

CONTENTS

	Page
Club News	275
Forthcoming Events	278
Mendip Exhibition	280
Letters to the Editor	282
In Search of Palmers	285
The Great Cave of Chevre Eglise	289
Trog of the Trias	291
List of Members	293
Shorter Notices	300

Hon. Secretary: Carl Pickstone, 156 The Philog, Whitchurch, Cardiff.  
Asst. Secretary: K. Barber, 4 Catsash, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 5EH.  
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. P. Green, 12 Keyford Terrace, Frome, Somerset.  
Subs. Treasurer: A.E. Dingle, 32 Lillian Road, LONDON S.W. 13.  
Hut Bookings: A. Macormack, 19 Alfred Place, Cotham, Bristol.  
Journal Distribution: M. Hewins, 31 Badshot Park, Badshot Lea, Farnham, Surrey.  
Club Meets: Club Secretary or direct to Editor  
Editor: M.D. Newson, "Setterfields", Christmas Common, Watlington, Oxfordshire.

## CLUB NEWS

The end of the Club year is nearly upon us once more, and now is the time to think about the A.G.M. and the Annual Dinner arrangements. They will be held on Saturday the 16th of October 1971, the A.G.M. being at Priddy Village Hall starting at 1500 hrs. prompt. Attention is drawn to Club Rules Nos. 5 and 18 which state

No. 5 That the affairs of the Club shall be conducted by a Committee which shall consist of a Chairman, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Assistant Secretary, Tackle Warden and nine other members who shall retire annually and be eligible for re-election, and that the Honorary Secretary of any group within the Club be eligible to attend a committee meeting in an ex officio capacity, and may nominate a substitute to attend any meeting which he cannot attend personally. All members standing for office or for membership of the Committee must be nominated by two members of the Club. The Committee shall fill any casual vacancies. An Honorary Auditor shall be appointed each year at the Annual General Meeting.

No. 18 That offices of motions for discussion at the Annual General Meeting shall be received by the Honorary Secretary not more than two weeks after the posting of the notices of the meeting. Such Notices must have the names of the proposers, and be circulated to the members at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Since this announcement is the official notice of the A.G.M. under the terms of rule 18, notices of motions for discussion should be sent to the Hon. Secretary not later than the 14th of September 1971. Full details of the A.G.M. including the Hon. Secretary's Report for 1970-71, will appear with the October issue of the Journal.

The Annual Dinner will be held once again at the Masonic Hall in Frome 1930 hrs. for 2000 hrs. Transport will be arranged from the H.Q. for those who do not wish to drive.

At the last Committee Meeting Richard Kenney was appointed to look after the Clubs premises at Upper Pitts. His task is one of extreme importance to the Club as it involves the responsibility of the upkeep of the Headquarters and site. If the building is not properly maintained it will soon deteriorate, as indeed it has since it was built just over a year ago. Many jobs have only been partially completed, and others have not even been touched, while there are probably many more which have never been thought of. Until now there has been no one person who could take a detached view of Upper Pitts, and see what needs doing to maintain and improve the premises. Upper Pitts will have to remain for many years the Headquarters of the Wessex Cave Club, and under the terms of the grant from the D.E.S. it has to be properly maintained, and could be liable to periodic inspections. At the moment it does not present an imposing picture with a rusty oil tank and fire escape, leaking drains and broken windows. The Headquarters is used regularly by only a small proportion of the Club membership, and of these an even smaller number actually help in the work there. It is unfair to expect all the work to be done by the same few members. It is in your interest to give Richard all the help he needs to maintain the premises, because if no help is forthcoming the work will have to go to outside contract and the Hut Fees will have to rise drastically to cover the cost.

Would anyone communicating with any of the Clubs Officers and Committee please enclose an S.A.E. as the increase in postal charges has caused a significant increase in the Clubs postal bill.

On the Caving front the South Wales Caving Club have broken through from Ogor Ffynnon Ddu I to II. This has caused access problems as leaders are required for O.F.D. I but not for O.F.D. II. A recent communication from the South Wales C.C. Secretary contained the following rules which have to be followed:

1. Any party going from I to II should be accompanied by a leader appointed for Ogor Ffynnon Ddu I.
2. Any party intending to visit the connection, even if not making a through trip, must inform Mr. & Mrs. Barrows at Yr Grithig of their intentions before they go into the cave. (Mr. & Mrs. Barrows take their water supply from the surface of Ogor Ffynnon Ddu and they should be given sufficient notice so that they have time to fill their water tank before the water is made muddy).
3. Cars should not be parked in the yard of Yr Grithig by any party intending to make a through trip in either direction.

Closer to home the N.A.S.A. diggers have at long last been rewarded after many years of digging at North Hill. They have broken into 600ft of caveable passage, which makes the system now over 1000ft long and 300ft deep. The cave is now open to anyone who wishes to visit it, but the air circulation is practically non-existent and soon becomes foul after a large party have visited the cave. Rumour has it that even the candles declined to burn on one survey trip.

### New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members elected on 6th of June 1971.

Michael Barrett, 39a Oaken Grove, Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Rachel Cramp, c/o The Dept. of Geography, The University, Hull, E. Yorks.

Anthony John Matthews, Selworthy, Ridgeway, Nailsea, Bristol.

Richard Darke, 34 Dunster Gardens, Nailsea, Bristol.

Jeffrey Christian, 5 St. Giles Way, Horndean, Portsmouth.

### Club Events

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 16th October        | A.G.M. 1500hrs. at Priddy Village Hall.<br>Annual Dinner. 1930 hrs. for 2000 hrs. Masonic Hall, Frome. |
| 13th November 1971. | Trans-African Expedition. A slide show by Dave Causer. 1930 hrs. at Upper Pitts.                       |
| 10th December 1971. | Antarctica. A slide show by Richard Kenney. 1930 hrs. at Upper Pitts.                                  |

## Committee Abstracts

The 265th Committee Meeting of the Wessex Cave Club was held on Sunday 6th of June 1971. at Upper Pitts 1000 hrs.

Apologies for absence being received from Alan Green and Don Thomson, and Malcolm Newson.

The bill for printing The Great Storms and Floods on Mendip 1968 had now been paid and the sales were said to be satisfactory.

It was proposed by Mike York and seconded by Ian Jepson that materials be purchased to make another 500ft of ladder, in addition to the 500ft. being completed.

Twelve more Hut keys had been cut and Wally Willcocks would distribute them.

Keith Barber reported that the County Planning Authorities seemed to be quite happy about the proposed extension to the H.Q., provided it was constructed of the same materials as the H.Q.

A full membership list would be published in the August Journal and the next Committee meeting would discuss the defaulters list.

Ian Jepson was authorised to purchase 100 cap lamp bulbs, and some Carbide Lamps.

The Club Handbook would be revised early next Club year.

The Club would negotiate on behalf of Sidcot School S.S., as they wished to have an Official Wessex Dig in Charterhouse area.

The meeting closed at 1300 hrs. and the dates of the next meetings would be the 18th of July, 13th of September, and the 3rd October.

After the meeting Ian Jepson and Carl Pickstone together with one non-member gathered at Hillgrove and filled the remainder of Gash Swallet.

CARL PICKSTONE

## Changes of Address

MAURICE HEWINS, 31 Badshot Park, Badshot Lea, FARNHAM, Surrey.

DAVE DREW, (temporarily) 24 Merynton Avenue, Coventry.

(from Oct. 1st): Dept. of Geology, University College, Galway, Ireland.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

BRITISH SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION University of Leeds 10th/12th September, 1971

VENUE University of Leeds Union

PROGRAMME The following Lectures will be presented:-  
Himalayan Caving - A.C. Waltham  
Little Neath River Cave - U.B.S.S.  
Jenolan Cave N.S.W. Australia - T. Taylor  
Recent Discoveries in the Northern Dales - P.Ryder/C.Carson  
Recent Discoveries in the Yorkshire Dales - H.Long  
In addition S. Perou's film on Gaping Ghyll will be shown.

The full programme will be available shortly and will be sent to clubs and last year's delegates.

COSTS The entry fee will be about 40p. Delegates (and members of the Association) will be entitled to purchase a copy of the Proceedings (containing papers presented to the Conference) at a special reduced price of about 50p.

FURTHER INFORMATION This will be available in the programme. For copies of this contact the Conference Secretary:-

Dr. G. Stevens, 4 Kingston Avenue, Acklam, Middlesbrough, Teeside, TS5 7RS.

### EVENING SYMPOSIUM ON PRUSSIKING

Some time ago I discovered that a number of individuals and clubs on Mendip were working on research projects and new techniques which for one reason or another were not reaching the eyes and ears of other cavers, some of whom were engaged in similar activities. Even with the widespread exchanges of club publications, few cavers have the time or opportunity to browse through all the publications of all the other clubs, whilst the generally available literature like Descent must needs be very sketchy if it is not to be many volumes of expensive print.

