

CHECC Information Pack

**Annual Forum 2018, Peak District
23rd-25th November 2018**

Hope Valley College, Castleton Road, Hope, Hope Valley S33 6SB

Event Information and updates will be posted via the CHECC Facebook group and on UK Caving:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/checc/>

<https://ukcaving.com/board/index.php?board=49.0>

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Venue

General Information

Directions

The centre is situated on Castleton Road, between Castleton and Hope Valley.



Map 1: Hope Valley College & Surrounding Areas

Parking

Please DO NOT Park on the grass. There are several concrete areas for cars to park, and these will be signposted on the weekend. Any cars found on the grass will be fined, as CHECC will be fined.

Sleeping

The sleeping space will be split between indoor floor space and camping. Please remember that this is camping in Derbyshire in November, so it is vital that you bring appropriate gear. The field should not become waterlogged over the weekend, but we have experienced all sorts of weather before, so bring rugged tents! Everyone should bring at minimum a roll mat and sleeping bag regardless of indoor or outdoor. Sleeping locations will be signposted.

Around and about the venue

There are residential properties around the venue, so discretion is advised and anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated.

Please also note that music is not allowed to be played from tents or cars whilst on

the site. If you need to dance, come to the disco.

To aid clean-up and hopefully reduce stomp related injuries, there will be no outdoor shoes and boots in the venue this year. Please bring some indoor shoes along to wear inside the venue eg flip flops, crocs etc.

THERE IS A TOTAL NO SMOKING POLICY IN ANY OF THE BUILDINGS. Please also try to dispose of cigarette butts properly so we don't have to pick them up for you on Sunday evening!

Event Overview

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
Friday		
18:00 onwards	Registration Opens	Follow signs (see map)
21:00 onwards	Stomp begins	Main Hall
Saturday		
09:00-10.30	Breakfast	Dining Hall
10.00	Workshop Sessions <i>SRT & Rigging, Survey, Photography</i>	meet on site (Photo PM session off site)
11.00	Workshop Session <i>Cave Rescue with DCRO</i>	Bagshawe Cavern
12:00	Workshop Session <i>Club Training discussion with BCA Y&D</i>	on site
16:15	Talks	Gym Hall
19.30	Dinner is served	Dining Hall
21:00	Games Begin (<i>beer pong, squeeze machine, pan & sling...</i>)	Main Hall
22:00	Stomp Begins	Presentation Room
Sunday		
09:00-10:30	Breakfast	Dining Hall
10:00	Workshop Sessions <i>SRT & Rigging, Hydrogeology</i>	meet on site (Hydro PM session off site)
10:00	Workshop Session <i>Bolting</i>	meet on site
10:00	AGM	Main Hall
11.30	Delegates Meeting	Main Hall

Arriving at the forum

Upon arrival at the forum, please send everyone to the CHECC reception (follow signs), where you will be registered, receive your wristbands, and supplied with any other important information. We will NOT give you anyone else's wristband – you must collect your own.

Please also take some time to visit the caving suppliers stalls we have attending. It is a great chance for you to purchase any kit you need for the trip that you just planned, at an unbeatable rate! **So don't forget to bring cash!**

Please do not arrive before 6pm as we need time to prepare for the event.

Food

Breakfast will be served from 9.00am until 10.30am on Saturday and Sunday. Dinner will be served from 7.30pm on Saturday evening.

When collecting your food, please make it clear if you are a vegetarian or if you have told us about any allergies you may have as there will be something else available for you. Please bring your own extra food with you though as we will not supply any snacks for your trips or late night munchies!

Leaving the forum

Please please please help us clean up the school before you leave, to our knowledge this is the only Derbyshire venue that will have us, and we'd really like to go back in the future. If your club is about to leave, please find one of the committee to make sure they are aware. Any damages will be charged appropriately.

Please report any breakages, loss or damage when it occurs and at the end of your stay by informing one of the committee members. This will help us when we have our hand-over with the venue owners. All clubs are expected to help in the general cleaning of communal areas, much like any other caving weekend.

Glasses

As CHECC events have a history of a) not having enough glasses and b) breaking any that we find, we have CHECC branded glasses available! £1 per glass and it's yours to keep. These will be available from the sign in area.

