

Tony Jarratt's Caving Log

Volume 1, 1964-1974

Page 1				
Somerset	Gough's Cave		Cheddar	Miscellaneous caves explored at various times
Somerset	Cox's Cave		Cheddar	
Somerset	Wookey Hole		Wells	
Somerset	Yorkhouse Cave		Backwell	
Pembrokeshire	Pendine Sea Caves		Pendine	
Pembrokeshire	Wogan Cavern		Pembroke	
Breconshire	Chartist Cave		Tredegar	
Pembrokeshire	Lydstep Caverns		Manorbier	
Bristol	Ghyston's Cave		Bristol	

Worcestershire	Wren's Nest Mines 1964? P&S Millward, P.Arkell, P.Goddard	7 hrs	Dudley	Large chambered limestone mines near Dudley. First true caving trip and all were somewhat nervous over the prospect.
Somerset	Sidcot Swallet Rod's Pot 19/3/66 S.Shepstone	¾ hr ¾ hr	Burrington	First Mendip trip. Very fine. Reached head of "avens" in Rod's.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern Rod's Pot 1966 9 EGONS, Steve Shepstone	2 hrs	Burrington	First trip with the Exploration Group of North Somerset
Somerset	East Twin Swallet Aveline's Hole Rod's Pot Reeds Cavern Bath Swallet 6/4/66 Steve	½ hr 1 hr 1 hr ½ hr 10min	Burrington	

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Somerset	Soldier's Hole Great Oones Hole Sun Hole 21/4/66 Steve	¼ hr 1 hr ¼ hr	Cheddar	Very impressed with Great Oones Hole
Somerset	Aveline's Hole Sidcot Swallet Rod's Pot 23/4/66 Steve	1 hr 1 hr 1 hr	Burrington	
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 11/6/66 Steve, Colin York	2 ½ h	Burrington	
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 12/6/66 Steve, EGONS	2 hrs	Priddy	To head of the "Forty". Most impressed.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 3/7/66 Steve, EGONS	3 ½ h	Priddy	First ladder climb (the "40") and on to just past the Double Pots.
Somerset	Aveline's Hole Goatchurch Cavern	1 hr 1 hr	Burrington	

	Read's Cavern 9/7/66? Dave Parker, Roger Copley	½ hr		
Worcestershire	Wren's Nest Mines 26/7/66 Phil Goddard	1 hr	Dudley	
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Somerset	Scragg's Hole Denny's Hole Foxes Hole Sandy Cave 31/7/66 D.Parker, C.Toogood	1 hr	Compton Bishop	Noted HUGE spider in Foxes and a very active bat in Sandy.
Somerset	Swiss Valley Cave 2/8/66 D.Parker	1hr 20 m	Clevedon	
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern East Twin Swallet 4/8/66 D.Parker, Peter? Martin?	1 hr 50m	Burrington	Also looked at small cave above Flange Swallet.
Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 11/8/66 D.P., R.Copley	1½ hr	Priddy	
Breconshire	Chartists' Cave 17/8/66 Steve	¼ hr	Tredegar	Explored whole of cave.
Breconshire	Ogof Blaen Crawnnon 18/8/66 Steve	1 hr	Trefil	A vile place! Razor rock, loose bits, freezing water etc.
Breconshire	Ogof Fawr 19/8/66 Steve	¼ hr	Penderyn	A very loose cave. A well organized dig to the right looks more promising.
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Breconshire	Bridge Cave Cwm Pwll-y-Rhyd White Lady Cave Porth-yr-Ogof 20/8/66 Steve, (Brian Hillman, Glen Jones)	2½ hr	Ystradfellte	Noted a white fish in Bridge Cave. Met Messrs Hillman and Jones in the cave and were invited to "Pine Lodge" for tea.
Somerset	Sidcot Swallet Goatchurch Cavern Rod's Pot Aveline's Hole 26/8/66 P.Goddard	2 hr	Burrington	
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 6/9/66 Steve	2 hr	Priddy	
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern Sidcot Swallet 10/9/66 Steve, Dave?	2¾ hr 1¾ hr	Burrington	
Somerset	Swildon's Hole ?/?/66 5 EGONS, Steve	3½ hr	Priddy	
Somerset	Stoke Lane Slocker 2/10/66 EGONS, Steve	2½ hr	Stoke Lane	First trip using bottom half of a wet-suit. As far as Sump 1.
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Somerset	Trat's Crack	1 hr	Burrington	

	East Twin Swallet Sidcot Swallet Aveline's Hole Goatchurch Cavern 8/10/66	50m		
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 9/10/66 Steve, N.Nauhdar, R.Copley, C.York, D.Porter	3 hrs	Priddy	
Somerset	Sidcot Swallet Goatchurch Cavern 16/10/66 13 EGONS	2¾ hr 1 hr	Burrington	
Somerset	Eastwater Swallet 23/10/66 10 EGONS, Steve	2¼ hr	Priddy	
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 3/11/66 Steve, Rog, Nick	1½ hr	Ystradfellte	Used dinghy on the lake.
Breconshire	Bridge Cave 4/11/66 Steve, Rog, Nick	1 hr	Ystradfellte	Welsh trips – see EGONS magazine 1967
Breconshire	White Lady Cave 5/11/66 11 EGONS, Steve, Rog, Nick	1½ hr	Ystradfellte	
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Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 6/11/66 3 EGONS, Rog, Nick, Steve	1 hr	Ystradfellte	
Somerset	Swiss Valley Cave 19/11/66 D.Parker, "Foxey" Fowler, "Tif", Rog, Steve	2 hrs	Clevedon	Numerous bats. Took several photographs.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 27/11/66 Rog, Tif, Steve, Nick, Dave	5 hrs	Priddy	Met MRO team on rescue (see rescue cuttings)
Somerset	Sidcot Swallet Goatchurch Cavern Bath Swallet Rod's Pot 4/12/66 Rog, Nick, Dave	3½ hr	Burrington	
Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 11/12/66 8 EGONS	2½ hr	Priddy	
Somerset	Axbridge Ochre Mine 29/12/66 Colin Wilmot	1¼ hr	Axbridge	Also inspected various ochre workings nearby.

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Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 8/1/67 15 EGONS	4 hrs 10m	Priddy	
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Somerset	Eastwater Cavern	4½ hr	Priddy	

	15/1/67 EGONS			
Somerset	Yorkhouse Cave 26/1/67 Nick	10min	Brockley	
Somerset	Read's Cavern Drunkard's Hole 29/1/67 EGONS	2 hr 10m ¼ hr	Burrington	Minor collapse in Read's and many bats noted.
Somerset	Foxes Hole Trat's Crack Toad's Hole Tunnel Cave Goatchurch Cavern 4/2/67 Tif	3 ½ hr	Burrington	A dig in the floor of the Water Chamber, Goatchurch, revealed a small, and as yet, unentered stream passage
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 7/2/67 Tif	1¼ hr	Burrington	More digging (till 8:30pm)
Somerset	Ebbor Gorge Rock Shelters 12/2/67 EGONS	10 m	Ebbor	Looked at several rock shelters and did some climbing routes.
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 16/2/67 Rog, Colin	2 hr 25 m	Ystradfellte	

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Breconshire	Town Drain White Lady Cave Cwm Pwll-y-Rhyd 17/2/67 Rog Copley, Col, Nigel Wood, Nick Nauhdar , Steve Shepstone,	¼ hr 1¼ hr	Ystradfellte	
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof "Woppitt's Hole" 18/2/67 (as above)	1 ½ hr ¼ hr	Ystradfellte	Found a <u>very</u> unstable cave, in grit, on Gwaen Cefn-y-Carreg. Named it "Woppitt's Hole" for some strange reason.
Somerset	Hunters' Hole 26/2/67 4 EGONS, Steve	2hr 20m	Priddy	
Somerset	"Goblin Combe" Mines (2) 12/3/67 8 EGONS	½ hr	Brockley	2 mine shafts descended, one being reopened by us. (See Mendip Mining Notes.)
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern East Twin Swallet Lionel's Hole Whitcombe's Hole 20/3/67 Will Withers, Tif	2 hrs	Burrington	Helped extinguish bracken fire in Combe and then rescued several frogs from East Twin.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 30/3/67 Rog, Steve, Dave	2¾ hr	Priddy	
Somerset	Lamb Leer 2/4/67 EGONS	3¾ hr	E.Harptree	Oz broke his leg in the "Cave of Falling Waters" and we managed to get him to the surface with help from the Cotham C.G. (See CCG Nsltr Vol 3 No.1)

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Somerset	"Goblin Combe" Mines (3)	¼ hr	Brockley	
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	6/4/67 Tif, Steve			
Yorkshire	Jubilee Cave Victoria Cave Blackpot Cave 25/3/67 John Norris, Oz Parsons	½ hr ¾ hr	Attermire	First Yorkshire trip. Interesting caves of archaeological importance. Descended a tight, thrutchy pitch in Victoria Cave and only just managed to get out again.
Yorkshire	Alum Pot Upper Long Churn Cave 26/3/67 John, Oz, Guy Sxxxx , Les, etc.	1 hr 10m	Ingleborough	Did Alum Main Shaft to ledge which involved swinging about on 80' ladder and traversing round the walls. Long Churn was flooded.
Somerset	Mineshaft (Sandford Hill) Sandford Levvy 8/4/67 Tif	½ hr 1½ hr	Sandford	Noted many small cave pearls in the levvy.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern Aveline's Hole 16/4/67 Alone	½ hr 10m	Burrington	Used candles in Goatchurch.
Somerset	Swiss Valley Cave 22/4/67 Tif, Mike Trow	1 hr 10m	Clevedon	Many bats seen.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 23/4/67 Mike, Lyn, Kay, Tony	3¼ hr	Burrington	Digging. Stream diverted and looking very promising. Got involved in MRO rescue practice.

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Somerset	Rod's Pot 27/4/67 Nick	½ hr	Burrington	Evening trip to retrieve lost helmet.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 27/4/67 4 EGONS, Derek	4 hrs	Burrington	Digging. Chamber almost entered, approx 6' diameter with some formations on the wall.
Bristol	Mercavity Cave Pool Pot Hades Hole 30/4/67 4 EGONS	1½ hr	Bristol	
Somerset	Sidcot Swallet Goatchurch Cavern 6/5/67 Dave and Bedford xxxx Scouts	¾ hr 1¼ hr	Burrington	
Somerset	Bat Den Rabbit Den 7/5/67 Tif and small boys	1½ hr	Dundry	Fairly extensive freestone mines near radio station. Other workings in area.
Somerset	Cox's Cave By Pass Geode 13/5/67	¼ hr	Cheddar Axbridge	
Somerset	Spider Hole Nettle Hole Dig Ubley Hill Pot 14/5/67 Steve			Visited the entrances
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 20/5/67 Steve, Nick, Tif, Will, Simon	4½ hr	Priddy	Evening trip (5.30pm-10.15pm) to Sump 1.

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Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 28/5/67 Oz, Kath	1½ hr	Burrington	
Somerset	Pidgeon House Bay Sea Cave Other sea cave 29/5/67 Tif, 2 small boys	½ hr	Clevedon	Sea caves containing small helictites, cave pearls and other formations.
Breconshire	Dan-yr-Ogof 30/5/67 Mum and Dad	40m	Penycae	Normal tourist trip. Quite impressed.
Somerset	By-Pass Geode 1/6/67		Axbridge	Small crystal lined phreatic cavity. Also looked for Triple H Cave in vain.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 2/6/67 Oz, Simon	1hr 10m	Priddy	Upper Series trip, including oxbows
Somerset	Wookey Hole 4/6/67 Dave, mum and kids etc.	½ hr	Wookey	Normal tourist trip. Very good.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 18/6/67 David Jarratt	½ hr	Burrington	Took brother Dave down and made him regret it.
Devon	Baker's Pit Cavern 24/6/67 EGONS	2 hrs	Buckfast-leigh	A labyrinthine and well decorated system. Very pleasant.

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Devon	Windmill Hill Cavern sea cave near breakwater 25/6/67 EGONS	¼ hr	Brixham	Tourist trip to Windmill Hill Cave. Went sailing on John Earle's yacht.
Somerset <i>discovery</i>	Goatchurch Cavern 2/9/67 Tif, (Nick, Steve, EGONS)	4¼ hr	Burrington	Digging. Broke through into small chamber with some fine white formations and numerous fossils. Continued dig following the stream into a tight rift.
Devon	Joint-Mitnor Cave Baker's Pit Cave 8/7/67 John Ball, Rog, the Evertons, Eric, Paul (ACG)	¼ hr 1¼ hr	Buckfast-leigh	Visited Pengelly Cave Research Centre and DSS hut. Got lost in Baker's Pit.
Devon	Pridhamsleigh Cavern 9/7/67 ACG	1¾ hr	Ashburton	Very muddy and complicated. Dinghied on the Lake and rescued some twit out of the Bear Pit.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 15/7/67 Eric, Paul	4¼ hr	Burrington	Digging. Reached cross rifts in floor with stal on walls. Radio reception in the Water Chamber was good.
Somerset	Nine Barrows Swallet 22/7/67 John Norris, Russell Phines	½ hr	Priddy	Visited this newly discovered cave. Some fine formations – crystals, straws and erratics. (Used new Edison lamp).
Somerset	Pinetree Pot 23/7/67 Bob, Jerry, Penny (EGONS)	1 hr	Nordrach	A fine cave, apart from Easy Street.
Somerset	Stoke Lane Slocker Browne's Hole 6/8/67 7 ACG	2½ hr	Stoke Lane	To sump 1

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Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 9/8/67 Eric, Mark Hill	½ hr	Ystradfellte	General fester about.
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 10/8/67 Eric, Mark	50m	Ystradfellte	Good trip. Dinghied from Tradesman's entrance to White Horse Lake.
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 11/8/67 Eric, Mark, John Jardine	40m	Ystradfellte	General tour of the cave. More dinghy work and ascended one of the 60' avens to surface.
Breconshire	Several small caves Porth-yr-Ogof 12/8/67 As above & 2 climbers	50m	Ystradfellte	Searched for Cwm Porth Woods Cave in vain. Eric almost buried by mud collapse in nearby cave. Escorted 2 climbers around Porth.
Breconshire	Little Neath River Cave Bridge Cave Town Drain 13/8/67 Eric (Mark)	2½ hr	Ystradfellte	LNRC Superb but easily flooded. Went as far as climb over duck. Explored most of Town Drain which was very dry, accompanied by two Welsh miners!
Breconshire	14/8/67 Started dig beneath waterfall near Pine Lodge, Ystradfellte.			
Breconshire	15/8/67 Entered small cave near Pine Lodge and discovered 10' choked shaft. Several fine examples of black and red peat stalactites. Rumours of large, lost cave in this area.			
Somerset	G.B. Cavern 20/8/67 14 (?) ACG (Avril Buckman, Bob and Anne Gordon, John Ball etc) (names added on 20/12/2004)	2½ hr	Charterhouse	A magnificent cave. Met "Wednesday Play" team filming for "The Gorge" and informed them on caving gear. (Avril's loudness was not appreciated by them! I recently caved with her grandson, Ambrose – written 21/12/2004)
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Worcestershire	Dudley Castle Mines 27/8/67 Steve, Phil Goddard, Dudley CRO (5) (John Smith etc) (Presumably C.Taylor, J.Taylor, H Ceney , T.Kenney. Ref. "Dudley CRO First 25 yrs – 1991)	2¼ hr	Dudley	(Singing Cavern, 144 Steps Cavern, Mud Hole, and Flooded Mine) Great trip. Superb mines and underground canals with beautiful formations in Flooded Mine. Many roof falls blocking ways on.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 29/8/67 Phil	2 hrs	Burrington	Digging. Opened up narrow rift to left of dig. Also visited Aveline's Hole
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 30/8/67 Phil	2¼ hr	Priddy	Bone dry! Pipe has gone again! As far as Sump 1.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 1/9/67 Phil, Dave and a friend	2¼ hr	Burrington	Digging. D.P. took several photographs.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 9/9/67 Eric, Russell, Mark	3 hr 10m	Priddy	To Sump 1. Found some bits of the pipe.
Somerset	Nettle Hole Dig 10/9/67 ACG	¼ hr	Nordrach	Dug in various swallets. Most promising being adjacent to Nettle. (See ACG Jnl 67-68)
Somerset	Nettle Hole 17/9/67 Chas Godfrey	¼ hr	Nordrach	Possible extension noted.

Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 19/9/67 John Tucker + 3 (Westinghouse Apprentices CG)	1½ hr	Burrington	Trip to photograph dig. More water than usual. John pointed out some helictites in the Boulder Chamber!
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Somerset	Sandford Levvy 24/9/67 Eric, John, Paul	¾ hr	Sandford	Used a firework and smoked the place out.
Somerset	Ubley Hill Pot 27/9/67 ACG	50m	Nordrach	A vile cave. Deep, stinking mud and many bones. Noted some fine corals in the walls.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 1/10/67 Eric, John, Paul, 4 Merrywood CG	4 hrs	Priddy	To Sump 1. Paul lost his watch.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern Read's Cavern 7/10/67 Simon, Will, xxx , Anne	2 hrs 1 hr	Burrington	Descended rift in dig. Extremely tight with masses of fossils and a 3' waterfall. Seems to be too tight for further direct exploration. Also photographed helictites in Boulder Chamber. Explored various mazes in Read's.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 14/10/67 Eric, John, Steve, Will, xxxx , Piggy, George, Pete, Rog.	1 hr 20m	Burrington	Looked at dig and found another ACG dig at bottom of Water Chamber. Also looked at Rickford Rising.
Somerset	Lamb Leer 15/10/67 Eric, John, Bob, Chris, Derek, EGONS	3 hrs	Harptree	To Cave of Falling Waters, East Passage and several mined parts. Bob Burgess took some photos.
Somerset	Dundry Mines (Bat den etc) 22/10/67 John Ball, Dave Yeandle, Rog, Rod (ACG) Tif, Ian.	50m	Dundry	Led ACG trip. Noted a bat. One entrance sealed under heap of spoil.

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Breconshire	Ogof Ffynnon Ddu(1) 29/10/67 Bob, Anne, John, John, Rog, Chris, Rod, Eric, Dave (ACG) Colin, Graham and Alan(?) (SWCC)	4½ hr	Glyntawe	Main Stream Passage, Crystal Pool Chamber and Escape Route. A fantastic system.
Breconshire	LNRC Porth-yr-Ogof 4/11/67 (Oz, Jerry) Simon, Steve etc EGONS	1½ hr ½ hr	Ystradfellte	To Bridge Cave Sump and Canal in LNRC. General fester in Porth-yr-Ogof
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern Nettle Hole 11/11/67 Eric, D.Yeandle, Vince Croney and Sister	1h20m 10m	Burrington Nordrach	Eric led Goatchurch for first trip for Vince and his sister. More digging at "F&C" Swallet and also attended Balinka Pit Lecture.
Somerset	G.B. Cavern Read's Grotto 12/11/67 Dave, Eric, (J.Tucker, Bob, Chris, Rog, J.Ball, Evertons etc. (ACG))	2 hrs ¼ hr	Charterhouse	Read's – tight but worthwhile. Tourist type trip round G.B. and then more digging at Nordrach.

Somerset	17 th -19 th Nov '67 (B.Burgess, Chris, Eric, D.Yeandle, Graham, Mark, [Chris Richards, Andrew etc.] Tif, M.Collins, EUSS and Scouts) – A weekend's digging in "F&C" Swallet. Hut full, Hunters excellent. Warnings of foot and mouth disease on way. (See ACG Jnl 67-68)			
Somerset	25/26 Nov '67 (Eric, Mark, John) No caving due to foot and mouth (crutch) disease so continued digging. Hole now 10' deep.			
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 3/12/67 Bob, Mark, Tif, Piggy, Simon, John(?), Graham, Mike Richards, Rog.	1 hr	Burrington	General fester. Looked at dig.
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Somerset	Swiss Valley Cave 16/12/67 Pipsqueak, Piggy Pearce	1 ¾ hr	Clevedon	Visited several sea caves including that containing the Celtic "Brain" carving (see Mendip cuttings). Noted the bats in Swiss Valley Cave
Somerset	17/12/67 (Graham Sharpe, John Jardine) More digging at "Foot and Crutch" Swallet. Broke into open rift and dig looks very promising.			
Somerset	30-31/12/67 (G.Sharpe, Eric, John, Mark, [Rod, Rog]) More digging. The entrance shaft is wider now and a pulley has been fixed up.			
Somerset	Nordrach Mine 31/12/67 Graham, Eric, John, Mark	1hr 10m	Nordrach	(See QEHC Proceedings) An enjoyable evening trip followed by a fine New Year's Eve in the Hunters'

Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 14/1/68 Graham, John	1 ½ hr	Burrington	Wandered around Boulder Maze and saw a bat. Someone is digging East Twin and diverting the stream.
Somerset	Wookey Hole 19/1/68 guide	20m	Wookey	Tourist trip – just the guide and me.
Somerset	Pinetree Pot 21/1/68 Eric, Bob, John, Graham	2 hrs	Nordrach	End of foot and mouth epidemic. Fine trip down Pinetree, looking at “Moonlight Grotto” en route. Much digging at “F&C” over weekend.
Somerset	Hunters’ Hole 28/1/68 Nick, Pip, Bob Cross (DFC)	3 ½ hr	Priddy	Sat. evening. Mine hunting at Charterhouse. Met Bob at Hunters’ and arranged trip to Hunters’ Hole

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Somerset	Cuckoo Cleaves 3/2/68 “Fred Ferret” (BEC) Eric, John, Mark, “Sam”, “Thing”	1 ½ hr	Hillgrove	A very sporting, loose cave. Some fine crystal formations. Tight and arduous at the bottom.
Somerset	4/2/68 (John, Eric, [Mark, Graham] Bob, Sam, Thing, Trev) More digging at “F&C”. A hell of a draught from the rift and still looks promising.			
Somerset	Cuckoo Cleaves 10/2/68 MacAnus, Dave Yeandle, Pip, (R.Mxxx & Hxxy WCC)	1hr 50m	Hillgrove	Fine photographic trip.
Somerset	Tynings Great Swallet G.B. Mineshaft 11/2/68 Mac, Dave, Bob Bidmead, Chris, Rog, Trev etc.	¼ hr	Charterhouse	No keys for G.B. so explored rifts in Great Swallet and a mineshaft close by. (The “F&C” draught was found to be going in instead of coming out as usual).
Somerset	Nine Barrows Swallet 15/2/68 Nick	50m	Priddy	No key for Sludge Pit so “illegally” went down “9” on photographic trip. A Lesser Horseshoe bat noted in first chamber. Very wet trip.
Somerset	Sandford Pearl Mine Sandford Levvy 17/2/68 Sam, Eric, Bob, Mark, Pip, Andy, Rog etc.	1 hr 50m ½ hr	Sandford	Pearl Mine quite pleasant but choked before bottom level. Several bats seen in Levvy. Good trip.
Somerset	Longwood Swallet /August Hole 18/2/68 Mac, Dave, Andy, Ed Walcroft, James Cobbett, Brian Hammond and Roy Curtis (EUSS)	4 hrs	Charterhouse	Fine cave and trip. Stopped 50’ from end but covered most other parts of the cave.

