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## LETTERS PAGE

### The UBSS Climbing Club Replies

Caves are holes, as such they exist in three dimensions. Many cavers are under the impression that if a cave is not horizontal it is a pothole. Potholes are dangerous things up in the wild north country and therefore are to be avoided. For anyone stupid enough to go vertical caving there is obviously a place for rock climbing skills.

Back to those horizontal caves (G.B., O.F.D., K1 etc) I can think of several bits of climbing in them. The exploration of new passage is possible here by diving, digging and finding new open passage. These last are usually relatively inaccessible up a wall somewhere. If we have to resort to maypoling or even aid climbing to reach these we are waisting effort (Effort is something the club is short of, like students).

Apart from climbing in caves there are still lessons cavers can learn from climbing.

1. Technique, beyond the bum and wellie stage used by cavers and toddlers.
2. Ropework, realistic lifelining for example is rarely seen in caves.
3. Belays, how to use natural belays and to trust neither these nor artificial ones.
4. Fitness, climbing makes you realise that Swildons or G.B. once a fortnight and ten pints a night impairs your condition. Most of us notice that climbers look like fit cavers. As well as fitness climbing improves your balance.

Climbing also appeals for other reasons, its more comfortable for a start, at least in summer. Climbing can be quite exciting (twitch, twitch), however good you may become there are still challenges in Britain. It is clearly socially superior, you can pose and not be thought crazy, there are fewer wierdos and more women.

Since most of the club that are currently active also climb why not go along.

At your service  
Steve M

Dear Sir

Having read the 'Sundry Musings' in my latest newsletter I have a suggestion to make. Why not start a 'Codgers Corner' section where those of us far enough away from our victims wrath can slag off club members with true malice. I will start with a few obvious ones and leave the rest till later.

Consider the author of 'Sundry Mussings', in reference to his claim that we 'hardmen' neglect beginners. We took a novice on our summer expedition. He had to make up his rig on the trip using equipment he, or we, had just purchased. He was memorable mainly for getting more than halfway down Tripa tis Nitis, and crapping himself.

Perhaps Oliver is worth a mention, his bodily portrayal of the true state of the UBSS at faffy was worth an arts council grant.

A further mention of faffy, which will be covered in more detail elsewhere I trust. (wrong ed.) What a wonderful job the secretaries (do they know who they are yet) did at the last minute. I only hope that other events organised by these tyros will happen so miraculously.

Martin (the one who does the Rob Parker impressions) tells me that the Westbury set have become more parochial. Those of us who listen to their theories that there were no caves beyond Mendip now have to adjust our thinking. All the worthwhile trips in Britain lie within Bristol City limits, amazing isn't it.

This sort of rubbish could go on for ages and I'm sure it will.

At your service  
Daob

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### PAUL ESSER MEMORIAL LECTURE 1985

Our lecturer for 1985 will be the underwater cave-explorer, Julian Walker. He will be describing the Blue Holes of the Bahamas. For long the origin of these was a mystery and their penetration considered impossible, because of tidal currents. He will describe their origin and evolution and the technique which has been developed for their exploration. his lecture will be illustrated by slides and a film.

Julian Walker, age 23, is a third year student in mechanical Engineering at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and technology.

He has been caving since 1976, mainly in South Wales and on Mendip, but he has also accompanied some of our people on a joint Bristol and Cambridge Universities expedition to Totesgebirge in Austria in 1981. In Spain in 1983 he joined the Leeds and Manchester Universities Treviso expeditions, with penetration to a depth of 1169 metres, the deepest ever for a British team.

He started caving in 1981 with the Welsh section of the Cave Diving Group under Martin Farr, and did much of his pool

training with us in Bristol.

He has taken part in the Bahamas Blue Holes expeditions in 1982, 1983 and 1984, all of which were led by Rob Palmer, and he assisted in the discovery of several thousands of metres of new underwater passages. The biological study of these has been valuable.

The lecture will be given at 2015hrs on Wednesday, 13th February, 1985 in the large physics lecture theatre, Tyndall Avenue, University of Bristol. The acting Vice-Chancellor, Peter Haggett, Professor of Geography, will be in the Chair.

If parties coming from a distance will let me know beforehand, I can have seats reserved for them. Admission is free. Write to Dr. Oliver C. Lloyd, Withey House, Withey Close West, Bristol, BS9 3SX.

Oliver

#### OBITUARY

I have just learnt through reading the obituary columns of the British Medical Journal, that Dr. F. Langford died on 2nd September, aged 85. Frank Langford was one of the earliest members of the U.B.S.S., although not a founder member, joining in 1919 or 20. He was involved in the excavations at Avelines Hole, Reads Cavern and the Tynings Farm Barrows, and was overseer of the Reads dig for a while. He was on the Committee for 1921 - 22 and wrote the third and fourth reports on Reads Cavern (Proceedings 1:3 and 2:1).

He graduated in medicine in 1924 and worked in Exeter, Westmorland and Kirkcaldy before becoming Assistant Medical Officer to Surrey County Council in 1936. In 1941 he moved to Lewes and in 1946 became County Medical Officer for East Sussex until he retired in 1966.

Although not a member for many years, he kept his ties with the Society. During World War II he assisted with clearing out the bombed and burnt out museum, and, as he wrote in 1968 for the History of the U.B.S.S. published in Proceedings 12:1 ...

"I probably enjoy the dubious distinction of being the only person to find La Tène artefacts twice over: a large bronze fibula and iron slave shackles in Reads Cavern and later the same objects in the residue of the museum"

Tony Boycott

## MINES IN THE FOREST OF BOWLAND

Graham Mullan

The weekend of this years B.C.R.A. conference Linda Wilson, Tony Boycott, Chris Pepper and myself stayed in Preston with Linda's father. On the Saturday evening we decided to drive back from Lancaster via the Forest of Bowland. Whilst driving down the Trough road towards Dunsop Bridge we noticed what appeared to be a cave entrance on our left near a small water treatment plant. We stopped to investigate and found a series of entrances on either side of the road. Looking in "Northern Caves" Vol 5 the following day produced nothing, although there are caves in Bowland not very far away. The ones we had seen were not mentioned.

