

7.3.59
to
9.2.63

THE WESSEX CAVE CLUB

HILLGROVE LOG BOOK

7-3-59 / 9-2-63

EX LIBRIS

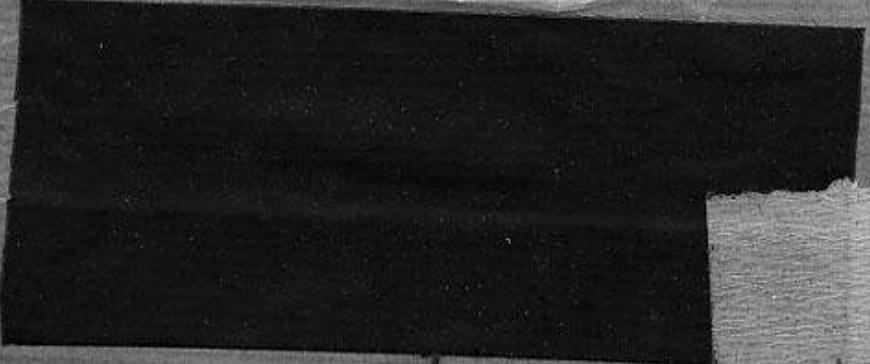


Acquisition number

443

File No 20

Copied 6-10-63. P.M.H.



March 59. - Feb 63.

The Hulgrave Log Book

Please write down date of entry and exit into but
caves visited, events of importance or otherwise!
Guests names should be written in full.

Please attempt to write clearly and concisely, remember
that others, who have not had a training in the
cracking of ciphers, may wish to read about
what you have been doing, when and where
you did it.

Members are earnestly requested to refrain from
removing pages of this log book for the
purposes of writing messages etc.

Thank you.

The Hulwarder at present ~~is~~ is

Michael Holland
12 West Street
Wells, Somerset.

18 Priory Road
STREET, SOMERSET
Telephone Wells 3114
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SOMERSET CAVE CLUB

1959

Oxford Cane Club - Suidion Hole. Sat Mar 7th
Decided to investigate the outlet at bottom
of blind pot. Dug through loose clay
about 6 ft & entered a new section,
this consisted of a rift c. 15 ft long & 6 ft
wide & 12 ft high. Orig. bedding plane
continued out of floor of chamber but was
blocked w. boulders & clay. Found small passages
led out of various places in roof but were
too small to be followed. Rift ran 17° to
original bedding plane by which it was
entered i.e. c.N.W. Not much prospect of further
extension in Oxford Chamber. 120m - 10.30m
(→ shoulder 6?) Peter W. Wallace

Acknowledgments to R. Clarke & D. Farmer.

Sun. Mar 8th

Oxford Cane Club Tankard Hole.

Unintentional visit to bottom.

P.W. Wallace, D. Farmer, R. Clarke, D. Farmer

12.30m - 60m

Dave Farn, Jack McGowan and Graham Fox arrived 10.00 pm Friday to find
the fire alight and hut beautifully made warm, thanks to the hut
warden. Spent some of Saturday morning levelling off the ground by
the old gash-pits, and at about 12.00 set off to do Tankard Hole
using D.F.'s ladder (10 ft) and two lengths of club lifeline. 120 ft of
nylon lifeline borrowed from SMCC for no tackle fee. Found the
Tankard's Hole muddy and containing many loose boulders. Out at
2.30 and on to Cuckoo Cleeves which we descended finding it very
much as usual but an energetic trip. After a good meal,
retired to Tankards and then to Marie's Bar to await emergence
of Oxford party from Suidion Hole. They arrived at 10.30 pm.

Sunday March 8th.

The three ab Dave Farn, Dan Graham Fox, Mike Holland and
Mike Bywater were shown around St Cuthbert's Hole by Brian
Fowler and Mike Woods of B.C. descending to the pump room below
Gowar Hall via Upper Mud Hall, ~~the~~ Piller Chamber, Cascade
Chamber, Kangchenjunga, Quarry Corner, Everest, the Dining Hall
and the Rabbit Warren. After soup at the dining hall, ~~they~~ ascended
through Corberns Series and the Return up the staircase and
water chute to Upper mud-hall. Found difficulty in finding the
way above the water chute, but found that two or three of the

of the passages in the bedding plane on the left just above the shank lead into Upper King Hall. Emerged at 5.00 pm and returned to Hollingrove to eat.

Reference

Sat 7 March Afternoon

B. Willis & Hamwell, Bywater & Holland turned round door to kitchen so that it opened outwards, altered door lock and fitted modified catch-plate.
This work was carried out so that the kitchen floor can be limed. *letterbox*

Sunday 8th March

East Town Caving Club

A party of five collected tackle on Sunday morning, at about 8.30 am, they were in Swildon down to the sump, returned at 3.30 pm.

Phil Davies called in, went off to Eastwater to attempt, by "chemical persuasion", to continue passages in Moreton's Pot.

Friday March 13th

Dave Kinsman
Mike Bywater
Julie James
Derek & Margaret Ford
Trev Williams
Tol Lovelock
Willie Green
Fred Higgs
Simon Shephard
Dick Wright
Bob Hammon
Holland

} All arrived during the night.

Saturday March 14th

Derek Ford & Frank Darbon took two people new to Swildon (WSG & VRC) to Sump 1. Quiet pleasant - 3½ hours. Sunday Margaret Ford went to Wroxey to join the diving of the. Then Derek Ford to Belford for a preliminary tour

of St. Catharines 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, 15th. March

Pete Harris, John Church, John Bon
and Rod Hobbin to Eastwater,
Dolphin Pot went to Harris's passage
and to end of the cave.
Down at 8:40 a.m.
Up 1:20 p.m.

Pete Harris, Wessex - member.
John Church } B.C.S.C.C. - affiliated.
John Bone }
Rod Hobbin }

Rod Hobbin

Sat. March 14th Roger Hall & Francis Harris (3rd)
arrived. Slept in Main Barn & did quick
wet trap round upper series. The water was overflowing
over the rock bolts on the 40°

Sunday March 14th

Ruth Bryant & Dave Kinsman + party (8), after much
contemplation, magnificently visited August Hole: it was - which -
the damp side, but fun nevertheless. Out early - plenty of
time for evening.

Sunday March 15th

Ruth Hall & Dave Kinsman + party (9) visited
Eastwater; after rough initial period in boulder rubble we did
arrive - Dolphin Pot. Followed Ruthy on-bow to better &
returned via 14 pots. Yet again another Hall/Kinsman
check-up on return through boulder rubble.

Sunday 15th R.E. Lander & wife arrived, walked
around Ruthy & on a soccer inspection

16th Walked around Caledon

17th Departed.

Friday March 20th
Blackhole Hollard

Rained at 3 o'clock, shot several hours replacing
the table in kitchen owing to a collapse in the
the existing unhygienic structure.

Saturday March 21st

Sunday March 22nd,
Mike - Where is my standing tool box to
you before Xmas to dig in P.R. If I don't see it
around the hut John Parker

Saturday
Sunday March 23rd

Dave Farr and eight sailors arrived at 5:00 pm closely
followed by Roger Horton, Francis Harris, Tony Burleton, Norman
Tuck and Mike Holland. Farr plus party descended Eastwater
but had to retreat fairly swiftly as the carbide we had was
too old, and lamps started going out! Returned after reaching
the top of Baker's chimney. Adjourned to Hunkers for the
last half hour.

Sunday March 24th.

Dave Farr, Roger Horton, Tony Burleton and sailors down
to Smack 1 in Sildens - conditions very much as usual, ~~dark~~
and about four parties in the cave.

Refarr.

State of Tackle 5 25 ft ladders.
 1 12½ ft ladder.
 8+ Nylon lifeline ← (borrowed from SMCC).
 1 Hemp lifeline
Various seal lines.

EASTER HOLIDAY.

- 25 Mar. R.E. Lander + better half arrived
26 Mar. R.E.L. under car, A.L. on Pen Hill
(Radstock Co-op in Midsoner Norton
sell steel toe-capped miners' boots)
27th Dug hole; 28th Dug hole; 29th Land Leev; 30th
Eastwater; 31st Filled in hole; 1 Apr Left

26th. John Aulman, Pete Aulman & Tony Burleton arrived
11:30 evening. Went to bed.

24th. Good Friday. Mike Hooper, John Aulman & Guest
went to August hole in afternoon. Very wet but
noticeably less on the way out. Back 11 o'clock (missed
Hunters ^{Aug} _(?)).

28th. Easter Saturday. AD Oldham ~~recovered~~ returned
7 copies of Die Höhle. Did Lambkin dig,
up in St Valentine's Landing got through to
a small clear passage (East-West)
dangerous in parts but with possible places
for digging. John Aulman

Did short upper series Eastwater Sat.

29th. Easter Monday went to town to
stop Wegele's getting into Archeological dig
of MNRG. Tony & John

~~30th Tuesday~~ ^{Wednesday} Tony & F Harris (guest) arrived
and went over to Thorpes hutlet to dig with
N. Tuck. Dig is promising, we are down
about 12' and have come to first large boulders

Tuesday. Tony & John left at dinner time.
neither of us had any change.

1st Tuesday Have noticed that some of the
writing in this book is practically illegible.
This is a pity as this is the first decent log-book
that we have had for some time. Keep it tidy!!

We swept out the hut and washed up before
leaving for Bone Hole where we found an
assortment of smashed bones and a few
interesting teeth. Paid a visit to Gough's Cave
where we were told that the cave went off
for 1½ miles past the last tourist point.

2nd Wed. Cooked breakfast, cleaned up and
left for Bristol.

Bristolton.

April 4th 1959 Saturday.

Norman Tuck and Michael Bywater arrived, in the evening,
two guests. R W ~~W~~ Winch & R E Madge arrived to stay
the night. Michael Holland arrived.

April 5th 1959 Sunday.

Tuck

Messrs ~~Holland~~ and Bywater went over to Thrup Farm
to continue their dig.

Messrs Madge and Winch, after doing a lot of off
dealing up, departed for Cuckoo Cleeves.

The Elsan was emptied, it would appear that members
residing at the hut during Easter were not as active
as they might have been for this should not have
been left full.

Messrs Butler and Cleeves called in on their way
to Stoke New ~~ton~~.

A considerable quantity of old iron was disposed
of from the site, attempts were made to dispose
of the spare wood cluttering up the compound.

Davy Oldham and guest called in to arrange a
working party date, 23rd May was agreed upon.
We hope to fill up the mud ^{outside the} bank & side and
construct a firm drive with stones. Will people
who feel concerned about improving the amenities
at Hillgrave turn up on this date please?

Michael Holland.

April 7th. Margaret & Derek Farol arrived for a three-week
vacation. With the help of Mike Pyne, who transported the
large amount of gear brought, the rates of flow of Withy Brook
& Stake Lane streams were measured above pts. of sinking,
& St. Dunstan's Well below them. It had rained heavily
during the preceding 36 hours, & there was slightly more
water sinking at S.L. than was rising at S.D.

The Stake Lane stream has been diverted down the
cavers' entrance - by whom it is not known.

Wednesday 8th. Read in morning; then tramped over to
Maerdy in showery weather to do some shopping. Thence

walked into Wells & returned by bus c. 5.40pm, to carry on reading.

Thursday 9th

D 7.

Dale Pyne & I took John & Mary Banks (Cambridge & Oxford C.C.'s respectively) down Swildon. Went to Barnes' Loop - a short & pleasant trip. Altho' there had been heavy rain the previous night the water was lower than I have seen it since August last - presumably because more was being pumped off.

Down 12.15 - out 4.15 p.m. A pleasant & very quiet trip. 5 galls. paraffin purchased @ 10/-d.

Friday 10th Simon Banks & John Salmon D 7.

arrived at 9 o'clock. but empty.

John Salmon

Saturday 11th Simon Banks & John Salmon & my mob(s)
went goatchurch 2 hrs.

John Salmon

Sunday. 12th. S. B. J.A. Army Mob & London party
went down Eastwater to Dolphin Pot route.
down 12 out 3.30.

John Salmon

Saturday 11th

Vivian Henry with four guests, Ivor Wheally, Joe Dughe, Bill Ridge, and Barry Mullord arrived at 7.00 in the morning & managed to crawl into bed only awakening two members!

That morning, after some sleep, we explored the huge caverns of Goatchurch primarily to get the feel of caving again.

A.t. 5.00 we started off with the intention of downing on Upper Swildon. But we soon took the upper hand and we decided to turn back! *

Sunday 12th.

The above named plus Vivian Watts descended Eastwater via Dolphin Pot route and proceeded via the Pots to the bottom. We then came back via the Onbow and out.

Four of us now look forward to another busy week in The Army. Though later Army kit came in very handy!

H. H. H.

* We didn't even get charged!

Friday 10th (only just) - T. Monkton, D. Watkinson and A. Morris (guest) arrived.
Saturday 11th - Went down Swildons to Sump I (not through) and back.

Sunday 12th - Did Eastwater to the top of the ladder on the Pippin route and ran out as the ladder was coming up. (last time we tried this we didn't even get out of the Boulder Riddle. We'll get to the bottom yet!)

Friday 10th.

Michael Ryan drove out from Penzance to pick up D. & M. Ford & run them to Stoke Lane. In the morning a check survey was run from the bench mark 635.8' on the village church to the cave entrance. In the afternoon this was continued (using a steel tape & clinometer) to the beginning of Stony Crawf. The object is to pin down the height of the water in Sump I, from which all ht's. in Stoke Lane, etc. are assessed. The three-man team worked quickly, being out of the cave by 5 p.m., & returned to spend the evening computing.

Saturday 11th.

Margaret Ford went shopping in Wells. Dick Ford went to Swildons IV with K. Davies, M. Thompson, G. Wright & T. Davies & established a survey & provisions base there. With K.D. began survey of Main Stream passage at the upstream sumps. After 300' had been covered the clinometer jammed & further work had to cease stop. M.T., G.W. & F.D. went climbing & recovered a W.S.G. ladder from one of the larger areas: its side wires were quite rotted. The party returned together, noticing a distinct smell of chlorine all the way up the streamway - Swildons I. Drove at 11 a.m. out at 6.30 p.m.

Sunday 12th.

O.C.H. dropped in at 11 a.m. to discuss plans for a Stoke Lane line. Joe Candy came - Leo Dick Ford worked on structural features between

the 40' + 20' Pots in Swithland. Down 12.30 p.m., out at 4 p.m. At 5 p.m. Dr. Coleman of King's College London joined the party for a chat about Mendip Indefenses. It was arranged to take her down to Sump I on Tuesday. Michael Walker (CPC), a casual visitor to Mendip, arrived at 7 p.m. to stay for a few days' caving.

Monday 13th

During the morning the hut was cleaned up after its weekend occupation. Derek Ford cleaned & refixed the gathering on the North side of the hut in an effort to make it drain into the Tank. Worked on an accumulation of notes during the afternoon & evening.

Tuesday 14th

~~It was arranged to take Dr. Coleman~~
failed to arrive for the projected visit to Swithland, so Michael Walker (CPC) made a D. Ford made a late start together: the former had not previously visited the cave. The party went to Sump I after seeing the usual beauty spots & Ford dived it to see how it went in an exposure suit. It was no harder than in ordinary clothing - but the diving wire is now badly worn & should be replaced, preferably with a thicker wire. On the return the party was delayed by a group of some dozen RAF Lockheed apprentices who descended the 40'; then stood at the bottom waiting to go up again. Out at 6 p.m. - 4½ hour trip. During the evening Brian Premer, Ken Dunn & Miss Carol Pollock dropped in for a chat.

Wednesday 15th

Graham Candy drove out from Penyford & assisted D. Ford in carrying a structural & lithological survey from Sump I to Tents. ^{Bassett foot} Some very interesting features were noted. True dip was found to vary from 20° to 25° , which contrasts with the mean figure of 15° quoted by Dr. Stanton. The water in the 'Piddly Green Stream' was $\frac{1}{2}$ "warmer" than in the main stream. Air temp. was 52°F . Party out at 4.30 p.m. after a five-hour trip.

Marywell's son & Michael Walker dropped in well. During the evening David, Brenda Willis & Jim Marshall dropped in - talk of many things - for a pleasant hour or two.

G Candy, J.D. Lowe (visitors from University College of North Staffs) stayed 2 nights 16th & 17th. Swildon on 16th Eastwater on 17th. Joined by Alan Moore for Eastwater.

FRI 18th. R.R. Glore & ~~app~~ 3 visitors (Mountain Club, Staffs) arrived late. Had full no camping outside. Stopped camping till Sun. after tea. Fees to be arranged with T. Fenton.

Thurs 10th Party of 8 arrived from B.G.S late afternoon

Fri 11th Party of 8 B.G.S went down Eastwater by Dolphin pot to bottom via route back up via ox bow. Few did C-bend. Whole trip 4½ hours. + m. Waffer from Yorkshire

Sat 12th B.G.S party did Swildon's short dry way 40' and 20' but only as far as twin pots owing to size of party and NO. soon cuts. Trip 5 hours 1 member left for Bristol

Sun 13th 4 of B.G.S party remained after £ 3 had made early morning departures (Before I was awake) Emptied Elson which was overflowing. This must not occur again! I walked round by Hillgrove swallet. Went down two open holes. In afternoon uncovered another hole but only found this to be an unsafe dig after descending Shored 20' shaft.

3 of original members rejoined us in the evening

Mon 20th B.G.S party split up: some descended Hunter's Hole & some Puckle Cleaves Party left for Birmingham on Tuesday.

Thurs. 16th. DCY, MCY: worked on notes. Bought 1 gall. paraffin 2/6.

Fri. 17th. Left Millgrave for a couple of nights.

Sunday 19th. Returned at noon. DCY & GCL worked between the 20' Pot & Double Pots in Swildens. 5 hour trip.

Monday 20th. Michael Walker left for his home in Croydon. DCY, MCY worked in Wells Museum.

Tuesday 21st. DCY, MCY worked in Upper Swildens. 4 hours.

Michael Pyne called to collect certain instruments to be returned to Oxford.

Wednesday 22nd. Walked to Glastonbury & looked at the Abbey ruins. Finished an article for the Journal. Mike Holland dropped in later for a cup of coffee.

Thursday 23rd. Worked in Upper Swildens for 3 hours.

The Dry Ruts & entrance complex are now completed.

Sat 25. Male arrived on country call. Left in evening.

Sat. 25. Apr. R.E. Lawder, D.Fox, & C.Hewitt

descended Swildens and somewhat enlarged the mud ramp. Lawder was able to go down on Kangs and Bores after the enlargement. J. Hart

{ Sat. 25 Apr. D.T.S. Morgan M.W. Morrison descended Tanfords pot & Hunters Hole, lighting trouble prevented digging

Sun 26 Apr.

Uneventful trip to Dallimore in afternoon, v. muddy.

Friday 24th.

Being Derek Ford's birthday we duly celebrated it by emptying the Elsan. Worked 8-10 hours.

Committee meeting in evening.

Saturday 25th. with David Cane (W.S.G.) worked in Trotman's Temple & St. Pauls. 6 1/2 hours.

Sunday 26th. Cleared up - packed for departure.

Arranged details of diving op. in Stoke Lane, May 9th with Phil Davies. Dipped the ladder in oil.

D. Cane took one ladder to Swan Inn for repair.

2nd May 1959. D. Cawser brought out two new ladders, one 16' & one 19' from the Elbow Sec. Dipped in oil and stored in the tackle chest.

Fri 1 May arrived late.

Sat Went to CRG Meeting in Wells

Sunday 3 May

Went with Chris Hawkes to Sump 2 in Swildons, in short dry way, out wet way.

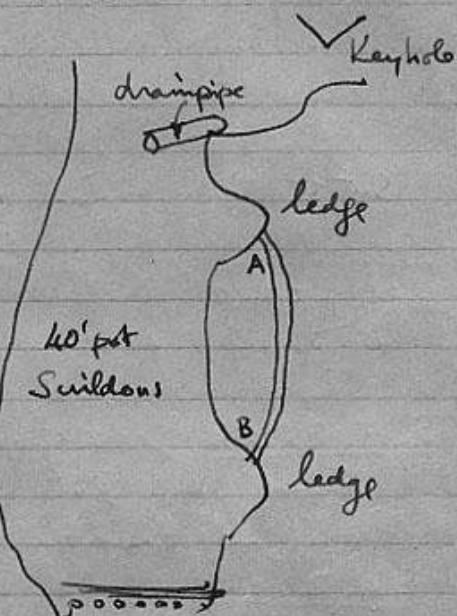
Noticed:

(1) Previous WCC party had hung ladder incorrectly, with wires bent at top rung.

(2) At the 40' pot there

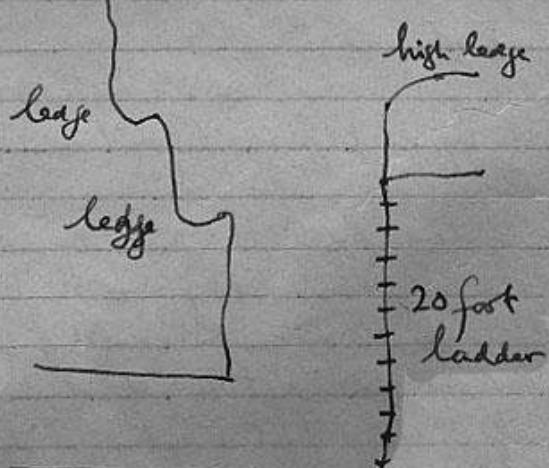
seemed to be a rock tube from top ledge to bottom ledge (AB in diagram) If the water could be sent down it the trip would be nice and dry - or would it?

See plan →



(3) At the 20' pot X _____ root

in Swildons there really is an opening at X with stream coming out which would lead to be enlarged to enter a 15' pole plus odd nailbolts would be needed to reach it @



(4) The wire through Sump 1 needs to be replaced. I think about 60-80 feet would be req'd.

(5) This trip through Sump 1 being my first since I took up diving found that I no longer felt the need to pull on the wire even slightly, and went through it quite slowly. There is no difficulty in going through wearing an exposure suit, even unweighted, if you go slowly enough.

(6) Tools & Food in Suildons II:

There are 2 depots in Suildons II, mostly my own property. They looked to be in good condition, and it is hoped will remain there until genuine need for them arises.

(a) In my dig just after Creep 1 there is 1 jar of glucose
(jar of sweets)
2 kg candles

1 jar water proof matches

1 rock drill (at end of dig)

(b) By bend in streamway before Creep 2 there are 1 crowbar (Phil Davies)
1 trench tool
1 lump hammer (my own)
1 bucket.

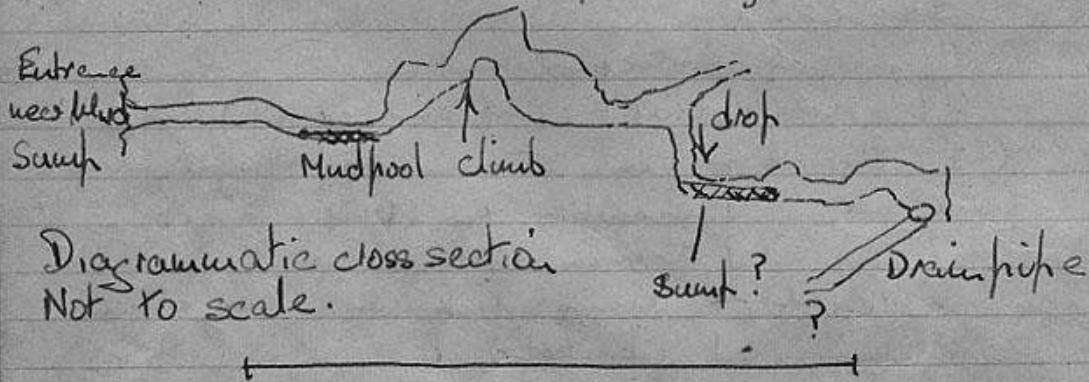
(7) At Sump 2 R.E. Davies' line appears to be still sound, so is the cotton-reel thread put in after the discovery of Suildon Four. We shone a 36 watt spotlight around underwater in Sump 2 and it looked a big place, until the mud went in!

Olwin Wells.

Sat 2nd May

Swindon

Blessers Bywater, Cawser and ~~Hallard~~ investigated tunnels above the mud sump. Hand tight narrow passage leads to muddy pool, after which comes a short easy climb and fair sized passage drop to the left leads into extremely muddy pool [Mudswamp?] followed by much filled tight passage, tortuous! This seems to be in a calcite vein. Phreatic tube cuts the floor of this passage, right hand side has beautiful cross-section of stream wash gravel and mud completely filling the tube, left hand side has small vadose trench in floor. Bywater wet foot first down this for about 20 ft but found it very tight however it sounded very promising.



Sat. 2nd May 59.

Adoldham and J. Barnett (M.N.R.C. - C.R.G) went down to a "Beaver Like Tunnel in Biddulph Combe". In half-an-hour we had found 9 Lesser Horseshoe Bats (4 of which were re-birds).

Later in the afternoon we went to the C.R.G. Lecture at Wells Museum.

Sund 3rd May 59.

We went, regardless of the rain to Elbor Gorge. There we took part in an Archaeological excavation. We found 2 Paleolithic flints and numerous animal bones. The site is under the Directorship of Ted Mason.

17th May '59.

Tant C. J. G. Wasserk. & Neffler & O.B.I.S.
Expedition Stake Lane Sump II.

A mixed party of these four clubs, examined both the 2nd sump of Stake Lane & the nearby inlet sump; the former with breathing apparatus. The latter without.

Ken Davis, like Thompson, of the Holland and Derek had made up the first sump party entering the cave at 3.20. The remaining equipment was carried in by Oldest Lloyd, John Burton, Eric Hawkes, Norman Tuck, David Tarr and P. Dennis who entered at 4.10 pm. The two parties joined in Pool Chamber, where diving kit was assembled and had prepared. Other in this having returned to the surface.

Two short dives revealed a short oxbow and an air surface 4' x 2' by 18' high. The way on was not obvious, the water very muddy, an underwater light was more of an encumbrance than useful.

Derek had immersed himself in the inlet sump to the NW of Pool Chamber. The water was noticeably colder. He found a steeply descending mud floor, two rock walls closing down to it to form a Δ aperture of 1 foot by 9" at a depth of 7-8'. He concluded that progress was quite impossible.

