

UBSS LOG BOOK <sup>⑥</sup>

---

SEPTEMBER 11th 1951

TO

OCTOBER 10th 1953

18.6.  
UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SPELAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

TIMBER

The Society is given permission to cut birchwood, and birchwood only, for use directly by the Society, in the wood to the north of the Society's hut.

The trees must be cut close to the ground and the brushwood properly collected and taken back to camp to be burnt.

Ash and other trees must not be cut and proper care must be taken to avoid damage to other trees when felling the birch.

The increasing scarcity of timber has made birch a valuable wood for various purposes. Hence reasonable economy in the use of firewood should be exercised. The smaller and misshapen trees should be selected for felling.

The Society shall confine its activities to the area east of the ruined wall which divides the land in a roughly north-south direction to the west of the hut and to the east of the new plantation.

The Society shall not interfere with the rights of the tenants of the land nor permit the privileges granted to be abused.

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SPELAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

BURRINGTON FIELD HEADQUARTERS

CAMP RULES

1. Parties visiting caves shall leave a note, stating persons, destination time of departure and date, in an obvious position in the hut.
2. The log book must be written up after each camp and all work done must be recorded. The recorder must sign his name to his report.
3. After each camp the fire must be properly extinguished, the grate cleaned, the wood bunkers filled and the hut swept.
4. Food must be stored in proper receptacles only.
5. Waste materials must be removed from the hut to the appropriate pit.
6. Blankets and mattresses should be folded and neatly piled up before camp is closed.
7. The hut must be kept properly bolted and shuttered and the last person to leave will be held responsible in the event of loss or damage due to the neglect of these precautions.
8. The log book must be preserved. Its pages shall not be removed or destroyed.

V. Bearland.

Hon. Secretary.

22-9-51.

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UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SPELAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NOTES

1. The Committee recommends that a levy of 6d. per head, per day, or 2/- maximum per visit should be made. The proceeds will pay for communal equipment not catered for by the Union Grant.

This will include:-

Paraffin, Meths., Candles, Lamp-glasses, Primus spares and replacing cooking utensils, etc. etc.

This will NOT include:-

Milk, eggs, vegetables and bread, etc.

It is hoped that if a sufficiently large Kitty is accumulated the surplus will go towards repainting the hut, etc.

The amount remaining is to be entered at the back of the log.

2. It cannot be emphasised too strongly that ALL WORK MUST BE REPORTED UPON IN FULL together with the names of the workers. The value of the Log as a future reference book depends upon this.

V. Boardman.

Hon. Secretary

22-9-51.

# Axbridge Rural District Council.

FRANK K. C. ADAMS, LL.B., L.A.M.T.P.I.  
CLERK AND SOLICITOR

Telephone AXBRIDGE 217-218;  
FKCA/EET/Est.4.



COUNCIL OFFICES  
AXBRIDGE

SOMERSET

8th November 1951.

Dear Miss Boarland,

G. B. Cave, Charterhouse.

I set out below a copy of a report which was presented to my Council's Water, Sewerage & Estates Committee on the 12th October last:-

" At a Meeting held in the Clerk's Office on Saturday, 6th October, 1951, the Bristol University Spelaeological Society was represented by its President, Professor Tratman; its Secretary, Miss V. Boarland; and one of its active members; and the Council by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. C. J. Cook; the Vice-Chairman of the Council, Councillor Brigadier G. L. G. Pollard; and Councillor G. E. Body, with the Clerk and Surveyor.

After a full discussion it was agreed that the Society should have the sole right to continue exploration of the G. B. Cave and adjacent cave systems on the land owned by the Council. Apart from the Bristol Society only certain recognised Societies should be permitted to visit the systems and then only as guests of the Bristol Society, who should be responsible for arranging visits on dates convenient to them and under their supervision.

The representatives of the Bristol Society named the following Societies as being sufficiently responsible and well-established to be recognised for the purposes of this arrangement:-

1. The Mendip Nature Research Committee.
2. Wessex Cave Club.
3. Bristol Exploration Club.
4. South Wales Caving Club,
5. Westminster Spelaeological Group.
6. Cave Research Group.

If any other Societies wish to visit the systems they should only be permitted to do so if they can become affiliated, after due scrutiny, to one of the recognised Societies named above.

On these terms the keys to the new door were handed to the Society and the Council's representatives resolved that the other sets of keys should be retained by the Council and not issued to any other persons or bodies. These arrangements would be reviewed after six months of trial operation.

It was further agreed that the publication of photographs, maps or descriptions of the cave systems should be the exclusive right of the Bristol Society which would be prepared to allow other persons or bodies to make such publications on proper acknowledgment being given.

The Society's representatives stated that they were digging in two other places in the neighbourhood of the G. B. Cave in the hope of entering separate cave systems and they agreed that in future they would notify the Council before starting any fresh digging.

They further agreed that they would do all they could to assist the Council in preventing damage to the new entrance to the Cave and to water tanks and fittings in the neighbourhood and the Council's representatives agreed that the Council, on its part, would prosecute anyone found committing such damage. "

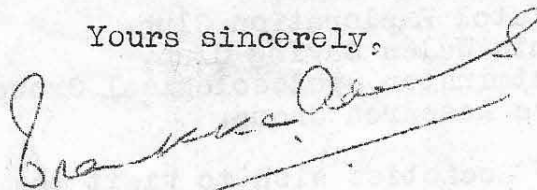
- The Committee recommended the Council to approve of the arrangements reached at the meeting on the 6th October on the understanding that the Society would keep the Council informed of the progress of any future digging operations so as to enable the Council to take early steps to secure the entrances to any other caves which may be discovered on the Council's land. The Society is also asked to ensure that any future diggings are securely fenced to prevent the entry of cattle.

I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the Secretary of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst Mountaineering Club, c/o Dr. M. H. Everdell, Old College, Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey; the Somerset Constabulary Caving Club (Frome Division), c/o Sergeant K. E. G. Russell, County Police Office, Frome, Somerset; and the Axbridge Caving Group & Archaeological Society, c/o Major D. C. McKeand, Hillside, Axbridge, as these three Societies have all applied for permission to enter the cave. I shall be obliged if you will pass on the Council's decision to any other Societies or individuals who may, to your knowledge, be interested in the Cave, including the six recognised Societies.

I would like to make it perfectly clear that the Council is not suggesting that the damage which has already taken place in the cave has been caused by members of any organised Society but if access is made freely available it would be impossible to control the activities of irresponsible people such as those who have already damaged the new locks.

The Council is anxious to ensure that if the caves are ultimately opened to the public they will not, in the meantime, be spoilt. It is hoped that occurrences such as that last Easter when an ill-equipped party were lost in the Caves, will be avoided in the future. A further reason for the Council's action is to ensure that exploration of the cave shall be properly carried out and the results made available in due course for the public benefit.

Yours sincerely,



Clerk of the Council.

Miss V. Boarland,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Bristol University Speleological Society,  
University of Bristol,  
BRISTOL.

The University,  
Bristol 8.

G.B. CAVE, CHARTERHOUSE-ON-MENDIP

1. You are no doubt aware of the difficulties that have arisen in connection with this cave. Although it is unnecessary to relate in detail all that has taken place since the unfortunate episode at Easter, 1951, it is necessary to give a summary.
2. This Society originally obtained permits to dig in Gruffy Field in or about 1920. Various attempts to gain access to the cave system that was thought to exist there were made, culminating in 1940, in the discovery of G.B. In our recent discussions with the Axbridge Rural District Council (A.R.D.C.), that council, through its representatives asked us many pertinent questions as to why this Society, which had long held the sole rights in the digging and exploration of the area and of the G.B. Cave itself, had failed to take proper measures to secure the cave against unauthorised entry, and why this society had permitted so many varied persons to go down the cave.
3. Our representatives pointed out that it had done its best to fulfil its obligations to the Council and that we did not wish to adopt a "dog in the manger" attitude to those others, who though not members of our Society, wished to explore the cave.
4. This phase of the discussions may be said to have been concluded by the erection of the present works and gate at the entrance. It is worth mentioning that at one stage it was mooted that the entrance should be completely closed to all by a block of concrete.
5. At subsequent meetings the A.R.D.C. made the following points abundantly clear:-
  - (1.) G.B. cave was the property of the A.R.D.C. and the Council was determined to protect their property as far as possible.
  - (2) The A.R.D.C. were considering opening the cave to the public and the present works could be considered as a preliminary phase.
  - (3) The A.R.D.C. were determined to reduce to a minimum the number of persons having access to the cave.
  - (4) The A.R.D.C. were insistent that this Society had sole rights in the cave as in the past from the time of the original permits, and that any others desiring access to the cave must have that access through this Society as guests of the Society and must be accompanied by a member of the Society on each occasion.
6. With regard to 5 (1) and (2) no comment is required. In 5 (3) it is important to note that searching questions were put to our representatives on the constitution of the Society in relationship to membership, and in particular as to how large our "outside" membership was, and how large it might become under our rules. It was not until the A.R.D.C. were satisfied that our "outside" membership was limited, and that by giving this Society access to the cave they would not in fact be opening the cave to all and sundry, that they consented to the Society having the keys of G.B.
7. With regard to 5 (4) it was pointed out by our representatives that there were many others besides ourselves interested in the cave and we did not wish to adopt an exclusive attitude towards them. Three separate attempts were made to get the A.R.D.C. to give access to the cave to recognised caving groups on application to the A.R.D.C. Each attempt was a failure and the position became that given in 5 (4). This Society has had to accept this as the best that could be achieved in the time.
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8. In the course of the discussions the names of various Societies and Groups were mentioned and the A.R.D.C. appeared to be considerably perturbed at the number of unrelated bodies claiming, and, in one case, demanding with threats, access to the cave. Eventually a list was prepared, which is given in the letter of the A.R.D.C. and it is the view of the A.R.D.C. that others interested should join or affiliate



with one or other of the bodies listed and thus be entitled to go down the cave as the guests of this Society.

9. The cave-bearing area of Mendip is comparatively small, and seems to be unique in the large number of totally unrelated groups using it as a caving ground. It is a matter worth discussing whether some sort of affiliation or liaison between groups would be desirable.

10. In order to fulfil the intentions of the A.R.D.C. and at the same time to provide for access to the cave by others than our members, this Society has decided to make certain days "guest-days" and on these days a member will be available to accompany the party down the cave. This is to be reviewed, as suggested in the A.R.D.C. letter, after a trial period. The dates selected are:

- Sunday, Dec. 16th, 1951
- Sunday, Feb. 24th, 1952
- Easter Monday, April 14th, 1952.

The time of the meeting at the cave entrance to be in each case 2.30 p.m. It is requested that the Secretary of this Society should be notified in advance of the approximate number of persons from your Society or Group who will be present.

11. In conclusion we wish to state emphatically that the present position is not of our seeking and we would have preferred a less onerous, to us, means of giving access to the cave to those genuinely interested in cave exploration. We reiterate that the owners of the cave are the A.R.D.C. and they have the right to determine the terms upon which access may be given.

Yours faithfully,

(President)

1

CAMP LOG. 1951 - 1952.

Tuesday Sept 11<sup>th</sup> Lea, Capt. Short, Mac &  
V.B. out by 3.0 p.m. Pleasant trip  
down Goatchurch. After an excellent tea  
left at 6.30 p.m.

V.B.

Saturday Sept 22.

V.B. out by 2.30 p.m.

Please note:

CHEESE AND BREAD MUST NOT BE LEFT IN

THE BINS TO GO BAD.

P. Bird out by 3.0 p.m. Down Roads to inspect  
"blow" - further progress would be extremely difficult.  
Partno digging his barrow. P.B. Out wood. V.B.  
returned to Bristol. Mervyn Hannam (P.F.C.) called  
in in evening, en route to Plumbe.

23.9.51

Trat looked in about 10.45; P.B. then got up.  
P. looked at hillside above the dig nr.  
Goatchurch - now has suitable for digging  
found. 3 Axbridge C.C. rods had some  
tea at Hut after doing Rods' Pot.  
P.B. left 17.15.

Saturday September 29<sup>th</sup> Noel & J.T. Wheeler  
out at 3 pm. Down Goutchuck cave. Hank  
& Ivan out and back to Bristol at 6 pm.

Sunday September 30<sup>th</sup>

Came out 2.35 pm.

All back to Bristol 5.30 pm.

W. Blackwell.

Saturday Oct 6<sup>th</sup> EKT, R.A.B. & V.B. to  
Arbridge. Henceforth the G.B. Key will be kept  
in the collar & a book will be put there in  
which anyone who uses the key must sign.  
A.R.D.C. have ruled that we can only allow  
certain recognised clubs down G.B. & the  
responsibility is entirely ours.

Partner, Pally, EKT & V.B. digging no burrow  
in afternoon and a large section of turf was  
removed.

V.B.

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>

RAB, SIL, XDT, JKP, EKT, survey in Goughs.

Completed main Traverse.

P.B. batting in Obblougho. 4 bats only.

Left in evening

R.A. Bendall

8/9 in box.  
Says 7/6.

Monday Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> (1) }  
 Tuesday Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> (1) }

Experimental reconstruction of fireplace. After thorough trial no improvement it can be dismantled to status quo ante. Raised chimney 2 layers bricks. Started laying hedge towards cottage. E.M.T.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 1951. E.R.T., V.B., D.T.D., M. Christy, J. Saunders, 2 freshers, & Miss Hunt + friend all went down Gatchurch. Two other freshers arrived later but did no caving. G.F. Coates & Jean photographing main gorge in G.B. Supper by 6.0 p.m. Atmosphere in hut remarkably clear due to improved fireplace. Patnos & Betty digging on Barrows. All returned V.B.

Bird P. Bird out overnight.

14.10.51 ~~7.10.51~~ E.R.T. cut hedge & went down & B. with Jeff. Coates for photography. P. did not return to Hut. P. Read looked in during afternoon. P. Bird <sup>but in wood, did not quite</sup> ~~to tunnel~~ <sup>vegetated</sup> - had 2 visits to supper, left at 20.00 hrs. P. Bird.

18.10.51 Peter Bird out in evening to fetch some botanical specimens collected last week-end. Observed at the Sex Palace outside Hillside Cottage, & a messae outside Hut. Left 20.30. P. Bird.

Saturday 20<sup>m</sup> October. Party down G.B. led by EKT, G.E.C., V.B., & G. Haigh photographing in main Gorge. A. Bridge, P. Evans, J. Spragg and two other Freshers, T.S.Z & June completed the party. Back to Hut by 6.0 pm. N.G.B, DTD & P.J.N. also out by Men, having assisted further at T.S.

The following members then departed for Wessex Cave Club dinner at Wells: - EKT, TSZ & June, GEC, VB, DTD, NGB & PJN. Dinner successful - the President's making a speech afterwards. During the evening activities, EKT enhanced his reputation altho' none was killed. G.E.C. took EKT home, ~~NGB took Molly home~~, the remainder got themselves home by various and original routes.

Seven people spent the night in camp. - ~~the~~ The Treasurer and the Librarian taking a stroll over Dalbury at ca 2.30 am. in the rain.

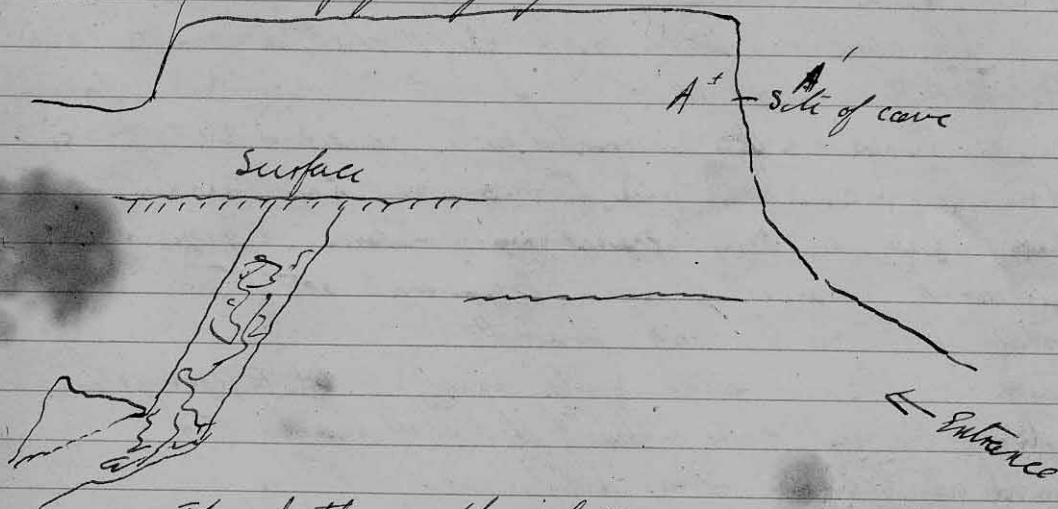
1 large & 1 small pick in E. Roof passage VB

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October

(1) Percival Noel walked to Blagdon Lake & back left for 5.45 bus to Bristol.

(2) Party of five to Whalley Quarry to dig in bone deposit in fissure. The site is in the right side face of the quarry as one enters. It consists of a near vertical shaft filled with angular limestone fragments & clay some twenty or more feet high by about 6 x 4 ft wide & long. This comes down to end on top of a red silt.

material, very finely laminated, which is clearly seen at several points in the small cave. There are several other natural shafts to be seen in the quarry. The whole of one face of the shaft has been removed by quarrying.



The bottom of the shaft seems to be barren & to contain more clay, yellowish in colour, than the upper part of the deposit. The bones now found at the base of the shaft are in the material fallen from higher up & it seems probable that all the bone bearing deposit is towards the top of the shaft.

In the recessed portion at the base a small trial trenches warding in the <sup>near</sup> silt, which stratigraphically underlies & is earlier than the shaft filling & must have been deposited while the shaft was still open to the surface. To the right as one enters there is an appreciable area of this ~~at~~ silt exposed. At a depth of about 1 ft a compact black layer some 8 inches thick was encountered. The layer follows the present slope of the silt surface. It starts & ends abruptly.

It is faintly subdivided into two approximately equal parts by a thin band of reddish material. Somewhat to the left & lower down in the cave the same red silt is found. Here against the cave wall the silt is much wetter than in the first area. There is no trace of the black band down to a depth of over 2' 6".

It seems possible that the black band represents fossilised bats dung formed before the shaft was filled. Samples were taken for examination.

A number of bone fragments & a few small portions of tusk found.

The next stage would appear to be to bring down the rest of the filling of the shaft though this will not be easy to do safely as the quarry face is overhanging & access from above, therefore, probably impossible.

Photographs required. \$100

Sat. Oct. 27

Visit to Avebury - 6 all told.

Saw Avebury, Museum & Silbury \$100

J. Spragge + J. Wright (friend) had a hip down Goatclunell. (Nói merka) After a meal had most "entertaining" evening at Slipbarn with several members whose names I have forgotten.

The President

the Explosive officer + Miss.?

?

J. S. S.

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Oct. (4)

B.A.C. Crickmay, Trats + Molly (part-time)  
digging in Trats Rift. Removed about 40 buckets  
of earth including stones thrown in during winter.  
Recovered second bucket.

At end, after digging forward horizontally  
about 3 ft, exposed a small opening between  
clay fill + roof exposing clay slope furrowed  
by water. Following this up upon making this  
opening air cleared very quickly. Water  
should now drain.

Wed. Oct 31<sup>st</sup> (2)

Spragg + M.H. "jumping" shot hole  
in quarry (Milliers) ready for blowing.  
Hole about 8" deep. M.H.

2 miners picks with helms } added to  
2 entrenching tools " " }  
tools M.H.

Tilley flood light repaired.

J. Spragg → quick trip down Goatcreek afterwards.

J.S.S.



8.

3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. 57

LEK to Swildores with Spragge + Gilman (?)  
as far as top of 40'. Abortive efforts to lower  
the water level in passage above jet.

Blackwell, glochling, boats, photographing  
in GB.

J. Light RAB came out + intoxicated them-  
selves. Bente + Mull out in evening. To Richeford.  
Hubert Wright out with Bente.

4<sup>th</sup> Nov.

SD out at 12. To Goughs with RAB, Joan,  
+ Spragge. D. Thomson joined us at bladders.  
Survey + photography.  
Left tent at 8.0 for Richeford.

SD

10/6 collected.  
11/9 find.

10<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1951

Spragge + Miss Reinhardt down Goatchurch  
& back.

Bridge + Troutman down Read's. Both  
swallows active after heavy rain. Part way down  
water rift which is taking a big stream.

To pub. in evening. Jim + Margaret  
joined party.

The two pairs of piers taken to G.B. have  
not been returned to camp, where there are now  
no piers. SD

Sunday 11 Nov.