Ten days later Linda, Tony and I returned for a weeks holiday. The area we were concerned with is just north of Sykes farm on the road from Dunsop Bridge.

The first hole (1) is just above the east bank of the stream, emits a tiny trickle of water and is blocked with rubble and farm rubbish.

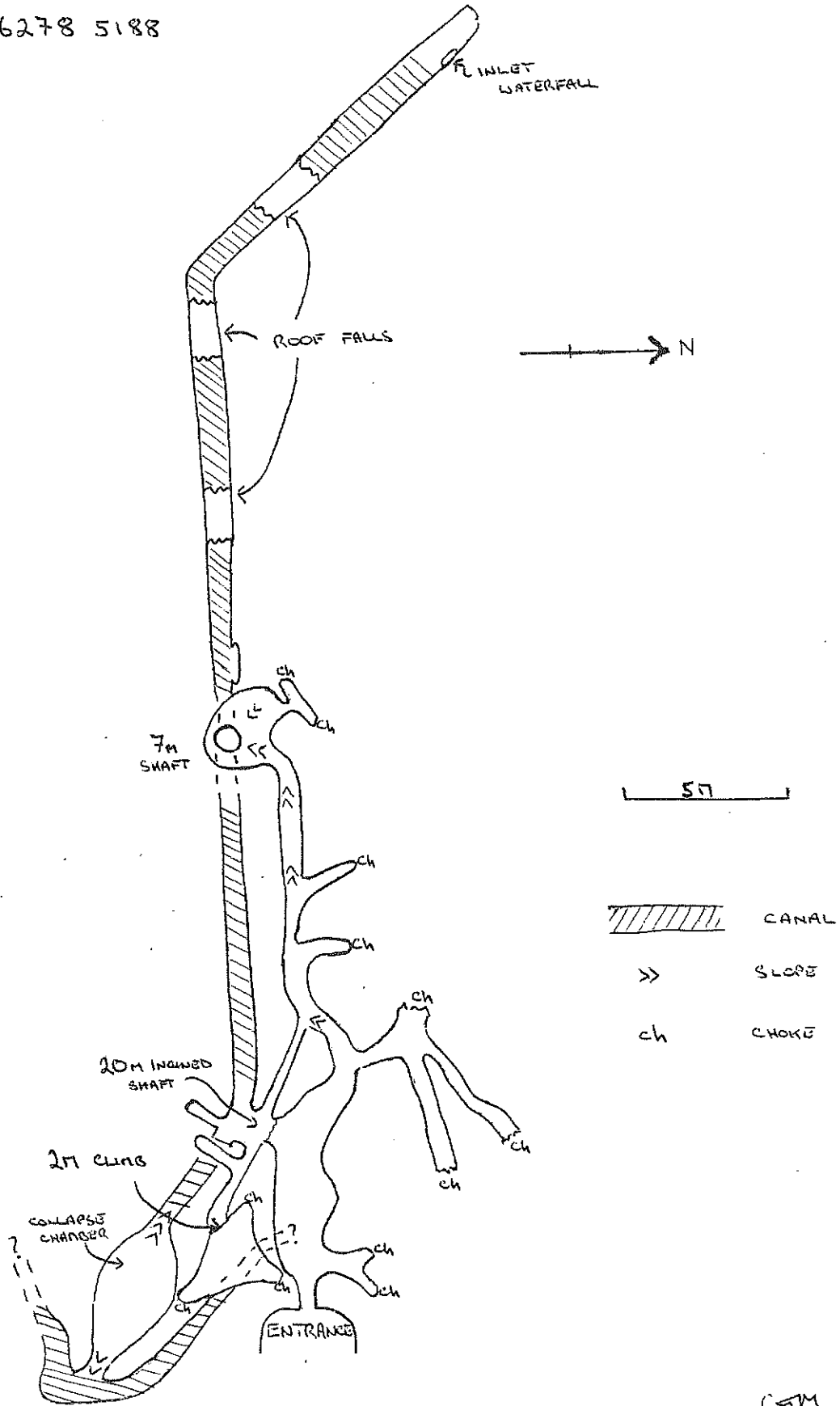
The remainder, entrances 2, 3, 4 and 5 are 10 - 15 m above road level on the west. 2, 3 and 4 all lead to short, mined passages with little scope for extension and have been adequately described by A.E. & M. Cannell (1964). The only possibility for extension seems to be the water filled passage in the middle of the large entrance (3), dismissed by the Cannells, but possibly worth a look in the light of later finds.

Entrance 5, the most southerly of the group is under a small cliff overhung by a tree. Connell & Connell describe it as being nearly chocked, with 7m of adit visible over the rubble. Tony found it to be open, I slid into it, and it went. Linda followed and we explored a complex of about 100m of sandy passages, mostly choked. However lack of adequate - or even any - belays forced us to leave two pitches undescended. The first we estimated at 20 m and lies at the end of the entrance slope, and is also met 3 -4 m lower in a side passage where the shaft has to be traversed. The second pitch is at the bottom of a loose sandy funnel at the end of a 10 m sloping crawl and was estimated at 4m.

Further progress required a ladder belay. The rock was too shattered for bolts and no natural belays existed, so a couple of days later we returned with a piece of angle iron borrowed from Linda's father's allotment to wedge across the passage, some 10m from the pitch. I descended the shorter pitch, actually 7m deep, into a 2½m high 1m wide passage, level and with 1m deep water. I explored to the right and followed 20m of passage, past the bottom of the main pitch, to a climb up into a collapse chamber and down the other side to a T - junction. Passage continued left and right, but

MINE NEAR SYKES FARM  
 FOREST OF BOWLAND

SD 6278 5188



CJM

when lumps started falling out of the roof solo exploration in that area seemed foolish and I returned. Tony then explored westwards and followed similar passage for 60m past three old collapses until the passage roof lowered to a crawl over mud and then stopped. Here there was a small inlet waterfall thought by Tony to have natural passage at the top.