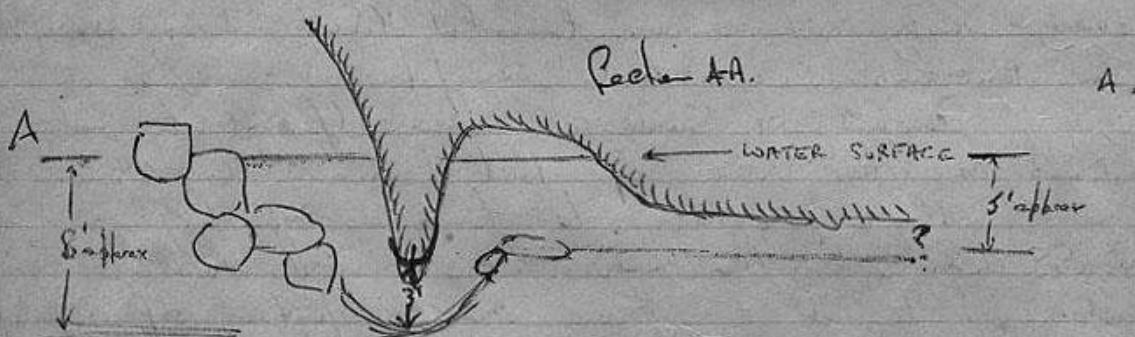
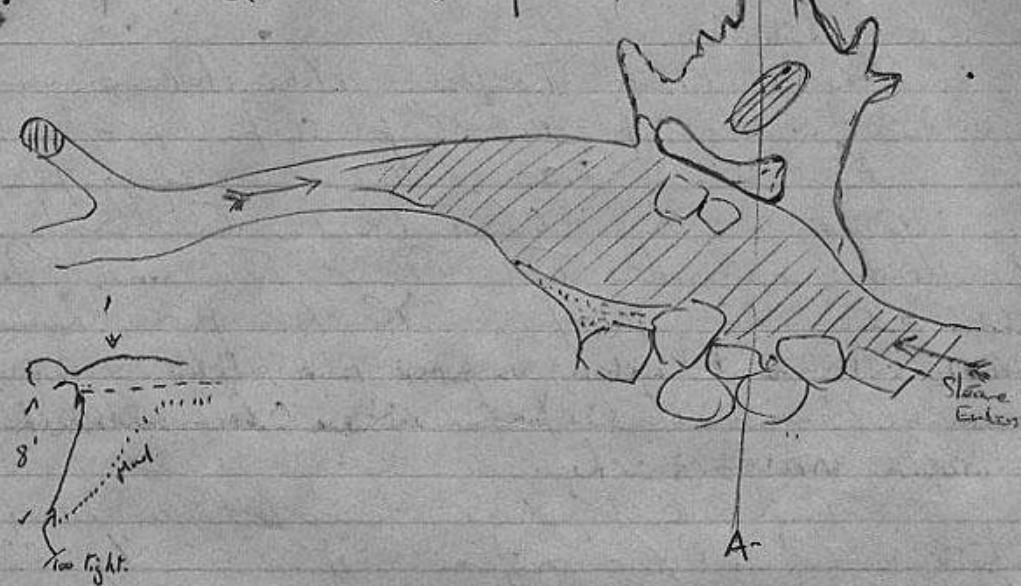
Two further dives with breathing apparatus in the second sump eventually revealed the way on beyond the small air surface at a depth of approx 5', the passage was nearly 4' wide but uncomfortably low. The roof rotten flaky rock, the floor mud & gravel. This passage is the only practicable way on, to left a right hand wall closing down all round. Farthest point reached, 18' from Pool Chamber. The dive was abandoned pending a ~~second~~ second siphoning dive to be posted in the air space to maintain adequate communication.

Party returned with all but two diving gear, ~~one~~ boat at a carrying

Part II Stoke Lane Caves,

between 10.30 & 10.40.

On Sunday evening a party of four U.B.S.S. members led by Oliver Mayell returned to recover the remaining kit.



Sunday May 10th

Mike Holland, Dave Fare and Brie King went down Longwood Swallet to take photographs with the left over equipment from yesterday's Stoke Lane trip.

Saturday May 11th

Steve Wyre-Roberts, John Church, John Bone, Nev Dyer, Nick Hart, Rod Hobbs, went down Sidtons into Saint Pauls through Mud Sump to Great Chimney. Down 11.15. Returned 2.30

Saturday 16th May

Dave Kinnison, Robin Young, & Fred Higgins - Upot Snildors.
Down 3.0 p.m. - Up 6.0 p.m. Little water at 40° - water warm!

Sunday 17th May

Above party - Insturts. Dolphin pt. down Ruddy Oscow.
& back via 14 pots. Down about 11.30, up 5.0, ~?

Monday 18th May

Above party - Snildors to Sump I. Down 10.00 up about
4.0 p.m. Boxes lost on way down.

SAT. 16th May

N Tuck, B. Harry, R. Wolley arrived, and after a meal
departed for Thumper's Snicket, where an afternoon
was spent very actively.

SUN 17th May. Continued at Thumper. Much
land and stones was removed, and good progress made.
We were disturbed in our dinner hour, by a report
of the "Entrance of Snildor falling in" from a Scout-
master. We went to Snildor's entrance, but could
find no evidence of a fall.

MON 18th May. Norman and Bob took two of Normans
finds to Snildor's camp. Did a pile of accumulated
washings up, swept hut and departed. RW.

TUES 19th May

B.G.S. party called at 11.30 & took tackle to do Lamb Lair,
(ladders only). Good trip. Returned 6.00 pm & washed
ladders. It was noticed that my motorcycle (Triumph
T. 90.) (less engine) has been removed from the shed
behind Gash Snicket. It is insured & road-mothballed. I
have the engine. Will any one who knows what
has happened please contact.

P. H. Beckham,
40 HAZELBURY Rd.,
KNOWLE,
BRISTOL, 4.

Sat 23rd May. Sidney Alford (visitor) & Eric Fowler left but for visit to Swildon Upper Series - anywhere about 40ft. Hobtonham not later 6PM, actually 9.15PM. Found two small interconnected

(Clair Lloyd, Peter Yule & David Lewis to Upper Sandon)

Will Note Bywater come right away if he comes here first? grottoes in pretty way ^{today} in floor of passage after Ken's dig on way to second grotto, just before reaching large boulder. Then poked around first grotto, a tunnel, very wavy in floor & very narrow - Sid made about 40 ft backhole in rift 20 ft. big. First time passed? We then continued with Fowler's dig in rift chamber, sloping floor at first & then driving forward for 4 to 5 feet getting lower all the time. On way out, near waterfall by entrance we found & brought back here an alloy ladder left by people unknown. Stays in tackle but awaiting a claimant.

Sun. Helped in morning at Piddi Great Circles with O.C.L. & Nat. Delt for London 3pm.

Sat. 30th May. I hope that someone finds a use for the

↑ Dolly good idea left Holland mangal - R.R. may

Saturday 30th May.

Visits to Swildon I and St Pauls (part) by Phil Rice, John Lane and Dick Shrimpton. No water at all!

6th Saturday. Goldham, M Bywater & Roberts went over to Masebury to the "Ex. Jack Stone" carvings may there obtain boulder suits for 8/6° (end of commercial) Hunted! with M Holland and D. Lauer.

7th Sunday. Went to Piddi Pool (Mineies) to catch Klaw and M. Thompson swallow. (They were using a SGMT 0 mod. BA)

H. J. 555
W. (1555)

Friday 5th June 1959.

Julia James

Jane Story

Irene Lane

Hugh Jackson

Michael Selby

Nigel Heslop

} from London

Arrived at 6.00 a.m.

and went ~~down~~^{to} Cuckoo Clefts

at 3.00 a.m. But spent 1

hour looking for the said cave due to navigational errors by Miss James.

On Saturday afternoon a descent of Eastgate was envisaged however navigational errors [again by Miss James] caused the party to explore, in great detail, the magnificent boulder ruckle. Eventually the way on was found, by some mischance, or so it would seem, and the party descended into Herring Passage and returned to the surface at 8.30.

Sunday After diverse culinary, domestic and housecleaning activities the party made their way to Mains Barn for a trip to Swildens Hole, led by the redoubtable Holland, Emperor and Hatwader. The cave as usual was full, almost to overflowing, with persons of various stages of decay: there were some Coots who were wearing hijabs! The old adage that the only time to go down Swildens alone is "Midnight, midweek, Midwinter" is very true.

The party met up with members from Clifton College at the 40' descent was made to sump I. The water was almost nonexistent.

The party departed for Ladd at 9.30 p.m.

A new incinerator has been installed we hope that it will be used.

L. H. D.

Saturday June 13th

A.D. Oldham, having arrived the previous night together with H Holland awaited the arrival of the large number of people who promised to come and help with the stone spreading; however with the exception of Jim ~~Kinney~~ no one turned up. What a slopewalk! Therefor the aforementioned people set about renewing the gutters, cleaning windows, cutting grass and burning up tree stumps.

Mr Stock who owns Cross Swallet, Wesssex "dig" turned up to enquire if the Club intended to continue work on this swallet. We ventured the opinion that no further work was envisaged. Mr Stock then expressed the desire that the swallet should be filled in to make it safe. We promised to have a look at it the next day.

Sunday 14th June

Together with a party of B.E.C members we went over to Cross Swallet and managed to partly fill it in with timbers and twigs, however more work will have to be done to make it safe.

More work was done to the gutters. The water tank was emptied and flushed off its supports. The amount of clay that came out was horrid, consisting of:

1 toothbrush.

1 tube of toothpaste [Gibbs S.R.]

1 nail brush

N portions of soap in various states of decay.

Diverse leaves, flies [dead and alive].

Large quantity of nasty black sediment,

Roger Harker dropped in for a how or so
John Barrett gave quite a bit of assistance
in the work on gutters etc.
The weather was simply magnificent
Holland.

June 2nd P. Davies & Pat Davies called to
check contents of First Aid box, everything
was found to be intact & in good
order.

Some sharp eyed members may note that the
water tank is now empty. (Ref Sunday 10th June).
Although the persons responsible for the
action were quite aware that it would not
rain for a month there is no cause for
alarm. The "below-calculations" will show the
reason.

The stainless steel water container has the
following internal dimensions $12'' \times 10'' \times 10''$ by the
well known formulae for finding the cubic capacity
of an object $a \times b \times c$. The volume will appear
to be 1400 cu.in. or in more useful terms 5.05 gallons.

It has often been said that when the
water tank is full it contains 400 gallons. This
statement has since been proved:-

1 cu ft = 6.25 gall internal dimensions of tank
 $4 \times 4' \times 4' = 64$ cu ft or 64×6.25 or 400 gallons.

Any body can see at a glance that
50 trips down to the farm with S.S. water
canister will fill the large tank to
overflowing.

Capacity calculations by kind permission of
Gledarmousfanger.

Saturday June 20th 1959.

Eupheric Barbecue Day.

Messrs A.D Oldham, James, Hollard, Barrett Tuck and Jackson assisted Mr Seeley with his haymaking on an extremely hot afternoon Job almost completed!

At 7.00 p.m. the work finished and the caravans from various clubs congregated at the ~~etc~~ Minories for a swimming gale Dress for the occasion: Inflated quoinsuits and fancy hats.

The Weegies were soon awaked.

Messrs Towler [S.M.C.C.] and Hollard then set to and constructed a screech

PUNCH!

Sausage dogs were also made by various persons.

An adjournment was made for some refreshments at the tenters, earnest drinking commenced at 11.30 and finished at 4.00 next morning. Every one was well oiled no one was sick we all had a hilarious time including two Genuine Bedouin Arab Yanks, brought along by the Keath Gardner [B.E.C] All in all a most sucessful event

Sunday

Ugh my head !

that cleaned out, rubbish burnt every thing left shipshape.

Messrs Hollard & Oldham went to Maesbury to purchase a new handle for the screech and we ended up with another pick-ance as well: cost 12/6

A load of concrete slabs were gained, to be used for building up the water

Kank.

Since the weather has been superb.

Mountain

Friday 26th June.

Steve Wynn Roberts & David Caesar arrived
Michael Hollard arrived, collected 1 cut cement
& sand from 44 Sealy.

Replaced two bulbs, 100 watts each
And there was light!

Sat. 27 Tue P.E.L. & A.L. arrived 4.30 p.m. Did a
stiff upper "Hunkers".

Sun 28 Jun Tourist trip to Swildons Sump I.

28 Jun 10.30 am entered Swildons - Party of 9 to attempt Sump IV
At 20 ft. number reduced to 6 including Mike Thompson, Ken Dawe,
Jerry ^(Finsbury) & 3 others - Ken Dawe & Doreen went out with one other. (and Dawn)
Had Speedy trip through to SW IV where we picked up bad weights from
depot upstream, also stuck lead. We also had brought through from Blue Rivel

2. unequal halves of dual 9" tube which we had to get round corner in BP.

During party of 4 in goon suits M.T., K.D., J.E.H., the two others waiting in TV
Used lead weights as necessary from pump bag on minnowline,
also 2 poles, pole coupler, pick head. (all left in V on H.) and 20' ladder
All passed pump OK except last line end got pulled (Ken & M.T. pads)
dive back with it. also EH made abortive attempt first time & at 6' in lead
to back out - kept too far left & gained belief. OK second attempt.

EH erected maypole using 2 new sections the four already through. &

Climbed up to hole on H. Another 5' ^{up} from ledge at top of pole
was a tube, mainly filled with mud in floor. crawled as far as
possible - 12'. Saw bright light end - good echo & sound of
dripping water in fair space out of sight. Other three all had a look
it was decided to be practicable to dig out mud in floor &

get through. When all ways to Sump I to have a look. EH had
bad fence at Burton's home - first attempt cut lead a bit
but reduced buoyancy, made second attempt w/o success.

Water level in this area very stable & probably fluctuates only a
few inches except in flood when whole passage in V at least
full 20' up with flood water. We had a fast return trip
through Sump IV. Neither two being glad to see us - they had
looked well into Sump III from lower end whilst waiting.

We returned the lead weights to upstream depot & had an uneventful journey out of Cave. Maines Barn about 7.30 P.M.

Sat 27 June - Thurs 2 July Mr and Mrs O'Wells stayed in the hut but did no caring at all. Left the hut in the hands of another party.

Fri 31 June - T.J. Hill and 6 members of South Town (Cintron Shee) stayed 1 night. Dismantles, tankard pot done on Thursday afternoon; light bulb in extension sleeping room broken by someone's head. Damages 15 to be paid to Hon Sec. Eastwater and August hole done the following day.
4th 27th June 59, a Oldham went excavating at Elbow under the dictatorship of "Ted Mason".

July 5th N. Tuck, Rhodolyn Reba Hancock, Gorda Peckham spent the day digging at Thumper's Swallet. Much useful work was done.

July 6th Saturday

Michael Holland, later joined by others including Ken Dawe, helped Mr Sealy with his haymaking.

Sunday 5th.

A party of three applicants, plus Tony O'Flaherty, Rowena [B.E.C.] Eve Waller and myself descended Eastwater ^{Via Dolphin Woods} for Morris's passage in order to give the beginners an idea of ladder climbing, and exchange was made with another party who had laddered the 1st and verticals. Returned at approx 5.00 p.m.

Michael Holland

11th July. Graham Candy, David Yarr & Deel Ford arrived late & spent the night at the hut.

12th. The above concluded a structural & morphological survey of Tap Swildons. 3 hours. Cave very, very dry. Candy & Yarr left to spend the night elsewhere.

13th. Yarr returned early with a hired car & he & Ford went over to Stake Lane & completed the topographical survey begun there in 1956! (X-sections & floor deposits in the early passages.) Pushed the active extent passage to its limit - this is a sump 6" high in a low rift-type passage. The passage is roofed with clay, through which years nests protrude.

In the evening Michael Pyne & Candy came up & all four were shown 'The September Series' in St. Cuthbert's by Brian Prenter & Mike Waddington. Most impressive - a 3 hour trip.

14th. Candy, Yarr & Ford to Swildons again after looking at the Thorpe Swallet dig. Completed structural & morphological survey in Double Pots - Barnes hole area - now finished with Swildons I. Yarr took a comprehensive series of temperature measurements (air-water) from entrance to Sump I.

Water at entrance 59°F.

at Party 50°

at Sump I 50° (including P.G. stream)

Still pools also read 50°F. A 5 hour trip in extremely low water conditions.

15th Completed a topographical survey of Swildons IV: from the C.P.G. depot to Sump IV + The Tributary passage. A $5\frac{3}{4}$ trip.

Graham Candy left for Wales.

16th. Took a day off in Bath.

17th. Surveyed Blue Pencil Passage, Grade 5, thus linking IV to Stanton's map. An unknocked jet it was, too. $7\frac{1}{2}$ trips.

18th. Yarr & Ford left early.

Thurs.

~~16th July~~

Robert Pyke and David Catt (guest), arrived from Cambridge and London respectively.

Friday 17th Descended Eastwater via D. Pot Hill and poked about a bit in Beechen Series, and Upper Series. Emerged 2.15.

Saturday 18th Walked Pidd. Descended Swallows 12.30 - To Series IV, noting the 'improvements' in the route with mixed feelings. Out at about 4.30, having been caught in the usual crowds at the 40'. Stayed for the Supper, and left at 10.30 p.m. Very fine occasion, with a wonderful meal; many thanks to Brenda & Miss.

18th July Club Supper. 15 members attended.

All food polished off but only managed about half a pint of delicious cider - hope members will manage to empty this in due course.

1/8/59. R. Hutton + Tony Burleton arr.
Isat T. Knipe, R. Manthorpe, W. Roach +
M. Roach arr. Gentle drinking at Hunter.

Sun.

Rose late!

Did an easy ramble round Eastwater to turn vertigo, came back emptied glass had meal + left left.

7/8/59. THill borrowed 2 blankets for (Friday) temporary use at Eastwater but these will be returned by Monday morning. (Hon. Sec's Sanction, I think)

8/8/59 ~~Hunters Sewall~~

Tue. - gentlemen from the N. E. -
x Sir Richard James (BED)
Lord Montagu of Hinching
xxx Betty Shaw. xxx

Members are requested to refrain from having breakfast
in bed as the bed crumbs are not at all pleasant
for the next occupant.
Lieutenant-Colonel

- 10/8 TJ Hill returned blankets from Eastwater.

Wednesday 12th August

Michael Holland & Tony Oldham arrived with the intention of completing the water tank support, however rain stopped play. As an alternative under short the cut of respringing beds was reviewed.

The aforementioned persons consider it their privilege to severely chastise people found maltreating beds and associated fixtures.

By order of the Master.

Friday 14th August 59.

As Oldham, B.S. Roach and N. Thomas (non-member) arrive.

Saturday.

The above three first went to Tymings Farm. We inspected a rather interesting and promising dig, which was being dug by the boys of Weston Grammar School. They have now abandoned it. The site is situated some 200 yds South-West of Tymings Farm.

Next was a mine shaft in field ~~so~~ about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Tymings Gate on the Warren Hill Rd. The shaft is about 10 yds East of the road and 30 feet deep. It contains amongst other things the remains of two sheep. The older of the two had its skull removed by ASO. (The younger one will also have its skull removed in 3 years time).

After refreshments at the Miners Arms Shifnal we went to Compton Bishop. First we went in The Devil Hole then with a quick look at Super-Sunday Hole we went to Foxes Hole, like all of the Compton Bishop caves it would have quite large chambers if the small

boulders which scarcely form the floor were removed.

Going about 6 yrs down the ridge we entered Dennis' Hole in the "Lava Series" a *Rhinolophus ferrum-equinum insulans* was disturbed.

Going further down the Cross-Merton road we arrived at the village of Loxton and following a narrow road up the hill we arrived at Loxton ~~cave~~. We used a 25' ladder to descend the over in the way we did a round trip. Some chicken bones were found ⁱⁿ ~~at~~ the chamber below the over. After a quick look in Loxton Caving caves we went to Brean.

At Brean we went looking for Pleistocene remains and after a few minutes we had about half a dozen minute mole type bones ^{is small for} ~~etc~~ running.

We stopped at Cheddar for tea. The swim we had at Brean had given us quite an appetite. We had a look at Cooper Hole. The cave is being dug by the Mendip Caving Group it is probably one of the most exciting digs on Mendip. To quote Historia Anglorum circa 1125-30 Henry of Huntington writes:- Chedder Hole, where is a cavity under the earth, which, though many have ~~do~~ often entered and there traversed great spaces of land, and rivers, they could yet never come to the end.

Even allowing for exaggeration (as these historians are similar to our present day Americans) it can be safely concluded that there is quite an extensive system there.

We eventually arrived at Hellgove about 7.30 p.m.

SUNDAY, 16 AUGUST 1959

B.S. ROACH & N. THOMAS (NON-MEMBERS)

Went down Burrows. Very leisurely trip (4½ hrs) to Camp and back. Burrows very deep dry (NO WATER ON THE 40'S NO STREAM ~~ever~~ AT ENTRANCE). There was a motorcar car rally on Friday evening. Arrived back at Hellgove 5-45 after being "picked up" by A.D. Oldham who had spent the afternoon cleaning

up. At the Sump in Swindon was seen
a notice which read. BRECKNOCK R.D.C.

WARNING

BATHING AT THE
PRESENT TIME IS
NOT ADVISABLE

BlRough

Thank you for the weekend, Messrs. Our Welsh
^(Cots) leaves are certainly less populated and more littered,
nevertheless it was pleasant to exert myself this
side of the border for a change.

17/8/59 Diolch y faur, Newtshomey
Spent nights before and after trip to S. Wales where
above mentioned Ogofe were sampled and found
extremely worthwhile. Hospitality of S.W.C & greatly
appreciated. Bathing (unpermitted) in Ogof Ffynnon
Ddu enjoyable and "made the day" of my two
companions. Previous day "made" for me Eva v. Walla
by testing ~~the~~ our "great" but wooden tho' somewhat
rather tight squeeze. //

↑ Hut warden wishes to point out, that Brewers ↑
Goutie prevents squeeze negotiation.

Tuesday 18th August

A. J. Oldham and M. Holland spent the evening
building the water tank support and putting in new
washing line posts.

Friday 21st August

Messrs P. Duck, M. Holland & Pyke and Doug Wills [Guest]
made a short sharp descent of Swindon to the
sump. Retained at 10 o'clock in time for a stock of
ale at the New Inn.

Sat 22nd August Robot Pyke descended Swindon again with Mike Thompson,
and we tramped a Sump in St. Ives (One at end of Main Passage from
St. Paul's Grotto). The level was low initially, and an hour's dredging
and clearing allowed Mike to get in another 3 ft odd. Sump beyond
appears to be getting lower, possibly due to work with mud.
Also investigated from just above the junction on L. side.)

St Paul's Grotto. Went only a few feet - partly blocked by stal., but small person might push it.

Robert Pyke & Pete Scott (Guest)

Sunday 23rd August Some party went to Stoke Lane with Shepton, and took a few pictures in Traveller's Grottoes. Were accosted beyond Pump by a fanatical geologist type wearing white nylon shirt and brown shoes, brandishing a failing half-crank torch. We lent him some more clothes, and he was tickled pink by the whole business. The guy deserves a medal! Surfaced after about 6 hrs under.

Monday 24th To Swildon, taking colour-shots in Streamay and Trits' Temple. Results (?) due to spray equipment, Flashgun either refusing to raise a spark, or else blowing whole bulb to smithereens, and shattering the strobe with flying splinters.

↑ repeat this. PMSA

Tuesday 25th Pete left. Spent Day Cleaning Library,
+ Breaking Stones. Left for Hunters and Shepton that evening.

Wednesday 26th Dug at Coddung? Swallet, Fiddly, sinking a 15ft shaft. This receives water from Trangh on Fiddly Green, and is seen entering in aven, climbed to 100 ft. odd, in Series IV of Swildons. Hence, a link achieved here, would enable Rescue from Series IV and beyond, and ease burden of getting diving kit down. Horizontal distance, on Stanton Survey, to IV about 200ft. Vertical distance 400 + . i.e. - a mighty vertical pothole. Colouring matter invested in Swallet takes less than 2hrs to IV, also indicating a steep gradient to the pot.

Digging commenced at 5.0 a.m. by a small multi-clad party; halted in late afternoon by unpromising progress in large boulders. Shaft filled in, the same night.

Robert Pyke left at 5 p.m. to join a party to Lant Lais, under Mike Holland, with 3 B.P.C. Members, Jonas, Barry and Derek. Quick Tarnet, with a picture in main chamber, with wondrous mighty FLASH. Out in 2 hrs, and made it to Hunters at 10.25.

Thursday 27

Continued at Coddung, sinking another shaft. A good draw, emerging between boulders but at time of writing () not very good, with no man-sized

wayon . . Evening drinking

Friday 28th

Left in morning for Devon, (Mike Holland is referred to blurb on board.)
that being in immaculate condition.

J. G. Lennon, D. T. S. Mogg, M. H. Hawman & J. Phillipott arrived in morning.
Put up 2nd clothesline post in afternoon, examined muriaries,
then staggered to Hunters.

Saturday 29th

Above. Four went on tour of Stake Lane Stoker.
with Q. C. Lloyd. Again we returned in time for
Hunters!

Sunday 30th

Sunny rain
J. G. Lennon, M. H. Hawman, J. Phillipott to Swildon's to St. Paul's. Various
weegees in curious gear and smelling of stale beer 'n' baccy
encountered using our tackle on 40 ft. D. T. S. Mogg helped
with Pridy Green dig. M. H. H. & J. P. return to Bristol.

Monday 1st September

Got up late and ~~as~~ assemble gear in leisurely
fashion before returning to Bristol.

Fri 28th

D. Walkinshaw & J. Monkshaw arrived from London.
Sat 29th

D. W. & J. M. went down August Hole. No water
at all (except paddles) until the main stream passage,
still water coming into both upstream passagess.

Sun 30th

D. W. & J. M. did a photo trip in Swildon as far
as Barnes Loop. This cave also very dry, e.g.
water rift and forty feet falling water completely lost
Mon 31st Long Hood & Filter below Double Pot, it found please return to
D. Walkinshaw.

Wop-Tee'd in Wells and Cheddar. Entered Elson
Tues 1st

Stoke Lane trip. This was still wet although
only about 3" of water to duck under in seeps.
Formations are getting rather muddy.

Wed. 2nd

Made start on path along end of hut, following
flat Wardens idea for a patio. Had some beer at
Hunters along with a party from the Pridy
Green dig (B. Willis & Co.). Came back and "obtained"
gravel for path, disturbing a courting couple in '40

process.

Thurs. 3rd

Left for S. Wales after sweeping out hut, etc.
Sat 5th 4 miles upstream.

Saturday 5th September

Geo. & Shirley Weston arrived. David Berry
and George Partridge arrived.

Michael Date called in, collected books from
library and went. Michael Hole arrived
Digging on Priddy Green was the main occupation
of most for trips into Eastwater

Sunday 6th

Digging continued at Priddy by river

Monday 7th

Laid about 1½ sq. ft. of new path at junction
of Kitchener & Tackle Hut routes. Hence to Minories, exhausted.

Tuesday 8th

Bought out & attacked stinging nettles this a.m. Many
slain and disabled. Continuing very hot - went swimming. Had
a disturbed night caused by lovesick cow calling absent calf.

News-flash.