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Somerset	G.B. Cave 24/2/68 Mac, Chris, Dave, Bob Cross, Norman, etc (other ACG)	4 ¾ hr	Charterhouse	To Ladder Dig Series but couldn’t find main chamber – Bat Passage is the best decorated cave I have seen yet.
Somerset	Tynings Field Dig Blackmoor Swallet 25/2/68 EJC, Bob, Mac, Dave,	¼ hr	Charterhouse Nordrach	EJC put some bang in the dig – results not yet known. Festered down Blackmoor (investigated bang Tuesday night – not much result) (see ACG Jnl 67-68)

	Sam, Ed, Graham, Mark			
Somerset	Stoke Lane Slocker 2/3/68 James Cobbet, Mike (Fish) Jeanmarie, Dave Yeandle (Jim Hay and RFODCC)	5 hrs	Stoke Lane	Sherpa'd for James and Fish. My first sump successfully (though not pleasantly!) passed. Light pox didn't help trip any. Fine trip followed by excellent night in Hunters'. (Many thanks to Jim Hay RFODCC)
Somerset	Cow Hole 3/3/68 The usual crew and Chris Howell etc.	10m	Nordrach	"Entered" Cow Hole – found it to be blocked near head of first pitch (NB broke lock off). More digging at "F&C" revealed deep, tight rift. Hopes are high!
Bristol	Henbury Mineshaft 7/3/68 Mac, Graham, Bob Bidmead, Rod, Rog, Ed, Jim	¾ hr	Henbury	115' deep 6' square (at least) shaft in the yard of Henbury Court Country Club. I was first down but due to dropping burning paper down nearly choked to death. The shaft is blocked at 115' and contains 3' long straws and wooden pump tubes (?)
Somerset	Browne's Hole Browne's Grotto 9/3/68 Tif, Mac, Bob B, "Thing"	½ hr 10m	Stoke Lane	Festered around. The "Grotto" has some fine pretties. More digging at "F&C".

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Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 10/3/68 Chris Richards, Tif, Trog, Fred, Graham, Mac, Rog, 2 Grass Roots	2 ¼ hr	Priddy	A very fine dry (red coloured) cave and somewhat complicated. More digging at "F&C".
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 16/3/68 Tif, Mac	2 ½ hr	Priddy	Digging at sump "by-pass". Very muddy. (Used broomstick ladder on pitch).
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 17/3/68 Tif, Dave, Rog Privock	2 hr 40m	Priddy	More digging. Bloody sticky work.
Somerset	Longwood Swallet / August Hole 24/3/68 Mac, C.Howell, Colin, Sam, Thing, Mark Hill, Graham	3 ½ hr	Charterhouse	Sat – attended pleasant ACG AGM. Full descent and look upstream August Series. "Rescued" Colin Priest who sprained his ankle. Dry trip.
Somerset	Nine Barrows Swallet 31/3/68 Hordes of ACG	1 hr	Priddy	Very pleasant trip. Explored various holes and squeezes etc.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 31/3/68 Mac	2 hrs	Priddy	Night trip (10-12pm) as far as Sump 1
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 1/4/68 Mac, Andy, Will, Nick, Pete, Rog, George, Pip	3 ¾ hr	Priddy	To Sump 1 and Mud Sump. Locked Andy, Nick and Will in the cave by mistake.

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Somerset	Charterhouse Mines 5-6/4/68 Rog, Graham, Chris H., Sam, Chris R., Thing, JJ etc.	¼ hr	Charterhouse	Found many mortar bomb cases in a small shaft near Bleak House. Called the police who in turn alerted a bomb disposal unit. Visited various other mines in the area.
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 12/4/68 C.Howell, C.Richards, Rog,	2 hrs	Ystradfellte	Excellent fester. Traversed river cave from entrance to resurgence. (Met Jim Hay outside) and found small entrance to dry series.

Breconshire	Cwm Dwr Quarry Cave Ogof Ffynnon Ddu (2) 13/4/68 As above + Tony White (GCS)	6 hrs	Penwyllt	Superb trip. In Cwm Dwr to OFD2 and out of Top Entrance (Clay Series) Very sporting trip in a fantastic system.
Breconshire	Dan-yr-Ogof 14/4/68 As above + Allan Coase, Eilleen Davies, etc. etc.	4 ½ hr	Penycae	Went to look at Dinas (Silica) Mine but there were workmen there so on to DY0. Helped Sherpa for Coase and others who were camping in Bat Chamber for five days. A <u>fantastic</u> system.

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Somerset	Stoke Lane Slocker 17/4/68 Clive North, Rog Pimley, Tim Chard	3 ¼ hr	Stoke Lane	Very fine trip. Through sump 1 and festered round all the chambers taking photos of the pretties.
Somerset	Charterhouse Mines Nordrach Mine 20/4/68 C.Richards, Thing, Ray Mansfield, Bill, Thatch	2 hrs	Charterhouse Nordrach	Visited most of the mines and caves in this area. The “Bomb Mine” has been ENLARGED by the army but the bottom is well blocked off.
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 21/4/68 Chris, Rog, Andy, Graham	4 hrs	Priddy	Vast amount of sticky digging – seems to be progressing well. Found a tin of J.Cornxxx “instant self-heating kidney soup” which exploded all over us when opened with a pick! Tasted OK though. 10’ of passage dug and widened, small partly open tributary passage enters on left at end of dig.
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 27/4/68 Andy	2hr 10m	Priddy	Digging. Dig 1’ deep in water making work even stickier. Came out using candles (and broomstick ladder). What price H.E.Balch?
Somerset	Foot and Crutch Dig 27/4/68 Thatch, Thing		Nordrach	Large airspace found under boulder. Smoke test proved connection with Nettle Hole Dig.
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 28/4/68 Chas, Rog Pimley	2 ½ hr	Priddy	Looked at dig. Visited “Skeleton Series” and pushed tight rift – too tight in fact. More digging at “F&C”.
Somerset	3/5/68 On advice of “gaffers” at Star Inn we looked at several nearby mineworkings – not very interesting.			

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Somerset	Foot and Crutch Dig 4/5/68 Rog, Thatch etc		Nordrach	Boulder shifted, revealing 4’ deep hole with choked passages leading off (mainly towards Nettle). Fell down the hole! (See ACG Jnl 67-68).
Somerset	Swildon’s Hole 5/5/68 Rog, Andy, Thatch, “Dook”, JJ, Sam, Rog, Thing, Mark	3hr 50m	Priddy	Rog, Andy and I to Sump 2. Thought Sump 1 was very fine. Helped rescue one of 2 of’s weegie women on way out. Very fine trip.
Devon	Baker’s Pit Cavern 11/5/68 Colin, Bob (Thatch, Sam, Mark, Thing)	2 ½ hr	Buckfast-leigh	Festered round Crystal Corridor etc. Took some photos and built some “festers”. Missed Reed’s trip due to car crash.
Somerset	Sandford Levvy 18/5/68 Rog Robinson, Jeff, Jed (Langford)	¾ hr	Sandford	Evening trip. Took the Langford chaps round the Levvy. Noted various mines, bats etc in area and looked at CCG dig.
Somerset	Swildon’s Hole 18/5/68 Buck White, Joe McDarby, (Sam, Bob, Pat, Eric, Mark)	6 hrs	Priddy	Left Bob and Co at Upper Series. On to Shatter Series, Pirate and Shatter Chambers. Superb trip. “40” very wet.
Somerset	Little London Swallet		Oakhill	Had a look at the entrance and nearby swallets

	19/5/68 Tif, Ray Mansfield, Chris R.			(P.3)?
Somerset	White Spot Cave Reservoir Hole Cooper's Hole 21/5/68 Jeff, Ted, Rog (Langford)	1hr 10m	Cheddar	Pleasant evening trip. Some good pretties in Reservoir. White Spot rather unique – a huge rift. Cooper's is a shitty hole.

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Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 26/5/68 JJ, Buck, Mick Bennett, Graham	2 ¼ hr	Priddy	Dug and bailed at the sump. Washed off in the Mineries afterwards. (Met OCL in the middle – AAGHH.)
Somerset	Moor Lane Colliery 28/5/68 Simon Read		Nailsea	Registered 2 shafts for the Mendip Cave Registry. Looked round for other pits.
Somerset	Cuckoo Cleaves 29/5/68 Rog, Jeff, (Langford)	1½ hr	Priddy	Pleasant trip to end of cave. Blasting should open up more cave.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 31/5/68 Rog, Ted, Jeff (Langford)	1 hr	Priddy	To bottom of "40". Too wet for the others who were on carbide. Festered round the lead flues at St.Cuthberts Minery.
Somerset	G.B. Cavern 2/6/68 Bob Cross, Sam, JJ, Thing (+Rog Stenner +2 BEC)	2 ½ hr	Charterhouse	Wandered round main series and poked in the sump. Watched BEC take water temp. readings. Almost a mass punch-up in the Hunters'.
Somerset	Foot and Crutch Dig 3/6/68 "Fish", J.Cobbett, Rick Whitely, James M x II, Sam, JJ, Norrfice, etc.		Nordrach	"Fish" let off 2lbs bang at bottom of shaft which loosened up much rock and spoil. (Large boulder has since fallen off wall and must be removed).
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 9/6/68 Tif, Sam, B.Cross	2 hrs	Priddy	To Sump 1, Bob and I going through. Had a look at a grotto near the "20" and found an MRO ammo tin.

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Somerset	"Waterfall Cave" Foot & Crutch Dig Hunters' Hole 13/6/68 B.Cross, Rog, Jeff, Ted (Langford)	1 ½ hr	Cheddar Nordrach Priddy	Waterfall Cave entirely artificial! Lifted large boulder out of "F&C" dig. Explored most of Hunters' Hole. Very fine day's caving.
Somerset	14/6/68 Registered the filled in shaft at Cadbury Country Club and looked for mines in Kings Wood, in vain. Found many man-eating flies instead.			
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 15/6/68 Mike Ferraro, B.Cross, Andy	5½ hr	Priddy	Swildon's IV and Round Trip (out via Sump 1). Looked at Sidcot Passage. MF dived Sump IV. Also searched for possible high level digs between Barne's Loop and Black Hole. Some stalled-up passages noticed. Superb trip.
Somerset	Cuckoo Cleaves Foot& Crutch Dig 16/6/68 ACG Rescue Practice (CC) M.F., Fish (F&C)	3 ½ hr	Priddy Nordrach	Mike, Andy and I explored righthand rift at end of Cuckoo. Mike got in a few feet. Chris Howell was "victim" and was rescued fairly easily despite loose rocks etc. We played with the telephones! Fish banged an awkward rock and after three hours digging various airspaces were uncovered. A large boulder fell which could have killed either of us – but didn't.
Somerset	Foot & Crutch Dig 17/6/68 Fish, Mike		Nordrach	Digging: Large, open air space – bottom of main rift, can be seen below a bloody awkward boulder. This will be removed with bang.

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Somerset <i>discovery</i>	Foot & Crutch Dig 12pm 18-19/6/68 Mike Ferraro	¼ hr	Nordrach	7pm – J.Chapman banged the awkward boulder in rift. 12pm – entered rift after MF removed most of the boulder. After about 8’ a bedding plane roof developed. A 6’ drop in the floor was passed via a shale bridge into a small chamber with an aven in the roof, scattered bones and a boulder fall to the left. To the right is a 15’ drop, ending in a series of rifts with a bedding plane crawl leading down dip, which was not entered, and a glimpse into a similar chamber, also unentered. The whole place is formed on rifts and joints and appears to be rather unstable.
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Somerset	<p>Extract from ACG Log Book.</p> <p>Foot and Crutch - 19th June 1968</p> <p>“After a few minutes past midnight on the night of the 18th/19th June, Foot and Crutch went to Tony Jarratt and Michael Ferraro. A boulder shattered earlier in the evening by John Chapman with ½ lb bang was removed to allow access to a sloping rift and rock bridge and a small chamber with aven above. The floor of the chamber was 6 feet below the entrance passage and gave on the right into a 15’ drop. Two possible ways on exist: a bedding plane leading down dip under a loose boulder and a narrow gravel-floored passage at right-angles to it leading back under the entrance shaft. Neither were entered due to the unstable nature of the thinly-bedded limestone, but left for the following morning. The discovery was celebrated with a flask of hot tea.</p>			
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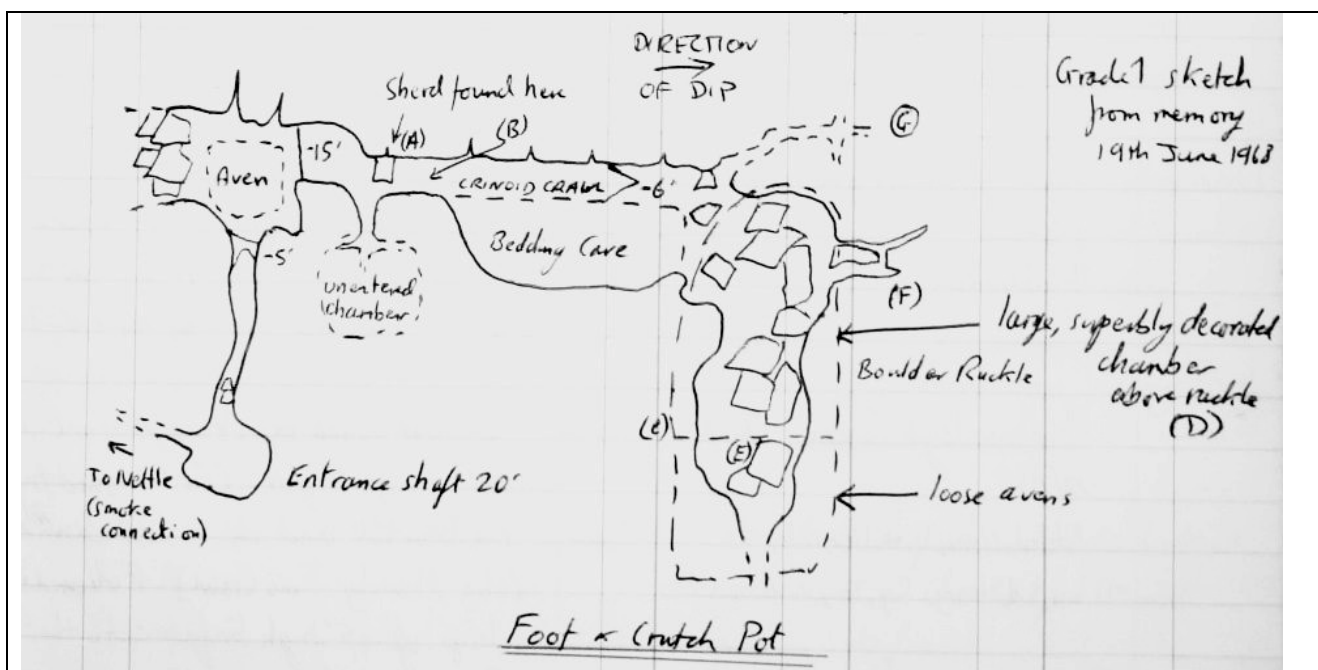
Somerset <i>discovery</i>	Foot & Crutch Pot 19/6/68 Mike	1 hr	Nordrach	<i>See below</i>
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Informed farmer of new cave and proceeded to explore the bedding plane and boulder ruckle. The bedding plane proved to be about 18” wide, 20’ long, with a tight rift at the left side. After a drop of about 5’ a very unstable boulder ruckle was reached. It was penetrated to a moderate sized chamber containing many 4” long stalactites and various bits of flowstone. A piece of broken potsherd was found on a boulder in the squeeze (A). It could only have been deposited there by a stream. In the water-washed gravel in the joints of this system are many bones, both large and small, with a great number of rabbit skulls. At (B) there is a large, ancient bone, as yet untouched. A piece of wire with a slipknot at one end was found near the potsherd. It may have been a rabbit trap which the rabbit carried into the cave.

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Somerset <i>discovery</i>	Foot & Crutch Pot 21/6/68 Mike	4¼ hr	Nordrach	<i>See below</i>
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Informed Mrs Fry of descent as safety precaution. Went through the ruckle and photographed the pretties in the large chamber (C). MF surveyed back towards entrance. He climbed up the side of the ruckle to discover a moderately sized chamber (D), the floor being the ruckle itself, which had some superb straws, pillars and bones and flowstone cascades. Only ordinary stuff in most caves but the best find yet in “F&C”. We then surveyed back and I attempted to squeeze through a hole in the floor (F) in vain, even after some rock hammering. This is almost certainly the way on and will be pushed at a future date. The rest of the survey was completed successfully and we emerged at 4 o’clock. Took 2 photos of the new chamber and salvaged a large bone from the bedding plane (B).



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Somerset <i>discovery</i>	Foot & Crutch Pot 22/6/68 MiF, Thatch, Sam, JJ, Nigel Yeldham, Glyn	2½ hr	Nordrach	Grand tourist trip. All impressed, Nigel and Co cleared a 10' drop (E). It will be descended tomorrow. The passage (F) was forced and was found to be about 12' long with a solid mud floor and RH wall. 3' before the end a passage led off at right angles to a passage leading diagonally away and a 6" high bedding plane on the left. It was noticed that there were a few fine helictites in the straw chamber and its upward continuation, above (E) was climbed for about 20' in very loose rotten rock.
Somerset	Foot & Crutch Pot 24/6/68 Fish, Bob, Sam, Mike, JJ	3 hrs	Nordrach	Investigated Sam's Dig and various other holes. Pushed the stal passage above Sam's Dig for about 10'. Could be dug. The most promising point is now the tight rift (G). It will have to be banged but there appears to be a large open passage leading off on the left.
Somerset	Foot & Crutch Pot 26/6/68 Clive North, Chris Richards, Mike, Sam	1¾ hr	Nordrach	Showed Chris and Clive the cave. Clive took three press photos and compiled a newspaper report. Damp trip.
Devon	3 mine levels at Southpark Wood 1/7/68 Bob Burnham	40 m	Ashburton	Found 3 partly flooded levels while camping on Outward Bound Course. Not yet fully explored. No.1 is over 150', 2 is the same and 3 is only about 18-20'
Devon	Pridhamsleigh Cavern 12/7/68 Bob, Ted, Norm, Dave, Trev, Malc, Ian, Bill, Henry, Rog, Tony, Mr. Williams	5hr 10m	Ashburton	Outward Bound trip. Very pleasant. To lake, through Maggots Crawl, round trip via Bear Pit and down Coal Scuttle (also thrutchy Tim's Crawl). Followed by a leap off 25' high bridge into River Dart. (FEAR, FEAR).

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Devon	15-16/7/68 Visited several rift caves at Berry Head, Brixham . They are well decorated and seem to have been part of an ancient drainage system discharging into the sea. They have now been breached
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	by quarrying and the sea is enlarging and destroying some. There are possibilities for further exploration.			
Breconshire	Little Neath River Cave Cwm Pwll-y-Rhyd 25/7/68 Andy, Rog	2hr 20m	Ystradfellte	Fine trip to Sump 2 via Sump 1, Sand Chamber and the Canal. Water quite low. Noticed several fish. Brief look at Cwm Pwll-y-Rhyd.
Breconshire	Will's Hole Dinas Mine (old) Porth-yr-Ogof 26/7/68 Andy, Rog	2½hr	Penderyn Penderyn Ystradfellte	Will's – large dry cave with possibilities for extension. The Dinas (Silica) Mine is most interesting being worked on an almost horizontal bed. Festered in P-Y-O doing two through trips.
Breconshire	Bridge Cave White Lady Cave Porth-yr-Ogof 27/7/68 Rog, Andy, Roy, JJ, Sam, Thing, Bob Crow] 1 hr] 1 hr	Ystradfellte	Tourist trip for most – all duly impressed. Dinghied in White Lady. Explored the large ox-bow to duck at each end – did not push this though.
Breconshire	Pant Mawr Pot 28/7/68 Rog, Andy, Bob, Roy	3½ hr	Ystradfellte	Superb system with hairy chokes and fine formations. Some good climbs upstream from pothole entrance.
Somerset	29/7/68 Visited the flood ravaged Velvet Bottom/Blackmoor area noting Grebe Swallet en route.			
Somerset	Foot & Crutch Pot 31/7/68 Pipsqueak	1hr 10m	Nordrach	Taped off the pretties. Had a look at the newly pushed Chisel Rift. It will require a lot of work.

