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CLUB OFFICERS FOR 1977/78

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<i>M.R.O. Team Co-ordinator:</i>	H.A. Pearson, 129 East Dundry Road, Bridge Farm Estate, Whitchurch, Bristol 4.

Journal price for non-members: 30p per issue. Postage 12p extra

EDITORIAL

As might have been expected, the Journal came under discussion at the A.G.M., and much constructive criticism was made. The return to regular publication means that up to date news and comment can be circulated to members, a feature we have lacked in the past through being too introverted and parochial. This, it was felt, applied to all of us, not just the Editor, and all who attended the A.G.M. must now be aware of what is required of them.

As the highlight of the Club year is the Dinner weekend, it is only natural to feel a sense of anti-climax afterwards. This does not seem to have been the case this year, and already a small group of members has found some new passage under Mendip. Its location is being kept quiet until a full exploration can be made, but it seems that it will only be of academic interest to large, non-aquatic cavers. This, and the successful Yorkshire meet and social events of the past few weeks, should hopefully set the tone for the coming year.

As temporary joint Editors, we now hand over to the new incumbent, and wish him well for his term of office. It is not in the nature of the job that he will manage to please everyone all of the time, but with the support of the Club, we feel sure that the Journal will at the very least maintain its previous standard of quality and interest.

CLUB NEWS

A.G.M. and Dinner

Both of these events were judged to be successful by the majority; a report on the Dinner will appear later. The A.G.M. minutes will be published in full nearer the next A.G.M., but relevant points are given here.

Affiliations are now being processed, as a result of the Asst. Sec's finalisation of a form of indemnity. It is likely that we will lose the Bournemouth School, through excessive travel costs, but retain the Sidcot School S.S., and gain two further affiliated clubs in the near future.

Lamb Leer access negotiations are described below, as are plans to form a Cave Entrance Rescue Fund at Southern Council level. The extension at Upper Pitts is nearing weatherproofing, and it is hoped to have the new workshop functional before too long. The reduction in membership by 10% may have been due to the reduced rate of journal publication, but effective ways of overcoming this were discussed at the meeting.

A major discussion point was the failure of the Hon. Treasurer to produce audited accounts in time for the Meeting. These should be ready soon, and will be published in the next journal. A statement by the Hon. Auditor has been published in this edition, and the Treasurer will be considering means of simplifying the accounts in future.

The Trustees report, by Jim Hanwell, mentioned the fact that Upper Pitts seemed to be getting better over the years. Jim said that many overseas visitors had commented that it was the best caving club HQ they had seen. Making a welcome return to the U.K., Derek Ford said that it put many headquarters in the States to shame, and he commended the designers on producing such a workable building.

The Club Officers for 1977/78 are listed on the inside front cover of this journal, and their duties are listed below for reference.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

<i>Chairman</i>	Chairman of Committee Meetings.
<i>Secretary</i>	Internal Club policy, liaison with other clubs and outside organisations.
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	New membership applications, C.C.C. permits for members. Affiliated Clubs.
<i>Caving Secretary</i>	Issue of cave keys. C.C.C. permits for non-members. Booking caves in all areas. (Asst. Caving Sec. deals with CNCC bookings only).
<i>Treasurer</i>	Overall Club finances.
<i>Gear Curator</i>	Construction and maintenance of tackle.
<i>Editor</i>	Articles for publication in the Journal.
<i>Hut Admin. Officer</i>	Hut bookings, co-ordination of supplies and repairs for Upper Pitts.
<i>Hut Warden</i>	Day-to-day running of Upper Pitts.
<i>Deputy Hut Warden</i>	Assists and deputises for the Hut Warden.
<i>General Sales Officer</i>	General caving items
<i>Pub. Sales Officer</i>	Journals and other publications to non-members.
<i>Survey Sales Officer</i>	Cave Surveys.
<i>Journal Dist. Officer</i>	Postal distribution of Journals.
<i>M.R.O. Team Co-ordinator</i>	Raising a rescue team from Bristol area members.

Subscriptions

Members are reminded that subscriptions fell due at the A.G.M. They remain at £4 for ordinary members, £5 for joint members, and £1 each for members of affiliated clubs. A payment slip was included in the last journal. At the A.G.M., Club Rule 8 was amended so that members whose subscription falls more than one month overdue shall be given notice of this fact in the journal

published subsequently. Thereafter, if the subscription is not paid within one month after receiving such notice, those members names shall be struck off the membership list. Members living overseas will, of course, be given an extra period of grace. Will members with Bankers Orders please ensure that they will be changed to comply with the rule change, and that they are to the current value of the subscription.

Hut Fees

The Committee regrets that, due to inflation, fees at Upper Pitts have had to rise. The opportunity has also been taken to amend the fees system. As from January 1st 1978, Day Fees will cease to operate, because the only difference in facilities used at Day and Overnight rates is use of a bunk - and that costs the Club nothing to provide. To reduce overcrowding, members will only be permitted to bring one personal guest, who should be introduced to the Hut Warden or a Committee Member. If a member wishes to bring more than one personal guest, he should apply in advance to the Hut Administration Officer. Visiting Clubs will be limited to parties of 12; any more are liable to be turned away. Clubs should apply in advance to the Hut Administration Officer, enclosing a cheque for 20% of the fees, and an SAE. The cheque will be returned if the booking cannot be confirmed. The SAE will be used to confirm the booking, and send a receipt for the cheque. This can be proof of booking on arrival, and can be offset against the total fees paid. As from January 1st, Hut Fees will be as follows:

Changing only	5p per person
Members Overnight Fees	30p per person per night
Personal guests fees	50p per person per night
Visitors	£1.00 per person per night

The booking-in sheets will also be modified.

Animals

Following recent complaints about animals stealing food and fouling inside Upper Pitts, it has been decided to ban all animals from inside the HQ.

Lockers

Until the new changing room is operational, no more lockers will be installed at Upper Pitts. The Hut Warden is concerned at the food box ruckle in the kitchen, and the fact that he does not know which have had their rental paid. Members are therefore advised that all boxes and lockers must be labelled with owners names, and paid for, by January 7th 1978. Any boxes or lockers which have not met with these conditions will be opened, emptied and reallocated. The contents are liable to be sold, and the proceeds donated to the Club.

Club Security

Following recent minor thefts, and the fact that the Committee no longer knows who has keys, officially or unofficially, it has been decided to change the locks at Upper Pitts. They will be of a Yale type, which means that the doors will automatically lock when closed. Will members who require a key please contact the Hut Warden, enclosing £1. This will be returned if at some future date the key is no longer required. It is possible that the new hut key will also be used to make tackle available to members, on the BEC system.

Wessex Expedition

The Committee is considering an expedition to Spain next year. The aim will be to take as many members as possible, who may decide on their own programme of caving as far as possible. In order to be more specific, will members who are interested please contact either the Hut Warden or Secretary, giving details of preferred dates, area, and what they would like to do once there. The more that come, the cheaper it will be. Traditionally, the Wessex has worked the Central Massif of the Picos de Europa, which provides the chance for original discovery and exploration, as well as descending known systems, climbing, walking, eating and drinking. If the trip is to be a success, definite plans will have to be put into action early in the new year - and a non-returnable deposit sought from those interested.

Sludge Gulper

Following satisfactory underground tests, the Club is to purchase a sludge pump, which has proved to be an efficient way of draining static sumps and flooded digs. It will be available to any member, for use on Mendip only to start with, at a moderate charge to cover maintenance. Further details will be announced later.

Survey Gear

After considering several requests from members, the survey gear can now be issued by any Committee Member. The £30 deposit remains.

T-Shirts

A quote has been received for T-Shirts at £2 each, or Sweat Shirts at £3.75 each. These will carry the Club badge in three colours. Advance orders are required before any of these will be sought - please put your name on the slip on the notice board at Upper Pitts, or write to the Sales Officer, giving type of garment you require, and the size (Small, Medium, Large).

BCRA Symposium on Northern Spain

The BCRA is organising a one-day symposium on Northern Spain at Bristol University for the summer of 1978. The Hon. Sec. (Phil Hendy) has been induced to help with the organisation, and he would like to hear from anyone who would be prepared to read a relevant paper, or who has suggestions for papers which could be included in the programme.

Cave Survey Scheme

Maurice Hewins reports that he is selling few surveys by post, but a range of the popular Mendip surveys are on sale at Upper Pitts, together with a few from South Wales. Nine Barrows Swallet and Sludge Pit Hole are now on one combined survey at 55p.

The terms for postal purchase of surveys are cash with order, plus 40p for postage; any excess will be refunded. If anyone wishes to have an unfolded survey, would they please send Maurice a cardboard tube.

Mendip Cave Registry

After many years, Ray Mansfield has relinquished the Mendip Cave Registry, which maintains a record and bibliography of every known Cave and Mine in Avon and Somerset. The task will be taken over by a subcommittee of the Council of Southern Caving Clubs, and volunteers to assist will be more than welcome.

International Speleological Congress

The caving camps did not make much impact on Mendip, the first one being abandoned through lack of support, and the second being only sparsely attended. Most major Mendip caves were visited by our overseas visitors, and the UBSS hosted some popular diving meets in South Wales and Mendip.

M.O.L.E.S.

An idea of Pete McNab's (Snab) has developed into the Mendip Original Limestone Expedition Society, which has the intention of providing low cost vehicles (such as Transits) for expeditions within the U.K. and Europe. The annual subscription is £1, and further details are available from the Wessex representative, Phil Hendy. Use of vehicles is restricted to members of the M.O.L.E.S., and to start the Society, a trip is being planned to Yorkshire in the New Year.

Cave Leaders

We congratulate Paul Hadfield on becoming a leader for St. Cuthbert's Swallet, and Mike O'Connor on becoming a leader for O.F.D. I. A full list of Wessex leaders will be published in the next journal.

Photographic Competition

Entries so far have been slow. Nick Barrington has highlighted the feelings of many amateur photographers over copyright, and so Rule 4 has been amended as follows:

Rule 4. The ownership and copyright of the winning photograph rests vested in the photographer, but Wessex Cave Club reserves the right to publish the picture for the benefit of Wessex Cave Club at their discretion.

It is to be hoped that this will clear up any doubts, and encourage entries. A judging date has not yet been fixed, but Frank Frost, one of the judges, is being prevailed upon to show some old magic lantern slides, including some of an early Club trip to France, to make more of an event of it.

Lamb Leer Access

Negotiations are continuing. Somerset County Council has dropped the annual rent it would require to £40, but the CSCC still thinks this is excessive. Tim Reynolds has been instructed to offer no more than £ 100 for a three-year lease - if this is unacceptable, cavers are prepared to let the cave be closed for a year, pending further negotiations.