Although we were not the first modern explorers - we found the remains of a cycle torch and a flash bulb- I doubt that anyone has descended the pitches since the mine closed. The head of the 7m pitch had a thick layer of loose, unconsolidated sand and gravel, much of which accompanied me down, but beforehand was quite undisturbed.

We have been unable to discover the age of the mine. The only references we have traced are those mentioned above, and also a note in the Geology of Yorkshire which mentions "the once flourishing Mines of Sykes in the Trough of Bowland". Nor do we know what was mined. We found barytes, galena, ochre and traces of copper salts. Cannell and Cannell mention galena, barytes and quartz.

In common with most old mines, this one was fairly unstable. However, with care there is certainly more passage to be explored.

#### References

- A.E. & M. Cannell 1964 "A report on a mine at Sykes, Bowland Forest"  
Northern Cavern and Mine Research Society Memoirs  
1964 (No 3) p 16 - 18.
- P.F.Kendall & H.E. Wroot Geology of Yorkshire.

P.S. Take your own angle iron, our piece was returned to the allotment.

REMEMBER REMEMBER ?

Graham Mullan

On the evening of Saturday Nov 3rd Phil Buckberry, Chris Pepper, Tony Boycott, Linda Wilson and myself went out to the hut. There we found nothing but the remains of the previous nights Mountaineering Club bonfire. We then proceeded to set off all of Phil's fireworks, he burnt his fingers and then we retired to the Plume for several pints of beer.



TREASURER'S NOTE

By the time of the Society's Annual General Meeting (March 9th, 1985) we will have kept the annual subscription down to £5 for four years (enough to make sense of the four year covenants) and it will be time to raise it. The rate of inflation has been about as follows:

1981	11%	add proportion to £5	
1982	6%		£5.55
1983	5%		£5.883
1984	5%		£6.177
1985			£6.486

Rounding up the fraction, this means that we ought to raise the subscription in 1985 to £6.50 and try to keep it at that level for four years. We will also have to renew all the covenants.

It needs to be remembered that a resolution passed by the A.G.M., although it becomes operative at once, cannot be made retrospective. Therefore those who have paid £5 before 9.3.85 (eg. all those paying by bankers order) will not have a second call made on them; while those who have not paid will be asked to pay at the new rate. This was done in 1981.

Outstanding subscriptions. Student members are warned that, if they fail to pay their subscriptions for 1984 before the end of December 1984 they will cease to be members. The rate is 80p.

A.G.M. AND DINNER

Saturday, 9th March, 1985.

2.30 pm. Editorial Committee Meeting.

4.30 pm. Annual General Meeting in the Society's Rooms, second floor University of Bristol Union.

This will be followed by a Lecture given by Trevor Shaw on a cave-historical subject.

7.30 for 8 pm. Dinner at the Avon Gorge Hotel, Sion Hill, Clifton. Price £8.50. Cheques should be sent to Steve Hobbs, Flat 47 University Close, Parry's Lane, Bristol BS9 1AR, and made payable to the U.B.S.S. Please write early, as the hotel management wants to know the number of guests by mid-February.



Apartado ☒ 343 - 08080 Barcelona  
 ESPAÑA

Barcelona 16-07-84/0

As we informed on 21st May, 1984, we now give further information concerning the 9th International Speleology Congress. At the present time the guidelines have been approved, the financial study has been prepared — showing its viability — and a tentative activity programme has been drawn up. It should be pointed out that the indications of the Secretary General of the UIS have been accepted and the date of holding the Congress has been brought forward to the months of July and August 1986, with the following structure.

TECHNIQUE SYMPOSIUM - Madrid		21-30 /7/86	PRE-CONGRESS	
EXCURSION AROUND "LARRA" - Navarra				
5th. Barcelona International Speleology Film Festival. 4th. International Speleology Photography Show. Exhibitions. Excursions around Catalonia.	RECEPTION, OPENING	SESSIONS	1-7/8/86	CENTRAL EVENTS
	GENERAL UIS MEETING			
	KARSTOLOGY - GEOSPELEOLOGY			
	NON LIMESTONE CAVITIES			
	BIOSPELEOLOGY			
	ARCHEOLOGY - PALEONTOLOGY			
	APPLIED SPELEOLOGY			
	DOCUMENTATION			
	COMMITTEES			
	GENERAL UIS MEETING			
	CLOSING			
VOLCANIC CAVITIES CAMP. - Islas Canarias		9-17/8/86	POST-CONGRESS	
PREHISTORIC ROUTES - CANTABRIA - Santander				
OJO GUAREÑA, CAMP. - Burgos				
EXCURSION AROUND "LARRA" - Navarra				

Although the general organization of the Congress has been set up and the leading offices have been filled, the Coordinating Committee of the different Pre and Post activities has not yet defined the details and costs. Therefore it is not possible to give the final features in this letter. What we can ensure you is that, in spite of the time elapsed, the cost of the registration fees to the central events of the 9th Congress will not be higher than that of the 8th Congress in Kentucky.

We are proposing to send out the final documentation next October. By way of a decimal classification, this will be periodically extended as desirable to each of the programme activities.

This information will be sent out to every person or organization which expresses its interest in receiving it by returning the enclosed card.

Secretariat General del 9º. Congrès

Mail this card to:

Name .....

Address .....

I wish to receive the final Congress programme

My speciality within Speleology .....

Activities in which I am most interested .....

Camps  Excursions  Central Events

Suggestions .....



Apartado ☒ 343 - 08080 Barcelona  
 ESPAÑA

## IRELAND 1985

The annual U.B.S.S. expedition to Co. Clare will take place in July. We shall leave Bristol on the evening of Thursday, 11th July, which gives the graduands time to attend their parties, and will be back again in Bristol on the morning of Saturday, 27th July, early.

We shall be staying at the Cottage with the Green Roof in Lisdoonvarna, which belongs to Mrs. O'Laughlin of the Cash Stores, and which I find rejoices in the name of 'Finn's House' -- it is certainly old enough. It has doors which open and shut, windows which do neither, a lavatory, a scullery with sink (but no bathroom), beds (some double), mattresses, pillows and a certain amount of bedding, but it is best to bring your own sleeping bag. It has electricity, and a calor gas cooker in the kitchen-living room. There are open fires and we are provided with turf. The provision of cooking and eating utensils is fairly good, but I always bring some extra things. The rent is paid out of the Tratman Fund.