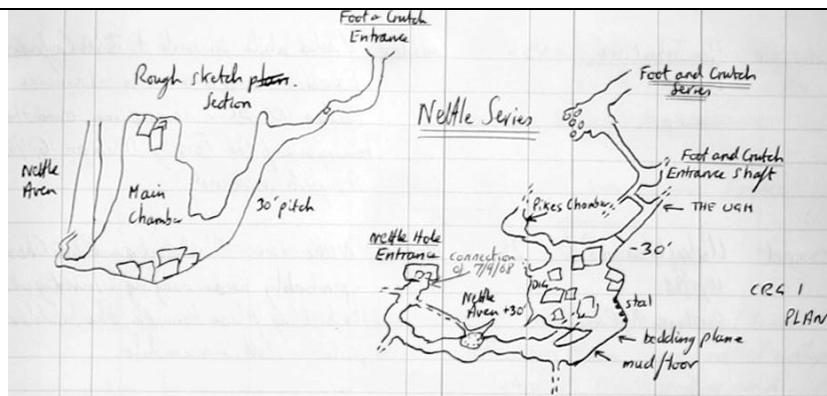
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Somerset	Swildon's Hole 2/8/68 D.Parker	1½ hr	Priddy	To Swildons II. Hell of a lot of Flood damage. "40" is now only "5". Sump 1 is deeper.
Somerset	G.B. Cavern 3/8/68 B.Cross, Sam, JJ, Thing, Roy Theyer	4hr 40m	Charterhouse	To Ladder Dig Series – most impressive. Much flood damage. Devil's Elbow the only passable route. Much slimy mud, boulder falls and evidence of backed up water – even to roof of crawl in Ladder Dig Series.
Somerset	4/8/68 Chris Richards, Roy Theyer and I visited entrances of the new caves in Blackmoor area. Met Wanker Wicks & Co (MCG) and looked at Upper Flood Swallet entrance.			
Somerset	Upper Flood Swallet Lower Flood Swallet Grebe Swallet 5/8/68	½ hr	Nordrach	Found some galena in Grebe Swallet and a superb 300' crawl through an old miners' leat. Met Johnny Ifold and others.
Somerset	Read's Cavern 7/8/68 P.Robinson, C.Richards, B.Cross	2 hrs	Burrington	Glanced at Bath dig. Explored Browne-Stewart Series. Interesting trip – used a candle!
Somerset	Foot & Crutch Pot 11/8/68 Ray Mansfield	1 hr	Nordrach	Found some bits of bones and skull. Ray seemed quite impressed.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 11/8/68 B.Cross, Dick Pike, Dook	2 hrs	Priddy	To sump 1. Bob took Dick through his first sump. I declined. Free climbed the "20".
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 17/8/68 J.Cobbet, Bob Pyke, D.Yeandle	3 hrs	Priddy	Trip to reopen Duck 2. The others sumped it but I declined. They soon had 6" airspace.

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Somerset	Foot & Crutch Pot 21/8/68 R.Robinson	2 hrs	Nordrach	Dug out bedding plane near entrance – impassable. Explored 2 "upstream" chambers and opened up a grotto near Sam's Dig.
Somerset	Burrington	1hr	Burrington	The adit had been opened up by the floods so JJ

	Waterworks Adit Foot & Crutch Pot 23/8/68 JJ, J.Tucker, Ray, Paul & Mike Ferraro	10m	Nordrach	and I hurried down to explore it. Typical adit, 2’ deep water for c. 150’ followed by 3-400’ dry tunnel. Parts reinforced with concrete and shored up. Showed John & Co around “F&C”. John took some photos.
Somerset	BWW Adit 24-25/8/68 J.Cobbet, Al Mills, J.Norriss, Chris, Ducky	¼ hr	Burrington	Pissed! James and John went down trouserless with bare feet. The former wore a sailor hat and the latter an alloy helmet & sunglasses – good laugh.
Somerset	28/8/68 Shored up “F&C” entrance and then festered in “Middle Flood Swallet”. This looks the most promising dig in the Blackmoor area.			
Somerset	Axbridge Ochre Cavern 28/8/68 Rog	¾ hr	Axbridge	Enjoyable evening trip. More or less thorough exploration including mined passages and water rift.
Somerset	Stoke Lane Slocker 29/8/68 Rog	2½hr	Stoke Lane	To main chambers. Rog’s first sump. Looked for digging sites on Charterhouse Country Club grounds in vain.
Somerset	30/8/68 Digging in the Nettle Hole passage at the bottom of “F&C” entrance shaft revealed a tight passage on the left leading to a large parallel passage. (Not yet entered due to extreme tightness.) A strong draught comes out and there seems to be a fairly deep drop just round the corner. (Chris & I)			
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Somerset	Reservoir Hole White Spot Cave Great Oones Hole 31/8/68 J.Cobbett, Chris Harrison	1 hr 10m	Cheddar	Made a new “Fester” in Reservoir, met OSCG in Great Oones and James later dived at Rickford Rising (Ordnance Survey Caving Group)
Somerset	Foot & Crutch Pot 1/9/68 Dick Pike		Nordrach	More digging in Nettle Passage – still too tight. Showed Dick round “F&C”.
Somerset <i>discovery</i>	Ubley Warren Pot 3/9/68 Dick Pike, Mike Ferraro	4 hrs	Nordrach	<i>See below</i>
A large new extension on “F&C” prompted the re-naming of the cave. The new extension is known as Foot and Crutch Series. After some digging and blasting in the Nettle Passage I managed to pass “the UGH” squeeze and entered a descending rift passage to a free climbable 30’ pitch into a large, well decorated chamber similar to Pinetree Pitch in Pinetree Pot. Dick and Mike followed and several ways on were explored. Dick pushed a lower tight passage into a small grotto, Pike’s Chamber. I dug in a boulder ruckle which will need more work on it and Mike dug through a well decorated bedding plane into a passage leading to the right over a mud cracked floor and through a squeeze into a 30’ high aven. Various minor passages were explored in this area including a descending stream gravel floored passage which became too tight after about 15’.				
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 4/9/68 Mike, Dick, D.Parker, Dick Tilley, George Thatcher.	4 hrs	Nordrach	Started surveying Nettle Series to grade 6. Gave up at far side of the UGH. Photographed the cracked mud floor. Nothing of interest found but voice connection established between Nettle Aven and Nettle Hole Dig.
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Somerset <i>discovery connection</i>	Ubley Warren Pot 7/9/68 Alone	¼ hr	Nordrach	Investigated blocked off boulder chamber in Nettle Hole Dig. I reopened it easily and soon removed enough boulders to open up a 12' drop which connected with the "upstream" avens in Nettle Series. The through trip was accomplished without difficulty in 5 minutes.
Wiltshire	Box Freestone Mines 8/9/68 Ted Meek, J.Cobbet, Mac Anus, Norman, M.Walker, Bob Nott, Chris, Ed, etc.	3 hrs	Bath	Cotham CG Box Barbecue. After superb night we got up early and James and I festered round Jack's Workings. Then we all toured the mines from Westgate – Cathedral – Admiralty – working face and out of Backdoor – fantastic place.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 8/9/68 Mike, Dick, C.North, C.Richards, Andrew(?)	2 hrs	Nordrach	Clive took film of the cave for "Points West" TV programme while Mike finished grade 3 survey. Film shown on TV, Mon 9/9/68 with Dick and I interviewed about the discovery by Nicholas Tresilian.
Derbyshire	Blue John Mine 13/9/68 Tourist trip	½ hr	Castleton	Visited while en route to BSA Conference. Excellent Conference. Rog and Lawrence Bailey (RFODCC) showed me round the mining area of the Forest of Dean on 16/8/68. A superb weekend.

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Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 18/9/68 Rog Thayer, Roy Robinson	2 hrs	Nordrach	Nettle – F&C. Started dig in Pike's Chamber – probably needs banging. Investigated the bedding plane beneath the boulder pile – still inaccessible.
Somerset	Ubley Hill Pot 21/9/68 R.Thayer	40m	Nordrach	Rog couldn't get through entrance. The stream passage at the bottom of the cave might repay further digging.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 21/9/68 Sam	1 hr 40m	Nordrach	Showed Sam the cave. Pushed the lower bedding plane in vain, also pushed the RH Nettle rift in vain. Sam got shredded!
Somerset <i>discovery</i>	Tynings Barrow Cave 22/9/68 James Cobbett	40m	Charterhouse	(ref Descent 2 ACG nsltr Oct'68) JC and JW informed us of a possible new cave which we then investigated. A 10' clay entrance shaft led to a squeeze, crawl and 25' shaft. From here a large passage led down at a very steep angle to a chamber and drop into terminal chamber. A small stream sinks in the choked terminal rift. The only notable passages are several inlets on the right of the main passage and a decorated bedding plane on the left.
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 22/9/68 JC, AM, CH	½ hr	Ystradfellte	James and Alan investigated the upstream sump. Dive unsuccessful due to flood level and poor visibility. Also had a look at Cwm Pwll-y-Rhyd and watched the water rising!

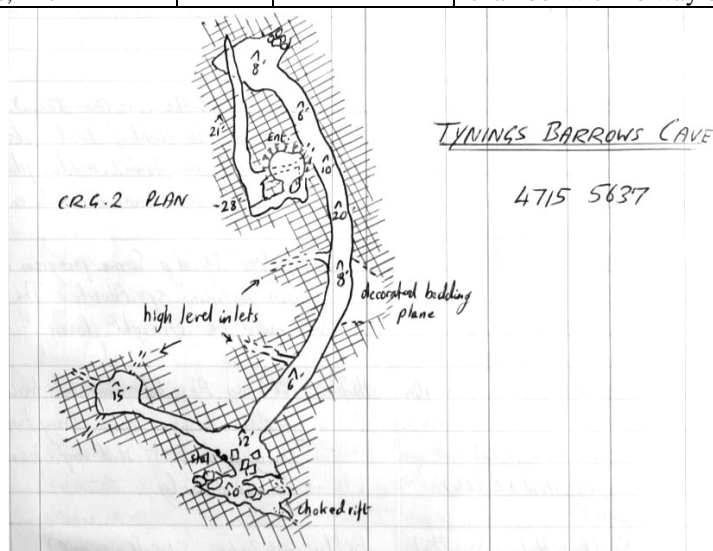
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Somerset	Tynings Barrows Cave	1hr 40m	Charterhouse	Rog and I "surveyed" and "photographed" the cave prior to the bloody rotten farmer filling in the
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	23/9/68 R.Robinson			entrance.
Somerset	Hillgrove Swallet Dig 23/9/68 John Cornwell (James, Rog)	½ hr	Hillgrove	John did some banging. Looks very promising.
Somerset	22/9/68 Surface plotted the entrance to Tynings Barrows Cave (James, Bob, Dennis Summerbell and I). We then looked at Manor Farm Swallet collapse and later erected the EUSS hut. Also looked at Northhill Dig and Eastwater Dig.			
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 27/9/68 Bob Saunders	½ hr	Nordrach	Showed Bob the cave (F&C Series) Investigated chamber to right of "Nutcrackers". There is a tight joint formed bedding plane which would probably connect with the entrance shaft.
Somerset	Hillgrove Swallet 28/9/68 J.Cornwell, Jenny Murrell etc	1 hr	Hillgrove	Helped JC dig. Some progress was made but nothing spectacular. The way on could be straight down.
Somerset	Lamb Leer 29/9/68 Ted Meek, Jim Smart, Ed Walcroft, Mike, Tony, Stuart +2 (CCG)	3 hrs 40m	Harptree	CCG trip. Abseiled main pitch twice. Festered in Main Chamber area. Every time I see the chamber it still impresses me tremendously.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 6/10/68 Dick Pike	2½ hr	Priddy	(MCG Barbecue Sat night – superb) Very enjoyable trip to Sump 1 (this side!) Festered round Shatter Pot area looking at CUSS/WCC dig en route. Met loads of festerers down there – Bryn Davies, Wicks, Sam, Waller, Fred Ferret, Hugh etc.

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Somerset	St. Cuthberts Swallet 9/10/68 J.Cornwell, Bob Lewis	1¾ hr	Priddy	Bob climbed in roof of Gour Hall without success. In via Arrete Pitch, Ledge Pitches, Quarry Corner, Rabbit Warren, Gour Hall and Sump 1. A superb system. (JC blew up a spare det).
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 11/10/68 McAnus, Dick	1½ hr	Nordrach	Showed Mac "F&C" Series. Investigated bedding plane – too tight. Dug in Chisel Rift entering small chamber with no way on!

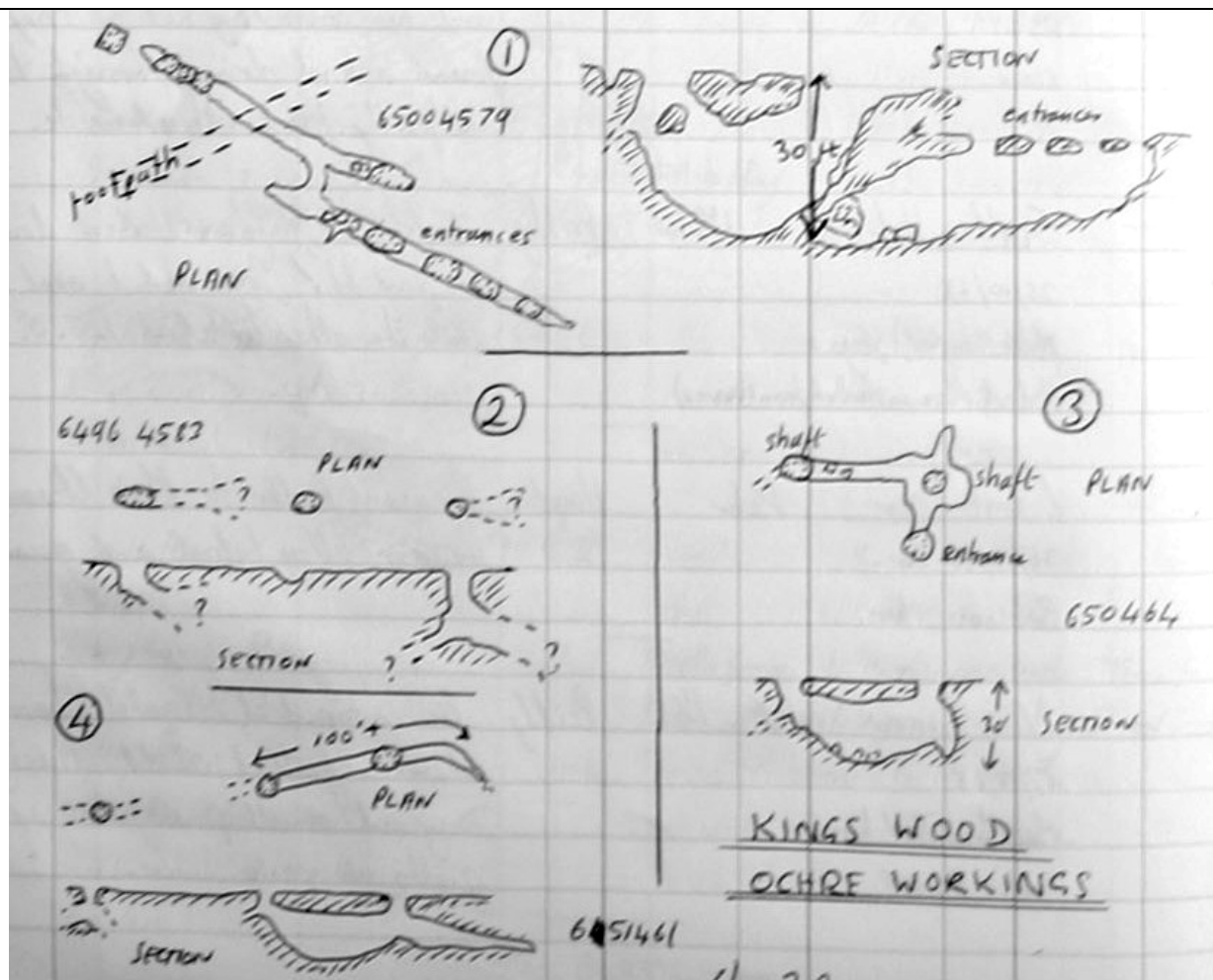


Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot Pinetree Pot 12/10/68 D.Pike, Mac, 4 Surrey Univ.PC (Charles Yonge)	1 hr ½ hr	Nordrach	Nettle Series. In "F&C", out Nettle. Then to Pinetree and conquered "Easy Street".
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Somerset	Swildon's Hole	3½ hr	Priddy	Went to Shatter intending to dig out "U-tube".
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	13/10/68 Dick, (Pam, Charles Yonge, John, Rog [SUPC]) Chris, Nigel George (WCC)			This had sumped so we returned. Very pleasant trip, meeting EGONS and SVCC en route.
Somerset	White Spot Cavern 19/10/68 Mac, Chris, Norm, Sam		Cheddar	Wandered in on way back from Hunters'
Somerset	Holwell Cavern 20/10/68 B.Burgess, B.Saunders, S.Spratt, JJ, R.Robbins, D.Gorny, Fred, Chris, Dick, Mac, C.Priest (ACG trip)	2½ hr	Holwell	Excellent trip to superb cave. Some nice thrutchy crawls. Superb crystals. Discovered 10' of passage and hope to return and dig further. Bung Hole is rather novel.
Somerset	King's Wood Ochre Workings 21/10/68 Alone		Wrington	Found several shallow ochre workings and two connecting (?) 30' shafts. Also found a level driven through loose earth and partly filled with oil waste.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 25/10/68 Mike (Langford) Yoyo and Herbert (German students from Hanover)	1½ hr	Priddy	Took Mike, Yoyo and Herbert down and was paid £1 ! Yoyo and I went to Sump 1, while the others waited at the "20". Very pleasant trip.
Somerset	Lamb Leer 25/10/68 (12pm) Bob Lewis, Mac.	½ hr	Harptree	Pleasant fester to Main Chamber landing, wearing alloy helmet and gum boots.
Somerset	Nine Barrows Swallet 27/10/68 Mac, Chris, Thatch, Truble, 8 EUSS	1½ hr	Priddy	Freshers trip. I led to Crystal Chamber where we festered about. Mucky trip. Dug out small passage near first grotto in vain.
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Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 2/11/68 B.Lewis, R.Robinson	3 hrs	Priddy	Digging in Sump area. Inspected Upper Series and climbed "4 Pots Rift Chamber" where there is a passage which could possibly be extended.
Somerset	3/11/68 Bob Lewis, Chris, Fred and I did some climbing in the Avon Gorge including Morpheus, a VS. Very fine.			
Breconshire	The Mud Mine Dig Ogof-y-Darren Cilau 4/11/68 B.Lewis, C.Hannam	3 hrs	Llangattock	OYDC is a long thrutch leading to a large dry passage, which was as far as we got due to an exposed Hannam. Interesting system.
Somerset	King's Wood Ochre Workings 6/11/68 Brian and Ken Creamer	½ hr	Wrington	Found several interesting ochre mines.



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Somerset	Swildon's Hole 10/11/68 Mac, Dick etc	2½ hr	Priddy	Dick and I went to Duck 2, meeting RFODCC, EUSS, and SVCC in cave. Assisted SVCC with radio location coil.
Somerset	10/11/68 Brian Creamer showed me a spring near Cleeve which originates in a 15' deep well shaft which would probably be worth descending. We then wandered round Goblin Combe looking at odd holes and crannies – one being a 12' square mined hole with signs of phreatic pocketing, stal and calcite crystals. A rift nearby showed signs of scalloping.			
Yorkshire	Washfold Pot 16/11/68 B.Lewis, R.Pike, (Mac, Chris)	5hrs 20m	Ingleborough	Bottomed this superb pot with its 130' pitch. Terminal sump looks worth a push. Great trip.
Yorkshire	Washfold Pot Calf Holes Browgill Cave 17/11/68 (Bob) Chris, Mac, Dick	¾ hr] ½ hr]	Ingleborough Penyghent	Retrieved ladder from 130' pitch Calf – Browgill – superb beginners' cave, similar to P-Y-O and excellent through trip. Chris took some photos. Fabulous w/e – many thanks to Bob.
Somerset	Northill Swallet 20/11/68 B.Lewis, Jim Hanwell, Mike Thomson, Fred Davies, Tim Reynolds, Dave M. etc.	1 hr	Priddy	Helped the Knight's remove digging spoil. I got my head round the end of the dig and there seems to be a clean washed pitch. Best of luck to NHASA, they've worked bloody hard.
Somerset	Ubley Hill Pot 22/11/68 (1-2.30pm)	1½ hr	Nordrach	Dug at terminal choke and nearby. A rift was noticed in Bone Chamber leading to passable passage (not yet entered). Party at "Ray Mansfield's" Sat. night.
Wiltshire	Box Freestone Mines 23/11/68	2¼ hr	Bath	Westgate – Bat Route – B12 – Cathedral – Jack's Passage – B12 – Admiralty – WO – Carbide

	Mac, DP, CN, Francis Day, Chris, Sam, Norm, Fred, Brian +3			Dump – Clift Mine entrance (illegally). Good trip.
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Somerset	Lamb Leer 24/11/68 Mac, Pip, EUSS	1 hr	Harptree	Assisted in EUSS trip, as far as windlass without changing. Pleasant fester.
Yorkshire	Meregill Hole White Scar Caverns 30/11/68 (Bob, Chris) Mac, Fred, Dick	½ hr 1 hr	Chapel-en-le-dale	A doomed w/e. Abortive trip to 1 st Pitch in Meregill. L/Rover broke down in Huddersfield so caught train home. Impressed by White Scar, and the guide.
Somerset	Ubley Hill Pot 6/12/68 B.Cross	1 hr 10m	Nordrach	Investigated (and hammered) inlet rift. Not much progress.
Bristol	Pen Park Hole 11/12/68 Mac, Norman	1 hr	Bristol	Mac and Norm had successfully (and illegally) by-passed the concrete slab covering the entrance. We went as far as the landing in Main Chamber – a fantastic cave with huge crystals lining the walls. Phreatic origins clearly shown. The Main Chamber is most impressive but due to lack of tackle we didn't descend. There are several possible digs and dives in the cave. A really worthwhile trip.
Bristol	Pen Park Hole 13/12/68 Mac, Norm, Bob, Chris	2½ hr	Bristol	Descended the magnificent pitch and dinghied on the lake. A tremendous cave and a superb trip.
Somerset	Cow Hole 14/12/68 Mac	½ hr	Nordrach	Recce for possible re-opening – no chance. Almost wiped out by large boulders. Hope never to return.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 15/12/68 Pete Rose (CSS) Nick Chipchase +3 (CSS, PCT)	¾ hr	Nordrach	Showed Cerberus bods Nettle Series. Only one got through the UGH. Good blokes. One less prettie.
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Bristol	Mercavity Cave The Air Raid Tunnel 23/12/68? Norm, Vince etc		Bristol	Late night fester. Quite interesting.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 24/12/68 Mac	2 hrs	Priddy	To Sump 1. I went through. A very wet trip. Examined various items of interest and noted that the Water Rift is getting bigger.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 27/12/68 Ed Walcroft, J.Cobbett	3¼ hr	Priddy	North West Stream Passage. Good trip with plenty of water about making the “5” quite difficult.
Bristol	Pen Park Hole 27/12/68 (1.30am-5.30am) JC, Mac, Norm, AM, BL, Vince, Chris, T.Meek, J.Smart, T.Edwards (CCG)	4 hrs	Bristol	JC, BL and AM had a festerous dive to 45' in the lake. Water about 12' higher than before. Visited several dry passages and all caught Pen Park Ring!
Somerset	28/12/68 James and I visited Knapp Hill Swallet Dig, Twin Titty Dig and Lime Kilns Dig. The first two are very interesting.			
Somerset	29/12/68 C.Richards and I went dig hunting in the Nordrach area.			