The answer seems to be a series of reasonably serious inter-club meetings organised along the lines of a symposium but occupying one evening somewhere on licensed premises. The Wookey Hole Inn seems a good starting point but has limited seating and a limit of about fifty persons. Nevertheless it will do for a start.

The programme will be a series of short talks on one subject (the first will be prussiking) with slides, diagrams, etc. Different approaches will be presented with plenty of time for open discussion (and drinking) afterwards.

The Council of Southern Caving Clubs has very kindly offered to include details with outgoing

post to seventy clubs, for inclusion in their relevant publications. Due to the fact that the hall and speakers must be arranged, then details must be run off and sent out by C.S.C.C. and then they must be published by all the individual clubs (some of whom publish quarterly) the date has not yet been fixed but will probably be sometime in September.

The final arrangements will appear in this publication in due course. Meanwhile if you have something to say about prussiking, or a suggestion for the next topic, please write to me:

John Letheren, 25 Southstoke Road, Combe Down, BATH BA2 5SN

I look forward to seeing you at the first session.

### 'Friday Night' Caving Group

Our trips since April have been well attended, and our smallest party to date has been one of 4. On that occasion it was too wet to go caving and we observed several new sumps forming in Hunters Lodge. Our records to date have been a party of 22 to G.B. - all with permits etc and another of 18 to Lamb Lair. We didn't meet the farmer but we left his weeks beer money on the front doorstep - lucky man.

What we dread is having a large party full of fustilugs and it being close to closing time.

The following list contains some fortnightly gaps. On these occasions we want to do some trips where the party size must be kept small - but anyone is invited to join us on the listed ones provided that they fulfil the conditions set out below.

#### Friday Bank Hol. W/E August 28th 7.30

At Stirrup Cup Cafe for Pine Tree Pot.

#### Saturday September 11th

Wales. Wet suits and Nifes essential. No novices. Names to RRK for transport.

#### Friday September 24th 7.30

Axbridge Ochre Cave. If approaching from Cheddar go past large layby on Axbridge by-pass. Shortly after there is a road sign on the left. Turn here sharp right onto track.

#### Saturday October 9th 2.30

At Priddy for Swildon's Double Troubles round trip through Sump 1. Wet suits etc.

#### Saturday November 6th

Wales etc.

#### Saturday December 4th 2.30

At Priddy for Swildon's Shatter Passage. A collectors piece. Wet suits etc.

Richard R. Kenney, 'Yennek', St. Mary's Road, Meare, Glastonbury, Somerset.

## **MENDIP EXHIBITION: Latest News before the big day!**

The August Wessex Journal goes to press in early July and at that time there could hardly be a report on the Exhibition's first day! Instead Mrs. Blakeney-Edwards, the co-ordinator has written a preview dated 26.6.71. Any member who wishes to advertise the Exhibition should, if time allows, consult the Editor or Jim Hanwell for posters. The new symbol chosen for the Exhibition is shown right, representing the conflicting pressures on the Mendip landscape and, diagrammatically, the Cheddar Pink (half close your eyes!).



**Mendip 71**  
exhibition co-ordinator  
Mrs S J Blakeney-Edwards  
Cyder Cottage Kent Street  
Cheddar Somerset  
Cheddar 629

The Mendip 71 Exhibition, organised by the Mendip Society, is to be held at the Bishop's Palace, Wells from 28th August to 18th September 1971. This event is going to be a most significant one in the region and is probably the first time that most organisations - academic, industrial and commercial, with an interest in the Mendip area have given of their time, knowledge and financial resources to produce a really worthwhile study of the area. Some of the very many involved are: most of the major local industries, Somerset C C Planning Office, Somerset C C Education Department, Somerset County Library, Bristol City Museum, Bristol University, Bristol Polytechnic, Bath Academy of Arts, Bristol Waterworks, Bristol Avon River Authority, Somerset River Authority and Forestry Commission. Many of those well known in the caving world have played a major part in forming the content: Jim Hanwell, Willie Stanton and Malcolm Newson are among these.

The Exhibition has several varied aspects. The nucleus of the exhibition is a comprehensive study under six headings - Agriculture, Industry, Water, Shelter, Communications and Recreation. The study will not be a straight-forward historical display, but will show how man has influenced his environment thousands of years. There will be an audio-visual aids room where there will be constant film and slide shows - some of the films having been especially made for the exhibition by Bristol Polytechnic. There is a large school and college project section where detailed studies will be shown. In the grounds of the Palace there will be an industrial section. Exhibited here will be industries both old and new. Perhaps one of the most exciting displays will be the making of hand-made paper, provided by Inveresk Paper Company (Wookey Hole) who have been so very generous in many ways. Most of the industrial display will be under the cover of air-inflated geodesic domes.

As well as the Nucleus of the exhibition, there will be a series of lectures and debates at the Wells Town Hall for the duration of the exhibition. On Wednesdays 1st., 8th., 15th., there are three lectures organised by the department of extra-mural studies. On the 1st., Dr. E.K.Tratman will talk on 'Prehistoric Mendip'. On the 8th. Mrs. Frances Neale will talk on 'Maps and Mendip History' and on the 15th, Mr. A.B.Hawkins will talk on 'The evolution of Mendip landscape'. Each of these lectures will be followed the subsequent weekend by a field visit. Each of the Saturday evenings will have a lecture or debate. The first will be on Natural History given by Peter Tolson, Earnest Neale, and Chris Smith. On the other two Saturdays there are discussions about present day Mendip and its future.

There is a special programme for visiting schools with films shown twice a day at Wells Town Hall. (Any further details of schools programmes or lectures - bookings etc. can be obtained from Mrs. Chris Mulliss, Eastwater Cottage, Priddy. Priddy 252.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the exhibition is the book that the Mendip Society is publishing in connection with the exhibition. When doing research for the exhibition, the team felt that there was a gap in Mendip literature. This gap was in the form of readily available material on Mendip as it is today with the implications of changing agriculture, quarrying demands, the importance that Mendip has in providing water for the Bristol region, and many other important aspects of the Mendip area. As a voluntary society we were hampered by the inevitable shortage of funds that were needed to produce the sort of quality of book that we wished. However, we are most grateful to the authors of their various sections who have given their literary contributions free. Inveresk Paper Company (Wookey Hole) have overwhelmed us by providing approximately £500 worth of paper and Butler and Tanner of Frome are printing the book at cost price. This means we have been able to produce a first-class publication for under half of its true market value. The book will be issued at the end of August and the contents are as follows:-

Foreword	M. G. Wright, Chairman, Mendip Society
Mendip: the fourth dimension	Frances Neale, BA., AKC.
Natural History	C. E. D. Smith, Ph. D
Mendip Hills: the role of the Planning Authority	L. A. D. Russell, CEng., MTPI., FIMechE
Mendip Quarries: their past, present and future	W. I. Stanton Ph. D
Mendip Quarrying Industry	P. Edwards (S. W. Director A. R. C.)
Mendip Water	Messrs. Hewett, Storey- (Somerset River Authority)
Mendip Agriculture	J. Hanwell, B.Sc., F.G.S.
Forestry on Mendip	B. Howell, B.A.
Recreation	
Mendip & Tourism	R. R. Summers (S. W. Director A.A.)
Mendip Underground	C. H. Kenney F.C.A.
Walking on Mendip	S. Marriott (S. W. Secretary Ramblers Assoc.)
Horses on Mendip	E. Stuart (County Officer British Horse Socy.)
Gliding on Mendip	Sq/Ldr Robinson
Bibliography	F. Courtenay (Soil Survey) Steve Trudgill (Bristol University)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE MATT-GREY COMMITTEE by Richard Ralph

Ever since the photo of the current Committee appeared in the December 70 Journal I have been trying to identify those matt-grey faces. I just daren't stand outside Hunters and say - 'Hi You - are you Matt Grey?' - 'cos everyone who leaves there late looks matt grey but they may not care to admit the fact.

What's this leading up to? Well - how many of you look at the membership list and wonder - 'Who the devil is A.C. or J.de B.O. or V.de S. St. J?

'G' is not too bad for if you think that the owner is an average age then his parents were probably loyal and called him 'George'.

But what about 'L'? Would you sidle up to someone and say - 'Just a mo' Liz' - it could be embarrassing.

'H' brings back memories. My parents had an old grandfather clock, and inside the winding compartment door there was a black-edged card stuck to the back saying that this clock had been owned by ancestor Henry. You could lean forward and look down the weight hole - but Henry wasn't there .So does 'H' have a face like the wood-wormy bottom of a grandfather clock?

You may well laugh and think I am clueless when it comes to names but I do think that we ought to make more use of forenames in our Journals.

Don't dismiss this as idle nonsense - for it took me nearly three years to remember elder brother Howard's name.

\*\*\*\*\*

Lavender Cottage,  
Bishop Sutton,  
Nr. Bristol.  
30.6.71.

Sir - Although not a member of the Wessex Cave Club, perhaps I might be permitted a comment on the article on Mangle Hole in the April issue in which, in accordance with your policy during the change to S.I. units, cave dimensions are given in metres and ladder lengths in feet.