We do our own cooking, taking it in turns. The cost of food averages IR£13 a week per person = St£10.80. Drink is up to you, but please note that a pint of Guinness is now comfortably over the IR£1 fence.

Travelling costs were: Boat fare, Fishguard to Rosslare return, £37 in 1984. Bus from Bristol to Ennis and back was £18 return in 1983, but I'm sure it is a lot more than that now. You can hitch to Lisdoonvarna from Ennis (30 miles) and for your return journey you can take the 'Limerick Flier'. Passengers in the 'Lloydicle' are not charged. If someone brings another car, it will help us greatly with transport problems, but there will be petrol costs to share out. The Tratman fund pays part of the travelling costs.

The caving. The caves on the Burren are first class sporting caves, and you don't have to be a 'tiger' to enjoy them. The ones our parties most often visit are Doolin, Pollnagollum-Pollelva, Faunarooska, Pollanionain, Coolagh River Cave (for which you need settled weather), Cullauns 2, 3 & 5. Less commonly visited are Kilcorney 1 and the Fergus River Cave.

We have however a committment to the Kilcorney area, as we still have a lot of new stuff to survey in the cave. Also we must push the dig in Kilcorney 4 (Pollnaskagh) and if it has already 'gone' we must survey it. Also Glencurran Cave needs surveying. Nobody is in a hurry to do this, as the blasted out section, which leads to the extensions, is ferocious.

The 1984 expedition was seriously undersubscribed by student members of the U.B.S.S. and I very much hope that this will be corrected in 1985. Please ask Oliver, if you want to know any more or are thinking of coming.

Oliver.

## THE JULY 1984 IRISH EXPEDITION

If I had been writing this report for the upside-down part of the Newsletter, I might have begun as follows, after the fourteenth chapter of St. Luke.

A man was giving a dinner party and had sent out many invitations. When it was dinner time he called his guests and said, "It is ready now, come and enjoy it." But they all began to excuse themselves. The first said, 'I find I've got to go on a field course, so I'm afraid I can't come.' The second said, "I've got to go and work on a farm, so I can't make it after all." The next said, "I'm afraid I'm clean broke and can't afford the journey." So the man went out into the streets and alleys of the town and into the highways and byways of the country and was lucky enough to find three members of the Axbridge Caving Group. And they all thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The party consisted of Oliver and of Alan Gray (35, electronics technician), Trevor Goddard (25, lorry driver) and Paul Ibberson (20, motor mechanic). Moreover the party boasted three first class cooks, so, as we were staying in the Cottage With The Green Roof (which is what I find the O'Loughlins call "Finn's House" -- it is certainly old enough) we did ourselves proud at an average cost per person per week of IR£12.84.

There were two bits of Spelaeo work to do. One was to repeat the survey of a closed traverse in Doolin, which had given a 15% misclosure. The other was to survey odd bits of Kilcorney One (Cave of the Wild Horses). The former we accomplished in a  $6\frac{1}{2}$  hour trip which left me very tired. The latter was not managed, as the party lost their way after descending the pitch. We also did a second Doolin trip to survey some loose ends in the Smithy series.

Alan and Trevor also did some digging in K4, which is quite promising, while OCL tried to map as many of the openings found at Easter as he could. There are over a dozen of these. He only found K1, 2, 2a to e, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8. It was rough, thorny work, but he was able to check the local compass error of the compass used at Easter and found this to be 9°W, the same as the UBSS compass he was using. K4 is not at the red spot on Tratty's map but just W of the townland boundary, where a small cross has been drawn. Td. Poulnaska, not Kilcorney Glebe.

The Axbridge lads did several pleasure trips, including Coolagh River Cave, Doolin, Pollnagollum to Pollelva and Pollanionain. They had never seen anything like them. It wasn't until they did the back parts of Aillwee Cave that they could say, "Ah, this is something like a Mendip cave." They only took two days off. On one we made a tour of the Burren and on the other they went to Arran.

We saw a lot of the Keane family, particularly of Joe Keane, who came with us on our tour of the Burren and was also given a through trip in Doolin. Shooting parties were arranged (his brother Michael is a good shot) and we were given two rabbits, which I braised (memories of old days!).

I think the Axbridge will be organizing their own Irish expeditions in future and, for my part, I very much hope that the student members of this Society will come with me next year. I've booked the cottage from the 12th to the 26th of July, 1985. Spelaeo work should include digging in K4, which is the natural northern continuation of K1, and survey of Glencurran Cave, if this will not already have been done. As a result of pushing by Dave Drew this cave has gone big, and there is a kilometre of phreatic stuff beyond the nasty tight bits.

Oliver.

#### NEWS FROM G.B.

Graham Mullan

After all the progress and high hopes for the Bat Passage Dig detailed in the Autumn '83 Newsletter, in fact not an inch of progress was made for an entire year! Too much water, and other matters, having held us back for many months, Tony Boycott and I finally returned this August. This time the dig was dry, too dry! The floor was covered in a foot of thick glutinous mud which made spoil shifting exceedingly difficult. However we did make about 30 cm further progress and prospects still looked good. This trip was also notable for the removal of a maypole from the ladder dig climb, and the heroic rescue of a frog from ladder dig.

On the 2nd September we returned. Conditions were still difficult, but after  $\frac{1}{2}$ m a small hole appeared above my arm. This I quickly enlarged, accompanied by Tony saying "Whats happening? The air seems fresher, your voice sounds different." I then told him, and gave him the honour of being pushed through a tight muddy squeeze into 5 metres of new passage, 1 -  $1\frac{1}{2}$ m high, about 1m wide with a flat mud floor. The passage ends in a 10 cm wide rift extending upwards, and choked with boulders ahead.