Jim, Margaret, Donald & Truman to Whalley quarry. Joined by Desmond & Bertie. Pulling down material from below. Left vertical face in upper part. This should fall on its own soon & bring most of remainder with it.

one ? wolf canine found & some bone fragments.

Report on black material of Oct. 25 1951 is that it is entirely inorganic & mainly Manganese dioxide

SM 11/11/51

Thurs. 15 Nov. 1951

Repaired Tilley Lamp. Last spare vaporiser used. Washed drying clothes SM

Sat. 17 Nov. 1951

Digging in Trats Crack in combe. Party of 7. Roof fall had blocked water escape. Bailed out 20 buckets water & about dug out about 20 of mud. Rock reached in roof going forward horizontally.

Joined later by Geoff + G + after meal to Rickford SM

Sun. 18 Nov. 1951

Party 4 to Sun Hole, Cheddar.

Cleared all loose boulders ready for digging. Removed about 1 ton & piled up in trench outside cave mouth. Small shovel & 1 bucket left in cave. ~~MT~~

For Hut Fund

see back of log. ~~MT~~

Pete Bird out - ~~others~~ party had gone so cleared gutters & walked up ~~around~~. Was shown 2 holes of which few, if any, needles are aware P.B.

Nov. 24 Nov. 1951

Started on clearing up tool shed. Joined by Margaret, Saunders & Bird. Cleared catchment of leaves. ~~MT~~

Sun. 25 Nov. 1951

Party to Sun Hole via Grouchy Field Charterhouse.

Fence round Bob's pit in swallet XIII c 2 strands of barbed wire. Very little water in bottom in spite of heavy rain. C.R.D. notice has been removed from entrance to G.B.

# Sun Hole started on top of Pleistocene levels in area F.G. Encountered rock

across most of the face, at a foot or less.  
Some soil has been removed by  
excavations prior to D.B.S.S. works.

About 50 buckets were removed. ~~SBH~~  
Trist. left Hut 17.30. Rest left  
20.00 P. Dick.

Sat. 1st Dec.

Margaret & Jim out in evening ~~at night~~

Sun. 2nd Dec.

Party to Sun Hole. Joined by Nelly, Bertie,  
Maigrice. Found few bone fragments and 2  
flint scrapers in area E in 3ft Pleistocene. M.B.

Saturday Dec 8<sup>th</sup>. EKT, V.B., M. Christie, Spragge, A.  
Bridge, & Gillman down Lamb Laid after checking  
ladders & ropes. Back by 9.30.

V.B.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>

Spragge, wanting fresh air after Burnog's club  
Dinner last night, had a cup of Tea at hut and returned  
16 Birds for lunch.

J.S.S.

Sat 15<sup>th</sup>

Tratty's Party.

Sun 16<sup>th</sup>. Habit of taking on but much more today.

Inspected alleged 'dry rot' and decided timber perfectly sound. There are a few holes in bark of hut but these are only due to rodents & can easily be patched. Peter searched in vain for bats at West wing School; Longford Court.  
 P. Bird down Roads - ringed about 45 bats, nearly all Lesser Horseshoes; no refunds, which is extraordinary.

RAB

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 1951

Visited Trats creek. Water is getting away now at the back. There is only a pool in the hollow of the "floor" of the excavation.

RAB

Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>

RAB, gk, JDT & Arthrop to Clodda. Surveyed Passy Cat Chambers & swiped a lot of Rottery. gkP & Bernhard. Damba out in evening - Shipman

Returned to hut 10.30 to find four youths in occupation. They had apparently been 10 1/2 hrs doing Swildons and had

apparently had trouble on the  
40 foot.

Youths returned in huddle in back  
of hut and then pushed off  
to Porcupine about 11:30.  
Couldn't decide what frightened  
them but decided it was Joan.  
Joan dissapointed.

modern educ. !!!

Dec 23.

Barnard left after breakfast.  
Remained by 8:25 bus

RAB

Dec 27/28<sup>th</sup>

Spar night in hut.

TS

Dec. 28

Two from Leicester, Derek + David.  
Arrived in evening. SNA

Dec. 29

Party of 4 down G.B.  
Inner padlock cannot be fixed as  
trap has been bent. SNA

Dec. 30

Read's Cavern party of two.  
~~Eleven~~ bats seen. None appeared to  
 be ringed.

- 1 on way down to ~~A~~<sup>W</sup> of entrance  
 after passing thro' squeeze
- 8 in Crook's Passage
- 1 in offshoot leading to Boulder  
 chamber
- 1 about B 45 on way down to  
 Pipe Chamber. ~~MS~~

Dec 31 1951 - Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 1952

Geoffrey, Frank, Arthur Stride, Bertie  
 + Tralby out for New Year's Eve Party.  
 Menu: Fowl, <sup>cocktails</sup> peas, sprouts, spuds  
 + gravy. — Sherry - Dry Fly.

Xmas pudding - Spanish Wine.

Beer + Gin as required.  
 Party broke up about 1.0 am.  
~~MS~~

Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> 1952.

Party of ~~five~~ <sup>four</sup> down C.B. Placed & fired charge of two sticks of gelignite. A very satisfactory bang.

Peter Bird arrived after supper.

Trot, Geoffrey, Batten, Noel, Dorrington, Jean left camp about 9.0 pm. RBT

6-1-52 Trot out about 11.30. Peter down Read's Cavern — ringed bats; bats ringed + refits — 46, all L.H.B. also ringed 1 G.H.B. Trot tidied up tool shed & left 17.45. Peter left at 20.00

P. Bird.

12/1/52

Called on about 1.0 pm by a bloke who reported a boulder slip in Drunkard's Hole with 2<sup>nd</sup> Hoke on far side unable to get out.

Rang Timsbury 213 for stand by. Went down cave, moved boulder (big stuff !!) enabled B2 to emerge. Supported strongly by Timsbury contingent. Sent all clear about 3.45 pm.

Note. Drunkard's Hole should not be passed beyond boulder fall. It is best to break upper boulder + allow to fall. The escape passage round west side is not too safe. The fall is at first wider portion of



16.

the steeply descending rift reached after  
entrance squeeze. *W. Stratman*

Sun. Jan. 13 1952

Bertie, Marjorie, Molly, Bryan + Trattie to  
Sun Hole.

Completed 3<sup>rd</sup> foot of pleistocene across  
cave in area E. Commenced 3-4ft pleistocene  
area C D on west side of cave.

50 buckets removed.

α

Finds. One rodent sized femur +  
another bone about size of small fox  
from 3<sup>rd</sup> foot towards E wall in area E.

Material very barren. *W. Stratman*

Sat. Jan. 19 1952,

Party to Great Oony's Hole included  
Spragge, Gillham, Bowler, Sandby,  
Saunders, Christie, Stratman, Bridge  
Coates, Al Annis, Thoring, Lise Selund,  
Molly + — waited in car.

Back to hut for meal 6.0 pm.  
*W. Stratman*

20-1-1952.

M. Christy, Bridge, Sandby, Bowler + Saunders stayed on  
till Sunday. Bridge, Bowler + Sandby left for

Bristol by lunchtime. - Tratty, M. Christy & J. Saunders went to Sun Hole, where they arrived by ~ 1 o'clock. A section was dug right across the cave in area D at a depth of 4'-5' in the Pleistocene. Level relatively barren, yielding 2 flint fragments + several pieces of bone only. Marjorie, Molly & Bertie came out to help & altogether 60-65 buckets of soil were excavated & examined. - Back in Buxington by ~ 4:45 pm. & left for Bristol soon after 5 pm.

P.S.: One of the new members was in such a hurry to return to Bristol that he came out equipped with alarm clock, which duly went off before 8 am.!!!

J.S.

26/1/52

Party of nine down G.B. Margaret, Lisa, Jerry, ~~Stodd~~, Tratty, Christopher, Peke (Paul), John Bird, Gilham. P. Frank Glockling + Dori + Jim went for walks.

In G.B. last "blow" has done very little in E. passage. Must go deeper + undermine boulder. Fixed wires to ladder not very satisfactorily as no strainers. Ladder is now held by wires. Moved slightly on descent. 60 ft chain required to go round into ~~E~~ <sup>not called</sup> passage and 15 ft chain up E passage. Left 1 small shovel + entrenching tool in E. passage. Down cave 2 1/2 hrs. Ladder moved slightly on way down.

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are the greater

## Kihito Union

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# URANIUM HUNT IN ENGLAND

## And Mr. Uranium himself leads it

Express Staff Reporter

**G**US (Uranium) HAWKER,  
the man who arrived  
in England a week ago  
with a million dollars'  
worth of uranium  
"claims" in his pocket,  
has a hunch.

He believes there is "black  
gold" within easy distance  
of the Wiltshire village of  
Keevil, where he is on  
holiday.

And this week, with the geiger  
counter that helped to make  
him the richest man in North  
Canada's Saskatchewan, he  
plans to explore "the green  
hills of Somerset."

### If it clicks . . .

Where he finds rock showing a  
yellow streak, down will go  
Mr. Hawker's battery charged  
uranium detector. With head-  
phones clamped to his head,  
Mr. Hawker will listen for the  
"click-click" which to him  
means uranium.

Yesterday afternoon he sat  
chain-smoking in the lounge of  
Pyatt's Farm, where he is  
staying with his sister Mildred,  
and talked of his plan to  
prospect for wealth in the  
Mendip Hills.

"I shall start in Goblins Coombe,  
12 miles from Bristol," he said.

"I remember as a boy seeing  
the yellow streaks in the rocks  
there, and somehow I have a  
hunch there is uranium about.

"If it is, I shall find it. Then  
I shall look around Burrington  
Coombe and Cheddar. I found  
uranium on the banks of the  
Atinabaska Lake, and I do not  
see why I should not find it  
here. There is radio-active  
water around Bath, and I shall  
search the hills round that  
district as well."

### Five cyclists crash

Five riders crashed in the South  
Staffs Grand Prix road cycle race  
at Wolverhampton yesterday after-  
noon. One had a collision with a motor-  
cycle. Two went to hospital.

# WANTS BRITON'S INKABLE' BOAT

Express Staff Reporter

**D** GASKIN would still float, and would empty  
itself in a minute without baling.  
most of his

Princess M.  
the prop-jet  
liner at L.  
yesterday. F  
Lord Douglas  
chairman of  
Princess  
minutes in t  
during the tri



27/1/52

Trats Crack. Party 4. Removed 30 buckets. Next dig take step down at bottom at least 3 feet + work forward again. MB

P. Bird & Thomas bathing in Fox's Hole, Trats Crack & Belines, found 1 ringed Lesser Horseshoe, 2 unringed, & 1 unringed Greater H. Left Hut 20.00 P. Bird.

Saturday 2-2-52.

Geoffrey, E.K.T. M. Christy, A. Bridge, D. Gilliam, Dicky Bird, P. Acke, and V.B. out. Party down Roads - down Z alley to Water chamber.

Back by 6.0 p.m. Cooked and ate an excellent meal under Geoffrey's direction. Occasion notable for the probably first recorded use of parsley, chistry etc. for dinner. V.B.

Sun. 3/2/52

Party in camp. joined by Chris. Bowler, & Dick Green. Cut down tree for firewood. Weather bad. Return to Bristol about 4.0 pm MB

Wed. 6 Feb. 1952

Arndt ~~Arthur~~ Bridge & Trats to Rhino left.  
Started hole for charge. Must be deepened  
to 6 ins.

Walked down Longwood a little way.  
About 50' down from junction of two arms  
a small sink hole in floor of stream bed.  
Tunnel beyond another pit, leading into  
a rift, has had some digging done on it.  
This area looks as if it might contain  
an entrance to a big cave system.

9<sup>th</sup> Feb. Saturday. Peter Bird + 6 down Roads  
Caveen, bat hunting. V.B., E.K.T., A.B., P. Acton, D.  
Bird, D. Gilliam, <sup>J. Spragg</sup> Peter & Stuan down G.B. Fixed  
ladder to East passage & drilled hole preparatory to  
blowing. Fixed ladder on 40' pitch. Back by 7. pm  
Batie, Molly and Joan out.

V.B.

10<sup>th</sup> Feb.

E.K.T. & friend to G. B. Liddon.  
R.A.B., J.L. & P.T.D. to Goughs, surveying. Out  
by 4.30. Left hut by 7.0.  
(8/3 removed from tunnel by R.A.B.)

D.W.

15 Feb. 1952

Party of 5 to G.B. Met 10 of Wessex  
Club as arranged. Trip down cave.

In E Passage found that previous  
charges had shattered floor in front of boulder.

A little digging exposed front lower edge  
of boulder c ready made cavity below.  
Placed + fired charge of 2 sticks of  
gelignite. Only muffled thud heard. Hope  
successful blow.  
MGT

Sunday, 16-2-52.

Tratty, Arnold, Margaret +  
Jim set out for Rhino Rift at about 1 pm. Continued  
to drill a hole in boulder + set off 1 stick of  
gelignite. Result unascertainable because of  
dense fumes. Back in hut about 4:30 pm.  
Prepared a meal + left afterwards for Bristol.

Saturday, February 23rd '52. Party of 6 (EKT, V.B., D Bird,  
D Gillham, Stuart + A. Bridge) down G.B. Ladder removed from air-  
raid shelter on Blackdown but could not be taken down  
G.B. without enlarging the entrance with a pick. Left  
at entrance. Blow in East Passage only removed  
rubbish from below the obstinate boulder. All airspace  
packed with clay in preparation for a further blow  
tomorrow. Concatted attack on beach trees removed  
one branch. J. Saunders + M. Christy out later.  
After supper returned to Rickford. V.B.

SS + A.B. Beat locusts at clerts by 200 + at Rickford.  
C.P.

24/2/52 Party of 3 to G.B. Met one B.E.C. & an odd body. Down G.B. Placed & fired shot of 4 sticks of gelignite in E. Passage. Lot of noise & fumes.

Put up ladder to upper part of 1st grotto on wet way.

Jim looked for flints in field by Charleshouse Hoop. *MS*

Saturday, March 1st '52. Party of 12 visited Gough's cave and explored the nonpublic parts. They then visited Long Hole and found some bones - probably reindeer & cave lion(?) mixed with very loose ones which is probably coming in from an old swallow above. Peter and someone else went battling in old Gough's & Long Hole. Great bones, & later went to Gatchurch (15 bats in the latter).

After a good supper, departed to Rickford. G.E.C., J.M.C., V.B., M.C., J.S., D.Bird, P.Nebe, A. Budge & D. Gillam, stayed out overnight.

Peter and someone (not a member of U.B.S.S.) returned at 2.0 a.m. and after everyone else had gone to bed and recounted their past experiences in no subdued tones until 3.30 a.m. *MS*

At back of Long Hole a climb up leads over a wedged boulder into a large continuation rising towards the end where

there is earthy material & roots. This <sup>choke</sup> has  
a musty smell. Presumably the choke  
is only a few feet thick to the surface.  
This should be tested.

About  $\frac{2}{3}$  from entrance to back  
of cave along slanting bedding plane-like  
passage goes off up to the left (going in).  
It is very similar to Great Bone's Hole.  
At the top is a loose stone & boulder chock  
out which the bones & scree are falling.  
These falls will bring early Pleistocene  
deposits on top of recent deposits.

There are vast extents of the  
floor of this cave apparently have  
never even been ransacked.

Long Hole should yield very  
valuable remains.

Gough's Old Cave ~~will~~ has much  
undug deposit on the slope up & in the  
entrance chamber. W.H.

Sun. Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1952

Party to Barwell Bone Cave.  
Asbridge Soc. have made a mess of the  
cave. Their spoil heaps have completely  
altered the "amenities" of the cave. Their  
dig through the undisturbed bone  
deposit can be seen but section is  
obscured by their own work.



Part of the lower flight of steps has been covered by spoil too.

Dug against extreme st. side facing down pit (N.E. corner): found some undisturbed deposit chock full of bones. Many of them belonging to a single beast. This is clearly evidence of the undisturbed <sup>nature</sup> deposit.

WJH

All left Hut by about 19.30. P. 21

Mar. 8 1952

Arnold Bridge + Tralty. Visit to Rhino Rift. Last blow has shattered boulder but some pieces too large to move or handle easily. Placed charge of 1 stick of gelignite + fired it.

Need party to remove debris. About 4 persons required. Tools needed.

1 sledge . 1 small crow bar  
1 pick. 2 shovels - 2 buckets.

WJH

Mar. 9 1952

Tidying (?) tool shed. (L.L.L. Shakespeare)  
Party of Westminster C.C. asked permission to use hut to change in. They report water over top of dam at Swillo's

WJH

Mar. 11 1952

WATER

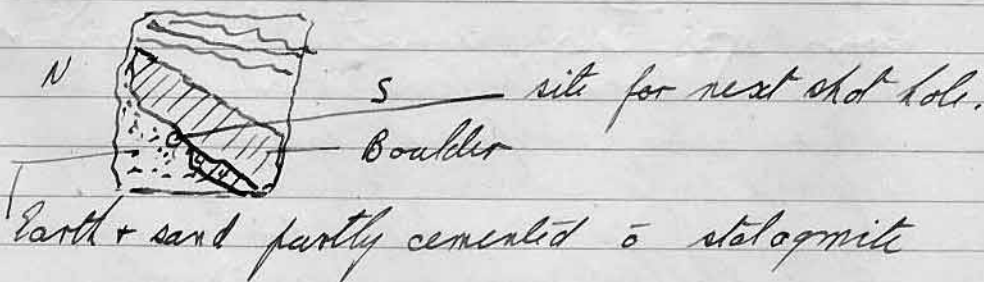
During the dry spell in the latter part of Feb. the drinking water tank was drawn on so much that it ~~was~~ became nearly empty. The washing water tank, which is smaller, was still more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  full.

In the coming season water for washing, preparing vegetables, washing up etc. should be taken from washing tap. If the drinking tank runs dry water will have to be fetched from both stream as there is no outside tap at the empty cottage, the where there is another supply. ~~etc~~

Saturday, March, 15<sup>th</sup>. Party of seven to Rhina - removed several large boulders from the site of the blow & lowered entrance passage by ca 1 foot. Much more still to be removed. Party consisted of EKT, V.B., H. Bridge, P. Acks, Stuart, Digby Bird, & G. Spragge. Back to hut by 7 pm. 11:15 PM S.A. & H.D.B. down Rhina as far as V.B. water chamber. Water fall in full spate. Took us 15 mins. to find our way out of bobster pot, can't it be sign posted? C.P.M.

Sun. Mar. 16 Party 5 to G.B. Gullam meets 7 scouts, who turn ~~out~~ to be Sea Scouts from Burnham on Sea + not Swiss Scouts.

Digging in E. passage G.B. Boulder partly shattered. Earth on left side + under boulder. Dug away about 50 buckets exposing boulder face. New shot hole wanted



Recommended that secretary should learn to read. MHT

Saturday March 22<sup>nd</sup>

3 parties. Peter Birch appeared after bathing in Cheddar Holes & Belafries.

Frank & Doris + 2 friends went down C.B. & fired 2 sticks in East Passage. Party consisted of Jerry Spragge (with explosives) Geoff & Jean photographing.

Party to Lamb Lees consisted of Trathy, Margaret Christie, Arnold ~~Bridge~~ <sup>Bridge</sup>, Struan Robertson, Donald Thomson. Took two photos.

P.M.M.T.

25/3/52 Party (2) to G.B.  
 East Passage. Boulder cracked  
 but needs one more shot. Put  
 shot under boulder where pick  
 point mark.  
 Cleared away all debris.  
 M.H.

28-29. RAB - Ill. out. Doo failed to  
 hon up so went for walk.  
 Visited Trats Crack. Water is  
 getting away. No pool at bottom though  
 copious drips.

On S. side of Combe about 100'  
 E. of Elephants Hole + a few yards W. of end  
 of Ellick Wood + between Combe + boundary  
 ridge of Ellick Wood a hollow in rock face  
 on S. This might be site of cave alleged  
 by late Mr Cox of Pear Tree Farm, Burrington  
 to be in Combe on S. side in upper part  
 + in which he used to shelter some of his  
 sheep in bad weather. This must have been  
 round about 1900  
 M.H.

11/4/52 Party of 5<sup>+</sup> from U.C.H. Dental  
 school arrived. Down Swildon's  
 c. S.H. to head of 40' + back via  
 wet way - . Pipe at head of 40 running  
 about  $\frac{1}{2}$  bore. Back to hut about  
 7.0 pm S.H.

12/4/52 - Saturday Cuckney, EKT & U.C.H. students worked  
 to Cheddar Gorge. Bob Bandal & N. Blackburnell  
 cleaned previous stones etc. M. Hunt and V.B.  
 dug optimistically at Tyrings Great Swallet -  
 much sticky clay and a strong draught.  
 Later visited Rickford.