The trouble to-day with systems of fundamental units lies in the way they tend rapidly to go out of date and - like caving ladders - relics of earlier systems must co-exist alongside the fashionable one. As far as metric systems go, I was brought up - like most of my generation - on the c.g.s. system and have seen it superseded in turn by m.k.s.; rationalised m.k.s. and now S.I. One wonders what the next system will be and how long it will be before S.I. becomes yet another relic of the past.

This type of trouble, luckily, will be completely resolved in the future by the universal adoption of the R.T.F. system, of which I have the honour to have been the originator some years ago. The system is based on the observation that any new system of measurement should, if possible, render ALL the previous systems obsolete - thus providing more work for the boys, and this is done admirably by the R.T.F. system. In this system, the fundamental units of length, mass and time are represented by the Rod,

Ton and Fortnight respectively. Since, to a high degree of approximation, 1 Rod equals 5m and 1 Ton equals 1,000 kg; it follows that a trifling adjustment to the metre and kilogramme will render conversion to R.T.F. units equally simple from both the obsolescent Metric and Imperial systems. Thus, for example, Cave Diving Group pressure gauges will be calibrated in Tons per Rood, and divers will no doubt be able to perform the simple conversion of 1 atmosphere = 257.16 Tons/Rood by mental arithmetic on their way to the far recesses of Wookey.

If one looks up old books which contain units like the Rod (These will soon become new books, of course) you will see that a square Rod is called a Rood. This principle seemed admirable to the R.T.F. Study Group, who decided to extend it, and call a cubic Rod a Rood. Thus, the density of limestone is 220 Tons/Rood - a fact worth knowing when negotiating an unstable boulder ruckle.

When dropping a stone down an unknown pitch to estimate its depth, it is simple to remember that the acceleration due to gravity is  $2.8 \times 10$  Rods/Fortnight/Fortnight. Unfortunately, wrist watches calibrated in centi-milli-and microfortnights are not yet in general use, so an easy calculation must be carried out, remembering that 1 second = 0.8268 micro-Fortnights.

This may be done while the stone is falling. For more accurate determination of the depth of long pitches, the velocity of sound in air must be taken into account, and this works out conveniently at 79.8 MegaRods/Fortnight.

Conversion to the R.T.F. system will contain no interim arrangements, but will assume that all caving ladders are in whole numbers of Rods, with a standardised rung spacing of 50 milliRods. It is felt that natural selection will quickly weed out those who fail to make the necessary conversion when using old ladders on long pitches.

I look forward to reading your excellent journal at four Fortnightly intervals.

Yours sincerely, 'Alfie' (S.J.COLLINS)

\* \* \* \* \*

Withy Lane,  
Neighbourne,  
Oakhill, Bath.  
13 July 1971

Dear Sir,

With reference to the third paragraph of "Club News" in Jnl. No. 135 June 1971. May I point out that the views expressed are not mine and that the paragraph was written without my knowledge.

The careless use of peoples names, in a manner to make it appear that the views originated from those people, is not something to be expected in a reputable publication.

F. J. Davies.

P.T.O. for Editor's views on this topic.

Editor's Note: In my view there was sufficient plurality in the third paragraph to make this a case of "if the cap fits....". Fred's name was separated from the mention of the scoffers by all the devices punctuation allows and, to me, reads as though he's the one man who's doing anything about training. Though fully convinced that the Journal was written and edited in good faith I regret any offence and have established the precedent of putting the author's name after Club News.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Beauty Area Plan for part of Mendip

(from The Times)

The Countryside Commission has proposed that part of the Mendip Hills in Somerset should be designated an area of outstanding natural beauty.

The proposal was announced so that local interests can be consulted fully before the area is designated and plans are submitted to Mr. Walker, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The area covers more than half Mendip from Bleadon Hill, two miles from Weston Bay, to the A39 from Bath to Wells in the east.

In the north-east corner is Chew Magna Lake. The southern boundary is at the foot of the escarpment of Mendip above Wells. The boundary follows the escarpment westwards past Cheddar Gorge to Bleadon Hill.

The northern boundary takes in Blagdon Lake; but an area of low-lying land around Winscombe and Shipham, where residential development is taking place, has been omitted.

The M5, at present being built, will pass through the western part of the proposed area, bringing it within a few minutes' journey of Bristol.

\* \* \* \* \*

### BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF CAVING INSTRUCTORS

Having previously announced the setting up of schemes for awarding Cave Leader and Cave Instructor Certificates, the BACI is holding a course at Whernside Manor, Dent, from August 28th. to September 4th. at which both training and assessment for the two certificates will be on the bill. The fees for the weekend are £17, plus £3 enrolment for the Certificates.

Whernside Manor itself, The National Scout Caving Activity Centre, has just published a new brochure, advertising courses in Caving, Caving Equipment, Yorkshire Caving, Basic Caving, Beginners Caving, Winter Caving, Cave Science, Geology and Geography of Limestone Uplands, the above-mentioned BACI courses, Introduction to the Dales, Mountain Leadership, Winter Mountaineering, Rock Climbing and Skiing. Further details from Programme and Training Department, the Scout Association, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

## IN SEARCH OF PALMERS

by Mike Haselden, Speleo Rhal C. C.

Much has been written about Lamb Leer and its history, which is not surprising since it is possibly the most fascinating system in Mendip, with the exception perhaps of one or two commercial caves with legendary tales too good to be true.

This article is not meant to be an authoritative text but a personal account of the events which lead up to the breakthrough into December Chamber by our club and the up-to-date news thereof.

After the 1964 breakthrough into May Passage by Speleo Rhal, several digging sites were started but the most hopeful being Promise Passage, hence its apt name. It is an approximately 0.75m tube-like water-worn passage, which was solidly silted up with clay and sand and few stones.

Towards the end of the sixties we suffered a lull in activity, but then roundabout mid '68 new blood and enthusiasm in SRCC re-established a crack team of excavators.

All sorts of contrivances and tools were tried to improve the digging and clearing of spoil, but despite our ingenuity and tenacity we were too often thwarted by the greatest enemy of all - CO<sub>2</sub>. There were weekends when Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday were entirely devoted to the project, and at the end we would only have about ½m. of progress to show for all our trouble.

Other weekends we would be more lucky and the air would remain breathable for up to two hours on each day, then we made good headway. Some days the air would foul up within 10 minutes of starting work, and progress would be negative.

To an outsider, the other conditions of restriction, glutinous mud, dark, dampness, length of journey to the site, the pitches, and so on, would seem like an insurmountable task, and he would most likely have us committed for insane lunatics. However all those things did not really matter; we even enjoyed them, and we persisted, never knowing what the next trowel full of clearance would reveal, but always hoping for air space.

Tackle cleaning after each digging weekend was the most odious task, but to cavers this is nothing new.

It would be grossly unfair not to mention that plenty of other Southern clubs also did their share of digging, not only in Promise Passage but also in other sites in Valentines. Some of these digs are still active. Only the Omnipotent can ever know the measure of work and devotion which speleologists have given to a task too often without reward. I, personally, know members of MNRC, SMCC and BEC who have clocked up countless hours of labour in Lamb Leer.

On Sunday, 13th December last year, 8 of us negotiated the familiar pitches and passages, to our

dig. I say our dig because we had affectionately come to regard it as our own dig, although of course it is their privilege, and no doubt other clubs had a go at it from time to time; but in our continual visits, it was usually evident that we were the last to have worked there.

On that Sunday we noticed that another club (we later found it was Shepton Mallet) had blasted away a large chunk of projecting rock which had caused an awkward constriction, making the clearing of spoil very difficult. The bang had been away from the actual digging face, which this time we also noticed had progressed since our last visit. At last we had serious competition.

We soon started digging and clearing spoil with buckets provided by the other club. Because of the large number in our party, we formed a chain gang and passing the buckets along from one to the other up to the tipping site, worked very well. On other occasions our number had been smaller and we had adopted a method of clearing which worked well, but was much slower. A metal tray was dragged along by a continuous pull cord; unfortunately, this method of clearing spoil occupied more time than actual digging, but it was the best we could do with resources available.

Having established a good system and digging in relays, we progressed like never before, and the tell-tale candle continued burning with a nice white glow; this meant that the CO2 menace was not manifesting itself.