Cave Entrance Rescue Fund

A final plan is being drafted, which is likely to meet with general agreement. One possible source of finance, suggested by Willie Stanton, is to use the excess profits from the Cave Survey Scheme. At the A.G.M., the Club agreed with this idea. A certain amount of materials will be stored at Upper Pitts.

S.S.S.I. Revision

A nationwide revision of Sites of Special Scientific Interest is being undertaken, and another subcommittee of CSCC will be reporting on those Mendip cave sites which they feel should be scheduled. Anyone interested in participating should contact the Hon. Sec., in the first instance.

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Elected 11.9.77

Christopher Milne, 11 Charles Close, Thornbury, AVON BS12 1LN.

Elected 6.11.77

Miss Marion Gay, 10 Cosbycote Avenue, Herne Hill, London SE24.

David Morrison, 27 Maurice Walk, London NW 11.

Richard D.Piron, 30 Dudley Street, Bedford (re-elected).

Dennis Wheeler, 23 Beresford Road, Brighton, Sussex.

Address Changes

To ensure prompt delivery of journals, members should notify either the Hon. Sec. or Treasurer should they change address.

Diving Weights

If any members want to justify a trip to Swildon's 2 or 4, Al Mills has asked that they bring out any lead weights, so they can be remoulded. Several have already been recast, into a 'buckle' shape, which should make them easier to thread onto belts, and less prone to damage.

Stoke Lane Slocker

A new diving line has been fitted in Sump 2, together with a notice warning covers that it is NOT free-diveable.

Ammo Boxes

These are again available at Upper Pitts. Large £1, medium (very limited numbers) £0.75, and small £0.60. Ideal for cameras, sandwiches and other items which need to be kept dry underground.

Firewood

We are grateful to Keith and Colin Williams of Whitestown Farm for a dead elm tree, which has been transported to Upper Pitts. Any member with a bit of excess energy is welcome to saw it up into lengths which will fit the fireplace. Brushwood for the November 5th bonfire came from the same source. Once again, many thanks!

DIARY DATES

3rd December	N.C.A. A.G.M. Castle Hotel, Tredegar, Gwent. 10.00 a.m.
10th December	B.C.R.A. Winter Meeting. Mendips.
15th February	Paul Esser Memorial Lecture. Physics Dept., Bristol University. 8.15 p.m.
11th March	Wm. Pengelly C.S.T. Ltd. 'Deposits in Sea Caves'. Institute of Geological Sciences, Exhibition Road, London SW7.*
11th March	B.C.R.A. Symposium. 'Cave Photography'. U.M.I.S.T., Manchester

* Admission free, but write with SAE to book a seat and obtain a programme to:

Dr. G. Black, 107 Andover Road, Newbury, Berks.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 1978

The following dates have been provisionally agreed. Committee meeting weekends will be restricted to members only.

January 8th	September 10th
March 5th	OCTOBER 21st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER
May 7th	November 5th
July 2nd	

FRIDAY NIGHT TRIPS

1977	Dec 9	Longwood	1978	June 23	Swildons (CANDLES ONLY)
1978	Jan 6	Fairy Cave Quarry		July 7	Wales
	Jan 20	Manor Farm		July 21	North Hill
	Feb 3	Eastwater		Aug 4	Stoke Lane
	Feb 17	Cheddar		Aug 18	St. Cuthbert's
	Mar 3	Thrupe Lane		Sept 1	Lamb Leer
	Mar 17	Wales		Sept 15	Brownes Folly Mine
	Mar 31	Singing River mine		Sept 29	Mangle hole / Sandford Levvy
	Apr 14	Cow Hole		Oct 13	Fairy Cave Quarry
	Apr 28	Lionel's Hole		Oct 27	Tyning's / G.B.
	May 12	Dallimore Cave		Nov 10	Swildon's Hole
	May 26	G.B.		Nov 24	Wales
	June 9	Longwood		Dec 8	Longwood

Meet at 7.30 p.m., except for Wales.

Further details from : R.R.Kenney, 'Yennek', St. Mary's Road, Meare, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9SS. Tel: Meare Heath 296.

MENDIP NOTES

by

Wimblestone

Farr reaches

Oliver Lloyd describes it as the end of a chapter. Wookey 25's downward plunge has outstripped the present day technical capabilities of the best of Britain's cave divers. The "big push", postponed a week because of heavy rain, got under way at 11.30 am on Saturday 18th June. Eight hours later the team of six divers emerged, cheated of the hoped-for breakthrough into the confluence of the Priddy swallets, and rewarded only by a new British cave diving record. Martyn Farr entered the terminal sump encumbered with an 82 cu ft cylinder plus a 45 cu ft bottle in reserve, and plummeted steadily down a spacious inclined rift, passing a 10' pot and finally checking his descent at a very hard-won -150'. At this point the passage, now 8' square, continued its plunge.

It may well be some years before the next chapter of the Wookey saga is written since deep diving is not only a very dangerous but also a very expensive game. In the meantime we can look forward to the resumption of hostilities on the Northern Front - the almost equally watery Cuthbert's sump dig.

Here today, gone tomorrow

No sooner were we getting used to the promise and potential of the new four thousand footer at Tynings Barrows than we learn of its decline, collapse and closure. The mud which originated from the infilling of the surface depression tested the diggers' defences, found them wanting, and decided to become an avalanche and block the cave. Now there is talk of a weekend "maximum effort" dig to retrieve the mud and allow the radiolocation men to search for a better entrance from the bottom up. Current favourite seems to be an aven entering the back of Dragon Chamber St George's Pot?

Wheal Wigmore

A dig in Dolomitic Conglomerate may not be everyone's idea of the site "most likely to" but one such swallet probe is currently keeping the BEC out of mischief. The working area of Wigmore Swallet near Red Quar displays a remarkable degree of professionalism from the NCB warning notices down to the winding signal instructions. The winch is motorised, of course, and utilising a beer cask skip and travelling pulley, a tremendous amount of spoil has been shifted in the space of a few months. The result is a roomy shaft with solid rift walls some thirty feet deep. It's a site worth eliminating alright, but what happens when the diggers reach the underlying Old Red Sandstone?

Stoke 3 and beyond

As if cave diving wasn't fraught with enough hazards, the Wessex Stoke Lane regulars throw in a good measure of dicey climbing as well. They have recently conquered the 30' high stal flow in Stoke 3 which was thought to pour from a sizeable passage above the streamway. Alas, the shadowy recess was nothing but a stal- choked grotto - nicely decorated but poor recompense for half a dozen assaults with bolts and maypoles. Nothing daunted, the divers are now toying with a visit to Stoke 8. Considering that no one has been there since the Great Flood of '68, the cave may yet have some surprises in store for them.

Three's a crowd

We all know that the East is full of promise, but that's no excuse for a gold rush. When the Cerberus turned up to dig at the Blake's Farm Swallet complex, they bumped into a group from Cannington and a group from Bath, all with the same idea!

STOP PRESS !!

The Hon. Tackle Carrier and Festerer of the Black Maggot Caving Group (a sub-group of the Wessex - *Ed.*) discovered a new cave on Ras al Kaimah about 100km from Dubai. Here the Jebel rises to over 2,000 metres, sweeping down to the sea. On an initial visit a large entrance was followed by 50 ft of man-sized passage leading to a boulder pile. Lighting equipment was restricted to a box of matches, but a return visit is planned. A number of other holes, apparently difficult of access, have also been eyeballed, and plans are afoot for the future. Anyone visiting the area should get in touch with the BMCG first for details.

dateline Mina Jebel Ali
1st November 1977

(It cannot be coincidence that Pete Slater, a climbing / caving friend of Paul Hadfield, has recently taken up an appointment in Dubai - Ed.)

NEWS FROM OTHER REGIONS

Ogof Craig-a-Ffynnon (Rock and Fountain Cave)

John Parker and others have extended this dig to 4½ miles of surveyed passage, with inlets. It runs parallel to the Agen Allwedd system, and by all accounts is an impressive cave. Visits are now being allowed, but cavers should be prepared to help survey, tape or ferry equipment. A wet suit is essential, and visits are at present limited to small parties. Contact John Parker, Pontypool 57279, J. Hill, Ebbw Vale 304413, or W. Gascoine, Pontypool 4489.

Box Mines

Stroud Subterranean Ramblers have co-operated with National Trust, when they learned that the latter were to block the entrances to three stone mines at Box, near Nailsworth, Glos. Two mines are now gated, and the third should be completed shortly. Although short, the mines are interesting, and are used by greater and lesser horseshoe bats. Keys are held by the Hon. Sec. S.S.R. (Bruce Hendrie) 10 Fort View Terrace, Cainscross, Stroud, Glos. GL5 3ES.

North Wales C.R.O.

NWCRO callout is by dialling 999, asking for the POLICE, and then for CAVE RESCUE. The 999 call is directed to Police HQ at Colwyn Bay, irrespective of where in North Wales the call is made.

Lathgill Dale, Derbyshire

Caves and mines in this Nature preserve are being gated. Permits will be available to members of D.C.A, and to specified clubs of other regional councils. The permit is very positive in its limitations, and must be adhered to.

Matlock Bath Mines

Devonshire Carvern has two shafts and adits fitted with grilles, which must be replaced securely after use.

Speed well-Fluorspar Complex

Entry is now via Tearbraches and Speedwell adits in the area of Romantic Rocks.

ANNIALARA

Contrary to previous reports, the cave has not yet ended in a sump. Progress has been halted by a large boulder blocking the passage. Undoubtedly a further assault will be made, probably with a fused sledgehammer, since the system is potentially deeper than the PSM.

OLD ING MINE

The description of the dive between I and II is potentially misleading. A Wessex party recently found that after ten feet or so, the large diameter polyprop guide rope is tied to a standard 3mm couylene divers line, which leads straight on into Old Ing II. Following the line does not lead to airspace in a bell, as the description in Northern Caves would indicate.

SID PEROU

At the 'First International Film Festival of Speleological Films' at La Chapelle en Vercors, Sid Perou was awarded the 'Reporting and TV Film Prize' for his film of the rescue at Sunset Hole. In addition he was awarded a special prize for his films in Gaping Gill, Castleguard and 'What a way to spend a Sunday'.

NEW GUINEA FILM

The film of the New Guinea '75 Expedition has been bought by Harlech TV, and processing and editing is under way.

BBC NORTH

The five new films on caving in Yorkshire - Alum, White Scar, Pippikin, Providence-Dow and Lancaster-Easegill are to be shown on BBC North at 6.50 pm, starting on Tuesday November 15th. Initially only on BBC Leeds, they will later be shown nationally.

ACCESS TO CASTERTON FELL

A reminder when booking Easegill or a through trip from Lancaster to Easegill to specify the entrance preferred, e.g. County Pot, Pool Sink, Top Sink etc., and NOT just Easegill. Two parties are allowed at a time down Easegill, and one down Lancaster Hole.

