

SECRETARIES' REPORT MARCH 1994-1995

Research

Andy Farrant is currently writing up his findings regarding the examination of landscape evolution over the million year timescale. Dr. Fiona Whittaker is continuing her work on modelling the hydrogeology of the Bahamas. The academic collaboration between Dr. Peter Smart and Turkish academics continues to research palaeoclimates by investigating travertine deposits at Pammukkale. As part of the same study Dr. Smart is also studying carbonate diagenesis and dissolution in the Bahamas.

Archaeology

Chris Hawkes and Dr. Roger Jacobi are continuing in their work based at Hyaena Den. The Societies own collection is still undergoing recatalogiuing and reorganisation on Tuesday evenings where volunteer help is always warmly appreciated. Arthur ApSimon has now completed his fieldwork at the Bos Swallet site and is currently writing up his findings.

Caving

Dr Tony Boycott continued his netherworld globetrotting visiting both Sulawesi and Assynt, in Scotland. Unfortunately the major Assynt discovery was made shortly after he left.

Andy Farrant spent 4 weeks in the Pre-polar Urals where, as well as becoming adept at rafting, he explored limestone and gypsum karst areas in conjunction with the Kungur Karst Research Institute.

Ten members of the society went on expedition to the high plateaux of Mt. Triglav, Slovenia. Due to changes in weather patterns the permanent snow cover around the summit has been steadily declining revealing areas of virgin limestone karst. No major discoveries were made, but many openings were explored and some have yet to be pushed to completion.

In addition, due to the recent archaeological survey, interest into Bos Swallet was rekindled and during the course of the summer digging resulted in the cave being doubled in both length and depth.

Meetings

These were rather thin on the ground this year and poorly attended. However in October Eve Pleydell gave an account of the summer expedition to Slovenia. The following January Andy Farrant took us to Russia for the evening.

Acknowledgements

The Oliver Lloyd Memorial Fund kindly made a grant towards the cost of publishing Proceedings. The University of Bristol also made a grant towards these costs. The Students Union made a grant which assisted with the updating of society tackle and helped towards general running costs.

Eve Pleydell and Ian Wheeler