I read with great interest in "How Underground
Britain is explored," by Shorrell Styles (Houtledge and
Kegan Paul 10/6) that "Trained Cavers" (not super-
cavers but "Trained Cavers") travel at an
average speed of 30 yards per hour while
underground! This means that in future any
caver traversing the hazardous 450 odd feet from
the entrance of Swildon's Hole to the 40 foot pot
will via the Short Day Way will take 5 hours
instead of 10 minutes to a quarter of an hour.

To visit sump I it will be necessary
to live in Barnes Loup and to reach
Swildon's IV will most likely take a week.

Should Mr. Styles come to Mendip to display
his "Trained Caver" technique I would
advise fellow cavers to take iron ration for a week.

9th Sept.

A. Clarke browning mills in the Ione area.
Borrowed tin opener, will return next week.

HELP! WHERE IS THE SPARE TIN OPENER.

13 Sept.

Water mainage left after further digging on Piddly Green and completing path as far as kitchen door. Helped replace water tank.

Wed 8th. Aldolphus arrived from Beaufort.

Thurs 9th. " built wall to support water tank.

Fri 10th. " at grass.

Sat 11th. " went down East Town Brook.

Sun 12th. " went digging in Elbow

Saturday 12 September

M. Holland and Paul Duck intending to do a "Black Hole" trip, but put off due to party shrinkage trouble] went through Sump I in Swildon's and replaced the broken guide wire. The new one should be replaced with a heavier wire within the next 18 months.

Mon 21 Sept.

Alan Clarke arrived after obscure geographical walk in Melles area, + spent the night. Tin opener returned, sorry for the spoon!
Collected plastic lunch box + sugar last week.

VESSEX CAVE CLUB
LIBRARY

Sunday 22nd Sept. Dave Caines + Robert Lyke descended

Swildon's to look at the Mud Series of Black Hole. Lightning strike caused premature retirement.

26-27th Sept. Aldolphus dug on Piddly Green.

Sunday 4th October A. Gully + 2 guests, P.E. Snook + M., Padfield descended Swildon's to Sump I. Back at 1st 525 p.m.

Saturday 3rd October. A dig was on P.C.
Sunday 4th 12.00pm. Aoldham, R. Pyke and I Sandy
met on a short sharp caving trip involving Penny Hole,
Devil's Hole and Supra-Sandy Cave. This phenomenal
caving trip was accomplished in the fantastic time
of 2.00 seconds. Because we had completed before
12.00 AM. At a more respectable time of 10.30 AM.
A.O. and J.C. descended Swindon's Hole on a
photographing cum Beastie catching trip & we
took 4 hours to descend to Beesties Lodge and
30 minutes to ascend to surface. The rest of the
afternoon was spent on Priddy Green.

Saturday 10th October 1.00 AM. A.D.P. B.S.H. arrived.

At a more respectable hour of 10.30 AM. the
above two and Nigel (an Eccles Caving ^{Ned} type).
The largest cavern in the Mendip Hills
is "Goatsherd", Cavers said Sir William Boyd Dawkins
in his book ~~Eccles~~ Cave-Hunting. ~~He~~ Cuehines
and Foxes Hole we also visited on the
grand Chiroptera banding trip. There were 3
Rhinolophus ferrumequinum insulans in
Foxes Hole. It was noticed that the pool which
is usually in the bottom of Foxes has
completely disappeared they now room for
a potential dig there.

Sat evening. The above 3 and a certain Miss Jones
assembled at Wokay to watch Ken Law (Comish S.H.C.)
and Mr Thompson (R.I.C.C. w.s.c.) wallow; many of the
Mendip notabilities were there including Mr. Mrs.
de Graaf, Luke Denshil, Jim Hamill, Brenda
Wills, George Weston even diving S.H.C type and
last but not least the redoubtable Holland, Emperor
and Hut Blaeden. The water was low enough
for A.O. to swim into it.

Saturday. A certain Miss Farmer took 10 Woking
cavers down Eastwater this time she
did not need to repeat the boulders-
ickle having done so on the 6th June.
The cave was battered and every body
returned to the top safely in 4½ hours.

Sunday 16th

A party consisting of C. D. King D.P.A.B. Harper
H. Hewitt, J. Thomas, J. James, V. Bennett A. Dewey
visited Stoke Lane Sledger with intent to dive
down one. Four members of the party accomplished
this. Walter was bad, the first duck, was not.

Saturday 16th October.

got Mike Wall married

Mike Woods.

Sat 16th T. Markham, Dr Walling, Mr & T. Morris (guest).

Stayed at home after 4pm & dinner.

Sun 17th D.W & T.M. paddled round the gap of Eastwater
(since the water was bad). T.M. wreeged with a friend.

Left for London 5 o'clock.

Saturday 16th October.

Annual General Meeting commenced at the
Cliff Hotel around four o'clock. There were about
40 people present, about 18% of the Club's
membership! One of the most notable events
was the vulture-like tactics of Oliver Lloyd
in lightening the pockets of those present
to the tune of about £10, for the purpose
of constructing special rescue equipment for
the H.R.O. We have never seen so many
people give so much so willingly!

The Dinner was attended by n people
included the Extinguished Guest of Honor
Dr J Syrington-Thrapgood the noted archeologist.
The infantile minds were fully geared
up and the laborious process of bread roll
and streamer throwing was soon in full
swing.

The speeches were mainly centered on
the Lunatic Fringe who were well represented
indeed they gave forth a rendering

[] of "We are the Lunatic Fringe" [hit song]
 That master of sheeo-poetry Alfie Collins
 [Gent] made the evening enjoyable with his
 latest Sheeo about Shaggy Sheep and other
 topics, not forgetting Gerald Gear who moved caves
 at dead of night. Bob Hawke described Alfie as
 a "Sheeo-Logician" almost fitting term.

All the evenings' entertainment was recorded
 on tape, no doubt a handsome ransom will
 be demanded from those who "were to drunk to
 care but now feel embarrassed"!

As the night wore on the pace grew hotter
 with party games culminating in a tugger-scrum
 and cream bun throwing.

In the words of one of our members
 "Wasn't it a vulgar affair" !!!

Sunday -

How horrible it all seems in the cold light
 of dawn, ugh!

Why is it that Sunday is always hangover
 day?

Some people actually went caravanning today,
 this is just showing off!

During the afternoon several of us started
 on the extension of the car park. Mr Sealy
 lent us his tractor and quite a few stones
 were put into place before tea.

Tony Oldham and myself made a start on
 the laying of him in the extension during
 the evening.

Those present at the hut during the weekend
 H. & Attwood [Attie], Lao Holland, T Payton, Charlie
 Donovan, David Walkinshaw, Jerry Mankelow,
 A. Morris, Mike Woods and Guest, Julie James
 June Stovey, Tony Oldham, Dore Berry and
 George ~~Berry~~ Ponting + your hut warden
 Michael Holland.

The standard of writing seems to be declining, please let others understand what you did [Who you are] and where you have been.

November 2nd.

A bus and train timetable have been installed for your convenience, not the little hut outside.

Friday 6th November.

Tony Oldham arrived and slept on his lonesome.

Saturday 7th November

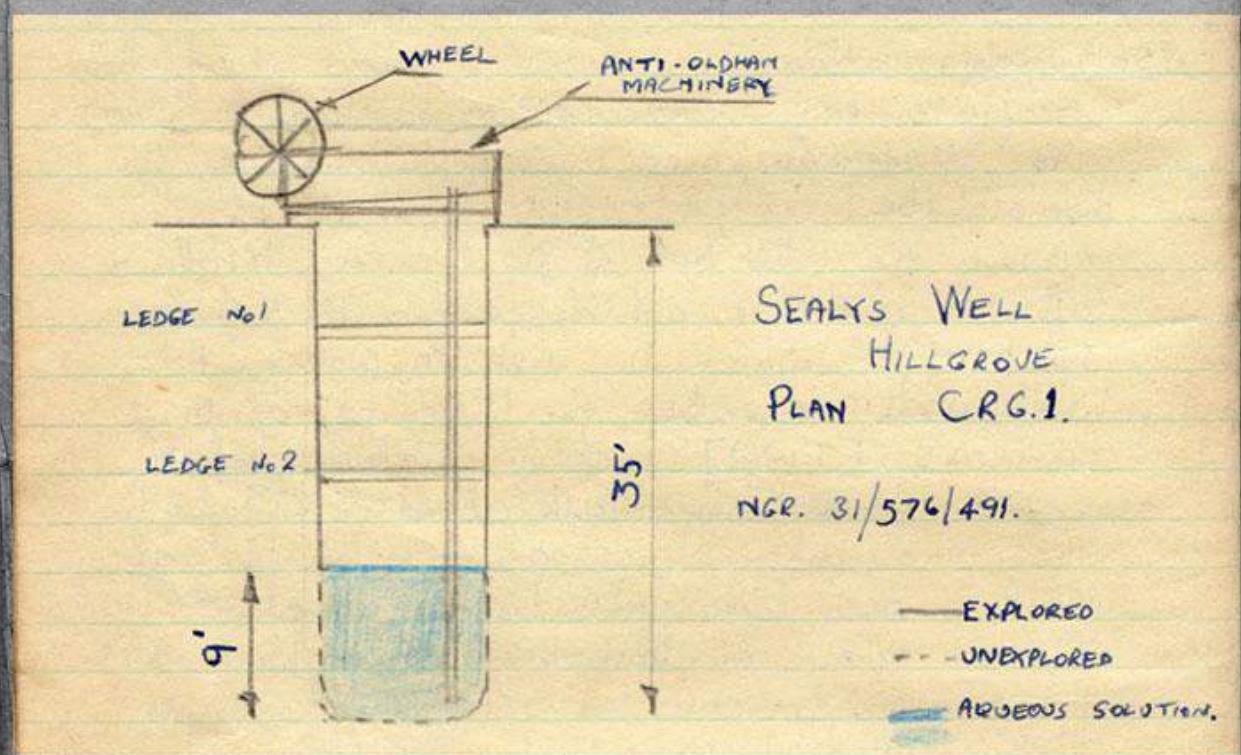
George Pointing and David Berry arrived
Der Fledermausfinger went on safari to Budleigh.

During the latter part of the evening M Holland appeared and we all descended to Tap Room level after which a visit to Wookey Hole was occasioned by the presence of ITV cameras [TWW] taking pictures of the C.D.G. in action. Talk about a circus! The time taken to shoot a minutes of film was 7 hours! The pictures should appear on December 2nd at about 6.15 p.m.

Sunday 8th November.

Further work was done on the car park by the faithful few who sincerely hope that others will be encouraged to give a hand on future occasions. John Barrett arrived and went bat "ringing" [Chiroptera banding] with Tony Oldham during the morning

14th November 59. Also descended an unusual subterranean cavity. The purpose of this trip was to conduct certain hydrological investigations. The cavity was approx. 3'-6" in diameter and some 35 feet deep the descent of which is assisted by two ledges placed at strategic points. Due to there being 9' feet of aqueous solution in this cavity the last mentioned section was not explored. The walls of this cavity are brick lined with limestone walling near the top. The entrance consists of a very tight squeeze so tight that also had to be forcibly extracted. Mr. Sealy informs me that the above mentioned cavity is his Well!



Also, C Bryant, J Park (Guest), wet down Dallimore's Cave. As Dallimore's is not mention in this log book a brief note is called for. It was discovered in 1948 by The Wessex Cave Club, it is 250 odd feet long and some 95 feet deep. It has some pretty formation and some interesting mud deposits in the lower series. It is conveniently situated by the side of the Bristol-Wells Road and is within easy walking distance of the H.Q. (end of commercial).

Three *Rhinolophus pipistrellus* minutes were found therein. A pleasant trip.

14th November 1959

The following party made a descent of Swildons for the purpose of exploring the Black Hole. David Berry, David Causey, Paul Duck, Lao & Michael Holland and George Pointing.

After various delays the party set off, on the way down we observed, with a certain amount of trepidation, some rather "seedy" looking ladders, the one on the "Twenty" was fixed by tying the wires in a reef knot which was then hooked over the new bolt!

David Berry decided that the stuff was not for him so he and David Causey returned in time for a much needed pint. The rest pushed on; the 10ft overhang provided amusement for some at my expense.

Lao decided that he would go in front as "he had been there before". This resulted in an exhausting exploration of the May Day series. The title of "Mikes Idiot Brother" was well earned on this occasion.

After a series of shunting up and down we did find the Black Hole but were too tired to do anything. From the appearance of the place we despaired of ever getting over it.

A return to the surface was accomplished at ~~11:00~~ a.m.

Michael Holland

15th November 1959. Charles Bryant with John Park intended to descend Swildons 1 to 50' using ladders thoughtfully left behind by previous party. Unfortunately the case was full of boulders and contained enough ladder for G.G.! Decided to recover the two ladders and life line and return. At Hillsrove it was pointed out (kindly but with adequate force) that there was yet another ladder on 20' as the 2 recovered were both used on the 40'. T.G.B. again changed into wet things, descended part manly (wet) cover carrying armfuls of tackle and recovered the remaining ladder. Please note that the Bryant recovery service is available for the use of members. It has now been pointed out that we made a profit on the trip in so far as the two ladders (first recovered) were packed in a tackle bag which does not belong to the Club! No doubt the owner will show up some time!

20 Nov. Bob & Anne Lawder and John Rawlinson
(Guest arrived)

21 Nov More did an energetic Upper Eastwater

22 Nov A gentle Upper Swildon's, Piddly Dug
and Gough's.

22 Nov. A.M. Gully, M. Padfield and 7 from Bristol
Grammar School descended Swildon's to just past
Barnes' loop. Met 3 from Woking Adventure
Group who accompanied us on this trip and very
kindly consented to drive the tackle back to the
hut. When it arrived, we found they had
included two extra ropes which do not belong
to the club. We left them on the floor of the tackle
shed.

23rd Nov. Givens College Party borrowed kit
+ went to sample Swildon's. Nothing happened!

28th November 1959. Also David and George went to
Thompson's Swallet also fully explored this... swallet
assisted by D and G who had the good sense to
remain on the surface. Early in the day also
inspected a "New Cave at Hickford" quote
B.B.C. news, Friday evening. This cave consists
of a rift 1-2 feet width about 10 ft. deep
and 25 yards long the first 15 ft having
been uncovered whilst leveling the ground for
a cow shed.

29th Sunday. Also at 9 Barrett inspected the dies at the
following places:- Piddly Gee (very active)
Buckington Lower Twin Brook Valley (active)
Coopers Hole Cheddar (non-active) and
according classified the amount of work
being done. Rombarrow Cavern was also explored!

3rd December. P. Davies inspected W.C.C. Contribution to
M.R.O. Equipment and materials. Found them in good order;
but this would not be a bad time to point out that
the contents of the big black box must only be
used for cave accidents, not minor cuts etc
around the hut, a smaller kit is provided for
this purpose.

6th December 1959 - ass - J.S. to Cuckoo Cleaves. Entrance found to be blocked. Went on the Biddle Combe - Badger Hole Chiroptera went found 25 Rhinolophus hipposideros minutes and 1. Rhinolophus ferrum equinum insularis.

A question. on Friday 5th June 59 did the J. James party actually descend Cuckoo Cleaves?

6th December

David Kruisman + Rowan (SSC) + 5 non-members entered entrance at 1045: took vertical route + thence to end chamber via Nelly Ox-Bow. Return via 14 pots: out at 1700.

Mike + Lee Holland + 7 non-members entered Swildon at 1100. Upper Swildon + general footed around by all until 1330. Lee finds Cuckoo Cleaves ~~shaft~~ shaft blocked again + has to cut off top.

7th December

A sort of Tri-partite descent of Swildon was accomplished.

No 1 Party. Messrs Causer, L. Holland, Pointing and Another to the Black Hole.

No 2 Party: 5 London University bods led by M. Holland to Sump II

No 3 Party 6 ditto — — led by David Kruisman, to Sump I

The whole trip was successful, except that No 1 party again failed to cross the hole. Again has was allowed to get in front and very nearly precipitated a further exploration of the May Day Series. [See No 14^r]

No 2 Party made a successful trip to sump II, for some their first subaqueous caving. It was shown that carbide lamps could be lit without waterproof matches after sunning.

Method: Ensure good gas supply first. Blow on palm of hand and flintwheel in order to remove excess water. Cup hand over reflector and ignite!!! Some people just don't believe this works; they should practise. The usual pile up at the "party" was enlivened by a water booby trap.

The plan is to block the pipe with a bag or karras thus building up a head of water in the pool. When the man below shouts "climbing" the stream is released resulting in a rapid ascent for the first 10 feet accompanied by a stream of sterner-invective, it does make people get a move on!

The party left the cave at 5 o'clock and hastened to the hut where after a furore of cooking, cleaning and packing they left at 6.30 p.m. as they left so Messer Robert the Pike, Roger Tidway and EO arrived.

Holland

Monday 7th - Sat 12th

Large Party of the C.V. Caving Club spent the week here; and caved + skived. Left Saturday, mostly. Club members were Roger Tidway, Stuart Tacy, Gata Petham and Robert Lyke.

J.P.

Sunday 12th December, 1959

Bertie Cook & Oliver Lloyd called for M.R.O. bat inspection. As they didn't have a open road driver they will be quite content with accepting Phil Davies' satisfactory report!

ok.

Sunday 13th December

George Punting, Dave Berry, A.M. Gully, I.S. Moodie (B.G.S. affiliated) G. Meadow (Non Member) spent a successful day digging at Thorpe.

Saturday 12th December 1959,

also looked in at Wootton on the River - also went bat ringing in the Upper Series.

Sunday 13th December 1959

Also, Roger Ransome, P.F. Bird, John Barret, Mrs B Smith, 3 Aces Rucksack Club member + 2 school boys. Great Bat Ringing trip at Cheddar. First the long climb to Long Hole was made, ^{then} a 30' ladder gave access to Gough's Old Cave. Here a colony of a 120 Greater Horseshoes were seen only 80 odd were caught. The Upper Series of Long Hole was visited along with Great Domes, Coopers Hole, White Spot, Rossmore cave,

Bone Hole, Sayers Hole and last but not least Aquarius Cave. About 100 bats were caught!

Saturday night 23.00 hrs. tea at the Belfry! 3 birds &c Upon looking at their Belfry Caving Log book it would appear that the b.c. go caving. Re. this log book 6th December 59 Turkos sleeves, in the B.C.B. it states that on 27/6/59 " " was visited and the entrance shaft was found to be quite "collapsed".

Monday 14th Dec. A. Gully, I. Moodie (B.G.S. affiliated), P. Smoot (Do.), A. Challis (Guest) descended Earwater by 2 Verticals route. There was a large stream coming from Both Valleys. Time down 12.00 p.m. Out 5.15 p.m.

Wednesday 16th D.T.S. Magg came out with intention of having a closer look at some depressions he'd seen. But had in FIRTHY state. Spent latter half of afternoon tidying library. Although not in chronological order numerically — all magazines are in their respective piles. Returned to Bristol in Evening borrowed from L.D. "Les stalactites Excentriques" R. Suter.

WED. 16th December 1959.

N.H. Cleane arrived and found the hut nauseatingly dirty. All the cooking utensils need scouring, the cups were sticky with sugar. The beds were made up and the blankets had not been taken out. The hut was unswept and full of filthy caving clothes and boots. Was placed in the old Elton hut. Such antisocial habits make one ashamed to bring a guest to the hut.

N.H. Cleane.

Wed. 16th December 1959.

R. Banks arrived.

Thursday: Roger Lloyd arrived and with R. Banks and N. Cleane descended Earwater. We intended to go down by the Dolphin route, but discovered that the rear wall has landslipped into the bottom of the pitch, which now appears to be 20'. The rail bolt on the far wall is well out of reach. Not only the rockstones above the pitch have gone, but also the entire wall. There is now no flat place to stand on above the pitch. We retreated and went down by the verticals. There was a fair

stream flowing down the '13 pot' so we avoided them. We went to look at the 'first fold step' and it needed to be uncharged. The hole leading to the bottom of the Dolph in is blocked. 4 hour trip.

Friday:

R. Banks R. Lloyd and N. Cleare went to Augpit Hole but found a fall stream occupying the 30' pot. We decided not to chance it because there was a lot of water in the cave. After a most enjoyable trip of 3 hours we emerged. The batton collection in the entrance '5' bend is increasing.

Saturday. The above three overlept disgracefully and this, coupled with transport trouble persuaded them that the day could be spent more profitably above ground than under it.

Sat 19th. Not "Coals to Newcastle" but "Wood to Bursington" for a speleological excavation in the Lower "Iwin Brook Valley.

Sunday 20th Bentlederous finger and A.S.B. Chiroptera Banding at Hole [Badger + Rhino] + Mycone Den. Total of only three *Chiroptera Supposita* minutes.

Sunday. N. Cleare, R. Banks, R. Lloyd, M. Hollard and M. Baker had a 7½ hour Cathberts trip, a fair number of photographs were taken in and around certain chambers, a visit to the camp and a brew up in the 'dining room' made this a most enjoyable trip. Except other deviations from the normal there and back trip we attempted a rather hairy traverse to some elusive Traverse Grottoes. The traverse was too hairy and the grottoes remained elusive. A surprisingly large amount of rock in Cathberts is apparently only held up by faith and hope.

1959

Monday. R. Banks, N. Cleave, and R. Lloyd, went to Swildors. The water is now rising in the brooks below the grid. It used to rise more upstream.

We lost R. Banks for a while when he started down the wet way and then crossed into the long dry way. N. Cleave assured that he was in the wet way went up to meet him!

Sandhurst tackle was on the pitch. Stein ladder wings ~~had~~ slipped a lot.

We ambled down to Trout's and then paid a visit to the mud ramp. It is no longer muddy but much enlarged with six inches of water in it. We returned and went down to the ramp. Cleave paid a quick visit to the other side (out of habit) but Banks would not be 'christened'.

We took Sandhurst tackle out with us and left it in Mr. Maine's hand.

Tuesday. Cleave and Banks did not care. D. Legge and M. Bird come out to visit us for an hour or so. We had the incinerator going and burned a lot of trash. Cleave went to visited shopping and to see Hon. Sec. (who was out) and Banks paid a social call on Neddy. Later on both cleaned up but we were unable (because of rain) to relight the incinerator and to empty the clean. apologies to anyone inconvenienced by our inability to do so.

Wednesday. Banks and Cleave up at 7:30 and away early.

26th December 59. A.D.O. and J. Barrett visited caves in Fome Gap Area.

27th December 59 A.D.O. and J.B. went to Oakridge Owl Caves.

28th December 59 A.D.O. visited Fox Hole.

1960

Friday January 1st 1960

Messrs Oldam, Hansen and Causer arrived, followed by ~~Hicks~~ Michael Holland.

Saturday 2nd January

David Causer and Michael Holland started work on a new swallow situated N.N.W of Eastwater Cavern. The new dig was named Nine Barrows Swallow. Vast quantities of earth and debris were removed and a promising opening was revealed. Messrs Berry, Pointing Gully, Padfield, Dale, Josay and Peckham arrived. Dr Edelemon, George Bill Blad Hansen, and John Bennett descend Heads Cavern (in VBSS territory) on a Chiroptera Banding expedition, we found 29 Rhinolophus hipposideros minutus and 1 Rhinolophus ferrum equinum. We also visited Fosses Hole, Tratty Crack and Johnny Nash's Hole.

Sunday 3rd January.

Work continues on Nine Barrows Swallow, Bill Hansen (Guest) Big Pewer, Causer & Holland made up the driving force.

David & George assisted by Gully and Padfield inspected Thriffs Swallow but found it too wet to dig.

Inspired by Cleaves Caustic Remarks "16-12-1959" the community set to and polished up the hut.

Also inspected Nine Barrows Swallow, it shows promise, also visited Tom Diney's and Sis Bon.

IMPORTANT

Ropes in the tackle shed having steel wire bindings are for use on digs only! On no account may these ropes be used for lifelines etc.

Sunday 10th January.

For Hadermannfinge and for Yeagle and 5 odd birds
went to "the End" of Hillier's Cave. We found a flying
Mystic, this was duly caught by Dr Hadermannfinge
and banded. Fairy Cave (no relation to the rhyme)
was all descend, an attempt to come go into
Hillier series was found to just not quite possible.
A Rhinolophus ferrum equum was found. A rather
unusual combination.

Tuesday Jan 12th : T J Hill and 7 affiliated members
of S.T.C.C. arrived and descended Zoo Swallet (?)
and Dallimore. It has originally been intended
to descend Whitton Hole but we were unable
to find the cave or what we assumed was
the cave is 200' the churning just below
the pond.

Jan 13th - Eastwater via 3 verticals
to bottom Q.P.D.S.

Jan 14th - returned to Bristol.

- Please excuse these inadequate entries
Partly left in a hurry to escape elements
and consider curious patients, etc.

Sunday 17th January. G. Pointing, O. Berry, A. Gully, M. Padfield & M. Bonner
(Guest) dug at Thrupe swallet. We removed a considerable amount
of debris and found a promising hole leading down at 30°
from the last chamber. Unfortunately digging had to be discontinued
due to an accumulation of loose rocks which we removed from
their precarious position.

Saturday - Sunday

Saturday 23rd January

Julie James, Bill Maxwell, John High-Toms descended Swallows with the Chelsea Speleo. Soc. as far as Surf H. An awful lot of water was going down. David Kinman, Brian Young and Rowena Lewis descended Eastwater to the $\frac{1}{2}$ fold series, found Harris Passage blocked by a large boulder due to collapse in Dolphin Pot. Hut hunted by Perry Pointing and Holland.

Sunday 24 January

~~T.J. James, []~~ David Kinman Brian Y-O-S, George Pointing, Harry + Michael Holland & Michael Palmer [B.E.C.] went down St Cuthbert as far as the Dining Chamber after seeing some really fine formations when the surface was made at 4.30 p.m. Very wet!

Rescue! - Rescue! - Rescue!!!

See below

Saturday 30th January. 60. Also done:- Biddulph Combe Badger Hole, Holes, Holes, Hyams Lc and Upper Lava Wookey. J. Barrett photographed divers at Wookey.

Sunday 31st January. 12.20 a.m. Sleep interrupted by the arrival of Empedocles and Hut Warden.

Also and J.B. Explored mines in East Haytor Combe ~~so~~ found twelve Rhinolophus hipposideros minutes two Rhinolophus ferrum-equinum and one Myotis mystacinus which is rather a rarity.

If Mr Olham had left me sufficient room I would have been able to have continued my narrative in chronological order.

After leaving St Cuthbert we dined at the Belfry and after some discussion concerning the safety of party of Gloucester Speleological Society cavers who we had met in Mud Hall, we returned to Hillgrave for tea. George Pointing, David Berry and myself went back to the Belfry in order to find out if the party had come out alright.

Upon arrival we were greeted with a scene of great shelled pandemonium, it would appear a number of the G.S.S party were trapped below the entrance rift [which was extremely wet and horrid].

The M.R.O was summoned at 7.45 pm after half an hour Luke Devanish arrived with 10 exposure suits which were rapidly sent down the shaft to the cavers below.