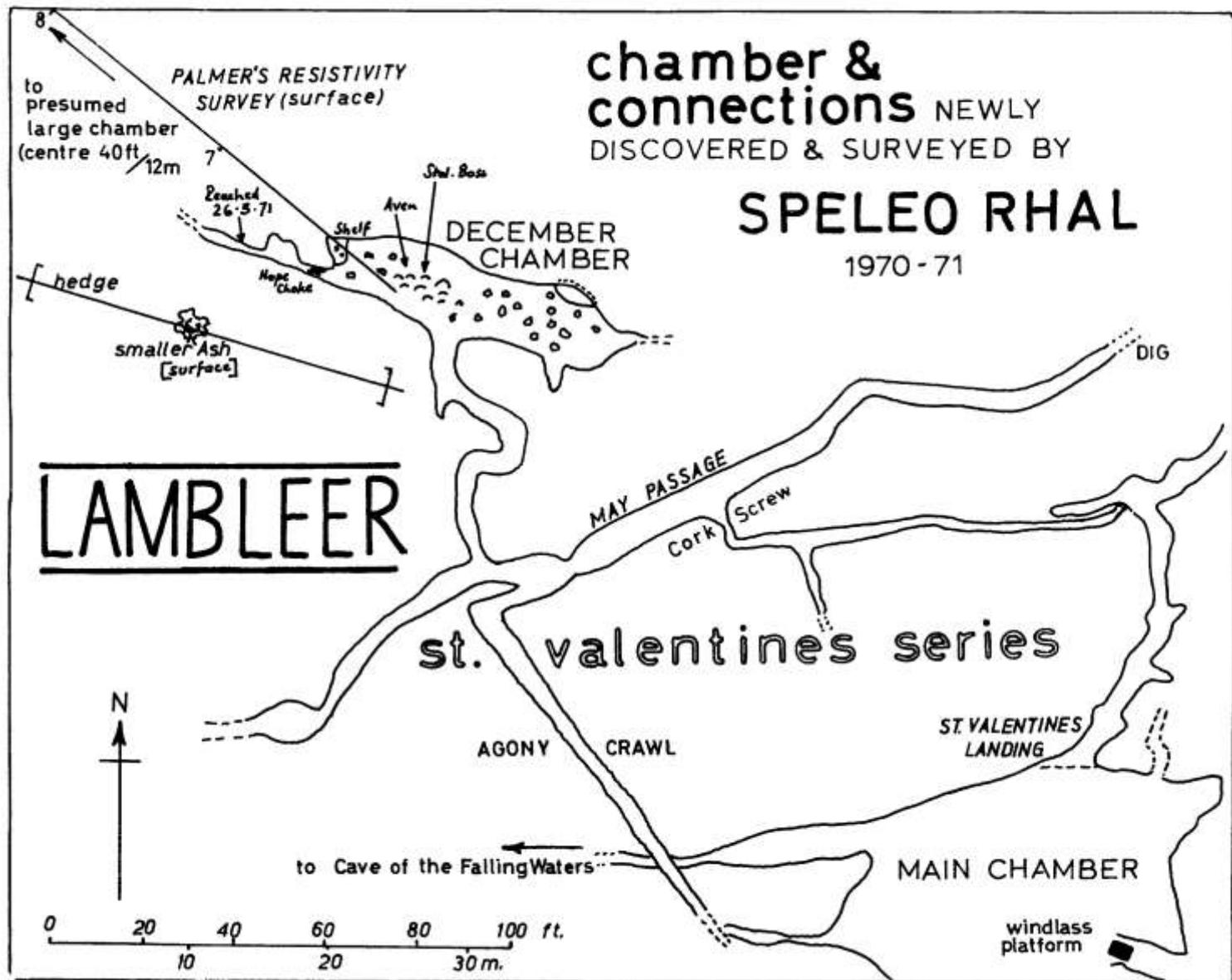
Then a message was passed back along the small passage where we strategically lay, passing buckets to and fro. "I have hit an air pocket" .. "I can get my arm through!" "Just clearing it a bit wider"... "I can see 10 feet inside". Then there was a frenzy of digging and clearing. Finally the passage was just big enough to permit a tight entry.

The leader gave a warning of caution and Peter Eckford, carefully crawled in to investigate. The passage increased in size and very soon emerged into a fairly large chamber. Pete soon declared the good news and told us it was safe to come through.

We all followed except Chris Duff, the poor fellow had to do some more clearing before managing the squeeze as he has larger physical dimensions than other members of the team.

In our newly found chamber it was difficult not to be overcome by the intoxication of explorer's narcosis, and realising that we might without care spoil some unique feature of the virgin cave, it was decided to follow Frank Murphy's advice and leave things well alone, to give the experts the opportunity of initial survey. After completing a quick reconnaissance, which did not reveal any further connecting passages, we departed, but not before deciding on a name; and "December Chamber" it was.

Upon reaching the main chamber we met another party of cavers, who were having a general look around. From our muddy appearance they must have known that we had been engaged in digging operations, because they immediately asked how the dig was going. As I have explained, it was our intention to leave initial exploration and study of December Chamber to the experts; and so in order not to encourage a flood of visitors to our new find, we kept our secret and just answered the others with "Oh, quite good, we have made a bit more progress".



If any member of the mentioned party reads this article and recalls the occasion, I offer my apologies and assure them that we would have enjoyed sharing our exciting experience but we acted in the manner we thought best without malintent.

During the ensuing week which followed our discovery, most members of the party probably just went about their daily duties with the contented thought of their satisfying experience, and no doubt discussed the event with family and friends; but I was beset with an extra burden of duties, being the Club Secretary. I spent all my evenings writing to the Landowner, MNRC, UBSS and other interested parties; it was, however, a pleasant burden.

In the New Year we started working again in Lamb Leer. First we did a rough survey to get a good idea of size and direction. Compass, protractor, lines and tape are the only instruments available to us and obviously our survey which has since been published by MNRC leaves a lot to be desired. A more accurate instrument survey right back to the main chamber is our ultimate aim, but as yet resources disallow this.

A radio location survey has been suggested to establish an accurate fix on surface topography but there again, many problems prevail; finance not being the least.

After several visits to December Chamber we finally managed to get through a very tight and awkward crevice which we called "Hope Choke" or "Murphy's Curse"; this gave access to a small chamber of about 3.6m diameter and 1m. high, with a passage leading off it.

We could see about 6m. into the passage, but the way through was, and at the time of writing still is, obstructed by concretions which become more and more difficult to clear as we slowly chisel our way in. We are concentrating our efforts in this passage because at the end of our visual range (6m.) it appears to bend, and we must find out where that goes to.

In the meantime, two other digs have been started at the high end of December Chamber, but there is not much to say about them.

To conclude this article it is worth mentioning that a most peculiar phenomenon has been observed. Our investigations are not fully concluded as yet, so I make no diagnosis, but consider this.

When we are digging, or rather chiselling, in the small chamber I have described, our hammer blows can be heard coming from a small crevice in the quarry, and that is about 600 feet away on the other side of the road!

Like I said, Lamb Leer is full of mystery and fascination.

## THE GREAT CAVE OF CHEVRE-EGLISE

N. Castanet

I recall, as a young schoolboy, hearing tales of the great cave of Chevre-Eglise in the county of Somerset. How I longed to explore its secret mysteries and penetrate deep into the cavern which for so long had been constantly in my imagination.

At last, in 1959 with some young friends we mounted our bicycles and headed out to the wild gorge wherein lies the yawning entrance to the great cave. After many hours of riding up long and arduous hills we arrived, tired but still cheerful, at the entrance. We staggered up the winding slope weighed down with our load of boiler suits, acetylene lamps, ropes and other paraphernalia which speleologists habitually carry on these daring adventures.

After changing, we picked up our heavy equipment and entered the cave. What a sight met our eyes in the dim light, hardly aided by the flickering flames of our carbide lamps! It was necessary to make a short descent into a vast chamber which stretched away into the distance. This must indeed be the great cave of Chevre-Eglise we had often heard so much about. We began the difficult and treacherous descent into this vast yawning cavity. I quickly tied a rope around me and picking my way carefully down the slippery steps eventually arrived safely on the floor of the great chamber. By now we were running out of carbide and very exhausted, so we were forced to return to the open air, remount our faithful bicycles and pedal wearily back to Bristol.

My thoughts constantly returned to the great cave, but it was two years later before I managed to organise another assault on this cave which for so long had remained an unattainable goal. Once more we found ourselves at the entrance to the cave and made our way down to the great chamber, which had been the furthest point reached by our party on our previous venture. This time, we had brought extra supplies of carbide and water, so necessary to sustain our lights on such an expedition as this. We advanced into the great chamber and wondered ceaselessly when it would end. All the way down, we were puzzled by thin stalagmites of a deep red or black colour. These have since been examined by experts and shown to be iron handrails, no doubt of iron age origin when the cave was inhabited by our distant ancestors. The chamber gradually narrowed and finally came to a dead end. My colleagues were convinced that this was the end of the cave, and were inscribing their initials on the walls by means of their lamps, a characteristic of many cave explorers, when I noticed a small passage which we had passed on our left just before the final choke. I squeezed into it and found myself in a steep rift. Pressing my back against one wall, and my feet against the other, I very gradually let myself down this great gulf, as one slip would almost certainly have proved fatal, and in any case, it would be quite impossible to get an injured person out of such a dangerous situation. After descending three or four metres, I decided that extra equipment would be needed and began to climb back up the rift. The walls of the rift were of smooth flowstone and gave no holds. Eventually, after many hours, I re-joined my companions at the top of the rift and we slowly made our way out of the cave.