T-Shirts

Any CHECC t-shirts not pre-booked will be on sale over the weekend for £10. This year's design was submitted by Louise Baddeley of SUSS. Reserved T-Shirts not collected by 9pm on Saturday will be available for resale.



Caving

We will be setting up an area on each morning for you to complete the below actions. It will be manned by a member of the committee or trusted caver who will have all of the information you might need.

Call-Outs

IMPORTANT: Please note - ALL call outs should be arranged through CHECC!

Simon Goddard (Little Si) is in charge of managing all of your call-outs. You **MUST** leave them with him. If you cannot find Little Si, please ask a committee member who will point you in the right direction. Call-outs are **not** to be arranged within your club. Similarly, if members of your club have not returned before their call-out, please seek a committee member and inform them immediately. The CHECC Committee will then arrange for emergency assistance. It is **not** your responsibility to do so.

Important: Peak Cavern Access

Access to Peak Cavern depends on the generosity of the show cave, along with the keyholders that facilitate access. As such, please make sure to follow the rules. If you are going in Peak Cavern, you need to be ready at the TSG BEFORE 10AM. If you are leaving via Peak Cavern, you will need to arrange with the other trips in there, otherwise you will be locked in. If you want to go in Peak Cavern on either day, please find a committee member THE NIGHT BEFORE, who will take you through the etiquette of the show cave, as well as have you sign an indemnity form, which will speed things up a lot in the morning. This is extra important, as it will be hard to organise the trips if we don't know what's going on. It is also helpful if you have the £4 ACCESS FEE ready in change before the trip.

Cave Access

It can be difficult to party on through a whole weekend, so here is a list of some local caves to break it up a bit. These are just brief descriptions, check Caves of the Peak District or ask a local or committee member for more info. Those marked with a * have been pre-rigged by SUSS and NUCC

- Peak Cavern – The Peak round trip is a classic, going past the show cave for some varied fun. Anyone wanting to do this trip will need to be at the TSG to meet keyholders before 10am (ridiculous, I know). Alternately, you can arrange for the key to be left, so you can exit via Peak from Titan or JH.
- JH (James Hall Over Engine Mine)* - Great long pitches, bit tight in parts, and a bit loose. Best way into the further reaches of Peak-Speedwell. Come out of Peak Cavern for less prussiking and go via White River for the prettiest part of Peak-Speedwell (40m pullthrough rope required).
- Titan* - Largest vertical chamber in the UK. Big, beautiful pitches. Not for those with a fear of heights. Please only plan trips going down. Connects to Peak for a great trip, though you may need a guide. Collect key from a committee member
- Rowter Hole – An excellent trip with lots of fun on ropes and off them. One of the harder trips in the Peak District. All hard rigged, with the exception of the entrance pitch, which requires a 70m rope
- Giants Hole – A classic freshers trip, not requiring much in the way of SRT. Worm your way down the crabwalk, then see if you can find your way around the round trip. 15m rope required for Garlands, and a 30m pullthrough to complete the round
- P8* – Another classic freshers trip. Very minimal in terms of SRT, so perfect for those less confident. The 1st pitch is rigged, allowing you to do all the usual stuff. 2nd pitch is optional.
- Gautries – If you're bored in the evening (unlikely) or want something fun to do on the way back from P8, Gautries is a fun little wet cave with some gloopy mud at the end. The entrance sumps, but just pull on the rope to drain
- Oxlow Caverns* – A good first SRT trip. A couple of reasonably sized pitches to cut your teeth on, but nothing particularly difficult. Drops into West Chamber to connect with Maskhill.
- Maskhill Mine* – SRT here is a bit more technical, with longer pitches and more rebelays etc. Can be done as an exchange with Oxlow, though check with Si who else is down there to avoid faff.
- Nettle Pot* - Muddy, tight, SRT fun. Elizabeth Shaft and Crumble and Beezer have been rigged, though you could bring a couple short ropes to get to Derbyshire Hall