Sunday 13-4-52. Cuckney with aid by U.C.H. students  
 built a wall to discourage Scouts and  
 encourage Tump on the bank by the drain.  
 Cuckney, R.A.B. & N. Blackburnell surveying by  
 Eastwater. EKT took U.C.H. people to Lambie  
 Tarn. Monday Hunt & V.B. dug despairingly  
 in Tyrings Great Swallet - removed several  
 large boulders & lowered floor level. Roof  
 unsafe. After good supper, some went to  
 Rickford.

V.B.



Height of Bench Marks on Priddy - Hunters Lodge Road

Hunters Lodge Wall Junction North Pub.	827.79
Gate Post. N side road west of garage	828.17
Gate Post East end of west cottage near Belfry	808.20
West Wall of Parato East water 30' from main road	802.06
Stile opposite Lower Pitts Farm.	798.31

Sun. 20/4/52 Sun Hole. (3)  
 Dig 100 buckets from 5<sup>th</sup> + 6<sup>th</sup> ft Pleistocene  
 Found number of flints including a large  
 blade 5<sup>th</sup> + 6<sup>th</sup> bones from 6<sup>th</sup> ft.  
 Several bones + fragments. Tooth  
 perhaps bear incisor, fragment of  
 human skull (to + phalanx) also prob  
 bear all from 6<sup>th</sup> ft. Ditto horse molar  
 6 flints found. *W.H.*

Sat 26/4/52  
 J. Spryge & S.R. to G.B. last blow  
 has shattered boulder in East Passage, leaving  
 a chock of clay and small stones.  
 E.R.T. Digging in Tysing's Great  
 T.Z., N.B. P. Ache, D. Bird, Gillian & A.D.B.  
 to Lamb Leer.

*W.D. Hulse*

27/4/52 Sun.

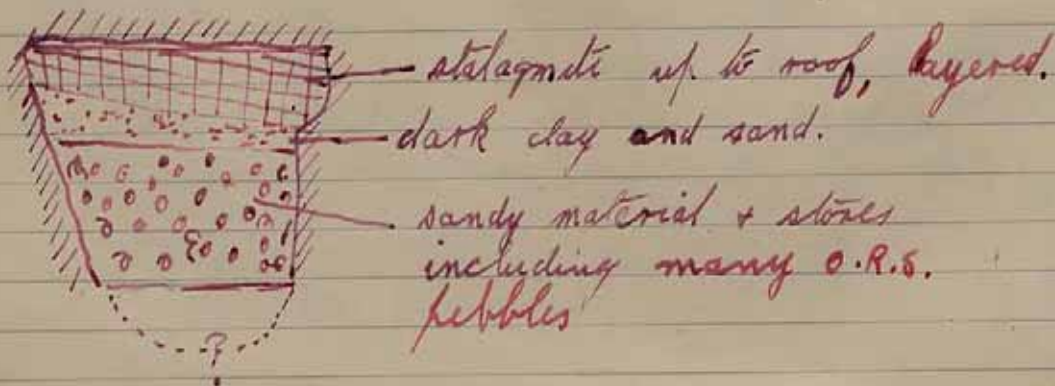
Party of seven to Sun Hole.

Digging mainly disturbed material. Some of  
 5<sup>ft</sup> Pleistocene c/4,5 - 1 flint &  
 6<sup>ft</sup> " " c/4,5 - 3 flints, a nodule,  
 & trapezoid blade + flake knife. The last two  
 from c/5  
 H.W. Palmer

f. Neoh. & 3 companions. Rode Pot. down to Sump chamber.  
 returned 6 p.m. were surprised to find nice hot meal  
 awaiting our arrival, for which we were extremely grateful.  
 H.W.

+5/52 30/4/52 Wed.

1. G.B. Cave. (2) To East passage. Did  
 some digging. Earth & stone very compact.  
 Easiest way is to loosen with a charge.  
 Passage has widened again after construction  
 of boulder, which has now been completely  
 removed.





2. Stream outside cave nearly dry up to & beyond wall enclosing grassy field. Ditto Read's Grotto stream but the G.B. an appreciable stream still enters along passage coming in from E wall a little way up the Gorge from Ooze Passage in W. wall.  
 ? Is this the active swallow stream or is it perhaps from Read's Grotto NS

2/5/52.

Emptied and cleaned out washing water tank behind hut & inches of leaves & debris on the bottom.

J.J.S.

3-5-52

Party went down G.B. on a general tour to show cave to Peter Pore & Ron Smith & Paul Ache. Paid visit to East passage but of course did no work. Clean down the main chamber & gorge very small.

S.R. P. Bird, G. G. G. J.J.S., E.K.T., Bertie (who want to get out of the rain) & A.D.B. down Swedish via middle clay way to top of 40'; ~~at~~ plenty of aq. over top. All except E.K.T. & Bertie back by east way. P.Ache carried tea (Stew burnt) by nice trail. P.A.

P.P. Bird

4/5/52

E.K.T., J.J.S., S.R., R. Smith, J. Nash, Miss H. Merritt  
& A.D.B. down Rod's Pot to end.  
Back at 5 P.M.

A.D. Bridge

6/5/52

Measuring up entrance to G.B. for  
clothing platform on top of shaft. ~~///~~

7/5/52

Fitting up old bunk frame for clothing  
platform ~~///~~

10-5-52 - Saturday. Party consisting of E.K.T., A. Bridge,  
P. Hebe, S. Robertson, Gilliam, J. Spraggie &  
R. Smith and V. Boardman to G.B. The  
President fitted up a clothes platform at the  
entrance. Some of the party went in the long  
wet way, others blew in the East Passage.  
After supper, P. Bird out. All back to  
Bristol except Stuan & Jenny and Peter, vb.

11/5/52

lun. Party, 4 to Trats Crack.  
Removed 9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>5</sub> buckets + moved face  
forward about 4'. ~~///~~

12/5/52

Reconditioning part of tool shed ~~///~~

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May P. Acker, D. Bird and H. Bridge dug  
 at Rhina - cleared passage (5") to right of boulder  
 2 large (1 very large) boulders now need moving.  
 Valorie, Mac (Duc), Tratty, & latter Rhina's right  
 party went to Sun Hole & much digging was  
 done, but no finds made. ~~Pract~~

John Nash & friend + Tratty to G.B. finished  
 clothing platform. Visited E. passage which  
 seemed much freer of fumes than usual.  
 Last "blow" expended a lot of its energy in an  
 air cavity in clay immedi. under Stalagmite  
 floor. About 10 buckets of stuff blown down  
 + requires removal. There is a small (?)  
 boulder in way in bottom of face. Stalagmite  
 floor under-mined for 3 ft far forward  
 Site of next "blow" will depend on conditions  
 found after removal of loose material. Prob.  
 necessary to put small charge in stal. floor  
 (now roof) to give better working face.  
 K. K. K.

18-5-1952: Tratty, Jim Saunders + Margaret left  
 for Sun Hole at about 11:30 am. & were joined there  
 later on by Mollie, Bettie, Marjorie + ~~Malcolm + Brian~~ Malcolm + Brian. At least  
 250 buckets of disturbed material were removed  
 right across the mouth of the cave in area B at  
 an average depth of 6' in the Pleistocene + the old  
 1927 trench re-opened which in places now goes  
 down to 9'-10' of the Pleistocene. The finds included

one bone, two buckets and one <sup>rock splitting wedge.</sup> ~~chopper head~~ as well as 2 pieces of corrugated tin, wire, etc. A relatively small quantity of disturbed material remains to be cleared by the next party & then the left-hand wall of the cave (looking inward) can be investigated. There is an undercut there extending into the rock & about 3'-4' in depth. This is the area where ~~most~~ all the flints except the Bover were found on 20-4-52.

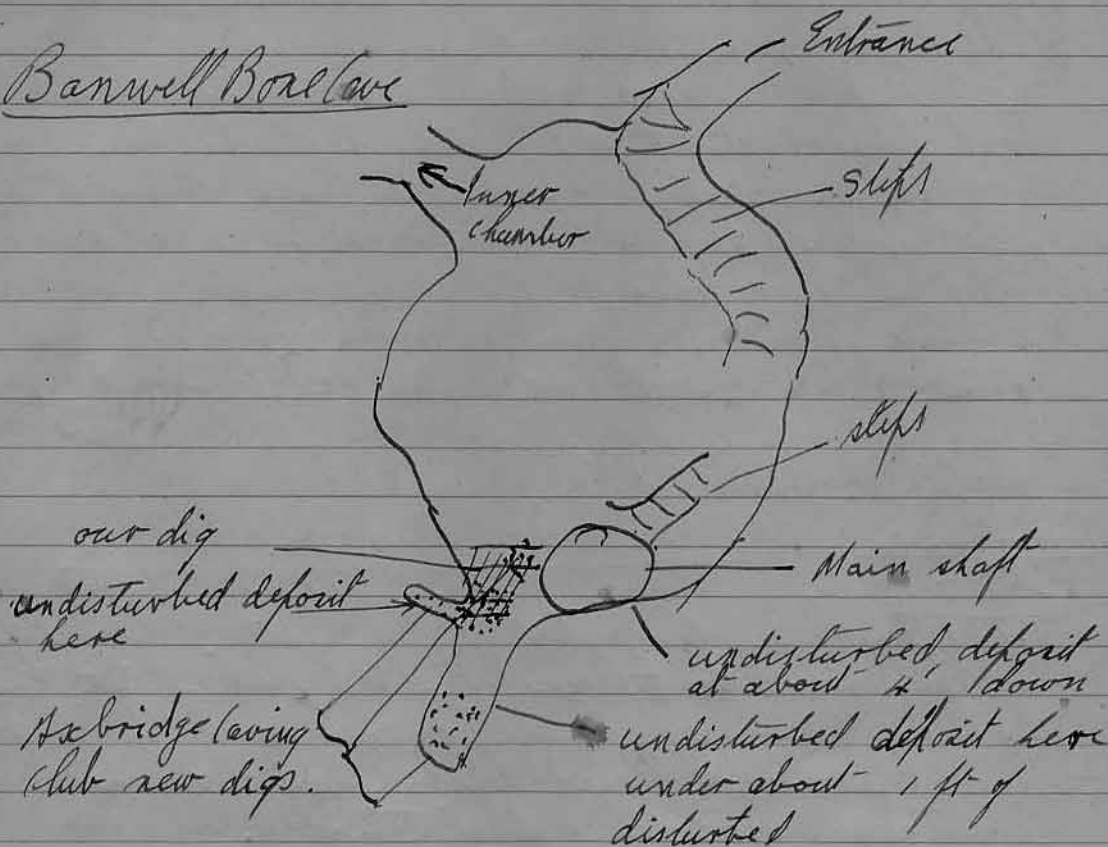
J. Sanders

22/5/52 Thurs. #.

Visit to Barwell Bone Cave. Found two new digs had been started by Sabridge Cave Club. Both are cutting through undisturbed bone deposit. One cuts across our own digging & part of our face has been destroyed in another place.

The undisturbed deposit can be detected by its darker colour & its more sandy matrix ~~that~~ than the more clayish disturbed material. There is undisturbed deposit in the great shaft on it. against cave wall looking out.

Spoke to wife of owner (Mr. Neal) about state of cave with special reference to the spoil heaps. We are to write confirming conversation & stating that we are not responsible.

Banwell Bone Cave

R. Stratman

Blagdon Bone Fissure

Proc. Bris. Nat.

New Series

1874: 1: 137-138.

This is a "Lost Cave."

Finds.

Vertebrae

Bos

3 Molars

Rhinoceros

distal end femur Rhinoceros.

Location. Old iron workings, since filled in (1873)

"This small pit was near the top (!) of the  
 Blackdown ridge above the village of Blagdon  
 Somersetshire" About six miles from railway, which

is presumably the Cheddar Valley line at Congresbury or Cheddar.

The finds were made in an apparently (?) closed fissure at a depth of 40 feet. Fissure ran N.W. - S.E. About 50' away to west of the sinking (shaft presumably for mine) a shallow valley. Writer supposes that miners cut across a cave extension running in from the valley. The rock is described as "New Red Conglomerate".

Where is this site?

S.K. Freeman  
22/5/52

24/5/52

Party two to Rhino Rift & Tynning's Great Swallet.

(1) Rhino Rift. Placed & fired "plaster" charge between large boulder base & boulder in floor.

(2) Tynning's Great Swallet. Removed material loosened on last party. Cleared space under leaning boulder & moved forward about 3'. Next party shd. try & crack off top of boulder & remove. Same and next base one.

Party of 9 (Perthos and Betty + 2 helpers, J. Saunders "Robin", M. Christy, J. Light and V.B.) digging on T.S. (No-one more surprised than Perthos!) Another sector (the third) was cleared down to the original level, and the fourth sector detoured. All back to

Bristol in evening except J. Saunders, M. Christy, J. Light  
and V.B.

(Received from Mrs Flaw 12/- for 2 Proceedings). V.B.

25-5-52 :- Trathy, Margaret + Jim at  
Sun Hole. Finished clearing the original  
1927 trench across cavern mouth of disturbed  
deposit. Also moved considerable quantity  
of rock from West Side of Cave, in area  
B approx., + exposed undercutting filled  
with rock fragments + earth. This has to be  
cleared next time down to level of the  
step across that part of the cave. Finds  
included bone fragments only.

John date.

30-5-52 Crick in Camp 5.30 to Rickford.

Morley Hunt arrived 10.30

31-5-52 Crick, Morley, and Val. to G.B. for the  
week day in pouring rain. Found ca 28 beds  
waiting - all Messes (or affiliated thereto) Westminster  
or M.N.R.C. In future a book should be kept at the  
entrance to G.B. for people to sign themselves in (and  
out). After  $\approx$  2 hrs approximately the same number  
of foreign lodges emerged or went in. The inside  
trap-door was not relocked as it was considered  
unnecessary and possibly dangerous. (Steven, A. Budge,  
gillam, R. Smith + Ivor joined the U.B.S.S.) Joan, R.A.B. +  
J. Pitts, + J. Bird out. Joined Geoffrey Coates at Rickford

V.B.

1-6-52. Morley, J. Bird, & S. Robertson went down  
 the beginning of August Plate and found it  
 wet! Ron Smith, Ivor, Gilliam down Rads.  
 Cuck & Val spent day surveying some of  
 Gerald's fields. ~~John~~, Joan, Pitts & R.A.B. down  
 Rads Plat. All back to Busted except R.A.B.  
 Joan, Pitts, Cuck, Val, Morley and Arnold Bridge.

2-6-52. All left except RAB (IL JK P.B JHC)

3-6-52. All left.

Comments If the cap fits wear it!

BOG

The bog is getting disgustingly wet.

It is designed to be used for shit and  
 should thus remain reasonably dry.

Please do not use bog for passing  
 except when shitting.

Please do not put harsh disinfectants in  
 the bog as this kills the bacteria and  
 renders the bog uninhabitable.

Will members please stop leaving  
 clothes in the clothes shed ~~out~~

Put bags and not leave lying  
 about the hut.

also make beds on leaving  
 also pay hut dues.

RAB



3/6/52 Visited hut. Found a big fire  
in fireplace burning briskly ~~well~~

D. D. T. as powder was used in  
bathtub to cope with the thousands of flies &  
larvae of flies. An elementary sanitary precaution  
which any sensible person would have recognised  
as such. It is not injurious to bacteria of  
the types concerned with the break down of excreta.  
Even if it were the flies, <sup>were it</sup> are the real nuisance.

30/5/52 Party of Bertie, Holly, Toatty left for Derbyshire  
caving trip. Joined <sup>in</sup> Derbyshire by Paul, Tom,  
Bernard & Frank, <sup>Donald</sup> with several Wesssex  
members as well.

31/5/52 Visited show-caves of Treak Cliff & Blue John.  
The former has some very fine stalactite  
chambers. The latter a large & rather dull cave  
with very little beauty. An incredibly dull &  
prosey guide. It is never possible now  
to do the non-public parts of this system.

10.0 pm. To Peak Cavern. Sump route to  
non-public new parts taken after waiting  
1/6/52 for sump to drain till 12.00 a.m. Assistance  
in draining sump & arranging trip from  
Stoke-on-Trent Pot Hole Club. Party completed  
most of major passages to terminal sumps.  
Out again through sump about 2.30 am.  
1/6/52. Giant's Hole by Bertie, Toatty & Paul  
& Tom to terminal sump. Cave diving group

do not appear to have attempted this sump as there are no wires or other markings as at the various sumps in Peak Cavern series.

2/6/52 Party broke up & returned to various home towns.

leaf address Mrs Hodgkinson  
Barmoor,

the W. Strathman

4/6/52 Party T.C. Bird, Paul & Tratty to G.B.  
Tried to put Tilley Flood Lamp in order.  
Not successful.

Cleared debris of last "blow" in E. Passage.  
Drilled hole, placed & fired shot of two sticks  
of gelignite in base of earth face in E. passage.

7/6/52 Party working on T.S. Porthos, Betty, Saunders & B.  
Party (2) first to Rhino Rift where  
removed most of loosened material  
of last "blow" which has blown  
off lower portion of boulder. Further  
charge required.

Then to G.B. Tilley lamps  
put in order, paraffin needed.  
E. passage dug away loosened material.  
Next charge in crack on it between  
next boulder & st. rock wall of  
passage. H.H.

- 6/6 - 7/6/52 Party of R.A.B. Joan, J. Pelly, Peter Bird + friend spent weekend at hut. MKT
- 10/6/52 Repairs to + cleaning out settling ~~to~~ pool above bath. The leak is at the inlet side. MKT
- 12/6/52 Party for "Union Day" down G.B. cave illuminated  $\bar{c}$  many candles + 2 Tilley flood lamps. Did some digging in E. Passage. Placed charge in crack in floor of east passage - charge failed to explode. MKT
- 14/6/52 MKT to Tyring's Great Swallet. Cracked up 2 large boulders ready for removal. 3<sup>rd</sup> still to be broken up. No draught discernible till after about  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour when feeble one noted from ahead. There was quite a good wind blowing outside. MKT
- 15/6/52 A.B. + MKT to E. Passage G.B. Found fault in cable. Shortened cable to fault. Exposed old charge + laid additional stick gelignite  $\bar{c}$  2<sup>nd</sup> detonator on top. Tamped  $\bar{c}$  clay. Fired charge. Note: Blast blew off stalagmite at entrance to E passage + shattered it on slope up to White Vay. Persons should not stand there, when charges are exploded, in direct line from E. Passage. MKT

16/6/52 Arnold & Tratty to Sun Hole.  
50 buckets + 20 of stone removed  
from 5<sup>-</sup> + 6<sup>-</sup> ft Pleistocene on W. side  
of cave. - about 1 ton in all.

A number of bone fragments mainly from  
recess + just outside it under W. wall  
in C. Possibly a portion of a young  
human tibia. From same area in  
6<sup>-</sup> ft more bone fragments including  
2<sup>nd</sup> phalange horse, portion of horse jaw  
with 2 teeth (molars) and a rodent jaw.  
2 pieces of stegomites cutlein, which it seems  
were broken off in prehistoric times, (P. by  
man as at Badger Hole, Wokey) found. ~~MT~~

17/6/52

Arnold & Tratty to Tydings Great Swallot.  
Finished breaking up 2<sup>nd</sup> boulder + broke  
up 3<sup>rd</sup> one. Removed all to entrance  
+ dumped. Way on seems to be through  
clean washed stones going down + to  
S.

18/6/52. Noel visited Burnington Camp.

Dina & Tratty to Taunton for meeting  
of Group XIII of council for British  
Archaeology.

19/6/52 Party Frank, Arnold & Tratty to  
Rhino Rift. Joined by Noel & ~~MT~~

Weather. Boulder in way cracked by  
last blow. Split up & removed.

Also removed considerable amount of loose  
stone from further "down rift". Put shallow  
hole shd in floor just beyond squeeze,  
which is new no more. MM

20/6/52 Rhino Rift (4 beehives)

Clearing up loose stones back towards  
entrance. About 1 ton moved.

1 charge under rock in floor  
about 50' from entrance. MM

Drain found to be blocked. Frank, Arnold  
& Noel started work on new drain. Dug 23'  
trench from old rock pit. New soak pit dug  
with aid of 2 explosive charges.

N.B. Thanks to DDT powder; bug is in a very good condition  
this week - no trouble from flies. N.B.

21/6/52 Tratty brought out 24 1ft unglazed  
land drain pipes and these were laid with  
due ceremony in the morning by Arnold Noel & Tratty.  
In afternoon to CRG meeting in Well.