So 18 years after it was begun, and a couple of weeks after being declared an official UBSS dig by the Charterhouse Caving Committee, the dig has at last started getting somewhere. Digging should be easier for a while, whether we start removing the mud floor or attempting to widen the rift, but unfortunately thanks to the rain we haven't managed to get back yet.

On our latest attempt to return on Nov 15th, we discovered that the boulder ruckle has been moving again. Near the beginning and also about half way through some very large rocks have shifted.

LIBRARY NEWS

The library is slowly becoming organised again. The repairs to the bookcases have been completed and the majority of the books replaced. The middle room in the union now contains British and Foreign journals in accessible form, and also the store of offprints and back numbers of proceedings. Tratty's books await sorting and cataloguing. Many thanks to Mrs Betty Taylor for donating the majority of the library of Dr Herbert Taylor to the Society, and also to Mrs Muriel Langdon for some early volumes of proceedings.

ADDITIONS TO LIBRARY Winter 1984

The Mammal Fauna of the Early Middle Pleistocene Cavern Infill Site of Westbury sub Mendip. Special Papers in Palaeontology 28	M.J. Bishop
Gaping Gill: 150 years of exploration.	H.M. Beck
British Mining Nos 16 - 18, 20 - 25	N.M.R.S.
The Mines of Ireland. 1922 (Photocopy)	G.A.J. Cole
Geology of the Bristol District: the Lower Jurassic Rocks.	Donovan & Kellaway
The Great Caving Adventure. 1984	Martyn Farr
Cave Clippings of the 19th Century	Russell Gurness
Catalogue of Cave Postcards of Yorkshire & Derbyshire 1983	D.J. Irwin
Venturing Underground (Review Copy)	Ben Lyon
Karst Geomorphology (Benchmark papers in Geology 59)	M.M. Sweeting Ed.
Mendip Hills Draft Local Plan 1984	Somerset County Council
New Exchange:	
Karstologia Sinica Institute of Karst Geology, Guilin, China.	

DUPLICATES FOR SALE

Proceedings of U.B.S.S.

One copy of each: Vol 1, 1 2 & 3	)	
Vol 2, 2 & 3	)	- Price £5 each
Vol 3. 2(Several Copies) & 3	)	
Vol 4, 1 & 2	)	
Vol 6, 2	)	
Vol 8, 1 & 2	)	- Price £3 each

One copy of The Caves of North West Clare, Ireland by E.K. Tratman  
Slightly "flood bent" but totally legible. Price £10

Tony Boycott

U.B.S.S. SESSIONAL MEETING

Wednesday, 6th February, 1985, at 8.15 pm. in the Speleae Rooms,  
Students' Union, Second Floor

Dr. Roger Jacobi

Lecturer in Prehistoric Archaeology in the University of Lancaster

will speak on

"EARLY MAN AT CHEDDAR"

"SEVERAL SPECIES OF SMALL FURRY AMINALS GATHERED TOGETHER IN A CAVE..... "

or

lecture notes on "A Mendip Bone Cave" by Andy Curren.

(.....woke up.....squinted at obscure diagram on slide screen .... didn't understand it.....diagram upside down.....explains a lot..... must take notes or won't remember anything.....)

Cave bears have tendency to tread on dead relatives - possibly due to lack of space caused by enormous numbers of voles in cave. Also used relatives bones for jaw exercise. Voles too small for this, would stick between a bear's teeth. Cave bear's foot found in puddle.....odd place to leave it..... more voles, appear to lose enormous numbers of teeth, not a lot of earth in cave, just heaps of compressed rodents teeth.....

Carnivores lived at other end of cave -- avoiding voles?

"Small wolf -- commonest small carnivore" -- staple diet, hibernating bears, seems most antisocial animal -- on second thoughts, poor beast probably sick of eating ruddy voles.

Hunting voles -- "Stunted growth of wolf".....eh???

Big lions -- "Not particularly common" -- oh well, can't have everything I suppose, still two million voles teeth must make up for a lot....

Sabre-toothed tiger not as common as voles and didn't live much in caves, not really surprising considering the company.

Found a reindeer antler embedded in heaps of rodents teeth -- not very exciting, looked at it for a while then threw it away, carried on making voles tooth souvenirs -- necklaces, paperweights etc.

(Someone at front asks how all these voles teeth got into cave)  
Answer -- owls. Owls??? Yes, owls. Staple diet, unlike small wolf, was voles. Ate them, flew into cave and threw up....can't blame them....will probably start trying to eat hibernating bears instead.....

Linda Wilson.



# Toblerone Warr's Diary

Wednesday

To start the new academic year on a controversial note, a charming young chap by the name of Gareth Seaborne has been elected to outside membership of the club; but in somewhat indecent haste.

Loose talk suggests that it is due to his success with the ladies but my theory is that he is in training for a sporting record, perhaps the Aggie Marathon, and we had to sign him up quickly - a la Zola Budd.

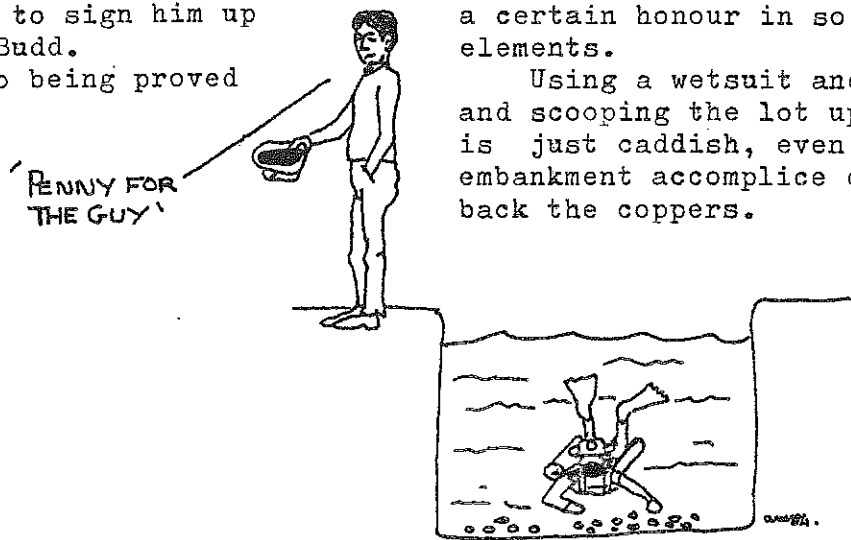
I look forward to being proved right.