- Winnats Head – A SUSS classic. Botch’s favourite cave. Climbing down through the boulder chokes makes for a great shorter trip. A vertical squeeze might mean this is not for everyone. Bring an SRT kit for the pitches at the end, though the down pitches will have to be rigged yourself
- Cumberland and Wapping – A bit further away, but great for fans of mines. Stomp around this historic mine, but watch your step as it could collapse! Enjoy the 60s biker graffiti, and see if you can find the old show cave
- Knotlow Cavern/Hillocks Mine – Also a bit further to drive, but maybe one for those who’ve done a lot of this list. Big pitches in an old mine, with the potential to do an exchange. Hillocks entrance chamber is also large and close enough to host a rave or group (naked) picture. Not rigged

Some of these are serious SRT trips, if you are unsure whether it is suitable for your group, ask a committee member for advice. Please pay the access fees where appropriate

Talks (16:15 until 19:00 approx)

The CHECC forum has many aspects to it. One of our aims is to broaden your knowledge about a variety of issues and topics related to the caving world.

Our talks will be held on Saturday evening in the presentation room, just near reception entrance (this will be signposted). During this time, if you are not attending the talks, please be thoughtful and take care to keep the noise down in the surrounding areas.

Time	Speaker	Subject
16:15	Thom Starnes	Cave Conservation
16:30	Jenny Potts	British Caving Library
17.00	Haydon Saunders (non-member)	CUCC Austria Expedition
17.30	Louise Baddeley	SUSS Tresviso Expedition
18.00	Dave Cattell & Rob Watson	Rescue Lessons
18:30	Josh Bratchley	Thailand Cave Rescue

Training Workshops for 2018

Sessions 1-6 below required sign-ups and are now all full. This information is here for reference for those signed up. Session 7 is still available to all who wish to attend.

1. CAVE RESCUE WORKSHOP

This is kindly being run by the Derbyshire CRO and will cover basic cave rescue theory and techniques, with potential for cave-related first aid. It will start at 11am on the Saturday with everyone meeting at Bagshawe Cavern. You will need transport, full caving kit, SRT kit and lunch.

2. SRT WORKSHOP

This is being run by Jo White & Andrew McLeod along with an experienced team to help you learn SRT. This will range from basic up and down techniques all the way to more advanced skills, with some rigging theory thrown in too depending on requirements. This will start at 10am each day and will be held at the indoor wall on site at Hope Valley College. Meet in the Gym Hall.

3. PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Tommy Moore has generously volunteered his time to run the Photography Workshop this year, where you'll learn the theory behind cave photography on the surface before heading underground to perfect that theory and turn it into reality. This will start at 10am on site on Saturday at Hope Valley College. Bring along any camera kit you have, you'll be amazed what you can do with it! Meet in the Main Hall.

4. SURVEY WORKSHOP

Andrew Atkinson and Rich Smith are kindly running this years survey workshop, taking you from basic survey techniques, where you'll learn how to gain measurements of cave passage using common instrumentation, before returning to visualise it on a computer so that you can see your survey for all its glory! Please note that this will focus heavily on electronic and paperless surveying, so bring any club PDA's/Disto's and Laptops that you can get hold of - they will significantly increase how much you learn on this session. This will also start at 10am on the Saturday on site at Hope Valley College. Meet in the Main Hall.

5. BOLTING/TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

Andrew Atkinson is running a technical workshop covering skills useful on expeditions or during exploratory trips within the UK, particularly focusing on safely placing basic anchors and the things to look for when exploring and bolting vertical systems. Meet at 10am Sunday in the Main Hall - you will head with him to the venue near Great Hucklow and will need transport and lunch.

6. HYDROGEOLOGY & DYE TRACING

Dr Paul Hardwick from Limestone Research Consultancy/BCRA will be giving a presentation on water tracing (a guide for cavers). This will outline the methods and types of tracing used and there is plenty of space on this first session. There will also be a demonstration dye trace in Castleton at Peak Cavern afterwards, involving a short trip into the show cave area. The morning presentation session will start at 10am Sunday on site at Hope Valley College and has plenty of space - those signed

up will head in to Peak Cavern showcave in the afternoon.

The following sessions did not require signing up to reserve a place:

7. CLUB TRAINING (discussion/forum)

BCA's Youth and Development officer, Rostam Namaghi, will be running an informal session focusing on discussing the training system within your clubs. Many universities have felt pressure from their unions over the past couple of years regarding permission to run trips and fielding training related questions, so this will be an opportunity to ask questions if you have had issues and also seek to provide clubs with something to tell or show curious university guilds if requested. It will emphasise the importance of continuing non-commercial in-house and inter-club training within student clubs and how to make the most out of available resources including BCA Y&D and CHECC. This will be especially useful for club committee members and any future club leaders to attend and it is highly advised that every university club has a presence on this session. This will start at 12 noon on Saturday in the Dining Hall.