The Fire Brigade was summoned to pump the stream into Plantation Sallet. After an hour or so the stream dried up completely and the task ^{of} ~~of~~ persuading the blokes that 10" was not too tight to squeeze through ~~on~~ at 2.00 the last man came out [Ken Dowse]

The Press, B.B.C and I.T.V were there in hordes! not to mention Police and Firemen

The admiration of most cavers went to Rowena Lewis who went down the cave alone to maintain contact with the trapped

R. C. S. J.

Sunday 31st January

The Nine Barrows combine did further good work at the cave, the boulder ruckle phase seems to be in full swing now.

N.R Barrington predicts 90 feet of boulders followed by shattered pots. We have ordered a dozen raw bolts for the pitches!

- 5 R.E & A Lawler & A.J. McCrory arrived
 6 More chd rods sent and counterweight
 7 More chd Sirdons

13/2/59 Tao Holland, 2 ~~other~~ guests, George Pointing, Dave Berry
 Andrew Gully, & Malcolm Pudfield descended Lamb Leer on tackling
 & Reconnaissance trip for the following day's caving. Malcolm
 Pudfield, Andrew Gully and Tao Holland reached the end. of cave
 of falling waters). entered at 4.15 out at 6.20

14/2/59 George Pointing, Dave Berry, Malcolm Pudfield
 & Andrew Gully took 6 King's Gloucester school down
 Lamb Leer. Dave Berry, & George Pointing stayed on top
 of main chamber pitch to lifeline party up.
 Down + 1.15 out 4.20

Tuesday Feb. 16th

3 Swindon residents - John Philpott (WCC)
 Tony Booth & Keith Bell (SWCC) arrived at 10 pm on
 a very cold night and quickly retired to bed.

Wednesday Feb 17th

Relyed awoken by 4th member of party
 Alan Davies at 9 am. Decided to do Lamb Leer ad after
 walking — miles we eventually arrived at the entrance.
 Uneventful trip to the chamber of Falling Waters, ad a
 long walk back to the Hut on a cold night.

Thursday Feb 18th

Started out at 12.0 for Sirdons I. On
 arriving, ~~found~~ at entrance, we found that the pipe was almost
 completely blocked and the water level was rising up to the
 entrance grid. After clearing the pipe and waiting for the level
 to drop we ventured in. Uneventful trip to Samp I.

Friday Feb. 19th

left for Bristol. Hut left in clean and tidy state!

I regret to announce that we have at Hillgrove a parasite which is a deadly and dangerous animal, that will strike terror into the heart of the Lunatic Fringe.

So that everyone will be on their guard here is a description: - description

It is small and fat,
Shabbily dressed,
with small beady eyes,
and short stubby legs,
creeps around making very little noise,
If cornered it will squeal!
Nocturnal, quadrupedal and

Mammalian,

But everything is not so gloomy
for in the distance a bright
light shineth.

This animal has one fatal
enemy

'Starvation'

Yes if you burn all your bread,
bacon rinds and other food scraps
you can banish Rattus Rattus Hillgroves
sway for ever.

Created by

Der Rattenfänger von Hillgrove.

Saturday 27th Feb.

M. L. Hooper & J. Aulman, introducing two young ladies to caving, did a trip round upper Eastwater. The flow of water in the 380-ft Way and the Boulder Chamber was low. The drip in various parts of the cave was slightly above normal. The girls did remarkably well although their figures did not help them across the traverse.

28th February '60.

5

George Pointing, Dave Berry, Malcolm Padfield, Andrew Gally & spent all of Saturday afternoon & the whole of Sunday painting & repairing ceiling to Billgrove. For their pains they were rewarded by some cryptic remarks from Luke Leverish, who made a fleet visit. They left 8 o'clock Sunday evening for Bristol with the hut left in a very tidy condition. (paint & painter, not but were supplied by them & and there will be no charge to the club).

Mike Hooper & John Culman & girls went to Sutcliffs. Down to 20 foot & back + hour trip.
Mike Hooper & two girls left 5 o'clock.

Tony Oldham left about 7:30 pm. after doing his share of cleaning up.

I stayed the night to allow my two sets of carrying gear to dry off and make a daylight start for home (Bitchfleck) (Humberay).

Note:— Coke supply steadily running out.

John Culman

29th Monday John Culman left but well cleaned mid afternoon.

Sunday - 6th March.

David Cawse, George Pointing, Dave Berry & A Gally & M. Padfield went on a tourist trip to Sutcliffs 4. Entered the cave at about 10 a.m. and out at about 6 p.m. We took a walk on the way down, had a good look at the streamway in 4, and made rapid progress out until held by two parties totalling about 10, who held things up on both the 20' and 40' pits.

R. Whittle went on "mad geological venture"; Green Ore, etc. found galena and brown iron oxide. Got lost.

Sunday 13th March

Andrew Gully and Malcolm Padfield descended Longwood with 4 B.E.C. members, George ?, Colin ?, Pat ?, and Trevor ?.

We took it very easily and were held up in main chamber by 15 people descending while we were waiting to go up

SAT. 12th MARCH 1960 R. Lansome - guest - ADO met to Ashridge

Bannwell, Chas ~~Stake~~ Stoke, St Catherines Lead Mine.

SUN 13th March 1960 Above "done" Cheddar.

~~Sat~~ Sunday March 13th

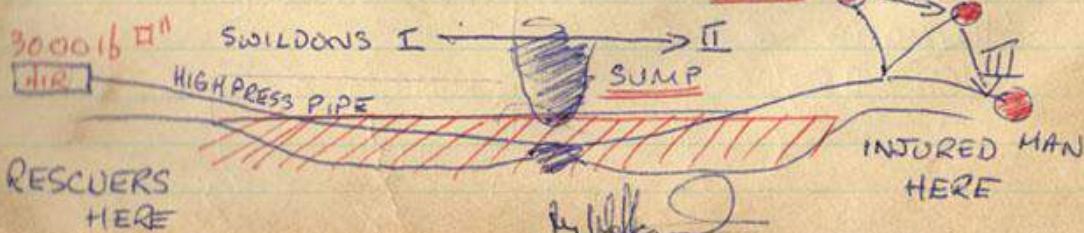
A party of divers sponsored by the M.R.O. met at Mains Barn at 10.30 am.

The trip was organised by Oliver Lloyd in order that the new apparatus, for rescuing people trapped in foul air conditions or on the wrong side of a sump, could be tested.

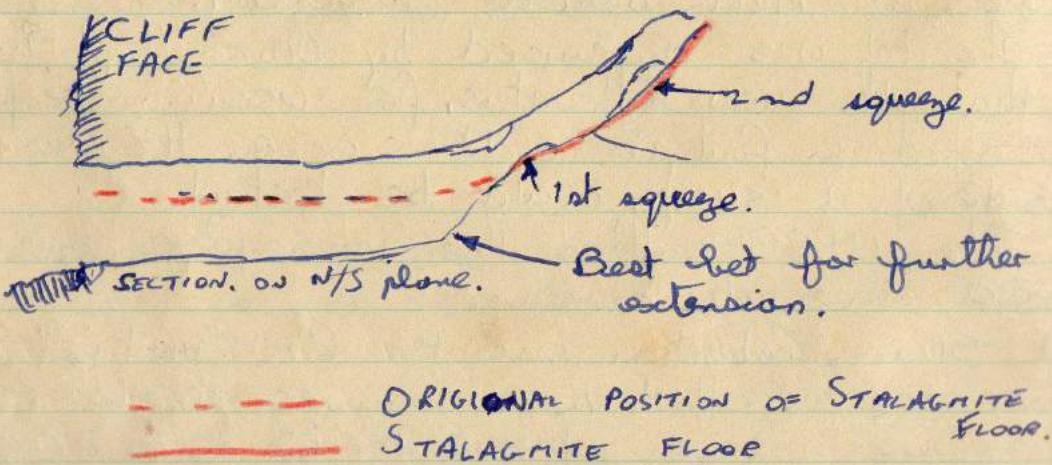
The UBSS supplied the labour force as well as cine film coverage.

Struan Robertson was the first "victim" he was strapped in a canvas stretcher and a mask was strapped to his face. O.C.L and Phil Davis were the "rescuers". With much splashing and speleophotoneurosis they dived through sump I to Swildons II, they then came back through. A success first time although the method of cooling 60 feet of high pressure tubing was not very good.

The next victim was foolish enough to volunteer. David Willis & Alan Rodgers went into II where they strapped the victim in the stretcher placed the mask on him and went back into I with no trouble at all. It was the first time Alan Rodgers had been through the sump a convincing demonstration of the usefulness of the apparatus!



19th March 1960 Also Raymond Deasy went Chiroptera banding on the Bidale Cumber Circuit
 20th March 1960. Also - RD. went Home Wood and inspected Challenger Cave, Badger Cave, and Rock Face Rift. A trek was then made to St. Dunstans Well Cave. There is a rather interesting dig being carried out by Cereberus Speleological Society the cave is situated immediately above St. Dunstans Well and it is said that in wet weather water seepages from the entrance of the cave. The cave is 30' approx long and has a lot formation which unfortunately are rather broken.



St. Dunstans Well Cave (RG grade 1).

Withybrook Swallet which is ~~a~~ sink for St. Dunstans well was also investigated.

A. Gully and R. Jeagle (MNR) went down Hilliers Cave on Photographic trip to the Red Chamber (no political significance implied). Pleasant 1 hour trip.

Sunday 20th March 1960

Messrs Berry, Holland, Padfield & Pointing spent all day painting the hut and installing the cedar gas rings

YES, THE WORK OF THE LUNATIC FRINGE

Holland

NOTE THE DATE FOLKS 25th MARCH 1960.

HALLELUJAH! HAIL O STAR OF THE EAST!

IGNORANCE HAS BEEN CONQUERED
THE WESSEX HAS SEEN THE LIGHT
AFTER YEARS OF CAMPAIGNING WE
HAVE,

GUESS WHAT!

INSTALLED A "ROMESSE" STOVE!!!

AND THE LORD SAID "LET THERE BE HEAT" !!
AND THERE WAS HEAT.
YOU COULD FEEL IT FOR MILES & MILES AROUND
CALOO CALHAY
OH FRABJOUS DAY !

26 - 27 March 1960

Once more David Berry, Andrew Gully, Michael Holland, ~~Geor~~ Tony Oldham, George Pointing and "Paddy" Padfield spent their leisure hours in further painting of Hullgrave. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT, APART FROM THE VARNISH AT THE KITCHEN END, ALL PAINT SO FAR HAS BEEN PAID FOR BY THE ABOVE MENTIONED PEOPLE.

We sincerely hope that other members will be persuaded to join in the work, there is a lot more to be done, the car park has to be completed, gutters need putting up. The surrounding walls require rebuilding etc. etc.

If members will contact me I will be most pleased to arrange a working weekend or a week during the summer holidays for people who have the time

Michael Holland

We saw Alan Fincham, ex Wessex member who is arranging an expedition to Greece or Turkey in 1961, anyone interested see me for details

Michael Holland

Saturday, 2nd April A.M. Gully & 2 B.G.S. Caving Club members - P. Snook & A. Challis, descended Swillons on Tourist trip to Base Camp in Paradise Regained. Took it easily on way in but made good progress out. Didn't see anyone else in cave. In at 11 a.m. & out at 4.30 p.m.

Saturday 2nd April 1960. T.C. Bryant, May Bryant, R.N. Barber-Might, R. Bulgin & Jean Kent intended to climb in Cheddar Gorge but - weather! After due consideration R.B. & R.N.B.-M. decided to undertake a major speleological expedition - i.e. the magnificent cavern of Goatchurch followed by Avelline's Hole. This proved very strenuous and it became ^{necessary} to "top up" at The Hunter Inn until a late hour.

Sunday 3rd April 1960. Eastwater Rift Series by R.B., R.N.B.-M., T.C.B. joined by John Hone. Met Phil Davies & Dennis Warburton who were engaged on hammering the rock in a tight passage leading from the 2nd Rift. We inspected this (from a safe distance) and regretted that our bulk prevented us from assisting in their useful (?) work.

PLEASE NOTE. The lifelines appear to us to be in need of replacement. Will Tackle Warden please inspect.
(D.J. James & D.T.S. Mogg came out on ^{Thursday night} ~~Friday~~, hoping to mine shaft next day but absence of tackle prevented this. Left on Saturday in quest of suitable holes in Shifnal area.)

Monday 14th G. Painting, D. Benoy, B. gully, G. Header & H. Padfield arrived at hut at 8 o'clock; trip to the Hunters Lodge.

Tuesday 15th G. Painting, D. Benoy, G. Header & H. Padfield left hut at 8 o'clock, entered same Swillons Hole at 8.45; liberally topped floor and reached base at 12 o'clock; collected several bones; proceeded out and saw Tiverton Boys at the Twin Pits, they said they would take the ladders out, our party came out at 5.20.

Wednesday 16th trip to Wells and G. B.
Thurs. 17th P.E. & P. Lander arrived

- 15 Longwood
- 16 GB
- 17 Walked
- 18 St. Cuthbert - very enjoyable trip
- 19 departed

Sunday April 24th. R. Bulger, T. C. Bryant, D. Bryant,
T. Price & R.A. Philpot (last two were ~~not~~ not members) set
forth to do a Swindon 1. Due to the fact that
we could not find enough ladder we had to change
our plans a went to August Hole instead.

This was quite a pleasant trip & the view of
two reclining females made the last drag
up the entrance shaft worthwhile.

Saturday 23rd April 60.

19 Inspected "Bennetts Choice Dig"
also inspected Foxes Hole and the
Birdmans dig at Lower Twin Brook Valley.
Sunday 24th April 60.

Descended Reads Caves. "Poked"
in Foxes Hole. A. Oldham. A. Gully.

22. IV. 60 C.J. Hawks arrived shortly before midnight.

23. IV. 60 Inspected the public works dept on Priddy
Green and lent a hand. Over the weekend a further
20'-30' of passage has been gained here this being
the first actual cave passage to be found it has
caused quite a small stir. Shared a car with William Stanton
back in carrying clothes as soon after his return from darkest
Africa. - 25. IV. 60 C.J.H. departed in the morning
between.

CJ Hawks

3rd May. D.J. Cairns arrived ~~at~~ 0630 a.m., joined D. Foul, K. Dove
& J. Morrison and descended Cutwater in search of
the two missing Sandhurst men. Down 6½ hours, searched
all of the cave below the pitches thoroughly, and emerged
at midday to find the search in full operation still.

By late afternoon news came that they had been
located in Jersey, apparently having gone a.w.o.l.
there after leaving word that they were going carrying
on Monday.

A feeling of general disgust on Monday at
the time, effort and money wasted by everyone
involved, and hope the two responsible get what they
deserve.

George Pointing & Dave Derry arrived at 10.00 am
on stand-by after ringing M.R.O. from Bristol, having heard
the news on the radio.

3rd May. A Oldham and B.S. Roach arrived on
Mendip a little late at 7.00 am. We then
proceeded to investigate the following caves:-

Blake Swallet and/or U.H. Swallet,

Little London Swallet,

Withybroom Swallet,

Waterslip Caves,

St. Dunstan Well Cave,

Downside Swallet,

Midway Blocker,

Thruppe Swallet,

Also check with Mr. Garnet of Fairy Cave

Quarry for Fairy Cave, Hilliers Cave and Duck Hole.

At 2.50 p.m when check with Howard

Kenny at Wells we were told that the rescue was off. We then made arrangements to charter a plane to Jersey.

It is interesting to note that within two days practically every cave and every part of the major caves ^{on Mendip} has been explored.

This shows how very well the M.R.O. organisation worked. It also brings to light again the vital importance of leaving word which cave or caves one has gone down. Remember even a coat ^{left} outside a cave will act as a marker in case of difficulties.

3rd May D. Farrow arrived 11.00 am - searched in Bridge Room and side passages to Blue Room. Remainder of party, 4 BEC members, assisted and searched Sutton's V both avail. Were picked up the surface by B.S. Roach at 3.00 pm. T. with the message that the rescue was off.

7th May. D. Farrow and Diana Phillips (guest) arrived to meet Derek and Margaret Ford and Barbara Petbeck, also, of course, Owen Ford. Slept sheep upper Swithland for D.F., J.P., D.F. and B.R. In the long pretty way and out the wet way. The cave was particularly dry.

8th May. D. Ford and D. Farrow down to Sump 2 in Swithland - wearing gum suits. Had a look at the backwater sump. Out at 4.00 pm after a very enjoyable trip 5.00 pm. ~~had~~ ~~had~~ Departed. D.F. and D.N.F. departed.

8th May Mike Hooper and John Paterson went to Barrow Lakes Swallet to continue digging. Some sheets of corrugated iron are restricting progress, which is all the more frustrating because an air space can be seen below going off horizontally to the North having all the signs of being a small stream passage without the stream. The sides of the passage seem to be solid rock but the roof is of earth held together with by tree roots. The floor is sandy with small stones strewed along it. Departed at about 5.00 pm.

13 May R.E. & A. Lander arrive

14 May .. . dig at Priddy Green

15 May .. . do Millers & depart.

15 MAY 1960

Arrived 3.15 PM

J.E. Knopf, Miss M. Harris, V. Brown, afternoons poking around Buntington, visited Didcot Swallet, Rods Pot, Chevelnes P.Hole.

Didcot Swallet finished top of 30' & found some animal bones which shall later be identified by Tony Oldham.

Rods Pot finished ~~at~~ long vertical chute reason no rope, not enough bolts.

Chevelnes P.Hole, interesting, just nominal.

Left 10.30 PM

Ident also as *Vulpes Vulpes Vulpes* Linna.

14th May Wessex Club Weekend

A slide show, scheduled to start at 6.00 sharp and naturally commenced at nine o'clock! A vast multitude of Speleologists Wessexi and some Others were champing at the bit before the great event took place.

A vast amount of "colour in caves" was displayed arousing nostalgia amounting almost to emotional breakouts amongst some people. A very enjoyable evening.

Sunday 15th May

About 16 people made a trip to Hilles, many for the first time. Atty nearly lost his hat in a rift, this was all that happened out of the ordinary with the exception of Mike Woods and myself who were persuaded to look at the sump in Hilles this involved getting extremely wet and muddy the consensus of opinion was "You can keep it!" A most enjoyable trip marred only by the fact that "They" were closed when we got out.

In all the weekend was a success and most people feel they would like another Club event in the near future.

Mike and Mike W. ceremoniously opened a sewage pit after which we repainted the Elson. Now Bright Blue, for those who like blue lights!

Michael Holland.

21st May 1960

C.D.G. dinner was held in Wells at the new Red Lion, a very fukka affair. Many old faces were seen again.

22nd May.

Derek Ford, Willie Stanton, Chris Hawkes & Howard Kenney made a descent into Paradise Regained for scientific purposes.

Messrs Holland and Fincham (Yes Alan Fincham) made a flat out dash to Swildon's II without the use of such artificial aids as exposure suits or hot water bottles. There is distinct evidence of another sump forming in II.

On the way out a piece of long awaited rock work was carried out. The vandalism of certain people in the entrance was made right, it is now quite difficult for short legged speleologists to climb up the awkward slab out of the wet way. Collected waters for Derek Ford from Sump II sump I, roof of the 40' & entrance.

D. Cawse, G. Pinting, D. Berry & M. Palford also descended Swildon's George & Dore to the sump (I), and Dore Cawse & M. Palford to Sump II, this being the first sumping trip for Paddy. Unusually, exposure suits were worn, but no hot water bottles were available. To justify our existence — we carried out the samples of Swildon water referred to above, and emerged just before midday closing at the New Inn.

Monday May 23rd 1960

H. Holland, Paul Duck, Doug Hill & Son (Prospective members) went to the 40' in Swildens to try out a telephone for H.R.O use. The experiment was fairly successful but equipment will have to be modified in order to make a truly portable phone.

Doug Hill and Son collected the 20' ladder, left there on Sunday (Son is 11 years old and made less fuss about the 40' than most beginners make about Jacobs Ladder! Party returned to Mains Barn at 10.00 o'clock

Holland

Saturday May 24th 1960.

G. Painting, D. Berry & H. Padfield arrived on Mendip at 2.45. Proceeded to B.C.C. for a trip to St Cuthbert's where we went as far as the Dining Room; we made our exit at 7.00.

Sunday May 25th 1960.

Same party spent all morning painting and finishing hut. decorating. Sunday afternoon trip up to Swildens with three R.A.F. My pes.

Saturday May 28th

The H.R.O practice in Swildens was arranged. Luke Devansh, suffering from Speleoneurosis was found at the bottom of the 40 ft pitch and a large hauling party was waiting on the top. With the aid of the telephones (see last Monday) the limp loose lump of Luke was hauled up and down three times to the delight of the haulers, the amazement of Film technicians and the professional pride and joy of O.C. I. Films, moving, were taken by Tony Morrison. Telephones were laid and worked by Nick & Ted Holland and two Axbridge members.

A lot of blokes hauled, climbed ladders pulled lifelines etc. etc.

Sat June 4th.

A Holland arrived about 2PM. Unfortunately, many of the members who make Hollingbourne their home at the weekend had "Gone North" for the annual Social at G.G.

Stayed Saturday night & Sunday night. Did some cleaning up Monday morning with D. Cawse (Hut Warden having departed to the strawberry fields).

D.F. came arrived Saturday evening, retired to the Slates, and was conscripted by Derek Ford for a proposed working trip to Grindon (Sump II) on Sunday.

The original intention was about a 6 hour trip to lay a new heavy line in Sump I, collect water samples, and spend some hours performing further mysterious scientific rites. However, encountering some fine parties in varying stages of lost-ness between the entrance and the 40', and an uncountable number below, made us decide to lay the new cable, collect the samples, and beat a retreat while it was still possible to find room to breathe the multitude. It seems that the Bank Holiday traffic and parking problem has extended not only to Monday, but also beneath it.

[Incidentally, we must again hang our heads in shame, for "the unnecessary use of exposure suits" in Sump I, for which we were severely chastised by our Spartan Hut Warden.]

On Monday D. Cawse went to Ebbor in quest of wild strawberries. A long and diligent search was rewarded by one prime specimen, a full $\frac{1}{8}$ " diameter. — a very satisfying meal.

Sunday June 5th

Atty. Mike & his Holland, Peter Smith and "Ginger" made use of the Wesssex G.B. day by making a tour of this fine Cavern, a party of U.B.S.S. Blues were mistaken for Sidcot School boys who were to have joined us. Net result was no trip for S.S. Speleros. A fine Cave.

Picked n(-n-1) strawberries on Monday

Visited Hollingbourne.

Also managed to bend the "Chairie", ran out of road

Saturday 11th June

Tony Morrison, aided by Oliver Lloyd continued taking pictures of rescue work on the W.O. pot in Sildors.

"lofty" Nixon arrived, fresh from Adan, was whisked into the ~~the~~ above. Like the Wessex Chairman he complained that the cave had shrunk!

11/6/60 D. Ford & D. Cawse went on another Sildors caving party, this time to St Paul's. Water and air temps, ~~so~~ and water samples were taken at various stations between the Blasted Boss and the Mud Sump, and the back sump to the left of the main route was also investigated. Time of trip: 6-7 hours.

Sat 18th June.

Robert Woolley & Mike Hooper arrive - 5.30 pm.

18/6/60. Dave Cawse and Rowena (B.E.C.) went on a photographic trip to Sump II^(SWIMMING). Sump I was successfully negotiated keeping the camera, etc., relatively dry, and several shots were taken in Sildors II. Emerged at midnight after about 6½ hours down.

26th June 60. Has a "common thief" stolen my yellow handled, good quality screw driver? Also stolen -

Unwittingly removed the yellow handled screw driver (not particularly good quality) will return it next time I see Mr Oddam

P.W.

Outline Entries.

- June 8th Wednesday. D.C. & M.C. Ford, John smallson, Owen & much equipment moved into Milligan for ^{at} packing system.
- 9th - 10th Book work. St. Paul's
11th. ~~Working~~ in Swindon, ~~St. Paul's~~, with David Cawse.
See his note. 7 hours.
- 12th. With Mike Blakland & Loftus Nixon, 6 hour trip in G.B. working - photo sampling in lower gorge.
- 13th. Resting in Bath.
- 14th. Book work.
- 15th Entertained M.C.'s mother - collected water samples at S.m. Mendip resurgences.
- 16th. Map work & water sampling.
- 17th. Left early for wild celebrations in Oxford.
- 20th Returned late with instruments borrowed from Bristol.
- 21st. Book work; collected instruments from David Willis. 3 hour evening trip in G.B. with Jim Howell. Working in Gorge.
- 22nd. Very fine weather. Traversed part of Velvet Bottom. 3 hour evening trip in St. Cuthberts with Mike Blakland & Michael Baker. Followed the standard route to Rabbit Warren & then examined the Tim Nine area.
23. Heavy rain precluded surface work. A trip in G.B. with Roger Letham Work in the Gorge even completed.

June 25th. D.Ford, D.Cawse & Rovere - working trip to Sildoris. Dark worked through from the Mud Sump to the Fault Pk. while D.C. & Rovere went through and had a look at Sildoris IV which was very dry. Emerged at about 8.30 pm. Fed and proceeded to the barbecue at the Minories.

June 30th THill, CJ Savory and 7 members S.I.C.C arrived and after examination of Whittem Hole, repaired entrance bars to that (with kind donation of nails from Mr Sealy).

July 1st. Party departed 10.45 am for August and Longwood.

- 24th July. Lazy day in Bath. Returned with one guest.
 25th July. Moved to Eastwater tent for night.
 working in P.R. See Cawse's note.
 26th. M.C. Ford working at Miners Arms. D.C.
 working in G.B. with Brenda Willis. off Mendip
 for night.
 27th. Returned to Millgrave.
 28th Surface survey work in Longwood.
 29th. Rest & repair day. Joined by guest,
 Kit Eaton (UBSS) in evening.
 30th. Roger Latimer, Kit Eaton & D.C. F. working
 in Swindon 4. 8 hours.

1st July R & A. Lawder and M. Parry
 Cleest arrived in evening. Broke halfshaft. ha, ha, ha.
 2nd July Above three did Upper Eastgate
 & upper Swindon. Departed.

Saturday 2nd July

Michael Holland did help Mr Sealy with his big
 arrrrrr. Ween did get 'er all in by Sunday.
 On Sunday morning Dick Ford & said Holland
 did descend St Cuthberts on a short & sharp
 exploratory trip. In the afternoon the B.E.C.
 informed us that we were both considered
 suitable as St Cuthberts leaders.

On way out we were met by Kancy King
 Kit Eaton and 2 others, we went out via
 the Rabbit Warren and Catcut Series, sad to
 relate that Michael had to remove boiler suit
 in order to manouver brewer's goat through
 a tight squeeze. Out via High Chamber.