Somerset	Ubley Hill Pot 4/1/69 Mac	1 hr	Nordrach	Dig needs bang. Climbed an aven parallel to 2 nd pitch and later did some surface festering in the Nordrach area. (Hitched lift from Axbridge with a Pioneer!)
Somerset	Browne's Hole Stoke Lane Slocker 5/1/69 Dick, Vince	2 hrs	Stoke Lane	To Stoke II leaving Vince at Sump 1 which seems tighter and deeper. Refreshed ourselves with brandy en route. Surface festering in Blackmoor area.
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Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 12/1/69 Mac, Dick (SVCC Sam, Mick, ??, Mike Jay, Bob Cross)	2 hr 40m	Priddy	Much sump digging and glorious mud fight with the Severn Valley. Most enjoyable.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern Burrington Waterworks Adit 19/1/69 Mac, Dick (Bath Tech Coll Birds)	1 hr 20m	Burrington	Good night Sat. Festered round Goatchurch with Charterhouse (Bath Coll) birds, including a lass from Manchester. Festered in the adit also.
Glamorgan	Abercynon Caves 24/1/69 Dick, Mac		Abercynon	Investigated 2 caves at roadside. One was an artificial (?) chamber with natural rifts – unentered and the other was a small dug chamber above a large, choked rising. These should be investigated further.
Breconshire	Dinas Mine (Old and New) 24-25/1/69 Dick, Mac	¾ hr	Penderyn	Quick trot round the “old” mine and then, after an illegal opening operation, we visited the very extensive “new” mine, only following the two lower levels. The mine is worked on a single bed or “vein” angled about 30° with flooded workings at the lower end. Much clatch lying around. Stayed at SWCC and were treated hospitably (wonders will never cease!)
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof Bridge Cave 25/1/69 Dick, Mac	¼ hr 50m	Ystradfellte	Quick “dry” trip to P-Y-O for Dick then visited CCG digs and holes above Cwm Pwll-y-Rhyd. Fine trip down Bridge including climbing up to and over the Bridge near Sump 1.
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Breconshire	Agan Allwedd Eglwys Faen Ogof Pen Eryr 26/1/69 (Dick, Julia, James CSS) Mac, +3 SUSA, 1 SUSA	10m ¾ hr 1½ hr	Llangatock	Stayed at CSS hut and met Salford blokes. Swift visit to Aggie's old entrance then leaving Dick and Julia to do a Summertime trip we did Eglwys Faen. Terry (?) and I then did Pen Eryr – a very loose but extensive cave with a promising end dig.
Somerset	2/2/69 Commenced digging Netherwood Swallet, Nordrach. 4' down in loose rock and clay. Looks promising.			
Devon	Mine levels at Southpark Wood 8/2/69 J.Cobbett	1 hr	Holne	Passed previous exploration limits and found one more level. Some superb soft red and black formations found. Fantastic weather – snow and sunshine. Followed by very fine EUSS Dinner!!!
Somerset	14-16/2/69 Digging at Netherwood Swallet. Set up sheer legs and reached solid rock walls at 7'. A short length of passage in clay was found (formed by flood water). (Mac, Pip, Ray) Pip and Ray dug 5-6' in a nearby collapse with no result.			
Somerset	21-22/2/69 Mac and I dug clay and snow from Netherwood. Sides collapsing due to bad weather – needs shoring. Visited Velvet Bottom and looked at Manor Farm Swallet collapse. Stayed at MCG !?			
Somerset	Pinetree Pot 22/2/69 Deano, Les Davies (MCG)	1 hr	Nordrach	Quick trip to Moonlight Grotto. Much snow on surface.

Somerset	CCG Sandford Dig (Triple Hole Mine) 23/2/69 Mac, Ted, Meek (CCG)		Sandford	Bucket hauling. Promising site with strong draught. (May be the "Gulf"?)
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Somerset	Netherwood Swallet Dig 1/3/69 Ian, D.Parker		Nordrach	Digging. Collapse had buried digging gear but we soon got fed up and festered round Blackmoor instead.
Somerset	Wookey Hole 1/3/69 Ian, Dave, Mac	½ hr	Wookey	Tourist trip.
Somerset	Stoke Lane Slocker 2/3/69 EUSS Truble, Pete, Steve, Jan	3hr 10m	Stoke Lane	Enjoyable but cold trip to II. Got Jan through Sump 1 but on return trip she nearly swallowed it! A very good caver – even though she did lose my mask.
Somerset	Sandford Levvy 4/3/69 Mac, Stu Reid, Jim Smart (CCG)	1hr 50m	Sandford	Assisted in CCG 'surveying trip' and looked down shaft at 2 nd cross roads.
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 8/3/69 Mike, Jay, Pete, Mac, Dave	1½ hr	Ystradfellte	Looked at various dry passages then Mike, Dave and I did through trip in the dinghy.
Breconshire	Eglwys Faen 9/3/69 Mike, Dave, Mac, Hannam	Fester	Llangattock	Festered round escarpment playing in the snow. Piddled round EF without lights – thus did Dave puncture his head!
Somerset	St. Cuthberts Swallet 15/3/69 Mac, Dave Irwin, B.Cross, Dick Wickens, Rob, Al Butcher, Bob Craig, John Riley (BEC & SMCC)	3¾ hr	Priddy	Helped Sherpa pump and hoses to Sump 1. Looked at Dining Room Dig en route. Fine trip.
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Somerset	Swildon's Hole 16/3/69 Mac, EUSS – Truble, Brian H, Eileen, Merv, Dave, Chris, ?, Steve, +Fred Davies (MRO)	3½ hr	Priddy	EUSS Rescue practice: Eileen was "victim" and was hauled from bottom of "20" to surface in 2½ hrs. Interesting spots were the "20", "5" and the Well etc. Most enjoyable, especially Truble's ripping off.
Somerset	Sandford Levvy 18/3/69 Mac, Jim, Stu (CCG)	1½ hr	Sandford	CCG Survey trip. Noted 2 bats and climbed above the 1 st Cross Roads.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 22/3/69 Alone	2 hrs	Nordrach	Dug at end of "F&C" Series above Sam's Dig. Entered small flat grotto which will need more work to push further. The air was fresh and an old stream inlet goes into the grotto.
Somerset	Longwood Swallet / August Hole 23/3/69 D.Parker, George, Dave Shipman, Val, Barbera, D.Lofthouse, John (EUSS)	4½ hr	Charterhouse	Slow trip into August and out through Longwood. Very pleasant apart from epidemic of light pox and Barbera didn't like tight bits, but we survived.
Somerset	24/3/69 Wandered from Brockley Combe to Cleeve, registering the "Goblin Combe Mineshafts" en route.			
Somerset	Sandford Levvy 25/3/69 Jim, Stu, Mac (CCG)	2 hrs	Sandford	Survey trip. Climbed 2 nd Cross Roads with aid of ladder noting some fine box-work in the walls. Also looked at a loose aven in the 1 st Cross

				Roads.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 29/3/69 Alone	1hr 50m	Nordrach	Digging. Will need hammer and chisel to make full entry of grotto possible.
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Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 4/4/69 Mac, Dick, Ducky, Mike, (Truble, Thatch, Clive, S.Spratt etc)	2½ hr	Ystradfellte	General fester, looking at various areas, passages and round trips. Met all the other inebriates at resurgence so did a through trip. Also abseiled over entrance.
Carmarthen-shire	Llygad Llwhwr 5/4/69 Mac, Dick, Ducky, Mike, Thatch, Truble, Clive, Colin, Steve, ?, Glenn Jones	2¾ hr	Llandeilo FR	Lewd Lecher: a fine trip to a fine cave. Visited the four River Chambers which are most impressive and not eerie, as I was led to expect. The place is rather like Baker's Pit but with man-eating pools. Good drinking on Fri and Sat nights with various BEC, EGONS, CCG, NCG etc etc.
Somerset	Netherwood Swallet Dig 20/4/69 Mac, Vince, Buck White, Andy, Moll		Nordrach	Digging, followed by superb PU at Mike and Petra's place on Friday and superb ACG Dinner on Saturday.
Somerset	Netherwood Swallet Dig 26/4/69 R.Robinson		Nordrach	Digging. (Also pinched some concrete fence posts to shore up dig) and looked at SUCC/ACG dig at Rookery Pot (Rumours of reformation of the Elsan CC)
Somerset	Netherwood Swallet Dig 3/5/69 Mac		Nordrach	Dug to "solid" wall on left and widened working space considerably. Erected shoring. Met ESS in Hunters' and indulged in fine PU. Much fun later at ACG hut when Martin fractured his elbow and was so pissed that he just lay there and laughed. He demanded of the ambulance crew to be taken to the "King Edward VII Hospital for officers and gentlemen!"
Devon	Hay Tor Iron Mine 10/5/69 Flair, Colin Leonard, Jeff (OS)	1¼ hr	Hay Tor	Fine mine entered via Adit Level. Two large chambers, partly flooded and several ore chutes. Noted 8' long level on opposite hill. (Flair's lamp blew up!)
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Devon	Pridhamsleigh Cavern 10/5/69 Flair, Colin, Jeff (OS)	¾ hr	Ashburton	Festered about looking for Lake in vain. Lamp pox set in.
Devon	Kent's Cavern 11/5/69 Flair, Jeff, Brian H, Thatch, Truble	35m	Torquay	Went intent on "setting up" the guide but were pleasantly surprised to find that both he and the cave were most interesting. Some fine solutional rock forms and brecciated deposits, formations etc.
Somerset	Shatter Cave 17/5/69 Mike York, Mik Greenwood (OS)	3 hrs	Stoke Lane	A magnificently decorated new system with incredible stal, helictites and crystals. Such fine specimens as the "Leaning Tower" make this one of the best "pretty" caves I've seen. Colours range from reds, pinks, and greys to pure white. Trip marred (or enlivened!) by substantial bathing in Nife Cell fluid. Several dodgy boulders in parts, one nearly wiped out a "Cerebos" bloke while we were there. Good night in Hunters'.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 18/5/69 Mik (OS)	2 hrs	Priddy	To Duck II, successfully getting Mik through the sump – he was highly chuffed. Glimpsed at approach passage to Black Hole. Good trip.
Somerset	Netherwood Swallet Dig 22-25/5/69		Nordrach	Much digging. Down to solid rift. Shored sides up.

	R.Robinson, Vince, Mac, Norm, Ducky, Bob Bidmead+1, Doug Stuckey, Colin			
Somerset	Ubley Hill Pot 31/5/69 Doug Stuckey (BEC)	¾ hr	Nordrach	To investigate results of C.North's bang trip. No results and much smell of gelignite! Looked at an aven near the end which could go.

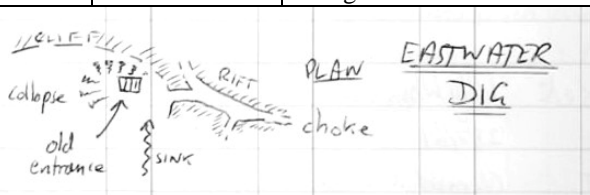
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Somerset	Waterfall Cavern 31/5/69 Doug	5m	Cheddar	Surprised to find it looks bigger and more interesting? Must have a proper look sometime. Also more digging at Netherwood. (Well Doug did!)
Somerset	1/6/69 Repaired farmer Fry's cowshed roof after McAnus had fallen through it on Saturday night carrying a large Golden Lion. Also looked at the gap where there used to be a sign saying "The Castle of Comfort". Interesting w/e.			
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 7/6/69 Martin Bishop, Dick Wickens, Chris Hannam, Mik	7¼ hr	Priddy	Sherpad bottles to 2 for Zot, Moira, Phil, Brian Bob and Tim (en route to 12). We then did a reverse round trip, each of us nearly copping it at various points i.e. Troubles and Mud Sump. A hairy, very fine trip. Sherpad bottles out again afterwards.
Somerset	Netherwood Swallet Dig 8/6/69 Doug, Mik		Nordrach	Still going down.
Somerset	14/6/69 Dick Tilley and Dave Parker dug in Netherwood while I sunbathed.			
Somerset	Shatter Cave 15/6/69 Ray Saxton (CSS) Bob Knott, Larry?, Doug, 6 (OS)	2½ hr	Stoke Lane	Pleasant fester, all duly impressed. Noted a peculiar worm thing crawling up a curtain.
Somerset	St. Cuthbert's Swallet 21/6/69 B.Cross, D.Wickens, B.Woodward, Grange, Milch, Martin	4 hr	Priddy	Assisted in hauling and dam building. Pushed c.150' of excessively tight passage going away from the rift/aven above sump passage (end of Gour Rift).

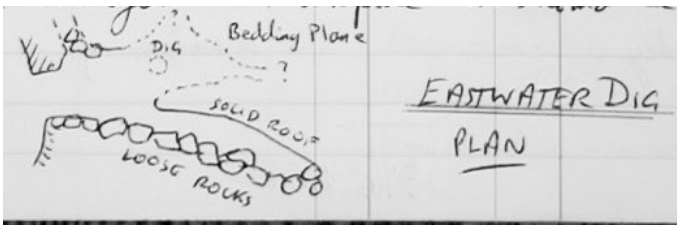
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Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 27/6/69 Mike Ferraro, Mik, Steve, Dick Pike	2 hrs	Nordrach	Post-Hunters' trip, looking at Nettle, UGH and "F&C", all getting through the squeeze. Mike and I did some work on "Sam's Dig Grotto".
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 28/6/69 Mac, Dick, Ian Tabrett, Eric Hansen (Bristol Evening Post)	3½ hr	Priddy	Took the two journalists to Sump 1 for caving article published July 12 th (see cuttings). Enjoyable trip followed by good PU's at Hunters' and Mac's Barrel.
Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 29/6/69		Priddy	Martin Bishop and some SVCC started work on a dig to re-open Eastwater Swallet. In the afternoon hordes of alcoholics left the Hunters' to assist. Eventually (with assistance from Fred Green) Martin broke into an open side rift which he, D.Parker and I pushed for 25'. It has a strong draught and is loose but should yield a way on.

DIG
WINCH
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Somerset	6/7/69 MB, DP and I dug at Eastwater with banging help from J.Cornwell. Followed the open rift.			
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole	1 hr	Priddy	Lavinia was determined to go caving so we

	6/7/69 MB, Dave, Lavinia, Zot, 2 (BRCECC) Mik			festered to the sump and back, Zot's swimming trunks causing some amusement en route.
Somerset	7/7/69 MB and I dug at Eastwater and by the end of the day had opened a deep rift with a few inches airspace – we should be in by next w/e			
				

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Somerset	12/7/69 DP, Sam and MB. We broke through the floor of the dig to find ourselves in the Eastwater Boulder Ruckle. Read on.....			
Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 12/7/69 DP, Sam, MB, Jerry Perry, Pete (EGONS)	¼ hr	Priddy	Recce trip to 380' Way. Everything exactly as before. No change in the Ruckle but entrance is still unsafe (Vast PU followed – "National Balrog Day".)
Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 13/7/69 DP, MB, Sam, JP, Oz, Pope, Denise	3¾ hr	Priddy	First major trip into cave for 2 years. Went to bottom via Twin Verticals. Great trip apart from light pox. Mega fine cave and an excellent weekend's work.
Somerset	19-20/7/69 Festered-up hand – so festered. Watched MB and Co. build a wall at Eastwater and went to fine PU at Oz's on Sat. night. On Sunday ventured into the entrance of Shatter Cave with EGONS. Excellent w/e			
Dorset	Tilly Whim Caves 23/7/69 C.Leonard, Colin "Flair" Edwards (OS)	¼ hr	Swanage	Visited these short but interesting Portland stone quarries. The main level is a show cave and there are other levels in the cliff face. Very fine scenery.
Breconshire	Dan-yr-Ogof 27/7/69 Sam, Jerry, Pete and bird, Bob and bird, Nick and bird, Lesley (EGONS)	¾ hr	Penycae	Weegie tourist trip in order to justify going to Wales. A good cave guide in situ.
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 27/7/69 Dick, Chris, Lesley	¼ hr	Ystradfellte	Festered in odd bits of cave while Dick and Chris did some hard sumping and swimming in the nether regions.

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Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 2/8/69 Dick, (B.Lewis, T.Reynolds, Chris, Lesley, Adrian Finch (OS))	7 hrs	Priddy	Dick and I bottomed Primrose Pot, Bob's light having poxed, with much appreciated support from the others, especially Tim. A very fine pot indeed. Also looked at c. 20' of new passage below Morton's Pot and poured alkali all over my back.
Somerset	3/6/69 Showed Adrian the wonders of Mendip – ie Cheddar, Wookey, Mineries, Blackmoor etc.			
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 9/8/69 (Dick, Lesley, Adrian)	1½ hr	Nordrach	Dick took Les and Adrian on through trip from Nettle Series while I dug at end of "F&C". A hammer & chisel is needed here. Good night in Hunters'.
Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 10/8/69 Buck White, Brian Quilliam, Trev Faulkner (SWETC)	3½ hr	Priddy	Visited most of Upper Series and Buck and I free climbed to 1 st ledge in Primrose Pot. Very pleasant trip.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 17/8/69 Adrian	1¾ hr	Nordrach	"F&C" More chisel work at end, grotto still not entered. (NB 9 hr hitch hike from Soton!!) Good PU at Jim's 21 st .

Derbyshire	Peak Cavern 24/8/69 Les, Rog R, Chris	½ hr	Castleton	Dirty show cave with vast entrance and one large chamber. Also visited Russet Well and Eldon Hole. Found EPC at Eagle Hotel and stayed at Buxton.
Derbyshire	Speedwell Cavern Treak Cliff Cavern Eldon Hole 25/8/69 Les, Rog, Chris	40m 40m 2¾ hr	Castleton	Speedwell very good and Treak Cliff most decorative. Rog and I did 130' side of Eldon – involving climb down 50' ice and snow bank! A hairy squeeze led to the large chamber – unentered for a year (?)

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Derbyshire	Knotflow Mine 26/8/69 Ron Bridger (EPC) Lesley	2¼ hr	Monyash	Excellent trip and mine. Fine coffin levels lead to grim Crimbo Swallow, which we followed to top of wet pitch (about 9 th people to reach here!) Laddered the magnificent 210' Engine Shaft into Waterfall Chamber. Ron then took us round Magpie Mine which has a superb 700' engine shaft. We threw rocks down for a laugh – and didn't.
Derbyshire	Mandale Mine & Sough P8 27/8/69 Chris (Les, Dave Mellor, Jeff Morgan, Mary Stubb(EPC))	¼ hr 50m	Lathkilddale Castleton	Ron took us on a surface tour of Eyam and Stoney Middleton looking at Glebe Mine, Black Hole Mine, Calver Sough, Magpie Sough Tail and the Black Marble Mill. Then on to Mandale Forefield Shaft (270'). Joined EPC evening trip to P8 – a nice little scalloped stream cave with good pretties and a large sump. Noticed a bull while recrossing the field and everyone leapt over the fence while the bull stood still and watched!
Derbyshire	Oxlow Caverns / Giant's Hole 28/8/69 Ron, Rog	4 hrs	Castleton	Down vast Oxlow pitches and into grim connection passage with no standing room, ducks, creeps, squeezes etc. Eventually into Giant's and down to East Canal Sump. Up Crabwalk to Giant's entrance where Ron booted the iron door off and we crept out into the night to de-ladder Oxlow.
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 30/8/69 Rog, Lesley, Dick	3 hrs	Priddy	Sump digging. Bailed 9" and dug some 20 buckets of gravel. Noted 20' long loose rock in roof of Big Rift, on way out.

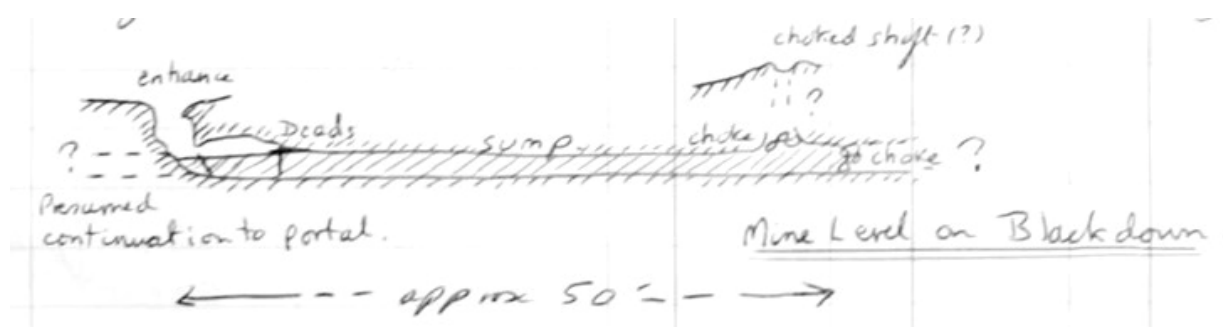
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Wiltshire	Box Freestone Mines 31/8/69 Ted, Meek, Martin(?) (CCG) Brian Collins, Sam, Phil (SVCC) Bob +4, Les, Dick, Chris, Rog (ACG)	2 hrs	Bath	Annual Box Barbecue (poor) Trip. Bridgeway – VS Route – Westgate – Cathedral – Crane Passage – Admiralty – Working Face – Backdoor. Assisted NHASA at Twin Titties Dig (18' deep, blasted shaft) in the afternoon.
Somerset	Twin Titties Dig 1/9/69 Dick, Luke Devenish, Mike Thompson etc	½ hr	Priddy	C.North & Co filmed us at "F&C", Netherwood and the Hut and then we dug at Twin T's opening up an airspace in the corner. Trust the Axbridge!
Somerset	Twin Titties Dig 6/9/69 Dick (Les, Chris, Roy, Martin (?) Will Edwards (WCC) Adrian)	2 hrs	Priddy	More digging on NHASA's behalf. James Inter appeared and a fine Hunters' PU was followed by an even finer Wessex hut warming PU.
Somerset	Rhino Rift 7/9/69 Adrian (Les, Chris John Cornwell & Co)	1 hr	Charterhouse	Helped JC with his incredible dig. An excellent winch and railway leads into this promising site.
Manchester	12-14/9/69 BSA Conference. Very good conference with an emphasis on mines – Cornish, Forest of Dean particularly.			
Worcestershir	Wren's Nest Mines		Dudley	Quick look at entrance to Seven Sisters Cavern

e	14/9/69 Les, Chris, Dick			and its exit. Most impressive and strange.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 20/9/69 Alone	1 hr	Nordrach	Dug out RH passage at foot of "F&C" entrance shaft, for 3' to a cross rift, closing down on both sides. Possible dig straight ahead.

