out a new edition of Caves of the Peak District. It's 14 years since the last one and several new discoveries have been made in that period. We aim to get the completed book at the printers in the early spring of 2006 and to have any hope of achieving this we need all the help we can get. In order for the new book to be as up-to-date as possible, we need as much information as we can get from every individual and club who has worked in the area since 1991. Everything from a one metre extension to a known cave, to a brand new hole; to maintain the information available to cavers of the future, as well as the present, it all needs to go into print or much will be forgotten. If your club, or any individual cavers you know of have made even the smallest dig or advance please can we have the details? Even abortive digs need to be recorded to maintain the record.

The way to report your activities/discoveries is simple; just write it up in the same format as an entry in the current Caves of the Peak District and email or post it to;

DCA Access Officer

Iain Barker

56 Thornbridge Crescent, Birley, Sheffield, South Yorkshire S12 3AE

Email: iainbarker@peakland.freeserve.co.uk

Tel: 0114-2530112

However insignificant your contribution may be, please submit it all the same, who knows what a future caver may make of it.

Thank you very much for your time and trouble, I look forward to hearing from you in the very near future, Iain

Knotlow Pollution

Following continuing and disturbing reports of pollution events and bad air in Knotlow Caverns, the Environment Agency has agreed to support our efforts to gain more precise information of these events by installing a water quality meter (known as a "Logger") in the stream-bed of the Coffin Level at the bot-

tom of "Fourways Shaft". This will remain in situ for as long as it takes to obtain a satisfactory set of results and will be regularly checked for readings; meanwhile I would ask that you avoid disturbing the meter or the "static" water in the immediate vicinity as far as possible.

Much of the momentum for this action has resulted from your detailed reports recovered periodically from the DCA Log Book placed at the bottom of Knotlow Climbing Shaft. The value of these entries cannot be overstated and since installation of the meter will become even more relevant. Please continue to record water and air conditions experienced during your visit, adverse or otherwise.

The damaged hazard notices on the shaft lids have been replaced and the National Trust has installed a weather station at a nearby farm. We are doing all we can and hopefully this latest "push" will have the desired effect of eliminating this long-standing problem.

Any comments and reports if you come across really bad conditions should go direct to Dave Webb at Tel. 0115-840-1109 or Email conservation-off@theDCA.org.uk

Darfar Ridge Cave Access Arrangements

Darfar Ridge Cave is owned by the National Trust. To get the key, please contact the South Peak Estate Office on 01335 350503 during office hours, or Email ilampark@nationaltrust.org.uk No more than four people in the cave at any one time due to conservation reasons. Much conservation work has been carried out within the cave, so please respect the taping and avoid spreading mud on recently cleaned formations. Many thanks.

Reports: Dave Webb (DCA Conservation Officer)

North

Regional Council - COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CAVING CLUBS

For information on CNCC, send S.A.E to:
Hon. Secretary, Les Sykes, 49 Manfield,
Ashurst, Skelmersdale, Lancs. WN8 6SU
Tel/Fax. 01695-728673
E-m: les@speleoadventure.wanadoo.co.uk

Access Permits

Requests for access permits to the caves when CNCC has negotiated an agreement must be sent to the relevant meets secretary at least one month in advance. The request must be on club headed note paper and signed by an officer of that club. The request must include a SAE. Failure to comply with these three simple actions will result in a permit not being issued. CNCC meets secretaries are required to send a monthly return to the land agents at the beginning of each month, hence, at least one month's notice. The CNCC secretary does NOT have the authority to issue permits, so please do not phone him for permits, he will only tell you to write to a meets secretary.

Meets secretaries:

LECK FELL

J.Sloane, 60 Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood
Preston, PR2 8EE, E-m: jimbo@saqnet.co.uk

CASTERTON FELL

P.Muckalt, 96 Low Lane, Torrisholme
Morecambe, LA4 6PP

BIRKS FELL/MONGO GILL

R.Halliwell, 23 Hull Road, Cottingham
East Yorkshire, HU16 4PN

Wales

Regional Council - CAMBRIAN CAVING COUNCIL

For Information on CCC send S.A.E to:
Hon. Chairman, Sue Mabbett, 2 Garth Close,
Morganstown, Cardiff, CF15 8LF. Tel: 02920
-844558, E-m: suemabbett@hotmail.com

Forest Of Dean

Regional Contact - FOREST OF DEAN CAVE CONSERVATION AND ACCESS GROUP

Hon. Secretary, Dave Appleing, 128 Brooklyn
Gardens, Cheltenham, Gloucester. GL15 8LW.
Tel: 01242-581385, E-m: DAppling@aol.com

Training Courses

Local Cave & Mine Leader Assessment Scheme (LCMLA)

Each caving and mining region in the British Isles has its idiosyncratic features in the nature and form of the underground systems, the objective hazards likely to be encountered and in problems related to access and conservation. The LCMLA scheme is designed therefore, to reflect the needs and interests peculiar to each Area. It is flexible in that the candidate is assessed with regard to the caves or mines or potholes in which they wish to lead parties.