Thursday

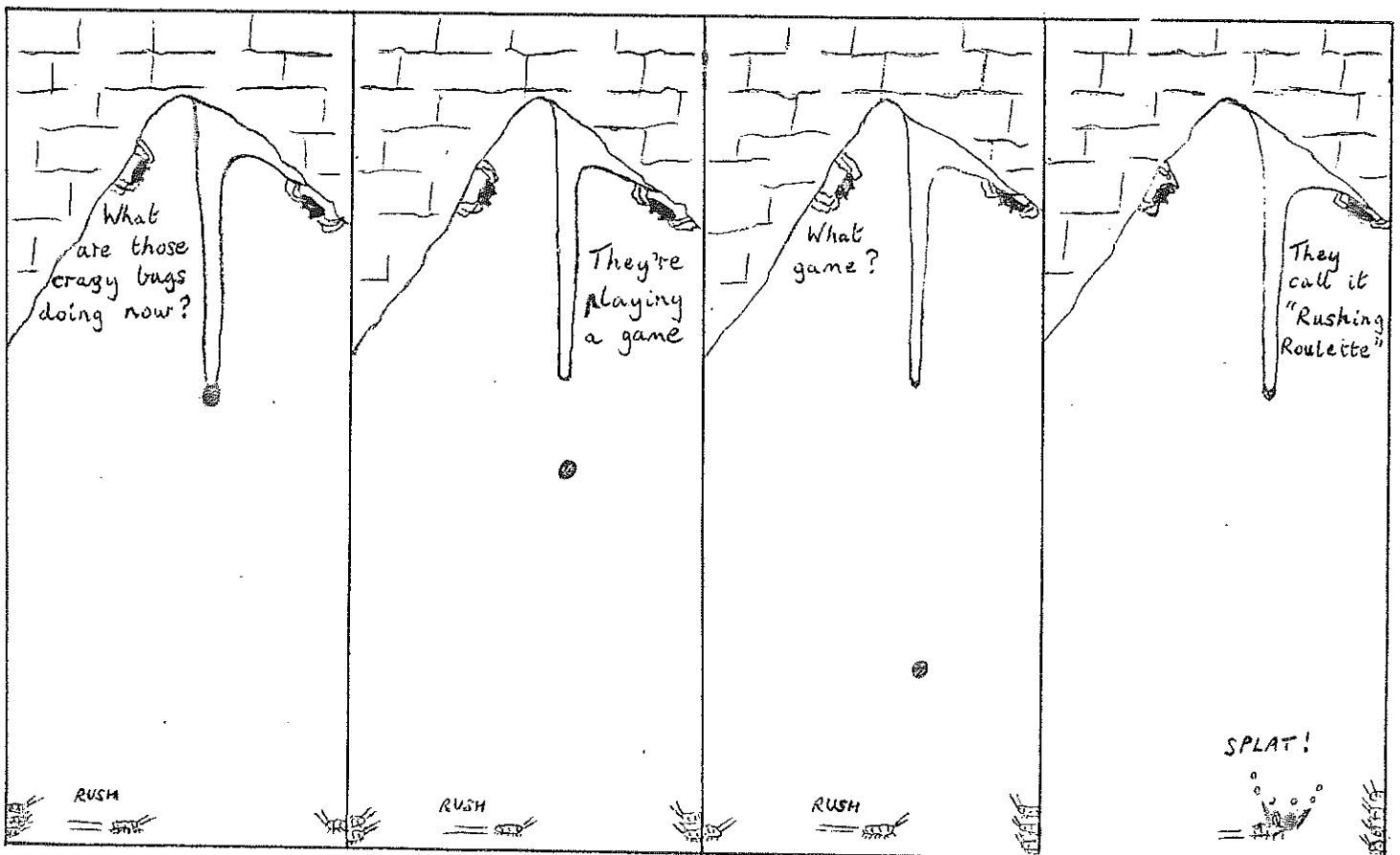
Regular readers will know who I mean when I say that "the Animal" is no respecter of tradition.

The traditional method of gathering the price of an evening's drinking from the canal at Wookey Hole is to strip naked and pick up all the silver with your toes. The feet are used because the water is so cold and deep, and there is also a certain honour in so braving the elements.

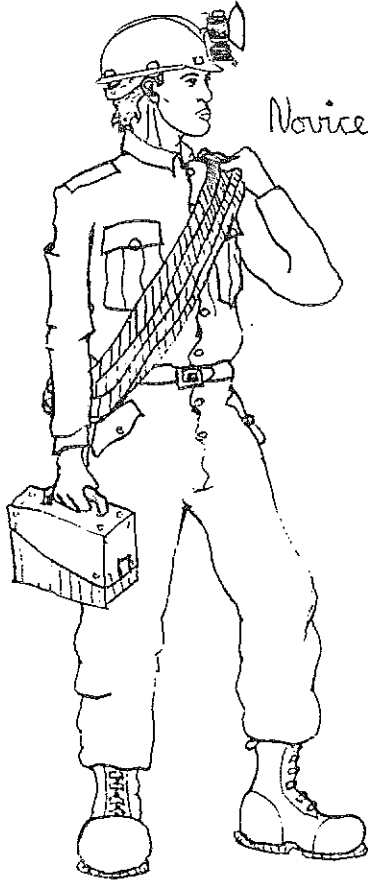
Using a wetsuit and twin 40's and scooping the lot up in a helmet is just caddish, even if your embankment accomplice does throw back the coppers.