Sunday 10th July

Joe Candy, Mike Holland & Willie Stanton assisted
 in the excavation of Priddy Green Dig. Considerable
 quantities of "Stream detritus" were removed.
 Event was enlivened by thunderstorms which
 caused very rapid flooding to the alarm
 of all concerned. Mike thought it safe that

A way can been seen beyond the present
bubble, will this be the real thing? !!!! E 12/3/62 - in
respect, this remark is distinctly saddening!]
10/7/60 G. Ponting took 70' ladder for ~~the~~ trip to
Yorkshire. Returning it after August Bank Holiday.

1st July. Ford party joined by G. J. Candy. Rest
day.

Saturday 2nd July. Ford, Candy & Eaton a further 8 hours
in Swithland IV. Work there completed.

Sunday 3rd. Candy returned to Bath. Eaton & Ford in
St. Cuthberts - see other notes. Ford & Hallard given
leaders' rights to St. Cuthberts. - Eaton moved to UGSS
Monday 4th. Candy, Candy, Eaton & Ford working in
S.G., George - Hall over including - visit to Thompson's
Grotto. 5 hours.

Tuesday 5th - Wednesday 6th. Party retreated to Bath
for a wash & brush up.

Thursday 7th. 3 Fords & Graham Candy returned - joined
by Dr. Margaret Sweeting, C.R.G., & as guest for a few
days.

Friday 8th. Candy & Ford joined by Willy Stanton to
take Dr. Sweeting, Prof. Peel & David Smith (Dept. of
(Geog., Bristol) down Swithland. Visitors went as far
as Trow Temple. To Stanton & Candy brought the
mighty sledge from the old 'Frodingham Green Stone'
dig to the surface, thence to the new P.G. - where
later it was proven to be too large for the passage.
5 hours.

Saturday 9th. Dr. Sweeting & Ford visited St. Cuthberts. The former
had difficulty with the container lift - so a visit below was
abandoned. With Margaret & Graham Candy went for a walk
to Eastern Mendip & on to the Miners Arms in the evening.

Sunday 10th. Candy digging in P.G. Dr. Sweeting & Ford to
Fairy Cave Quarry & down the newly discovered 'Foss Hill
Cave': one hour, very interesting. Dr. Sweeting left for Oxford,
Graham Candy for Bath.

Monday 11th. Fords resting & washing in Bath.
Returned in evening to greet the Blot Warden,
who carried two large stones up from Wells via
Biddle Combe.

Tuesday 12th. D.C. Ford & Willy Stanton engaged

in survey & morphological work in the Maypole Series, Paradise Required. The ladders were left in. 8 hours.

Wednesday 13th. Long day. 3 hours in G. B. in evening with David Canoe, Mike Holland, David Willis; working in East Extension & photographing. Graham Candy arrived to spend night.

Thursday 14th. Ford, Candy & Stanton working in the Maypole - 35' Pitch area, Paradise Required. Ford dug for 2 hours & added 3 feet to Sillidens, Candy scratched for ten minutes & added 70 feet, "Candy's Calamities". All then descended the pitch. Much of the loose rock which made this a dangerous climb has now fallen, & only 20' of ladder is required (+ 20' leading onto Redwall), but there are still some awkward looking blocks. Further parties are advised to take the 4' steel tube lying waste in the approach to the Blasted Bore & wedge it to keep ladder clear of the loose stuff. It would then be a very pleasant pitch. The rock scenery is very striking, photogenic. The mud is sticky. 10 hours. Graham Candy left for home at 11 p.m.

Friday 15th. A rest day, in bed in Wells.

July 23rd

R. Wooley & McHooper met 12 R.A.F. Cars from Colne here. Spent the evening at Hunter's, also visited Brown Bakes, which to our horror has fallen in somewhat.

July 24th

Visited Sillidens Hole (as far as Barnes Loop) for a four hour trip. The party has rather too large for comfort. Average sort of condition.

Someone has swindled the Club! They have sold us a Calor gas cylinder with a seal on it, but no gas inside. We now have two empty cylinders.

Saturday 16th. D. Cunay, M. Holland & D. Ford with surveying
in St. Catharines: from the Duck to Rat Run. Seven hours.
Sunday 17th. Collected water samples in Eastern Mandip
& returned to Bath for night.

Monday 18th. returned.

Tuesday 19th - working on notes.

Wednesday 20th - D. Ford with two guests of S.M.C.C.
extended St. Catharines survey to Wm Rist. 6 hours.

Thursday 21st. Candy & Ford returned to "Candy's Cabin" in
Paradise Required. Its length was reduced to 46';
& a choke previously thought promising at its end,
pronounced hopeless. A choke in the Maypole Series was
pushed a little further.

Friday 22nd. D. Ford with S.M.C.C. guests working
in Rumber Alley area of G. B. 5 hours.

Saturday 23rd. Removed to Eastwater Hut. Howard
Kenney, Willy Stanton, Mike Doan, (S.M.C.C.), &
Duck Ford visited P.R. Ford worked in The Fault
Chamber where there discovered a 15' wet pitch of
uncompromising appearance. The others along a mud
choke elsewhere to discover another 50' of fine
passage with a beautifully draughty choke at its
end.

Sunday 24th Resting.

Monday 25th Left for Bath and a fortnight's
holiday elsewhere in Britain.

D Ford

Tuesday 26th (afternoon)

B.F.J. T.Hill, C.Haney & S.Ice arrived from
Bunting and settled in; English Elsa in the
evening.

Robert like spent night at the hut, to do some talking.
Hot. Thursday a.m.

Wednesday 27th: 4 of party descended Augst.
and remained a Eastwater.

Thursday 28th: 5 people did a short trip
down Limestone and remainder attempted
to dig out Cuckoo Cleaved

3 of party left for Bunting in the evening

Friday 29th: Party cleaned up and
left for Lamb Head and Bunting T.Hill

on Saturday August 6th. G. Pointing returned 70' of ladder after a pleasant fortnight in Yorkshire (borrowed since 10/7/60).

D. Berry donated 6 CLEAN blankets and we trust that these will be kept CLEAN and that people will kindly refrain from walking over them with shoes on or throwing them about on the floor.

② Charles Bryant and Party (Said Bryant + Dick Barber, Wright) followed Easy Route in G.B. on Wmns Visitors' Day; went via White Passage + Orbow, looking at Upper Sand Dig, and returning along the gorge.

In the afternoon the same party visited Rod's Pit, looking at even on south side of main chamber. Said Bryant did most of the leading.

7/8/60 David Fair & Roger Hunter arrived after long absence to keep a lunch, many new faces not many old. Noel or Steve, quit in lunch if you read this.

7/8/60. David Bryant took his father & Dick Barber - Night int Swildon ad showed them the "New Grotto". Only David had been there before

7/8/60 D. Berry & M. Padfield dug a pit at G. Pointing, A. M. Gully carried over Elsan. There was not enough Elsanol to fully recharge Elsan, although all available was used. When more Elsanol is purchased, some will have to be put in the Elsan.

D. Berry G. Pointing, A. M. Gully did short sharp trip down Foxes' hole, Burmington while M. Padfield stayed outside a mince of coats, etc. Returned to Newlyn for a liquid lunch. A. M. Gully, M. Padfield, D. Berry went to bed in afternoon while G. Pointing dug at Pigoldy Green. Cooked a good meal thoroughly cleaned up hut and burned all rubbish. Left for Hunters' & Bristol at 8 p.m.

10/8/60 Called in to check equipment. Found the hut in an immediate state - congratulations to the Bank Holiday visitors. The photo light meter in leather case, hanging in annex entry, is not my property. Any claimants?

The Squirrels

Sat. 13th Aug. B-Jones + 2 Guests arrived from Abours with intent to visit Swildons as far as Sump I.

Sat 13th Aug. Roy Hester and David Mogg went to Eastgate to investigate state of the Boulder Ruckle. As neither of us was aware of the actual scene of the accident we had to regard the whole of the ruckle as potentially unsafe (as it was, and always will be) About 120 cubic feet of rock has peeled off and a lot more looks likely. Further investigation seems necessary.

Sat 13th (After Hunters) - Sunday 14th. 7 o'clock.

Blackwell-Jones' party being some hours overdue ^(R.P.) there was a grand turn-out from Hill-grove expecting the worst. However all was well + we met them on their way out at Jacobs boulder. T. Oldham + R. Hester used it as an excuse for a coining trip, as did David Berry + George Porting. P. Padfield, As a result there were cavers returning to the Hut at intervals from 1 am to about 5,30 in Sunday Morning. - A Most disturbed night!

Sunday 14th Cleared up + left for Burrowton - there to dig.

Sunday 14th With the departure of B-Jones and guests, approx one tin coffee, 2 lbs sugar, and 1 pt milk also mysteriously departed from the hut.

Most common thief?

Sunday 14th D. Berry, P. Padfield + G. Porting left for Bristol ^{MESSEX CAVE CLUB LIBRARY} having a good clean up,

Sunday 14th. H. Atwood took party of 5 from Chelcot (Swindon) Youth Club to Swildons Sump I.

A wetish trip enlivened by social chat at the 40 ft Pot. Verdict "Gaving is Different to what we expected"!! Mike Hollard looks in on his return from

Monday 15th. Rodger Hobbs and party looking ^{Bytunes}.

Show them as much of Bellgrove Sumplets as dense growth of jungle would permit.

Tuesday 16 Departed.

Sat. 13th. Called in for equipment. Finished survey of St. Catharines
with Michael Boose in 4 hours.

14th. With Michael Boose, descended & worked in Black
Mole & passages below. 5 hours.

Wed 17th. Collected set for a visit to Hunter Mole
with Willie Stanton & C. Hobbes party. 4 hours.

18th. With Hobbes' party - Cleaves party, working
in G.B. 5 hours.

D'Lord..

Sat 20 ~~Aug~~ Attended P. Smith & 2 guests to Longwood.
4 hr trip.

Sat 20 R. Hartas, T. Burleton and J. Hartas arrived
after a Hunter trip. Noel. I will be out
Sunday after Noon 21st ~~with~~ with Judy & Carl
for Wedge upper Swallows. Please keep
after noon free! Will be at home by
3 pm. Roger.

Sat. 20th Michael Thompson, Michael Boose, Fred Davies,
David Farn & Dick Ford working over the Black
Mole, Swallows. That section completed. 12 hours.
Farn & Ford returned at 4 a.m. to spend what
remained of the night. D'Lord..

Sat 20th Robert Lyke accompanied Noel Cleare + party down Stoke Lane.
Returned 1 a.m. Sunday, stayed the night + left Sunday midday.

Sun. 21st Dave Berry & George Trickey
and Party of 7 R.A.F. officers. A short
trip to Blue Pencil Passage.

Wednesday 17/8/60.

Noel Cleare, Hermannsmaas, Edgar Lachal arrived. Went into Bristol but found that Hon. Sec. has moved residence and so returned rather late to Hat. Hat was unlocked.

Thursday. Above 3 went down G.B. with D. Ford. Nice trip. Hermann and Edgar were most impressed. In evening went to late party at Roger Norton's place. Failed to find Hon. Sec's home.

Friday we worked on the car failing headlight out of the day and then had a long night swallows. 9 hours, out at 4:30 am. We went down to the camp and then along to Saldon IV. They and I were puzzled at the polythene tube through IV camp.

Saturday. Slept on late, and then + Rob Tyke off to Stode Farm. 7 hours. Went to the backroom series and found that no ladder is needed it to one takes one bold step and a fairly easy traverse. It might be nasty in bad weather notes.

Sunday. Above party late down Swallows + Judy Norton. Hermann and Edgar to camp. Judy and Noel to Trats. Hermann and Edgar seem to be bitten by the swallow bug.

Monday off at 12:00 hours. classic meeting.

Noel Cleare.

Wir hätten nie gedacht, hier soartig große Höhlen zu finden. Wir sind äußerst beeindruckt, etwas erschöpft und Noel sehr dankbar, daß er sich die Mühe nahm, uns überall durchzurütteln.

Hermann Glüß (Secretary)
Abteilung für Kartierung der Naturhistorischen
Gesellschaft, Nürnberg, Germany.

Aut. Wissenschaftler Hermann Glüß

Die weite Reise nach England hat sich bereits sehr gelohnt. Hätte nie solche große Höhlen mit solch einer Sichtweite erwartet.

Edgar Lachal

NHG Nürnberg

23/24th David Fair & Dick Ford stayed overnight. Tuesday - completed work between Sump II + Creep I, Sumpans, & in the nose & most of the Old Approach Passage - an interesting area. Then dinner at Three Arms - so late but merry.

Wednesday - day of Fiddly Fair. 0.83" of rain fell between 6 & 10 a.m. according to Fiddly shop. It blew, rained & misted for the rest of the day. Caught an owl full Elsan. Went to the Fair - the Green packed with cars, despite the rain. On to G.B. - when walk was completed - the Long waste & Oze route being examined. 5 hours. Cleaned up but left 8.30 pm.

D. Ford:

26 Aug REL and AL arrived.

27 Aug REL and AL descended Sirdaris at 12 noon intending to do a 6-hr trip to base camp and back. After passing through an ominously wet P.R. we found the main stream very high. Lay up at Tots temple 1 1/2 hrs, moved on to Barnes Loop and collected ^{with} the others in the cave. More waiting until stream low enough to make a thrust for the 40'. Many thanks to the MRO for their moral and physical support and to the others at good suits. Emerged at 4 am Sunday.

28 Aug General pause for recovery and return to Reading.

D.F. came up about 8.00 pm 3rd evening, found a flop on at Sirdaris, finally went down at about 10.00 pm, and was lowered together with D. Ford and F. Davis (Slypton) down the 40' - a very wet ride. We rigged a telephone on the pitch, which functioned fairly well, made contact with 3 people at the bottom, and established that there were a further 8 in the cave, 4 at the double pots and 4 at the Barnes Loop. There were

all brought to the bottom of the 40', the water now falling rapidly, helped by the waterworks pumping and the Fire Service. All were able to climb the ladder by this time, and were out by about 4.00-4.30 am Sunday. All M.R.D. equipment brought up from top of 40'; a small quantity of assorted equipment being left below, to be fished up on Monday.

Sun 30 Aug pm: Returned one ladder ex-Swildans - Luke.

Wed. 31st - called in to clear kit. D.F.

Saturday 27th August G. Pointing collected cylinder of calot from Wells, on account.

Saturday 2nd September new cylinder started.

Saturday morning A.D.O. went to Buddle Combe and Badger Hole, was surprised to find that Badger Hole is being used as a cow shed and that the cows have entered as far as the dark zone.

In the afternoon the "Upper levels" of Wells Cathedral was examined.

Sunday 4th September.

It appears that sweeping the floor at Hillgrove is quite profitable. I suggest that members should join in this treasure hunt which can win you a pint of cider or nothing.
P.S. I got 80.

Sat. Aug 11th Sept.

Henry Morris and guest Dave Landley arrived and Mick Gallin arrived from London. Did top of Swildans a Saturday, down to the bottom of the "Fossey" up Sunday.
(comfortable coal bunker)

Fri-Sat 17th Sept.

D.F. Cawse and guest arrived and stayed on Friday night. Took party comprising 2 B.E.C. members and 4 guests down Swildans as far as Sump 1. The cave was relatively dry, considering the amount of rain over the last week. Down at midday Sat - out at 5.15 pm. Left for home Sat. evening.

Sunday 18th Sept.

M.Holland, G.Pooley & D.Berry left for Borth Hill Swimming Baths to test themselves on the surf rescue apparatus.

O.C.Lloyd managed the meet, people from most clubs & M.R.O were there, M.Holland produced waterproof telephone, (which leaked) Every one satisfied that they are now qualified surf rescuers.

G.D.

Tuesday 20th Sept.

David J.J. Kinsion & M.D. Sturges - upper Swithland - a general work around.

25/9/60. D.f.Cane, G.Pointing, ~~R. Pyke~~, R. Pyke, D. Wheeler (guest) and 1 M.N.R.C. chap to Black Hole Series. Down at 10.00 and out at 16.00.

1 Oct

M.S.Holland P.E & A Lawder and C.Hanks spent the afternoon digging in Tally Pot. A small amount of progress was made.

1 Oct 1960

Tony Morris and guests - Dave Landeg, Mick Galvin, Dave Richardson, Clive Theobald, John Richardson, Paul Harris arrived at Hillygrove at 21.00 A.M. Went down Swithland at 11.00 am, did upper series as a lot of water was going down the "Kathy".

2nd Oct 1960

Above party did Goat church, had a meal and left for London.

Sunday October 2nd 1960

Hessers the boulder, Mike Holland and "Tim" (BEC) descend Swallows to go Draughting in the Paradise Series. Plenty of water was in Swallow which is the ideal condition for draughts investigated ~~on~~ boulders on slope to Fault Chamber and found a rift about 20 ft deep with a trickle from Fault Chamber in it. A thin man could get down it but there is nowhere to hang on ladder or life line as yet. A fine boulder rather worn on way out. Much water in the cave.

M. Holland

Saturday October 8th 1960.

Brenda Willis, Mike Holland, El Howell and Tim Howell spread 9 tons of quarry gravel over the large area of the car park — BEFORE 11 A.M. Another load will be necessary to make a satisfactory job!

Tim Howell

The library has been tidied into a certain amount of order. The chalk writing indicates a rough catalogue of the journals etc., whilst the middle shelf is stacked with miscellaneous books

J. D. H.

Removed two lifefins - dubious condition

T. D. Howell

Friday 14th October.

Arrived and stayed at my son

Saturday 15th October.

Bought deck scrubber and washabene. joined by George and Dave, cleaned and scrubbed the boat. Dug on Priddy Green, Thompson & Co laid bags, but did not investigate results.

Bob & Anne Picknett called in for social call

M. Holland

Sunday 16th October 1960

Howard Kenney called and inspected fees book and balanced (as far as possible) against Treasurers records. All seems in order. Now going to visit Castlegate Hut for same purpose. This is a routine check as part of the annual audit.

Sat 15 Oct.

R. Harton T. Harton N. cleave Swayne-Roberts and T. Burleton arrived after closing time and bedded down for the night. How the hut has changed, it is livable - in now!

Sunday. R. Harton was dragged screaming from his pit and forcibly removed to Swildon's.

Noel cleave Quinch Hut - Tony Burds' spent some time photographing in Old Grotto & then ambled gently down to Dames Loop whilst Steve W-Roberts and Self went on to Sump II. Very cold, + not surprisingly wet. Next time I'll ~~be~~ wear a gorn suit - or take a blow lamp. Thinks: when was the last scavenging trip in Swildon's? It's a bit mucky with old castile this paper etc.

Paid hut fees and departed 4.30 p.m.

22/23 Oct. R.E. and A. Lander arrived and spent night after dinner. Departed early morning with dust on the 175 miles journey to Cambridge.

Sunday 23rd October

Les Holland stopped Hillgrove over weekend and had a very enjoyable quiet - no broad throwing annual dinner. Rushed over to Langwood on Sunday with M. Holland in reply to a call to the M.R.C. However arrived when the rescuing had been carried out. Moved a few boulders at the foot of Piddi green dig after the smoke had subsided from a little burning.

Sat. 29th Oct.

D.J. Cawse & S. Wynne-Roberts went to Upper Snildon to see the state of the water after the week's heavy rain. Still fairly wet, with some going down the ladder at the 40'.

Sunday. 30th Oct.

D.J. Cawse, M. Holland, G. Pointing & M. Boon (Slypton) went down to Shitter Pot in P.R. and continued digging below Oxford Chamber. About another 6 feet progress was made, still going down parallel to the bedding, removing sand and fine gravel. There are now signs of a faint draught, and a small air-space - about 2" - can be seen going on down.

The Mud Pump will need bailing soon if there is much more wet weather.

N.B. *** Anyone looking at Shitter Pot is warned of the dangerous state of the boulders at the extreme edge of the top of the pitch. These have already moved once, and may easily go again !!!

Saturday 29th Oct

Jim Hawell, Duke Boon, Mike Holland and a party of 6 Fleet Air Arm crew, went down Priddy Green Dig and shifted piles & piles of rocks.

Fleet Air Arm fellows stayed at Hillgrave Saturday night and went down Hawthorn Hole on Sunday morning.

Sat. 5th Nov.

D.J. Cawse & M. Holland out to observe the digging at Rodney Stoke Risings. No significant advance was made, the way being blocked by boulders, with spaces between too small to pass with B.A.'s, although it was thought possible in ordinary kit.

Sun. 6th Nov. Went to Lotty Pot with G. Pointing, D. Deny & M. Padfield and dug for the afternoon. Rapid progress was made, and at an estimated 40' of cave - mostly bedding plane - is passable, this after about 3 hours work, digging with bare hands. A small chamber quite well decorated with stal. and white stones is entered via a nasty squeeze, and the way on appears down a rift. Lined at present with loose stones.

12th November

P. J. Page, P. Gregory, I. Harry and I. S. Moodie all from the Canoborus School of Metalliferous Mining arrived Ross at 8.50. About midnight we did a quick Canterbury arriving back at the hut at 2 o'clock.

Sunday, 13th November

Same party did a quick Swindon's to Sump II. Entered cave at about 10.30 am surfaced 3.00 pm. Club tackle was locked so we used tackle belonging to B.E.C. which the kindly lent to us.

Monday 14th November

Another trip to Burrington this time doing Rod's and Read's (N.W.D). Left the hut for Canoborus at 3.00 pm.

Sat. 19th Nov.

Df. Cawse, S. Wynne-Roberts, Mike & Leo Holland and Mike Boon (Shepton) went to Shutter Pot to inspect the boulders at the top of the pitch (see note 30.10.60), and continue digging below Oxford Chamber. Close inspection showed the large boulders at the edge which were used for stepping onto the ladder to be very insecurely held, and these were finally dislodged. The situation now is that there is a lot more very loose material hanging near the edge, and the pitch is not safe to descend until this has been dealt with.

Sat. 10th Dec.

Ken Davies, Phil Davies, J. Glencell, Df. Cawse, R. Pyke & L. Holland tackled the boulders in Shutter Pot. Df. C. lidded the cave, and was joined by Ken Davies & Bob Pyke, and about 1 hour was spent brining the Mud Sump. Remainder of party then arrived, and moved on to Shutter Pot. Three charges were used under the large boulder at the top which has settled by some two feet altogether, but is still not solidly jammed. Some more work is necessary before the pitch is safe.

Sat. 17th Dec.

D. Lavers, R. Pyke, & Jim (F.A.A.F.O.E.C.) to the Trouble Series. Dug boat midday and out at 6.15 pm. On the way in an hour's work was done in the Goblets at the top of the Shitter Pot pitch, which is now a bit more stable, and then we moved on to Base Camp. Two then went through the swamps, which were just, and only just, possible without sailing and had a look at the Trouble series, while a crew up was set going back in Base Camp. Then returned out of care, intercepting one Sandhurst type at the top of the 40', who proudly announced that he was caring solo and enquired when was the 40' pot. He was informed that the care would be locked up in 15 minutes, and was last seen retreating in a worried condition.

Sat 17th December 1960

A Oldham and MNRC^{party}, of 10 lads went down G.B. Cavern, pleasant 2½ hour trip. In evening members of many clubs assembled at The Red Lion, Asbridge, for their Christmas Party. Fog made the return journey rather exciting.

Sun. 18th. Oldham went to Tom Tuisys Cave and excavated for a couple of hours.

Sat. 17th Dec.

Afternoons & Guests John Card and Dave Landeg arrived ~ 11.00 pm.

Sunday 18th Dec

Above party did Gantschurch.

Monday 19th Dec

Party attempted Longwood, gave up, very wet.

By

* The Asbridge Caving Group and Archaeological Society.

21st Dec. 1960.

D. C. Carter & R. Pyke again went to Shatto Pot, carefully inspected the boulder, decided the pitch was relatively safe now and descended. Several hours work were put in at the dig beyond Oxford Chamber, and a further 4-5 feet of progress made. The passage is still going on down, parallel to the bedding, at approx 30° to the horizontal in a S.W. direction. The small air space in the top of the passage which we have had hitherto has now ended, but the passage still seems to be as large as ever, though completely choked with fine gravel.

Lime down-midday, out 6:00 pm. Water volume about average.

D.C.

20th Dec 60

M. Bird visited hut after advance Panel service to find many improvements, and, most surprisingly of all, a warm hut. Intention - some canvas when? Well - I'll do!

29th Dec. R. Pyke & Jim G. of B.E.C. laddered up Swildas, and pulled a few rocks out of the Green Dig.

30th Dec. R. Pyke, R. Lawder, Jim, and Richard Roberts (B.E.C.) descended Swildas at 12 noon bound for The Troublesome, to take a few pictures before the formations were beaten up too badly. Arr. Base Camp at 1:40 and breasted up, after getting the siphon going on the first trouble sump. Before the level had fallen enough to make it safely passable, the tube got clogged up, and refused to function, despite an $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours of acrobatics. At 4:20 we yielded to Soda Law, and started at Sustaced 6:45, bringing ladders out

1/1/60 Party of 4, Hall, Henn, Grodge and Bennet did a trip to base camp at Blue Mineral passage. Ditch and Rose confined into 4 to Escumin River. On return to surface it was raining hard but the water level had not risen by then. (6pm)

3/1/61 Moved for about 2 hrs
about $\frac{1}{2}$ ' settled

Aug 2. 1. 61. 5/13" St. Peters. & 2 "Amersham Senior Scouts.

21.61. Took to Cuckoo Cleeves - found it blocked!

Visit to Upper Swildon

3.1.61 Southchurch, Sidest Swallet, Rod's Ost

4.1.61 Longwood Swallet. Very wet.

Dunster Cliff

South Town Caving Club. Clifton College.

9.11.61 Caved from Brook

10.11.61 Dallimore (Hitty little hole)

11.11.61 Cycled to Cheddar explored four holes there.
P.S. We emptied Elsan!

12.11.61. Upper series of Swildon.

13.11.61. Returned to Bristol.

It might be of interest to bat-ringers that we saw
8 Greater Horseshoe Bats and 3 Nettwicks, all unringed, in
White woman's cave (?) Cheddar Gorge.

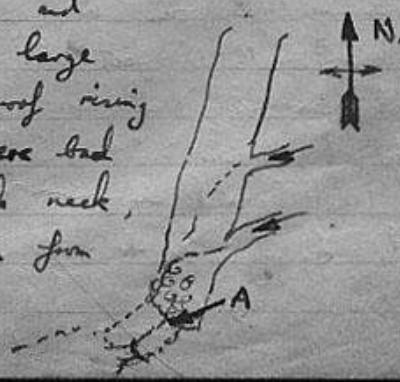
(A) Sonar

14.1.61. D.J. Caner & S. Wyke-Roberts to Shatto Pot, Burldis.

Down at muddy, out at 8:00 pm. Several more feet of
passage excavated, now showing signs of turning upwards.
Although no rain during the afternoon, there was a noticeable
increase in the amount of water going down the pitchas
on the way out.