The Hon Sec arrived at 3.0 pm. Went to  
Cello at 4.30 - very good meeting for the  
CRG. Ended exp at Kirkford. VB.

22-6-52. Arnold, Noel & Val went over to take C.R.G. visitors down G.B. Mt. Ekt at the entrance. About 19 visitors to the cave. An accident occurred about 12:30 amongst the boulders at the entrance to the ox-bow passage from the hall. Arnold was pinned against his wall by a large boulder. Owing to the large number of people available the boulder was successfully removed. M.R.O. informed & turned up in force. Patient got out of cave by 2:0 pm. & Thence back to Hut. Then delivered into Bartier's tender (?) care.

VB.

Sat. 28-6-52. Noel, Tral, and Val, digging in Rhino Rift. Moved several large boulders and stabilized the entrance. A large boulder is now in the way which needs blasting. Pauline & Betty digging on T.5. Noel & Tral went back to Rhino & blew. VB.

(3 sticks used)

Some form of haulage box needed to pull up small stuff.

Sun. 29/6/52 Noel, Jim & Tral to Tyrning's Great Swallow. Moved face forward 2 feet through a gap about 1' wide in solid. Reached mass of loosely piled <sup>sticks</sup> No space above. Very rickety.

Good draught sufficient to make a candle gutter is coming up through stones to left.

No draught above or on rt. side.

the Next party use crow bar to loosen ahead but look out for roof. May be necessary to sink shaft from surface.

Survey of present length + slopes needed. MM

25/6/52 A.R.D.C. have fitted new padlock inside door + made a whole access. Padlock does not pass our key. MM

3 July 52. DTD out AM. to examine Scout for having Badge. Scout failed. left 12 noon.

STO

5 July 1952. Noel and Val down to church to escort party of Manxwood old students Association (Leo's idea!) Further checking ladders for Eastwater + Ireland. Further digging on T.S. Jim + Margaret out. All adjourned to Rickford. RS

6 July 1952 Jim, Margaret + Val out. EKT + J. Spragg + 2 beds (J. Shepherson + 1) to Eastwater. Margaret + Val went over for G.B. guest day - 4 Wessex people + ca 15 Hybridge C.C. (N.B. Frank Frost did not tell us about the W.C.C.) Successful trip - some digging done

in passage to left of gorge near Bridge. Jim  
hunted for flints on Hubberts farm.

V13.

Party of Six down Eastwater in p.m.

V15.

7 July 1952

Presented for Soc. use 2 single  
sheaf pulley blocks ~~etc~~

8-9 July. Struan, Donald, & Paul spent  
night at, but preparatory to Struan  
& Paul going to Ireland.

11-7-52. Margaret, Jim & 3 colleagues of Marg.  
out at ~2:30pm. Margaret & 3 inspected  
Gf. Jim found bronze-age flint 'site' in  
cleared strip on top of Blackdam.  
Portia, Betty & party dug barrow. Valerie out  
in evening, stayed overnight.

12-7-52. Valerie departed ~10am. Marg. & Jim  
cleaned bins, safe, etc., de-tinned the  
fireplace (~25-30 tins) & generally cleaned  
up. Went searching for flints near yester-  
days site but had to beat a retreat when  
the rains came. Weather finally cleared up in  
time to go home.





Saturday 5<sup>m</sup> September

EK, T, V.B., N. & Blackwell, William,  
Merley and Elizabeth down G.B. For guest day.  
The lock was broken on the inner bolt.

About 20 people visited the cave. Distance from  
lip to furthest point of the East Passage  
is 55 feet and the approximate rise in height  
is 5 feet. Blow at the end of the passage  
with 2 sticks of gally - loud bang!

Dinah, Derry and Frank out later in  
the afternoon. Bertie, Molly and B. Dambas also  
visited camp.

Noel, William & Merley stayed the night  
Elizabeth stayed at the cafe

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September

Noel, William, Elizabeth & Merley down  
Reads. Elizabeth and Merley to the  
bottom of the Water Passage in the S.W. corner  
of the Main Chamber. The way is most  
insecure and the boulders shifted visibly during our  
passage.

Merley stayed the night

Shut.

Mon. Sept 8 1952

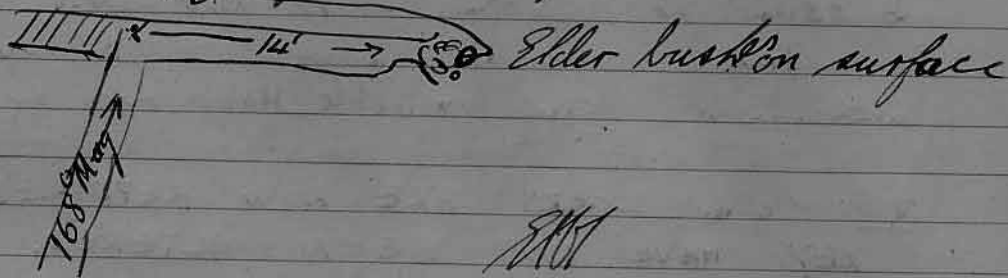
Hunt & Prattman to G.B. Drilled door  
frame on both sides near base & door post opposite  
this hole. Door can now be secured from  
inside by inserting base bolt, which is  
held by string, into holes. There is now  
no need to lock door on last man

going down.



- Position of bolt.

Tyring's Great Swallet Made rough survey of length & direction of passage & marked end of passage in loose clean boulders by peg on surface



Wednesday Sept 10<sup>th</sup>

Monday to GB cave. Found door had been removed by Arbridge RDC and the entrance blocked off with barbed wire and branches. Chalked on the entrance was a notice "If anyone goes down this cave please leave word whilst the door is off"

To East Passage and cleared away rock shattered by Saturday's blow dug forward into clay about 2ft.

In evening Gerry Spagge lended the bar of the Plume many folk from Bristol out to celebrate.

Monday stayed night.

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Monday to Bristol & Home  
(9.6.4 in tin)

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept.

EKT & N. Blackwell spent the afternoon rebuilding the fireplace - no fire until Sunday at midnight. G. Coates, Jean & V.B. out blackberrying. Crick & Dick Home out by 6.0 pm.

N.B. G.B. LOCKS ARE NOW REPAIRED - THE KEYS HAVE NOT BEEN ALTERED.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. Up Limes. Dick for a run round Dolbury - Why? - Sec Crick to Bristol noon - Crick & Dick down Swildans down wet up long dry - wet not too bad Crick to camp & Rickford.

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept. C & D to Bristol, visited Berkeley Spelio Room, Berkeley - etc. Back in time for Rickford.

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>. C & D commenced East stage of Hillbents Survey.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Completed Survey. Left at 4 PM  
Crick

20.9.52 Peter Yorke & Peter Bird out. 51.

Found Tratty cutting wood, Porthos &

Porthosins digging usual burrow, & Jeff Coates & Jeffins on the point of leaving for Bristol. Burrow diggers left at dusk; Tratty ditto. P.Y. & P.B. cut wood but do no real work.

21.9.52 Tratty & P.Y. left for G.B. about 12.00, back by 3.40 pm. Drilled hole & fixed 2 sticks gelignite in stalactite floor <sup>(now</sup> ~~floor~~) of E. Passage. SK1

G.B. The repaired door on entrance has been so fixed that the padlock must be undone first & the bolt withdrawn before mortice lock can be unlocked. Reverse order when locking up.

Tools New "star" Rawlplug drill placed in toolbox. SK1

26/9/52 cleaning woodwork & distemping in hut SK1

27/9/52 ditto Betty & Porthos digging on T5, opposite hut. SK1

28/9 - 1/10/52 cleaning woodwork & distemping hut SK1

\* The note of work done is necessary. The other bit is not, nor is the ink cross. 19.2.52

52

3/10/52

FIRE WOOD

The hedge west of the hut is being cut back. There is plenty of cut wood for the fetching available & there is no need to cut down trees in the wood for the time being. RM

4.10.52

Party of four went to do Scirdan's (Chris Bowler, Struan Robertson, Arnold Bridge & Paul Ache) were guided to shaft by Tratty. Went down to the Temple. Trouble experienced when 3 of the 4 lights gave out, emergency candles were used. Entered cave at 4.30 left at 10 p.m. Returned to hut & had a good meal washed down by a "Geff Coates" special" - a very warming & pleasant fluid. Arnold, Struan & Peter Bird + 3 odd bodies spent the night in the hut.

P.A. Ache

5.10.52 Brian Paekham arrived 8.30. Jimi Webster, Brian, Peter Bird, Peter Yorke, Ken Nightingale bat-ringing in Reads. No bats captured - 1 bat seen in flight. Removed dangerous boulder in roof of entrance-way.

53  
Geoff Coates out for about an hour in morning.

Arnold, Trathy, P. Yorke, Jim left for  
Priddy 12.30. Peter Bird left for Bristol  
12.30. Ken & Brian down Goatchurch  
for bats.  
P. Bird.

~~5/10/52 Ken Nightingale and Brian Packham. back from  
Goatchurch. Found one ~~was~~ bat. No fire (means  
no tea), going down to cafe and then home. No idea  
of time. Cherno, KRN~~

⊗ Sleeping.


5/10/52 A.D.B., Trath & Yorke returned from  
Swilclon's without finding the rope  
Den arrived in afternoon.

2 D.D. & A.D.B. left for Plume at 7.15.01  
Was it necessary for non-members  
to write their futuristic remarks in  
the log? \*  
A.D. Bird

?5.  
Left - line not dry ∴ left in hat.

11-10-1952. Geoff. Coates, Jean & Arnold went  
down Sidcot. Jim & Margaret Saunders collected  
milk & eggs from Hibbert. Jeanette Rose, a new  
member interested in Archaeology was shown round  
Parthos' barrow, Reed's, etc. In evening, after stew, the  
whole party transferred to the Plume.

\* The note of work done is necessary.  
The other bit is not, nor is the ink cross. P. Bird.

18th October 1952. V.B., N.G.B., P.G. & A. Bridge  
 took 15 new corners down Gatchurch cove.  
 They departed to Rinstop after tea &  
 sandwiches. E.K.T. & P.A. went to G.B. to  
 blow in East Passage. All freshers left but <sup>VB</sup>  
 by 7 o'clock, Party of the Wessex cave club  
 dinner - Geoff Coates, Arnold Bridge, Valerie  
 Boardman, Noel Blackwell & Trathy. P. Ache  
 left but by 7.45 left fire well stocked !!!  
 pending the return of the Wessex dinner  
 party. 

19th Oct 1952 Vol Geoff. Arnold & Noel in hut overnight  
 rained all day left in afternoon

21/10/1952

Walked up valley beyond top of  
 Burrington Combe on road to Middle  
 Ellick farm. The valley divides at this  
 farm which lies in the larger eastern  
 branch. The southern branch is deep &  
 narrow. Eastern branch relatively flat bottom.  
 at Nat. Grid Ref. ST 4945755 O.S. marks  
 "Spring" close to track on E side & immediately  
 N. of farm. Actually this is not a spring but  
 a swallet at the foot of a minor blind valley.  
 The swallet is fed by a spring higher up.  
 In the S. valley a major spring has  
 been tapped for water supply. The overflow  
 gradually goes underground across end of E



valley below (W) of swallet. The swallet is approximately at the junction of the lower limestone shales + mountain limestone.

Much work would be needed to open it up. The dip of the strata would seem to indicate that this might be one of the feeder streams to the rising on the south side + near west end of Blagdon Reservoir.

A further sink of flood waters from S. valley appears to be in region of TQ 4925-5779

Som. XVIII N.E. + N.W. 6" O.S. map  
Blagdon Combe

1. Richford Rising This comes up through relatively small opening in triassic conglomerate. (XVIII N.W.)
2. Squire's Well on st. of road near sharp bend (Nat. Grid Ref. ST49325915) Partly natural. Partly artificial. Water rises here under flood conditions after heavy rain. Assumed to be overflow for Richford Rising.
3. The Park Approx. opp. gates to Combe Lodge near edge of wood a piece of rough ground. Under flood conditions heavier than that needed to produce water at 2. above water comes out here. Noise of as if small

56.

cascade. Presumably flood outlet for  
Richford Rising. (N.G. Ref 49705929). Might well be  
easiest way into the Richford series.

Som. XVIII S.E.

Visited low Hole. No evidence of recent  
work seen (N.G. Ref ST.51955676)

In field to W. another natural sinking  
with stony bottom. 15-20 feet deep &  
about 60 ft. diam. other minor sinkings  
(N.G. Ref. S. T51615692)

Similar sinking in field to E of low Hole. (ST52105766)  
These three form lie in nearly a straight line.

Numerous other ones in area ML

23/10/52. To Tyring's Great Swallet.

Started to sink shaft to passage from  
surface at spot given by survey. Day  
out about 1 ton.

Spoke to Farmer Young of Lower Farm,  
Chertophode. He requests that if no more  
work is going to be done in near future  
at swallet XVIII (see G.B. survey) that the  
existing hole be filled in. ML

Saturday, 25 October, 1952. Party of eleven (EKT, VB, A. Bridge, A. Lloyd, D. Gillam, P. Ache and 5 new people) down G.B. Gorge illuminated by large Tilley lamp and the new manna-taban to the bottom of the cave & back via the ox-bow and the long way (wet). EKT blew in the East Passage. Chair on ladder by 1st Grotto came away. <sup>Phil</sup> After supper all <sup>fell</sup> about 5<sup>00</sup> back to Bristol <sup>not seriously injured except A. Bridge</sup>.

Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> October 1952. Don Thomson led Valeris Boland, Peter Yoke, Chris Lloyd, Phil Davis, Mick Ginnister, Geoff Stocker and Terry Condy in a party down Lamb Lees, starting at 11.30 am. David Willis led a large party of Worcester Cavers down the same afternoon & the two parties met at 2.30. We arranged for them to use our tackle, and this worked well. It was agreed that D.W. should return the tackle that night, unless it was too late, in which case it would be the next day. Oct.

Stewart, David Finn & A.D.B. dug at East end of Bath swallet. P.R. Ache & E.K.T. checking fittings for calvar gear.

A. Bridge.

Thurs. Oct. 30

Returned Lamb Lees gear left-at-house.

Found at hut following points to note

1. Door of clothes hut open.
2. Ace & X-cut saw left-out.
3. Gate to field wide open.

It is customary for last person leaving hut to see that:

1. Doors + windows, including door of clothes shed are properly secured.
2. Tools are not left out
3. Gate to field closed or partially so.

It is suggested that car owners shld. not bring their cars into camp anymore, now during winter months.

Odd jobs done on hut. HNS

Saturday, Nov. 1st A Bridge took 10 Axbridge Cars  
down G.B. (great day). EKT dived a hole for a  
bolt at the top of the ladder in the 1st gate.  
D Gilham, G. Fuller, & D Finn also down G.B.  
Gillam left for Bristol in the evening, V.B. out by 8.0pm

Sunday, Nov. 2nd. Oliver Floyd out by 10.15 a.m.  
O. Lloyd, V. Boardland, A. Bridge, and G. Fuller left for  
Swildons at 11.30 a.m. Top parts of Swildons Thoroughly  
examined, the final exit being <sup>made</sup> via 'The West Way'.  
P. Ake manufacturing color gas fittings and  
EKT put fluorescein in the stream at Reade -

V. Boardland.

Wednesday Nov 5<sup>th</sup>

A. D. B. out to return log & collect  
bike. P.A. in possession surrounded by  
gas fittings. One hole? R. Harty examining  
down in front of hut.

Treat & party making a lot of noise  
in woods? private fireworks

at 5.15

5-11-52

GREAT MOMENT 1<sup>st</sup> gas lamp lit by kitchen  
light hut by 1700 P.A. Ake

Sun. Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> David Finn & SHOT to Reade's. Put about  
1 oz Fluorescein in E swallow at 1505 hrs.  
Nothing through at Langford rising between 1600  
& 1715 hrs. Nothing seen again at 1915 hrs.

SH

Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Party of 4 - (D. Finn, G. Fuller, F. Paine and C. Martin) - down Gatchurch.

G. Coates, Oliver Lloyd, V. Bourdard, A. Bridge, D. Gilkerson, J. Nicholls, J. Pauron & 2 Educ. Dept. students went to the Guffy Field. T.13 was filled up and the fence removed to the Tynings Great Swallet Dig - note the present posts are unstable and new ones are necessary.

The shaft is now about 3 feet deep.

Paul Acbe amused himself with gas fittings.

m.p. N.B. =

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.

G.P.B. + 4 (D.G., D.F., J.F. & J.D.) down Read's to 2nd. Alley.

Paul & Truffy fixed gas; all lights work! Truff, P.A., J.D., & D. Finn to Rhino.

G.P. Bridge.

N.B. The last person to leave the Hut MUST SWITCH OFF THE GAS AT THE CYLINDER

10/11/4

Saturday, 15th November. Party of 8 - O'Hoyd, D. Thomson, G Coates, D Finn, G Fuller, J. Dawson, D. Gilliam, and "Dorothy" down Eastwater; up Baker's chimney (not recommended for beginners), down to the "Banister Pit", across to the 1st left chamber and up the canyon.

P. Hicks, A. Bridge and W.B. out in the afternoon. Later returned to Pickford. Saxon stayed overnight W.B.

Sunday, 16th November.

Semi-photographic expedition to Swildon's Hole by Jenny Dawson, Dave Finn, Oliver Hloyd, Don Thompson & Geoff Fuller, also Trotty. Set out approx midday & entered cave @ 13.00 hrs. Trotty made lone expedition to examine ladder fixtures @ top of 20' pit. Rest of party descended 40' pit, & 20' pit & went as far as Barnes's loop where a number of shots were taken of the beautiful formations. After refreshment, party returned & left by the 'wet' way & emerged, wet, cold, but smiling @ 19.45 hours - 6 1/2 hours underground.

GF

Mon. 17 Nov.

1. Long wire tether does not seem to have been returned from Swildon's trip 16/11/52. Wire tether was not taken, Oct. 17, 52
2. Swildon's Hole Rowl hooks have been fixed by Don Coase (Warriser) at head of 40' + 20', both on right side. Ladders can be hung from these. Ties no longer required.
3. Ropes two recovered from foot of 40' in Swildon's. One is our own lost on 4/10/52. Second has been acquired. All ropes

and ladders should be tested again. ~~W~~

Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 1952.

G.E.C., Geoff Fuller & D. Frim  
photographing in G.B. at 40' & loop.

Traut slipping in east passage. East blow  
did very little. The roof is level & there  
is a thin film of mud between the roof  
the stalagmites, a further blow is considered.

Jennie Dawson, D. Gillman & A.D.B. take white  
way to West extension. J.D. & D.G. to loop.

In the white way at the foot of the boulder  
slope are two large flat rocks, the  
top one is very loose & could be softly  
removed from above after one blow  
with a crow-bar.

all to Richard in evening arriving 45 min  
before closing time. ~~W~~  
A.D. Bridge

G.B. Under stalagmite in E passage is about  
6" of plastic clay silt. Extremely tenacious.  
Prevents explosives being effective. Below  
is sandy material = O.R.S. & limestone  
pebbles up to 4" diam. Next shot should  
be in this lower material.

Sun. 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov. 1952.

Sun Hole. A. Bridge, Jennie Dawson & Traut.  
Some of 5<sup>th</sup> ft, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> ft Pleistocene dug.



Squares B, c/4, 5.

7<sup>th</sup> ft. B/5 only - very barren.  
 6<sup>th</sup> ft. c/4, 5. Portion of lower jaw  
 probably horse, several loose teeth of same.  
 Bone fragments. 1 flint flake  
 possibly a knife  
 5<sup>th</sup> ft. c/4, 5. 1 flint blade. Portion of  
 cortex. " " "

Surface of spoil heap. Fragment of  
 trapezoidal blade  $\bar{c}$  "dos rabette". Presumably  
 from 5<sup>th</sup> ft of party on 25/5/52  
 16/6/52

Pothes & party on T5. 2<sup>nd</sup> pit burial  $\bar{c}$   
~~damaged~~ oxidized, completely, at edge - W. of  
 barrow. M.H.

Don Thomson, Oliver Lloyd & Mick Glenister (p. Wessons) did excavation  
 of the Arbridge Ochre Hole. Three photos in latter. At  
 entrance there is a trolley full of mouldering electric light equipment.  
 3/- put in box. O.L.

Sat. 29.N.52

Peter Yorke & Peter Bird out about 20.45 hrs.  
 Hut offered to have been used - footmarks, ~~etc~~  
 fire still glowing\* - no entry in Log Book,\*  
 though! Removed 11 items of muddy covering  
 bit from Hut (including from beds!) to clothes shed.  
 \*See type written Camp Rules at beginning  
 of this Log Book

64.