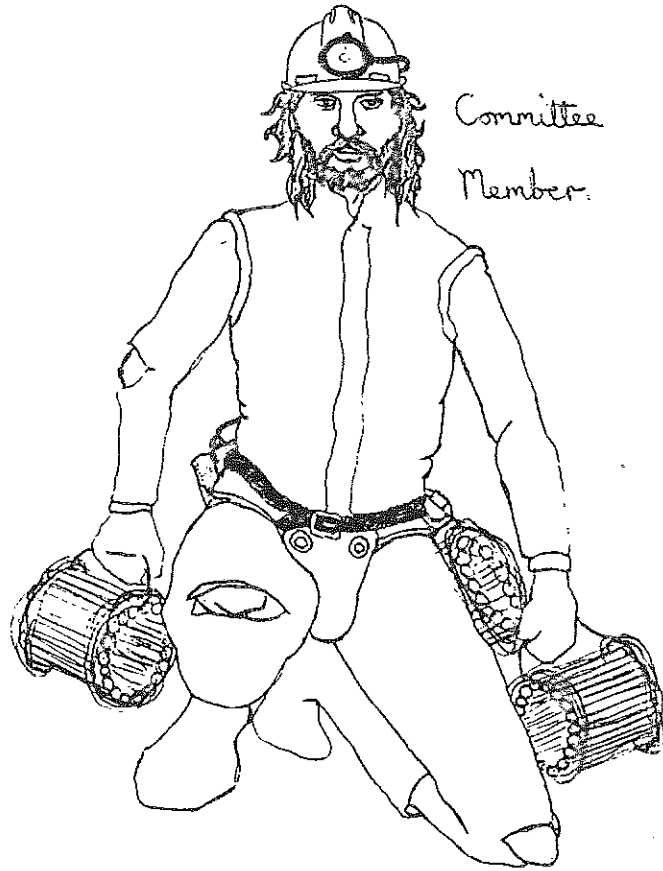
Troglobyte



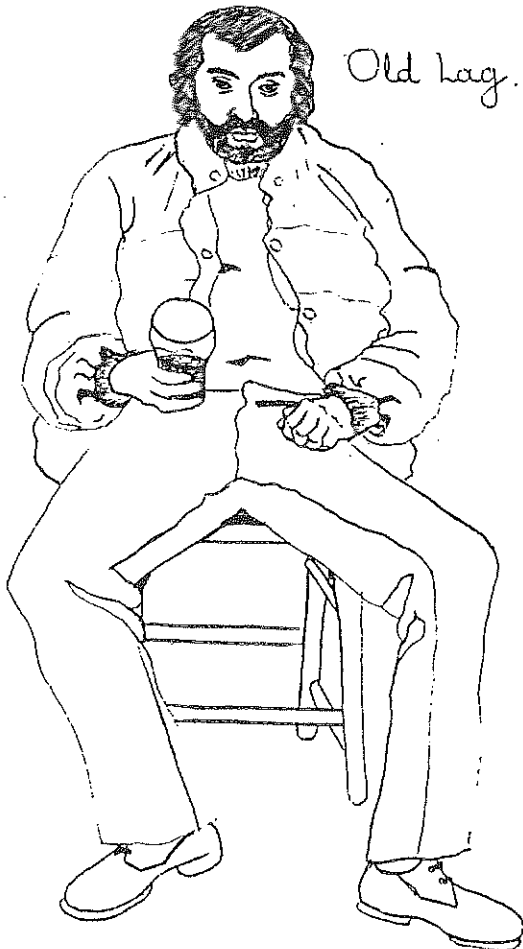
# HISTORY OF THE ANCIENTS' GREECE EXPEDITION



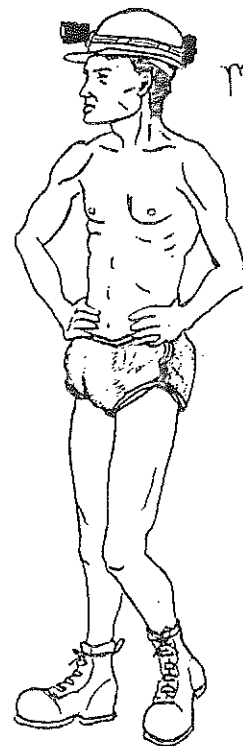
Novice.



Committee  
Member.



Old Hag.



Expedition  
Member.

Some mysteries are never solved and perhaps in this case it will be so. It involves two training officers from the sub-aqua club who went diving at Swildons Hole. With twin 40's apiece they ran out of air margins before Sump 9.

As we all know, Swildons is free-diveable to Sump 9, no air being needed at all. Perhaps if there had been a qualified cave diver with them ..... well, who knows how far they might have got?

Contrary to speculation, Oliver's new motor car is not about to become another Lloydicle. After a disagreement with a signpost a trivial dent is to be removed by the garage.

A useful addition to the student body is a young man from the WSG called Marco. He has lost no time making his mark on the club.

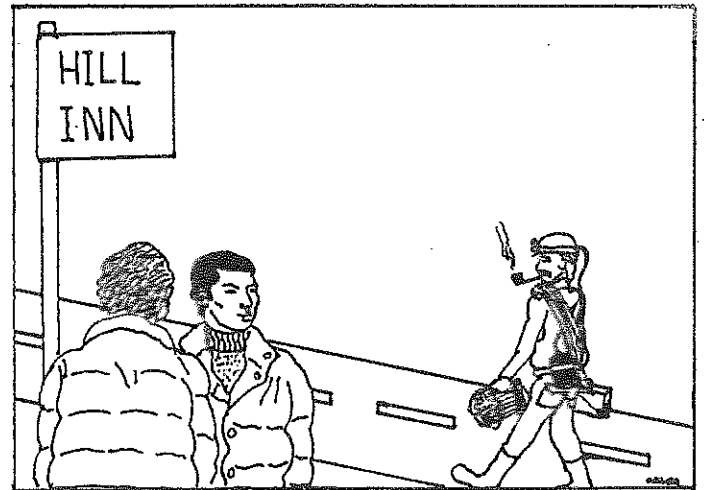
Leading a party to his favourite cave, Pant Mawr, he was saved from embarrassment only after some hours on the moor. Fortunately he had a geography student with him who used his scientific knowledge to deduce that a party of odd-looking fell walkers wearing helmets entering a shakehole in the distance and not re-emerging might have found the cave.

NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF BOOKS



Mills and Boon inform us that "He took me abseiling" by Martine Warandpeace has been republished in a completely revised second edition.

Cave Bores (4)

Look at that w\*nked out old fogey over there with all that knackered gear. It might have been alright in the seventies but this is 1984. Hasn't he ever heard of Petzl? What do you mean, that is Monsieur Petzl? Really? Well, let's go over for a chat, then.



FOCUS ON FACT - The UBSS's least known committee members

<p>No 2</p> <p>Chris Green</p> <p>1984-5</p>	<p>Chris prefers parties to caving</p> 	<p>He has a fondness for ear-rings</p> 
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# Maxim



# Gravel

I am not usually one to complain but the rat-pickings of this summer's trade have been hardly enough to keep my vessel afloat. With business so slack I have been obliged to embark on this trip with only half my normal provisions and crew.

But fear not, dear sponsors. I shall make up for it in future by being even more ruthless. Each tidbit I will bring you covered in blood.

R. Matey

pp Captain Maxim

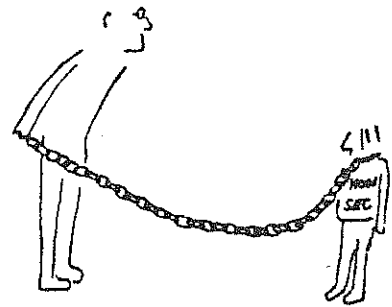
Poste Restante

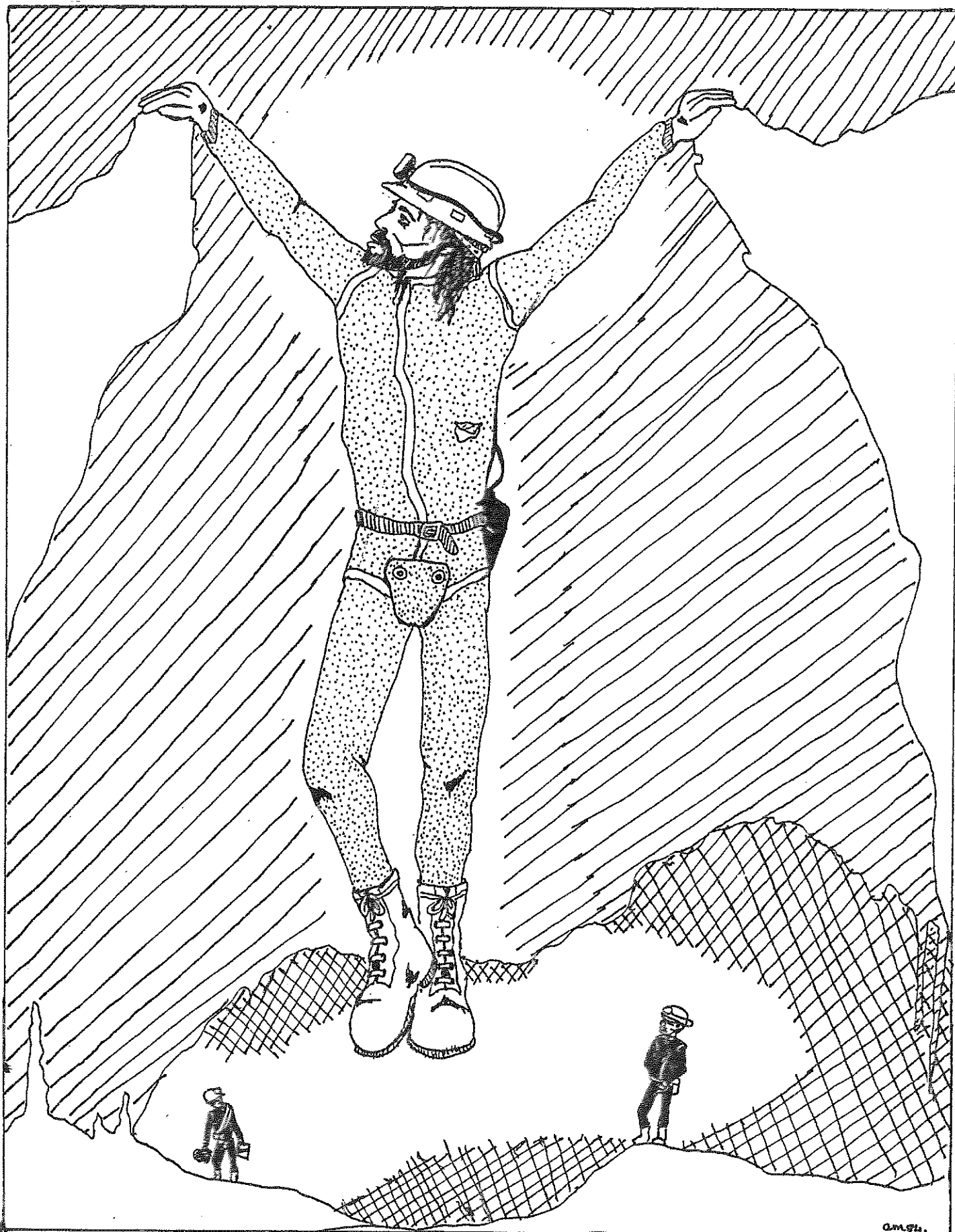
Port au Prince

I always go to the medical students' Pre-clinical Revue when friends of mine are playing. They look so funny when they dress up in nurses' uniforms and try to show off their legs. However JB should definitely stick to medicine and leave the chorus line to the girls. He looks even more butch in a pink dress than he does in jeans.

Tragedy and humiliation for our new Hon Sec, Steve Hobbs. Celebrating a most enjoyable OFD trip with a few pints of Feelin' Foul he attempted, in his best Newport accent, a bit of the old Yacky da on the local boyos. After a conference in Welsh their spokesman announced, in English, that he hadn't understood a word. Red ears for Steve, and red faces all round our table.

# HON. SEC.





AM. 54.

**JESUS CAVES.**