Once more, in 1965, I again descended this fearsome cavern, this time bringing more ropes. I

once again descended the rift, this time with the aid of a rope, and my companions joined me at the bottom. We found ourselves in a dry narrow passage, our progress impeded considerably by the fact that the passage instead of being upright was inclined at an angle, forcing us to lean against one wall nearly all the way. After a while, the passage began to rise, and we noticed a tight passage going down to the right in the floor. It proved much too tight to enter, so we pushed on up the slope. At this point, the passage veered to the left (I believe it was left, but below ground, one so quickly loses all sense of direction that it may well have been right), and a shaft opened up on the right. I fastened a rope about me and went to the edge. What I saw filled me with horror. It was a shaft so steep and slippery that it would need another expedition to descend it. We decided to continue up the sloping passage, and soon we were surprised to see the light of day from above. This must be the other side of the mountains! We climbed out, and after spending some hours looking for our bicycles, we once more set off for Bristol, happy in the knowledge that we had at last conquered the great cave of Chevre-Eglise.

\* \* \* \* \*

ADDENDUM AND CORRECTIONS TO SURVEY AND PUBLICATIONS PRICE LIST  
(ISSUED FEBRUARY 1971) JULY 1971

Withybrook Slocker (price misquoted) should read	8p
Reprinted O.F.D. (Survey and Report)	£1 - 50p
Little Neath (Survey only)	50p
Little Neath (Survey and Report)	75p
U.B.S.S. Proceedings Vol. 12 No. 3	£1 - 00p

(Some earlier issues of proceedings are also available).

NEW POSTAGE RATES 2nd Class (Includes cost of packing material)

1 Survey	05p	or Journal	04p
2 Surveys	07p	Journals	06p
3 or 4 Surveys	10p	Journals	09p
5 to 10 Surveys	13p	5 to 8 Journals	13p

Postage and packing on single PUBLICATIONS (Second Class)

Vol. 1 Reprint : Vol. 8 Supp: & Pioneer under the Mendips	11p
U.B.S.S. Proceedings	08p
Great Storms and Floods	06p
Others	04p

Larger Publications orders will cost a little less to post - this surplus will be refunded.

SPECIAL NOTE Many earlier journals are now sold out. We can often offer copies of articles of special interest at 03p per sheet (one sided) plus p & p according to weight.

WANTED any spare journals prior to volume 7 to extend the Club Library.

## **TROG OF THE TRIAS ..... Dave Drew**

Following the Editor's remarks on the image of caving presented by the media (W.C.C.J. No. 134) members of the Wessex may be interested in the film "Trog" which casts new light on the sport of potholing.

"Trog" was premiered at the Regina "Queen City Drive-In" cinema, dismally located on a barely dried out lake bed in the midst of the Prairie. On opening night the parking area was a morass and your reviewer had to push his car several times before reaching a loudspeaker to hitch to the car window. Twenty minutes later the imprecations to buy popcorn and cokes faded from the screen and "Trog" began.

The 'story' concerns a group of well-spoken young gentlemen from University who go caving "to assist their studies". They discover an unexplored cave "near the great marsh" and conveniently located only a few feet from a road. The entrance is a gaping round hole in a small plastic rock outcrop in the middle of a meadow. Soon the leader emerges to announce that he has discovered the "main channel" and confusion follows as each member of the team slides into his own side - passage, airily glides down jagged pitches on frail lengths of rope before mysteriously re-assembling in a large chamber through which the river "fed by underground glacial melt-water" flows in a sort of culvert.

At this point the customary argument breaks out as to the wisdom of continuing further but is soon resolved as the group 'Tiger' strips to his underpants - the nearest approach to full frontal nudity in the film - and lowers himself into the river without a shiver. The remainder of the party then follows suit and they wade through to a second chamber liberally adorned with geometric rows of stalagmite. There are an abundance of large lizard/newts thrashing around in this grotto, but undeterred the team presses on their gay, sexy underpants quite unsullied by cave mud.

At this point the Prairie audience, lacking familiarity with things speleological, became restive and turned to other things with the result that the flashing of headlamps and blasting of horns (apparently the signal to one's friends that orgasm has been achieved), became so profuse as to render the film both inaudible and invisible. When the frenzy declined, clothing had been adjusted and popcorn consumption resumed it was apparent that a hairy, Neanderthal creature, all head and teeth, was cavorting around the cavern happily bashing in caver's heads. This primitive homo-sapiens turned out to be Trog.

The plot then flopped into a well-worn groove as Trog was evicted from his cave (pleasingly wrecking several television cameras en - route), impounded by doubtful scientists ("all he needs is love"), escaped, went berserk, impaled everyday folk with meathooks through the neck etc. The audience, now engaged in exchanging partners between the front and back seats, perked up considerably for this episode.

Of some interest, was the fact that the wretched Trog had been incarcerated in his cave since at least Triassic times to judge by his familiarity with dinosaurs, volcanoes, deserts, etc. Trog has spent an uneventful Pleistocene deep frozen in his chamber before being thawed out by the

present balmy climate of Yorkshire. All this data strongly reinforces Balch's belief in the pre - Triassic age of many caves and may thus be of considerable significance to all speleologists.

Again, my knowledge of this central portion of the film is limited as it rained heavily, the windows misted up and the Mountie vice - squad were visiting cars with dazzling torches to check for orgasms.

Speleological interest revived in the last reel as a disgraced Trog, small child tucked under his arm, scurried back to his cave closely followed by a good part of the British army, a team of frogmen and a thicket of eccentric scientists. Trog thrashed wildly about his chamber recklessly destroying the Permian formations, before the British Army - true to form - dynamited the cave and a repentant Trog falls from a ledge to be impaled through the chest on the sole remaining stalagmite.

Of course, these sort of antics are clearly confined to Yorkshire potholes and could not happen on Mendip, but here surely, is the opportunity for Barton Productions (which sounds more like a British film company churning out black and white thrillers in any case), to cash in on the trend and produce endless soap - operas on "The Adventures of Freefall Freddie" etc for showing at club huts throughout the country.

## POLICEMEN POSED AS POTHOLERS

-that's the Karst Police I suppose – but what of Chairman Jim as a Mounty on the County Clare beat?



## LIST OF MEMBERS

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Alexander, D.            | 3 Goodwin Gardens, Folkestone.                                       |
| Alder, J.C.H.            | 43 Rwolands Crescent, Solihull, Warwickshire.                        |
| Anderson, A.J.           | 725 Bath Road, Cranford, Hounslow, Middlesex.                        |
| Ansell, C.O.S.           | 21 Moseley Road, Naphill, High Wycombe, Bucks.                       |
| Ashworth, H.W.W.         | 9 Lucas Close, West Town Lane, Bristol 4.                            |
| * Atkinson, T.           | 11 Bellevue, Clifton, Bristol 8.                                     |
| * Attwood, H.C.          | 155 Goddard Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire.                              |
| * Audsley A.R.S.         | 60 Conifer Crescent, Wash Common, Newbury, Berks.                    |
| * Baker, Mr. & Mrs. K.F. | 18 Charlton Avenue, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey.                        |
| Balcombe, F.G.           | 143 Newgate Street Road, Goffs Oak, Waltham Cross,<br>Hertfordshire. |
| Barber, K.E.             | 4 Catsash, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.                                 |
| * Barratt, J.P.          | School House, Clifton College, Bristol 8.                            |
| Barrington N.R.          | The Oak House, The Square, Axbridge, Somerset.                       |
| Barton, Dr. M.           | Fairlea, Holcombe, Bath.   |
| Beachamp, C.A.J.         | 65 Coombe Lane, Raynes Park, London S.W.20.                          |
| Benham, J.A.             | 90 Elsdon Road, Wellingborough, Northants.                           |
| Bentley, P.D.            | 9 Northover Road, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.                         |
| * Berry, D.J.            | 10 Green Lane, Avonmouth, Bristol.                                   |
| Bignell, R.              | Dept. of Geography, McMaster University, Hamilton,<br>Ontario.       |
| * Bland, R.L.            | Pollachs House, Clifton College, Bristol 8.                          |
| Blundell, P.R.           | 66 Bromley Heath Road, Downend, Bristol.                             |
| Bolt, G.                 | 34H Caravan Site, Woodcock Road, Warminster, Wilts.                  |
| Booth, P.M.              | 35 Cairns Road, Crosspool, Sheffield.                                |
| Borrett, R.              | 15 Chandler Close, Bampton, Oxford.                                  |
| * Bridle, R.             | Wood Cottage, Harescombe Grange, Harescombe, Glos.                   |
| * Brown, H.B.            | 7 Kinsale Road, Bristol 4.   |
| Bryant, D.C.             | Glyncoed, Victoria Road, Maesycwmmmer, Hengoed, Glam.                |
| Bryant, Mr. & Mrs. T.C.  | As above.  |
| Burleton, A.S.           | 27 Doncaster Road, Southmead, Bristol.                               |
| Burnett, J.M.            | The Bungalow, 1 New Ridley, Stocksfield,<br>Northumberland.          |
| Burt, P.E.               | 66 Roundwood Lane, Harpenden, Herts.                                 |
| * Burton-Spencer, A.J.   | Homestead, Wookey Hole, Wells, Somerset.                             |
| Busby, H.                | 47 The Sands, Milton-u-Llychwood, Oxon.                              |
| * Calvert, J.M.          | 4 Mead Close, North Petherton Nr. Bridgwater, Som.                   |
| Camburn, E.              | 10 Beech Road East, Portishead, Bristol.                             |
| Candlin, P.P.            | 14 Brookfield Way, Olton, Solihull, Warwickshire.                    |
| Carr, T.                 | 7 Woodstock Road, Redland, Bristol.                                  |
| Casteret, N.             | Castel Mourlon, St. Gaudens, Garronne, France.                       |
| Causar, Mr. & Mrs. D.J.  | 3 High Street, East Harptree, Bristol.                               |
| Causar, Mr. & Mrs. S.    | The Cottage, Rectory Lane, Timsbury, Nr. Bath.                       |
| Chappel, R.A.            | 7 Monville Road, Fazakerly, Liverpool 9.                             |
| * Chard, T.H.            | c/o The Earth Science Dept. The Open University,<br>Ealton Hall.     |
| Charlton, J.K.           | 10 Eton Court, Pembury Avenue, Bedford.                              |
| Charles, P.H.            | 26 Eastgate, Hallaton, Market Harborough,<br>Leicestershire.         |

