

JOURNAL EXCHANGES MEETING

16th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SPELEOLOGY

**Brno, Czech Republic
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SUGGESTED AGENDA

- 1 The BCL and the digital archive at the BGS
- 2 BCRA policy for Journal Exchanges on paper
- 3 Reports from other caving libraries and journals
- 4 BCRA ideas on Electronic Journal Exchanges
- 5 More ideas
- 6 Discussion

BCRA Policy for Journal Exchanges on paper (1)

- Historical and research value of published journals
- Paper storage
 - lasts ~ 100 years?
 - the most secure archive?
 - some may never be digitised
- Many good journals will continue on paper
 - More efficient and higher quality than if readers do printing and binding
 - BUT: rising postal charges
- BCRA wishes to continue to exchange journals on paper

BCRA Policy for Journal Exchanges on paper (2)

- BCRA apologises for allowing some exchanges to ‘lapse’
 - whilst still receiving journals from abroad
- BCRA has now re-established good Exchanges with 38 partners, by using email contacts
 - we hope to re-instate about 10 more

BCRA Policy for Journal Exchanges on paper (3)

- THE VISION:
- About 50 (?) caving libraries should each hold good journal runs from many other organisations
 - to protect this valuable speleological resource into the future
- BCRA would still like to provide journals from its store to complete the runs at its Exchange partners
- The British Caving Library is cataloguing all its journal holdings and requests help to complete its own journal runs
 - by 2015?

BCRA ideas on Electronic Journal Exchanges (1)

Online access to BCRA Publications

- 1 BCRA has digitised its back catalogue of BCRA Transactions, Cave Science and Cave and Karst Science
 - These are freely available on line from <http://www.bcra.org.uk>, except for recent issues of C&KS
 - Recent issues of C&KS will be available online for subscribers, and for one month for people who register
- 2 BCRA does not intend to send Publications by
 - CD, USB stick or email
- 3 BCRA could possibly send an email 'alert' for each new issue, giving its website address
 - Exchange partners would need to advise email address changes

BCRA ideas on Electronic Journal Exchanges (2)

Sending Publications to BCRA

- 4 BCRA MIGHT consider two levels of inputs:
 - Electronic storage and paper printing
 - Electronic storage only

BCRA ideas on Electronic Journal Exchanges (3)

Sending Publications to BCRA

5 For BCRA to print journals from electronic inputs, there are several technical issues to consider:

- Which electronic input methods to accept?
- Agreement on standards, formats and fonts (pdf is not fully portable)
- Use only PostScript fonts (?) and not TrueType.
- Use PDF-A for archiving?
- Black and white printing and colour printing; 'colour shift' problem
- Printing of covers and binding e.g. Colour outside covers, blank inside the covers, b / w on inside pages
- Avoid 'full bleed' anywhere in the publication
- Use of print shops with economic delivery of journals to BCRA

BCRA ideas on Electronic Journal Exchanges (4)

- 6 For BCRA to store journals electronically, there are several technical issues and options:
- BCRA does not intend to store CDs or DVDs: limited shelf life
 - Secure archiving on hard drives / BCRA website / BCRA Cloud / other Clouds
 - Integration with existing and proposed IT used in production and storage of BCRA journals
 - Prototypes, demonstrations and tutorials to test the scheme prior to use in the British Caving Library
 - Cataloguing each new item received
 - Resolution of copyright issues