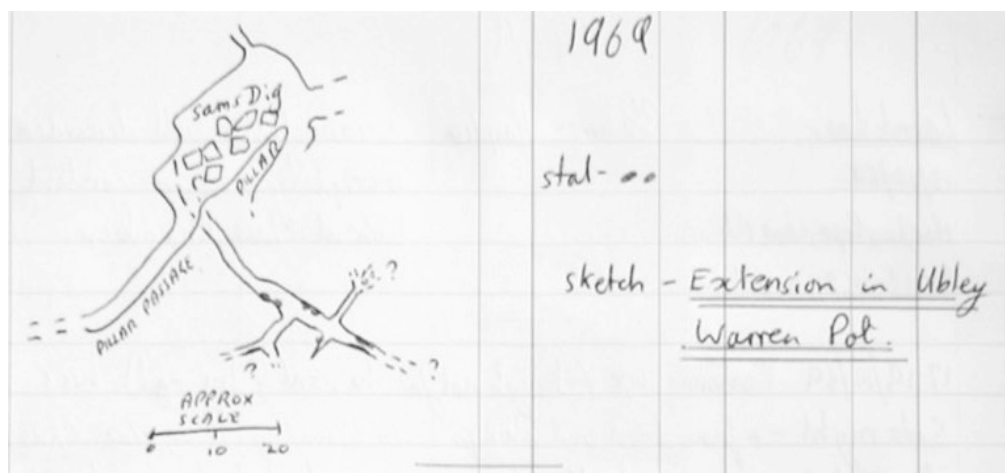
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Somerset	Mine level on Blackdown 20/9/69 Jim Smart, Mac, Dick, Lesley	¼ hr	Blackdown	Jim showed us this interesting level. A 6' deep collapse led to 18' of 5' square level partly flooded and sumping at the end beneath timber and deads. Also looked at Amphitheatre Mine, several smaller holes and various surface remains.
Somerset	Mine level on Blackdown Amphitheatre Mine 21/9/69 Tim Reynolds Al Mills Chris Hannam (Dick)	½ hr	Blackdown	Amphitheatre Mine is just a 10' deep clay shaft. Al and Tim and Chris dived in the level to find a timber and rubble blockage at 30'. This corresponds with a choked shaft (?) on the surface which ought to be dug. The mine is in Red Sandstone and could have been a drainage level.



Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 27/9/69 D. Parker	3 hrs	Nordrach	"F&C" (after fine PU at Mike and Petra's place on Friday). Dug in 'pillar dig'. Superb PU's at Hunters' and Country Club on Saturday. Also looked at a shaft near the mineries. (Associates' Pot)
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 28/9/69 C. Clarke, R. Clarke, R. Broomhead, R. Spearing (ACG juniors)	3 hrs	Nordrach	Digging in 'pillar passage'. Dick Broomhead found 40' of new passage below Sam's Dig. A solid tube with some nice stal and two ways on. The floor occasionally takes a small stream. Obviously the way on!

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Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 4/10/69	1 hr	Nordrach	Nipped down (in wetsuit!) to new passage but couldn't force anything. The way on seems to be
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	Alone			under the stal bank directly in front.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 4/10/69 Colin "Pope" Priddle (BEC)	3¼ hr	Priddy	Black Hole Series to final choke which deserves a poke sometime. Nice pretties and an interesting series. Easy traverse. Excellent BEC dinner that night.
John Norriss died the previous week				
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 11/10/69 Bob Cross, Adrian Finch (OS)	2½ hr	Nordrach	Surveyed new passage using nylon tape and hand-held prismatic compass. Also did some digging.
Somerset	11/10/69 The three OS Men then walked round Mendip investigating old holes between Blackmoor and Cheddar Gorge including:-			
Somerset	Timber Hole 11/10/69 BC, AF		Charterhouse	A promising waterworn rift. Then on to Rhino Rift where we played with the truck and after looking at Longwood Swallet entrance we walked up Rains Batch, noting the mine level on Blackdown en route. Back to hut via Blackmoor lead works and flues.
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Somerset	Lamb Leer 12/10/69 Mac, Les, Pope, Chris, Adrian, B.Knott +4, 8 Sussex Univ.	3½ hr	Harpree	Grand fester, all descended pitch except me, being content to sit and look at Main Chamber.
Somerset	17-19/10/69 Festering w/e (though not for the want of trying!) WCC Dinner on Sat. night – a fine food and ale up. On Sunday Jim, Mac, Chris and I descended a mine shaft at Green Ore which I had noticed. It was 2'6" deep!			
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 25/10/69 AF, BC	5½ hr	Priddy	Dug in terminal boulder choke, Black Hole Series. Bloody dangerous digging but very promising.
Somerset	Goatchurch Cavern 26/10/69 (2.30am-3.00am)	½ hr	Burrington	Pissed as newts. Went to sober up in BWW Adit but this had a new door so we went down and through the Drainpipe in Goatchurch. OOH!
Somerset	CCG Sandford Dig (Triple Hole) Sandford Pearl Mine 26/10/69 Jim, Ted, Terry, Rog, Stu+2 (CCG) Clarke Bros, Adrian (ACG)	1¾ hr 40m	Sandford	Helped CCG dig and haul rocks (and let some back down when rope broke!) Then a quick trip down the Pearl Mine and inspection of ACG dig at bottom.
Devon	Hay Tor Iron Mine 1/11/69 Jim Smart, Dick Broomhead	½ hr	Hay Tor	Trip round mine to show Jim and do at least one trip over the w/e. 2 bats near top entrance. Superb EUSS Disco on Sat. (ZOTSTAYSAWAY) and spent Sunday festering in Exeter.
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Somerset	Swildon's Hole 8/11/69 Chris, Pope, Tim, Moira, Brian, Paul (Divers) B.Collins, Ian +EUSS	2 hrs	Priddy	Sherpa'd for cave (sump) rescue practice from Sump II. I stayed this side of Sump I! Came back out with Truble and 3 EUSS.
Somerset	Festered round Netherwood, Manor Farm and Tynings areas with James, Simon and Ratarse. Ace PU at Hunters' on Saturday.			
Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 15/11/69 Bob Pyke, Adrian, Frank Honey	3 hrs	Priddy	Down Twin Verts to Terminal Rift. Noticed some interesting carbide formed straws (4") and a stalagmite (2")
Somerset	16/11/69 Adrian and I wandered round Nordrach looking at various caves, mines etc. Cow Hole depression is half full of rubbish ie old hay bales.			
Devon	Hexworthy Waterworks Tunnel	40m	Hexworthy	After being politely refused admission to see Gunnislake mines we festered round Dartmoor.

	22/11/69 Jim Smart, Sarah			While looking for Hexworthy Mine we found an obvious level with an unlocked steel door. A 6' square partly concrete lined level was followed in a straight line for approx. ½ mile to a second entrance (locked). A 3' diameter pipe runs through the tunnel. Sarah's first "caving" trip which ended in a "firked" knee. Later visited Pengelly Centre and entrance of Reed's Cavern. Superb weekend.
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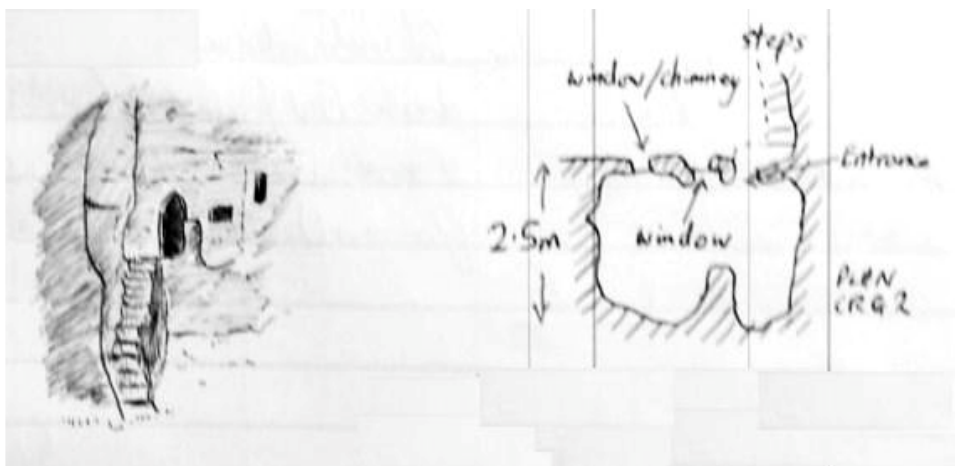
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Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 31/11/69 Mac, Jim, Ted, Stu, Andy, Pat, Nigel (CCG)	2 hrs	Priddy	Led CCG trip and made a good job of it by directing them through many squeezes etc. All round upper series and down to sump. Then did some bucket hauling at Northill for NHASA.
Devon	Exeter Underground Passages 6/12/69 Kim & Pat, Sarah (+other tourists)	20m	Exeter	Tourist trip to interesting Roman and Medieval drainage tunnels. Need to be looked at in more detail! Fine w/e
Somerset	21/12/69 Assisted Al Mills with a couple of dives. 1) Associates' Pot, where he found the way on had collapsed and then 2) the mine level on Blackdown. This was flooded to the foot of the entrance shaft and Al gave up when part of the "deads" fell beneath him. I also chickened out of climbing the Blackdown radio mast when 80' up – still, it was a bit stormy at the time – also pinched a shovel.			
Somerset	Wookey Hole 22/12/69 D.Parker	1 hr	Wookey	Crept down to Wookey and illegally entered cave via barbed wire covered top entrance. Explored most of the Upper Series and had a look round the Show Cave. It looks a lot different by headlamp. Borrowed the boat, spat on the Witch and paddled across to Charon's Chamber which we duly explored. Dropped my brand new digging pick over side of boat but luckily recovered it. Many bats and thermometers (!) in Upper Series. A fine trip.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 24/12/69 Alone	1½ hr	Nordrach	Digging at end of "F&C" Series with the pick "Witchbane". Good progress made and space is to be seen beyond.

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Somerset <i>dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 26/12/69 Al Mills	3 hrs	Priddy	My first cave dive. Down to Sump 1 where Al taught me how to use the kit (40/ Orca) Through the sump and ducks to Sump II which I dived. Due to the cold and my not being able to grip the gag properly with no teeth we returned from here. Superb. Will start diving properly in the New Year.
Somerset <i>rescue</i>	Swildon's Hole 27/12/69 BC, AB, PB, MM (SMCC) DY, DW (BEC) AT, CP, MY etc (WCC) etc	½ hr	Priddy	Call out for Titch Thompson's woman who was unable to climb the "20". Not such an emergency as at first feared but a good turn out. She walked out practically unaided. (An excellent Xmas had by all on Mendip)

Somerset	23/1/70 B.Cross, A.Finch and I walked from Langford onto Blackdown via ruined farm near Mendip Lodge. Then down to the Longwood stream and Manor Farm, across Blackmoor and to the Hut. An excellent night walk.			
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 24/1/70 Bob, Adrian, 3 ACG	2 hrs	Priddy	Much sump digging. Removed large rock to side of dig. Sump goes down straight following the dip of the rock and is partly open on the RH side for some 8'. Excellent night in Hunters'.
Somerset	31/1/70-1/2/70 Festered (becoming a habit!) Superb night in Hunters' followed by superb "Umpteenth Night Party" at Wessex. B.Lewis and Co. attempted to maypole in Wookey to no avail.			
Devon	Exeter Underground Passages 7/2/70 Fred Green, Sam, Mac, Thatch etc?	20m	Exeter	All inebriated so not quite sure who went down. Fred found his way out of a manhole. EUSS dinner at Chevalier (for most).
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Devon	Great Rock Mine 8/2/70 Chris Schmitz (xxx)	1 hr	Hennock	Superb micaceous hematite mine of which we explored several levels, which resembled those in Westerns. Many ore chutes, trucks, rails etc. Looked at several deep shafts on top of the hill and looked round the mine buildings (which closed down in 1969?) Loads of stuff lying around including some 30 battery cells. Found a miner's coat, 2 cell clips and a superb belt, also an old book and some mine regulations.
Shropshire	On way back to Shrewsbury I noted the artificial caves in sandstone at Bridgnorth, Shropshire.			
Breconshire	Dinas Mine (new) 14/2/70 Jim, Mac, Pat, Nigel (CCG)	1 hr	Glyn Neath	Much snow but camped at roadside near shop. Festered on Sat. morning and threw snowballs at Porth-yr-Ogof. Explored the upper levels of the mine, finding a couple of sealed entrances (one passable). Had a look round the lower levels and removed a miner's shovel.
Derbyshire	P8 22/2/70 15) J.Cobbet, C.Chester, D.Lucas, P.Watkinson, P.Thomson, B.Parker, V.Holland +5 (Pegasus Club) H.Titley, D.Bacon, D.Parker (NUCC)	2 ½ hr	Castleton	Stayed at Eldon with Stu Macullough on Fri and at Pegasus hut on Sat. Good night at "Stags". Abortive dive attempt by James and Cheg due to flood conditions. I went down minus light and wetsuit – bloody wet and cold but a good trip.
Shropshire	Nesscliff Cave 25/2/70 Martin Gibbons (OS)		Nesscliff	Artificial room like sandstone cave used by "Wild Humphrey of Kynaston" to hide from Henry VII. The cliffs near the cave are quarried and over 100' sheer in parts. Superb view from entrance.



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Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 28/2/70 M.Gibbons, Pete Jones (OS) D.Pike, S.Macullough, Una, Stefan, +4 (QMCCC)	6 hrs	Priddy	Dick, Mac and I did Primrose Pot with support from the others (all novices) All very tired on way out with Stefan panicking in parts, Martin and Pete's first trip. Pete did well. (Good night in Hunters', which impressed Mac)
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 1/3/70 Pete, "Mac", Una, Stefan, Rog +3 (QMC)	3 hrs	Priddy	To Sump 1. Rog, Una and I went through – Una on her third trip and without a wetsuit. Pleasant trip and fine weekend.
Somerset	Gough's Cave 7/3/70 Doug McFarlane, Bob Craig (SWCC) Brian Collins (SVCC)	½ hr	Cheddar	Tourist trip as excuse for going caving. Must admit though, that it's a fine cave.
Somerset	Rhino Rift 7/3/70 John Cornwell, Black Wal, Mary (6 yr old) etc., C.Schmitz	½ hr	Charterhouse	Looked at JC's progressive dig. Fooled Chris into believing it was the last Mendip lead mine.
Shropshire	Snailbeach Mine 12/3/70 Dave Evans, Bryn Morton, D.Taylor, M.Gibbons (OS)	¾ hr	Snailbeach	Explored Perkin's Level and a level nearby. Very interesting lead mine with a vast amount of workings below these. In Perkin's Level one has to cross a rubble bridge over a 500' deep stope!
Derbyshire	P8 14/3/70 Clive Westlake, Pete Bowler (EPC)	6 hrs	Castleton	Survey trip, assisting Clive and Pete with survey of stream passage below 1 st Pitch and Mud Hall area. Clive also looked at a 60' mineshaft near Little Bull Pit.

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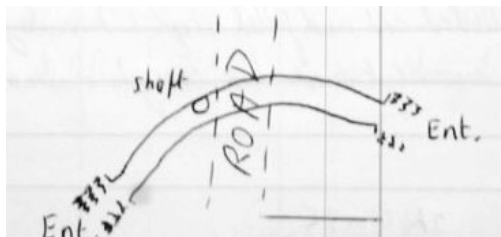
Shropshire	Ogof Llanymynech 23/3/70 Dave Taylor, Martin Gibbons (OS)	2 hrs	Llanymynech	The "OGO". A pleasant evening's caving to a most interesting ancient copper mine. A good thrutch in parts with a couple of fine "canals" and some superb blue/green flowstone, copper ore etc. Possibilities of extension in RH Series where a passage ends with a strong draught.
Breconshire	Lift to Ystradfellte with Clive Westlake and Noel Williams (?) Met James, Simon, Pete, Mac, Dick, Rog etc. and much drinking ensued. Read on			
Breconshire	LNRC 27/3/70 Dick, Dick and Terry (ULSA) Whittaker,	1 ¾ hrs	Ystradfellte	Met D and T at entrance and showed them around, Terry receiving a deeply gashed cheek en route. Down to end sump via canal. Erected "Public Footpath" notice. Out via by-pass

	(J.Gibbet, Marion Priestley, Mac)			meeting MCG en route. A great night's drinking and singing at the New Inn.
Breconshire <i>Dives</i>	Porth-yr-Ogof 28/3/70 J.Cobbet, S.Howes, P.Webb (NUCC) Dick, Mac, Chris, Vince, Al (ACG)	2 hrs	Ystradfellte	Poked round Hywel's Grotto area and eventually found Sump 6 – at high level between Main Entrance and Lake. James, Simon, Pete, Dick and I dived this (15') as a practice dive. We then dived for 100' in the "Upstream Feeder Resurgence" (Sumps 3 and 2) to the Cwmbran entrance. A fantastic dive in crystal clear water. Huge passage in parts and about 15' deep. I used JC's "50". Will now definitely take diving up seriously. Also dinged through resurgence and got clobbered by a falling tree (!) in White Horse Lake. CCG came down from the hills to a quiet Sat night.
Breconshire	29/3/70 Festered round Dinas Rock, Sychryd Gorge and mines area, Dinas Hotel, P-Y-O etc. Superb singing and drinking in New Inn due to recovery from sore throat disease.			

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Montgomeryshire	Mine level 30/3/70 Dave Taylor (OS)		Mochdre	Investigated supposed levels in this area finding only one 15' long, 5' high and 3' wide. 9" deep in water and a flowstone bank at end. Several ½" straws on ceiling. Probably a trial lead level. NGR 067969 NE side of Mochdre Brook.
Somerset	Wookey Hole 5/4/70 Graham Gregory, Mac, Marion, Dave (EUSS)	½ hr	Wookey	Show cave trip due to exquisite ACG dinner of previous night, much drinking, OCL baiting etc.
Somerset	Great Rock Mine 11/4/70 Thatch, Graham Gregory	2 ½ hr	Hennock	<i>See below</i>

Thatch first took us on a surface tour of mines in the Teign Valley area – Franklands, Frank Mills etc. Photographed a well preserved engine house at Canonteign(?) Estate, with original window and door timbering in place. We then revisited the 3 levels of Great Rock and descended a stope in North Beadon Level for 12' to a platform of deads and a 25' drop to a ledge. 15' and 18' drops led to more deads and due to light pox only I continued down a further 20' pitch and down an ore chute to a large, railed level. I descended 2 winzes, each of 18' on miners' ladders but while attempting a third the ladder disintegrated. I followed the main level back to a crossroads and another level from here for some 200 yds to a collapse. I returned to the others leaving at least 4 levels and 3 winzes to be explored. An excellent and hairy trip which would make a superb through trip to bottom adit, on ropes only. Depth at least 150' (100' to levels). Many 1ft long brown straws and loads of ore chutes, stemples, drill bits etc. Photographed S.Beadon Level and shafts and 'windlass' on hill above. Epic.

Shropshire	<p>16/4/70 Looked at site on 6" map "Old Level (Ironstone)" at SJ5139/2395, Clive, Salop. A 6'x4' wide, pickmarked tunnel forms a short subway beneath the road (25' long). (There is a deep copper mine nearby).</p> 
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Derbyshire	Speedwell Mine 18/4/70 Mac, Jim, Pete Bowler	40m	Castleton	Festerous tourist trip. Then to Magpie Mine for a look at surface remains and to Knotlow Mine where we dropped bits of burning paper down the 210' engine shaft onto the Pegasus Club below!
Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 19/4/70 Cheg, Paul +1 (PC)	2 ½ hrs	Castleton	Laddered main shaft (360) to 150' level and down climbing shafts to bottom level where we dug at shaft bottom dig. Looked at various other

				passages. Superb stone stemples, ginging, cave pearls, mine waggon etc. Also looked at Hazard Mine and its climbing shaft.
Somerset	G.B. Cavern 25/4/70 Mac, Barry, Brian Pitman, Viv (MCG) Zot, Jenny +3 (BEC)	1 ¾ hr	Charterhouse	Good quick fester to show Barry his first cave. To sump and back. Very wet for G.B.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 26/4/70 Clive, Terry Feltham, Ken Thorne, Clarke Bros.	2 ½ hrs	Nordrach	“F&C”. Filming for ACG epic and Terry took some stills in Ruckle Grotto.
Somerset	Mine level Winze Series Llanymynech Ogo 29/4/70 Jon Savage, Dave Taylor	1 ¼ hr ¾ hr	Llanymynech	Found 100’ level in quarry and small mined chamber and 50’ quarry tunnel nearby. Then to Winze Series – most extensive. Up both winzes at end. Started dig in RH Series of Ogo.
Somerset	2/5/70 Fabulous weather. C.Hanram and I visited Amphitheatre Mine and level. The latter has partly collapsed. Flooded and mud filled shaft (?) nearby where water sinks from old pond. Maybe one mentioned by Gough as being 180’ deep.			