The LCMLA scheme provides an award based on an independent assessment of the competence of those wishing to take responsibility for others underground, for the benefit of employers or others in authority. The main considerations of the assessment are equally the safety of the group and the conservation of a fragile environment.

The assessment is for leaders undertaking limited objectives within one or more regions. It is available at Level One (non-vertical systems), or at Level Two (vertical systems with pitches up to 18m [60ft] explored with ladders, although single rope techniques is an option for the leader only). Those wishing to undertake more ambitious objectives should register for the Cave Instructor Certificate (CIC) Scheme.

The assessment has a core syllabus, standardised nationally, but has a local knowledge element (hence the name) to take account of specific hazards and problems of conservation, access etc of each site that a party is to be led within. A key feature of the scheme is a specific assessment of the candidate with regard to a declared list of named cave and / or mine sites in which the candidate wishes to lead parties.

(Taken from LCMLA syllabus)

LCMLA Level 1 & 2 Training Courses 2006					
Date	Region	Level	Contact	Cost	Notes
March 18/19 (Sat/Sun)	Northern England	Level 1 training	Tom Redfern	From £68	Ingleborough Hall Self-catering or fully residential available
March 25/26 (Sat/Sun)	Northern England	Level 2 training	Tom Redfern	From £78	Ingleborough Hall Self-catering or fully residential available
September 5/6 (Tues/Wed)	Northern England	Level 1 training	Tom Redfern	From £70	Ingleborough Hall Self-catering or fully residential available
September 7/8 (Thurs/Fri)	Northern England	Level 2 training	Tom Redfern	From £80	Ingleborough Hall Self-catering or fully residential available
November 18/19 (Sat/Sun)	Northern England	Level 1 training	Tom Redfern	From £70	Ingleborough Hall Self-catering or fully residential available
December 9/10 (Sat/Sun)	Northern England	Level 2 training	Tom Redfern	From £80	Ingleborough Hall Self-catering or fully residential available

LCMLA LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT REVALIDATION WORKSHOPS 2005

LCMLA holders are advised to contact their Area Liaison Officer for other Revalidation Workshops. Names and contact details may be found on the Training Pages on BCA's web site www.british-caving.org.uk

Training Courses

March 11, Northern England, Course Director Duncan Morrison

May 6, Northern England, Course Director Graham Mollard

July 24, Northern England, Course Director Tom Redfern

October 4, Northern England, Course Director Paul Rafferty

C.I.C REVALIDATION WORKSHOPS 2006

(Contact Training Administration Service Provider for an application form)

March 9 / 10 (Thurs/Fri)

Course Director Juliet Parker-Smith

May 25 / 26 (Thurs/Fri)

Course Director Tony Flanagan

September 16 / 17 (Sat/Sun)

Course Director Nigel Ball

November 4 / 5 (Sat/Sun)

Course Director Dave Elliot

C.I.C TRAINING COURSES 2006

January 3 / 6 South Wales

Course Director Juliet Parker-Smith

CONTACT DETAILS

Nigel Ball Tel: 01274 588497
Email: nbt@blueyonder.co.uk

Dave Elliot Tel: 01729 823984
Email: speleo@ukonline.co.uk

Tony Flanagan Tel: 015242 41210
Email: tony@flanagans.fsnet.co.uk

Graham Mollard Tel: 01535 691587 Email:
graham@gnmminiatures.fsbusiness.co.uk

Duncan Morrison Tel: 01524 251011 Email:
duncan@aboveandbelow.freeserve.co.uk

Juliet Parker-Smith Tel: 01497 820512
Email: juliet@trewern.org.uk

Paul Rafferty Tel: 07889 751781
Email: simplesolution1@aol.com

Tom Redfern Tel: 015242 51651
Email: tom@ingleboro.co.uk

For any other enquiries contact the **Training Administration Provider at BCA Training Administration**, C/o RAM Business Services, Sun Lea, Joss Lane, Sedbergh, Cumbria, LA10 5AS, Fax/Tel: 015396 22040, Email: trainadmin@british-caving.org.uk.