Dunster

4.2.61 D.J. Caner, M. Holland, K. Dave & Dick? (Slypta) to
Shatto Pot and the 300' of passage broken into last weekend.
This passage is very impervious, on average 10' wide and
20' + in height, with a tricky 10' overhang to climb. After
this overhang the passage descends, following the dip ^{about 30°}, for perhaps
80 or 100' to a choke, where the boulder floor meets the
rof. just before this two small streams enter from the left
cross the passage and sink through the floor on the right.
(See sketch). Digging was started at A and
pushed to the point where apparently large
passage could be seen ahead, the roof rising
rapidly about 18" away. Conditions were bad
for digging, lying in water up to the neck,
though it should be possible to dive from
the downstream side when though.



Shatto Pot, cont.

The party was joined by Mike Bone, Phil Davies, Fred Davis & Brian Ellis (Shipton) at about 5.00 pm, the first two to continue digging, the others to run a survey from the bottom of Shatto Pot pit to the present end of the passage. In all probability they will break through in a few hours digging. The point now reached is about 300' from Sillars VI & 100' above it - more accurate figures when results of survey are known.*

Original party entered cave at 10.00 am, and at 8.30 pm, leaving second party down.

D.f.C.

4/2/61

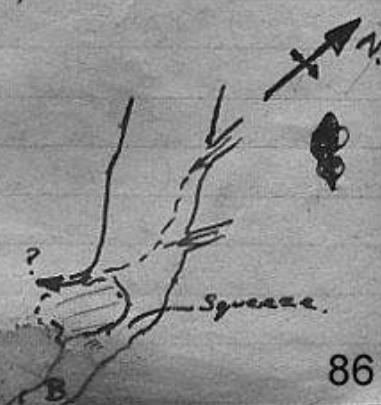
Robert Pyke + David Heap (K.C.C.), and David Morris + Oliver Weaver (C.U.C.C.) arrived from Cambridge. However two of us pranged a motor-bike on the way down, and sustained sprained ankles and bruises. Descended Sillars at 7.30, to join the party at Shatto Pot. However, at the 40, the injured blokes realised they were not up to a long trip, and we decided to leave the cave, and get in some drinking. Left 11.00 m. Sunday morning, after a thoroughly frustrating weekend.

* Survey shows Shatto Pot Passage to trend S.Easterly, i.e. parallel to Sillars V & VI, with the S.Westerly (towards VI) as originally estimated. This makes the furthest point reach some 500' from VI instead of the 300' supposed before surveying — somewhat disheartening.

D.F.C. 10.2.61

11.2.61 Shatto Pot has had its lot! D.F.C. + 1 B.G.C. member went down and unexpected the mud choke (see note 4.2.61). Found that through the squeeze dug out last week the passage is almost completely choked and appears so indefinitely. The streams referred to previously disappear downwards to the right entering the squeeze, and the passage B can be followed upwards for about 10-15 feet to where it is almost completely choked. Could be dug out further but looks a long job, and would be very hard work spirit having to be taken back through squeeze.

D.F.C.



Tuesday Feb 14th 1961.

Party of 4 from University College of Swansea arrived. John Philpott (President) Brian Quillian Tony Bell John Marion. Made way to Hunter for small quantity of liquid refrigerant!

Wednesday Feb 15th 1961.

Descended Swildon to Sump I in the morning. On the way out had small accident. I Hoke fell down the 20'; he was uninjured except from a few bruises and cut nose. Made way to surface and got out about 4pm. In future I think a life-line on the 20' might come in handy.

Thursday Feb. 16th 1961.

Two of us did a most arduous trip - Dallimore; other two went for food. In the evening retired to Hunter.

Friday Feb. 17th 1961.

Walked to Swildon in morning. [35] we went as far as the Mud Sump. Uneventful trip except from the loss of 1 Karabiner on the 20'.

Saturday Feb 18th 1961

Left leaving hut reasonable tidy.

Fri 17th Mike Hollande Shale had arrived late on Friday, spent weekend helping H.M. Thompson wire up his cottage at Priddy. Lovely weekend, beautiful weather.

Chunk taken out of floor, to be renewed next weekend, by MH.

Mike Grunewald (Ex wssenc) kindly brought out a no. 2 cylinder of Calor gas for wells.

Sunday February 26th

With diverse divers (D.H. Thompson & K. Dawe of S.M.C.C.) a descent of Blakes Ferry Swallet was made, however water level was too high to continue work, silting up prevents further exploration at present. More work to be done in the dry weather.

Richard Hollande

Sunday March 25th

George Ponting, Paul Berry, Pat Radfitt and
nine other Weeres members, trip to G.B. cavern,
Fri - Sun March 10-12th

D. Wallinbow, Tony Morris & 6 guests arrived Friday,
5 went off to Casholder Natl. Building (heat was
very damp and muggy).

Saturday - went down Long wood and back out,
with nothing except happening.

Sunday - went down 40' in Swildon but stopped
at 20', just far enough to get ~~all~~ everybody
soaked.

7 o'clock departed for London.

Friday 10th Carbide lamp fixers fit in stores box, envelopes
for hut fees received

M. C. Hallam

Sat. 18th Mr. Cleare, guests - R. Banks, T. Cowson, N. Dixie,
arrived. Met up with Steve Wynne-Robert. Went up good
at 2220 Hrs, in Swildon. We went to Shelter pit and explored
shelter passages, then on to 4. Retuned to pit for a
rest and a brew up. Took some photographs. Down to the
river. Cleare and Wynne-Robert were tempted to swim, looked
very attractive, and as they went through and cleaned
up over the black hole and had a look at the well passages and
the fed paradise. Berg Bank and Cowson having left from
the river, Cleare and Wynne-Robert eventually emerged
unconscious. 920 to be exact - an extremely pleasant 12 hours.
Water was low, but looked every trace of the trouble needed
bailing. All departed Sun 19th March. 1400 Hrs.

M.C. Cleare

Sat 18th March 1961

Brenda Willis, Jim Hanwell & Michael Hallard
spent most of the day laying "Blokite" rubber
flooring, very hard and tedious task despite
notices someone with tricomin nailed boots
walked over the new laid rubber!

The horrid smell will wear off in a few
years time!

M. C. Hallam

Thurs 23rd

Bob Pyke arrived
Fri 24th. Singing in Wells. Elvan.

25th March 1961 First Anniversary of installation of Romesse Stove!

25th March 1961. A. Oldham stayed for one night.

Fri 25th. Chris Hawkes, Bob Pyke + Ken Whinster (guest)
on trip to Sump I, after calling at Piddi church, complete
in carrying kit, for Thompsons' wedding.

26th Phil Jones Collected tackle for Wessox
Yarkeine nest at Lofthouse. (4 ladders taken
approx 90'!)

25th March. Hain, Hull Thomas and Greenfield (Family)
spent 3½ hrs in "Top Builders" taking cine film.
As far as can be told now everything went OK - we
can only await the return of film from processing.

26th March. Df. Cawse, R. Pyke, P. Duck, K. Whinster (guest) to
Augst Hole. Dam at 12.30, out at 5.00. Dry
(for Augst Hole).

25th March

Michael Holland (Usher) & James Hanwell
Best Man attended a marriage ceremony at
Piddi Church. Michael Thompson was wedded duly
and legally to Elisabeth Johnson.

1st April. (No Cawse) ~~met~~

Mike Bird and Pat Stubbs (Visitor)
Spent quiet afternoon in
Buntington.

20th March - 5th April Spent afternoon duplicating magazine
(some of it)

31st March - 3rd April.

Visitors from Elder Pithole Club, Derbyshire.

D. G. Allsop, J. A. Dunn, Ian Smith, John Sample

C. Downhill, Goff Dobson, Keith Worsenoff, Dr Dunn

B. Westgate, Eileen Starkey

Suttons visited. Enjoyed by all. Most impressed.

Augst Hole. ditto

G.B. ditto

Any members of E.P.C. invited to see us
at any time.

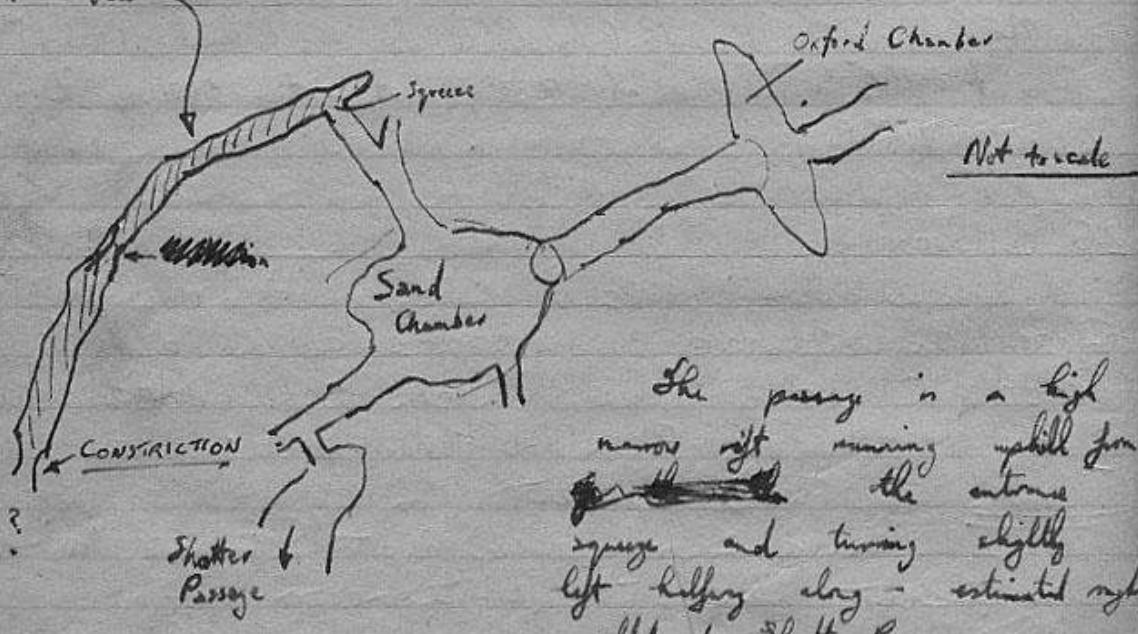
6-4-61. Returned Vol. III of Journal to Library. SW

8-4-61. Ladders removed on 26-3-61 for use in last since returned to tackle hut.

On 4/4/61 D. Cawse & Jim Giles^(A.C.C.) went down to Shatter Pot to have a look at the side passage which needs blasting (leading off from Sand Chamber). We measured up for wooden packing & for the charge and surfaced by 8:00 pm. Started down Cutbacks at 11 pm for a party overdue by 3 hours and met them just inside.

8/4/61. Combined Wessex & Shepton trips to blast at Shatter Pot and Double Trouble.

D. Cawse & Jim Giles worked at Shatter Pot, laid one charge, fired it, and retreated to the top of Blue Panel for a brew for 2 hours while the gurus cleared (partially) some 40 feet of new passage ~~area~~ was found, shown sketched below.



At the furthest point reached the rift is about 15'-18' high and ends with an "over and under". The "under" is too tight but the "over" may go further. The rift appears to widen slightly about 6' further on. D.C.

The party to Double Trouble were Mike Thompson, Fred Davies & Ken Dawe of the Shepton Mallet Club, and Mike Holland & Bob Lyke of the Wessex. The Troubles were passed by sponging and boating, with the help of three Sandhurst cadets, and the Shepton trio went on to lay the first charge. We stayed

a while longer to take, and then joined them.

The blasting point was at the far end of the passage beyond Domed Grotto, in a Stalagmite and pebble choke high in the right hand corner. This choke had a small hole in it, through which the sound of a small stream could be heard.

Four, 4-oz. charges were fired, allowing access to a small chamber. An oven in the roof discharged a small stream into a perfectly circular hole in the floor, about 18" in diameter. Descent might be possible by a small person with a ladder, but looks unpromising.

The party had a look at Crystal Passage, and left the cave - 3 1/2 hr. trip.

R.P.

15th April. D. Causer & J. Giles (O.C.C.) went to Shutter Pot to try and push the new passage further, with no success. We decided that more blasting will have to be done if it is to go further, but it looks worth some more work.

D.J.C.

15-16 April 1961

David, Brenda, Willis, Jim Howell & Mike Holland spent most of the weekend completing the task of floor covering. A large amount of "Detritus Hillgraves" was removed from the land surrounding the Club Headquarters and deposited in the rubbish pit.

21st April 1961.

A. Oldham & R. Ransome visited the Upper Series of Worsley Hole Cave. Found 25 bats. Pleasant 2 hr. trip.

N.H. Cleare arrived 20.4.1961 made unsuccessful attempt to find E. Howell.

23.4.1961 N.H. Cleare, S. Wayne Roberts did a gentle St Cuthbert's going underground 1.00 pm photographed in certain chamber and the gours. A brief diversion was made into myopole chamber on the way out and the party surfaced at 5.00 pm. SWR.

Dave Causer & Jim Giles went down Swildens intending to reach Bump II & look at the Black Hole. Jumping entirely caused premature retirement at Lump I, and we were out after about 3 hours.

26/4/61 - 28/4. Day & night arrived late retarded in a non-lithic state.
This is probably the reason for the bout of asthmic trouble,
which ended on the 27th, although the arrival of
P. Pochkhan-wales also possibly causally related. Lique having
settled this temporary disturbance, an easier trip round
the further parts of Swildens was attempted but was too
easy & comfort loving. Left early after reading of death of a friend
in evening paper (D.).

Friday. 28th. Noel Cleare & Dave Caines arrived

Saturday 29th. N. Cleare, S. Wynne Roberts, K. Dove (Shepton), F. Darlin
(B.L.C.) & D. Caines to Swildens.

Objectives of the trip were to blast in Shitter Pot, ~~II~~ to
check digging & diving equipment in the cave at Shitter Pot,
top of Blue Pencil & in IV, and to obtain further experience
in Sump IV & Galdris IV.

Kit was checked in Shitter Pot and the charge set off, after
which the party carried on to IV. & V.

Sump IV appears to have silted up considerably at the
bottom, and there is now an estimated 15" between roof
and floor. Trouble was again experienced in Beaton's Room
which needs care!

3 oxygen cylinders were taken from near Sump III, and are
now at the top of Blue Pencil Passage.

On the way out thick gelignite junces were encountered
before reaching the top of Shitter Pitch. The previous bang
(see note 4/4/61) caused junces no further back the Oxford
Chamber!

Surfaced by 8.00 pm.

D.J.C.

Saturday 24th. 17 people left by D. Kinsman arrived, 6 stayed
[at Eastwater]

M. Holland, D. Kinsman, R. Lewis & 10 others descended
longwood to August Hole.

Kinsman & Holland + 6 went to the bottom
of August Hole exploring as far as they could so
down the final rift then upstream to the
Upstream Chambers. Came to the conclusion that
explosives and lump hammers would reveal
more cave downstream

Hicks Holland

Sunday 30/4/61

N.H. Please send yr and every cat. Thanks.

{ Monday May 1st. Nick Barrington and guest (Ray Kirby) arrived p.m.

TUESDAY May 2nd Bob Pickett arrived a.m. and all three descended Scaldon's, photographing in the Upper Series and falling successfully with fully loaded carbide tin into the Double Pots. Left hut tidy P.m to return to London.

N.R.B.

Sat 6 May. C. Hawkes, R.E. & A. Lander down Cuthbert with BEC

Sun 7 May R.E. & A. Lander down Cuthbert Longwood " "

Both photographic trips; Mendip caves are definitely getting smaller!

Sat 6th May. R.Pike & K. Whimster (g.) arrived p.m. for the club supper in the evening, at which about 29 members, and including Mr. Dealey were present. A barrel of beer was emptied before the party broke up, and went to Hawkers.

Sunday 7th May.

D. Lander & Jim Giles went down as far as Shatto Pot to inspect the results of last weekend's blasting. A awful amount of damage was done, and it was estimated that another 4 or 5 bangs will be needed before the constriction is possible (at least.)

More tools were brought out of the cave for renovation before the fine dining operations.

Sunday May 7th.

Atty. Mike Woods & Robin + 2 Guests. Bob Pike, Ken Whimster Paul Duck Hallard & B. Ellis (S.M.C.C.) went down St Cuthberts on a tourist trip.

This was Atty's first trip, he had been waiting for 7 years to go down!

Returned Hellcave to continue washing up from previous night!

Hellcave

Saturday May 20 Atty & Peter Smith do August Hole Upper Section (A bit of the fog!)
Returned Mike Hallards lamp with apologies.

May 9th 1961

Called in with envelopes for hut fees, collected "booking" book & fees book, to E. Hanwell & B. Willis respectively.

R.L.

Saturday, 13th May, 1961,

Cooking stove with spares put into M.R.O. box,
at request of Phil Davis. Suggest having a snow
driven handy.

O.C./Lyd

FRI 12th - Sun 14th May 1961

Upper Swilkin & Cathcart.

Stout, Tawg, Garden Waller & Sunil Service

Sunday 14th

D. Ford, D. Camer + 1 B.E.C. member went to
Shutter Pt, entering the can at about midday.
A further charge was laid in the side passage
while D.F. inspected the main Shutter Passage.
Professional opinion on further extensions was
"unpromising". Out by 7:00 pm. D.J.C.

17th/18th May.

D. Ford, with a guest assistant, Alan Teasdale, spent
one night. Walking in St. Cathartes on 17th, 5 hours. The
customer's head of the first pitch seems narrower than last
year's recollection suggests. 18th, collecting water samples in
G.B. - 3 hours.

D.F.

21 May.

L.M. Teasdale and R.V. Nichols called in to see
if anyone was at home. No luck. Felt shattered after "long trip
to Tatman's Temple!!! Must be out of condition."

Not party from Cromwell on their way out, although
we understand N. Cleare and others were digging somewhere beyond
Sump I.

P.M. Teasdale

20/5/61. ~~W.H. Cleve~~. N.H. Cleve, T. Keats and N. Biring arrived.

21/5/61. " " " Went down Swildon. Keats and Biring
to camp one. Dick Ford and Noel Cleave to Troubles series. Dick stayed with Troubles to
make notes and Noel Cleave carried picks and entrenching tools to down to the
kitchen in Swildon II for drying up. Out after 6 hours. Pleasant. The way in
Troubles needed no bailing.

Monday. N.H. Cleve, N. Biring, T. Keats and R. Horton went off to Stoke Lane for
a leisurely trip. Enjoyable. 4 hours. - The Godbox ladder has been lent to
N.H. Cleve.

? Bust the gear but did not have time to empty the canoeister, do much
(and don't) Billo and rag pads we have left these.

27-28. May 1961.

T. THOMAS. M. HAWKINS. T. HAZZ. arrived on Friday.
night. and on Sat. visited Holwell cave. at
Merridge on the Quantocks. very interesting
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ - trip. on Sunday. a trip to Sump I.
Swildon M Hawking succeeded in going beyond
after 3 years of looking..

Sat. 3rd. June.

Returned ladders from Phil Davis
which were used in Ireland.

John Church

Tuesday 4th June.

N.H. Cleve arrived. Had hoped to find kit to carry into IV for
the drying up; and company for the trip. Weather deteriorated, and so I
did not get T.C. for the weekend. But it was good to be back.

Steve Vyse-Roberts called and he and I collected some rocks from
the seacliffs.

sandy. Please. (spent Sat. night in Bristol).

Sunday 11th June.

N. Hart, R. Hobbs, J. Church & P. Harris went down
Swildons into St. Paul's. Trip took $2\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. Not much water
but plenty of people, * & through mud sump.

Sunday 12th June A. Gully, A. Wheeler, R. Davis
went on ~~the~~ Tourist Trip to Trat's Temple. $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

11th June 1961

H. Holland, M. Thompson & K. Dave went down to Swildens I carrying kit for the diving trip next weekend. Messrs Dave & Holland went through to Swildens II and laid telephone cables. Trip took 9½ hours. Found a "Services" wrist watch at the top of the 40' pot and a packet of ship's biscuits at the top of "Jacobs ladder", which we ate! Whilst down in the party met F. Davis, D. Ford, N. Hallett, T. Chudch & two others also harbour equipment.

Qd. what did the watch taste of? m.

Porkley & Tyme

17 June 1961

W.H. Morris, D. Handeg & J. Card (Guest) did Langwood.

18 June 1961 Above party did Swildens to sump I.

17-18 June . . . Swildens Diving Op. -

F. Davies & B. Pugh in at 08.30 to establish and maintain a kitchen and telephone in IV to be linked with II & VI.

Divers - M. Thompson, K. Dave, J. Wright & P. Davies (all n. o.) and M. Bone (on air) entered cave at 10.00, and all proceeded to live to Swildens VI, where they started digging to attempt lowering of the sump.

Support party of D. Cawse, S. Wynne-Roberts, N. Cleare and F. Davis entered at 18.00, reached IV by 19.30, and soon received news that Sump IV was now considered passable with small air-space all through. Party moved through to VI & took over digging, while divers did a preliminary exploration of VI.

Stonewall was found to run roughly SW for 250' before sumping again in a most un-promising looking situation.

Side passages and a even proved interesting, and were explored but not surveyed.

First tributary on left, reported by O. Wells in 1958 was followed for perhaps 150' before choking, and even above sump VI gave 200' of low muddy passage, exploration not being completed.

Other possibilities for future work and digging were noted near the sumps, and a passage on the left half way along IV was not explored.

Divers surfaced by 02.30 Sunday, and support party by 05.30. Telephone brought out of cave, some digging tools left in IV & VI. Oldie Lloyd provided an excellent kitchen - a rival establishment in IV, which fed the support party royally.

H. Holland

Rod Hobbs

Steve Hand

19th June. N.H. Cleane helped on a hot clearing session; left at ~ 11 AM for a logwood with Roger Norton. Expert cleared altogether.

N.H. Cleane

P.S. I have lost an old iron clock small w/ green copper, gold colored glass & face. Found it in the office today night and someone has taken it from the floor by Bob's bark.

19th/20th June

C. H. Beckham member and J. B. Priestley, S. Bonney, R. Martin, D. Earley, M. Phillips, K. Jones, R. Edward (Graets) arrived at 8 pm having visited Gostchurh, Sidcot and Piddley pool. T. Ancombe and D. Lunn arrived on morning of 20th June. The new 'gash smallet' was dug 2 ft deeper over $\frac{1}{2}$ its area. The party visited Swildons - $\frac{1}{2}$ to Ockhams, $\frac{1}{2}$ to sump I.

P. H. Beckham.

24th - 25th June.

J. T. James and Party
Swildons to Sump I.

Each water attempt to ladder Primrose Pot
unsuccessful.

dumb bear. Visit to M.W.R.C. dig.

26th June,

Ian Lennon, Bill Critchell, John & Susan Cook arrived in evening.

27th June,

Ian Lennon & party explored 2 dissolved mine shafts. The bottom of the first pitch of the first mine was made rather unpleasant by the presence of two deceased sheep. Though putrefaction was almost complete, the smell still lingered. Further along the passage, we found specimens of smutisite, blende & galena & the calcite veins.

Outing finished with a visit to Piddley Pool, then to the Innkeeper's for cedar & shave ha'penny.

28th JUNE.

Ian Lennon & party were joined by Dr Curtis, and all went down Lamb Leer. Three of the party continued down second pitch and visited cave of falling waters, whilst the others examined the aragonite deposit. In the afternoon Higher Pitts Farm was visited for minerals.

29th JUNE.

Ian Lennon and Ida Cork made a brief visit to Stoke Lane. Having reached the first sump we gorged our voracious appetites with chocolate and glucose and returned to the surface to sweat under the coryearous blue sky.

30th JUNE.

I. Lennon cleared tackle, cleared hut and departed after a week of non-stop sunshine.

July 8th

DISCOVERY OF SWILDONS VII

A party of 6 consisting of Dorek Ford, Steven Wynne-Roberts and Robert Lyke of The Weezer, and Mike Thompson and Boone and Ken Davee of the S.M.C.C. descended Swildons at 11 a.m., bound for Swildons VI.

The purpose of the trip was (1) to survey the newly opened passages in VI, and (2) to probe the terminal sump at the far end (see D.I.C.'s description).

The party went through to Six uneventfully, and while a kitchen was established, Dorek and Steve began the survey, while the Shepton Divers began work on Sump VI, using the lightweight B.A.s that they had carried in with them. Mike Thompson investigated the far end of the sump, and the right-hand wall. He found it to be about 9 feet deep, and with no way out evident. Dave then investigated the left hand wall and found a slit, floored with mud, and about 24" by 48". Visibility in the sump was near zero, ~~the water being of~~ pea-soup consistency. Boone, using compressed-air apparatus, was led to the appropriate wall of the sump by Thompson floating along the surface, holding the life-line. He entered the slit, and after moving along some 30ft of constricted passage, emerged into an open pool.

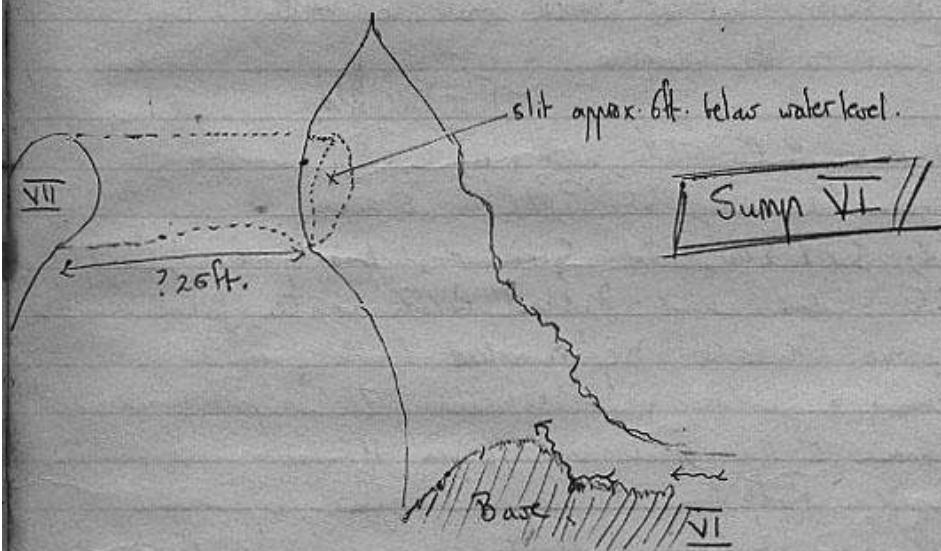
On his return he reported that he had seen a passage large enough to stand erect in, inclining half-left out of sight. There was an encouraging noise of free-running water beyond. Caloo, Calay!!

Derek and Steve had meanwhile completed a survey of the streamway from Sump VI to Buxton's Hole, and of the first tributary passage on the left in VII, reported by Wells in '58. It was noted that this might be ultimately connected with Shatter Pot passage. However, the passage was only some 100 ft. in length, as surveyed by Derek, leaving a long way to go.

We brewed up and moved back into IV, the divers using their B.A.'s in Sump IV, to help ferry the packs through. This sump was snarled by the low water conditions, but still gave several people a fright, as it appears to be very constricted on the right-hand side (facing downstream) nowadays.