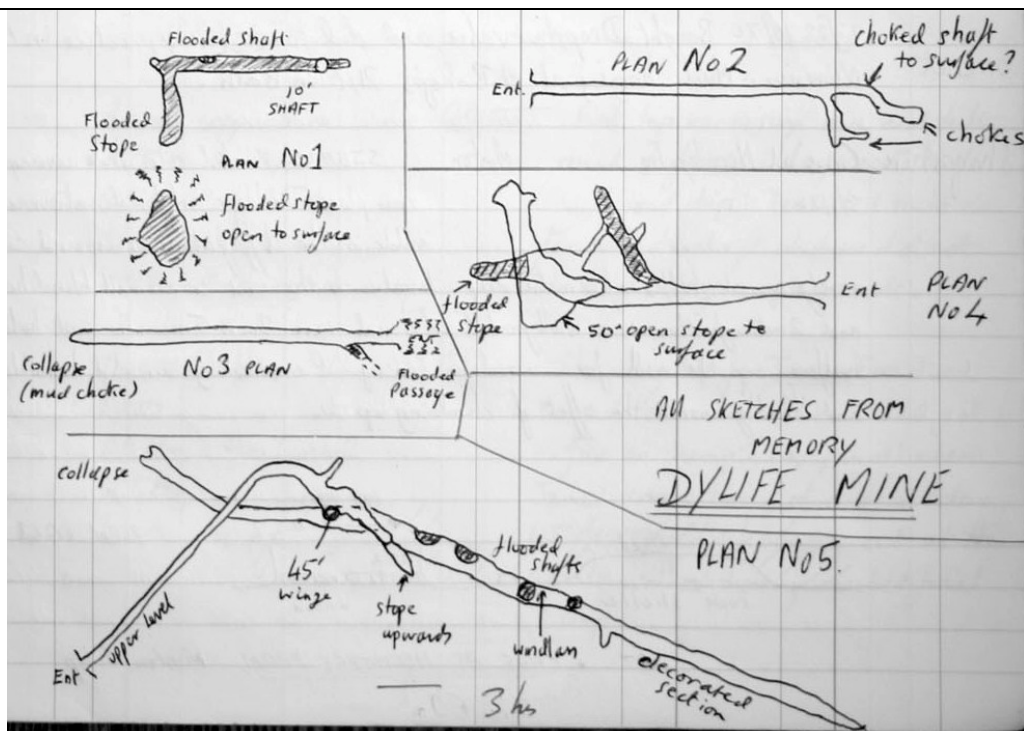
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Shropshire	Hawkstone Caves 5/5/70 D.Taylor	¼ hr	Weston-under-Redcastle	<i>See below</i>
	Looked at several sites in this interesting area (straight out of a fairy story). The “Grotto” at SJ5728/2969 is the longest (300’+) and is a labyrinth of artificial sandstone tunnels and chambers. There are numerous open and blocked entrances and the remains of shell decorations in one entrance chamber. A green wall deposit may be copper (?) * The “Cove” at SJ5718/2965 is a walking size tunnel 12’ long. The “Cove” at SJ5713/2942 is similar and 25’ long. Near this, and part of the castle ruins, is the “Giant’s Well”, a 10’ diameter circular shaft with a stone tower above. From the top of the tower to well bottom is some 80’. There are two entrances into the side of the well and to reach the bottom a 30’ ladder would be needed. * Apparently green paint – B.Jones “Follies and Grottos”			
Derbyshire	8/5/70 Attended superb PU (Cheg Chester’s farewell party) at Stag’s. Then drove down to Mendip on Saturday morning.			
Somerset <i>rescue</i>	Longwood Swallet / August Hole 8/5/70 Mac, M.Bishop, Butch, Don Thompson, Brian Prewer, Andy McGregor, Willy Stanton, Tim Hodgkinson, WCC, Speleo Rhal etc	4 hrs	Charterhouse	Dinner time call out from Hunters’. A woman from “Unit 2 Cave Exploration Group” had fallen in the rift near the bottom of August and had a fractured ankle. Plenty of rescuers ensured she was out in no time despite half the rescue party being unable to get out via Longwood due to falling boulders. A very plucky woman. Superb PU on Sat. night and Belfry “christening and hut warming” after. 9 barrels of ale plus numerous bottles.
Shropshire	Winze Series Llanymynech Ogo 14/5/70 Dave Evans, Bryn Morton, D.Taylor, C.Leonard, A.Pickersgill (OS)	1 ½ hr 1 hr	Llanymynech	Taped Winze Series main level and looked at various passages. Caused minor collapse and built obscene “festers” from mud. Quick trip round Ogo and a float through the canal in the LH Series.

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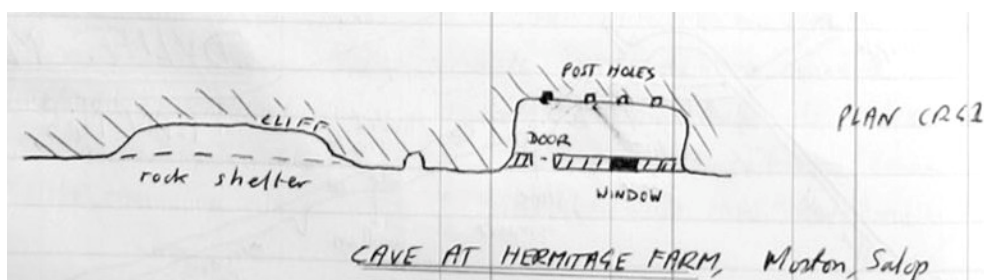
Derbyshire	Carlswark Cavern 16/5/70 Mac, Vince, Graham G, Adrian (ACG)	1 ½ hrs	Stoney Middleton	Had a quick look at bottom entrance then in via top entrance as far as “Noughts and Crosses Chamber”. Then down rift in floor (and back up rift as we couldn’t find way out!)
Derbyshire	Great Rutland Cavern	20m	Matlock	Small but interesting show cave/mine with a shaft in the woods nearby.

	16/5/70 As above			
Derbyshire	Eldon Hole 17/5/70 Graham/onlookers – Mac, Adrian, Vince, Barrie Parker, Paul, Vic)	1 hr	Castleton	Mac, Vince, and Black Shiver chickened out so Graham and I laddered 200' side and festered in Great Chamber. 25' of snow at bottom of pitch. Superb.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 23/5/70 Rick Whitely, Paul Huyton, Dave Alexander (EUSS)	4hr 50m	Priddy	To IV where we built a skeleton on a ledge from bones lying in the stream. Out via Double Troubles.
Somerset	Stoke Lane Slocker 24/5/70 Jim Dale, Colin, Whacker Woodall, Ken Lloyd, Henry Maires (EPC)	2 ¾ hrs	Stoke Lane	Took Eldon lads on tour of Stoke Lane II. Most impressed, especially with the sump. Henry and Colin "sumped" the stream grid outside.
Somerset	Northhill Swallet 24/5/70 Bob Cross +2WCC bucket pullers		Priddy	Nipped down to load up several bags and buckets of spoil from bottom of entrance shaft.
Shropshire	Llanymynech Ogo 6/6/70 Jon Savage, Dave Taylor, Bryn Morton	2 ¼ hrs	Llanymynech	Digging. Voice connection to shaft chamber established and some pretties revealed. Unknown connection found to shaft chamber close by!
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Montgomery- shire	Dylife Mine 6-7/6/70 Jim Smart, Mac, Pandy, D.Taylor, J.Savage	3 hrs	Llanidloes	<i>See below</i>
<p>Sat: Investigated 4 levels at 853/939 (1" sheet 127). The first was entered via a 10' shaft and led to an 8' passage to the right and 50' of passage and a deep flooded stope to the left (No.1). The second (No.2) was further up valley near a flooded pumping shaft with rods in situ. It was a low crawl for 150' approx. (No.3) consisted of a large entrance leading into a wide level with running water ending in a collapse at c. 200'. (No.4) was on the SW side of the valley near a waterfall. A jagged entrance led to 200' of wet passage ending in a stope to surface. (Abortive hunt for SMC blokes) (Went to a dance at Llanidloes on Sat. night).</p> <p>On Sunday a level in the adjacent valley was looked at – 859/942. 100' of walking passage led to a 45' deep winze. This was laddered and a large level with worked out stopes and 4 deep flooded shafts was found, about 250' long. The last section contained some beautiful mineral flows in white, black, orange and red. Several mining relics found including 8' long windlass (with "iron oysters") and the felt remains of a cap or bucket (No. 5)</p>				



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Shropshire	9/6/70 Investigated "The Cave" on 1900 plan SJ5625, now known as Cave Cottage. A rock shelter in sandstone, typical of the area, with 2 rooms – one partly built out and roofed over. Ruined cottage ("Cave Cottage") nearby. Several small shelves, fireplaces, etc carved in the rock.			
Derbyshire	Blue John Mine 14/6/70 A.Finch	50m	Castleton	Tourist trip. Also looked at mineshafts near Peak Forest
Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 20/6/70 J.Cobbett, P.Collet, Dick Pike, Simon Howes	2 hrs	Ystradfellte	Drunken streamway trip on Friday night followed by festering in and out on Sat. Simon dived upstream to dye test an underwater passage with the result that the whole of the River Mellte turned fluorescent green! Dick and I floated out of the resurgence several times and Phil took some photos. Later did diving and snorkelling practice in the lake. Thence to Hunters' for a fine session with WMCEG.
Somerset	27-28/6/70 Bought Deepstar valve and did some diving practice in the Mineries. Much boozing at M.Bishop's 21 st in Bath.			
Shropshire	Cave at Hermitage Farm ?/6/70		Moston	SJ5727. Visited site while revising this plan. The large artificial entrance visible in the cliffs for miles around is merely a rock shelter a few metres deep. 4 metres to the east is a small blind hole and 2 metres further is a wall-fronted artificial cave 3m x 5m with post-holes halfway up the wall for a wooden ceiling. Presumably an old hermitage and hardly worth the effort of climbing up to.



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Somerset	11/7/70 Colin Dooley and I walked round Mendip inspecting Northill, Twin Ts, Ebbor Gorge, Wookey Hole Café and the Hunters'.			
Somerset	Lionel's Hole 12/7/70 Alone	¼ hr	Burrington	Rapid look at the first few hundred feet of this new system. A cross between Goatchurch and Read's. Looks promising but is a bit loose.

Nottingham University Caving Club Expedition to N.Spain 1970

Picos D'Europa, Asturias

(full account in Spanish Exped. Log Book and "Exploration '70")

Left Nottingham on Sat 18th July arriving in Ortiguero, Asturias on 24 July after having broken down near Bordeaux for four days.

Asturias North Spain	Disused copper mine 25/7/70 (D.Parker, M.Stroth), A.Finch, D.Pike, K.Hart, D.Bacon, M.Billinge, F.Canning	1 hr	Ortiguero	First trip was a swift recce and fester round surface buildings and levels. Second trip: Descended mine as far as natural rift which we did not descend. Very complex workings.
Asturias North Spain	Cueva Geoffo 26/7/70 R.Pedlar, D.Pike, J.Cobbett, H.Titley	4 hrs	Ortiguero	Sherpaing trip for James. Free dived sump 1 (once a duck) – 15' and got as far as Sump 2 (bypassed) when James' ammo tin got dropped into a 45' deep puddle! Came out at this point without having reached final sump.

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Asturias North Spain	Cueva Geoffo 27/7/70 JC, RP, DP, AF, Simon Howes	6 ¼ hrs	Ortiguero	James retrieved his tin and we continued to Sump 3. James dived and found 100' of sump before leaving his line and returning. Dick and I snorkelled along most of the stream passage – superb, but bloody cold. Sand chamber is very pretty.
Asturias North Spain	Cueva de Cardin Hedias 28/7/70 JC, RP, AF, D.Parker, S.Blackledge, C.Canon, SH, MS	¼ hr	Balmeri Llanes	Show cave. At first we were shown a "garden" full of weird sculptures then taken to the cave by what appeared to be an old witch! (TOTAL cost 35 ptas) A very fine little cave with cave paintings of bison, bears etc. Also some artefacts in the final chamber. The cave paintings were 1960s forgeries!
Asturias North Spain	29/7/70 Spent most of the day investigating small caves and rock shelters in the valley behind, and to the south of, Cueva Geoffo. Found nothing of importance except many cherry trees!			
Asturias North Spain	Pipeline Pot 30/7/70 JC, SH, D.Pike, Pete Webb, G.Matthews	1 hr	La Molina	Sherpa'd diving gear for James and ourselves. James dived in this large, cold resurgence finding a series of flooded rifts which he did not push. A long walk.
Asturias North Spain <i>discovery</i>	Cueva Dobros 31/7/70 Dick, Pete	5 ½ hrs	Ortiguero	After looking at a small resurgence cave further down the valley we descended this magnificent cave, similar to LNRC. In the terminal chamber I climbed the LH wall and found an unexplored rift, c.40' deep, which I descended to find several passages, mainly trending upwards and full of clean-washed pebbles. Also a small section of the streamway with a sump at each end. (Later found to connect with a series leading from Main Chamber).

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Asturias North Spain	1/8/70 Festered at Barro Beach and Llanes. Did some snorkelling but I chickened out of sea diving after having swum out and gone down once to find I had not enough weight.			
Asturias North Spain	La Cueva del Agua La Grottura 2/8/70 (Alex, Simon, Hugh, Pete, Helen, Stu,	1 hr	Benia Ortiguero	Monchi and Alex showed us four interesting caves in the Benia area, the best being a large entrance/resurgence called La Cueva del Agua – cave of the water. We then took Alex on a tourist trip to La Grottura – a huge chamber full of

	Colin)			pretties. He then showed us several other caves in the same depression – the Hoyo de Alva. One of these was a huge chamber, used in the civil war as an ammo-dump. Also looked at entrance of 200' deep Lost Dog Pot.
Asturias North Spain <i>discovery</i>	La Cueva del Agua / Pozo Niebla 3/8/70 (Monchi, Alex) Stu, Colin, Pete, Ken	5 hrs	Benia	Looked at small dry passage and poked about in sump at resurgence. Alex and Monchi then showed us a “pozo” above the cave. A vast entrance led immediately into a 100'+ huge, impressive shaft issuing forth clouds of mist. This dropped into the side of a large streamway ending downstream in a sump and upstream in a maze of passages, one leading over a pool into a large, ascending and waterworn passage which we climbed for some distance, hoping to find a sink entrance. I climbed alone into the last two dry chambers finding no direct way on and getting thoroughly lost for ¼ hr – very gripping. Later, the lads showed us the large sink entrance in the valley above the resurgence. Got pissed celebrating!
Asturias North Spain	La Cueva del Agua / Pozo Niebla 4/8/70 Stu, Ken, Colin (Dick, Simon, Pete, James)	3 ½ hrs	Benia	Exchange trip. We descended via sink, making connection and exchange at the flowstone slope where I had climbed the previous day. Much eating, drinking and singing at Theresa's in the evening.
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Asturias North Spain	5/8/70 Day off (?) Adrian and I cooked for the day and festered about. Went to superb fiesta at Puertas in the evening.			
Asturias North Spain <i>discovery</i>	La Cueva del Agua / Pozo Niebla 6/8/70 Mark Billing, Fanny, Monchi (Pete, Colin)	4 hrs	Benia	Pete and Colin commenced the survey while we did a downstream through trip to show Monchi his cave. Good wet trip enlivened by Fanny's exploding ammo-can. Monchi was “muchos shagged” but seemed to enjoy it. We discovered a few hundred feet of passage including 2 large rift chambers and 100' of new inlet streamway leading off from maze. Some fine pretties, helictites and a waterfall etc. One passage led back to downstream end of duck (Meanwhile Colin was falling off the 20' pitch near the top entrance!)
Asturias North Spain	7/8/70 Festered at Playa de Barro and Llanes. Spent most of the day reading Robert Graves and sunbathing.			
Asturias North Spain	La Cueva del Agua / Pozo Niebla 8/8/70 PW, CC, Stu, Dave P., (JC, Monchi, Angelinas) [and Eric]	3 ½ hr	Benia	Pete and I looked at resurgence sump. Pete dived finding vis. too bad to continue. I confirmed this, though the passage seemed large. Pete and I then descended the pot meeting the others at the bottom. We all explored the “new” series but didn't find much. Stuart found a ctfayfish (Eric). On the way back to camp some of Dave Bacon's Spanish friends showed us a “muchos profundos” cave, occupying a large area under the road! It was the remains of a large stream cave whose sides had eroded leaving an arch supporting roof. No side passage, but most amazing.
Asturias North Spain <i>dive discovery</i>	Cueva Dobros 9/8/70 JC, DP, PW, HT, AF, MS	5 ½ hrs	Ortiguero	Malc collected bugs while Hugh and Adrian helped Sherpa our diving gear to the inlet sump previously passed by James. James dived first, then me, Pete and Dick using only 2 kits and ferrying them back and forth. This 50' sump had nil vis., was fairly large and had a bend in the middle. It led to a chamber and two passages.

				The RH passage ended in an aven and choked sump after a few feet. The LH passage was c. 200' long – a muddy rift ending in a squeeze and choke. Built a fester and came out (getting caught in line, letting it go and getting water in mask on way back!) Adrian took several photos.
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Asturias North Spain	10/8/70 - Festered: mainly in my pit.			
Asturias North Spain	La Cueva del Agua / Pozo Niebla 11/8/70 Colin, Stu	5 ½ hrs	Benia	Survey trip. In via sink. Started survey at flowstone slope and did main passage and “new” series. Pushed a few more small passages and came out via Pozo to detackle sink. Got thoroughly pissed and honked at “sidra” brewery.
Asturias North Spain <i>discovery</i>	Cueva de Los Quesos 12/8/70 SB, CC, DB	4 hrs	Carrenas	Survey trip. From cheese store entrance, round upper series and mined passages and foul smelling cheese chamber. Explored a few passages on the other side of the squeeze (Bacon Slicer) then festered down to the House entrance via Traverse. Very fine pretties including green helictites, pink stal etc. A fine, dry, easy system and very novel.
Asturias North Spain	Cueva “Tito Bustillo” 13/8/70 15 of us including Etienne and wife (a French diver)	¾ hr	Ribadesella	Day off at Llanes and Ribadesella. The cave is superb. Blasted passage leads to a large, dry, heavily decorated tunnel ending in a chamber with some exceptionally fine Magdalenian cave paintings of horses, reindeer etc. Large system lies below show cave. Very smart girl cave-guides dressed in formal Khaki levi suits and yellow corduroy hats! Thence to Playa Cuevas del Mar where several of the others went diving and caught a stingray! Here there are loads of sea caves – one has a BAR in it!!

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Asturias North Spain <i>discovery</i>	Cueva de los Quesos Cueva de los Quesos (Upper) Disused cobalt mine 14/8/70 SB, DP, MB (JC)	4 hrs ½ hr ¼ hr	Carrenas	Surveyed house, “show cave” and part of river passage which we pushed a route to. I went off alone and pushed a new passage leading to a series of squeezes and tubes where I got lost for over ½ hr – again: very gripping. Looked at small cobalt mine. Probably more passage leading from shaft to surface. Explored the disused upper cheese cave and found a very extensive, dry and sandy system. We walked most of the way leaving scores of passages unentered. This cave has been previously explored by locals as there are footprints and marks on the walls everywhere. Not a very interesting cave but lots of it.
Asturias North Spain <i>discovery</i>	Cueva Geoffo 15/8/70 DP, JC, AF, KH, MB, DB	4 hrs	Ortiguero	Sherpa'd for James who dived sump 3 for 120' to find c. 200' of passage and sump 4. Sump 1 was now a duck. Dave and I tried some abortive digging in Sand Chamber and I climbed into the roof to find a fantastically decorated rift leading above sump 3. Literally thousands of helictites and some superb pillars, stal and cascades.
Asturias North Spain	16/8/70 - Assisted Ken in running a line of levels from Theresa's to road above Dobros Resurgence. Went to tremendous fiesta at Ortiguero. Much drinking, singing and dancing.			
Asturias North Spain	17/8/70 - Shopping in Llanes and then drove up to Covadonga where we got a glimpse of the religious cave there. Then up to the lakes in the High Picos where we noted hundreds of pots and entrances in one large valley – really deserves looking at.			

Left Ortiguero on 18/8/70 reaching England on 21/8/70

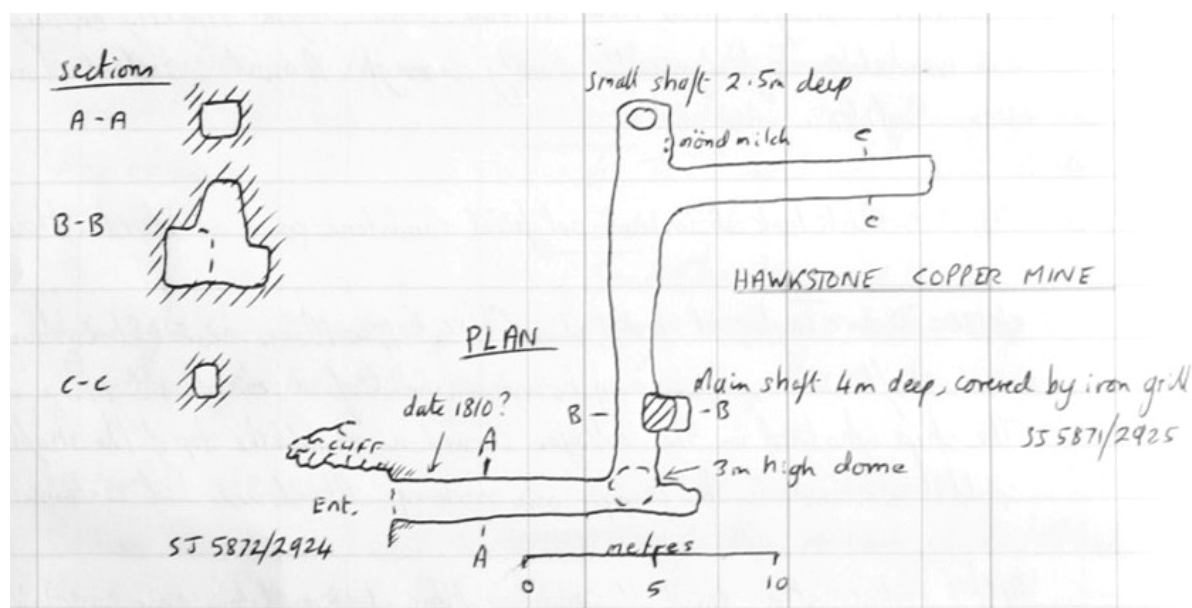
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Somerset	Swildon's Hole 29/8/70	1 ¼ hr	Priddy	Left Ray and Fanny at entrance and went on alone to Duck II where I chickened out returning
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	(Ray Saxton and Fanny [CSS])			to 40' to meet the others. Free climbed up old 40' on way out.
Breconshire <i>dive</i>	Porth-yr-Ogof 30/8/70 J.Cobbett	40m	Ystradfellte	After Simon had dived into the upstream sumps to survey, JC and I dived to the rawlbolt (c. 400') The dive was fantastic – in large passages (c. 12' wide) of uniform cross section. Vis on way in excellent but poor in the smaller passages on return. I waited for a few minutes in the airspace while JC investigated and surveyed another passage. We then returned together to Sump 3 entrance, noting a white trout en route. Twice I got slightly entangled in line but was able to free myself easily enough. A most excellent dive and very confidence inspiring.
Shropshire	7/8/70 Quick look at minute artificial sandstone cave at Warden House Farm (SJ5628)			
Shropshire	8/8/70 Dave Taylor and I looked at Clive Copper Mine near Shrewsbury. The main shaft is in a pumping house in front of a row of old mine cottages. The chap who lived in the cottages showed us round the top of the shaft but we couldn't descend as the pumps were working. Abandoned last century.			
Shropshire	9/8/70 Looked at a small 6' square artificial sandstone cave on plan SJ 5727 near Hawkstone Park Golf Course. In the RH wall a carved face 0.4m high was found.			
11-13/9/70 BSA Conference, Nottingham. An excellent conference with well presented and interesting lectures and a great ale-up Sat. night. Competed in singing with ULSA/MUCC and learnt some new ditties. Those present: J.Hay, L & R.Bailey (RFODCC), J.Smart, MacAnus, Pandy, T.Meek, S.Reid, Nigel & Pat (CCG) A.Hawkins, L.Lyons (SMC), Buck White (SWETC) J.Fell, Pete (WMCEG), D.Pyke (ACG), D.Parker (NUCC.ACG) etc., T.White (ULSA), G.Carson (MSG) etc etc.				

