

Access Officer Report July 2010

Firstly summary records for visits to Ogof Draenen in the last year. These are summarised below with a few extra so previous comparison can be made.

	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Apr 09	May 09	Jun 09
Parties	10	4	17	4	8	4
Persons	26	16	58	13	22	9

	Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09
Parties	8	14	6	11	16	15
Persons	22	38	17	29	48	54

	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10
Parties	5	10	15	4	9	0
Persons	16	23	50	9	25	0

The full details of trip, leader, caving club, number of cavers in party and date of trip are issued to secretary and landowners for their records. Some key points are numbers remain steady in comparison with data from last 5 years. Dollimore's, Round Trip, Gilwern remain popular destinations. Clubs whose members are regularly visiting include OUCC, CSS, SWCC, Gangendor, Cwmbran (in form of one man band Chris Gibbs) and UBSS. The club this year that is not an annual key holder who is visiting regularly are Cardiff University (CUCC).

The new location of the log book within the cave has challenged my deciphering skills as mud often obliterates the record so some records are simply listed as 'muddy'. Another issue is no one informed me or other PDCMG rep that the log book was full so some overwriting occurred again requiring deciphering skills. There was a large stock of notebooks in OUCC 'hut' if these are now depleted then please let me know and someone or I can arrange purchase of new stock.

The return to key padlock and not a combination padlock highlighted that for some permanent key holder clubs:

- ◆ Some e-mail addresses are not up to date
- ◆ Some reps did not inform their Clubs
- ◆ Some clubs did not inform their members of the change

This led to some clubs and some people not knowing about the change until it was advertised on Cambrian CC website and other caver publications. There are 21 permanent key holder Clubs of these 14 have been issued with keys. Some have promised money but not yet received.

On a final issue I have received two request from cavers who are individual members of BCA but do not belong to a caving club. Our access has always been for members of 'bona fide' caving clubs because this gives us some recourse to a properly constituted body in event of a problem. However to be a member of BCA you have to commit to abiding by good caving practice, although I am not sure what recourse BCA could or would make in event of a problem however could we consider members of BCA as members of the 'biggest' British Caving Club; a point to consider.

Sue Mabbett

03 Jul 2010