Games & Competitions

The Grand Prize

Organised by UK Caving, this prize both defines this year's Ultimate Caving Club and gifts this club with over £1650 worth of kit! The prize includes:

- 2 full SRT kits including helmets and personal tackle bags (donated by UKC)
- 10 Buffs (Buff)
- 2 x 100m tackle bags (Warmbac)
- 100m of 9mm rope (Spanset)
- 5 x HL60R headlamps (Fenix)
- 10 x 1050 microcases (Peli)

There will also be £300 worth of Starless River vouchers up for grabs!

For full details, please follow this link to UK Caving:

<https://ukcaving.com/board/index.php?topic=24138.0>

TO QUALIFY:

Post on the thread 'Our Club' and tell your fellow caver about your club. For those clubs who entered last year we're interested to hear what you've been up (down) to these past 12 months - successes/difficulties with recruiting, funding, training, trips, expeditions? For those clubs new to The Grand Prize, tell us about your club - history, famous alumni, current activities, training, expeditions etc, etc. One entry per club and posted by **10pm, Saturday 24th November**.
<https://ukcaving.com/board/index.php?topic=24160.0>

COMPETITIONS:

- 1) Post on the UKCaving thread 'Our CHECC Club 2018' tell your fellow caver about your club. For those clubs who entered last year, we're interested to hear what you've been up (down) to these past 12 months – Successes/difficulties with recruiting/funding/training/trips/expeditions?? For those clubs new to The Grand Prize, tell us about your club – history, famous alumni, current activities, training, expeditions etc, etc.
- 2) Help to promote www.newtocaving.com. Put posters up in suitable locations where potential cavers might see them. Link New to Caving to suitable websites. New to Caving was designed to inspire and encourage new people to our sport – help us spread the word! The Club that does the best job of promoting New to Caving wins 30 points, the runner-up 15 points.
- 3) Best photograph – this year's subject is 'Water'. Post on the 'CHECC best cave photograph 2018 Forum' thread. To be judged by Tommy Moore, thanks, Tommy. Entries in by 10 pm, November 24th. Max 5 entries per Club, however, don't forget to mention your
- 4) Best video on any aspect of caving. Post on the 'CHECC best cave video 2018 Forum' thread. To be judged by James Moore, thanks James. Entries in by 10pm, THURSDAY, November 22nd. Please refer to the 'Best Video' thread for the guidelines. One entry per Club, however don't forget to mention

your Club! Winner 30 points, runner up 15 points. Max 1 entry per club.

- 5) Design a poster/pop up banner all CHECC Clubs could use at their Freshers' Fair. Maybe we could get the winner's printed for use by all clubs next year? Enter by posting on the 'Cave Poster' thread under CHECC. To be judged by Pegasus. Entries in by 10pm Saturday 24th, November. Again, don't forget to mention your Club. Winner 20 points, runner up 10 points. Max 1 entry per club.
- 6) Design a new logo for BCA. Can't promise the winner's version will be adopted by BCA, however hoping you come up with so many great ideas BCA's biggest problem will be choosing which one is most suitable! Note – Next don't use a jumper in their logo, Adidas don't use a trainer, so BCA logo doesn't necessarily have to include stal, abseiler, cave etc. Winner 30 points, runner up 15 points. Post on BCA logo thread under BCA, don't forget to mention your club. Max 1 entry per club.
- 7) Knot tying - tie 3 knots in the fastest time - knots to be disclosed at the Forum. Unlimited number of entries per club. 5 points to the winner's nominated club, 3 points to the runner up's nominated club.
- 8) SRT obstacle course - fastest safe completion of the course. 5 points to the winner's nominated club, 3 points to the runner up's club.
- 9) Squeeze box - 5 points for the tightest squeeze and 3 points for best effort as judged by the marshal to the winner's nominated club.
- 10) Pan & sling - 5 points to the winner's nominated club, 3 to the runner up's club.
- 11) Full body traverse – Each partner must traverse their partner. 5 points to the winner's nominated club, 3 to the runner up's club.
- 12) Lucky prize draw - winner 20 points, 1st runner up 15 points, second runner up 5 points. Each delegate will be given an individually numbered UKC raffle card when registering at the Forum. The 'raffle' will be drawn Sunday morning at the Forum - the winner/runner up may nominate which Club their points go to.
- 13) Bonus - Each qualifying club gets to nominate 10 points to another club of their choice (not themselves!). Clubs may nominate tactically or altruistically.