AUDITOR S REPORT Year to August 31st, 1977

I regret to say that at the time of writing, accounts for the year have not been made available to me for audit. However, the Treasurer has promised to let me have the books of account and records on the day of the Annual General Meeting so that accounts might be prepared and audited.

It should be understood by members that the financial affairs of the club have now become very complicated and the preparation of the accounts in their present form does require some guidance from persons who are experienced in the preparation of accounts. In past years Tim Reynolds has been kind enough to assist the Treasurer of the day in the preparation of the final accounts before they have been presented to me for audit.

Unfortunately this year it would seem that the Treasurer has been faced with two difficulties. In the first place he has found it difficult to keep entirely up to date with his records and in the second place the knowledge has not been passed on to him that Tim Reynolds or myself would have been glad to assist him with the preparation of the accounts if he had experienced difficulty.

The intention is that the accounts should be prepared immediately and no doubt myself and Tim Reynolds will be involved in assisting the Treasurer and I for my part will carry out the audit as quickly as possible. It will then be up to the Committee to see that the accounts are circulated to the members as soon as possible.

I think it would be unwise for members attending the Annual General Meeting to jump to conclusions of any kind and criticism will not help to produce the accounts any earlier this year. However, it does indicate that the committee themselves should take the responsibility to see as the year progresses that the financial records are being kept up to date and in particular the committee should be satisfied that by the end of August the accounts are likely to be produced in good time. I do not know to what extent the committee has given this matter their attention during the past year and perhaps it might be appropriate if the Secretary or one of the committee members spoke on this point at the Annual General Meeting.

Obviously we do not wish this situation to recur because it can lead to misunderstandings and what is perhaps more relevant is that it is inconvenient to the Annual General Meeting that they are left in a position of not being able to constructively discuss the financial future of the club.

C.H. KENNEY
Auditor
October 14, 1977

OTTER HOLE

As from January 1st 1978, this cave will be gated to prevent unauthorised access in view of the flooding risk. The key may be obtained from:

J. Cork, Trenchard Cottage, Joyford, Forest of Dean, Glos.

Further details regarding access will be announced when they become available.

A MUSHROOM WITH A VIEW

by Coprinus radians

I'm a fungus. Not one of your lowly moulds, but a Basidiomycete, like my poor friends you eat for breakfast. I live in Swildon's, at the Sidcot Dig, where I'm gradually eating my way through the haft of a digging tool left by someone a few years ago. It's made of ash or hickory, is very tasty & had W.I.S. stamped on it.

My family, the Ink Caps, can use lots of things for food. One of my relatives, the Shaggy Mane Mushroom, was found growing on a mop in the Belfry a few years ago. In fact some books say we're coprophilous, but really!

The people who come by some weekends pulled my food out of the mud last winter and it dried out enough for me to eat. I'm not sure how I got here, but I think the spore from which I grew may have been taken down the cave on a boiler suit or carrying bag.

At the moment I'm a coarse mass of strands called an Ozonium, a tufted layer growing over the surface of the wood about 2 cm. deep, straw coloured with shades of brown. The conditions down here are quite good for this kind of growth, but I think the lack of light for long periods is preventing me from forming a complete Sporophore (What Gnomes sit on when they're fishing). I started to form one but only the Stipe, or stalk, was made. It's quite important that I do, because it's the nearest thing I've got to your Naughty Parts, and when my food runs out its spores are one of my methods of carrying on.

My family are called the Ink Caps because after the spores are released from a Sporophore it deliquesces into an inky black liquid. Well, perhaps the writing on the wall at Sidcot will soon be more than metaphorical.

THE SEA CAVES OF SAND POINT, WESTON-SUPER-MARE

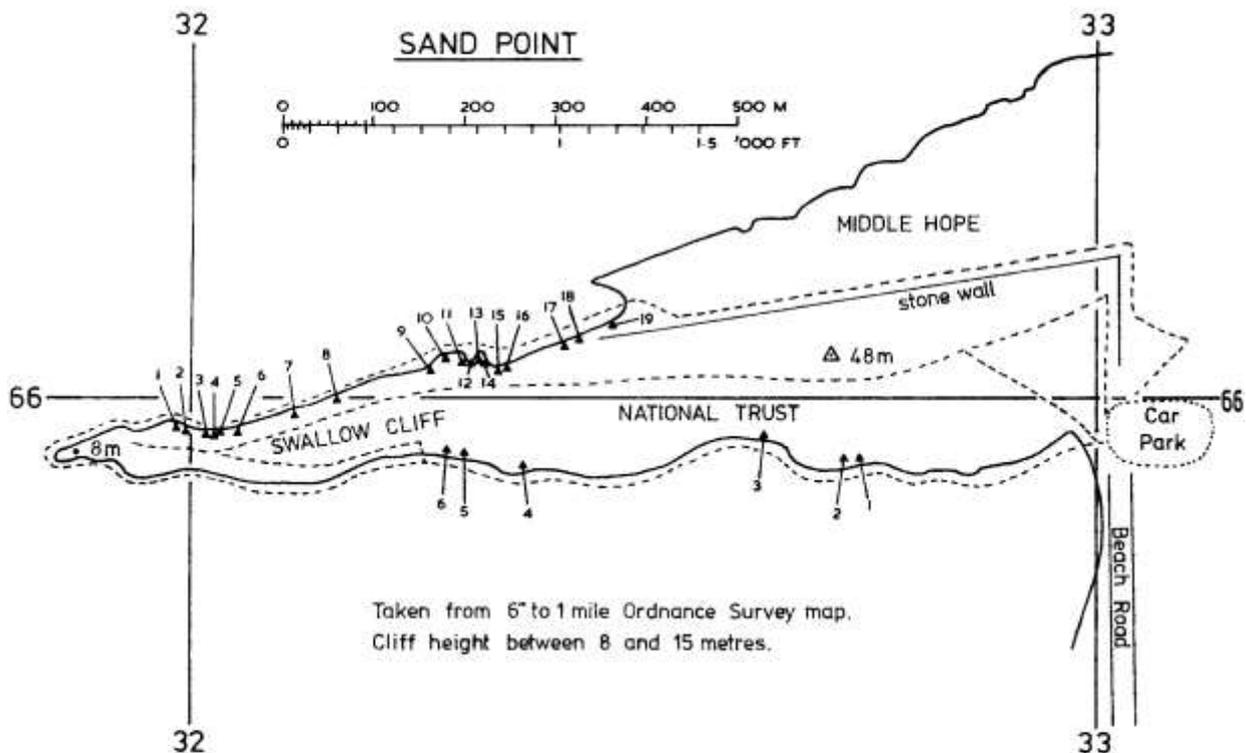
by John Aylott

Sand Point, three miles north of Weston-Super-Mare, is a kind of miniature Brean Down. Although it is an area not thought of as having any cave-bearing qualities, with apparently no literature on any sea caves, I was not too surprised when walking round the Point at low tide to see black holes in the base of the cliff faces. It has been known for a long time that there are caves on Steep Holm, so why not on the mainland? With other members of the Chelm's Coombe Caving Club I found a total of 26 caves, including passages down to 6 feet in length.

All the caves on the northern side of the Point flood completely at high tide, and some on the South side, although not flooding completely, would be highly dangerous, as jammed flotsam testifies. I will therefore describe the methods we used for exploring these caves; it is best to start about an hour **after** high tide.

Park in the National Trust car park at the end of Beach Road, then walk along the base of the Point on the South side. (Stay off the mud flats which are highly dangerous if you don't know how to cross them.) There is what could be called a footpath at the base of the cliffs. I will describe the caves as you would find them by following this route.

1. A bedding chamber 18 inches to 2 feet high, closing down to a dead end after 25 feet.
2. The continuation of Cave 1, 60 feet by 40 feet, and 8 inches to 2 feet high. There is a fair amount of roof breakdown, and also large quantities of mud. Both chambers are inclined at an angle of about 40 degrees.
3. This is another bedding passage about 12 feet long, with an entrance 10 feet wide. It is much choked with seaweed and the like.
4. A tight passage 12 feet long with a right-angled bend halfway along.
5. A roomy passage 30 feet long with two passable blowholes in the roof.
6. This is the largest cave on the southern side of the Point. A small entrance leads into a large bedding chamber 100 feet by 100 feet. There is much evidence of roof breakdown around the periphery. The chamber is inclined at an angle of 45 degrees, and there are channels cut in the floor from water flowing down from the top. The chamber must have been a lot bigger at one time, as shown by the cliff face outside.



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Based upon the Ordnance Survey map with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.

This list covers all the caves of note on the South side. There are two ways onto the North side. One is by climbing up the cliff face outside the entrance to Cave 6 to the footpath; walk along the cliff top to the seat at the end of the Point, then climb down the North cliff. The other route is to walk on around the base of the Point following the tide out; this can only be done on the lower tides. The caves on the North side are described from West to East, i.e. from the end of the Point to the Mainland.

1. Passage 12 feet long closing down to a pebble crawl.
2. Twenty feet of passage with a steel buoy about 2 feet in diameter jammed in the entrance. There are remnants of an upper development.
3. A rift-type passage, 20 feet long.
4. A 10 foot long passage with a large entrance, ending in a tight wriggle.
5. A 30 foot long passage of rift type with old upper development leading through wriggles to pools.
6. Awkward entrance into pool followed by very tight passage 40 feet long. So far the end has not been reached.
7. A 20 foot long crawl under hanging blocks.
8. An old passage 30 to 40 feet high, unroofed except for the last 15 feet.
9. A 20 foot long crawl.
10. A 6 foot long crawl with some vertical development.
11. Mostly destroyed passage with a connection with Cave 12 through an exceptionally tight rift, 8 feet long.
12. A 50 foot wriggle to a dead end.
13. A pear-shaped crawl, 15 feet long.
14. An old passage 20 feet wide with no roof; about 15 feet of side passage.
15. A 6 foot long crawl.
16. Passage, 10 feet long.
17. More like a large overhang than a passage; 20 feet long and 15 feet wide.
18. A passage, similar to Cave 17, but 25 feet long with a slope at the end.
19. There are two main passages here associated with a large collapse of cliff face forming a boulder pile; a low level crawl and an upper bedding chamber 30 feet by 20 feet. There are lots of squeezes and wriggles in the boulder pile making a total of about 120 feet of passage.

The caves are described as they were in September 1977, but we have noticed how quickly conditions are changed by wave action, blocking smaller passages with rocks or flotsam. The tide comes in very fast, so an eye should be kept on it, but most of the cliffs are climbable to some degree if you get trapped.

EQUIPMENT NOTES

by Paul Hadfield

Australian Rack

This is claimed to be the forerunner or precursor to the American Super Rack. In common with the Super Rack, the main frame is U-shaped and is used in this position. The difference lies in the type and number of bars. These are of tubular steel, three of which are fixed, and three of which are hinged. All are separated by spacers.