Rescued a good broom from small snowdrift  
in the wood. P. Bird.

30.11.52

Donner Thomson, Oliver - and  
A.N. Othar called at Hut 11.30 to collect  
G.B. Key, Tratty & P.Y. cut hedge & firewood  
P.B. went to meet a man to runy bats, but he  
didn't arrive. G. Coates came. G. Coates & Tratty  
left. P.B. Cleared gutters on Hut. P.Y., P.B. left

17.20.

Don Thomson, Oliver Lloyd & Mick Glenister (of Nessix) did

G.B. The walls of the or-holes & its formations were nearly all bone dry & most  
remarkable! Evidently they are kept moist by condensation. The weather was freezing  
rel.

29/11/52

1500 hrs put *A. oza fluorescens* in Bath  
Stream - awaiting comments from  
owners of springs at foot of hill

Party of 5 (David Finn & Co) out - down  
Goatchurch. ~~///~~

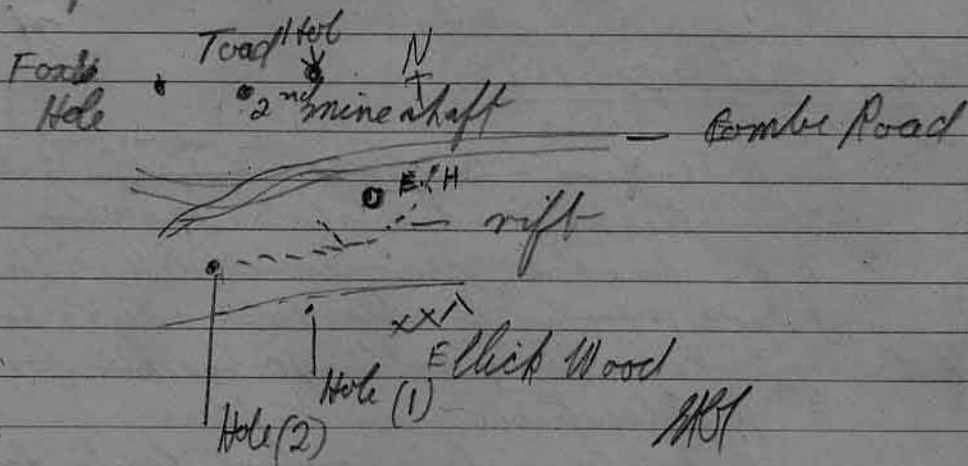
5/12/52. Making & fitting flap door to opening  
to fuel shed from Hut

It is recommended that this flap  
should be kept open when gas lights  
are in use. ~~///~~

6/12/52. Struan & ~~///~~ out. Walk to top  
of Combe to look at rift wh. communicates  
with Elephant's Hole. Numerous mine  
workings along line of rift wh. extends  
down to Road E-wards & above Combe

W-wards for about 100', found one opening above rift inside Ellick Wood (W) not mined - opposite Toad Hole. Another opening partly at least if not entirely natural some 50' W of 1st hole & about 20' below edge of Ellick Wood.

Rift takes a curved line



Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. '52

Goeff Coates, Goeff Fuller & Dave Finn entered C.B. @ 11:00 hrs - photography in the "White Way" & @ the top of the 40 ft pitch. Left cave @ 2:30 pm & returned to hut for meal.

Jerry Spragge arrived @ 3 p.m & joined in the meal.

G.F.

Pat.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 1952

V.B & O.C.L. to G.B. for Guest Day  
5th Anniversary. G.B.C. & Jean photography in  
white passage & art gallery. P. Yorks  
& J. Spragg out later. A.D.B., P.Y., Jerry  
Geoff & Jean to Pheme in evening.  
P.Y. & A.D.B. spent night in hut

A.D. Bridge

Sun. Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 1952.

Donald Thompson & O.C. Lloyd <sup>Van Mackintosh (Wisser)</sup> & ~~A.M. Otter~~ called to  
collect tackle for Cartwater 10.00 hrs.

A.B. back to Bournemouth 11.50 hrs.

P. Yorks & Tratty to Sun Hole 11.50 hrs.

Remoned & sorted 20 buckets from  
8<sup>th</sup> ft Pleistocene area c/4, 5.

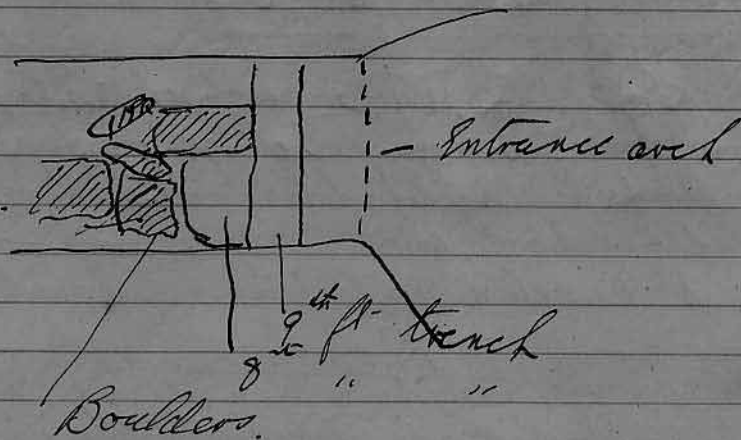
Find: a few rodent limb bones,  
one rodent ~~mandible~~ mandible, some bone  
fragments & one hammer stone from c/4.

Covered over working floor with sheet  
metal preparatory to extending dig back  
into cave. Broke up & threw down a  
number of boulders. The large slabs originally  
thought to be probably rock floor are now  
seen to be lying on top of many feet of deposit.  
cliff

L.S. along line 4/5  
fallen blocks

Entrance

8<sup>th</sup> ft Pleistocene  
9<sup>th</sup> ft Pleistocene

Plan

The deposit is still of angular limestone gravel.

The boulders in part seem to form a layer which must have fallen from roof at one time en masse. *SLH*

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December. I returned the tackle borrowed for last Sunday's Estwater trip. This consisted of a 40', 30' & 20' ladders, 3 fishers (30', 24' & 18') and the 90' life line. I had taken them home with me to dry them properly; also because I wanted to use 2 of the ladders for a trip down Swildon's on the Monday.

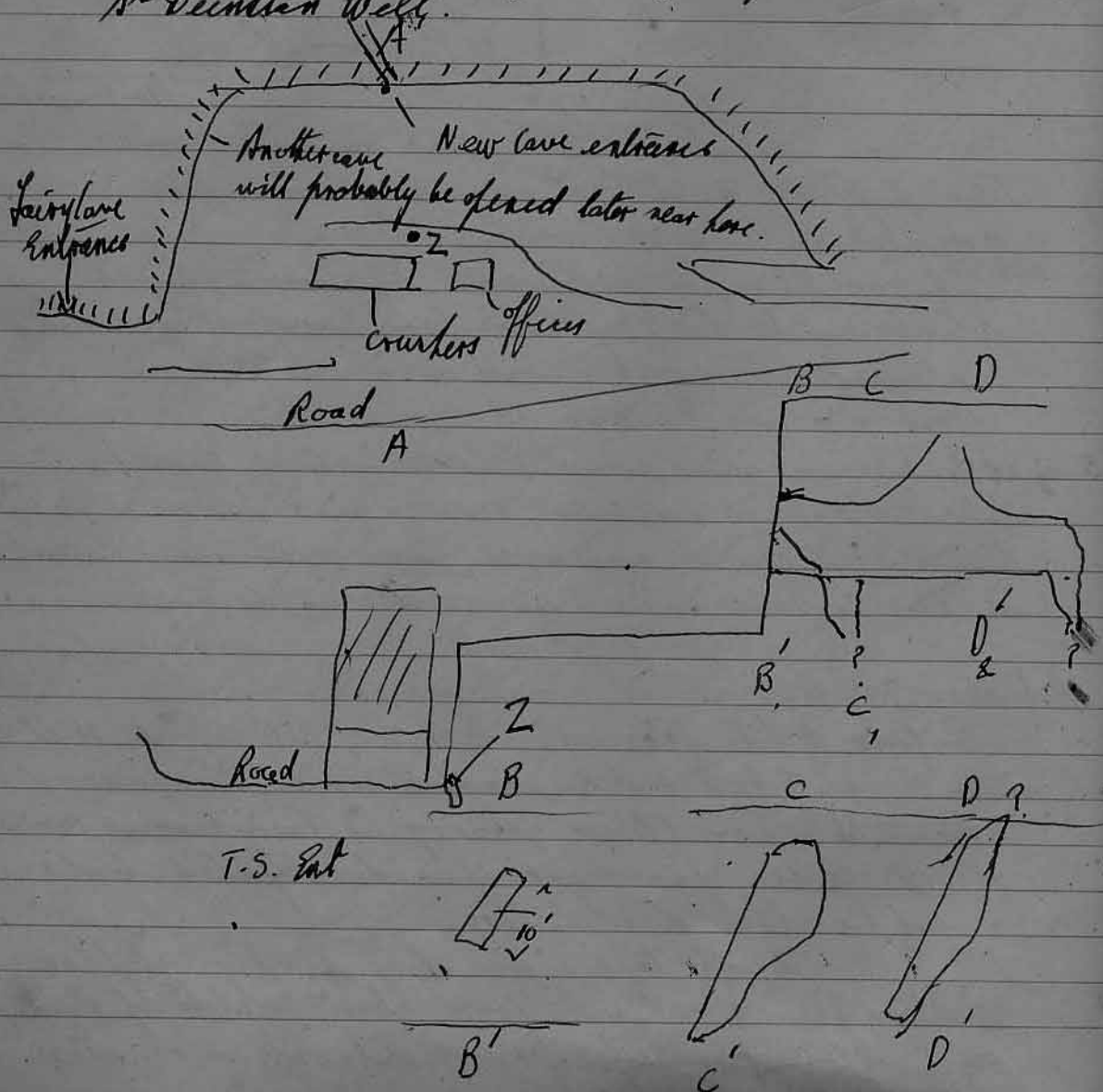
O.C. Lloyd -

Sat. Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 1952.

P. Yorke at hut afternoon. E.K.T., B.A.C., M. Hall & G.C. + F. Proot & H. Kenney (Wensley) to quarry near Stoke Lane (same quarry as Fairy Cave or Cox's Cave) to see new cave opened. Reported to be very beautiful & 100' long.

It is a rift type cave along steeply sloping bedding plane entered from about middle of face of quarry. Surface slopes. Many stalactite formations.

Surface of main flows covered by films of water so one gets very wet. Marked draught comes down from roof at about 25' ft in where roof slopes up nearly to surface. Air current goes down final drop to "rabbit hole" at bottom. You are here about 400' away + say 100ft above St Decresten Well.



Visited <sup>st</sup> just behind stone crushing plant surface water from high level of quarry floor + road drainage + low level quarry are all diverted down a natural opening much altered by quarrying approximately at Z. This takes a very considerable volume + at time was taking very muddy, ochreous, coloured surface water. (It had been raining hard for 12 hrs or more). MHT

~~Had~~ Visited <sup>st</sup> Dunston's Well. This is now being worked on as a water supply source. Considerable works. Main rising on it. (looking down stream) in great volume, greyish slightly muddy. To left a car crash stopped with concrete. To left again double smaller checks pouring ochreous brown water. This is probably water entering at Z in quarry. It is stated by quarrymen that this is so.

Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> Dec. 1952. P.Y. + MHT to Beacon Hill. State forestry dept. is ploughing over some of the barrows. Made notes on & measured ten. There are possibly others. (see Field Work Log for details)

P.Y. found 2 unrecorded tunnels near Red G. up.

Forthos + party at T-5. Found ? another burial site on extreme edge of barrow, and a trench filled with black earth. MHT

Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> Dec P.Y. arrived 1-30 Chopwood wood etc. Back early evening.

Sat & Sun 27-28 Dec 52.

ROB, JKP, JGP, JTD. surveying in Goughs.  
Calor gas is on the way out.

ROB.

Sun. 28/12/52

sun hole. E.S.T. splitting up boulders.  
Removed & sorted 10 buckets 2<sup>nd</sup> + 3<sup>rd</sup> ft  
Pleistocene. A few bone fragments  
3<sup>rd</sup> ft E/5. HBT

Mon. Tues. 29/12/52

Tested gas. No evidence of failure.  
? due on 28/12/52 to freezing of gas in cylinder.  
HBT

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January 1953.

The President, Dr Crook, Molly, Geoff Coates  
and Peter Yorke welcomed Rodney Pearce and  
Mr Frank Frost to the New Year Eve Party.  
On return from Rickford dinner began with  
hors d'oeuvres (anchovies, petites écrevisses, pâtés parmesan,  
rognons, œufs à l'ail) & pâté de dinde truffée accompanied by Chilean white  
and was followed by poulets rotis (travis), choucroute  
de Bruxelles, petite pois, carottes à l'anglaise (i.e. just boiled)  
and pommes à la Parisienne, garnished with



Sauce Périgoux (with Chilean ~~and~~ Cabernet red, followed by Chateaufort du Pape 1947). Dinner concluded with Christmas Pudding & du bon vin blanc écossais; little drinking time remained before the party went outside to give a pyrotechnic welcome to the new year. Gerald & Mary Hibbert arrived in time to join the party before the new year, and assisted in wishing good fortune to absent friends at the four corners of the compass.

The party survived to hear a recitation by Dr Rodney Pearce, and all except Peter Yorke & G.E.C. departed at about 1 am.

E.K.T. and Frank Frost turned up again about 11 am on New Year's Day and, with P.Y. & G.E.C., paid a brief visit to Hibbert's, and abandoned their pretended forestry after considering the foul weather.

During the party there was a brief panic about the calor gas supply which showed signs of languishing, probably because of low temperature. However, paraffin lamps were lit and culinary preparations did not suffer.

G. E. C.

Sat Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>

Mr Taylor & party working on the barrow  
 4.15 to 5.30 approx. E.K.T. & P.Y. replenished fuel supply  
 P.Y. arrived 4 P.M.

Peter Bird out 22.30.

E.K.T. to Bristol to meeting to discuss the  
 Cave Preservation Society.

Sun. Jan. 4 1953

P.Y. & G.M. to Sun Hole. Broke up large boulder in E/4, 5. Removed & sorted 20 buckets from 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> ft. Pleistocene in area E F/4, 5, 6.  
Finds nil.

Porthos & 6. on T5. Several pits found & their limits defined. Cover stones left in place. There are all outside ring cairn of barrow on S.W. aspect.

P.B. & W. Stanton to Read's bat ringing.

Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1953

O.C. removed two metal ladders (40' and 20') for use on the Swindon's trip the next day.

Tratty, D. Finn, G.F.; P.Y. to Rhine Rift to shift rubble. Returned for tea & then trip down Rods. (5 G.M. Cole, a new member).

T.5. off barrow worked; 2 pits excavated; small quantity of burnt & calcined bones recovered (human?)

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. '53.

E.K.T.; G.F.; P.Y.; D.J.F.; G.M.C.; to Rhine Rift & shifted 1 1/2 tons of rubble from entrance. Then G.F., D.J.F., P.Y. & G.M.C. down G.B @ 2.45 & up @ 4.40.

Sat. 17 Jan. 1953

Party of ten did non-public parts of Gough's cave.

P.D. + D.M.M.T. + O.C.L. took some photos in N.P. parts. Party out by 4.35 pm. Meal at hut. Thence to "The Plume of Feathers" Porthos + party on T5. One pit produced  
Sun. Jan. 18 1953

D.J.F. + G.M.C. down Goatchurch for fun. D.J.F., G.M.C., G.G.F., P.Y., A.B. + SHOT to Ring Rift. Moved more rubble up to about 1/2 ton. Placed + fired charge under boulder + split it in half. Looked at nearby mine shaft. Some good spitting done, especially by G.G.F.  
Meal at hut.

Party of six new down Goatchurch. SHOT

21<sup>st</sup> Jan 1953

new cylinder of gas started

24 Jan '53.

Round Bridge @ Yriny's Great. P. Yorke @ Barrow by hut + Porthos + party. E.K.T.; D.J.F.; G.F.; P.A.; DTD; D.G.; D.M.M.T.; O.C.; P.D.; down G.B. Also 28 guests. Traffic jams etc in the Oxbow. (Beecher Cliff Boy's school is apparently a "mixed" school!!!) Usual party @ the "Plume" in the evening.

25<sup>th</sup> Jan '53

Commision of St. Paul. Discussion of St. Paul's System in Simpson's. After lunch, G.F.; DTD; + P.Y.; to Sidcot + Hell" was simply just that, & was eventually given up.

~~for~~ A.B. went to Yriny's Great. E.K.T.; D.J.F.; G.F.; P.A. examined a hole above Fuelines, <sup>E.K.T., D.J.F., G.F., P.A.</sup> ~~near~~ to G.B. About 18" gained in the East Passage + then E.K.T. "pooped off" + all returned to hut.

26.1.53 7 pm. to 27.1.53 3. am. 1<sup>st</sup> exploration of St Paul's in Swildon's  
X by members of spelaeos: Don Thomson & Oliver Lloyd, with the discoverers  
Willie Stanton & Howard Kenney. This system is beyond a blasted  
stalagmite at the head of Balch's Forbidden Passage above Troutman's Temple.  
31.1.53

Party of four (D.F., G.F. Dooly & Geoff) down  
Swildon's to just beyond Barnes Loop, took  
pictures. Party of four down Rods pit (D.D., J.D.,  
Fred & P.R.A.)

1.2.53 E.K.T. & P.R.A. day at Tynings Great  
Swallet, exposed part of rift.

Don Thomson & Oliver Lloyd had a look at the Levery in Sandford  
Hill and 4 or 5 of the mining shafts in the hill above. There were  
some very interesting examples of early carboniferous & gower formation:  
strobilites are up to 1 1/2" long. This level was driven about 1800-1830  
D.D. & A.D.B. examined dig in Gough's. Then to  
see hole moved about 1 ton of previously  
shattered rock.

7/2/53 D.W.G. & D.T.D. came to dig but bus was late and  
door locked. Obtained key from the barrow when too late  
to go to Tynings Great Swallet. Found some  
snowdrops (nothing else of any interest). Exhausted by  
efforts, retired to the 'Plume of Feathers'.  
? D. Gillham

8/2/53 D.T.D. spent night in hut solo - P.R.A.  
arrived at 12.00 hrs. E.K.T. @ 1300.  
after some "doctoring" it was found that one  
of the broken trees over the road was  
dangerous & therefore had to be removed.

Retired to hut & built large fire & dried off. (it was raining hard). G.G.F. arrived in the middle of the tree felling operations.

14. 2.53. E.K.T., Dorothy, David, G.G.F., G.M.C., DASR. Chris Bowler and Paul Ache down G.B. Impacted last blow in the East Passage. Had blown out about 1 foot. Much loose material; easily dry, sandy on left wall. Air pockets in talagmite. Placed & fired; shot 3 sticks. Successful bang

15. 2.53 E.K.T., D.T.D., D.J.F., G.G.F., G.M.C., S.R. down Lamb's Linn. G.G.F. took photo. S.R., G.C.F. D.J.F., G.M.C. on to initials.

D.A.S. Robertson

Top of calor gas cylinder found & placed in small tool-box  
D.A.S. Robertson

21. 2.53 Trathy, Struan, & Peter Yake dry at Tynny's Green sculler. D.G., D.F., G.F., ~~D.D.~~ down G.B. did blow in E. Passage

22. 2.53 Trathy, P. Yake, D.F., G.F., Dorothy & P.R.A. over to Sun hole & broke up rocks in flow, later joined by Porters & family & Demond. ~~Richard~~ & P.R.A. examined Soldiers Hole. All left hut by 20.30 hrs. P.R.A.

Wed. 26 Feb. 1953 Party to Sun Hole, dug 3-4 ft Pleist.  
25 buckets area D<sup>1</sup>E<sup>1</sup>/4 - only two minute bone  
fragments.

Drilled hole & fired shot in large boulder  
in D/3 approx. Some fragments, all small save  
one, reached road. Boulder shattered. SKH

Tues. 25 Feb. 1953 Walked through part of Harptree Combe,  
lower end. This is in conglomerate. Several  
risings, mining, adits & badger or fox burrows, all  
which should be looked at closely.

A little way up on E. side N. of side  
valley is a 'rising' which seems to ~~take~~ let out  
water under flood conditions. Can be penetrated  
several feet & does not appear to be mined. Worth  
a further visit.

There appears to be an ovoid tumulus  
in field to S.E. of 'second R' in West Harptree. SKH

Sat. Feb. 28 1953 Party of 6 down G.B.