PLEASE NOTE – competitions 7, 8, 9 and 10 must be entered by current students at **9.00pm on the 24th in the main barn**. Alumni may help in the other competitions. Particularly stupid behaviour over the weekend can get your club disqualified, you have been warned.

Additional Competitions

As well as the Grand Prize challenges, we will have some old favourites running alongside. Throughout the weekend we will be hosting the following competitions:

- Best amateur photo from the photography course
- Fresher's literature competition – if you're new to caving this semester, write a thrilling tale of your first ever caving trip!
- Best club fancy dress – imagination = prizes!
- Best individual fancy dress

- Caving cake – to be judged Saturday
- Beer Pong! We're expecting this to be as intense as ever, bring your game faces!

Treasure Hunt

Please see the last page of this pack for this year's Treasure Hunt. Please remember you need proof that you have completed each of the tasks – preferably photographic!

Stomp

DJ 99 Flake and Nob Royston will be providing entertainment throughout the Friday and Saturday night stomps. We will have two stomp rooms this year due to having room at the venue, the main stomp in the main hall and a more house party vibe in the gym (playlist chosen by you!).

AGM & Other Meetings

AGM

The AGM will be held in the Main Hall on Sunday morning from around 10am. We really appreciate as many of you attending as possible as this means that CHECC can maintain its student input.

This year, we will also be electing a new Secretary for a three year term, and re-electing the annual position of Safety & Training Officer. If you would like to stand for either of these positions, please speak to one of the committee who will gladly have a chat about what the roles entail.

NB - In order to stand for a committee position, the constitution dictates a number of requirements:

- You must have shown interest in CHECC/held a position of responsibility within CHECC before (i.e. club delegate)
- You must be proposed and seconded by two separate member clubs
- You must prepare a short speech to present at the AGM as to your interest in the role.

Delegates Meeting

The delegates meeting will take place after the AGM on Sunday, in the Lecture Hall. Please ensure your club delegate attends as they will have the opportunity to represent your club and any feedback/issues you are having in a smaller group.

Safety Information

Fire Safety

Should the fire alarm in any building sound, all the buildings must be evacuated immediately. Please follow exit signs to the nearest evacuation point. CHECC will appoint a Fire Safety Officer who will check whether anyone is not accounted for.

If the fire alarms are set off without good cause, we will be charged.

Cave Safety

As previously stated, all call-outs are to be submitted to Little Si. If any group exceeds their call out, this will be dealt with by the committee, who will deal with any necessary emergency assistance.

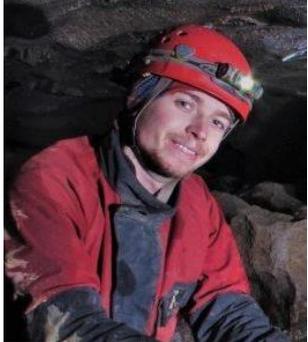
First Aid

Please find a member of the committee if you, or another, are in need of first aid. Please inform us of any incidents that happen during the event as it will need to be recorded.

And Finally...

This weekend is all about student cavers. So cave together, party together, look after each other and the event. If you have any issues / questions / ideas now or throughout the weekend, email us, or come and find one of the committee!

Committee

			
Brendan Hall CHECC Treasurer	David Botcherby CHECC Chair	Laura Benn CHECC Secretary	Josh Bratchley CHECC Training officer
07580355391	07766829665	07545445442	07557654366

CHECC TREASURE HUNT 2018

Example: Do a small task for CHECC's amazing cooks, and for the committee (+10 each)

The rest of the treasure hunt is still being made but ask at the information desk and we'll hand you the list of treasure hunt things.

Please note that all the tasks must be proved! This should preferably be by photograph, or by getting a member of the committee to witness and sign it off.