This design gives characteristics in common with both the Super Rack and Whaletail. Like the former, it is easy to thread, and because of the symmetrical shape and fixed bars, is inherently stronger than the conventional rack. As with the Whaletail, the bulk of the control is achieved by snubbing the rope held with the lower hand, though of course the possibility of varying the number of bars still exists.

I was dubious of the heat-sinking capacity of the tubular steel bar, but was informed that in practise, they get barely hotter than the aluminium bars of a conventional rack. Being made of steel, of course, means much less wear on the bars, and the need for replacement hardly exists.

Petzl Helmet

For sale in England at £25, this climbing-type helmet incorporates a pietzo-electric ignition system for large carbide lamps, fish-tail burner unit, and a 4.5 volt flat battery type electric lamp.

I do not think we will see many of these used in our home caves, but this combination of carbide and electric is one which is familiar to every caver who has caved in Alpine karst systems. There is no doubt that the ignition system in this design is superior to anything I have seen elsewhere, and the mounting of the electric light in conjunction with it certainly works, and appears eminently satisfactory.

The principle reservation I have is the quality of the helmet itself. For some time now the desirability of wearing 'climbing-standard' helmets for protection in big systems has been debated. The Petzl helmet does not, on preliminary inspection, appear to measure up to the standards of the climbing helmets available in this country, in either strength, cradle design, or extent of head protection.

It is certainly the author's intention to purchase the ignition system (140 French francs) and affix it to a British climbing helmet in order to use in Alpine karst caves. Anyone planning to follow suit, however, should be careful not to destroy the strength of the helmet by drilling holes in it, and should remember too, that if you purchase the shatter-on-impact type (e.g. Joe Brown) you cannot go to the local climbing shop to purchase a replacement when you are three days into a system.

Foreign publication of articles on Equipment

At the recent I.S.U. Congress a mechanism was set up whereby British authors can submit articles or papers on equipment for international publications.

The Equipment Committee will act as a clearing house for articles (preferably already published here) to be sent to the appropriate organisation/committee in each country. We cannot of course guarantee that articles sent abroad will be published.

Please get in touch if you would like further details. Countries at present on the circulation list are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, the USA, and Yugoslavia.

Fixed aids in caves

There have been five failures of fixed aids in caves, reported to us so far this year. Ladder failures in O.F.D., Lyle Cavern (Lost John's System), and Siebenhengst (Switzerland): a rope failure in Bar Pot; and a wire traverse rope failure in O.F.D.

Rope Shrinkage

In normal caving use nylon ropes shrink 10% in length, maybe even 15% - polypropylene and polyester ropes to a lesser extent. This should be borne in mind when using cut lengths. Many cavers soak and wash their ropes before use so that shrinkage will tighten the sheath strands and make it more difficult for dirt to penetrate to the core. Shrinkage will also tend to tighten the sheath onto the core of the rope, helping to prevent lumpy sections where the sheath has moved on the core. Shrink tightening of the sheath is particularly useful in loosely plaited ropes where there is some possibility of strands snagging or being "plucked" by sharp rock or ascenders.

Pre-tightening of the sheath and frequent washing should therefore give the rope a longer useful life - although it may become somewhat stiffer.

Apparent flaws in new rope

Yarn used to make the strands of a rope is not of unlimited length. Thus it is common, especially in yachting ropes, to have splices or tiny knots in the yarn. Rope manufacturers say that such joints are to be expected and do not contribute in any way to a loss of strength. If you buy rope which is not specifically designed for caving, particularly the lower cost alternatives, these facts should be noted. The joints may be seen as slight bumps where fibres overlap in the splice, as tiny knots, or as short ends protruding. Blue Water Inc. give the following information: All lengths should have no core splices, but that in lengths over 300 feet sheath splices are necessary.

British Standard for caving ropes

The N.C.A. is now represented on the British Standards Institute Committee for mountaineering and caving ropes, and discussions are taking place on the feasibility of a standard for caving ropes.

This is of course a long-term project, but anyone who feels they have anything to offer on the subject is invited to get in touch.

Equipment Abstracts

A list of recent British articles and papers on caving equipment and techniques is held by the Committee: for a copy please send a s.a.e. to the address below:

This is circulated as an Information Service only by
The National Caving Association Equipment Committee,
c/o The Department of Geography,
The University, Box 363, Birmingham 15.

WALDEGRAVE SWALLET - THIRTY YEARS ON

by Phil Hendy

The reprinted description of the 1936 dig at Waldegrave Swallet (WCC Journal 14, 168, pp 125-7) prompts me to relate the most recent attempt to open up the site, which intriguingly sends water from the slopes of North Hill to both Rodney Stoke Rising and Wookey Hole. According to Balcombe, the dig ceased when a heading driven in at a depth of forty feet entered a small cavity, with the stream sinking in fine detritus. A period of neglect resulted in damage to the shoring, and the dig was capped and made safe. It is reported that in the 1950s, the site was levelled with a jeep-dozer, and by the 1970s, Waldegrave Swallet was merely a short, overgrown swallet depression, with the small intermittent stream, the overflow from the pool, sinking in mud and stones at the foot of an earth bank. There was no sign of the depression ever having been dug.

In 1975, a number of cavers, drawn from the BEC and Wessex, decided to attempt to re-open the site as far as Balcombe had dug, and then reassess the prospects in the light of the ready availability of chemical persuasion. The team, vulgarly known as the Priddy Institute for Scientific Speleology, obtained permission to dig from the Waldegrave Estate, and work commenced in April. The driving forces throughout were Martin Bishop and Richard Stevenson, but in the early stages they were aided by many others, in addition to being hindered by the constant stream of curious picnicers.

The stream was blocked by installing a permanent V-dam, which could be closed by a suitable board. We had no knowledge of how the 1936 dig was left, but concentrated on finding the original shaft. As the boulder debris, consisting largely of sharp water worn pieces of limestone, was removed, it was stacked behind a retaining wall, with the stream led through a P VC pipe. In this way the depression quickly became level, leaving a six foot square shaft at the end. From time to time we were sufficiently frightened by boulders hanging precariously from the sides of the depression to lever them down, and then bodily lift them back up and behind the retaining wall. The standard unit of boulder size quickly became the 'hernia', and a two-hernia boulder was a fearsome lift indeed!

It was only a few weeks until we received the first encouraging sign, some rotten wood which, it was agreed, must have been part of the 1936 shoring. All this while, the stream sank well but indeterminately; digging was easy, being mainly a matter of lifting boulders of varying sizes, and carefully rescuing the newts and dragonfly larvae from the mud. With work taking place at weekends and Wednesday evenings, progress was fast, and a depth of about six feet was rapidly achieved.



1.6.75 Adrian Vanderplank in Waldegrave Swallet. The first open rift was where the two pieces of shoring meet.

The pipe is roughly at the original level of the site in April 1975.

Photo: P. G. Hendy

On June 1st, wooden shoring became necessary, as the walls were becoming unstable. While fixing this, the top of a rift was uncovered, with limestone on the left, and conglomerate on the right. By following this back, a cavity was opened up, allowing us to drop stones to an estimated depth of about eight feet. This part was very unstable, being roofed with loose infill, so the cavity was closed with shoring, and work continued in the floor of the new shaft. Towards the end of this day's efforts, a hole opened up at the back of the dig, which by stone-dropping we estimated to be about twenty feet deep. With the rift definitely located, we planned to make a permanent entrance, and start banging where necessary to break boulders.

As it was at the back of the depression, and progressing eastwards, the dig now had a roof of sorts, though it was clear that the widest part of the dig lay a few feet to the west. A combination of banging and lump hammer work allowed us to remove boulders and drop the floor by a few more feet, but by then summer was upon us, and digging ceased while various members of the team went to the Pyrenees or the Picos.

I next revisited the site in October, to find that massive slumping had occurred, resulting in a jam of boulders, wood and scaffold poles in the floor of the depression. After clearing this, attempts were made to build a solid retaining wall, on which to rest a six foot long, three foot diameter steel pipe, which had been acquired to make a permanent entrance. Later that month, the wall was cemented, but it proved to be too difficult to rest the pipe on top of this as planned. So we decided to slide the pipe in at an angle, and then surround it with stones and cement, to prevent further slumping. This left a small chamber at the bottom, with ample room to allow the floor to be dug.

Enthusiasm was on the wane, however, and after an ill-placed charge made the roof unstable, the site was again abandoned. To make it safe, Martin used the spoil to backfill the hole, and in 1977 the stream again sinks indeterminately in a level rubble floor.

The size of the depression meant that there was only one obvious place to dig, and it was obviously only a matter of time before we struck Balcombe's original shaft. The previous history of the site was unknown to us, except for the brief details given in 'Caves of Mendip'. We hoped that either Balcombe had capped his shaft, or that when the site was levelled, it had been blocked fairly near the surface by a few large boulders. This turned out to be the case; the old timbering was found only a few feet below the surface, and open shaft was found to exist. Had we managed to pass the boulder blockage, it would not have taken long to re-open Waldegrave Swallet to its 1936 depth. That this was not achieved was due, I think, to the difficulty of maintaining interest in a dig shared by more than one club, particularly as other sites were being dug by the same people at the time. The site is now restored to its previous state, but it should not take very long to open it again, at least as far as the 1975 depth. It would then be suitable for digging by a small number of cavers, though I would strongly suggest that if a strong lid and lock are provided from the start, the hole would not need backfilling if it were to be abandoned yet again. Balcombe's pessimism at Waldegrave may be justified, but 'hopeless' sites have been re-examined and have yielded cave why not this one? I trust it will not be another thirty years before someone decides to find out.

BLUEWATER AND ROPE CARE

ROPE SPECIFICATIONS

Diameter:	7/16"
Weight per 100ft.:	5.7 lbs.
Tensile Strength:	7000 lbs. under laboratory conditions 5400 lbs. over 1" steel bar with midshipman's knot
Material:	100% Nylon
Stretch:	App. 1% under 200 lb. load - 15% at break
Shrinkage:	App. 5%

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BW II AND BW III ROPE

The Blue Water III rope, easily identified by its light blue colour as compared to the gold colour of the BW II, is made using Super 707 nylon in its sheath yarns. Although the mechanical construction of the two ropes are the same, the special nylon yarn used in the BW III rope gives it a slicker surface, slightly more stretch, approximately 15% better abrasion resistance and more flexibility. For those that prefer the softer, more flexible rope, BW III is recommended. Both ropes have been used worldwide for many years and have proven themselves under the most difficult conditions. Either rope will provide safe, reliable use for an extended period.

REMEMBER: IMPROPER CARE AND USE OF YOUR ROPE COULD RESULT IN A SERIOUS INJURY. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO PRACTICE THESE HINTS ON THE USE AND CARE OF YOUR ROPE.

