

SECRETARIES' REPORT MARCH 1995–1996

Archaeology

The Museum Collection Management Policy has been completed and the Museum is now in the process of being registered with the Museums and Galleries Commission. We have been given a well documented collection donated by the family of the late Mrs. Marjorie Crook.

Work is continuing at Hyaena Den and has been completed at Bos Swallet. New data is being assembled on the human material from Totty Pot.

Research

Andy Farrant has completed his PhD thesis concerning Mendip karst geomorphology and landscape evolution. Augusto Auler is conducting research on the early climate in Brazil. Studies are also being carried out on karst geomorphology and on cave sediments at Eldon Hill quarry in Derbyshire.

Caving

Dr. Tony Boycott made a return visit to the Megalhaya area of India last December, during which much new cave passage was explored and surveyed. On Mendip, the final rift in Bos Swallet has been doubled in length and a small parallel rift discovered. At Bat Passage, in G.B. a length of passage first entered thirty years ago has now been broken back into by the digging team. A number of successful away meets to Yorkshire have been held as well as weekends on Mendip.

The Society is now a member of the newly formed Charterhouse Caving Company Ltd. which has taken out a 150 year lease on G.B. and Charterhouse Caves as well as continuing to administer the old license agreement with Bristol Water for the Longwood Valley and Velvet Bottom. Conservation plans have been drawn up for all these caves with the close involvement of the Society.

Meetings

Sessional meetings have, once again, been rather thin on the ground. but there is one being held towards the end of April and matters will, hopefully, improve during the coming year.

Acknowledgements

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Ian Morley and Simon Grace