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Nottinghamshire	Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem Inn 12/8/70 J.Cobbett, J.Fell, Pete, Vic	½ hr	Nottingham	Ancient pub built in sandstone cave with aven to surface in lounge. Loads of caves in the area. One of the oldest inns in England.
Shropshire	Copper mine 16/9/70 Alone	20m	Hawkstone	Old shaft marked on OS maps at SJ5871/2925. Level entrance at 5872/2924. A small shaft has also appeared just beyond the main shaft. The mine is small and of uniform dimensions. It was hand picked in the sandstone cliff following a copper vein. Traces of mondmilch near small shaft and much signs of malachite in the walls.



Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 19/9/70 Alone	2 hrs	Nordrach	Digging in passage below Sam's Dig. Rift seems to widen a few feet down. Made 4 sq ft progress through mud and gravel.
Somerset	Higher Pitts Mine		Priddy	I waited at entrance while Ken waded knee deep

	Level 19/9/70			in cowshit to find that the level was only 15' long anyway. An interesting area.
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Somerset	Eastwater Swallet 20/9/70 Dick Wickens, Tim Large, Tom Gage, Graham Phippen and Margaret Sparks, John Bacon (BEC)	4 ¼ hrs	Priddy	Tim, Tom, John and I descended Primrose Pot – again.
26/9/70 Box Barbecue. After practical eviction from “Quarryman’s Arms” we headed for the woods, together with a little bloke who played jazz banjo, and got thoroughly legless. A good do. Those present: Wanker Wicks, J.Reese-Evans, G.Gregory, Jim, Ted, Terry, CCG, Ken, 4 locals, ADO, 1 BEC etc. Great banjo and Jaws Harp music.				
Wiltshire	Box Freestone Mines 27/9/70 T.Meek, T.Edwards, P.Cronin, Nigel, S.Reid (CCG) G.Gregory, W.Wick, J.Evan (MCG)	2 hrs	Bath	Jack’s Workings – Eastgate (blocked) – Admiralty – out via opencast workings. Good trip. More rubbish in Cathedral and much work being done on B12 Route. A good w/e.
Shropshire	Hawkstone Caves 29/9/70 Alone	¼ hr	Hawkstone	While revising plan SJ 5729 I looked at Giant’s Well, The Grotto and several other small caves & tunnels. Also the old ice-house in a cutting on the golf course.
Shropshire	Wixhill Hill Copper Mines 6/10/70 Alone		Hawkstone	Situated in the wooded Wixhill Hill on plan SJ 5528 are several old copper workings including a level with 2 walk-in entrances c. 50’ long; 2 “wells”, an open vein working and a 6’ deep choked shaft. There are several choked holes in the area. At the bend in the main road just south of Holloway is a 6’ long “cave” which may repay digging.
Somerset <i>dive</i>	Swildon’s Hole 11/10/70 Ray Mansfield, Fred Davies, Al Mills, Brian Woodward, Martin Webster (NASA)	3 ¼ hrs	Priddy	Aim of trip: to connect Cowsh Avens and Priddy Green Sink * Al firked his knee at the “20” so I carried on through 2 & 3 alone using a SEBA. Met Fred in IV and we all free climbed Cowsh Aven and Bladder Pot to the new aven. Water could be heard but no passable way on was apparent. “Bang” was fired and we came out, I managing to swallow half of sump 3 en route. (* It took another 30 years!)
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Shropshire	Wixhill Hill Copper Mine 14/10/70 Alone		Hawkstone	Surveyed level at S. end of wood and looked at “well” near level – 3m deep with a possible passage at bottom. Also looked at other nearby workings.
Somerset	Swildon’s Hole 18/10/70 K.James	1 ¼ hrs	Priddy	To II and back. Pleasant fester.
23-25/10/70 EUSS Disco in Exeter.				
Derbyshire	Oxlow Cavern / Giant’s Hole 1/11/70 Al Eaves, Vic	5 hrs	Castleton	Through trip via “connection”. As the others had not done the trip I led and found the route fairly straightforward. Some “scraping” was done at the squeeze to enable Al to get through. Out of Giant’s via the New Upper Series (above Crabwalk) where we met Ratarse, Helen and the Admiral. Found Ken Hart near the entrance. Then back to detackle Oxlow. Never again without a wet suit! Incredible winds blowing across the moors. A good trip.
Somerset	Elephant’s Hole 7/11/70 Chris Schmitz		Burrington	Festered round the Combe digging in a few spots and looking at various holes and entrances ie Goon’s, Elephant’s, Lionel’s etc. Thatch,

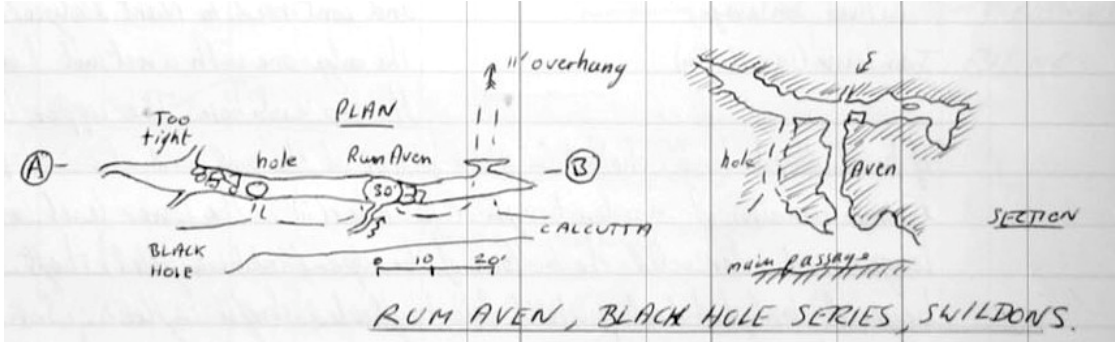
	(EUSS)			Hannam etc present.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 8/11/70 Ray Mansfield, Tony Knibbs	3 ¾ hrs	Priddy	Banging trip to Cowsh Avens. In and out via Paradise etc. Cave nice and wet for a change.
Derbyshire	P8 Old Tor Mine 15/11/70 Blogg, J.Davies, Charles, Mike, Peter Summerfield, +1 (Shrop.MC)	2 hrs	Castleton	Met SMC at Perryfoot and led them down P8 via dry route and two of us out via wet route. Nice and damp. Thence to Winnat's Pass to collect Blue John samples from Old Tor Mine

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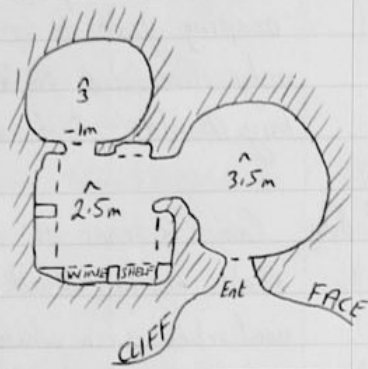
Somerset <i>Dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 21/11/70 D.Pike, P.Webb, S.Howes (D.Taylor, Steve)	6 ¼ hrs	Priddy	21 st birthday trip to Swildon's VII. We took Dave and Steve to Sump 1 then dived to Sump VI where Admiral and Ratarse stopped. Dick and I went through to admire the boulder chambers of VII but couldn't find the way on to Sump 7. A very fine trip. Sump IV is tight in parts and Sump V is a bit grim. Thence to the Hunters' for a fine sing song. (Dad and Dave in attendance) and on to ACG Hut for 3 barrels of ale (Ken's, Dick's, Chris's and my birthdays).
Derbyshire	Shining Sough 28/11/70 Dave Epton (NMRG) Vic, P.Thompson, T.Wright, Gough Bros, Ratarse, Jim Smart	2 ½ hrs	Alport	Clandestine evening trip (during Sat night opening hours!!) to this interesting but strenuous sough. Some fine picked sections and many grim, loose bits ending in an NMRG dig hoping to connect with Broadmeadow Mine. Interesting area.
Yorkshire	Lost John's System / Leck Fell Master Cave 5/12/70 Ian Curfy, P.Thompson, Gough Bros, Vic, P.Watkinson +1 (PC) P.Webb, Bob Cross, A.Finch, D.Epton	6 hrs		Drove up to Horton on new m/cycle on Fri. evening. Did "New Roof Traverse" route via Cathedral, Dome, and Battleaxe Pitches. Much sport on the Wet Pitch. Then a nice walk along the fine master cave to the terminal sump. A very fine system and a bloody good trip.
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 13/12/70 Dook Mills	2 ½ hrs	Priddy	Met Dook at the Wessex and went off to do Sludge Pit. While held up at top of entrance pitch we started digging in the RH choke and opened up a new pitch to by-pass the usual one. Not a passable route due to one obstinate boulder. Then looked at Clive North's and Derek Swift's dig near East Twin.

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Shropshire	Mine level 17/12/70 Alone	10m	Little Wenlock	Marked as "Old level" on 6" map. In "gruffy" area at SJ6449/0830. A steeply descending wide level driven in shale(?) for c. 120' and ending in a 2' deep pool. No other passages. No sign of mineral. May be part of a coal mine (?). Opencast coal workings nearby.
Derbyshire	Quarry tunnel 19/12/70 Terry Wright, Paul Thompson		Peak Dale	In old quarry opposite Midland Hotel. A well-decorated tunnel (straws and cave pearls in profusion) presumably once use as an air raid tunnel (brick walls and a steel helmet in situ.) Then we went for a walk along the Tunsted quarry area.
Shropshire	Myttonsbeach Mine Perkinsbeach Mine	¼ hr	Myttonsbeach	Looked at several entrances (920/21 SMC Acc No.2) Looked at open 600' shaft near top of

	20/12/70 Alone			valley then explored 2 adits and looked at a 70' shaft. Drove round looking at Tankerville, Shelve, Grits mines etc.
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Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 24/12/70 Alone	½ hr	Priddy	Went down equipped with much "norping" gear to open up new pitch but only succeeded in blocking it with a large boulder. Not worth any more work.
Somerset <i>discovery</i>	Swildon's Hole 26/12/70 Al Mills, Al Thompson (WCC)	4½ hr	Priddy	Carried 2 SEBAs etc to Sump 2 then left streamway for Black Hole. I noticed an unclimbed aven which was climbed after some gardening. This 20' aven led to a cross rift (part of main Black Hole fault below). To the left the passage was followed for c. 20' ending in impenetrable rift – a hole in the floor dropped into the Black Hole. To the right the passage closed down after 10' with a choked side passage halfway along. Directly above the aven a stream inlet passage became too tight after a few feet. Although this makes some 50' of new passage it is not worth pushing further. Named "Rum Aven" on account of our condition after the bottle we took down! We then continued to the terminal choke and pulled out a few more grim boulders. Progress continues here but may need either bang or hammer & chisel. A fine trip and a good Xmas on Mendip.
				
Shropshire	Artificial cave 31/12/70 Alone		Eyton-on-Severn	While revising plan SJ5705 I looked at the artificial sandstone cave (monastic wine cellar?) at SJ7508/0584. A door-shaped entrance (remains of wooden door in situ) leads to a dome shaped chamber with a doorway on left into a square chamber with carved shelves in walls. A ½ m drop through another doorway leads to final dome shaped chamber. Many dates – earliest is 1817. (A superb cave to live in!)
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CAVE at EYTON-ON-SEVERN, SHREWSBURY, SALOP.



PLAN CR42

SJ 5708/0584

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metres

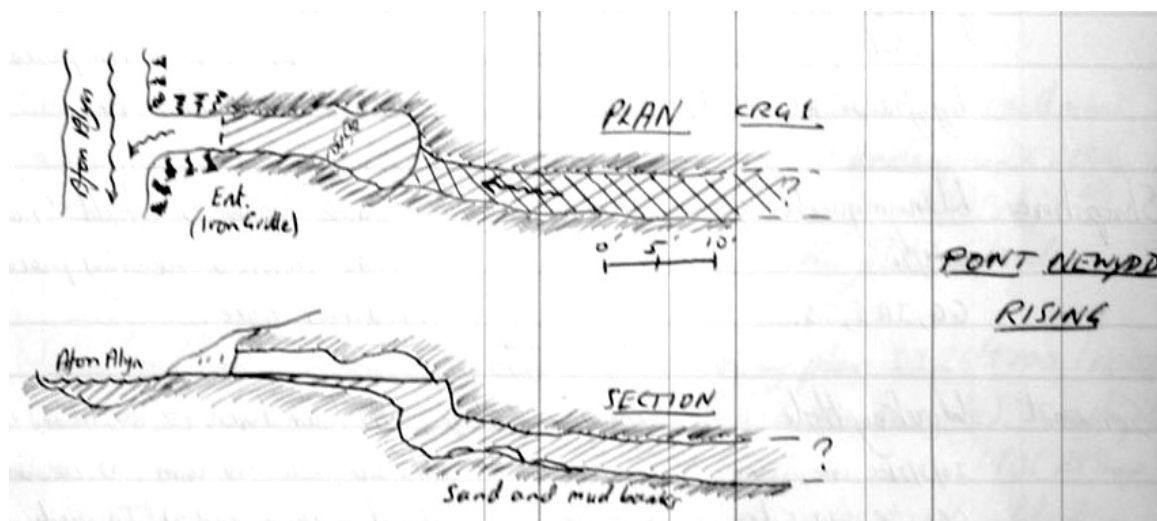
(See Subterranean

Shropshire by Steve Powell, 2002, p.85)

Montgomeryshire	1/1/71 D.Taylor, M.Gibbons, J.Savage, and J.Lewis. Investigated surface remains of Gom Mine near Llanidloes, Montgom. All that could be found was 2 series of blocked shafts. No other visible remains. Supposedly worked for barites earlier this century.			
Montgomeryshire	Dylife Mine Nantmelyn Mine Nantyricket Mine 2/1/71 Dewi Rees, Jon Savage, John Lewis (Dave, Martin)	40m	Llanidloes	Met Dewi at Star Inn, Dylife, then walked over surface remains of Dylife Mine. Dewi explained the workings of the waterwheels, shafts etc. We met with the others (Star again!) and continued to Nant Melyn Mine. As I was the only one with a wetsuit I went alone into the two levels here. The upper level is a couple of hundred yds long, choked in three places at the end and at a stope halfway. Found remains of wooden trough or laundry(?). The lower level was much longer and intersected the bottom of the open (rubbish filled) shaft. It continued beyond but I did not push it due to flooded shafts in floor. Several passages were left unentered so deserves a re-visit. Found an old chisel. We then went to Cwmricket (Nantyricket) and all explored two short levels – one of which contained an otter's nest and the other leading directly to a deep stope which we couldn't pass. An extremely interesting area.
Derbyshire	Old Tor Mine Rowter Mine 10/1/71 J.Cobbett (Gough Bros.)	40m	Castleton	Quick look round Winnat's then James and I abseiled 240' Rowter Mine and immediately prussicked out in 20mins - knackered. Superb shaft.

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Somerset	Rhino Rift 16/1/71 Tony, Tim (J.Cornwell) (East Som CC)	2 ¼ hrs	Charterhouse	Gave JC a hand with his superb dig. The railway is now c. 200' long where it stops above a cross rift which is being dug downwards. Looks promising.
Flintshire <i>dive</i>	Pont Newydd Rising Leet Caves "Devils Gorge" Spar Mine 23/1/71 P.Appleton, C.Williams (SMC)	¼ hr	Cilcain	Dived twice and at second attempt pushed a tightish passage for c. 25' before retreating. The passage was still going, large. Vis. was nil due to mud on floor and the passage sides are loose. The sump will almost certainly "go" and well. I will return here sometime – preferably with support. Then looked at Leet Caves and impressive, but short, Spar Mine.



30-31/1/71 NUCC Dinner, Victoria Hotel, Nottingham – superb.

27/2/71 EUSS Dinner, Exeter – superb.

Breconshire	Ogof Gam Ager Allwedd 6/3/71 J.Cobbett, P.Webb, M.Billings, F.Canning, Stu, Ken?, Dick? D.Parker (NUCC)	6 ¾ hrs	Llangattock	Intention was to dive in Turkey Series sumps. J.Parker didn't arrive so we had a tourist trip round Main Chamber – Main Stream Passage to 3 rd choke – Cascade Passage – Shattered Passage – Turkey Pool and out. Tiring and monotonous cave, though impressive.
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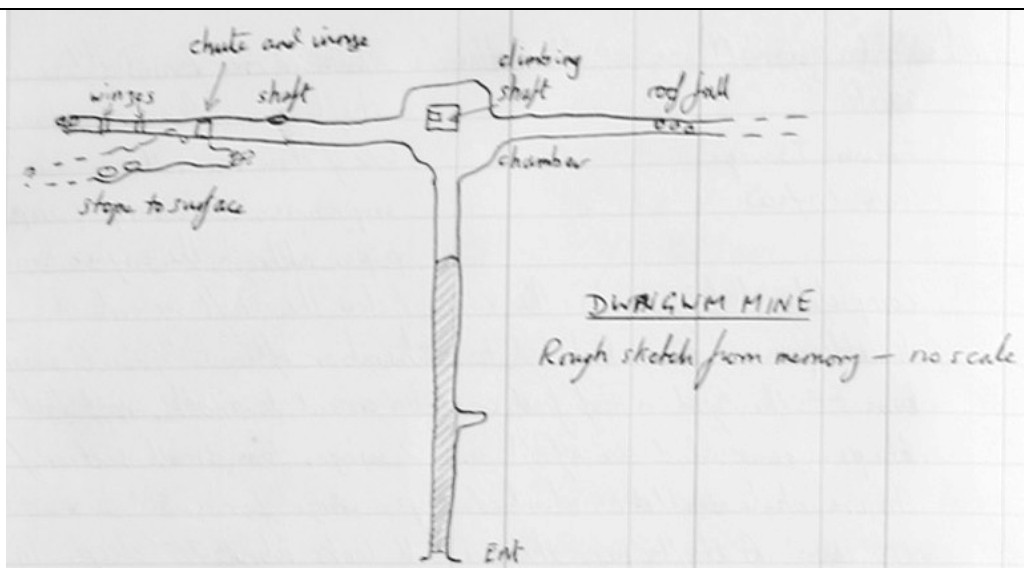
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Breconshire	Chartist Cave 7/3/71 NUCC as above.	10m	Trefil	No-one at SUCC hut so looked at new chamber in Chartist. Looks promising for future work.
Denbighshire	Cambrian Slate Mine 13/3/71 Jon Savage, Kaffir Evans, G.Gregory	1 ¼ hr	Glyn Ceiriog	Festered round spoil heaps looking for entrances, finding one at the bottom of a quarry. Followed this to a junction where several large passages and chambers were explored including the adit level which Graham and I followed to daylight (in another quarry). It continued beyond with minimal airspace (should be looked at again). We walked through several very large chambers and emerged in yet another open quarry. A walk over the spoil heaps led to another mine – a steep drift led to two large flooded chambers – needs boat to explore fully. (Sat. night spent at Pen-y-Gwyrd Pub, Llanberis with Bolton Speleo Club. Followed by fracas at Willys Barn where JS shot out the light bulb.
Shropshire	Llanymynech Ogo 14/3/71 GG, JR-E, JS	¼ hr	Llanymynech	Quick fester to Shaft Chamber and a look down a nearby passage of “Pit Series” type.
Somerset	Wookey Hole 20/3/71 OCL, JC, BW, Fish, Liz, Alan, T.Reynolds, A.Newport, J.Hanwell	1 hr	Wookey	The four divers (JC, BW, TR, and AN) dived to 20 with two aims; 1) to activate radio location gear and 2) to push terminal sump. Fish dived to 9 and returned at once. I helped JH and Al Mills on surface by walking over the two fields above Smokham Wood for 1 ½ hrs without receiving any signal – mainly due to the fact that the divers had flooded and then lost the transmitter and generally achieved nothing!