A stop was made in IV to pack up the B.A.'s and gear for ferrying out. We then ~~emerged~~ went out in 2 parties of 3, getting out at approx. 11 p.m.

R.P.



Wed. 12th July R.P. visited the non-Sharscave regions of Gauges with D.C.F. Did surely frighten some visitors by emerging into the main passage; in full caving kit, dripping mud, and emitting Bronze-Age warcries.

Someone has removed my brown quilted sleeping-bag from the rag, and appears to have replaced it with some scutulous object that I am now obliged to use. Will the culprit note this, and RETURN MINE. D.P.L.B.

16 July Dave Walkinshaw, Tony Morris, and guests John Card, Malcolm Gubbins - did Aug 1st hole to end of downstream section. Very dry.

R.P. + D.C.F. & C.Y.H. to Catgut series, Cuttibots. Deck surveying.

17 July. Layed around hut. Dave and Chris Hawkes did a good job cleaning out the drain.

R.P. + D.C.F. went to the dig in the Maypole Series of Paradise Regained, in Swildas, to continue digging where Deck and Joe Candy left off last year. Did 3 hrs. work, without reaching any suggestion of an aerospace.

22 July. A Sidcot party consisting of T. Reynolds, R. Cowling, G. Atkinson & J. Ellis descended Surlens. We got into Trats' temple & went through the crystal passage & the leader had the honour of seeing the last man go through from the rear. We then went on to what we thought was the mud sump but it turned out to be the wrong one. We then returned to the surface.

T.E. Reynolds

22nd July. D.C. Ford & Peter Miller, (B.C.C.), working in the Rabbit Warren Extension, St. Catharines. 5 hours.

23rd July. D.G., G.M. Ellis, Mike Grinner, Chris Grisson, (S.M.C.C.) Jim Giles, (B.C.C) descended Pulpit Pitch route, (St. Catharines) to Lower Transverse Chamber. D.G. worked back from here to Pulpit, (survey & geology) whilst the others followed the main stream to the Duck & left via the ordinary route. The little-used Pulpit route makes a fine, sporting trip. Cotton dye detectors collected from a variety of sites in the cave provisionally demonstrated that the stream which sinks in Plantation Swallet is that which appears at Plantation Junction - so the name is correct.

24th July. D.G. working on surface in Higher Pitts Farm & Cross Swallet areas.

24.7.61

Sidcot party descended Stoke Lane for 1st time. Reached Main Chamber before turning back. Unsuccessful trip but most enjoyable.

JCH.

Afterthought: - A rare thrill was gained by G. Tomkinson who... he went too far returning through the sump and travelled a full 8 ft.

25th July A Sidet party of G. Tonkinson, R. Cowling and J. Ellis made a short trip down Dallymores - very muddy.

26th July G. Tonkinson, R. Cowling, T. Atkinson and J. Ellis attempted a trip to the Suidans 4. After an uncertain route the party turned back by the ~~Black~~ Greasy Chimney as Atkinson was rather tired. Although the destination wasn't reached it was an enjoyable trip as far as it went.

27th July A. Gully + 2 guests R. Davis & A. Wheeler set out for a ~~4~~ tourist trip to Swindon's 4. After reaching base camp one Acetylene lamp died of mud poisoning and none of our efforts would bring it back to life again, so we turned back and had an uneventful trip out meeting a party from Sandhurst at the double pots.

28th July A. Gully + 2 lared around hut.
P.S. Emptied Elsan.

4th August Mt Cleas crowded in the evening.

5th The Diving up was cancelled so self and D. Currie went to a dig beyond Heth's Chamber in Paradise. No air problem - rain at all, scary dig though. We excavated 3' of passage - anyone can have it.

6. Went to Woolly Swimming Pool in the evening v. pleasant Sunday. Walked, swim and lazed. Idly in the gas pit for 2 hours in the morning. The leggins easy now. Went out on and swim in the evening at a party on morning. They were lost in upper swallows - they were dead v. maggacious and only you could identify them.

Monday - cleared up and left.

Mt Cleas

6th August - Rod Hobbs, John Bone, Pete Harris went to Blue Pencil passage - 1 1/2 hr

4th - 8th August. Df. Cawse returned to Monday after a month
and a half's absence from caring; after the cancelling of the
dining ap. on Saturday morning, joined N. Cleare and lay
in Keith's Chamber. (see N.C's note in previous page).

No caring on Sunday, but on Monday Mike Thompson and
self had a look at some swallows in the yard of Payne's farm
(opposite the New Inn). self stated a bit of tentative work on
one. Six feet progress, leaving another 124 feet to Sunday VII + + +

D.J.C.

12th August. N.J.H., P.K.H. & C.H. upper Swildons.

13th. P.K.H. & C.H. Went and potted around Ebbor

14th. Went over Dallimore's intending to have a
look around but were repulsed at the
bottom of the shaft ~~the bottom was infested~~
by a filthy boar's visiting ~~the~~ card.

15th. Visited Sump 1. Swildons for the first time
for last two years. A tremendous increase
in litter noticed.

16th. Eastwater, upper driveway to 2 verticals, the pots
& the terminal rift. Pleasant Air trip.

17th. Digging in Tooty Br.

17th. Ned Cleare arrived in the evening.

18th. " " & Ted Tyke went swallow hunting on eastern
Mendip. Visited Ashamwood and Dead Worcester Bottom.

Found two of the seven spongs covered by quarry road.

19th. Ned Cleare went Blackberrying to Downhead. Hedge was
black with berries.

20th Sunday Ned Cleare left at 11:30 AM. Pleasant day weekend.

N.C.

20th Sunday J.M. James + 3
Swildon's photographic trip

26th October. Ned Cleare arrived on Friday night.

Sat. mid a seven goalkicker with Ted Tyke and Sam? and Roger?
(Worcester friends of Hickwood). Our visit took us on up to Oldton
in the afternoon excepted in the last marked Ted Tyke and
I picked blackberries, Sam at Woolley and dug the last pit.
The last supper was a great success.

Sunday Ned Cleare joined Brook East and Oldton Hedges on Tues

Cont

The Pot. It is very a collection item. Flat about 47 M.

26th Saturday August.

A club supper was held at Hillgrave attended by 25 people, another failure!

David Kinsman gave a talk on Jan Mayen illustrated with color slides, the supper followed and the Long Ashton cider followed that, kindly supplied by O.C.L.

Thanks must go to Mike & Robin Woods + Phil & Pat Davies for the catering - and waiting, not forgetting Brenda Willis who did so much to help.

Songs and recitations followed.
Those who attended were: (24)

D.S. Cawse, N.H. Cleare, J. Chock P & P Davies
D & M Ford, K. George L & M Holland, D. Kinsman
OC Lloyd, M & Thompson & guest Mel Woods + 3
Guests R. Pyke, D. Webster, R. Lewis, R. Hobbs

—

Sunday.

L. & M. H. staggered off to Blackdown
the Heather (or is it ling?) was absolutely
marvellous in colour and fragrance

had lost a shirt, towel and packknife at
Hillgrave, if anyone packed these by accident let
George Pointing or Richard Holland have them.

Sat. Dan Cawse attended the talk and supper.
Thanks are also due to Dan Kinsman for a most
interesting evening and for showing his fine slides of Jan Mayen,
as well as all concerned with the excellent catering.

Sunday Continued digging at Donhead on E. Manly.

Broke into bedding case followed by old stampers.
Finally cleared with boulders in floor — should go further until rock.
Total length about 200 feet — estimated

Mike Chapman & D.J.C.

2/3rd September. H. Cleare arrived Friday night. On Saturday I dug in the gas pit and in the afternoon I joined up with Oliver Lloyd to scrub the carbide sand coated nests out of Swildon from the 40' to the surf. Dick Todd and Bob Pyke went down earlier and, in fact, did the lion's share of the work. We scrubbed some of the mud off the stal' in Tangle and Bob and Dick got all the silt off the stal' in Tangle loop. We brought out 3 large bags of garbage.

Sunday. Did a little digging in the gas pit in the morning left at about 1130 for Devon.

H. Cleare

2nd Sept 1 Tony Morris, Dave Landeg and guests Richardson and Mr Galvin did August Hole.

8th Sept. Above did, a little digging in Totty Pot.

9th & Sunday. Dan Cawse continued work at Donhead with Miles Thompson of the Shipton. Permitted boulders to run 8 feet but decided blasting will be necessary.

D.C.

(9. 9. 61.) 2.50 feet of new life line made up into 1. 2.0.^{ft} and 2. 66.^{ft}.

H. Cleare

12/9/61. H. Cleare arrived at 10.30 am. found 4fts in audience. Stayed one night.

23/9/61 R. Pyke visited Stoke Lane with Fred Davis, Mike Grimes + various S.H.C.C. members.

24/9/61 R. M. Sasey (ex-Waco) arrived, and we did a quick trip to Surf I. On the way out R.M.S. climbed the 40' without a ladder, and declared it easy. R.P. tried it, and thought so too, until the halfway point - this seems to be the crux of the climb. Rather too crucial for R.P. Exit via ladder.

10/10/61 Howard Kenney audited Fees book. All seems to be in order so Brenda will be our Treasurer yet another year!

14/10/61.

S. Wynne-Roberts & R. Lyke & K. Dawe (S.M.C.C.) descended Siward's at 12 noon, and went through to Siwald's VI without incident. We went first to the tributary passage at the top of the aven, by sump VI, and crawled wetly along it to the far end. The passage terminates in a low sump, but overhead there is a rift, which had previously only been climbed half-way, by Noel Cleave. Steve managed to get up it a bit farther this time, dislodging chunks of detritus, and leaving bits of green-suit adhering to the walls. However the climb became a bit too risky, for such a remote part of the cave, and he called it a day without having confirmed that the rift did/did not close down completely. We returned to the streamway, had a quick brew-up in Kitchen Chamber, and then transported all the kitchen equipment back into IV, where we met D. Cawer & F. Davies on their way in. We left the cave carrying as much of the cooking equipment as possible, and emerged at 9.15. The cave has now been cleared of most of the kit used on the Diving Ops this summer.

D. Cawer & F. Davies (Slyster) entered the cave at about 3.30pm, and stalled for VI. Before leaving sight of daylight we were involved in a short rescue - a lad stuck at the bottom of the 15' pitch in the wet way. He was tired and not helped by incompetent leadership, and we managed to talk him up and through the squeeze at the top under his own steam. Saw him safely out of the cave and proceeded to VI without further incident.

Not the earlier party in IV, moved through to VI after they stalled at, and ~~then~~ surveyed the ~~the~~ L.H. branch of the N.E. tributary at the top of the aven above sump VI.

This was the dirtiest & foulest bit of survey work I have ever experienced - liquid mud up to the ears!

On the way out we carried 3 packs between the two of us and de-laddered the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ cave. Very tired and made a slow trip out, surfacing by about 1.15am Sunday.

FRIDAY 27/10/61. N.H. Cleave & P. Coulson arrived D.F.C.

SAT 28/10/61. N.H.C. & P.C. to Eastwater for a long round the upper and then down the westend. Went up Harry's passage to 1st bold step - the boulders above and in the passage are not fossils now look v. boreal - but perhaps more fossiliferous in E.V. now.

Sunday We intended to go and photograph Stile Landslide, but eventually wound up by working on KDK Dawe's van all day!

Monday N.H.C. and D.C. did a full Argent Hole. Pleasant in a marvellous way. "spotted" a fine sporting cave!! Upstream section. N.H. Cleave.

11/11/61 Df. Cavers + 4 guests to Longwood on
Saturday afternoon. The three novices all enjoyed the trip,
despite roller with the 10' drop before the Longwood-August
junction. Down at 3.30, out at 6.30 pm. DfC
11/11/61 has Holland spent night. Being ill
and sciatica did not feel up to caving.

11/11/61 R. Pyke + M. Buckwell (BEC) went to Maypole Series
in Swildon, with intention of investigating an apparently undiluted
aven above entrance to the series. This turned out to be a bit hairy,
and without a rope, we decided to leave it alone.

It should be noted that the cover of Keith's Chamber
is now extremely dangerous (X).

PP. ← []

This cover was open to more, or more, when a person
set foot on the floor of the chamber above it.

On our return, we stopped to watch Steve Wynne-
Roberts and Noel Cleare diving at the Prince Pool.

20-11-61. Nick Burington + two guests to Swildon's for photography.

2.12.61. Phil Davies, Arnold Kenny + Michael break into another 100 ft. of

9.12.61 Swildon's II = "Vicarage Passage".

New, left lined (Courlene) one 120 ft.
and one 80 ft., P. J. Berry.

9/12/61 Robert Pyke visited Upper Swildon + took some photographs.
No green fingers on this species - hence I forgot to open shutter!

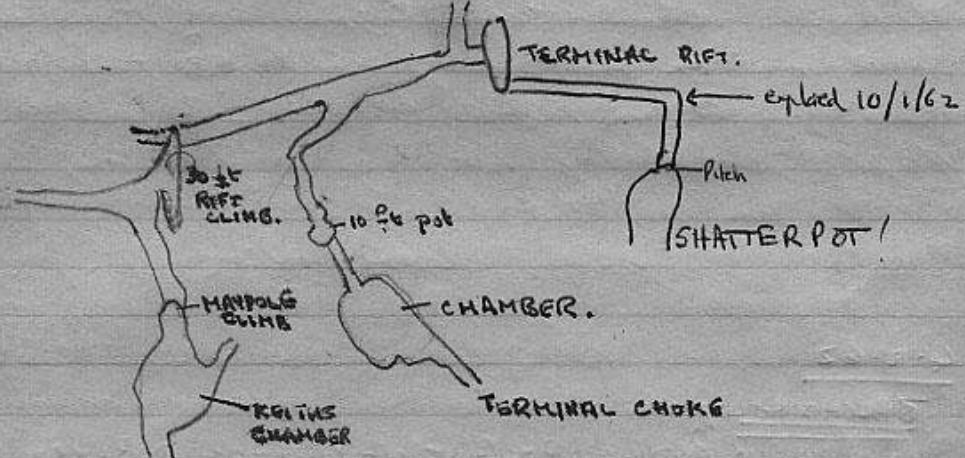
27.12.61 Bob Pyke and Steve Wynne-Roberts entered Swildon
at 1.15 pm well loaded with packs, ladders and Maypole.
Made steady progress down to Keith's chamber picking up
a further 5 ft of maypole by St Paul's squeeze making
a total of 14 ft. This was left in Keith's chamber.

The "Maypole Climb" was free climbed
in less than one minute!

The passage from the top of the climb led
generally up for some 30 ft where it entered a rift
into a small solutional passage leading away to the
left. This passage was investigated; it is about 5 ft wide
and of elliptical form, triangular cross-section some 10 ft

proved impassable owing to the mud infill - very similar to shatter pot - easy digging. It was possible to see about 15-20 ft beyond the constriction.

Attention was then turned to the rift; this proved climbable with much struggling and sweating. A passage of similar type and size to the one already described met the



top of the rift at right angles. The passage was followed to the right sloping down at an average gradient of 5° . For the greater part of its length, it was necessary to crawl on the stomach. 30 m or so from the rift a large tributary joined on the right. A wadore trench in the tributary continued on down the main passage to the terminal rift. This rift was not climbed (down) but looks about 20-25 ft and an easy stem climb.

On returning, a passage on the right was noted but though it obviously "goes" the mud infill needs digging. The wadore trench was followed up the tributary after several meanders (all cornered it appeared to turn left). The passage entered a pot which was climbed and the passage followed at higher level for about another 200 ft when it entered a small chamber some 30 ft high and 15 ft across. The passage continued down a ~~thin~~ limestone bank for 10 ft and closed with a mud choke after a further 20. A few feet before the choke are two entrances into a rift on the left but these were not pushed.

27.1.62. J. Webster, A. Swail, B. Riordan, P. Davis. - To Lamb Lias to continue survey below the main pitch, to the "cave of falling water" [Pitch 67'2"] - M.W.R.C party found no big boulders out of the cave.

- 27/12/61. NH cleave and 2 goats - J. Johnson and L. Deasy arrived.
 28/12/61. " + goats + Tabarin? (a friend of Stuart Tovey)
 went to Swallows to Doves loop. 2^{1/2} hours. No traps.
 29/12/61. Place health in ice. Did v little but did a
 reverse door. WOODY HOLE.
 30/12/61. - cleave + goats, Stephen Robert, Stovey and Tabarin
 went out on sled and by car to G.B. Took photographs.
 good traps. G.B. in Flood! lot of H₂O - everywhere.
 31/12/61. Spent the day sleeping aboard a car, saw the
 New Year sun at Harbor.
 1/1/62. Singapore, Cleane and Co. left.

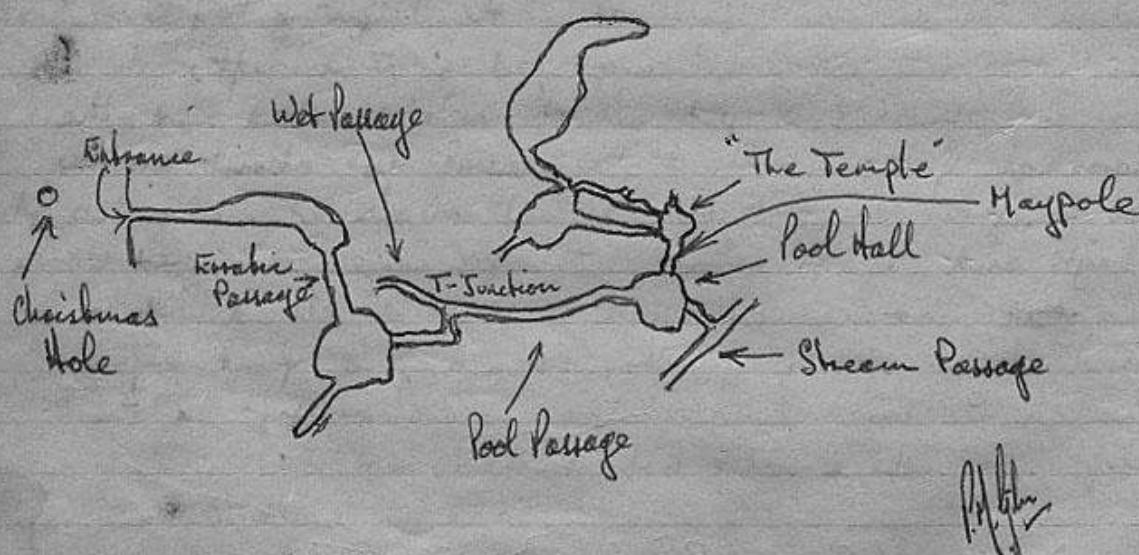
4.2.62

BALI'S HOLES

B. Prever, P.H. Gaines, C. Pointing, D. Berry, M. Baker,
 M. Boon, G. Sarsi, R. Tracey AND OTHER N.W.R.E. & COREBOS
 TYPES.

Exploration and photography of the Maypole Reservation
 of Pod Hall. Estimated length of new cave to
 be in region of 1000 ft plus thereby doubling the
 length of existing cave.

A survey of the cave is still on the drawing
 board but a rough plan follows:



n.b. apparently the Bat Warden is taking up caving
 again. In one weekend: hamb heel, Cob (Rescue)
 + baldie hole - he'll be buying his own beer next.

11-2-62

I.G. Hanson, G. ~~Hodgson~~^{Hodgin} and D. Keams (Royal School of Mines) arrived after a successful complete Stoke Lane Trip with M.H. Horner. Sump fairly high but possible. Spent night at Hillgrove and on Sunday left So Wells and a pleasant afternoon's walk.

11-2-62.

g. Painting P. Duck T. Hall trip to Swildon
Sump II

13-2-62.

— 4 Exeter students Ruth Hodgson, Sandra Marshall
Clive Hobson, Brian Quilliam arrived 8 in dark not dark
throughout the night

14-2-62

— I. Phillips joined the above and last for was
a failed - uneventful trip apart from transport difficulties
once out. Retired to Hanks in evening.

15-2-62

— Went and had a look at the "Frontier" in
Swildon - a triple fall and impossible so went and
back west in the sump. Came out into the
freezing night air

16-2-62

— Uneventful trip to Longwood.

Balch's Hole

17-2-62

B. Prever P.M. giles of Painting DJ Bamy
working trip to fix ladder and chains
in Maypole chamber,

24/2/62.

Robert Pyke + Ken Whistler on a trip to survey the new
passages in the Kettles Chamber area of Swildon. Surveyed
241 ft. of passage, with considerable amount still to be done.
Dawn Tues.

Not very pesky left a genuine sheep in
in a plastic hot? Ugh.

24/2/62 - NH. Cleave, SG. Wayne-Roberts, Lloyd. Same trip - with a difference - we came up with illumination. Very enjoyable.

2/3/62

R. Pyke + M. Luckwill (B.E.C.) continued the survey of the South-East Inlet Series. Surveyed another 250+ rods.

10/3/62 T.C. Bryant, R.A. Philpott + W.G. Edwards met Jim Howell at G.B. who opened cave. We went by quickest route to ladder dig to photograph Helictites in this (new) grotto. Met JH. again in Gorge ad all returned to surface together. Later TCB, RAP + WG went to Denny's Hole for preliminary work on Survey. The entrance is very overgrown ad difficult to find. Within a few yards (say 50) there are 4 more caves 3 of which appear to be under excavation at the present time.

10/3/62

W.A. Morris, D. Richardson, M. Gehring (J. Bucking Horn & T. Carter) Guests. Sawidlon's I (very dry).

10/3/62

9. Party D.J. Berry + Wardale and Party of lassos.
A lamb here to try out new ladder.

11/3/62 4 Party D.J. Berry + Pyke + Roberts, B. Prever + Wardale working trip to Blalch's hole.

17.3.62

M. Hedges, T. Hall, D. King, K. O'neill, J. Thorpe
To Lamb Pts. for the purpose of cane
fishing. (colors). Very successful trip. Between
main chamber. Took great mind. 2800'.
Sunday visiting trip to upper Sidon.

17.3.62

Jim Giles + Mike Holland with various other BEC members descended St. Catherines to collect maypole from Hanging Chamber, after an abortive attempt to climb a 36' pole or atleast a ladder attached thereto, the trip was called off. Maypole is required to investigate a passage in lake chamber.

1/4/62 George Raitt and Dave Berry and seven other members on a club trip to Balch's cave.

7-4-62.

I.C. Holland into P.L. Surldens, to investigate passages. Went down a small pot at the bottom of Dining Chamber, although the two passages were blocked by mud and very small, one could keep running water through them. Probably they connect with 4 but may connect with the P.G. dig and Avon series. Also investigated passages leading off to the South but all were too tight.

8-4-62.

The same party plus Mike Woods and guests tramped about the top end of Eastwater without much success.

11-4-62.

Nick Barrington, Bob Picknett & guest visited Lamb Hole for photographic purposes; joined at the top of the main pitch by Tim Howell, Len Kent + brother-in-law as had been hoped. Afterwards we went on to Denney's Hole, Compton Bishop a horizon, just to make sure they were still there, and the same size as I had remembered from Sidcot days: discovered they were much smaller!!

15-4-62. I.C. Holland - P. Dennis helping C.D.G. alone in Balch's Cave. Little progress downstream was made under very difficult conditions. very tight, muddy and 'orrid'.

18/4/62. T. Reynolds, M. Park, D. Jenkins descended Surldens and reached Surldens IV. There were no unusual incidents in the trip.

19.4.62. D. Jenkins, M. Park. T. Reynolds, attempted to get whole way down the lane. Too badly flooded : a trip to Bonis Hole. This was gully, edged with rosemary. (Needless to say!).

20.4.62. L.N.Treasdale, R. Harding, G. Doherty, F. Gregory

To Langwood Swallet with 9 Senior Scouts. Also visited August. No water worth mentioning & ~~the~~
Missed the new Langwood/August connection.
Now off to Wales!!

P.M.L.

27.4.62 D. Willis effected hazardous rescue of hedgehog from bush pit. Suggest emergency ladder supplied for future unfortunate!

EASTER WEEKEND

The club in conjunction with the U.S.S. enjoyed a very pleasant weekend at the Crown Hotel, Harbou in Ribblesdale. Among other activities, Simpson's Pot was laddered as far as the Slit Pot, and Swinsto Cave explored ~~as~~ to the top of the last pitch. Unfortunately the through trip did not come off ~~as~~ as hoped but both pots provided excellent sport and everyone was well satisfied. Perhaps another year we can succeed where we failed on this occasion.

5/5/62.

R. Ryke + S. Wyndham-Roberts accompanied F. Davies & M. Boon to Sump II, with a view to (1) proving the feasibility of sending divers into IV via sumps 2+3, and (2) to rigging a decent handline all the way through.

All went o.k. and a carline line was run from II into IV.

On the way in, we met 2 characters coming out. They announced that they had dived into Sump II, thinking that it was a short easy sump, and had got into St. John's Bell - all without air kit! This was a free dive of some 30-40 ft, in a constricted passage, with a rotten handline which had been there 7 years. Both are very lucky to have escaped drowning, and this mistake must NEVER be made again - Sump II is for fully equipped cave-divers only.

13.5.62

St. Cuthbert's - Maypole Series

P.M. Giles, J. Holland, J. Willis.

Hanging chamber re-entered using 18ft of maypole placed across the top of the first maypole pitch from a ledge 36 ft above the bottom of the pitch.

20.5.62

Swildon's cave.

Mr. & Mrs. J.E. Knipe and Van Hee.

Van and Dunn's first visit accompanied by James (once a sherpa in 1959, an ill-fated frogman's expedition) Van dexterously climbed the 40ft ladder, and led the way all the time. A wet, but most enjoyable 'expedition'. Dunn unable to climb down; will try again?

20.5.62

R. Pyke accompanied Mike Bone (stic) and Hart Eagle (MNRC) + assorted other loads to Caesh Aven in Swildon's IV, heavily loaded with tackle and assorted ironmongery. Using the MNRC Maypole, which Mike had previously transported into IV by via Sump II + III, we started up the aven. The first pitch (30ft) was climbed without trouble, and the sections of maypole carried to the foot of the big pitch, which had not been fully climbed on earlier trips. 40ft. of pole was erected, and a ledge reached where a haulbolt was fixed. The aven continued onward, and after 2 hours of struggling another 30ft. was scaled. The aven appears to be closing down, but it is not obvious where the water is coming from. To be continued --- Trip took 14 1/2 hours, during which time a thunderstorm dumped the water plus down the aven, and made things a bit lively.

27.5.62

St. Cuthbert's - Maypole Series

P.M. Giles, J. Holland, P. Poole.

Another look at Hanging Chamber + a wire pulley fixed up. Continued up the series to the bottom of Pulley pitch.

Swildon Diving Operation - 2nd June

The object of the trip was to send 4 divers into Swildon's VII, previously entered only by M. Bone on July 8th 1961 (see 7 pages back).