Childs, J.J.	17 Linthorpe Road, Poole, Dorset.
Church, J.R.	2 Wayside Close, Days Lane, Kingtonlangley, Chippenham, Wilts.
Clark, A.G.	8 Cossall Road, Stockwood, Bristol 4.
* Clatworthy, N.R.	15 Bristol Road, Kempton, Brighton, Sussex.
Cleave, F/O & Mrs. N.H.	2 Aspen Close, North Colerne, Chippenham, Wilts.
Clouston, R.	LAD. 2Fld, Reg.R.A., Barford Camp, Barnard Castle.
Cobbett, J.S.	Cripps Hall, The University Park, Nottingham.
* Collins, Mr. & Mrs. R.J.	Orchard Cottage, Burcott, Wells, Somerset.
Cooper, Dr. N.C.	"Westover", Compton Bishop, Nr. Axbridge, Somerset.
Cornwall, J.	26 Russell Road, Fishponds, Bristol.
Cousins, Mr. & Mrs. P.R.	9 Garrick Court, Garrick Road, Lichfield, Staffs.
Crabtree, S.W.	5 Piceland, Uffculme, Nr. Collompton.
Crook, Dr. B.A.	The Laurels, Timsbury, Nr. Bath.
Cullimore, M.D.A.	Beaulieu, Blind Lane, Flackwell Heath, Bucks.
Cullingford, Rev. C.H.D.	Rectory Flat, Stiffkey, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk.
Dare, H.R.	2 Sonja Court, Gayton Road, Harrow, Middlesex.
Darville, J.M.	21 Clifton Hill, Exeter, Devon.
Davies, F.J.	Camp Five, Neighbourne, Oakhill, Bath, Somerset.
Davies, Mr. & Mrs. P.	"Morley", Silver Street, Nailsea, Nr. Bristol.
Davies, Prof. R.E.	7053 McCullam Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119, U.S.A.
Dawe, K.R.	Birch Lodge, Much Birch, Hereford.
* Day, Mr. & Mrs. R.L.	24 Furnwood, St. Georges, Bristol 5.
Desborough, M.R.	20 The Crescent, Burton Latimer, Kettering, Northants.
Devenish, Mr. & Mrs. L.W.E.	Washingpool, Chilcote, East Horrington, Wells, Som.
Dewdney-York, M.W.	19 Alfred Place, Cotham, Bristol.
Dingle, A.E.	32 Lillian Road, Barnes, London, S.W.13.
* Dolman, J.W.	91 Court Road, Kingswood, Bristol.
Down, P.R.	78 Church Lane, Westtown, Bristol.
Drake, R.	1 Sandholme Close, Downend, Bristol.
Drew, Dr. D.P.	25-2351 Rose Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.
Dubois, D.A.	"Holly Cottage", Edwin Road, West Horsley, Surrey.
Duck, J.W.	"Jasmine Cottage", Picts Hill, Langport, Somerset.
Durham, S.J.C.	71 Kinsale Road, Knowle, Bristol.
Edwards, W.T.	91 Rookery Road, Knowle, Bristol.
* Evans, D.G.	17 Madeira Road, Mitcham, Surrey.
Evans, M.H.	13 Litchard Terrace, Bridgend, Glamorgan.
Everett, D.G.	133 Galpins Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey.
* Farthers, G.	17 Tennyson Road, Lower Weston, Bath.
Farthing, I.C.	7 Killarney Avenue, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset.
Faulkner, J.P.	35 Hatters Lane, Chipping Sodbury, Bristol.
Feltam, R.K.	25 Mercia Drive, St. Werburghs, Bristol.
Ferguson, S.A.	9 Melrose Place, Bristol.
Fincham, Dr. A.S.	Dept. of Biochemistry, University of West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica.
* Ford, Dr. & Mrs. D.C.	Dept. of Geography, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.
Fox, J.W.	Brookside, Martons Moss, Smallwood, Nr. Sandbach, Cheshire.
Francis, N.	7 Southbourne Road, Wallasey, Cheshire.
Frost, Mr. & Mrs. F.W.	71 Hazelbury Road, Knowle, Bristol.

- \* Gabb, M.L. 42 Grange Avenue, Hanham, Bristol.
- \* Gannicott, R.A. Box 1141, Yellowknife, N.W.T. Canada.
- George, N. Roselea, 8 Bristol Road, Highbridge, Somerset.
- Gibbs, P.D. 40 Hollywood Road, Brislington, Bristol.
- Giles, P.M. 1 Springfield Way, Hythe, Kent.
- \* Glennie, Brig. E.A. Seaton House, Shrublands Road, Berkhamsted, Herts.
- \* Godden, S.D. 20 Victoria Square, Clifton, Bristol 8.
- Gordon, R.N. Yew Tree Farm, Chewstoke, Nr. Bristol.
- Gosling, J.G. 72 Marston Gardens, Luton, Beds.
- Goverd, K.A. "Longacre", Hursley Hill, Whitchurch, Nr. Bristol.
- \* Graham, A.C. 4 Lymington Close, Norbury, London, S.W.16.
- Grant, D.E. 14 Cresta Road, Abergavenny, Mon.
- Green A.J. 12 Keyford Terrace, Frome, Somerset.
- Gully, A.M. 29 Eastfield, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.
- Gumbleton, D.P.W. 31 Cedar Grove, Yeovil, Somerset.
  
- Hall, A. 1 Hazlebury Road, Knowle, Bristol 4.
- \* Hannam, C. 33 Houndwood Drove, Street, Somerset.
- Hansford, Mr. & Mrs. B.L. 3 St. Swithins Terrace, Winchester, Hants.
- Hanwell, Mr. & Mrs. J.D. "Chaumbey", 50 Wells Road, Wookey Hole, Wells, Som.
- Hardcastle, M.E. 42 Canynge Road, Clifton, Bristol 8.
- \* Harding, R. 34 Taunton Lane, Old Coulsdon, Surrey.
- Hardwick, D.W. 13 Haig Court, Bradford Street, Chelmsford, Essex.
- \* Harper, R.C. 17 Hurn Lane, Keynsham, Bristol.
- Harris, C.W. Monterey Lodge, Wells, Somerset.
- Harrison, W.G. 12 Medway Drive, Keynsham, Bristol.
- Hawkes, Mr. & Mrs. C.J. 10 Christchurch Road, Clifton, Bristol.
- Hensler, E. Gilead Balm, 12 Knighton Close, Woodford Green, Essex.
  
- Hewins, Mr. & Mrs. M.A.H. 31 Badshot Park, Badshot Lea, Farnham, Surrey.
- Hobbis, C.R. Moss Cottage, Wellington Terrace, Clevedon, Som.
- Hobday, F.J. 28 Haywards Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex.
- \* Hodgson, G. 32 Garden House Estate, Crawcrook, Ruyton-on-Tynne.
- Holland, L. c/o Reactor Physics Dept, The University, Birmingham 15.
  
- \* Holland, M.J. Bull Hollow Cottage, Kenley, Shropshire.
- Hooper, Mr. & Mrs. J.H.D. 34 Richmond Road, Staines, Middlesex.
- Howes, S.T. Anlaby, Povey Cross, Horley, Surrey.
- Hucker, F.C. Penniless Porch, Wells, Somerset.
- \* Hunt, M.N. 62 Gloucester Road, North Filton, Bristol.
- Hurworth, A. "Laroch", 44 Acaster Drive, Garforth, Leeds, Yorks.
  
