



## **Mendip Caving Group Bulletin**

**October 2023**

### **A word from the Editor**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed towards the news bulletin so far. Could you please continue to send me any information you feel would be relevant to the club: interesting trips, digs, cottage information, caving news, social events....

## Hidden Earth

A few weeks ago, in a venue based in Bristol, Hidden Earth took place. For those of you who are not familiar with this event, it's an excuse for cavers to get together to attend talks, discuss projects, show photos and videos, and drink enough Potholer to keep Cheddar Ales in business for the next year.

This year's Hidden Earth included a video of our own Tim Francis inside the Stainsby's dig created by Tom Harrison. I personally couldn't make it this year but was told it was a cracking event and everyone is looking forward to next year.



Picture taken from the Hidden Earth website.

<https://hidden.earth/#>

## **70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Next year marks the 70th anniversary of the Mendip Caving Group. To celebrate this event, we have booked the function room at Wookey Hole. We are having pre-dinner drinks in Chamber 3 and to make it an unforgettable evening, Martyn Farr has agreed to be our guest speaker. Martyn is a leading cave diver, including exploration of Wookey Hole in 1977 and 1982.

Menu and details for booking are available on the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pages of the MCG website. To commemorate this milestone event, we have procured MCG 70th anniversary T-shirts. They are available, in S, M, L and XL in Black or Navy. Other clothing items with the same embroidery, can be ordered via our website.

## **MCG Members' workshop**

John Crowsley, (a professional cave leader) is offering his services free of charge to our members. He is running a Cave Leader workshop during the November members' weekend 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023 (09:30-17:30). There are currently three places available for Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>

November, and one place on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November. The course includes the most useful parts of the cave leader syllabus and is highly recommended. If you are interested, please contact Mark Edwards, caving secretary.

### **November members' weekend**

The November members' weekend promises ghoulish excitement and spicy treats. Jackie will be providing Mexican food. It will include a fancy dress and a spooky disco.

### **Access restored to Singing River Mine**

The CSCC has managed to negotiate an access agreement with the landowners of Singing River Mine. Access is allowed between 9.30am and 9.30pm, one trip at a time and £2 fee to be paid in the tin by the cave entrance. An email must be sent to the conservation and access officer 24 hours before the trip. Details are on the CSCC website.

## **The Land of Hope and Glory**

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023 a team consisting of Mike Moxon (leader), Jason Kirby, Hannah Blunt, Greg Hawkins, Kat Rosier and Ed Ford explored the far reaches of the Wookey Hole dig. Photos below.















### **A final word**

Another couple of exciting months have passed by and with Christmas fast approaching I'm sure we are all looking forward to the Christmas dinner during the December members' weekend.

Until next time.....If we are really lucky, the next news bulletin might be a special edition covering the breakthrough at Stainsby's Shaft.

Happy caving!

Daniel Matthews.