Digging in E. passage. Placed & fired  
shot (3 sticks) against lt. wall. Dug  
out all loosened material of previous shot.  
Spangsmite floor (now roof) of passage sounds  
hollow.

Party of 4 digging at Tyning's  
Great. Found rock face to wall. 13 boulders  
with air spaces found at bottom & to W.

Perthos & party working on T. 5.

27

Later to Plumc where beer & cider  
were had. SMH

Sun. Mar. 1<sup>st</sup> 1953

Party of 5 to Tyrning's Great.  
Much enthusiasm over boulders & air  
spaces.

Next party will need buckets & rope.  
Tools left inside G.B. entrance

- 1 small crow bar
- 1 long " "
- 1 pick (short blade)
- 1 shovel

Party of 5 + Bertie + 6. later to  
Sea Hole. Dug out 70 buckets 304  
ft. feet of Pleistocene in area DE/4.  
Split up & removed part of boulder blasted  
on 25/2/53. Material very barren.

Porthos & party on T5 found 21<sup>st</sup> ledge.  
SMH

Saturday 7/3/53

D. T. Duncanson, E. K. T. & A. D. B. to  
Tyrning's Great; about 4<sup>th</sup>. Arrived in

Saturday 7/3/53

✓ D.T. Durbowth, E.K.T + A.D.B to Tynny's Great. Arrived at hole in time to find G.E.C happily burrowing. Started to remove loose rock & overhanging clay from side of dig. Left dig at 6.45. Tools (1 pick, 1 shovel, 1 bucket, 1 rope, 1 sledgehammer & 1 crow-bar left in entrance to G.B. G.E.C, D.T.D & A.D.B to phone in evening. Gained pay G.F., D.F., P.Y. *Alwyn*

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 1953 "Beginner's trip" to G.B. Dr Thomas, Olive May, Valerie Rowland, Hannah Batten took down a party including 3 beginners: John Alf Gode, his sister May, Ian Jones and Johnny Howell ("I've been with the Spelogs doing some caving!") *Dr Thomas discovered a new grotto in the roof of the G.B.*

Fire broke out on Blackdown at 11.45 hrs - evidence of incendiarism (several small fires started almost simultaneously, at quite widely separated points) P. Varke, Traty, David Finin, Dorothy, Geoff Full, A.D.B P. Ache & others attempted to put fire out - almost succeeded when fire brigade arrived - after 999 call. - in afternoon about 6 separate fires near cheddar

Party of 5 - Traty <sup>A.D.B</sup> - P. Varke - Dave - Geoff <sup>G.B.</sup> Full & P. Ache to Tynny's Great in afternoon, D. Finin Dorothy & A.N. other did blow on E. Passage S.B. - Hole bled in roof with drought & thro' it - looks hopeful. Many markers this week have NOT paid their hut levy - it is pointed out that the minimum levy is 6<sup>d</sup> for one day - 1/6<sup>d</sup> per week - end.

→ PLEASE - PAY ←  
OR WE CANNOT AFFORD GAS OR PARAFFIN & ETC.



Sat 14<sup>th</sup> March. Stomach down downwards. Knocked out several  
chick-stones. Dangerous boulder not found D/SR 79.

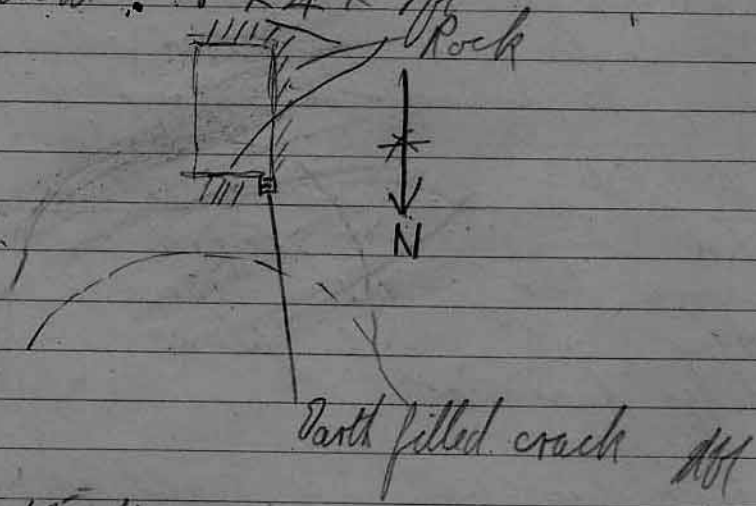
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

Party of 8, G. Fuller, D. Funn, D. Gillman,  
D. Duckworth, P. Rache, S.R. & 3 to G.B.

Moved forward 4 & 5 ft in E. Passage.  
Party of 3, E.K.T., D. Gillman & A.D.B. to  
Tynning's Great. 110 buckets of earth &  
rock moved.

To Phoenix in evening. Joined by  
P. Bird & P. Yards. ~~a strike~~

At Tynning's Great rock walls  
now on S, W & N sides. Pit measures  
about 8' x 4' x 7' ft



Sun. 15<sup>th</sup> Mar

Party of 6 to Sun Hole.  
Dug 75 buckets 4' + 5' ft Pleistocene area  
E & part of D. 1 flint flake from  
5<sup>th</sup> ft Pleistocene D/4 AJM

Wed. 18<sup>th</sup> Mar. 1953

Party of 2 to Sun Hole in afternoon.  
 cracked up nearly whole of boulder blasted on 25/2/53  
 + threw pieces down. Dug a few buckets  
 of 5<sup>th</sup> fl Pleistocene area 'D'. Some bone  
 fragments found including one which  
 appears to have been in process of being cut  
 into slivers.

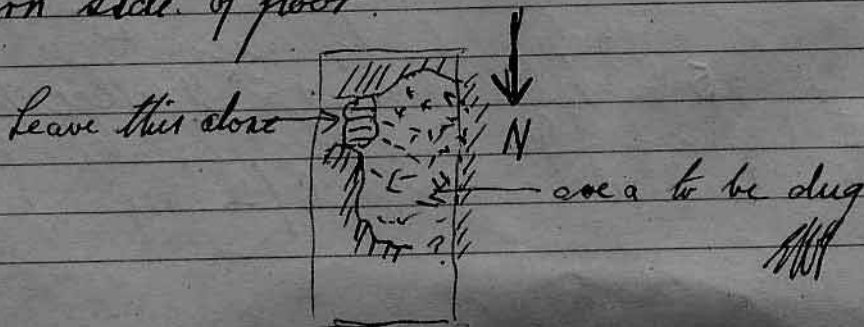
Fri. Mar. 20 1953

Party 2 to Tynning's Great Swallet dig.  
 Dug out 100 buckets of stone + earth. Put in  
 two steps of angle iron. Reached stone layer  
 with air spaces between at approx 10' from  
 surface.

Tools left in G.R. entrance are:-

1 bucket	3 tripod legs
1 long crow bar	2 ropes
1 pulley	2 picks
1 sledge hammer	

Area to be dug by next party is on  
 western side of floor.



Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 1953

A Speleo-Werner party (Don Thomson, Oliver Lloyd, Phil Davies, Frank Frost, joined by Mick Gwinister & Dicky Warren) took two 40 foot ladders and explored the "Pearly Mine" on Sandford Hill. This is a nearly vertical mine shaft <sup>about 200</sup> ~~170~~ years old <sup>down the dip it about 80°</sup> ~~down~~ into the west of the hill above the Levery; <sup>the lurg</sup> ~~it~~ probably communicated at one time. You need a long tether to the nearest sapling (a 60' line will do, doubled) and about 70 feet of ladder. <sup>50 feet</sup> ~~30~~ from the top are two headings down E & W along the strike, communicating with the lower headings 20 feet below. The <sup>East</sup> ~~West~~ heading descends another 20' or 30' and goes about 150' ending in a squeeze: a muddy area nearby makes an amusing climb. The ~~East~~ West heading has three squeezes and follows a dip to a place where there is a sufficiently heavy drip to have formed some fine cave pearls in the floor (up to 3 x 0.5 cm. diam.) Stalactites in the artificial parts of these headings (some parts are water worn areas) are about twice the size of those in the Levery and a few streams are as much as 3 to 4 inches long (Levery only 1 to 1 1/2")

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 1953

Another Speleo-Werner party (Oliver Lloyd, Phil Davies & Richard Kenney) took growing issues to Swildon's Hole, with a view to forming a connection between the entrance waterfall and the head of the middle dry way. The exact spot for digging was located by shouting (15' from the square boulder), but the roof is very low & space cramped. Part of the stream has been diverted in this direction, ~~so~~ so that the cave god can do some of the work in our absence.

Mon. 22 Mar. 1953

Party of 3 to Tyring's Great. Dug out 100 buckets got down to where can shake hands with person inside. Big ~~draft~~ draught. Stages with spaces between. Opening in floor of pit, which is over 20 feet deep, is now only about 4 x 3 ft. A longer hauling rope needed at least 50 ft.

Party of 1 to Sea Hole. Dug part of 5 ft Pleistocene in E/4, 5,

Finds 1 hammer stone 3 buckets

A few pore fragments  
6 ft Pleistocene 33 buckets.

Finds nil.

STF

± Sat. 21 Mar. 1953

Party of 3 at Tyring's Great. Dug out 20 buckets in morning

" " 40 " " evening.

In interval took "Guests" round G.B.

Struan lost some of his tribe & found them in Runba Alley. Brought out

Tilley Lamps for repair.

6 mussels came out - via ooze gallantly had sadistic secretary. STF

\* Note Over period 20, 21, 22 March this group have raised at Tyring's approximately 60 tons through a vertical height of one foot!

STF

Mon. 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar. 1953

## WATER.

The drinking water tank is now more than half empty. Please be economical in the use of water until there is enough rain to replenish it.


The washing water tank is about  $\frac{2}{3}$  full still. MHI

Mar. 25. 1953

2 to Sun Hole. Dug & sorted 30 buckets from 6 ft Pleistocene area DE/5,4  
Finds 1 rodent limb bone  
 1 fragment of rib. MHI

Mar. 28<sup>th</sup> 1953

Filtering Tilley (lamps) All now in working order. Cannibalized parts from Big Bertha. MHI

Evening find about  $\frac{2}{3}$  off/polished flint <sup>small</sup> in ploughed to E of Hebbards farm.  close to E-W track and about 30' from N-S track. MHI

Mar. 29 1953

3 to Tynning's Great. Dug 31 buckets  
Down now about to level of floor of  
old passage. Spaces between stores.  
A party of four is really necessary  
because of hauling difficulties.  
Cleaned out grease trap just  
outside hut. *MSA*

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 1953.

Don Thomson, Oliver Lloyd, Hamish Baxter & Peter Yoke to August Hole.  
Only a small, reasonable amount of water descending 30' vertical, owing to  
4 weeks drought, in spite of 2 days rain. 6 photographs. H.B. & P.Y.  
batter full in the rift pit, D.T. into the pit. All ok - except.

P. Bird went 'battering' in Reads: found 19 bats.  
|| Put on new gas cylinder. O.C.L.  
Mon. 30<sup>th</sup> Mar. 1953

Passed by hut & noted that toolshed  
door was wide open. It had never been  
bolted. *MSA*

Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1953 "The Reins Come" & the  
tanks are full!! *MSA*

Apr. 3 1953

Heavy rains of Apr. 1<sup>st</sup> + mainly Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> had made an appreciable difference at Rickford Rising. At Hunter's Brook (Read's) water going past intake had entirely ceased. At 1700 hrs on Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup> there was quite a lot of water going past. At 1100 hrs Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup> with no rain since 1700 hrs on Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> surplus water had disappeared.

At Tynning's Great a fall of about 10 cu ft or more has taken place from S face at top, + has. Earth has fallen to bottom of hole.

Smoke burnt. Let off inside - N<sup>2</sup> (W) rift in bottom of swallow. No smoke came out there or up through pit.

Seen Hole dug & sorted 16 buckets  
6 ft Pleistocene E/4, 3. Finds nil.  
8/6/53

Apr. 4 1953

Rained all day. No work done. till evening

Apr. 5 1953 Made up Pattern 1 conveyor for Rhino Rift. Went over & tried it. Wheels needed instead of runners. Moved up 3 large stones towards entrance.

conveyor must have hauling point at bottom + have wheels. 2 more sheets of metal needed to complete haulage length over.   
 SMM

Apr. 6 Mon Looked at various sites. Evening Molly's party.

Apr. 7 Tues 3 to Sun Hole. Dug + sorted 40 buckets. Mainly 6 ft Pleistocene D E/4, 3. + some of 7 ft " D/5. Finds from E/3 6 ft. Pleistocene + a few bone fragments. ~~P.R.A. slept in hut~~. P.R.A, P.Y. + Crick slept in hut  
Apr. 8 Wed 2 jobs round hut.   
 SMM

April 9 Thurs. Did odd jobs around the camp. P.R.A. to Bristol. in afternoon.   
 P.R.A.

April 11 Sat.:- E.K.T., Crichton, S.R. down G.B. Joined up with Wuser under Oliver Lloyd. Spider in East Passage; air quite fresh. The Society records its thanks to Bertie for the generous gift of the small trolley search lamp which was much easier to handle than the big one. E.K.T. + S.R. down Drumhards. Boulder still



11.9.53 Oliver Lloyd took party of Wrens men (mostly of Cambridge University Air Club) from G.B. They were most impressed by the Tilly and lighting of the ft. chamber, and this made it easy to collect ticks! Oliver Wells had 3 ticks at the Dye Passage, but the air space of 5" became only 4" when he lay in the water.

needs drifting but big raw safe. Then to dig hole in Combe near Elephant's hole. Too small - solid rock over floor. Slight draught.

S.R. down Downwards again. Smashed up one boulder but dangerous boulder still not moved altho' fairly well jammed; needs to be broken up. P.B. side did Rest's Coven for bats. P.B. D.A.S.R.

April 12<sup>th</sup> - Sunday.

E.K.T., Crickmay, P. Yorke and J.F.J. spent the morning clearing the stream above the Bath & Waller. Reason - marshy in <sup>some</sup> places and almost choked in others.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

E.K.T., Dorothy and Stroman to Hoptree Combe. Examined combe for mine shafts and natural caves:-

1 Rift enters about 15 ft. No sign of spoil but may be mined. On opposite side of valley floor there is a choked rising. To the south of the rift there is another smaller rift at present occupied by a badger. Not mined.

2 Intermittent rising 10 ft inside. Dry <sup>looking</sup> ramp under loose boulder which could be dug by a trench but would be difficult and arduous. Not mined.

### 3 Mines

① Horizontal - extended 36 ft.

②

③ More promising - extended about 25 yards and ended in a chamber with loose boulders in the floor. Possible place to dig. Conglomerate at entrance



by some benevolent incendiary.

S.R. to Compton Combe - first examined hillside above Ubley. Found old, circular vertical mine shaft at on edge of wood at dividing hedge. Examination of Compton Combe was fruitless. The quarry is still in operation and may yield something. A series of what may be mine workings can be seen on the left hand side of the Combe as you ascend. No site holding any promise of a cave was seen.

D.A.S.R.

Wed. 15<sup>th</sup> April

S.R. and J.F. to Downlands for further session of boulder heaving. Side passage now only just passable for cover of slender proportions but the boulder block is still unsafe. Suggest

① Chalk ~~mark~~ mark "danger" on loose boulder

② Change of jelly to see if it will either break up the rubble or block the passage completely.

E.K.T., S.R. & J.F. on surface trip to Browning's Tump and upper part of Haxtree Combe near Lamb Lair. 2 sites for future excavation found. For further details see E.K.T.'s notes.

D.A.S.R.

Thurs. 16<sup>th</sup> April

E.K.T., Jeff Fuller, Dorothy & Steuan to Stoke Lane. On observing the volume of water at close quarters the party decided that discretion

was the better part of valour and did not go down. A visit was made to the Fairy Cave quarry & St. Dunstan's Well. Fairy Cave was explored and also the small cave in the quarry face where certain members of the party collected broken stalactites as souvenirs. Also inspected locker taking drainage of quarry. On return home, E.K.T. checked O.S. 8" map on earthwork & tunnels near fence-way.

End of Easter camp & all who came went back to Bristol.

D.H.S.R.

18.4.53

Visitor V.I.P. →

E. Simpson

Small fee. full  
M1114

18<sup>th</sup> April.

Arnold, stream & Vincent to Mithras quarry. Could not get bucket down. Secretary foolishly went down and had great difficulty in getting out. Necessary to blast entrance to dig inspected mother hole in quarry & did a bit of digging. Needs much more. Also inspected avelones.

Geoff (G.G.F.), Dorothy, David, and Mary (a guest) did a G.B. Tow. The guest fell from half way up the waterfall by the top of boulders slope, being well padded she sustained little damage!

D.H.S.

19th April.

In morning David and Geoff went down D runlands and let off charge as suggested on 15th April. After this several sticks were used in the new ash tip.

A trip was made to Tynings by EKT, D.J.F., G.G.F., DTD, P.A., P.Y., Vincent, David, joined by Tom and June Zesley. 53 buckets removed - mostly silt that had fallen in.

Poulton & Co working on barrow during afternoon.

The evening was spent in finding out the explosive properties of carbide. Many members blasted by carbide and those not taking part (i.e. D.J.F.).

D.S.F.

21 April.

P. Yorke & P. Bird excavated T5 in evening one pit uncovered. arrived 6.30 left 8.30.  
P. Yorke.

22 April

G. Fuller and D. Finn spent afternoon round the hut. Some time spent on ladders practice and in the Bath, the rest in sunbathing.  
D.S.F.

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 1953 The wet way entrance to Scildon's is now  
DANGEROUS.

The blue floor about 20 feet above the streamway, where the heavy drip joins it, has begun to fall away from below. Anybody going past this heavy drip is now in extreme danger from falling rocks. Luke Dummer & I are going to have a look at it tomorrow evening to see if it can be fixed with some bangers. Unfortunately, although this is intended in order to make it safe, it will very probably block up the wet way below!

The dry way is safe.

Chris G. Lloyd

Sat. 25<sup>th</sup> Apr. 1953

Millier's Quarry

Put charge, stick in drill hole.  
 Practically no result. Hole was open at bottom into cave.

Put charge, stick in 2<sup>nd</sup> drill hole.  
 Result effective but main effect produced on quarry face. Rest will prob. go with aid of shovels & so enlarge cave opening.  
 Covered opening & still "deeper".

Sun. 26<sup>th</sup> Apr. 1953

Geoffrey Fuller to Dronkards before breakfast. Boulder is broken but some clearing needed.

Party of four to August Hole. Too much water to go through tunnel. Two went through "escape route" avoiding tunnel. This was stated not to be too difficult!  
 RHF

Mon. 27 Apr. 1953

Found outside hut 1 brand new rope, 1 table + trestles

1 pair good boots  
 Found one shutter of hut front had not been fastened.

Members are requested to take proper care of society equipment.  
 RHF

Wed. 29 Apr. 1953

Seen Hole

3. Dug + sorted 40 buckets from 7-ft Pleistocene against W. wall. Finds a few minute unidentifiable bone fragments.  
 RHF

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

I went to Swildon's with Luke Davinich, who blew the big shock-stone. About 4 square yards of floor went down with it. I spent a short time sending down some of the loose remaining stuff, but not enough to make it safe to descend the slip hole & see what had happened to the streamway passage.

Further activity postponed till Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> May.  
 Reused a bat labelled 39 PFB.  
 JCL

Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May

1.30 pm. To Swildon's with Willie Stanton to fix the wet-way passage.

Drotsky, stream to Millier's Quarry. Last blow had battered rock away from entrance. F. RT plus odd boys turned up to help drill hole. 1 charge did not do sufficient damage - another blow will have to be made.

Part of 5 down G.B. to photographs & also to show new caves and cave - enjoyable trip had by all  
D.H.S.  
P.P.A.

10.30 pm. emerged from Swildon's. The wet way passage is now not only open but reasonably safe. We did a grade 5 survey of the Long Dry Way and a grade 3 of its tributaries. O.C.

7.0 pm. Drilled shot hole cave Millier's quarry. Fired 1 stick. Not very effective. Main force blew off quarry face.

11.30 pm. J. Pitts & A. Bridge knocked up R.O.T. over non-return of G.C. Lloyd from Swildon. Stated by J.O. that he had said "would be back at latest 8.0 pm" & that he "was pulling down unstable roof in Wet Way". After party had been to Priddy & Wessie but it was found that the expedition had been entirely unnecessary having been based on



but see also 27.9.53  
and 2.5. 1954 - 95

~~entirely erroneous information by D.D.~~  
See entry by O.C.L for Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup>,  
12.15 am. EMT. met R.A.F. Truck &  
bodies on board setting out to find  
other <sup>R.A.F.</sup> bodies, alleged hiking, on  
Blackdown & had not returned. Further  
talk Read's was mentioned & EMT  
said he knew party had gone there  
circa 3.0 pm.