- a) Always properly pad your rope at points of abrasion.
- b) Tie off your rope so that sharp points or bends are avoided. Use knots that do not reduce the strength of your rope.
- c) Use the proper equipment for rappelling and avoid fast rappels that could subject the surface of the rope to high temperatures.
- d) Keep your rope clean. Dirty ropes will abraid faster and handle poorly. Wash your rope in cold water without soap if possible. Very mild soaps or fabric **softeners** can be used in limited amounts. Do not dry in a commercial or home dryer but allow to air-dry. The rope can be stored damp without harm.
- e) Protect your rope from chemicals. Acids and alkalies are very injurious to rope. Also many oils, storage battery solutions, washing compounds or solutions and paint.
- f) Reverse your rope, end-for-end, periodically so that all sections of it will receive equal wear.
- g) Replace your rope when it becomes worn or damaged. The Blue Water construction is such that the wear on the rope is only on the outer sheath and not on the inner, load-bearing strands. The fuzz formed on the outer sheath of the rope after some use actually forms a protective shield for the inner fibres. However, if the sheath is ever cut or worn to the point that the core strands can be seen, cut at this point and inspect the rope for other possible points of wear.
- h) Never use your rope to pull cars or lift heavy objects, as you can overload the rope and do permanent damage to it.
- i) Do not use the Blue Water rope for static belay where it can be subjected to extreme shock loads. It is not designed as a dynamic rope.

SRT CASUALTY RECOVERY II

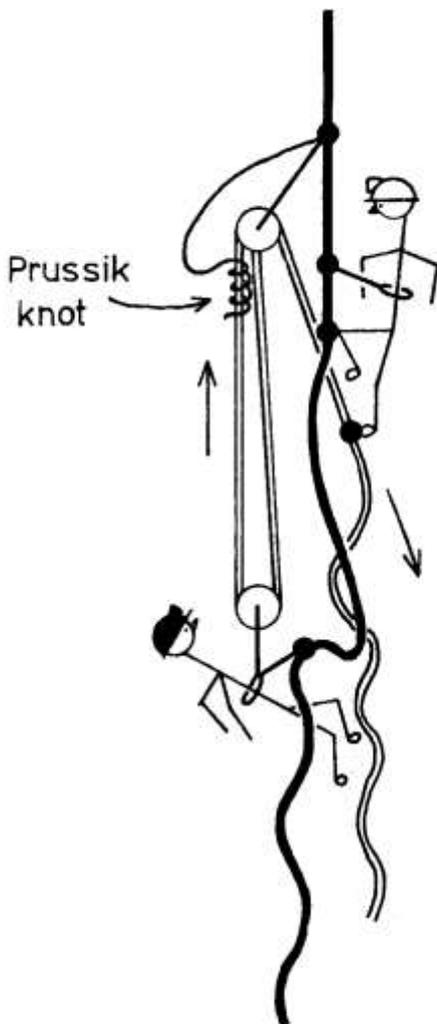
by the Mendip Mushroom

As stated in my previous article (J. WCC 169, p. 148), the objective was to attempt to develop and assess a system whereby a single caver could rescue, or haul, a second caver up an SRT-rigged pitch with no other assistance. So far, we have only been partially successful, as explained below.

The technique employed was identical to that used in the two-man rescue system, except that initially the rescuer was established above the casualty, from which point the lift commenced. As before, the technique of a simple 2:1 pulley system was used, with the moving pulley on the casualty.

In this case, however, the rescuer has to provide both the means of moving the upper pulley block, and the lifting force required. As it is necessary to apply the lifting force from below the upper pulley, this block was positioned on a spare jammer above the rescuer, and the lifting force was provided by leg action, using the rescuer's foot jammer on the haul rope. In order to retain the 'lift' after each foot action a prussik knot was used on that section of the haul rope returning to the casualty, as is the standard practise in other haul systems, such as the 'Yosemite', 'Bachman' etc.

When the casualty is lifted into station alongside the rescuer, his main jammer is adjusted so that the main rope can feed through, so he is suspended from it once more. (It must be remembered that because of the attitude assumed by the casualty's body, it is not usual for the rope to feed through his main jammer automatically as he is lifted.) The rescuer can, when this is completed, move up the main rope and continue the lifting operation.



SRT ONE-MAN RESCUE
TECHNIQUE

This technique proved successful, but only on those casualties whose body weight was less than that of the rescuer. In practise, two successful lifts were made where the casualty was lighter than the rescuer, and two unsuccessful hauls when he was heavier.

With the heavier casualties, the rescuer conceding 2½ to 3 stone, it was impossible for them to be lifted. However, the margin was sufficiently small that only a slight pull by the casualty on the appropriate rope allowed the lift to take place. Theoretically, of course, with a 2:1 advantage, the rescuer should be able to lift loads twice his own bodyweight, neglecting frictional losses in the system. It appears however that these losses are sufficient to reduce the efficiency by 50% of the theoretical maximum. Large diameter pulleys were substituted for the original miniature rescue models, in an attempt to improve the situation, but no practical difference was achieved.

Thus it appears from this investigation that the system is good only for rescuing casualties who are lighter than the rescuer, a severe if not unacceptable limitation.

Further experimentation is to be carried out using a 'piggyback' arrangement of pulleys in the hope of arriving at a more viable system, without increasing the amount of kit which the SRT caver has to carry.

YORKSHIRE MEET, OCTOBER 1977

by Gilgamesh

In an attempt to blow away the alcoholic fumes of the Dinner weekend, the weekend of the 22nd/23rd October saw eight members assemble at Bull Pot Farm, being also joined by Bob Pyke and Bob Macintosh. Twice during the two days we had five club officers underground simultaneously, no mean achievement, though one committee member cried off on the grounds that someone had to stay behind to look after Upper Pitts. It should be added that our member for the North-East conveniently left his caving kit at home, and came along merely to act as observer and make the team reach double figures.

A fine Saturday morning saw Paul Hadfield, Barry Wilkinson, Keith Sanderson, Al Keen and Marion Gay abseiling down Lancaster Hole, while Bob Pyke, Barry Gay, Beth Yates and Phil Henty (who was carefully concealing a survey in his overalls) sweated their way to County Pot to ensure that the pitches were laddered to enable the Lancaster party to do a through trip. This was accomplished, thanks to frequent glances at the survey, and a welcome ladder thrown by Bob down the Poetic Justice rift. At Eureka Junction, the County Pot party turned right, and by dint of much arguing over the survey, forced a route through the boulders, and located Stop Pot and Straw Chamber. Here Phil found that his new ammo can had leaked, but without much damage at this stage to his camera. Holbeck Junction was easily located, and Thackeray's Passage traversed to the Assembly Hall, where a high level series was entered, but the party failed to locate Easter Grotto. On returning, we met the Lancaster Hole party, and Keith directed us to the grotto. It was at the top of a nasty little climb which Phil had conveniently not spotted. Easter Grotto has over the years become a well-trodden place, and is much muddied and defiled, yet still beautiful.

Paul, Bob and Keith then left to look at Nagasaki and Top Sink, while the rest of the party made its way out. This was relatively uneventful, except that Beth led the wrong way at Confusion Corner, and Phil, (who is putting on weight - he says it makes him more cuddly) got stuck in a rift above the first pitch. Luckily, the others had rejoined us, and Keith directed him up an exposed climb over the top of the pitch, along a low bedding plane, and down another climb to re-enter the main passage. Phil said he would have preferred to have struggled a bit more in the tight rift! It was however, a most enjoyable 6 hour trip, only slightly marred by the cold shower afterwards at the Red Rose HQ.

Paul had advised us to bring lots of alcohol, as Bull Pot Farm is too remote to make a visit to a pub worthwhile. However, after a meal, the 'Hunters instinct' became too strong, and we drove off to Ingleton for 'a quick pint' at the Craven Heifer, eventually to be evicted at 11.45. You could tell that the natives were awestruck, as they sang rude songs about us, but we were too busy pouring ale down our necks to take offence. Back at the Farm, we found a good home for yet more beer and the inevitable fried egg butty, before going to bed to take advantage of the extra hours sleep afforded by the change from BST to GMT.

Paul, of course, saw this as an excuse for an extra hours caving on Sunday, but to everyone's surprise, he was one of the last to rise. There had been heavy rain during the night, and a few were nursing mild Yates and Jackson's hangovers. But after breakfast, things brightened, both meteorologically and cranially. Paul, Bob, Keith and Al set off to descend Aygill Caverns, where high water and recent flood debris in the roof made for a sporting trip, though Al got tangled in the line while swimming in the terminal sump, and had to be released by Paul.

The remainder of the party trudged across the fell to de-tackle County Pot. There was little more water in the cave, though Showerbath Passage lived up to its name. To make more of a trip, we carried on downstream past the climb into Poetic Justice, and did a round trip via Platypus Junction, Razor Passage and Mushroom Passage, returning to Broadway in time to meet Sid Perou's film crew on the first pitch. Negotiating the ammo box ruckle, we ascended the pitch, and Phil to his delight found that he could get through the tight bit which foxed him the day before. Perhaps it was memory of the alternative which encouraged him! By this time, however, he was raining curses on his new Wessex boiler suit, which after three trips had gone through at both knees, and ripped up the seam of one leg. Caveat emptor!

Slight annoyance was caused when we found that a previous party had taken our ladder instead of theirs on the Poetic Justice pitch. It was also found that a party going down Lancaster Hole had belayed our ropes at the foot of the entrance shaft, which meant that Paul had to abseil down, sort things out, and prussik back. On the whole, though, it was a most enjoyable weekend, and one which should be repeated in the not-too-distant future.

1978 YORKSHIRE MEETS

February 26th	Penyghent Pot	July 22nd	Lost John's
March 26th	Dale Head	August 26th	Easegill
April 30th	Gingling Hole	September 23rd	Rumbling Pot
May 28th	Washfold Pot	September 24th	Death's Head Pot
June 24th	Pippikin		

Further details may be obtained from the Caving Secretary or from the Hut Warden (addresses inside front cover).

THE WATER-TABLE RULES! O.K?

*A Review of "Mendip: the Complete Caves and a View of the Hills"
by N. Barrington and W. T. Stanton (Third Edition, Barton, 1977)*

by J. D. Hanwell

The third edition lives up to its authoritative ancestry and has an unexpected graft of essays. This should strengthen the lineage for it is now effectively two booklets blended into one compact, sturdy and scholarly book. The combined experiences yet very different professional backgrounds of the respective authors create a distinctive style from which their division of effect emerges strongly. A danger that thirty large format adverts might seem parsimonious is avoided by their aptness and relief from the packed text. A tendency for such catalogued detail to become prosaic is also overcome by its thoughtful presentation as well as its usefulness. Their balance ensures that continuous reading is far from a chore and that the selection of a specific item is easy. The group of historic prints in sepia is particularly successful, providing a helpful "book-mark" when thumbing between the listed sites and essays.