- Iles, Mr. & Mrs. C.J. Corner Cottage, Bussex, Westonzoyland, Bridgwater, Somerset.
  
- Ingle-Smith, D. Geography Dept., The University, Park Street, Bristol.
  
- \* James, K.D. 5 Baytree Road, Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset.
- Jarratt, A.R. Alwin Cottage, Station Road, Congresbury, Bristol.
- Jefferson, P. Male Nurses Hostel, Herrison Hospital, Dorchester.
- Jepson, I. 7 Shelley Road, Beechen Cliff, Bath, Somerset.
- \* Jolliffe, J.G. 318 Magpie Hall Road, Chatham, Kent.
- Jones, Mr. & Mrs. J.H. 33a Dinaw Street, Nantymoel, Glam.
- Jones, R.T.W. 64a Eastfield Road, Burnham, Bucks.
- Jones, U.P. Marsh Farm, Askham-in-Furness, Lancs.

- Kemp, D.  
 Kenney, Mr. & Mrs. C.H.  
 Kenney, R.R.  
 \* Kent, Mr. & Mrs. L.J.  
 Kinsman, Prof. D.J.
- Knott, R.G.
- Ladd, N.J.  
 Lamb, Rev. P.F.C.  
 Lane, Mr. & Mrs. M.J.  
 Lascelles, R.  
 Law, R.D.  
 Lawder, Com. & Mrs. P.B.  
 Lawder, Maj. & Mrs. R.E.  
 Lawrence, A.J.
- Letheren, J.R.  
 \* Lewis, R.G.  
 Lloyd, Dr. O.C.  
 Lyons, T.J.  
 Lyons, T.D.Y.
- Manktelow, Mr. & Mrs. J.T.  
 Manuel, D.G.
- Marking, R.G.  
 Marriot, J.  
 Marshall, J.S.  
 Maxwell, W.G.R.  
 \* Mead-King, S.G.  
 \* Merrett Miss R.S.  
 Metcalf, I.  
 Mills, A.D.  
 \* Mines, R.G.  
 Milton, B.L.  
 Moody, P.D.  
 Moore, G.  
 Morland, F.  
 Morris, Mr. & Mrs. W.A.  
 \* Moxley, M.J.
- Mulvey, Mr. & Mrs. C.J.  
 Murrell, Miss J.J.  
 Murrell, Miss S.G.  
 \* MacCormack, A.  
 MacGregor, R.A.
- Neill, K.  
 New, D.J.  
 Newson, M.D.
- 5 Church Lane, Southwick, Brighton, Sussex.  
 Tudor Cottage, Beryl Lane, Wells, Somerset.  
 "Yennek", St. Marys Road, Meare, Glastonbury, Som.  
 Fishermans Hut, Yarlinton, Wincanton, Somerset.  
 Dept. of Geological & Geophysical Sciences,  
 University of Princetown, New Jersey 08540,  
 Princetown, U.S.A.  
 Cedar Farm, Wiltlane, Draycott.
- Windymarsh, Barton St. David, Somerton, Somerset.  
 The Rectory, Mells, Frome, Somerset.  
 49 Langdale Road, Market Weighton, Yorkshire.  
 5 Stenton Close, Abingdon, Berkshire.  
 Cheddar Road Farm, Axbridge, Somerset.  
 Brook House, Wrington, Bristol.  
 2 Rosedale Corner, Lower Camden, Chislehurst, Kent.  
 4 Guildersfield, Hillfarm Road, Taplow, Maidenhead,  
 Berks.
- "Rickstones", Venus Lane, Clutton, Nr. Bristol.  
 17 Oak Road, Horfield, Bristol 7.  
 Withey House, Withey Close West, Bristol 9.  
 106 Newbridge Hill, Bath, Somerset.  
 302 Greenway Road, Cardiff.
- 23 Hazlemere Road, Marshalswick, St. Albans, Herts.  
 Flat 77B Dartmouth Avenue, Sheerwater Estate,  
 Woking, Surrey.
- 1 Westfield Place, Clifton, Bristol 8.  
 114 West Street, Bedminster, Bristol.  
 107 Milton Road, Copnor, Portsmouth, Hants.  
 12 Heybridge Drive, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex.  
 5 Worcester Crescent, Bristol 8.  
 18 Royal Crescent, Bath, Somerset.  
 Mount Pleasant Farm, Oxenhope, Keighley, Yorkshire.  
 44 Hill Corner Road, Chippenham, Wilts.  
 36 Berkeley Road, Bishopston, Bristol 7.  
 Hazledene, Cluttonhill, Clutton, Somerset.  
 20 Falcon Close, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.  
 17 Elm Grove, Redland, Bristol.  
 Montgomery House, Alexandra Park, Manchester 16.  
 1 Gillian Avenue, St. Albans, Herts.  
 45 Lower Teddington Road, Hampton Wick, Kingston-  
 on-Thames, Surrey.
- 60 Middle Way, Lewes, Sussex.  
 Top Flat, 1 Clifton Hill, Bristol 8.  
 Gelli-Ber, Bastleton, Cardiff.  
 19 Alfred Place, Cotham, Bristol.  
 12 Meadow Way, Theale, Reading, Berks.
- 7 Bedwyn Close, Swindon, Wilts.  
 3 Davids Road, Knowle, Bristol.  
 "Setterfields", Christmas Common, Watlington,  
 Oxfordshire.

Oldham, Mr. & Mrs. A.D.	17 Freemantle Road, Eastville, Bristol 5.
* Padfield, M.	21 Fairlyn Drive, Kingswood, Bristol.
Parfitt, R.E.	"Twyford", Upper Statard Row, Bristol.
Parkes, J.G.	Woodcote, Wood Lane, Parkgate, Wirral, Cheshire.
* Pearce, Dr. R.A.J.	No.3 Rodwell Hall, St.Thomas Road, Trowbridge, Wilts.
Pearson, Mr. & Mrs. H.A.	129 East Dundry Road, Bridge Farm Estate, Whitchurch, Bristol 4.
Peckham, G.E.	7 Marlborough Avenue, Reading, Berks.
* Peckham, P.H.	22 Woodborough Drive, Winscombe, Somerset.
Phillips, J.	15 Marloespath, Green Meadow, Cwmbran, Mon.
Phillpott, J.	31 Ashmole Road, Abingdon, Berks.
Phillpott, R.A.	3 Kings Drive, Bishopston, Bristol 7.
Pick, S.J.	80 Letchworth Road, Leicester.
Picknett, Dr. R.G.	"Suilven", Potters Way, Laverstock, Salisbury, Wilts.
Pickstone, C.	156 The Philog, Whitchurch, Cardiff.
Pilkington, G.	7 Springfield Road, Nelson, Lancs.
* Player, M.B.	20 Hillyfield Road, Headleypark, Bristol 3.
* Pointing, G.H.	10 Greenlane, Avonmouth, Bristol.
Pratchett, N.	12 North Cadbury, Yeovil, Somerset.
Prewer, B.E.	East View, West Horrington, Wells, Somerset.
Pyke, Dr. R.	22 Pinner Road, Northwood Hills, Middlesex.
Pullin, T.A.	Campari, Court Road, Oldland.
Quillam, B.	23 Mary Green, Abbey Road, London N.W.8.
Reckert, N.	Ayot Weir, Wey Road, Weybridge, Surrey.
Rees, T.J.	26 Smitham Downs Road, Purley, Surrey.
Reynolds, F.A.	Tamarisk, Round Oak Road, Cheddar, Somerset.
Reynolds, G.F.	9 Leys Road, Wellingborough, Northants.
Reynolds, P.M.	Riverside, High Street, Kinver, Stourbridge, Worcs.
Reynolds, T.E.	2 Beaconsfield Road, Bristol 8.
Rigg, Mr. & Mrs. A.J.	76 Bushwood, Yeovil, Somerset.
* Roberts, G.A.	c/o Computer Dept. S.W.G.B. Sydney Wharf, Bath, Som.
Roberts, M.B.	The Tunnel House, Coates, Cirencester, Glos.
Robertson, J.A.	63 The Drive, Wellingborough, Northants.
Rogers, Dr. A.F.	Dept. of Physiology, The University, Bristol.
* Rosser, A.J.	29 Wellington Park, Clifton, Bristol 8.
Sanderson, K.A.	69 Chonday Road, Keynsham, Bristol.
Saunders, R.E.	52 Kenmore Drive, Yeovil, Somerset.
* Savage, D.	c/o 6 Sandfield Road, Rochdale, Lancs.
Sealy Mr. & Mrs. A.E.	Hillgrove Farm, Green Ore, Wells, Somerset.
Search, R.A.	29 Oxford Road, Burford, Oxon.
Seer, A.R.	18 Ilchester Crescent, Bedminster Down, Bristol 3.
Shapland, R.H.B.	30 Bidbury Crescent, Henleaze, Bristol.
* Sharpe M.J.	52 St.Mathews Road, Cotham, Bristol.
* Sharpe, T.J.	52 St.Mathews Road, Cotham, Bristol.
Shaw, Com. T.R.	Shavercombe, Crapstone, Yelverton, Devon.
Simmons, Flt.Lt. M.G.	10a Berwick Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
* Smart, J.A.	10 Ormerod Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol 9.
* Smart, P.L.	19a The Mall, Clifton, Bristol 8.