R.A.F. stated Police informed &  
M.R.O. alerted by police. Sent message  
to Police at Burrington call box saying  
EMT had been contacted.

At Read's R.A.F. uniforms etc  
outside

P. Yorke, J. K. Pilly, O.C. Lloyd & Treatment went  
down. Later joined by Rodney Pearce. Still  
<sup>later</sup> joined? by D. Duckworth who was supposed  
to be doing liaison ~~at~~ on the surface.

Party of five located eventually  
at bottom of Walker Rift unable to find  
way out.

In Main Chamber hot sweet tea  
served. Then back to surface & hot for  
more tea & a meal for the five, served  
all told about 40 mugs of tea to rescued,  
rescuers, other bodies & police  
EMT

Sun. 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Party all feeling a bit worse for wear.

5 Party to Sun Hole. 50 buckets from 7 ft Pleistocene mainly E/S, 4, 3. Finds nil. ~~///~~

Wed. 6<sup>th</sup> May 1953

35 buckets <sup>2</sup> to Sun Hole. 7 ft Pleistocene area D/S. Finds a few bone fragments. ~~///~~

Thu 7

RAB out every 10 paces  
 bed 6, called to slopy bag

Sat. 9<sup>th</sup> May:

Paul & Stream to Millier's quarry to drill hole for tereache mine. Then on trip to stake lane for survey but Hon. Sec. navigated to wells so merely looked at a few sink holes near Swift Punchbowl. 2 sticks of jelly in hole with an impressive shower of rocks. Will probably be sufficient to widen entrance to get bucket in.

Arnold, Jeff Coates & Oliver C Lloyd to Read's Crotto. Arnold twisted ankle at entrance. Oliver Sashed but - unringed.

E.K.T., David Lee, Vincent, Dorothy to  
Tynings 26 buckets - Tripod collapsed to  
prevent further work that afternoon.

Trip. Jeff Fuller & Wabelle down G.B. - plate  
again. Jeff dislocated shoulder - put it back  
again.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May. G.B. for University Beginners, led by  
Chris Lloyd. A.O. Child (Dental) and his two sons came, also  
Kenneth Mells (Music), also Richard Hamney (Woods); Jeff Fuller &  
David Lee went in ahead and hit up. Jeff and Richard came out  
by the Day Passage, each for the first time! O.K.

G.B. for party of 5 non-university Friends of  
Stream led by him. Small telly very  
popular; tackle fee extracted without difficulty &  
cave much appreciated - first cave for most  
of them.

D.M.S.R

Sun 10-5-63

Party of 5. E.K.T. D.T.D. T.Z. J.Z. P.Y. to Tynings.  
36. 8 Buckets, 1 large boulder removed.  
arrived at Tynings 1 P.M. left 4-30 P.M.  
surprise visit paid by Hon Sec and 5 other  
bodies, who stood and admired the hole  
P.Y.

Sun. May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Put on new cylinder  
of calor gas

Wed. May 13<sup>th</sup> 1953

3 in party to Sun Hole. Moved about 50 buckets of material. Mainly stone + disturbed material.

finds 1 fragment of a large limb bone from B/5 5<sup>in</sup> ft. Pleistocene

Next party should remove disturbed material in trench across cave mouth down to level of galvanized iron sheet + iron rods before digging any more undisturbed material. ~~MM~~

Fri. May 16<sup>th</sup> 1953

Party of Isabelle, Geoff. F., David Strouan + Trat to Swildon's Hole. David + Strouan thro' sump as far as next duck.

Other 3 photographing in first part Barne's Loop + back to 2d' fall.

Pitches had been tackled for party on Sunday. 40' pitch ladder held to side by slender cord only.

About 1/3 of water is finding its way thro' bottom of pool at head of 40' + coming out on side about 2/3 way down.

Party down about 6 hrs. ~~MM~~

Sun. May 17<sup>th</sup> 1953

Visited hut 1.30 pm. Hut open. No one about. No note.

Returned again 5.0 pm. Still no one.  
In interval party of B.E.C. had left note  
saying: "a coat marked "Oliver Smith" was  
noticed at entrance to Read's. A party of  
B.E.C. down to Main Chamber only at  
3.30-4.30 pm. and no trace (of anyone) seen"

Visited Read's entrance at 5.15 pm. No coat  
seen. ~~SMH~~

Sun. May 18<sup>th</sup>. 17<sup>th</sup>

D.D.T. left for Bristol 10.30. P.Y. O.C.L.  
P.D. left for Swildons 10.30. (scavaging trip  
by Wessex) returned hut. 9.15.

P.A. Yorke

Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

Dug below tip in Swildon's.

O.C.L.

Party of 5 (Isabelle, Geoff. Fuller, E.K.T.  
Stewart plus Arthur Wright (printer) to  
Longwood. G.F., Arthur & S.R. down dry way passage  
Not much water. N.B. Do ~~do~~ not pay Farmer  
Young for cave. State that you are U.B.S.S.  
Hon. Sec is a mug - paid.

O.C.L., David Lee, D.T.D. & J. <sup>S.R.</sup> Coates out in  
evening

Sun. 24<sup>th</sup> May. Another unsuccessful bang in beech trees.  
Dug some more ash-tip — Swildon Bath Swallet - G.V.

Sun. 24 May. C.B. quest Day. 18 quests - Sidcot, Wensley, R.E.C. & Ax bridge. E.K.T., S.R. D.D.T. D.T.D. & David Lee as guides. S.R. & D.T.D. did a little work in East Passage. Suggest a narrow strip of corrugated iron to facilitate the removal & deposition of much. Face quite sandy except for mud layer beneath, talagmite floor - no draught. Also looked at odd holes in roof of main chamber. More paraffin needed.

S.R.

TEA-LEAVES etc, should NOT be poured down the SINK. They should be poured out on the land away from the hut.

S.R.

Mon. May 25 ~ 1953

Taylor + 6 on T.5. For time being completed search for pits. Filling in with 6" of earth first, but not from top of spoil heap, up to line of turf wall, then layer of stones up to original ground level can be done by any willing helpers. ~~W~~

In evening Crickmay & Peter Yorks in camp.

Tues. May 26 1953  
various times.

P.Y. & Crick depart at

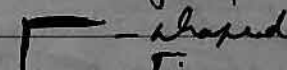
Hut Levy

Please note that contributions are necessary when hut is used.

Wed. May 27 Painting "ceiling" of kitchen

Thurs May 28 Lunch at hut

Sat. 30<sup>th</sup> May.

E.K.T. & S.R. to small cave in Callow Rocks - "Callow Cave". Trial pit dug 6 feet from entrance to depth of 9". Loose stone & earth. 2 pieces glazed pottery plus one piece of unglazed pottery which may be ancient. S.R. went on 30 ft through 2 muddy squeezes. One ~~branch~~ tributary and two terminal branches. May be worth digging to get underneath top of rift. Ancient field boundaries also seen as well as  shaped light lines in field ~~clearing~~ suggesting wall without ditch.

S.R.

I.A.C, D.T.D, D.L. D.J.F. Don bootstrapped. After I.A.C & D.J.F had ~~books~~ moved broken boulders in Dumbards, clearing the way on. During this operation D.J.F. sliced bit of fingers (hence writing) which necessitated stitches from Porthos. D.J.F.

Tent poles - when the member in charge of photography camps again on top of the combes, it is suggested that he provide himself with tent poles unless he is urgently in need of muscles. In response to

a somewhat pathetic appeal from one of the women members, the four men ~~social~~ generously vacated the hut for the night. Due thanks for this gracious gesture have been received and accepted so long as it is clear that such action is quite occasional.

SR

May 31 1953

2 to Sun Hole. Removed nearly all disturbed material used as temporary filling for trench across cave mouth down to metal sheets. 2 large stones require breaking up. About 150 buckets removed.

Next party should start taking undisturbed material in a wedge shaped section from front face to back face of excavation so as to have a uniform depth of 8' into the Pleistocene (P) deposit.

Some unauthorised person(s) have dug in the back of the cave recently AS1

Monkey in camp for night

1<sup>st</sup> June 1953

Monkey & Elizabeth did upper parts of Swildon in and out by old way.

Monkey, Peter Bird & Peter York in camp for night

AS1



Tues. June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1953. Coronation Day.

5 in party at Sun Hole. Finished clearing disturbed material & then completed 7' ft Pleistocene in area CDE/3,4.

Commenced 8' ft Pleistocene against W. wall & across cave CDE/4 mainly.

100 buckets dug & sorted. ~~MM~~

Finds - a few bone fragments & teeth.

Next party continued to remove 8' ft Pleistocene.

Sat. June 6<sup>th</sup>

E.K.T., Isabelle, David Finon, Steman and Arthur Apriman to Stake Lane area for surface work. Two areas found which proved slightly less uninteresting than normal. ~~Pithos~~

Odd bod from R.A.F. looking stepped into the ~~post~~ shaft at Red's Pot. Injuries dealt with by Dr. Taylor & E.K.T. Suggest that R.A.F. looking should learn to look down as well as learning to look up.

S.R.

Borrowed long drill for use in Swinton's tomorrow: If Tom would like to have the key of Lamb less for me in the spelaeo hut, I could collect it tomorrow, when I return the drill. O.K. Lloyd

Pithos & party filling in part of T5. No more pits found on digging last weekend. ~~MM~~

104

Sun. June 7

Party of 3 to Sun Hole. Dug & sorted 93  
buckets 8 ft Pleistocene. CPE 1/4, 3  
finds 1 piece of broken staphylinid  
curtain. Not even a scrap of bone seen

Returned Logdell. ~~OK~~

~~Mon~~ Wed 10 June.

P.M. E.K.T. in Camp.  
general cleaning up, a rather Sisyphusian task.  
Keys of Lamb Hall and G.B. on door of  
medical chest.

P.A.Y.

Thurs. June 11 1953

Union Week trip to G.B.  
Seven + 2 non-starters + coach driver  
+ two guides.

Back to hut for tea. Good  
time had by all. Coach driver said:  
"He wouldn't have missed it  
for worlds!"

~~OK~~

Fri. June 12 1953

5 in camp. Packing for  
Derbyshire. Taken 1 x 20 ft } ladders  
1 x 40 " }  
+ 2 ladders

~~OK~~

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> June 1953

D.T.D, Dave L. Vincent & A.D.B  
out in afternoon. Parthos & Betty  
+ 2 on barrow joined by A.D.B  
+ 2 elderly wifies (♂ & ♀).

D.T.D & Vincent down G.B. Door  
locks, ~~unlocked~~ locked ~~with incident~~  
without incident. Joined by G.E.C.  
& Jean for tea & Plum. Allin  
bed by 5.A.M. A.D. Bridge

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 1953

D.T.D & D. Lee took four  
beginners (University) down G.B.  
Phil Davies & 3 Cambridge boys looked  
in in morning, and on way to  
Rocks. Basing to rain changed in  
but on return. A.D. Bridge

P.S. Who pinched my trousers?  
The ones with the carpet bottoms.  
A.D.B

Derbyshire Party:

Barmoor farm

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June: Camp established in (Edgkinson's  
farm during evening. By nightfall consisted of P.Y, J.D  
I.A.C, G.G.E, E.K.T, Moll, Bentic, Frank Frost, Darlow, and  
D.J.F. ~~At 8.00 p.m.~~ An early night was had  
by most. Steady heavy drizzle. Cold night

Sat 13th June.

Joined by June & Tom Zealey in morning and set out for Bagshawe Cavern. Some delay before our Hosts (Stole a Trent Pot Hole Club) and the owners arrived. This time was profitably spent <sup>eating fish & chips</sup> in ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~club~~ <sup>club</sup>.

At 2.30 all camp (except Mollie) entered cave, and spent 5 hours in inspection. Following this a comparatively early night was had by most, though some were delayed by one of the party who preferred to sleep in a hay field.

Sunday 14th of June

After a late start the morning and early afternoon was spent by most of the camp + 3 of (S. T. P. H. C.) in seeing the wonders of Spenshall Cavern.

~~The~~ The camp was then in a turmoil for departure and was broken at 4.40 p.m.

On the return run the presidential party had a fiasco in the midst of a downpour, but this did not damp anyone's ardour.

Party of three remained in E. H. overnight. ~~To~~

~~Made~~

Monday 15th June

Party of three (G.G.F., I.A.C., D.J.F.) spent time cleaning up after journey. G.G.F. left to return to his home and was replaced by E.K.T.

D.J.F.

20<sup>th</sup> June.

Beginners trip down G.B. Successful.

Sat 20 June.

P.Y. P.B. arrived chut ~~at~~ 2.15 P.M.  
P.Y.

21<sup>st</sup> June

sun Hole - 3 in party - dug about  
100 buckets 10 ft Pleistocene in  
area B, C, D/4/3.

Dug out piece of antler 3<sup>rd</sup> ft Pleistocene  
in D/3.

A beautiful mid-summer's day.  
Only 2 inches of rain. M.C.

Sat. June 27

Porter + party digging on T5. The  
outer "wall" has now been found again on  
S.E. sector.

Moran + Tratty to Millier's Quarry  
Cave. Plaster charge of 2 sticks of gelignite,  
fired. Opening has been made considerably  
larger. Prob. 1 more plaster charge needed  
on lt. side looking down + removal of  
sundry projections just below to give straight  
haul up. A led will be necessary soon.  
M.C.

Sun. 28 June

2 - Sun Hole. Drawing sections.  
 Dug 20 buckets 10 ft Pleistocene exposing  
 red earthy layer B C/4, 5. ~~MM~~  
 Linds soil.

July 15 Sat. 1953

Porthos + party on T 5.

Valerie + party arrived. Stayed a few  
 minutes. Valerie removed her kit  
 bag.

Resetting of ~~the~~ galvanized iron on roof  
 started. The leaks which drip into  
 kitchen found to be due to two rusted  
 through patches in two sheets. Temp.  
 repaired by placing part of another old  
 sheet under. So far 2, 8x2 ft sheets  
 needed. ~~MM~~

July 5 Sun. 1953

3 - Sun Hole. Dug 60 buckets.  
 removed several large stones 10 ft  
 Pleistocene B C/5, 4. A minute  
 quantity of crushed bone found under  
 one stone C/4.

On W. side under silt layer are  
 boulders + considerable space between  
~~MM~~

July 6 Crickmay in camp.

109.

July 7 Pleas. None of the cut timber is to be taken for use at the hut other than from the piles of brush wood. ~~MM~~

Fixed M.R.D. notice inside outer door to G.B. ~~MM~~

July 8-10 Crickmay in camp

July 11 Party of six from Kingwood fell. Bath down G.B. Heavy rain. Wet way started to pour in water while party down cave.

July 12 Party of seven ten, seven from K.S., down Lamb Leer. A small stream was running down passage & cascading into Great Chamber.  
Put on NEW CYL. OF GAS.

July 13 Crickmay left camp. ~~MM~~

July 15  
2 to Sun Hole. 11 + 12 ft Pleistocene C.O/5, 4. Absolutely barren. 60 buckets dug.

July 18 Relaying galv. iron on roof. Pootles & party on T5. Found a very large D.R.S. stone near line of ~~MM~~ Kerk of inner mound on S.E.

July 19<sup>th</sup> 1953 G.B. Guest day 23 out of 30  
 turned up 5 of absentees were Melbridge  
 Laving group. 7 Wesssex (Kides) had  
 been turned down as party was full. They  
 could have come if the lists had been correct.  
 MBS

July 20<sup>th</sup>. Equipment taken to Ireland:- Returned  
 12/8/53

(i)	90' life-line	✓
(ii)	60' life-line	✓
(iii)	2 tie ropes	✓
(iv)	1-40', 1-25', 1-20' "rope" ladders.	✓
(v)	one digging tool	✓
(vi)	3 haversacks	✓
(vii)	2 Carabinas	✓
(viii)	1 pair shackles	✓
(ix)	2 digging shovels (small)	✓
(x)	one presidential car.	✓

Survey equip.

- (i) 1 tape  
 (ii) 1 compass

✓  
 ✓ MBS

P. R. Ache

July 20-21<sup>st</sup>

Geoff Fuller, Hon sec & Paul Ache spent night  
 in hut prior to leaving for Ireland in section (x)  
 of equipment taken (see above) PRA



25<sup>th</sup> July 1953

Returned long drill.

O.C. Lloyd in camp with as his guest Giorgio Orlandi, a second year medic of Milan University, and an instructor in the Gruppo Gotte di Milano.

~~Saturday 25 July~~

P. Bird D.T. Duckworth Vincent Morris, Oliver Lloyd & guest, Johnny Pitts, J. Light, P. Yorke out for Sat evenings, all stayed for the night.

Sunday 26 July.

O. Lloyd & guest left for August hole 10-40. P. Bird P. Yorke D Duckworth J Light left hut at various times during the afternoon for Bristol.

Pitts to the Plane. JS

P. A Yorke

26<sup>th</sup> July 1953

Giorgio and I went to Longwood & did the crawlit. Water not excessive in spite of rain, and there was diving August Hole. In the afternoon we were joined by Dan Thomson and did a full G.B. Giorgio and Dan came out by the orange passage. G. in a fine cover. On looking up I found that the outer padlock was defective, and so I am taking it back with me to Bristol to get it put right.

In the meanwhile the cave has only two locks! Oliver C. Lloyd

We photographed Thomson's Grotto, this was first discovered by Dan Thomson on 8.3.53. It is in the roof of the 05-bur, and is approached by a difficult & dangerous climb down stream from the foot of the boulder slope.

2<sup>nd</sup> August 1953 Chris Lloyd in camp with his brother Patrick. Returned the outer padlock of A.B. cage, duly mended, & now in place. Went to A.B. with a few friends. I think the Tilley lamps ~~and~~ <sup>are</sup> ~~mounts~~ <sup>mounts</sup> and perhaps more penfins. Joined for the night by Phil Davies

1-2 August Puts staying at Pheue, visited camp and borrowed 1 snaplock + 2 shackles. The long wire tethers on the 35' light weight ladder were cut off and fresh eye splices made close to the top rung so that the ladder could be used in conjunction with others. J.S.

3<sup>rd</sup> August Chris Lloyd, P.L., Phil Davies, a medical & a chemistry student did a full simulation. The 35' light weight ladder mentioned above is 3' short of the 40' pitch, if no tethers in use.

Borrowed the 40 rung wood & wire ladder for use on 5<sup>th</sup> inst.

Evening - Monkey arrived. Also Frank and Derry. To Pheue

4<sup>th</sup> Aug. Monkey in camp (poisoned finger)

5<sup>th</sup> Aug. A.M. Monkey to hospital home.

5<sup>th</sup> August. Chris Lloyd & Phil Davies in camp for one night. Returned ladder (mentioned 3.8.53).

7<sup>th</sup> August. Geoff Fuller, Stan Sec & Paul Acte arrived at 1800 hrs with the Presidential

see - palace back from Eric - leaving the pros.  
+ Geoff Coates in Eric for 1 more week. much  
interesting work done in Eric - five new caves  
found totaling ~~over~~ over 10,000 ft of new  
Cave - one so far without end which goes  
s beneath a river at little (about 100' or less)  
above sea level. P.P.A spent night in hut  
other 2 left later ~~in~~ to-day.

P.P.A.

Don Thomson, Olive Lloyd and one guest spent night  
in camp.

8<sup>th</sup> August. D.M.U.T left. At 8-15 pm. Mr. Greenow, of  
Rock House (just down the road) called. Two rangers had borrowed  
a new ladder of his to take photographs of the barrow that  
Porter is digging. He said that it had been returned somewhat  
damaged, and he was not pleased. Could this possibly  
have been camp members of Porter's party? If so, I think  
a few words of apology are due.

Olive Lloyd & guest and Peter Yoke & guest spent night in  
camp. New mantles to window color lights (2).  
More wanted in store.

9 August  
P.Y & P.G left for G.B 12-15.  
Returned 4-30 leaving hut for Bristol 5-35  
P.A. Yoke  
Olive Lloyd & guest did Stoke Lane, and left hut  
at 7-15 pm. ~~Water~~ low. i.e. swamp smelly.

10<sup>th</sup> Aug 1953.

A.D. Bridge & friend spent night in hut. ~~left~~ No wood in bunkers. Left about 11.30 A.M.  
 Tuesday 11/8/53.

(Have borrowed 3 blankets. Will return some on Sat.)  
 A.D. Bridge

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Aug 1953

A.D. Bridge & friend in camp. Trat called in shury afternoon. A.D.B. spent night in hut, friend slept at farm.  
 (Blankets returned)  
 A.D. Bridge

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Aug.