Nearly 559 separate sites are listed alphabetically and given 8-figures grid references. The best known third appear on five maps covering barely a dozen square miles of the hundred or so comprising Mendip's cave-bearing Carboniferous Limestone and Triassic Dolomitic Conglomerate outcrops from Oldford, Frome, to Uphill near Weston-Super-Mare. This shows just how grouped the caves are around the four Old Red Sandstone cores and flanking limestone gorges of the area. Despite such cluttering, the maps are clear and crisp; so, it seems churlish to suggest that it would have been easy to reproduce them at a consistent scale and to highlight the important features with symbols like proportional circles. Many more sites appear on the smaller scale water flow maps which are a welcome addition.

The vast amount of information condensed into each site description is quite astonishing; always ample, never superfluous and, surprisingly nowadays, free of major mistakes. Since both scope and style of such site descriptions are already well-known and proven, suffice to continue here with comments upon William Stanton's selection of essays.

Like the population pressures that clearly irk him, one was tempted to suppose that the addition of 20,000 words-worth of essays might detract from the main purpose of the book as a guide. They do not, although one expected more basic topics than the controversial issues chosen from the conflicts over quarrying to the very cutting edge of geomorphological and geological debates about Mendip. The views given are bold and decisive. By continual reference to named sites, the essays give an extra dimension to "Barrington and Stanton" ensuring a wider market than perhaps even the authors imagined. As this edition is no longer alone as a sporting guide, it must now be regarded as more a comprehensive directory of Mendip's distinctive karst; both an adjunct and an answer to recent publications on the area as well as the natural successor to the Mendip Cave Registry. Whilst the wider audience will fail to grasp the innuendo and humour aimed at local cavers, the balance of professional jargon and choice of topics are in their favour without being forbidding or too technical in style. If, as it has been said, the art of teaching is in knowing "how to suggest", then there is much to learn from the carefully marshalled interpretation of so much evidence. So, we can forgive rare but revealing lapses like, "Experience shows that conservation and concern for the environment are disregarded in poor overcrowded countries".

Some of the lessons are brand new and others vintage. Ten deserve mention for the evidence cited is original and the arguments persuasive. First is that our grandchildren might have seen the last of Mendip above the water-table unless quarrying had been restrained. Second, that some broken stal' suggests Mendip suffered a severe earthquake not so long ago. Third, that mixture corrosion and oxidising organisms help explain why caverns originate at depth. Fourth that the supporters of glaciers formerly over-riding Mendip from the west had better think again! Fifth, that the prominent shelf above Wells is a "fossil" wave-cut platform re-exposed after frost-action during the Ice Age stripped away the softer rocks that had buried it, and that the similar surface around Burrington is, almost certainly, much younger. Sixth, that the incised valleys on east Mendip are "imprinted" on the present landscape, their alignment indicating former drainage eastwards rather than into the Avon as today. Seventh, that Rickford Combe is more simply explained as an abandoned relict of a similarly imprinted or superimposed west-flowing river diverted later as the modern Yeo. Eighth, that gravimetry is the best way to find unknown caves under plateau country like Mendip. Ninth, that the lowering of this plateau caused formerly dispersed minerals to become concentrated at the surface to explain the bonanza of drift mining locally. And, finally, that there are no prizes for guessing that geologists take a jaundiced view of dowsing!

Two embracing classic concepts have been unashamedly resurrected and are offered afresh to those content for over a decade to leave Mendip's denudational history gathering dust; namely, changing sea levels and water-table surfaces. Whilst reflecting that the water-tracing techniques developed by the "renegades" provided the necessary tools, credit must go to William Stanton for the final and unwavering solution. Their petard is hoisted as a fascinating contoured map of the disputed surface. So, the water-table rules! O.K? Coincidentally, the very first such hydrogeological maps by J. Lucas appeared exactly one hundred years ago but attracted little interest. Stanton's version for Mendip has a rosier future now that groundwater mapping is in vogue with the Institute of Geological Sciences.

Although quite of lot has happened since the last edition of 1972, some old-faithful's stubbornly persist; metrication has been ignored, the subjective grading system for the difficulty of trips unfortunately survives and the ancient division of Mendip into west, central and east remains. Climbing in Cheddar Gorge seems still "prohibited" although a guidebook by Dick Broomhead on

its up-dated limestone climbs is pending. One wonders whether he will claim that caving there is prohibited! Not surprisingly, then, the few changes are hardly radical; clean rock is now “approved” whilst the maps show that Cheddar cliffs have extended in the past five years like the quarries, Mendip Forest has grown at last on Chewton Rabbit Warren and the driveway into Upper Pitts has mysteriously moved!

So, what more do we get for the inevitable price increase? Eighty more pages, over sixty extra sites, twice as many maps and photographs and, of course, those essays. Above all, you buy authenticity and completeness which cannot be bad at any price.

FIGURES VARIOUS

(Mendip Choristers for the use of)

by 'Fists of Fury'

To the original tune of the 'Irish Tinker'

If you see an old bald man crawling out of Swildon's Hole,
With his knee-caps all a-knocking and his hair as white as snow,
Then you'll know its only Hadfield who's been trying for some time
To free-dive down to Swildon's Twelve with Jumars on the line.

Chorus Fa-la-la strike me dead
Fa-la-la strike me dead
If I ever take up caving then the good Lord strike me dead.

If you see a small fat figure crawling out of Rift Pot's hole,
With his face a mask of terror and his fingertips aglow,
Then you'll know its only Websell who was climbing single rope.
He was on the final section when the ruddy belay broke.

Chorus
If you see a large fat figure sitting in the bar,
Talking to his tankard and ignoring Martin Farr,
Then you'll know its only Batstone who's just learned that its his lot,
To be the victim in a practise rescue out of Primrose Pot.

Chorus
If you see a tall thin figure dressed in cast-off scarecrow's clothes,
Describing tiny circles centred on his right foot toes,
Then you'll know its only Jayrat who's been rooted to the spot,
Since he stepped upon a magnet on his way to do a pot.

Chorus
If you see a sweating figure on a beach down by the Med.,
Dressed in a one-piece six-mil, wetsuit with a blue light on his head,
Then you'll know its only Hannam who's just waiting for the chance,
To be the first one from the M.R.O. called out in Southern France.

Chorus
If you see a bearded figure with a beret on his head,
Who looks to you as though he might be better dressed in red,
Then you'll know its only Wilton-Jones who long ago left home,
When he first became a model for those plastic garden gnomes.

Chorus
If you see an enormous figure with a conker of a nose,
Singing filthy songs and dressed in flowing Arab robes,
Then you'll know its only Cobbett fresh from training in Kuwait,
He's drilling us an oil-well going straight to Swildon's Eight.

Chorus
If you see a chubby figure flitting round the hut,
Washing out his undies and sweeping up the dust,
Then you'll know its only Jepson who's trying (without tits)
To be the only ageing spinster living down at Upper Pitts.

Chorus
If you see a large fat figure down upon his knees,
Tempting scabby felines from London's grimy streets,
Then you'll know its only Hendy who's been trying all this year,
To be the only Mendip caver wearing cats instead of hair.

Chorus

FROM THE LOG

3rd January 1977 STOKE LANE SLOCKER

Glyn Bolt, Barry Wilkinson, Bob Macintosh and Adrian Vanderplank. Barry and Adrian to Stoke 3 to investigate climb to possible passage. Glyn and Bob as sherpas.

2nd January 1977 GIANT'S CAVE

Paul Hadfield and others. Pleasant gallop through large passage, in the Cape Leeuwin Range, Western Australia.

3rd January 1977 NORALYS CAVE (W. AUSTRALIA)

Paul Hadfield and others. A cave with a number of decorations and stilled-in signatures dating back to the 1880's.

4th January 1977 LABYRINTH CAVE (W. AUSTRALIA)

Paul Hadfield and others. 'The' cave of the Cape Leeuwins Range; the name is very apt - one of the most complex I have been in for route finding. In addition, it is not too easy to find. Look out for snakes at the foot of the entrance pitch!

8th January 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Paul Hadfield and Bob Harper. The trip to FU II in 7 was abandoned when the final duck in sump 5 was found to be sumped. Returned to look at high level passages in 5. The approach to the climb on the right had minimal holds, resulting in some spectacular peels before we reached a draughty choke, which we dug for 3'. After returning to the stream level with difficulty, the passage on the other side of the stream was climbed. A bold lead by Rob got us into 30' of open passage which closed down to a 4" squeeze with a muddy floor. From beyond, we could hear the sound of water falling into a chamber. There is also an open passage going on up into the roof, which was not investigated.

9th January 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Paul Hadfield and Rob Harper returned to the find in 5 and dug out the floor for 5'. There is an encouraging echo to add to the sound of water. So far the dig is technically difficult, but the chances are good.

14th January 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Rob Harper and Julian Penge, to the dig in 5. A couple of feet of debris were cleared, and several loose boulders removed from the top of the pitch leading to the dig.

16th/21st January 1977 NINE BARROWS SWALLET

Pete Moody and Alison Hooper. A party had told Mr. Pattinson that a boulder fall had occurred in the cave. A quick recce on the 16th showed that the fall was about 200' in, and although not blocking the way on, it made the route rather dodgy. On the 21st we went in armed with a 5' crowbar, and spent a couple of hours shifting boulders around. The way on is now blocked! The roof is also rather suspect, and further collapses may occur.

22nd January 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Rich Websell, Jeff Price, Rob Harper, Julian Penge, Pete Moody and Paul Hadfield to 5. Fast progress was made until all that was blocking the way on was a boulder. Eventually, after gargantuan efforts by Pete this was moved, and we entered a blind aven about 30' high, and eye-shaped, 8' x 3'. This was easily climbed to the top, where the water entered via a slot, 18" x 6". Due to a bend it was not possible to look directly in, but water could be heard falling with an echoing noise only a short distance beyond. Chemical persuasion will be necessary if further progress is to be made.

23rd January SWILDON'S HOLE

Pete Rose (CSS), Pete Moody, Alison Hooper, Tony Jarrett, Bob Macintosh, Paul Medlock to Sidcot Dig. Several hours digging - passage coming in from left?

29th January 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Alison Hooper, Pete Moody, Chris Davies, Ian Jepson and John ?, to Sidcot Passage. Approx 100 buckets removed. Engineering works in the duck by two specimens of '*Homo hydrodynamus*' have removed the risk of drowning. Dig looking very promising - packed with cobbles, some boulders, and water seepage from the left.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: A single swallet doesn't make a spring.

30th January 1977 NINE BARROWS SWALLET

Pete Moody and Alison Hooper stabilised the boulders and tidied up the left hand well, which now looks reasonably stable. Cave now open!

2nd February 1977 RHINO RIFT

Rob Harper intended to bottom the cave, but failure of primary light source in entrance caused abandonment. Recovery of ladders, ropes and ammo can from bottom of 1st pitch using faded mouth-held torch was 'very character-building'.