BCRA

British Cave Research Association Science Symposium 4th March 2006

The British Cave Research Association is pleased to announce that its next annual Cave Science Symposium will be held at the Bristol University School of Geographical Sciences on 4 March 2006.

Whether you are an academic, an amateur scientist or a caver wanting to find out more about the underground environment, you'll find something of interest at the Symposium. Each year the verbal presentations and posters cover a wide range of cave science topics - from archaeology to hydrology, and from biology to geology.

To offer a presentation please contact the lecture secretary:

Andy Baker,
School of Geography, Earth and Environmental
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Contributions are invited on any aspect of cave or karst science or caving technology. Poster papers, displays or preliminary presentations by postgraduate students are especially welcome. Those wishing to give a presentation should contact the lecture secretary, Andy Baker, giving the provisional title of your paper and the type of presentation (oral or poster). OHP, 35 mm slide, and data projection facilities will be available. Oral presentations will be 20-30 minutes in length. Poster boards are 85cm by 120cm and you may request 2 panels if required.

Further information, including directions to

the venue, will appear on the BCRA website www.bcra.org.uk as the Symposium approaches.

CSG Field Meeting 18-19 March 2006

BCRA's Cave Surveying Group and the South Wales Caving Club are holding a cave surveying and training weekend at the SWCC headquarters at Penwyllt. Training will be available in the use of the Survex software for drawing cave surveys.

All levels of surveying ability are welcome including people who have no experience of cave surveying and would like to learn the basics. Accommodation has been booked. Confirmation of attendance and any questions to Allan Richardson 01772 783194 (evenings) allanr@caving.demon.co.uk, or to Brian Clipstone brian@clipstone1.freemove.co.uk

CREG Field Meeting (Late May) Yorkshire

BCRA's Cave Radio & Electronics Group are intending to hold a field meeting in late May to coincide with the Bradford Pothole Club's Gaping Gill winch meet. Not only will this provide easy access to the Gaping Gill cave system for radio experimenters, but we are hoping to join forces with members of the Cave Photography Group and perhaps hold some underground photography tutorials. All this depends, of course, on sufficient volunteers offering to take part. For further information, see the CREG web site closer to the date, or contact Richard Rushton: r.rushton@bcra.org.uk

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

NSS Convention August 7-11, 2006 Bellingham, Washington.

The 2006 convention will be hosted at beautiful Western Washington University. The university is located between Puget Sound and the Cascade Mountains, just outside of downtown Bellingham. Built with nature and beauty

TRAINING & EVENTS

in mind this will be a stunning backdrop for the 2006 NSS Convention. Situated between Seattle, Washington and Vancouver, British Columbia, the spectacular natural environment of this region stretches from the San Juan Islands to Mt. Baker. Bellingham area and community offers recreational experiences from the relaxing to the exhilarating. Please visit our new website at www.nss2006.org

Chairman: Michael McCormack, Cascade Grotto, michmcco@exchange.microsoft.com

8th Conference on Limestone Hydrogeology Neuchâtel, Switzerland 21-23 September 2006 Centre of Hydrogeology University of Neuchâtel (CHYN)

The conference will focus on the following topics:

1. Flow and transport in the saturated and unsaturated zone.
2. Modern investigation and measurement techniques.
3. Contamination and microbiology of karst aquifers.
4. Water resources and climate change.

The conference will include two full day indoor oral presentations and poster sessions (21st and 22nd), and a one-day excursion on 23rd. The 24th and 25th september a post conference excursion will be organized in Swiss Alps (Ho"lloch and Sieben Hengste).

Contact: Conference secretariat

Rue Emile-Argand 11

CH - 2007 Neuchâtel - Switzerland

Tel: +41 (32) 718 26 02

Fax: +41 (32) 718 26 03

Email: conference2006@hydrokarst.org

Web: <http://www.hydrokarst.org>

BRITISH CAVING ASSOCIATION WEB SERVICES

The British Caving Association can now offer cut price web hosting solutions for its members. **Basic Webhosting** (Windows 2003 servers) £25 Per year (includes unlimited POP3 mail boxes, unlimited Email forwarding, personal control panel, Perl, PHP, compiled CGI support)

Linux Webhosting (latest Redhat Linux servers, Apache,) £40 per year (includes unlimited POP3 mail boxes, unlimited Email forwarding, personal control panel, Perl, PHP, compiled CGI support). Other features available:

Domain registration and renewal, Password Protection, Spam Filtering, Virus Scanning, Web Stats plus ASP, .NET Framework, FrontPage Extensions, ODBC, Databases.

