

CIRCULAR TO MEMBERS  
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THE CAVES OF NORTH-WEST CLARE

A contract has now been signed with a publisher for the publication of this book. Subject to unforeseen matters, publication can be expected in about a year. The book is a very long one and my estimate of the length is about 90,000 words of which 60,000 are the opening chapters dealing with history, geology, geomorphology sediments and solutational studies. The remainder is taken up with the description of the cave systems.

The original intention to include detailed descriptions of each cave in turn proved impracticable. It would have meant a book of the order of 160,000 words and no publisher would accept this. In place of these detailed descriptions a summary has been prepared dealing with the important points in each cave with special reference to the geomorphology and supplementing the two general chapters on this subject. Further, where there are differences of opinion over the interpretation of the geomorphology, proper prominence has been given to those differences.

The contract involves the payment of a substantial sum to the publishers. This sum has been provided by the generosity of some of the members, and no liability will fall on the Society. This sum will be repaid in full when the sales exceed a certain agreed figure and thereafter royalties will accrue to the Society on all further copies sold.

The details of the illustrations have not been settled yet but it is intended that all the surveys should be published even though this may mean a reduction in the number of illustrations of the caves themselves.

E.K. Tratman.

PROCEEDINGS

You will have received the latest issue, Vol.11(2). It is the biggest and costliest yet produced. The real cost, on our limited circulation, is of the order of 38/6 per copy. The difference is made up partly by subventions and much more largely by donations from various sources. Anything members can do to increase sales will be helpful, and don't forget back numbers are still available - a fact in which your local library may be interested. Sales this year are a record at over £250.

It is almost certain that the next issue, which must, for financial reasons, be smaller will have to be priced higher. An attempt is being made to bring the publication date back from November to a considerably earlier date. To this end, material for the forthcoming issue should reach the editor by March 31st. 1968.

Now 1969 is our Jubilee year and it is intended to mark this by the publication of a special issue of Proceedings - Vol 12(1) which will be the Proceedings for the year. Ideally this should be out for the Jubilee celebrations set for the weekend of March 22-23.

MANOR FARM

After looking quite promising about last October, the lower rift gradually turned down valley, getting smaller, and was abandoned just before Xmas. It's length was 17-18 ft. The only alternative to further galleries based on guesswork, i.e. driving a gallery back to the old shaft, has now been started. The gallery starts at a depth of 46 ft. and will go down at 45° until either the cave

Manor Farm Cont.,

depth of 60 ft. is reached. In the latter case, the passage will then have to be blasted horizontally until the cave is met.

Expenditure was again high this year, but in November I managed to buy a good secondhand Kango rock drill of the type we use, and as Mr. Jefferies of Manor Farm required such a tool, sold it to him as he was agreeable to our using it at weekends. This we have been doing and, having bought the extension cable, are therefore no longer faced with 30/- per day hireage charges.

M.C.Norton.

Hut Generator

As the wind generator has been spending approximately 90% of its time out of action, despite frequent death-defying trips up the pole in gale force winds, it was decided at Committee that a petrol generator be bought. As there are precious few of the right type around, we have picked up a cheap 120 cc. standing motor and are in the process of coupling it to the dynamo from the wind generator.

M.C.N.

British Archaeological Extracts

The Council for British Archaeology is starting a new printed publication under this title. It is to be published annually, Subscription for individuals is 2.10.0. p.a. and for institutions, £5. A specimen copy is available in our library for inspection.

This should be a very valuable publication and it is hoped that as many people will subscribe as possible. Further particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, C.B.A., 8, St. Andrews Place, London, NW1.

Council of British Archaeology : The date of the joint meeting of Groups II and XIII in Cardiff has been changed to Saturday March 23rd. The meeting starts at 10.30 hrs. and there will be short papers dealing with items of concern to both groups on the two sides of the Bristol Channel.

Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner is being held this year at the Red Lion Inn, Market Place, Wells. The cost, inclusive of 10 percents, hireage charge etc., is 27/6. The Menu is as follows :

A choice of Prawn Cocktail, Cream of Risotto or Cream of Asparagus, followed by Roast Aylesbury Duckling and finishing with Sherry Trifle, Pineapple Hawaii or Cheese and Biscuits.

All members are very welcome and please send any orders and money to Martin Joyce, UBSS, Speleo Rooms, University Road, Bristol 8.

( The date is March 9th. at 7.30 pm)

Student Treasurer

The principle of having a Student Treasurer in addition to the Senior Treasurer has been approved by the Committee, and his appointment at the A.G.M. (March 4th.) will necessitate a change of the Constitution as follows :

8(a) delete " and a Treasurer" and substitute " a Senior Treasurer and a Student Treasurer".

8(c) delete and replace with : " The Student Treasurer shall receive all monies and make all payments, keeping a proper record of both. The Senior Treasurer shall sign all cheques and be responsible for the bank accounts and investments. The Senior Treasurer is responsible for collecting member's subscriptions.

Both Treasurers shall jointly :

a). draw up the annual accounts in February, get them audited and represent them to the Society.

b). prepare the annual budget and present it to the Committee.

c). present the accounts and estimates to the Audit Sub-Committee of the University of Bristol Union.

The Student Treasurer shall not serve after the March of his final year.