30th January 1977 CHERRY TREE HOLE

Paul Hadfield, Rich Websell, Phil Hendy, Beth Yates and Dooley Walsh. Walk to cave across featureless snow-covered fell in bitter wind, followed by ice climb into shakehole. An interesting and complex system. Following Rich's advice, we missed the best part of the cave, thrutched through an unstable boulder ruckle, and ended up where we had started.

5th February 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Aubrey Newport, Phil Hendy and Bob Macintosh, to Aubrey's dig below the Landing in 2. Heaved a few boulders out. Very high water, a good wet trip.

5th February 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Pete Moody, Alison Hooper, Mike Roger, Paul Medlock and Diane ?, to Sidcot Dig. No water present. Attacked alcove on left, removing 100+ buckets. Alcove is **definitely** the main passage, steadily ascending - the U has turned.

1th February 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Pete Moody, Julian Penge, Lady Jane, Tony Jarrett, Martin Bishop, Snab and Rich Stevenson. More buckets taken to Sidcot dig, and 50 buckets spoil removed. Rich had left for a CSCC meeting, and Julian and LJ exited. The remainder went to look at Portsmouth Poly's find in Fault Chamber. Right hand aven ends 90' up in an alcove discovered by UBSS in 1963. PPCC had dug through a choke and found a fairly tight ascending passage, the floor of which is shattered stal and scalloping showing strong inwards flow. After about 100' there is a small chamber, and the passage descends but chokes after 20'. The choke is loose stones, and the way on can be seen - it would yield to a few hours digging. A party found at the Well on the way out was in poor shape, with one girl suffering from exposure. She was escorted out and given a hot bath, while the others were assisted to the surface. About 10 novices with 5 experienced cavers had gone to sump 1, very poorly dressed. With the size of the stream going down they were lucky no-one was killed.

25th February 1977 MANOR FARM SWALLET

Rich Websell, Paul Hadfield and Claire Chambers (BEC) to Sarum Inlet and attacked the terminal constriction (Strike Squeeze) with a lump hammer. This looks promising, and with a 4 lb lump and chisel should go in 1-2 hours.

26th February 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

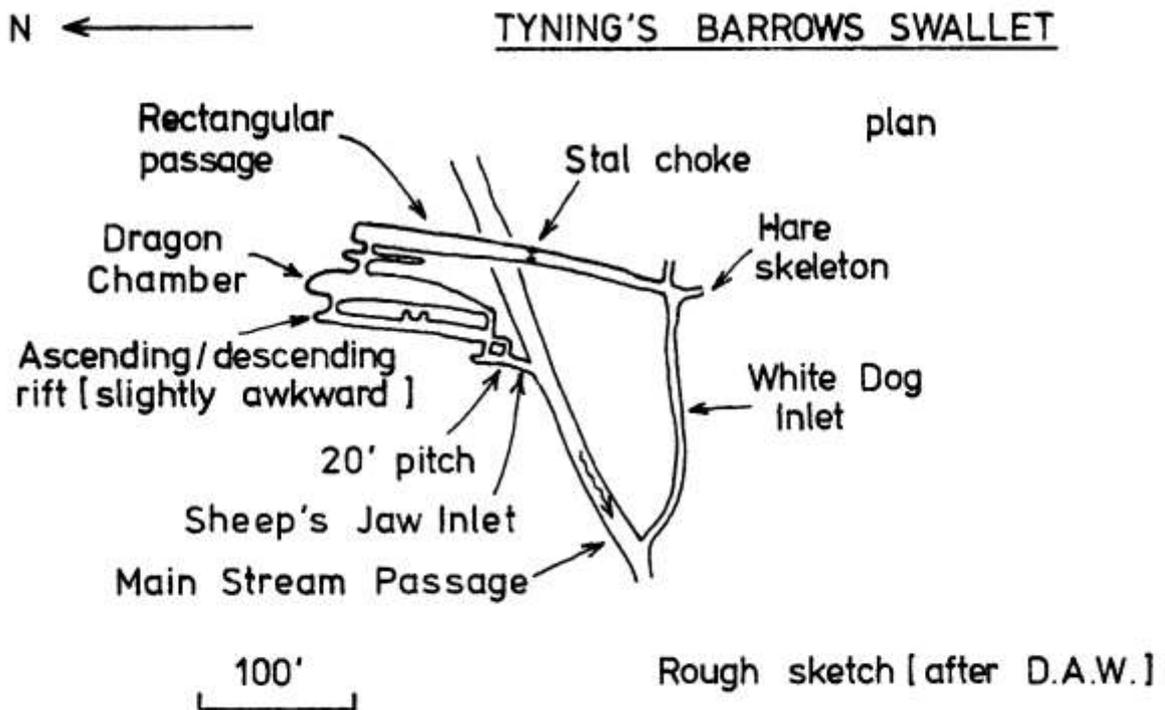
Adrian Vanderplank and Paul Hadfield to sump 5. A line was fixed, and Adrian dived through and attacked the streambed on the far side, but could not lower the level of the sump.

26th February 1977 TYNING'S BARROW CAVE

Alison Hooper, Tony Jarratt, Dave Walker, and about 10 others. Large party surveying, photographing and digging. Down to the choke at the end, and dug for 2 hours in gravel and fist-sized boulders. Returned looking at every nook and cranny, finding 25' of passage just before a low crawl in the stream. Then to White Dog Inlet, where Martin Bishop suggested pushing the end, a stal choke. Beyond this was an ascending rectangular passage for about 60', where a crawl was forced to the left, entering a parallel ascending/descending passage. Another forced crawl led to a very large chamber about 100' long, again at an angle, but as much as 50' high at the top end. At the far end, a parallel descending rift was entered, cherty and vertical. After 100' a cross rift was passed, then the passage turned to the right, and was found to connect with Sheep's Jaw Inlet. Returning to the large chamber, it was found that the lower end of it connected with the cross rift in the other passage. The large chamber has been called Dragon Chamber, and the pleasure of exploring about 300' of varied new passage can't be expressed on paper.

26th February 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Pete Moody and Rich Websell to the Portsmouth find in Fault Chamber. More than 20 buckets of spoil removed from the dig at the end, but no real impression made. Definitely only an occasional dig.



5th March 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Dave Walker, Alison Hooper and Pete Moody to Sidcot Dig. The dig was dry this week (a foot of water had to be bailed out the previous week) and an hour was spent opening out the working face before continuing the dig. A stal floor was uncovered which goes steeply upwards, faster than the roof. As we tired, Pete Smart and Tim Atkinson arrived, and gave much needed assistance. About 4' progress made.

4th March 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Bereley, Iain and Chalky (LUST) to NW Stream Passage. Ascended Mick Borroffs bolts and added one, entering passage at top of aven. Large (3' square) entrance quickly tightens and becomes impassable after 15'.

12th March 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Dave Walker, Beth Yates, Alison Hooper, Pete Moody and Ian Jepson to Sidcot Dig. Approx. 100 buckets removed - who's putting all these f---g buckets in the dig? Roof appears to be lifting slightly and stal floor flattening out - hopefully.

19th March 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Aubrey Newport and Phil Hendy to the dig in 2. This is a self-digging choke, and both of us were smacked in the face by boulders obeying gravity. The new 5' bar is an improvement on the 3' bar, but it is already too short. Nasty perched rocks bar the way on.

19th March 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Ian Jepson, Rich Websell, Pete Moody, Alison Hooper, John Cocker to Sidcot Dig. 70 buckets - about 2 ½' progress. Roof rising ? Air quickly becomes thick.

26th March 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Aubrey Newport, Phil Hendy, Dooley Walsh, Ian Jepson, Beth Yates to the dig in 2. On arrival, two large rocks were found to have fallen during the week, and were dropped into the stream way. One largish rock would not move with three people pulling on the rope, so Aubrey squeezed past without touching it - almost! The rock then moved with surprising noise and speed. This was the breakthrough, but only 2' away were footprints in the mud, and we could hear Pete Hadfield up in Vicarage, on a round trip. There is now a third, difficult way down from Vicarage passage to the Streamway, and an impressive spoil heap below.

26th March 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Pete Moody and Alison Hooper to Sidcot Dig. After digging 50 buckets of spoil we found the roof rising rapidly and the fill becoming loose. A mad 10 minutes followed until we were able to enter - a solution pocket! The main way continues solidly choked.

2nd April 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Pete Moody, Alison Hooper, Dave Walker, Ian Jepson to Sidcot Dig. Spoil very compacted, 75 buckets removed, air rather stale towards the end of the session. About 20' progress so far this year.

8th April 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Paul Hadfield, Pete Moody, Alison Hooper, Ian Jepson, Bob Macintosh removed 53 buckets of spoil from Sidcot Dig. Bad air has become a real problem.

16th April 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Alison Hooper, Pete Moody, Dave Walker and Roger Corbett (NZSS) took a lump hammer and chisel to Sidcot Dig to remove the boulders in the roof. After a few hours we established that we had dug up an alcove. The way on must be to the left, near the solution pocket discovered on March 26th. No oxygen in the dig,

30th April 1977 THRUPE LANE SWALLET

Black Maggot Caving Group investigated an opening 20' above the floor of Slitter Pot by pendule, but it proved to window down very quickly. On the way out Rich Websell (The Black Maggot) found a very tight squeeze on the right hand side of the final stream way above Atlas. In order to return he had to strip off, but got jammed by his left nipple, and was rescued by the willing hand of Rob (Fists of Fury) Harper.

1st May 1977 TYNING'S BARROW CAVE

Pete Moody, Alison Hooper and Dave Walker joined the BEC in digging the terminal choke, beyond which open passage can be seen. Alison was able to get her head through, to where the passage enlarges to a height of 7', with the floor sloping down out of sight. Breakthrough imminent.

7th May 1977 TYNING'S BARROW CAVE

Pete Moody, Alison Hooper, Tony Jarratt and Dave Walker joined the BEC in digging the terminal choke. After a quarter of an hour it was possible to pass this, and the squeeze was then enlarged from the far side. Immediately beyond a too-tight choked rift comes in on the right. The main way on is 5' high but very narrow. After a bit of work with a crowbar it was possible to get along at floor level, and then in the roof. The roof came down again 25' beyond the breakthrough, and the passage continues choked with gravel, about 6" high and 15" wide. With nowhere to put spoil further work will be difficult.

14th May 1977 SWILDON'S HOLE

Peter Moody, Alison Hooper, Dave Walker to Sidcot Dig. About 6" of water in the bottom, but didn't bother to bail it. Occasionally giving the atmosphere a blast from a 15 cu ft oxygen bottle, which made the digging easier. Fifty-five buckets removed, no sign of a left-hand wall but may be a turn upwards.

REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO AFFILIATED CLUBS

1. All members of affiliated clubs must comply with:-
 - a) Rule 16 and other rules of Wessex so far as they apply to affiliated clubs.
 - b) The Hut regulations and the orders of the Hut Warden and Assistant Hut Warden.
 - c) The orders of the Tackle Warden when using Wessex tackle.
 - d) Such sundry regulations or decisions that the Committee may make from time to time.
2. Members of affiliated clubs do not become, and must not represent themselves as, members of Wessex.
3. Each affiliated club shall produce to the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of Wessex a copy of its rules on request.
4. Each affiliated club shall send to the Assistant Secretary of Wessex in October of each year a list of members of the affiliated club, giving names, addresses, and ages, and the same particulars of any new member within one month of election shall be advised to the Assistant Secretary of Wessex.
5. Each affiliated club may have use of Wessex tackle, and Wessex Club accommodation only by advance application to the Hut Warden. No guests of affiliated club members will be allowed these facilities.
6. Each affiliated club shall receive one copy of each Journal and other club communications (see Rule 16). But affiliated clubs may make advance annual orders for additional Journals at a price to be agreed at the time.
7. Members of affiliated clubs shall receive, as far as possible, the same access arrangements to controlled caves as full members of Wessex.

WESSEX CAVE CLUB RULES

(as at November 1977)

1. That the Club shall be called the Wessex Cave Club.
2. That the objects of the Club shall be to promote the sport and science of caving by:-
 - a) Initiating newcomers into the best tradition of the game
 - b) gating caves that are likely to be despoiled
 - c) publications
 - d) organising gatherings to explore or excavate
 - e) by arranging for Members to visit caves in districts other than their own
 - f) erecting and maintaining huts where members can stay while cave hunting
 - g) maintaining gear for the use of members
 - h) maintaining for the use of members a library of books, literature and maps.
3. That the Club shall consist of Honorary Members and Ordinary Members who may be of either sex.
4. That the President, Vice Presidents and Honorary Members shall be entitled to exercise all the privileges of ordinary members, including the rights to stand for office and for the committee, and all voting rights. The President and Vice Presidents shall retire annually and be eligible for re-election.
5. That the affairs of the Club shall be conducted by a Committee which shall consist of a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Gear Curator, Assistant Secretary, Caving Secretary, Editor, H.Q. Warden, H.Q. Officer, and three other members who shall retire annually and be eligible for re-election. These posts are honorary and must be filled by members of the Club. Any member 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.

The Committee may appoint any member of the Club whether they be a Committee member or not to carry out any duties that the Committee consider necessary.

The Honorary Secretary of any properly constituted group within the Club shall 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.

An Honorary Auditor shall be appointed each year at the Annual General Meeting.

6. The election of the Committee shall be by postal ballot. The end of the Club Year shall coincide with the date of the A.G.M. The A.G.M. and the Annual Dinner shall normally be held on the third Saturday in October.
7. That any person desiring to join the Club must be nominated by two members and elected by the Committee. No applicant for full or joint membership shall be accepted for membership of the Club unless he or she has attained the age of majority. All members of an affiliated club who are under the age of majority must obtain the permission of his or her parent or guardian who will be required to sign a special form supplied by the Club. Adult members of an affiliated club must sign a form accepting the provisions of Rule 10. No caving club or society shall be accepted as an affiliated member of the Club unless the parent organisation has agreed to provide a suitable indemnity to cover the Club and its members.
8. That the subscription for Ordinary Members shall be £4.00 per annum due at the start of the Club Year. Any member whose subscription has become more than one month overdue shall be named in the next Journal, and if within one month subsequently, the subscription has not been paid, the member's name shall be removed from the list of members, and notice to this effect shall be sent to the member.

The subscription of a member joining near the end of the financial year may be deemed, at the discretion of the Committee, to cover the subscription for the following year. Married couples, may become joint members paying an annual subscription of £5.00. They shall enjoy all the amenities of the Club, except that they shall receive one copy of each Journal issued, and one vote only. A membership card shall be issued to any member.

9. Charges for the use of Club facilities shall be regulated by the Committee.
10. That every person, whether a member of the Club, member of an affiliated club or non-member, making use of the services of a guide or guides, or taking part in any activity or expedition organised by the Club, or in which any member of the Club shall take part, shall do so at his or her own risk, and that he or she, or his or her legal personal representative or assigns or dependents shall have no claim or right of action against the Club, or any member thereof in respect of any damage, loss or injury (including death) sustained by whomsoever and howsoever caused notwithstanding any negligence of the guide or any members, or the body of members of the Club.
11. That an extraordinary general meeting may be called at any time by the Honorary Secretary when required to do so by the

Committee, or in writing by ten members of the Club. Two weeks notice must in all cases be given. Such a meeting may not pass a resolution, but by a simple majority of those present may draw up a resolution to be voted on by postal ballot within one month by the members of the Club.

12. That members using the Club's Headquarters shall leave it in a tidy and dean condition.
13. That no alteration shall be made to these rules except at the A.G.M. or by special resolution passed at an A.G.M. called at the request of the Committee. Alterations in subscription rates shall be effective from the date of the meeting at which they are passed.
14. Any person, or affiliated club whose membership is deemed to be undesirable by the Committee may have membership suspended by the Committee until, and not longer than the next A.G.M. at which the member or affiliated club concerned shall have an opportunity of being heard. A three-quarters majority of the members present at the A.G.M. may expel such members or affiliated clubs.
15. That the Committee shall have the right to refuse the use of Club possessions to members, or affiliated clubs, when they consider it desirable in the interest either of the Club or the member of affiliated Club concerned, but the member or affiliated club concerned shall have the right to appeal to the Committee against this decision.
16. That caving clubs or societies attached to educational establishments for minors or youth organisations may become affiliated to the Club on the approval of the Committee and subject to the inclusion in the rules of the club to be affiliated certain rules as approved by the members of the Wessex Cave Club and compliance with regulations as laid down from time to time by the Committee of the Wessex Cave Club for the time being. The subscription shall be one quarter of the subscription of an Ordinary Member of the Wessex Cave Club for each member of the affiliated club. Each affiliated club shall have one vote and receive one copy of each Journal and other Club communications.

NOTE: The concession given by this rule is normally intended for minors under 18 who are not wage earners and who are still pupils at the educational establishments concerned or active members of the affiliated youth organisation. Adults attached to an affiliated club will normally be expected to join as full members.

17. That members of affiliated bodies may become Ordinary Members of the Club when their application has been approved by the Committee and the annual subscription has been paid.
18. That notices 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 of motions must have the names of the proposers, and be circulated to the members at least seven days prior to the meeting.
19. That at each A.G.M., the Club shall decide on the sum of money that is to be placed for that year in the Hut Sinking Fund. This fund is to be used only for major repairs, extensions, additions to or replacements of the Club Huts. The administration of the fund is in the hands of the Committee.
20. No part of the Club's funds shall be at any time distributed by gift, division or bonus in money, to or between any of its members. On dissolution, surplus funds shall be applied in or towards the advancement or science in the fields of Spelaeology, Archaeology or Geology, or any of them.
21. There shall be four trustees of the Club. The first trustees shall be appointed by the Committee and the freehold, leasehold, shares and other property of the Club shall be vested in them to be dealt with as the Committee shall from time to time direct by resolution (of which an entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence). The trustees shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property. The trustees shall hold office until death, or resignation, or until removed from office by a resolution of a General Meeting of members who may for any reason which may seem sufficient to a majority of those present and voting at a General Meeting remove any trustee or trustees, from the office of trustee. If by reason of any such death, resignation or removal it shall appear necessary to the Committee that a new trustee, or trustees, should be appointed or if the Committee shall deem it expedient to appoint an additional trustee or trustees the Committee shall by resolution nominate the person or persons to be appointed the new trustee or trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nominations the President is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new trustees of the Club within the meaning of Section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925 and he shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated by the Committee as the new trustee or trustees of the Club and the provisions of the Trustees Act 1925 shall apply to any such appointment. Any statement of fact in any deed of appointment shall in favour of a person dealing bona- fide and for value with the Club, or the Committee be conclusive evidence of the fact so stated.

For Regulations Applicable to Affiliated Clubs see page 184.

MEMBERSHIP LIST
as at September 30th, 1977

D.N. AIREY	8 Attwood Road, Salisbury, Wilts.
J.C.H. ALDER	43 Rowlands Crescent, Solihull, Warwicks.
Mr. & Mrs. ALDERSON	113 Amberley Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middx.
T.C. ATKINSON	82 Onley Street, Norwich, NOR 95E.
H.C. ATTWOOD	155 Goddard Ave., Swindon, Wilts.
Mr. & Mrs. A. AUDSLEY	Rose Villa, 109 Redcliffe Street, Cheddar, Somerset.
S.J. AVERILL	66 St. Denis Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham 29.
F.G. BALCOMBE	143 Newgate Street Road, Goffs Oak, Waltham Cross, Herts.
K.G. BARBER	32 Kings Road, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 5BW.
R. BARNACOTT	24 Epsom Road, Guildford, Surrey.
R.M. BARRATT	39A Oakes Grove, Maidenhead, Berks. SL6 6MN.
N.R. BARRINGTON	'The Oak House', The Square, Axbridge, Somerset.
R.A. BARTON	51 Crantock Rd., Catford, London SE 6.
K.W. BATE	105 Mere Green Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.
C.A. BEAUCHAMP	65 Coombe Lane, Raynes Park, London SW20.
E. BENEDETTI	Rue Delvigne 38, 5441 - On - Jemelle, Belgium.
J.A. BENHAM	48 Duke Street, Kettering, Northants.
A.J. BIGGS	Creigfryn Cottage, Booth, Dyfed.
R. BIGNELL	Dept. of Geography, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario Canada.
Mr & Mrs A.M. BLISS	92 Curzon St., Reading, Berks. RG3 1DA.
P.R. BLUNDELL	8 Mendip View Avenue., Lodge Causeway, Fishponds, Bristol.
G. BOLT	Flat 9, 32 Catherine Hill, Frome, Somerset.
R. BORRETT	15 Chandler Close, Bampton, Oxford.
C. BRADSHAW	9 Colles Road, Wells, Somerset.
Mr. & Mrs. T.C. BRYANT	Glyncoed, Victoria Road, Maesycwmmer, Mid-Glamorgan, CF8 7RF.
I. BUCHANAN	61 Rogers Lane, Stoke Poges, Bucks.
Dr. P.A. BULL	22 Lambourne Drive, Newton, Swansea, Wales.
A.S. BURLETON	27 Doncaster Road, Southmead, Bristol.
J.M. BURNETT	The Bungalow, 1 New Ridley, Stocksfield, Northumberland.
P.E. BURT	66 Roundwood Lane, Harpenden, Herts.
H. BUSBY	61 Quarry Road, Witney, Oxon.
P.P. CANDLIN	236 Highfield Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 0DW.
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