Contact the webmaster for details and prices:

webmaster@british-caving.org.uk

FUTURE MEETINGS OF BCA/NCA TRAINING COMMITTEE, 2005/6

TO BE CONFIRMED

Items for consideration by the committee should be raised through your constituent body representative or sent to the Training Officer.

Members of the Training Committee 2004/5

Convener & Training Officer:

Idris Williams, Glen Cottage, Holden Lane, Ruyton-XI-Towns, SALOP, SY4 1JD. Tel. 01939 260412, E-mail:

training.officer@british-caving.org.uk

A Representative from each of BCA's

constituent bodies:

These are currently:

The Regional Councils of Caving:

- Cambrian Caving Council
- Council of Northern Caving Clubs
- Council of Southern Caving Clubs
- Derbyshire Caving Association
- Devon & Cornwall Underground Council

The other bodies which represent specialist interests:

- Association of Caving Instructors
- British Cave Research Association
- British Cave Rescue Council
- Cave Diving Group
- Council of Higher Education Caving Clubs
- National Assn. Mining Historical Organisations
- William Pengelly Cave Studies Trust

Co-Opted Members are:

- John Cliffe, 4 Kensington Avenue, Lansdown, Cheltenham, Glos. GL50 2NQ. Tel. 01242-262505 E-mail: jeliffe@gxn.co.uk

- A representative of the Forest of Dean Conservation & Access group.

- The Chairmen of the CIC Panel and the National Co-ordinating Panel.

Publications

CAVE STUDIES SERIES

The following Titles are now available:

- 1 Caves and Karst of the Yorkshire Dales (1991) Tony Waltham/Martin Davies
*
- 3 Caves and Karst of the Peak District (1992) Trevor Ford/John Gunn
- 4 An Introduction to Cave Photography (1994) Sheena Stoddard
- 5 Introduction to British Karst Environments (1994) John Gunn
*
- 7 Caves and Karst of the Brecon Beacons National Park (1998) Mike Simms
- 8 Walks Around the Caves and Karst of the Mendip Hills (1999) Andy Farrant
- 9 Sediments in Caves (2001) Trevor Ford
- 10 Dictionary of Karst & Caves (2002) David Lowe/Tony Waltham
- 11 Cave Surveying (2002) Anthony Day (with J M Eyre, P R Deakin and D Judson)
- 12 Underground Britain: Legal and Insurance Issues (2003) David Judson
- 13 Exploring the Limestone Landscapes of Upper Wharfedale (2003) Phillip Murphy
- 14 Swildon's 2 and 3 (2004) David Irwin
- 15 Exploring the Limestone Landscapes of The Three Peaks & Malham (2005) Phillip Murphy

* Numbers 2 and 6 are out of print, but have been updated by 11 and 10 respectively.

Offers and suggestions for further titles are always welcome:

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Village Farm, Great Thirkleby, Thirsk, N Yorks YO7 2AT
Tel: 01845-501424, **E-mail: publications-sales@bcra.org.uk**



BCRA

ALL TITLES: currently £3.50 + 50p postage within UK.

THE REVISED CIC HANDBOOK

The final draft of the revised C.I.C Handbook is now on the BCA website from where it can be downloaded.

LCMLA HANDBOOK 3rd EDITION

The new LCMLA Handbook is now ready. All revisions to the 1st and 2nd editions are available on the NCA website from where they can be downloaded.
www.british-caving.org.uk

BCA ONLINE

BCA Website:

<http://www.british-caving.org.uk>

With the advent of a newly revised BCA website, the old NCA website (<http://www.nca.org.uk>) has now ceased to operate and attempts to access this address are being redirected to the new BCA site. Please be patient as we continue to update and improve on the new site - some pages are still under construction. All details of insurance and training courses previously available through the NCA are now to be found at the above address as well as other downloads and info.

Publications

BCA/NCA PUBLICATIONS ON TRAINING / SAFETY, CONSERVATION, ETC.

From: **BCA PUBLICATIONS**, The Old Methodist Chapel, Great Hucklow, Buxton, Derbyshire. SK17 8RG. www.british-caving.org.uk

For queries, contact:- Tel. 01335-370629, E-mail: publication.sales@british-caving.org.uk

All cheques etc. should be made payable to B.C.A

For "free" items, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope as appropriate.
(C5 envelope with 1st. or 2nd. class stamp for DL or A5 items.)

