

# Masson News

## Masson Caving Group



### January 2018 – Club Info

#### Newsletter Editors foreword

*This is the 'new' monthly Masson Newsletter. It won't always be out monthly but at least a couple of times a year. The main aim is so that everyone is informed of planned meets in plenty of time.*

*I look forward to seeing some of you out on our meets this year.*

### Club Trips

For up to date info on all trips please visit the 'Secret' Facebook Page or the website.

#### January 2018

##### **Sunday 14th January 2018 - Goodluck Mine, Via Gellia.**

Trip Co-ordinator: Paul Chandler - Email: [paulchandler3@btinternet.com](mailto:paulchandler3@btinternet.com) or Tel: 01246-220773.

Meet 10am Layby, below large mine spoil tip in Via Gellia on A 5012. Nearest postcode is DE4 2AJ for satnav fans. NGR SK 26975 56528.

*An interesting, quite extensive mine (with natural bits), worked mainly for lead. Goodluck Mine, unlike the other mines in the Via Gellia is classed as a 'working mine', being open to visitors as a 'Show Mine', but with a unique difference! Unlike the other 'Show Caverns' in Derbyshire, you will not find electric lighting, concrete pathways and a gift shop!*

*MASSON PLANNED TRIP - Our exploration trip will explore all the 'visitor route' in the mine, but also venture into the old workings. What to wear? Old clothes, Boilersuit or Oversuit, Boots or Wellies. Worth bringing a camera. Grade: Easy to Difficult. Mainly walking/stooping size passages, short crawly bits, with further crawls/climbs/squeezes optional. Quite a few, fixed ladders throughout the mine. Majority of workings are dry, but a bit muddy in places. This trip will be as challenging, as you want it to be. Ideal novice trip, but of interest to more experienced explorers. Donation of £5 per visitor appreciated (Free to GLMPC members). BCA Insurance essential. Party size limited/BOOKING ESSENTIAL (Contact details above). Presently attending: One Masson member & One GLMPC member. Visit courtesy of the Goodluck Mine Preservation Club (GLMPC). For further details, visit; [www.goodluckmine.org](http://www.goodluckmine.org) Reference: Caves of the Peak District - The Derwent South (Matlock) Catchment Area (2010 Edition).*

## **Club Trips - Continued**

### **Sunday 28th January 2018 - Wapping Mine and Cumberland Cavern, Matlock Bath.**

Trip Co-ordinator: PAUL CHANDLER - Email: paulchandler3@btinternet.com or Tel: 01246-220773.

Meet 10am New Bath Hotel, overflow car park (Please park well away from hotel at far end).

An interesting, quite extensive, cave/mine complex. Grade: Easy. Majority of system dry. Oversuit or Boilersuit trip. Wapping Mine contains large, impressive mined stopes, a small maze and still some nice mineralisation. Cumberland Cavern, a former 'Show Cavern'(still containing handrails, steps, 'wishing well') is renowned for its smoked graffiti, mainly from the "Swinging Sixties" era of the Troggs!, but in a couple of places, there is intact (thankfully) fascinating pencil inscriptions from a much earlier date. Ideal novice trip, but of interest to more experienced explorers. Trip note: Small entrance/exit can be quite awkward, especially for persons of large build/long legs! Party size not limited/BOOKING ADVISABLE (Contact details above). Presently attending: One Masson member & Two guests.

Reference: Caves of the Peak District - The Derwent South (Matlock) Catchment Area (2010 Edition).

### **February 2018**

Sat 3 & Sat 10 Feb – Beginners trip. Location TBC

### **March 2018**

#### **ADVANCE NOTICE.**

#### **Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th March 2018 - "North Wales Mines Weekend".**

Weekend Co-ordinator: Paul Chandler.

Provisional programme: Friday(pm) - Slate mines in Croesor area. Saturday - TBC. Sunday - 'Mystery Mine' in Betws-y-Coed area. Accommodation base: Betws-y-Coed. Attending: Three PDMHS members, so far. To register your interest, further details; Contact Paul, either by email or phone.

Tuesday 13th March (Evening trip) - Holmebank Chert Mine, Bakewell

Tuesday 27th March (Evening trip/Date tbc) - Pretoria Chert Mine, Bakewell

## **Club Social Media**

Website: [massoncaving.wordpress.com](http://massoncaving.wordpress.com)

Facebook Public: [Masson Caving Group](#)

Facebook Members Only: [The Masson Caving Group](#)

Contact Details: 07956483094

Email: TBC

## Training Info

When was the last time you checked your kit? You should thoroughly inspect your kit at least twice a year. This means dismantling and untying everything including your cowstails. Check everything for excessive wear and functionality.

If you want to attend more adventurous trips but aren't sure if you are competent contact the training Officer who will organise specific training.



## Conservation Info

- **Cave with care and thought for the environment.**
- **Disturb nothing whether living or geological.**
- **Avoid touching formations.**
- **Keep to marked routes and never cross conservation tapes.**
- **Take nothing but photographs.**
- **Do not pollute the cave, leave nothing behind.**

## DCA Info

For up to date info on what is happening in the DCA please visit their [website](#).

## BCA Info

For up to date info on what is happening in the BCA please visit their [website](#).

## DCRO Info

When you get into trouble who ya gonna call? Well 999 actually! However make sure you ask for 'Cave Rescue'. Before going on a trip make sure you arrange a reliable 'call out' before going underground, even if it's just a short trip. More info on the DCRO [here](#).

## Trip Reports

**Go on you know you want to!**