Smethurst, B. 2 Oak View, Knutsford, Cheshire.  
 Smith, P.H. Mount Pleasant Farm, Chapel Allerton, Axbridge, Som.  
 \* Smith, S. Flat 2, 337 East Park Road, Leicester.  
 Stanbury, T.H. 31 Belvoir Road, St. Andrews, Bristol 6.  
 Stanton, Dr. & Mrs. W.I. Kites Croft, Westbury-sub-Mendip, Wells, Somerset.  
 \* Statham, I. 13 Mortimer Road, Clifton, Bristol.  
 Staynings, Mr. & Mrs. R.J. 8 Fanshaw Road, Hengrove, Bristol 4.  
 Stevens, Dr. G. 4 Kinston Avenue, Acklan, Middlesborough, Teeside.  
 Stevens, M. 174 Badminton Road, Downend, Bristol.  
 Stuckey, J.W. Saskatoon, South View Crescent, Coalpitt Heath,  
 Bristol.  
 Surrall, A.J. 216 Evesham Road, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worcs.  
 Tanner, D.B. 2174 Bartlett Ave., Victoria B.C., Canada.  
 Teasdale, L. "Farrend", Old Ave., West Byfleet, Surrey.  
 \* Teasdale, Mr. & Mrs. L.M. 47 Cambourne Road, Morden, Surrey.  
 Thomas, J.A. 13 Hale Reeds, Heath End, Farnham, Surrey.  
 \* Thompson, A.J. 21 Shaftesbury Road, Oldfield Park, Bath.  
 Thompson, Mr. & Mrs. M.M. Fire Engine House, Upper Benter, Oakhill, Somerset.  
 Thomson, Dr. D.M.M. "Pinkacre", Leigh-on-Mendip, Nr. Bath, Somerset.  
 Tombs, D.J. 24 Ferndale Road, Northville, Bristol 7.  
 Tomkinson, G. Blencogo House, Blencogo, Wigton, Cumberland.  
 \* Tooth, Mr. & Mrs. T.J. 410 Wells Road, Knowle, Bristol.  
 Tratman, Dr. E.K. Penrose Cottage, Burrington, Bristol.  
 Trenchard, P.C. 6 Franklyn Terrace, Farrington Gurney, Bristol.  
 Trenchard, S.M. 6 Franklyn Terrace, Farrington Gurney, Bristol.  
 \* Tringham, A.F. North Longwood, Beggar Bush Lane, Failand, Nr. Bristol.  
 Tringham D.A. Silverdale, Staunton-on-Wye, Herefordshire.  
 \* Tuck, Mr. & Mrs. N.W. 48 Wiston Path, Fairwater, Cwmbran, Monmouthshire.  
 Tudgay, Mr. & Mrs. G. 23 Clifton Wood Road, Clifton Wood, Bristol 8.  
 Turner, A.G. 38 Clarence Street, Egham, Surrey.  
 \* Urwin, Miss K.M. 4a Filwood Broadway, Knowle, Bristol 4.  
 Vanderplank, R.J.R. 51 Cambridge Road, Clevedon, Somerset.  
 \* Venn, J. 7 Cooks Folly Road, Bristol.  
 Wallis, Dr. F.S. The Museum, Wells, Somerset.  
 \* Warburton, D. 45 Lowerlickhill Road, Sturport, Worcs.  
 Warwick, Dr. G.T. 47 Weoley Park Road, Sellyoak, Birmingham 29.  
 Watson, C. Hillsborough Lawn, Graham Road, Cheltenham, Glos.  
 Watts, Dr. P. Stantage, Allington, Salisbury.  
 \* Weatherly, I. 48 Weysprings, Hazlemere, Surrey.  
 Wedgwood, Sir. J. White House, Clare, Suffolk.  
 Wellard, C.R. 1 Elm Close, Yatton, Bristol.  
 West, Mr. & Mrs. R.M. Elm Tree Cottage, Hallatrow, Nr. Bristol.  
 \* Weston, P.L. 5 The Avenue, Truro, Cornwall.  
 \* White, A.J. 17 Ashleigh Road, Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset.  
 White, M. 1 College Fields, Clifton, Bristol 8.  
 \* Whitely, R.H. Shaw Clough, Pinfold Lane, Scammonden, Huddersfield,  
 Yorks.  
 Whittle, R.A. 8 Cote House Lane, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol 9.  
 Wigmore, J.R. Post Office Stores, Brainend, Dunmow, Essex.

Wilbourn, P.	Kingswood School. Lansdown, Bath.
* Wileman, J.P.	38 Odensil Green, Solihull, Warwickshire.
* Wilkinson, T.	Expedition Training Office, H.M.S. Daedalus, Lee-on-Solent.
Wilkinson, B.	c/o Village Post Office, Priddy, Somerset.
Willcocks, W.J.R.	3 Westview Drive, Twyford, Berks.
Willis, Mrs. B.M.	Flat 2, 40 Altenburg Gardens, London S.W.11.
Willis, D.A.	Flat 2, 40 Altenburg Gardens, London S.W.11.
Winter, P.J.	17 Denmar Park, Hengrove, Bristol.
Witcombe, R.G.	39 Whitstone Road, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.
* Woods, D.G.	31 Highfield Road, Horfield, Bristol 7.
* Woolley, R.	64 Devonshire Road, Bristol 6.
* Wynne-Roberts, S.G.	c/o R. Mansfield, Tiny Kott, Little London, Oakhill, Somerset.
Young, D.N.	2 Conbar Avenue, Rustington, Sussex.

### AFFILIATED CLUBS

Bristol Grammar School C.C., University Road, Bristol 8.

Connaught Secondary School, Filwood. Bristol 4.

\* The Crew, Kingswood School C.C., School House, Kingswood School, Lansdown, Bath, Somerset.

\* Pollachs House C.C., Clifton College, Bristol 8.

Scout Adventure Advisory Unit, c/o Beauchamp, 65 Coombe Lane, London S.W.20.

Sidcot School Speleological Soc. Sidcot School, Winscombe, Somerset.

\* South Town C.C., Clifton College, Bristol 8.

\* = Members whose subscriptions have lapsed this year (20.5.71). Many of these subscriptions have been received since the master copy was prepared and the Club apologises to good customers!

## Shorter Notices

### Transactions of the Cave Research Group of Great Britain, Vol. 13, No. 2, June 19719

This is the write-up of the Symposium on the Origin and Development of Caves, held earlier this year and reviewed in the April Wessex Journal. Once again it appears as a clean, crisp, offset-litho publication with a good reproduction of diagrams and good photographs. It contains eight papers and forms a collection which should be readable to both specialist and sportsman. It might also prove a useful introductory text and an indication to those of educatable age that caves are rather more complex in origin than the guide says. There are unfortunately still rather annoying spelling mistakes, like the reviewer's name!

M.D.N.

### Bulletin of the British Speleological Association, New Series 3, June 1971

The photographic cover is certainly luring the reader inside the Bulletin more rapidly these days. Once inside there begins a handy conservational article by D.T. Richardson on the bugs and beasties which inhabit the less profound recesses of caves near the entrance zone. For instance the Cave Fly (*Leria serrata* L.), two moths, worms and the Great Cave Spider (*Meta menardi* Latr.).

Next comes a snippet from Tony Waltham's Himalayan memoirs - on Gupteswary Cave, Nepal, a Hindu Shrine which had to be done in bare feet after a 50 mile hike! Incidentally it is revealed that Tony is to edit a new series of Cave Science - three issues a year. This is a good time to consider material from the South before the other lot get in! Articles to A.C. Waltham, Geology Dept., Trent Polytechnic, Burton Street, Nottingham.

It seems that the B.S.A. has been finding stuff in Peak Cavern. After at last clearing most of the mess left by the Neil Moss rescue attempt they went on to discover a very tall aven in the final rift section leading into a long bedding passage, giving the elevation diagram an inverted 'L' shape- There's a report on caving in South Africa, and South West Africa, where the rock is mostly dolomitic and there's also a considerable risk of Histoplasmosis in some caves.

In Yorkshire, it seems, one can still go for a walk on the moors and, on hearing a trickle of water, pull aside some grass and get yourself a new cave. The Long family did this on Fountains Fell, discovering New Pasture Cave. Ben Lyon and his mates are doing it all the time in Dentdale.

One interesting point about reviewing the 'nationals' this time is that their membership lists reveal that, added together, they are just about ahead of Wessex Membership!

M.D.N.