The 4 divers went down the steamway, by way of the Sumps - they were F. Davies, M. Bone, M. Thompson + S. Dyne - Roberts.

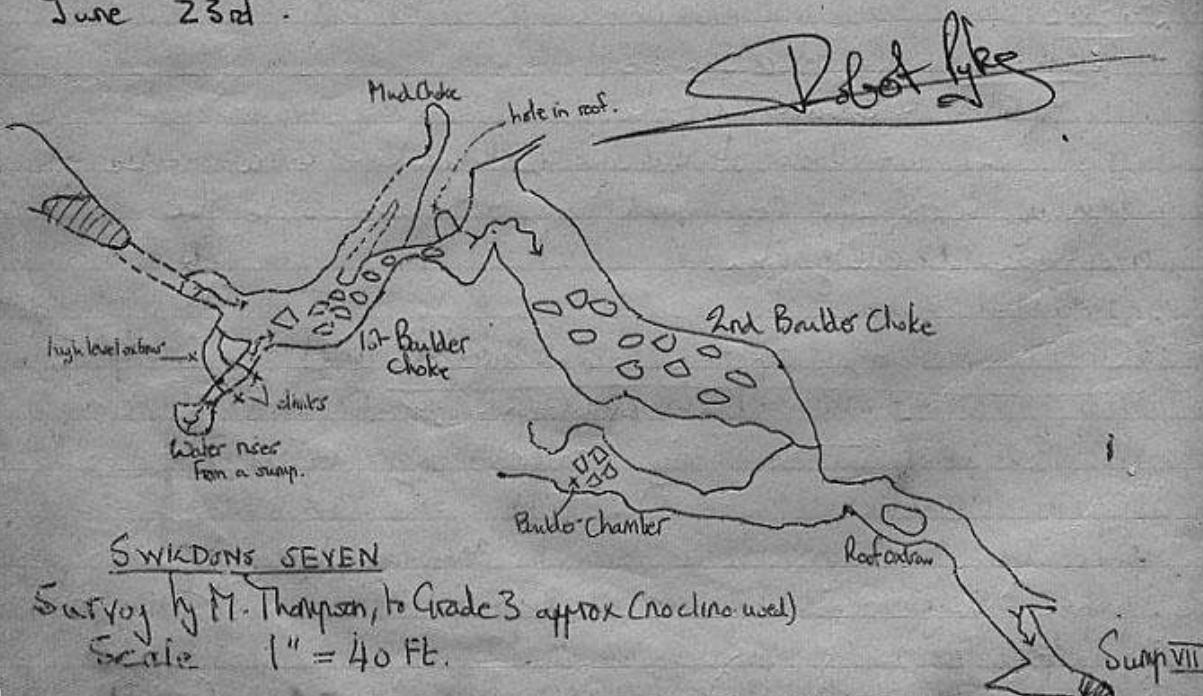
They were accompanied to Sump II by a support

party led by R. Eagle (M.N.R.C.).

In IV, they were met by another support party composed of J. Giles, R. Lyke, M. Holland, D. Turner (M.N.R.C.) Mo. Marriott + friend (B.E.C.) and B. Johnson (S.M.C.C.), and P. Mellor (S.M.C.C.). The gear was humped down to Sump ~~IV~~ 4 and the diving party carried on into V, accompanied by Turner, Lyke, Holland and Marriott. Mike + Mo then returned to the surface, having done great work in transporting kit down to V, leaving the other two to operate as kitchen, and support the diving party.

Three divers got through the tight Sump 6, but Fred Davies (whose kit was a little too bulky to get past the underwater squeeze in the middle of it) had to retire. While awaiting the return of the diving party, the supporters dredged the drainage trench at Sump 5, and knocked in a nail bolt at Sump 6. After 3 hours, the divers returned with great news (oysters), and a very tired but cheerful party started for the surface. Three of us went out via P.R., and three via the Sumps. A party of Sandhurst Cadets gave us great help in carrying gear up the Streamway. Dashed at 11 a.m., out 1:00 a.m.

In VII, the explorers found a remarkable change in the structure of the cave. They reported v. big caverns, with two big boulder chokes of about 40 and 100 feet in height respectively. A large tributary comes in on the right, and there are big avens in the roof. The bedding is almost vertical, and the entire area very shattered. The stream sinks in a sump that only Mike Bonn saw, and which he said looked tight. To be pushed on June 23rd.



12.6.62

1st Winkleye Scouts. First carrying eight bags and one Scout
bag. The bags first descent, which they did well, with only
two or three stuck, one broke had to recovered later.

12.2.6 Steve Payne-Roberts, Jim Gibbons Roberts returned from a walk as guests
of the S.W.C.C.

24-6-62 D. Wallinaw & P. Grat arrived Friday.
Did gentle survey & Sump I on sat. left ~~for~~ ^{Study} ~~for~~ ^{for} Stoke Lane and back to London what
is C/water & took at Dolphin but returned
before reaching it due to lack of energy and boat
trouble.

24.6.62.

St. Cuthbert's Swallet

P. Gibbons assisted by D. Greenwood & D. Smith (BSC) passed the deck and proceeded to the terminal
lump. A brief inspection of this oblique &
one or two side passages was made but the
conclusions are very incomprehensive, in spite
of the Goss Pitt Raft line, for further extensions
in this direction



Note: There will be a Club Visit to St. Cuthbert's on
July 2nd. At 10am. Party limited to 15. For further
details see your next JOURNAL.

WESSEX CAVE CLUB
LIBRARY

24-6-62

I G Lennon and J Ellis (Guest) arrived in
evening.

25-6-62 Went to Smeedons I and St Paul's Series.
Unventured trip.

27-6-62 Set out to do Stoke Lane with J. Phillipps
and party. Owing to ripped gear suit had to turn
back at Sump which was remarkably low.

28-6-62 Eastwater Trip to top of 2nd vertical which
could not be descended owing to lack of time.
Couldn't those bedding planes be prised open with
a crow bar or something??

I G Lennon ^{J. Ellis} Departed for repeated hours at 4-45

Monday June 25th

John Philpot and his guest Mike Lewis and
Dixie Atchison arrived during the day and night.

Tuesday June 26th

Randy awakened by the 4th member of party
Brian Quillian about 9 am! Made a descent of Eastwater —
I wish the bedding places weren't so long!

Wednesday June 27th

Went with Jan Lemon to Stone Lane. Mike Lewis
unable to go in because the gauge had failed to charge his
boat. Dixie Atchison went back with Jan after reaching the
camp. Lane was rather cluttered up with covers from Diaper
who kept continually lost their way and scattered cheery
gum papers at regular intervals.

Thursday June 28th

Quick descent of August Hole as far as
main stream junction — came out through the squeeze in the
longword. This seems quite handy for it reduces the chances
of anyone being trapped in August Hole due to excess water.

Friday June 29th

Mike Lewis left early in the morning. A quick and
uneventful trip to Sunrf I.

Sunday 1st July

Jim Giles arrived & borrowed the Descent of St. Martin
from the library.

Sub 14th July

The same James Giles returned the Descent of St. Martin to the library.

Sunday 6 a.m. Ross Lyke arrived after a misguided night spent
digging in Pitney Green.

Mon 16th July

St. Cuthbert's Swallet.

P.H. Giles, G. Pointing, D. Berry, Coates, Chatterly & Jones
Grand September Cubget Rabbit Warren Extension &
Rabbit Warren traverse Pointing stuck in Catgut

Tuesday 17.7.62

of Pointing, R. Berry & Coates & Chatterley & Jones
to camp 1 and to Chatterley & Pointing & Jones went on
through camp 1, to the deck very dry trip.

Friday 20th July 62

& Jones, J. Chatterley, ~~Coates~~ visited
G.B. - Devil's Elbow

Saturday 21st July 62. T. E. Reynolds, R. Clapham, C. N. B. Marriage
P. beginners & beginner's trip to Rod's Pot, Coatchurch & Sidcot
& wallet.

T.E. Reynolds

Saturday 21st

R. Lyke & K. Dawson & Boon (S.M.C.C.) to VI to retrieve
kit. Gear brought out to head of Blue Pencil, with the help
of Mike Thompson & Bruce Dawson. Two cylinders removed from the cave,
and the remainder left, to be removed by Sidcot party, a Sunday.

Sunday 22nd

to collect diving tackle from
Base Camp,

Sidcot party of T. Patterson, B. Cuttridge, R. Reddington

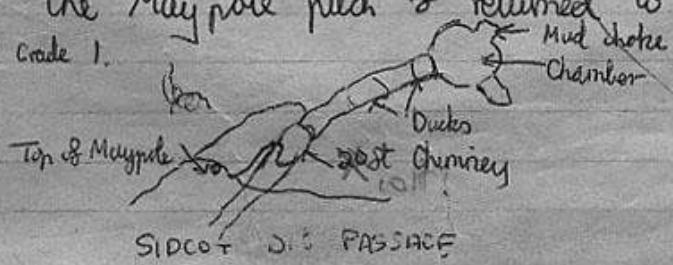
F. Morland, H. Parrott, P. Clark & T. Reynolds (W.C.C. ^{on Sidcot})

The party split up into two & the first section reached the
head of Blue Pencil & started back & met the second party
- who had been held up at the 40-20 - at Shatter Pot.

There was a reorganization & T. Patterson, F. Morland &

T. Reynolds went up to the Sidcot dig theoretically to
collect some kit. However at the top of the Maypole
~~pitch~~ after some ducking through two muddy
pools & getting through a tight squeeze entered a
small chamber circular in shape with a radius of 5 ft
& about 15 ft high. There was a mud choke at
the far end. After a bit of digging it was
reckoned that the choke might go. Well the rock in
this area is in a very rotten state & crumbles
easily. The party then collected the ladder from
the Maypole pitch & returned to the surface.

C.P. 4 Grade 1.



T.E. Reynolds

Z
Monday July 23rd.

T.E. Reynolds, R. Chapman & Chris Marriage (guests) to Swildons. Got entangled up in party from All Saints Grammar School, Bristol but managed to pass them in Barnes Wood. Pushed on down to the Sump I went through to have a look. Came back almost immediately getting tangled back up in ^{school} party again. Got out all right after shoving school party way out.

T.E. Reynolds

P.S. C. Marriage had a dubious privilege of becoming a
'true son of Mendip'.

28/7/62 P.D. & DCW borrowed rock for Blder Camp smug.

Sunday 29th July

St Cuthberts - Club Trip

P. Giles, P. Davies, N. Hart, R. Hobbs, P. Harris laddered Pulpit Pitch and proceeded to September Series via Everest Passage and N. boulder chamber. Returned through Catgut Series & Rabbit Warren extension & Railway Tunnel to the top of Pulpit (via the duck) wire left.

B. Brewer, M. Watson (BSC) led 5 others on the same trip in the reverse direction.

Sunday 5th August

PHH

R. Lyte spent day helping at Las Hole. There is now a good solid tilt to work in - with a draught!

Down Swildons 11.30, with two lads visiting the area, from the B.S.A. in Dolgellau. We went to IV, and then back up to Base Camp. It was decided to attempt to go out through Double Trouble, by way of the Vicarage Passage connection, opened on Saturday night by Oliver Lloyd and Phil Davies. We managed to do this, but only just, as there was a bare 3" air space, above a pool of water that has accumulated, at the actual dig. With a bit of rain, this will probably be a surf. We came out through II. Surfed at 3.30 a.m.

Sunday 5th August.

Dave Amy, Harry Morris, Mick Galvin and Cliff Taylor (Guest) went to Blue Pencil. Made it a 10hr trip!! Suggest the first warden makes better tackle arrangements.

Sat 11th Aug T. Hall & R. Ryke to Shatter Passage. Down 4½ hrs. Still no water in the cave.

Sat 11 Aug R. Staynings, G. Staynings, A. Davies, and P. Davies to Barnes Loop with exploratory trips round upper series.

SUN. P.M. McLean, R. Ryke, R. Staynings, H. Hooper, attee, P. Davies, Phil!, Rod Hobbs, S. Wynne-Roberts, and T. Hall took 100lbs of lead to Stoke Lane sump II in preparation for the diving op. a good trip, well organized etc, and enjoyable to boot. A large number of rather red faces now exist due to the fact that we all got lost at one point or another in the cave!

McLean.

Sat. 18th. Q.E.H. 5 arrived - Did most D. Lamb deer. All impressed by drop.

Sun 19th. Q.E.H. did St. Cuttlets. Great and beautiful formations. Down 5½ hrs.

Mon 20th. Q.E.H. C.B. and Easter Hole; C.B. along Devil's Elbow & out through Mud passage - nice round trip. Easter very sharp!

Tues 21st. Hillies and Dallinores, Q.E.H. 5 got temporarily lost in Suicide Extension in Hillies - saw flies stuck in glauconite beyond 3rd boulder choke, and roots in Suicide Ext. - well named.

Wed 22nd. Brownes Hole, Fairy and Fernhill Caves, Q.E.H. 5. Great and beautiful curtains in Fernhill. When down Annex to Brownes Hole blasting started and cave and roof vibrated.

Fri 24th: Q.E.H. 4 + 1 sailor guide, (E.M.C.C.). Stoke Lane Locker Much H₂O! Sump OK going in, but on way out ~~waterworld~~ have made safe surfacing dodgy, so no go.

Sat 25th Q.E.H. C.G. off after enjoyable week, but tired - only transport bites. Zell also cleaned elsan. Impressed

Friday 24th T. Day + 2 (inc Jim Giles) to 25' drop Swildon. T. D. Ed return trip. (party - T. Day + 2 inc J. Bennett)

Sat 26th

25th August. 7 courses laid in Confor. Rock

26th. O.C. helped Bob? N. Hart & Ch. Hobbs tourist trap
to Sump 1. Swindon.

27th. Toured a couple of panels of Hillgrove roof,
and in the evening T. Hall, V. Bennet & Day
N. Hart & Ch. Hobbs accompanied O.C.L. on
a strenuous 3hr Goathland.

28th. M. Calvert N. Hart, R. Hobbs - on easy top Swindon
12 a.m.? - pm (midnight) M. Calvert N. Hart, T. Hall
Pot Table to Swindon 4. ate cheese sandwich
at bottom of Blue Pencil. Out 6 am.

29th. Helped ~~to~~ bring in some bales. and at
2 midnight went over to Longwood to do
the August - Longwood connection. out 4 a.m.
N. Hart. M. Calvert. Vic. Bennet. R. Hobbs.

Sept 1st. Collected 80' Corfeo line; 25' ladder;
and tether for M.R.O. (Wessex)
Longwood Practice. Jim Howell.

Sept 2nd. J. Thomas, F. Bulmer, D. Landes. W. Morris, H. Gahm
down to Sump 4.

Sept 3rd. Enclosed Corfeo far in Well.

Sept 6th P. Davies & P. M. Davies stayed overnight, nothing of archaeological
interest being planned for the coming week end. We
are giving Corfeo a rest; however anyone who wants
to help with the dig on Sept 15th/16th will be most
welcome, permanent entrance slabs having been installed
west on new entrance closing the strong draught
that exists.

Sept. 14th.
T. Atkinson, A. Redfitt, Nick Hart went to Swindon to take
well down to the Sidcot Dig above Kitch's. After some trouble
with a piston in the chamber above the maypole Nick gave
up and came down again. We proceeded out emerging
at 1.30 a.m. to find some more Sidcot and ex-Sidcot
tools from Penscot about to resurface us.

A. Rod from went to the Sump and back from Barnes' in 15 mins. while Nick and I were looking for him in the Double Pots.

15 | 1x | 62 Ray Stayings, Ella Davis, Mike Becker, Dan Moody & Maria Washington (Guest) to August Hole & through Christmas Bowl to Longwood

16 Sept - W.A. Morris, J. Buckley, Ray & M. Gehring arrived back from to Raigton Zoo Caves Camp Elton Hole (Perlyshie). returned 200 ft. ladder & accessories.

16 | 1x | 62 Ray Stayings, Ella Davis, Mike Becker, Dan Moody, Jim Sles, Maria Washington to August & Sump Puddles.

16 | 1x | 62 Nick Davis took off 1100' into foot + two Northern pads do Sump swimmers. Very slow + difficult swimming. Trip was unfortunately turned off when their pup got lost from half way up the 200 foot. They left her pack and was tied as well. Got a rope + hauled her up. Ray Stayings + above party helped us haul her up the 40 foot and so on out. This work was hampered by two other parties meeting at the 40 foot. Ray + I had decided to try get her out straight away to be on any stock or freight set in but Brian, her husky, went out to get coffee + cigarettes. As we were cutting out we met some B.C.C. members coming over with stretcher, first aid boxes, all the do do and everything. They were disappointed but seemed satisfied to hear that the Westex were to prove to be served by the B.C.C.

P.S. Hospital inspection revealed only 3 severe building short hearings,

16 Sept 62. Stake has Digging Op. Stake has III & IV discovered & explored approx 1000' + of steam passage with several high level passageways not examined. Good formations.

Swmp II approx 25' long not at present a free dive, but it is hoped that with some work it might be possible to make it a non dues cave. D.

16 Sept 62

A Rodger & T. Atkinson went to Keith's Chamber and dug at end of Sidest extension. After approx 4 hours digging a small hole was opened into a new passage and about ten foot of steeply sloping passage could be seen filled with stony infill to a level within three foot of the roof. After a further hours digging the old hole was enlarged but entry into the passage was still impossible. After this time we returned to the surface after being underground 10 1/2 hrs. Digging time was reduced due to 50 min total up at 60' per AB.

T. Atkinson left for Wincombe and school at about 4:00 pm Monday.

23 Sept 62

G Jones & J Chatterley to Swildon's past 40 ft to Swmp I.

29th P.D. Rowed 100' ladder & 120' corline from Derbyshire W.E. - Three to Cow Hole for the W.C.C.

Oct 7th. Taken 75' of ladder, 120' corline line; and letter to. ladder Coral Cave for W.C.C. trip

Oct 9th J.H returned tackle Jim Howell

Oct 21st H. Holland P. Forte Michael Holland 2 nights. H.H & P.F. with Mike Woods intended to do Swildon's. Too little congestion within cave Eastwater.

Oct 24. C S Peters & A.S. Culverhouse (B.C.S.S.) stayed two nights did hand bear on Tuesday. Upper Swildon on Wednesday.

so did Upper Swildon again
and ~~rainy~~
and ~~longwood~~ on the Thursday & now do you
get that stove going! I arrived 11:00 p.m.
Tuesday departed 10:00 p.m. Thursday for aforementioned
cave then home. on carbide lamp lost on Tuesday
night in Tidby lane return to B.C.S.S if possible or
to Mr. Baker for S. Leysha.

Oct 22/23 D. Pyke + 4 Middlesex Hospital
Med. Students spent w/e here. Swildon +
August Hole.

Nov 2nd Stanwell seemed to open but
for week end, and found it already
open - (Open since Monday??)

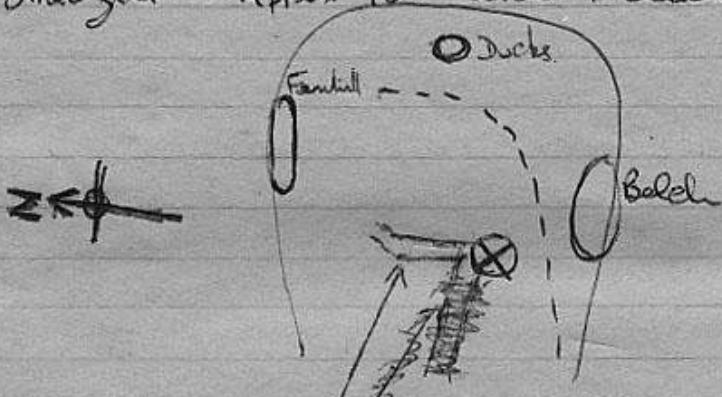
Nov 3rd. Owing to heavy rain Stole lane during
trip ~~off~~ so T. F. Reynolds prospective
sherpa went to Cow Hole dig. At
about 4:30 ~~after~~ digging through liquid
mud most of the day Dennis Watson
broke into a chamber with some pre war
blasting wire in it. Everyone descended to
the chamber to admire prospects & then
set ~~off~~ to the Hunter's to celebrate.

Nov 3rd Club trip to Hunter's Hole. ~~Reynolds~~
We started badly when our leader Bob
Pyke did not turn up, (B-4) George Pointing
took over. We continued badly by only getting
four people down in four hours & ended
badly by missing ^{some} drinking time in hauling the
cavers out. The large supporting party of
six prospective cavers were not amused
except by a young dog that raped Maurice
Hewings. Some people have all the luck! WAA

Nov. 11th R. Pyke, N. Hart + M. Clark (part)
→ Shutter Passage dig. Cave wet with
lot of cavers in it.

Nov 11/2 Concrete base for new water tank
Subjet cum coke stove. Laid Saturday
afternoon, first few blocks laid /

Sunday am. but work abandoned as way to
lack of spirit-level & sand.
W.C.C. officially represented at Coburg G.S.C.
Dinner on Saturday by P. Davies, officially
by about six other Webber members.
Rock Hill Ham Sec. C.S.S. was forced to stay
overnight owing to mechanical failure of his
car, depicted assy! with Goose & Due to
Fairy Cave Quarry to examine a new
cave before it is filled in by quarrying.
It consists of a natural rift about 25-30'
deep, boulder filled at the bottom with the
sand of active strong stream, no obvious
draught - about 15' wide. Little in the way of
formations.



Position of New Cave in Lower Level of Quarry.

Is the stream the same one as appears
in Ducks Pot? most probably but not
likely to be proved!!

(#-11-62 Bob Pyke, O.C. Lloyd Milne? (UBSS)
+ Nick Hart went to Shattered Passage dig.
The prospects of this dig are not too
good in winter conditions. However
O.C.L. discovered a likely dig in an old
passage on the left so the trip was not
a complete failure. H.H.

17^t Nick Hart, Paul Duck, P. Davies, G.C. Lloyd and
3 O.B.S.S., people going the the camp for the first
time, Visited Vicarage passage with two
tasks planned. Bolt were successfully
accomplished.

No. 1 inserting a nail bolt at the near

side of Vicksburg Pot (How many bats has occ.
put into Swildens now?)

No 2 Draining and trenching the
pool (very nearly a sunken) that had formed
in the "Birthday squeeze dig" this took
about 3 hours, approaching from below it will
be easy to bid although there ought to be
at least 8"-10" of air all the time nowadays.
Approaching from the Double Trouble end the
first person through will push all the water
in front of him which will spill into
the new trench making it almost dry for
subsequent persons through.

24-11-62. Phil Davies, Steve Wynne Roberts & Nick Hunt
did the Troubles round trip + a bit of
sight seeing. Trouble passages very wet.
seems to be filling with water. III

9-12-62. Nick Hunt took three guests, Nick Bennett
Pete? + Dave?, to Sump I. of Swildens.
There are too many people in Swildens
nowadays. This is Mendip underground
not Mendip!! Still, it shows people are keen.

14-12-62 John Phillipott, Carlton Pickstone, Paul
(Fot) Wilson, I. Kennedy, Richard Horton, L. Lantam.
arrived at various hours to the night.

15-12-62. The above party made a descent to
Lamb Cave.

15-12-62. Oliver Lloyd led a party of Eric Hawker
Dare, ^{and} Nick Hunt to a new dig in Shatter
Passage. We dug for 1½ hrs in 12" mud + determined
that the passage went on. An interesting find
was the skeletons of three bats, new white bones on
top of the mud scattered over approximately two
feet square. Did they get in before Shatter Passage was
opened, or were they left placed by some fiendish
Warren? The dig is now called Bat Hole on Mole Hole. III

16-12-62 T.L. Phillips fairly made a round trip in August Hole long wood Saxon.

16/12/62 - Robert Pike joined a goodly company at the Wooley Club Trip. We had a pleasant morning's wander round, using both public lights and our own - then someone mentioned they were open, and the rapidly receding patter of feet left Nature to her eternal silence etc. etc. etc.

18/12/62

T. Atkinson and T. Phillips (S.S.S.S.) arrived 10.30 a.m. stucked up and proceeded to Stoke Hant. After some trouble finding the Lump, Main, C.B. and Sand Chamber were visited and the streamway explored. Formations were awe inspiring, if a little muddy! Several bats were observed in flight but were unidentified.

19/12/62 Slack day. In afternoon went to Cuckoo Caves & under impression that it had been reopened. Reached terminal choke in under 12m sec.; claim of cord! Then investigated rubbish tip in gruff in approx. location of Tankard Hole (see Caves of Mendip - maps IV) Then went to Dallimore, V. interesting trip. Reached terminal room after two' chamber and pushed exploration down it. right passage, approx. 20' long.

20/12/62

Set out for Priddy 3pm with intention of doing Swildon's IV and taking supplies and kitchen for long digging proposed for the next day. Reached entrance and closely inspected 12 ft wide river going down entrance after heavy rain during night and morning. Adjourned to Eastwater. Reached 30ft away to find torrent. Retired.

21/12/62

Checked on water level at Swildon in morning. River had shrunk to rivulet.

Set out for Swildon in afternoon with intention of digging at N with

chamber. Entered cave, & arrived at 40' pot.

As the water level was such that a short storm could render it highly dangerous we retired; & toward Upper Swildons. Then moved on to Nod's Pot (= Low Name For Piney Slight Swallet), Abysmal terrifying, crumbling at touch (and after), no formations to speak of, (unless breccia is your notion of beauty). Recommend it for summer.

The only exciting bit was hunting a boot inadvertently dropped by T.P. in dark, (large field.)

Dec. 25th - A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS.

JAN 26 1963.

M. Holland & Jim Gaird. (Guest) descended St Cuthberts with two SEC boys, fast trip to the duck, stayed all night & back to Jim and returned to the surface in double quick time, about 5 hours.

JAN 27th 1963

M. Holland, Nick Hart, Jim Gaird, Paul Reusch, Gwilym Davis (both guests from Redland Training College) Exploration of Swildons to Perceice

Required - Swildons II - Double Trouble

because last in Vicarage Passage noticed a really vile stream leading to Vicarage

Pot, Cowsh, Prest & something like that

Due to stream in Swildons II and out via surf F. Total time 5 hours

9-2-63. John Cornwall (Bob George, Painting Danio Berry, Maelgwn Padfield, Bob Cannell & I went to the New Series of Cuthberts after crossing a crumpled thrower we took a look around. The whole area is very scattered but we found a few likely places to push far in the caves - discovered a large, fairly well decorated rift chimney leading down to the general direction of certain chambers. An especially impressive about 4 hours.

9-2-63 D. Waldbauer & G. Grant (two
guests B. Cowie & J. Balton arrived from
London. On Saturday had quite trip round
upper Swildon and a look at Willmote
shelves. On Sunday did an arduous wiggly
into Eastmoor Rift Chambers. Guests
impressed by Swildon, worried by Willmote
and satisfied by Eastmoor.