A.D. Bridge & friend to Polugden in morning. Trat out in afternoon. Trat & A.D.B. working on roof. To Pheme in evening. Friend spent night at Farm. A.D.B. spent night in hut. Washed tea-cloths & kitchen  
 A.D. Bridge

Sun. Aug. 16 1953

Continued relaying galv. sheets on roof. Stones mark end of part completed.  
 W.H.

Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> O'Byrne in camp with O.C. Wells (Cambridge U.S.C.)  
 on his quest. Explored Read's Cavern. Returned drill & hammer.  
 Left 1 1/2 lbs sugar for general use.

Sat. Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> Bkt at hut.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug.

I have borrowed the following tackle on behalf of  
 S. Pitts Esq., for Ease Gill trap: -

1 x 40 ft.	ladder	aluminium	rungs
1 x 40 ft.	"	wood	"
1 x 25 ft.	"	aluminium	"
1 x 20 ft.	"	wood	"
1 x	wire	tether	.

Bernard M. Darbo

Sat. 29<sup>th</sup> Aug.  
 Bkt had lunch at hut. Did some  
 clearing up.  
 Evening P. Yorks in camp.

Sun. 30<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1953.

Completed relaying of roof. A new sheet  
 needed over foot wall. Temp. repair here.  
 Porthos & Party on T5. Bkt

2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1953 Oliver Lloyd, Don Thomson & Ralph Midwinter (apoloas)  
and John Bliss (guest) in camp. With Keith Saunders (apoloas) and  
4 Bedford School boys (under the care of Mr. Carlisle (Wimmer)) did  
Gatechurch. Down the easy way and up the more difficult.

Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 1953

Members using the hut MUST make an entry in the log book please

The gas supply should be turned off. It is turned off by screwing down valve in a clockwise direction & opened by the contrary movement.

There have been several occasions recently when the hut & its facilities have been used & no entry made in the log & on two occasions at least no contribution to hut-levy made though the facilities, including gas, have been used. *SLH*

Porthos & party (7) on T 5. Completed  $\frac{1}{2}$  of berron. Detoured next section.  
3 Wesssex changed at hut & did Rod's Pot.

Jan & Geoff. Coats came in for cup of tea. *SLH*

Sun. Sept. 6 1953

Tratly had lunch at hut. A mob of people at bath to do Rod's Pot. If they all go down the cave will be full from top

to bottom. ~~MM~~

4.0 pm. Visited G.B. Found inner + outer doors forced. Reported to Police at Axbridge. It will cost a considerable sum to repair damage. Entry prob. made on Sat. Was O.K. previous seen. Marks made by dragging door indicate no rain since door forced. i.e. Sat or Sun as last rain on Friday. ~~MM~~

10<sup>th</sup> September 1953

Kitt Evans, O.C.L., Ralph Midwinter, Dennis Hodge, both medics, & D.M.M.T. cycled out from Bristol (1 hr 20 mins from refectory to Plum of Feathers) and arrived at hut ground about 9 pm. dangled & went down sided snail to amuse the beginners. Oliver tried to get into tight hole at the end - stuck (Rt. buttock) Dennis tried - stuck (Rt buttock) Ralph Midwinter tried - stuck (Lt buttock). A way out: K.E. & I went into Purgatory a short way

Observations.

1. O.C.L. has lost his key to the butt. Finder will be thanked.
2. Some oaf has dropped the bump down the bog. This could be reached in a fishing line or a long pole, but would require much cleaning before use. Suggest leaving it there.

3. Last weekend was the occasion of a Spala-Werrase party to Steep Holm. 9 caves ~~have been~~ were explored & they will be written up in a forthcoming Werrase Journal. In one of the caves is a mink<sup>UBSS</sup> 1933. These caves have, of course, the distinction, with Ludwell Cave and several others, of remaining unmentioned in a little book recently published by a former secretary <sup>of the society</sup> of this society.

D.M.M.T.

12.9.53 Joan Light + Peter Bird out

in afternoon to collect Kit. Found Parthos, Mrs. Taylor and others digging barrows. Barrow-diggers left about 19.00 hrs. J.L. + P.B. left about 20.00 hrs.

18/9/53.

re entry 10/9/53.

(1) As O.C.L. ~~is~~ has never asked for a key of the hut + is not entitled to one without such request being approved by the committee it would be interesting to know how he came to be in possession of one, now lost.

(2) On 10/9 + 12/9 a considerable number of persons used the Hut + its facilities. Total contributions to Hut Levy collection only 1/6!   
 E.H.

Working on kitchen facilities. Experimented position for an oven. N.B. supports are as yet anything but stable.

19/9/53 continued work on kitchen facilities E.H.

19-9-53

J.S.D. (and guest). Chopped wood for comfort of future guests. To Plum in evening. Left early to hitch back to Oxford. (Sunday) 20/9/53.



19/9/53 Porthis & party working on T 5. There appears to be a "spread" or extension of the primary burrow on the N. sector now being dug.

20/9/53 Visited G.B. door to check on locks. The mortice lock has not yet been repaired. Main & inner doors repaired. ~~MM~~

21/9/53 P.R.A. & Peter Pope (3<sup>rd</sup> year Engineer) spent night in camp - left on 22-9-53 after lunch

25/9/53. S.R. E.K.T., Jerry Shaw, David Pengelly & Daphne Bevingham to G.B. To look for possible damage from the breach in sand to show the newcomers around. No damage to formations seen but the search light had been used and mantles broken. A good meal was had, fortified by beer which was fetched from the plume.

D.A.S.R.

Inner padlock seems to have been "won" during repairs. New one required. ~~MM~~

26/9/53. Further repair work on outer door to G.B. - screwing back sprung frame ~~MM~~

3/10/53 G.B. Guest day. 7 sidcot boys turned up. Had not notified Wesssex as stated only recd. Wesssex circular 2 days before. As party not full admitted. Brought out 1 big Tilley lamp for repairs. Pootles & party on barrow.

4/10/53.

Odd jobs round hut. Located trouble with Tilley. Inlet pipe to burner blocked at bottom of tank. 1 ft of spring tempered wire needed to try to clear it.

G.F. turned up to stay. ~~MM~~

8/10/53.

Freshers trip to G.B. 14 names on list in Vic Rooms but only 7 turned up (plus 1 with Geoff Fuller). Caught 1.45 bus to Buxorington. Most of party walked over to G.B. :- EKT. D Fin, Geoff Fuller, Staman Robertson, Nigel Stockley, Rita Buseton, Richard Thompson, Harding, Jenkins, Mike Willie, Peter Newman, Carith, Davies, Terence Piercy. ~~habitate~~ stayed. SABEL cooked the ~~supper~~ SUPPER. Down mud passage, main Gorge, 40ft., Osbow,

"Which one is the hot tap?" - a fresher.

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Loop Passage + white way. Geoff, Rita and Terence out through the Ooze. Back at 7.15 p.m. to hot meal ready. A good trip.

D.A.S. Robertson

10/10/53 Paul to look at entrance to Longwood + work at Rhino Rift. Geoff Fuller, Terence, Rita + Steven to August Hole. ~~Red~~ Stream low + conditions suitable. Only took one rope and used that at the pitch near the division of Longwood + August Hole. It is a help to have ~~the~~ a second rope for the "swinging" or "swinging pitch" as a certain amount of difficulty was experienced on the return journey. Party reached the tributary coming into the rift passage below the ~~double~~ ~~pot~~ pots. Time: - Down 4.30, out 7.30-8 p.m. E.K.T., G.E.C., P.R.A., Arnold Budge + ~~Secretary~~ to waxes Dinner at Cheddar. A good amusing speech by Prof. Coates. It was found impossible to remove the skeleton.

D.A.S.R.

Date	Receipts		£	1	2	Int'l
		fund	5	15	1	✓
30/8/53	Cash			5	-	✓
5/9/53	"			9	6	✓
18/9/53	"			1	6	✓
20/9/53	"			7	-	✓
27/9/53	"			8	-	✓
9/10/53	"			5	6	✓
		£	7	11	7	
10.10.53			2	3	1	
	Balances as at 10.10.53	£	5	8	6	
	checked & found correct (much to my amazement) O.P. Bridge					
	14/10/53					
<u>SESSION 1953 / 1954</u>						
Brought	forward from last session		5	8	6	

[pp. 122-127 are blank]

Date	Payments	Invd	£	s	d	129	131
30/8/1			1	17	7		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9/10/53	2 gall paraffin 1 qt. mths			4	-		<del>XXX</del>
				1	6		<del>XXX</del>
			<del>£</del> 2	3	1		
			<del>£</del>	5	d		

SESSION 1953/1954

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Receipts

Date	ITEM	£	S	d	Auth
22.2.53	Balance of £9-17-10 B. fund	9	17	10	
	<del>Balance of £9-17-10 B. fund</del>				
	<del>Balance of £9-17-10 B. fund</del>				
	<del>Balance of £9-17-10 B. fund</del>				
1.3.53	Cash	-	7	-	PA
8.3.53	Cash	-	8	6	PA
8.3.53	Cash (forgotten before ↑)	-	2	6	PA
14.3.53	Cash	-	5	6	PA
15.3.53	Cash	-	9	6	PA
8.4.53	Cash	-	9	-	PA
19.4.53	Cash	1	3	6	PA
2.5.53	Cash	-	15	6	PA
9.5.53	Cash	-	13	-	PA
13.5.53	Cash	-	4	6	PA
24.5.53	Cash		9	6	PA
31.5.53	Cash		13	-	PA
7.6.53	"		8	-	PA
15.6.53	"		10	6	PA
21.6.53	"		5	6	PA
		17	22	10	✓
		14	15	4	✓
	Balance	2	7	6	✓
5.7.53	Cash		8	-	PA
11.7.53	Cash		17	6	PA
20.7.53	Cash		2	6	PA
21.7.53	Cash		2	7	PA
8.8.53	Cash		17	-	PA
16.8.53	"		16	-	PA
22.8.53	"		4	-	PA
		5	15	1	✓



# PAYMENTS

DATE	ITEMS	£		
2.3.53	To Treasurer - gas repayment	5	-	
14.3.53	To Arnold for aluminium labels		1	-
16/3/53	1 quart matts		03	-
2/4/53	6 gallons paraffin		12	9
8.4.53	Boys Roll		1	2
11/4/53	Tide		1	11
24/4/53	Calor gas refill		1	4
29/2/53	2nd cylinder of gas		5	4
31/5/53	Calor gas refill		1	4
14/6/53	Soap			6
53/6/53	5 mugs 1 tin opener	}	18	-
	3 plates 2 potato peelers			
18/6/53	6 Tilley Mantles		5	-
			<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
				<u>4</u>
18/7/53	2 rolls bampf		1	7
14/8/53	1 cylinder gas		1	4
	12 mantles		12	-
			1	17
			7	1 ✓



# Receipts

Brought Forward.

		6	15	3	
13/9	Cash		10	-	SMY
19/9	"		10	-	SMY
<del>22/9</del>			<del>10</del>	-	<del>SMY</del>
22/9	Cash		5	-	SMY
4/10	Cash		10	-	R.R.O
11/10	Cash		6	-	R.R.O
18/10	Cash		6	-	R.R.O
26/10	Cash		16	-	R.R.O
		£ 9	18	3	
	less cash spent	3	8	8	
26-10-52	Cash Balance held	£ 6	9	7	
	Balance by P.R.O checked by				at R.P.M. edge
<u>SESSION 1952/1953</u>					
2-10-52	Cash		7	9	R.R.O
15-11-52	Cash		12	-	R.R.O
29-11-52	" (withdrawn)		16	-	SMY for P.P.A
<del>30/1/52</del>	<del>Cash (paid in)</del>		<del>3</del>		<del>P.P.A</del>
1/12/52	Cash (withdrawn)		5		P.P.A
17/12/52	" "		8		SMY for P.P.A
31/12/52	" "		10	-	P.P.A
2/1/53	" "		13	6	SMY for P.P.A
17/1/53	" "	1	8	7	SMY for P.P.A
25/1/53	Cash		9	6	R.R.O
25/1/53	Cash		4	6	R.R.O
1/2/52	Cash		3	1	R.R.O
8/2/52	Cash		3	-	R.R.O
12/2/52	Cash		11	-	R.R.O
		£ 12	1	6	3
	less Cash spent	2	3	8	
	<u>Balance</u>	£ 9	17	10	122 121

Payments  
 B/Paraffin (reflecting last 20 balances)  
 i.e. since 2-3-52

£ 5 d  
 74 19 135 <sup>133</sup>

9 Sept	6 gall paraffin @ 2/2		13	-	} 20/1
	1 pint methyls		1	6	
	1 mop			5	20/1
	Total Cash spent to date	£ 5	14	4	

9 Sept	Brought forward from last page:	2	13	9	
	6 gall paraffin @ 2/2		13	-	as
	1 pint methyls		1	6	above
	1 mop			5	
		£ 3	8	8	

SESSION IV 1952/3 13/10

5-11-52	Solders & Larkspur blades		3	11	20/1
2/1/53	Paraffin (6 gall)		12	9	
11	Tide		1	11	
2-11-53	Gas cylinder	1	4	-	20/1
21/2/53	Tide		1	11	20/1
	57/6				
	1 11/9	£ 2	3	8	

Use next page

~~C. [unclear]~~

8 2  
6 8 1/2  
14 10 1/2

Date

Hut Fund

Receipts

£ s d into

2/3/52	Gr. Bal	b/d	6	-		
9/3/52	Cash		8	6		
23/3/52	Cash		11	-		
25/3/52	Cash		5	-		
8/4/52	"		5	6		
17/4/52	"		1	10	6	
			<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	

(Balance b/d

20/4/52	Cash		2	1	6	
26/4/52	Cash		17	6		
			7	-		
			3	6	-	
			1	5	8	
Balance			2	-	4	

3.5.52	Cash		13	6		
10.5.52	Cash		14	10		
17.5.52	Cash		11	10		
27.5.52	Cash		9	-		
10.6.52	"		5	6		
17.6.52	"		7	-		
20.6.52	"		2	6		
25/6/52	"		1	6		
27/6/52	"		1	6		
7/7/52	"		5	-		
8/7/52	"		13	10		
9/7/52	Cash		8	11		

£ 6 15 3

Net Fund  
Payments

53/-  
20/-  
25/8  
53/9  
14/11  
187/4

£ 8 8 1/2

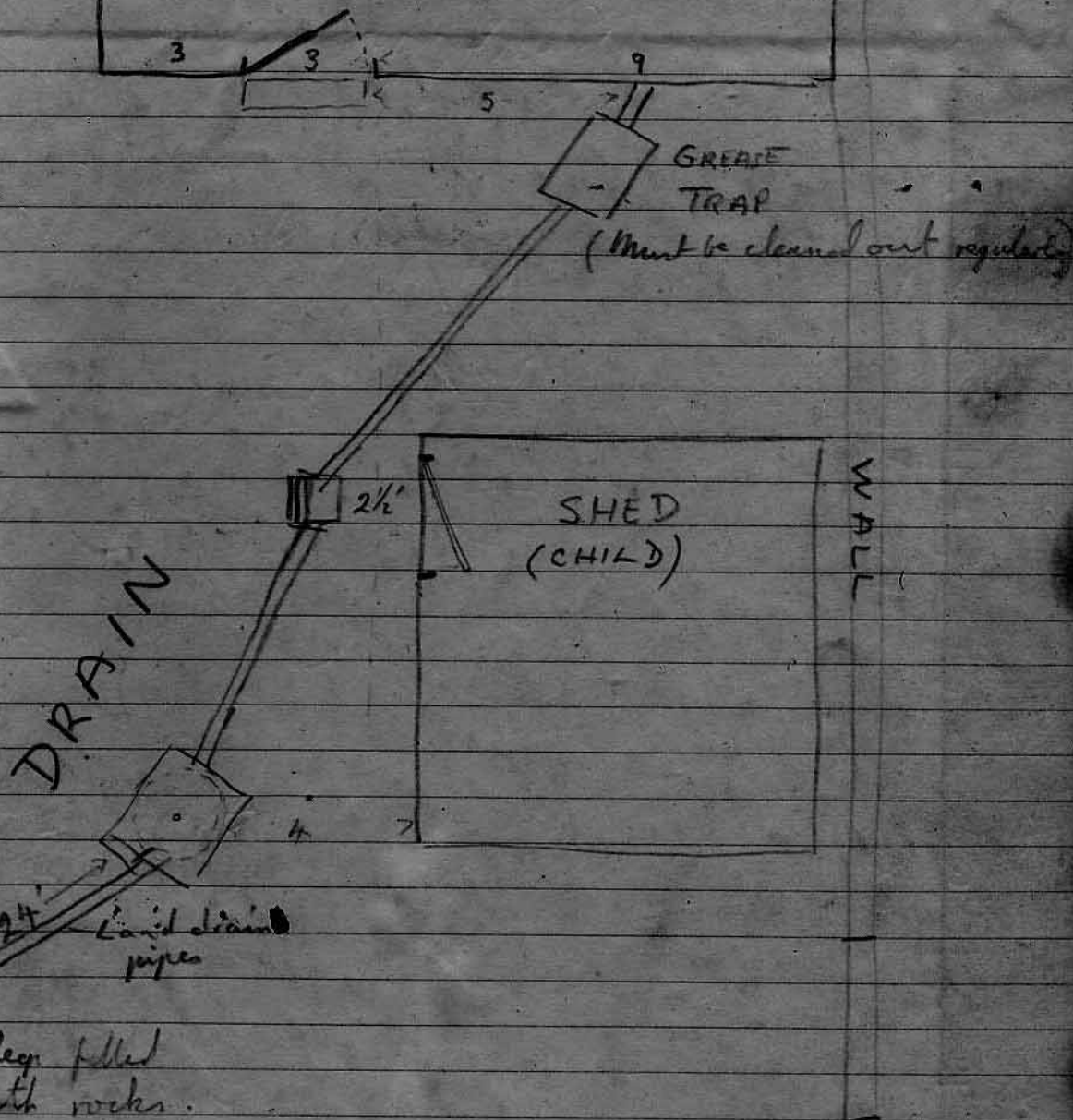
Date

21/3/52	3 lbs candles	4 6	MB
25/3/52	2 galls paraffin	4 2	
6/4/52	1 pint meths	1 6	
10/4/52	1 pt. Meths	1 6	
	4 galls paraffin	8 4	
	Cash Balance o/d	2 1 6	
	£ →	<u>3 1 6</u>	
18/4/52	1 qt. Meths	3 -	
21/4/52	Lamp glass.	4 6	
	Potatoe peeler, tin opener, mop	4 2	
24/4/52	1 pt. Meths.	1 6	
26/4/52	6 gall paraffin	12 6	
	£ ↓	<u>1 5 8</u>	
2.4.52	Drest.	11	MB
3.4.52	Carrage for plate (arnold)	2 3	
8/5/52	1 pint Meths.	1 6	} JJS
	Soap	1 3	
	Drest	11	
	3 lbs. Candles	4 6	
17.5.52	Wick	1 -	VB
5.6.52	8 galls paraffin @ 2/2	13 -	MB
6.6.52	1 doz Tilly Mantles @ 10 <sup>d</sup>	10 -	MB
11/6/52	1 pint Meths.	1 6	JJS
	Tilly glass	4 6	STB
12/6/52	lavatory paper	10	
17/6/52	Pa Meths	6 -	MB
2/7/52	50% cost land drains £ 2 13 9	4 3	MB
4/7/52	Tin opener	1 4	VB
	<del>10 10 5</del>		

Hat Fund

	Date	Recd.	Pd. out	Intd	Date	Recd.	Pd. out	Intd
Fund	2/3/52	Cr. Bal.			18/1/51	5/-	8/-	
		6/-					69 Paraff	
	<del>9/3/52</del>	<del>3/6</del>		<del>8/10</del>	25/1/51	2/6		
					3/1/52		12/-	
							69 oil	
							Paraffin	
					5/1/52	9/-		
					12/1/52		9/-	
							1 Doz Tilley Nashley	
					13/1/52	1/6		
					22/1/52	7/-		
							1/3 Methy	
					25/1/52	Balance due		
							5/3	
					27/1/52	4/6		
					2/2/52	5/3		
					16/2/52	4/6	69 oil Paraff.	
							12/6 Lamp Glasses	
							4/-	
							14/3	
							21/3	
							Balance 7/-	
					24/2/52	3/-		
					2/3/52	10/-	cr. Bal	

HUT



In order that the drain may function properly the GREASE TRAP should be cleaned out at intervals. This may be done by ① removing the bed chain ② rinsing it out with water ③ cleaning out the trap with a grade ④ replacing the cleaned bed chain.