- British Caving Association Handbook, 2005-2006** (£6.00 incl. p&p)
Report of Technical Advisors Seminar (40pp) (£2.00 incl. p&p)
NCA Training Committee Report
- Guidelines for University and College Caving Clubs.** (8pp) (£2.00 incl. p&p)
(The 'Guidelines' includes the leaflet **Caving Notes for Beginners** which is NOT available separately)
- NCA Cave Conservation Handbook**
The definitive Cave Conservation Publication, supported by English Nature, Countryside Council for Wales, Scottish Natural Heritage and other conservation bodies. 174 pages, fully illustrated, with sections detailing threats, initiatives, policies, legal points, etc. plus regional sections and appendices.
(Sold unbound - you provide your own file cover.) (£1 + £3.50 p&p)
(Sold complete with file cover.) (£10 + £5.50 p&p)
- Cave Conservation Policy** (32pp) (£3.00 incl. p&p)
(£10 + £1 p&p)
- Lost Caves of Britain** (Cave conservation video)
- Radon Underground** (Radon Exposure During Underground Trips - A Set of Guidelines for Caving and Mine Exploration.) (24pp) (£3.00 incl. p&p)
- Underground Britain - Legal & Insurance Issues** (2005 Edition) (£3.50 incl. p&p)
- Free Conservation/Safety/Information Leaflets - just send us an S.A.E.:**
- Cave Conservation Policy - Summary** (DL)
- Protect Our Caves** (DL)
- Bats Underground - A Conservation Code** (A4)
- Weil's Disease leaflet** (DL)
- So, You Want To Go Caving** (information leaflet for beginners / non-cavers) (DL)
- Syllabuses for LCMLA and CIC can be obtained from BCA Training Administration (see below) or downloaded from the BCA Training website at www.british-caving.org.uk**
- Almost all of these publications can be bought at a special discounted price from BCA stands at caving events such as Hidden Earth, Cavers Fairs, etc.*

Training publications may also be obtained direct from: BCA Training Administration, RAM Business Services, Sun Lea, Joss Lane, Sedbergh, Cumbria, LA10 5AS.
Tel/Fax: 015396-22040, E-mail: trainadmin@british-caving.org.uk

DEADLINES FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Ghar Parau Expedition Grants: 31 August. Contact the Secretary, Hurst Barn, Castlemorton, Malvern, Worcs, WR13 6LF. Tel/Fax 01684- 311057. E-mail: d.judson@bcra.org.uk

BCRA Research Fund: 1 April, 1 August, 1 December. E-mail: research-fund@bcra.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

COURSES, CONFERENCES, EVENTS, ETC.

2006

March 4th British Cave Research Association, Science Symposium 2006, University of Bristol, School of Geographical Sciences. page 12

March 18-19 CSG Field Meeting page 12

May (Late) CREG Field Meeting, Yorkshire page 12

June 09-12 NAMHO 2006 Conference, Royal Pavillion, Llangollen.

September (TBC) Hidden Earth 2006, Annual Caving Conference (Please note the date advertised in the HE 2005 conference program has been changed - watch this space)

MEETINGS 2006

Jan. 14 (Sat): BCA Council Meeting, 10.30am, Baptist Church Hall, Alvechurch

Feb. 25 (Sat): DCA AGM, 10am, Monyash Village Hall

Mar. 25 (Sat): British Caving Association AGM, 10.30am, Baptist Church Hall, Alvechurch
(see pages 3, 6 & 7 for more details)

May 6 (Sat): CSCC AGM. 10.30am. Hunters' Lodge, Priddy.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Check for details of these and other international events on the UIS Speleo Calendar at:

<http://www.uis-speleo.org/calendar/events.html> and www.ijs.speleo.it

2006

August 7-11 - NSS Convention, Bellingham, Washington, USA. page 12

September 21-23 - 8th Conference on Limestone Hydrogeology Neuchâtel, Switzerland. page 13

October 27-30* - SUICRO 23, Ireland. Field trips, Trade and Club stands, competitions, talks and entertainment! *Dates to be confirmed.

Membership Officer: Lynne Bailey
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enquiries@rbpm.co.uk
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Lynne Bailey (see Membership Officer)

BCA Training Administration:
RAM Business Services
trainadmin@british-caving.org.uk
Tel/Fax: 015396-22040

National Conference Enquiries:
bookings@hidden-earth.org.uk
Tel: 01749 679839

Publications Sales
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EQUALITY STATEMENT

The BCA will make its services available to all sections of the sporting community, there will be no discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, sexual orientation, creed, colour, occupation, religion or political opinion.