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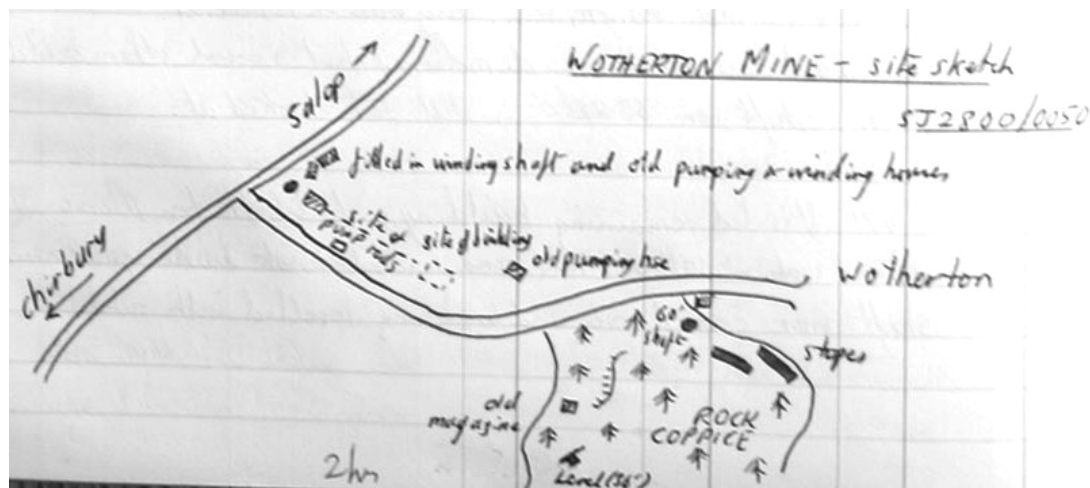
Montgomery-shire	Dwfn gwm Mine 27/3/71 J.Lewis, J.Savage (Kath at surface)	1 hr	Llanidloes	<i>See below</i>
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Walked over from Dylife looking at shafts near Pen-y-crocbren en route. One of these was well over 200' and most impressive, containing pump rods and pipes although the engine house was almost completely destroyed. In the valley below the shaft we entered a large level, knee-deep in water which led to a chamber after c. 300'. A crosscut led off here – to the right a roof fall could be crossed to another roof fall. To the left the passage ended in a fall with 2 winzes to a small section of level above. An ore chute could be climbed, up a winze, for c. 30' to a stope to surface, c. 120' above. A shaft near the ore mill looks about 25' deep. In the main chamber a large shaft in the floor leads to water at c. 40' (not descended). Above this a shaft in the roof could only be reached with rigid ladder. An excellent mine in superb condition.



Montgomery-shire	Geufron Mine 28/3/71 Alone		Llanidloes	Camped overnight at this small mine but didn't explore underground. Only two entrances remain – a 20' shaft to water and a partly flooded level.
Shropshire	Wotherton Mine 30/3/71 Alone	10m	Chirbury	While revising plan SJ26/2700 I visited this mine (1901 – Lead and Barytes). Two shafts and a level are shown on the 1901 25" map. The main shaft is filled with rubbish and the other, open, is c. 30' and circular (7' diam.) The level is c. 36' long following a small barites vein. Two bats in residence. The main engine house has been demolished but several other buildings remain. Another shaft, on SJ2800 is still to be looked at.
Shropshire	1/4/71 Visited remaining buildings of Wotherton Mine. The mine closed about 1911 or 1912 and several brick buildings remain. The main shaft was covered over and is being levelled with rubbish.			
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Somerset	Swildon's Hole 3/4/71 Dick Wickens, Colin Dooley (BEC)	1 ¼ hrs	Priddy	Fester to Mud Sump and out via this side of Sump 1. (Boozy fancy dress dance at Priddy Sat. night)
Shropshire	Wotherton Mine 7/4/71 Colin Leonard (OS)	¾ hr	Chirbury	<i>See below</i>

Explored the two stopes and the shaft on plan SJ2800. The larger stope was laddered for 60' and followed to a collapse after c. 80' and for c. 40' in the other direction. Many bats in residence and some nice flowstone in the smaller passage. Loads of old papers, billheads and ration books (1906-1918) were found in good condition in the open stope. I laddered the shaft on the plan edge for 60' where it was blocked. A short side passage was blocked with clay after a couple of feet.



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Breconshire	Porth-yr-Ogof 8/4/71 J.Savage	20m	Ystradfellte	Camped opposite New Inn and walked down to P-Y-O where we met James, Paul and Ratarse. Jon and I festered round the “dry” bits of P-Y-O then all retired to the pub where numerous other noxious folk appeared.
Breconshire <i>dive</i>	White Lady Cave / Pwll-y-Rhyd 9/4/71 K.James, J.Cobbett (PC, SH, JS, Paul)	½ hr	Ystradfellte	Ken, James and I dived through the connection after James had laid a diving line. A superb, large sump with good vis – c.120’ long. Phil took some photos as we emerged.
Breconshire <i>dive</i>	Bridge Cave / LNRC 9/4/71 KJ, JC (PH, JS)	1 ½ hr	Ystradfellte	Al, Ken, and I dived sump 3 upstream to Cwmbran entrance; then dived out through the resurgence – superb. Then festered round in pool outside. Good night in pub.
Breconshire <i>dive</i>	Porth-yr-Ogof 11/4/71 Simon, Jon etc	5 m	Ystradfellte	Quick dive through resurgence while the others dinghied out through the airspace. Then much diving and festering in the pool and resurgence. All then went for a walk down to the first waterfall where JC and AM abseiled and prussicked up and down it – to the amusement and delight of the assembled populace. Fish found a cave which he duly banged – but didn’t go back to see the result. Also found a collapse near a farm which could be pushed but probably isn’t worth the effort. Excellent night in the pub.
Breconshire <i>dive</i>	Cwm Pwll-y-Rhyd 12/4/71 P.Collet, J.Rose-Evans (Jon)	1 hr	Ystradfellte	Underwater photography trip for Phil. I dived from C-P-Y-R laying a line as I went, as far as airbell. Phil followed taking photos. At the airbell my light gave out so I returned along the line to base and John R-E took over – completing the dive to White Lady. Afternoon walk along Llangattock escarpment.
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Montgomeryshire	17/4/71 Had a brief look at Clwedog Dam and Bryn Tail Mine. One open level and an open but flooded shaft hidden under a heap of rocks. Remains of several buildings.			
Montgomeryshire	Dyfngwm Mine 17/4/71 Alone	10m	Dylife	Investigated large level several hundred feet up valley from main level. A low entrance leads to c.40’ of passage dropping into a deep stope which I didn’t descend. Several other entrances on the hillside lead to small levels – partly flooded. I then walked up to the large rock further up valley where a flooded stope could be worth diving.
Montgomeryshire	Mine level 20/4/71 Andy Pickersgill (OS)	¼ hr	Mxxxxxxx Nr. Newtown	Noted 2 levels and a c.25’ shaft. Only explored lower level (entered via a door) which was at least 500’ long – ending in a collapse which we didn’t push. Many excellent small stals and helictites in assorted colours. The other level (wetter!) presumably connects with the wet shaft on the hill immediately above. (Legend tells that this mine was sold during the Van era by “fiddlers” – who met their just deserts.)
Somerset	Swildon’s Hole 25/4/71 Pete Stobart, Jim Abbot, John? +1 (BEC)	2hrs 20m	Priddy	To Black Hole terminal choke. Looked at various holes in the choke and hope to return with bang. Looks good. Clear, fresh air can be felt here but there is no apparent draught. A very pleasant trip.
Cardiganshire	Cwmystwyth Mine 1/5/71 Simon Hughes +3 (NCMC) John Alder	4 ¾ hrs	Cwmystwyth	<i>See below</i>

	(WCC) +2. Andy Pickersgill			
<p>Andy and I met the others at the entrance to Taylors Level where we used dinghies and tyres to pass the flooded section. After exploring the flooded upper levels (3 of us) we then laddered an 85' inclined shaft down to the Bonsall's or Jubilee level (Level Fawr). Again we examined all the passages leading off from this section but the main route through to the other mine (see below) is blocked by roof falls. A wet 80' pitch was then laddered down the stope and this brought us to the flooded Kingside Level – the lowest adit in the mine. I followed this for some way until the water became too deep – could probably be dived or snorkelled. All then returned to surface and John and his two friends took Andy and I into the main entrance to Jubilee Level. We were shown the beautifully timbered incline shaft down to Kingside and then we inspected the legendary MACHINE! Installed in 1960/1 by John & Co. (and Old 'Oppy) it had been going strong since then. Water, dropping from an ore chute – filled up a complicated tube system and balanced can; which eventually rang a bloody great alarm bell! The noise of the thing ringing, to someone entering the old level for the first time, must be frightening. Although it has temporarily stopped it was planned to mend it the following day. A very good trip to a superb mine. Will definitely return.</p>				
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Derbyshire	7-8/5/71 Looked at Eldon Hole and attended CDG Dinner and Stags.			
Derbyshire <i>dive</i>	P8 9/5/71 JC, DP, T.Giles, (Pete (WSG), Mac (EPC) Aubrey, Marion, Shag, etc)	4 ¼ hr	Castleton	Dived to P8 IV where the water was at the "low" level. Looked at IV sump pool then JC and I surveyed back to previous survey point while DP and TG dug in the choke at the end of the large rift. We joined them and I eventually broke through at a higher level. The rift beyond was too tricky to enter due to its tightness and our slippery, muddy wetsuits – but next time ... We then returned through the sumps (where I had ear trouble) and emerged to find a horde of sherpas waiting for us. An excellent trip. The sumps are tight in parts with nil vis but not so bad. P8 IV is most impressive.
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Somerset	Swildon's Hole 15/5/71 KJ, JR-E (Wal & Guy MCG)	5 ¼ hr	Priddy	To 12. At last – bottomed Swildon's. A superb trip and not as hard as expected. Awkward spots were sumps 4 and 7 – both tight and gravel-filled. Victoria Aven doesn't look as impressive as it sounds but certainly looks promising. Someone had laid a charge over 12 but hadn't fired it. On the way back we did an hours digging in 7; at Fish's dig and the 6 By Pass Dig. Both look very promising and I hope to return soon. A fine trip, and after much ale on Sat night – a good w/e.
Cardiganshire <i>dive</i>	Cwmystwyth Mine 22/5/71 A.Mills, K.James (SH, J.Lewis, A.Pickersgill)	3 ½ hrs	Cwmystwyth	<i>See below</i>
<p>En route looked at a very short rubbish filled level near Rhayader – of no interest. Thence to Cwmystwyth where we met Simon and down Level Fawr and 80' incline shaft to Kingside Level. The climb down was very hairy – one had to straddle across the railway and climb in 6' steps – carrying lead and bottles! We kitted up in the level and Ken dived for 120' emerging in an airspace with deads. His line got caught in the loose deads so he returned to base. We then all dived in the flooded continuation of the incline shaft – a matter of climbing a miners' ladder underwater. Superb. A gruelling return trip up the incline shaft followed and after dumping the gear we explored the climbing ladders and stopes of the Comet Lode, to very near surface. On Sunday we went sea diving off the prom in Aberystwyth and Simon "dumped" £40 worth of gear in the sea. After a long search Ken luckily found it! Interesting w/e.</p>				
Montgomery-shire	Dwfngwm Mine 25/5/71 J.Savage	1 ¼ hrs	Dylife	Quick trip to end of main level of Dylife Mine to deposit spade for future digging Then to end of Dwfngwm main level and laddered first 20' of climbing shaft. From here miners' ladder was followed down for c. 40' where shaft was flooded. Several stopes and levels led off from the sides of the shaft – none for any great distance. One connected with cross cut level in entrance series (The floor of this level is about 2' thick!!!) which was later laddered. We then

				followed the RH cross cut passage through first roof fall to a new collapse blocking the passage completely. A stoep above here goes nowhere. Out in time for a pint in the Star.
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Shropshire	East Roman Gravels Mine Roman Gravels Mine 26/5/71 Alone		Shelve	<i>See below</i>
	<p>While revising plan SJ32/3300 I looked over the remains of the mine buildings and shafts on both sites. Most of the East Roman buildings are ruined – a notable exception being the engine house in Wood Winding Shaft. Two chimneys remain. Two levels (3341/0003), (3345/0011) have been obliterated and is only 6' long! (3358/0018). California Shaft (3354/0018) – blocked at c. 40'. Cornish Shaft (3357/0010) – filled in. Lawrence Whim Shaft (3368/0015) – open at c.100'. Shaft at (3349/0009) c. 50' deep. Shaft at (3352/0025) filled in. Shaft at (3362/0025) c.25' deep.</p> <p>At Roman Gravels: Engine Shaft (3333/9995) filled in. Shaft (3343/9999) c. 25' deep. Shaft (3347/9997) c.25' to water. Shaft (3341/9975) c.60' deep. Boundary Shaft (3351/9984) filled in. New Engine Shaft (3343/9981) open to at least 150' and containing pump rods – and a small shaft and level at (3338/9992) which I didn't look at due to lack of light. "Roman" opencast workings interesting.</p>			
Somerset	Northill Swallet 29/5/71 D.Stead (WCC)	1 hr	Priddy	Went down to inspect progress. Since last visited the dig is c. 100' longer including a 15' pitch. Cleared up debris from one of Al's bangs.
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Somerset	Northill Swallet 30/5/71 Al Mills	1 ½ hrs	Priddy	Al banged in terminal rift. 6' of impassable rift could be seen; beyond which the passage bent out of sight.
Somerset	Eastwater Swallet 30/5/71 Jim Dale, Kel, Colin (EPC)	2 ¼ hrs	Priddy	Led the Eldon lads round the cave. To Terminal Rift via Twin Verts and out via Muddy Oxbow and over Baker's Chimney – almost banned from WCC due to explosive incident!
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 31/5/71 Fred Davies, Tony Knibbs, Ray Mansfield (NHASA)	4 ¼ hrs	Priddy	Blasting trip to Cowsh Series. The Shit Sump was dug and baled and I underwent the doubtful honour of being first to squeeze into its foul mass of black shit and red tubifex worms. Beyond, the passage choked after a few feet. Blasting will continue in the new avens above. Out via Troubles – all ducks in the cave were very low – I fell down the entrance rift of Blue Pencil Passage! Superb Mendip/Derbs pissups at Hunters' and Belfry.
Shropshire	East Roman Gravels Mine 5/6/71 Alone		Shelve	Noted a shaft at (SJ3383/0062) blocked at c. 20'. The Wood Level (3364/0064) as SMC say, is blocked by concrete steps and entry seems impossible. Much water coming out though.
Derbyshire	Bagshawe Cavern 6/6/71 D.Revell, J.Cobbett, M.Jeanmaire, S.Howes, S.Blackledge, L.Hurt, Spud, Vic, C.Westlake	3hrs 40m	Bradwell	Probably the first diving trip since the war to this site. D.Revell led us round the "show cave" to the streamway. James and Fish took sets with them upstream and I followed without gear. For the first 150' there was about 4"-8" airspace – a really grim duck – which led to a dome shaped chamber (probably the "1 st airbell" of the 1940's dive). James dived and Fish followed while I waited in the chamber. They dived 2 x 50' sumps and found several hundred feet of horrid stream passage, to a 3 rd sump. James dived for c.30' then returned and we exited. This must be one of the largest and most promising caves in Derbyshire. The main passage is similar to LNRC tributary passage, but dry.
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Derbyshire	P8	4 hrs	Castleton	Intention was to dive to IV and a) Push the rift

<i>dive</i>	7/6/71 JC, (C.Westlake, W.Whitehouse [CPC])			passage, b) Climb the main rift. Clive and Bill sherpa'd for us and we had a straight forward dive to IV. I donned a dry boilersuit and was able to penetrate the rift for c. 20' to the head of a c. 15' pitch (in the rift). Due to the excessive tightness and muddiness of the place it was too dangerous to proceed further but a banging session should open the place up a bit. We didn't climb the rift as both our lights began to fade and so we made a hasty retreat. Hope to return on 14 th . (All the water in IV was sinking in the hole part way along the main rift. Good possibilities for a future dig.) A good w/e.
Shropshire	Knick Knolls Mine 8/6/71 C.Leonard (OS)	½ hr	Castleton	Much rain so festered round the surface workings finding 2 blocked levels, several blocked shafts and a shallow open stope.
Derbyshire	Speedwell Mine 12/6/71 JC, J.Savage, A.Pickersgill, J.R- Evans, G.Smith, Rog, G.Gregory, A.Finch +bird, A.Moll	½ hr	Castleton	Admiral's 21 st PU on Friday night at the Stags – superb. Much honking. Tourist trip to Speedwell followed by much festering and looking at Peak Cavern and K.Pearce.
Derbyshire	Water Icicle Close Cavern 12/6/71 JC, JS, AP, GG, AM	1 hr	Monyash	3 large phreatic passages entered via a 105' mine shaft. Really superb tunnels, all ending in good digging sites. Once a really beautiful cave but mined purely for its formations! Abseiled down and laddered out. Thence to Magpie Mine to throw rocks down main shaft, etc.
Derbyshire	Rookery Mine Arrock Mine 13/6/71 AP, JS, Vic, Spud	1 hr 10m	Ashford	After watching the Youlgreave pillow fight we had a look round the Black Marble Mines. Very similar to Box. Unstable roof in Arrock Mine.

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Shropshire <i>dive</i>	Leigh Level 14/6/71 Andy Pickersgill	½ hr	Minsterley	SJ330/036. SMC had been 600 yds along here in 1959 and HCC even further in 1961 – heavy concentration of gas. I left Andy at 600yds and continued wearing diving gear for a further 500 yds to a run-in – presumably at the bottom of Blue Barn Shaft. No possible way on (apart from digging). Much fungus in the water and mud on the floor of the level. The gas gave off a sickly smell. Supposedly methane, sulphur dioxide and sulphuretted hydrogen.
Shropshire	East Roman Gravels Mine Old level 15/6/71 Alone		Shelve	Shaft (3331/0020) almost completely filled. Shaft (3365/0051) 20' deep to rubbish. Shaft (3365/0045) blocked. Shaft (3397/0051) – levelled over. Shaft (3365/0035) filled in. A long, 5' high level was found near Wood Mine Engine House at (3361/0015) with a foot of water in it. Daylight could be seen 50m down the level (according to Plan), presumably from the shaft at (3366/0014). A very low flooded level was investigated at (SJ 3209/0195). There are no other workings on the plan in this area. The level had only c. 3"- 4" of airspace above extremely clear water and so a bit of digging would be needed to enter it.
Mongomery-shire	16/6/71 J.Savage and I looked for the "lost" Roman (?) workings on the bank of the R.Severn, just upstream from Newtown. A report in the records of the Powysland Soc. Montgom. Records tells of a small cave-like adit and a nearby blocked adit. Both sites were found although the "cave" is now almost fully choked at its entrance and the shaft above it blocked. (A housing estate has been built over it).			

Shropshire	17/6/71 Revising plan SJ3300: Looked at surface remains around Milne Shaft in the Hope Valley. The shaft is covered by a large concrete slab and impossible to enter (Milne Shaft was the last shaft entering Leigh Level).			
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Somerset	19/6/71 James, Aubrey, Dick and I dived in Vobster Quarry and swam round old, sunken buildings, chutes etc. Thence to Wookey to examine muddy water and confirm that diving was off.			
Somerset	Wookey Hole 19/6/71 O.C.Lloyd, JC, AN, DP, Dan Hassell, K.James	¼ hr	Wookey	Wandering in to look at floodwater. River very fast and muddy. Sluice gates open so IV could be seen (18" airspace). Thence to Hunters' and BEC Mendip Barbecue.
Derbyshire <i>dive</i>	P8 26/6/71 JC, KJ	4 ¾ hrs	Castleton	To IV. I commenced to peg up RH wall of main rift. After c. 35' of slow pegging I ran out of cracks and suitable pitons (near bridged boulder). We then fired a load of bang in the rift dig, which about shook us to bits, and rapidly dived back when fumes poured down the passage.
Derbyshire <i>dive</i>	P8 27/6/71 JC, KJ, (Vic, Spud, Tip, Pete the Pig etc)	2 ½ hrs	Castleton	Having left the gear hidden underwater in Sump 1 we had an easy trip down. Nice dive to IV where the bang results were inspected. Several large lumps removed and a couple of feet of progress made. The other lads sherpa'd out for us.
Montgoery-shire	Llanerch-yr-Aur Mine 4/7/71 A.Pickersgill, J.Savage	1 hr 20m	Dylife	<i>See below</i>

After passing remains of Cae Conway Mine and several superb, diveable mine reservoirs, we explored this mine. The first major level on the LH side closed down after a few score feet. The main level (timbered for first few feet) led, after several hundred feet, to a stoped passage at right angles. We followed the LH passage first (most hairy due to rotting stemples and loose deads). A mucky puddle on the floor turned out to be a flooded shaft! The passage closed down after c.200'. To the right a very long level was followed to a crossroads. To the left it closed down after c. 60'. To the right it continued for c. 100', under a very wet shaft, through a collapse to a terminal collapse (both presumably filled in shafts or winzes from above). The main passage, from the cross-roads, continued for c. 200' terminating in a dead end and a bloody dangerous (loose, clayey roof) side passage. Nearly all passages contained rails and an old, broken wooden windlass was removed from the stope. The level at the top of the spoil heap was followed in icy, knee deep water, past a large winding wheel, to a collapse after several hundred feet from the entrance. The line of shafts and stopes above here were also looked at and some seem fairly deep. A most pleasant trip.

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Somerset	Northill Swallet 10/7/71 Martin Webster	1 hr	Priddy	A visit to the new extension. After getting exceeding warm in the blasted section we got even warmer in the "big" new bits. An interesting section of passage which should yield more – but still a thrutch, especially in wet suits. Excellent drinking Sat. night (and mixed nude bathing in the Mineries!!!)
Somerset <i>dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 11/7/71 M.Webster, K.James, a WCC "man".	2 ½ hrs	Priddy	Aim: to reach VII and do some digging. Ken's SEBA bottle blew 3 "O"rings in II, so only MW and I continued to VII (KJ free dived to IV). We had a quick look at the by-pass dig and dug some gravel from the floor with little result. Another 4" depth should suffice and some bang would help matters greatly. A good trip and an excellent w/e.
Staffordhire <i>dive</i>	Redhurst Swallet 17/7/71 J.Cobbett, Cheg Chester	3 ½ hrs	Manifold Valley	A bloody 'orrible place – but most extensive, promising and a collectors' piece! A short sump 50' inside the entrance passage (and full of branches and rubbish) leads to a rubbish filled passage containing 2 more sumps. A 40' rift was descended with the help of a rope and the 4 th sump reached. I dived in the tube at the bottom of the sump which became too tight after c. 20'. The sump leading to the further series was only a

				duck and led to an aven followed by a labyrinth of sloping rifts and phreatic passages (which we did not fully explore). If a way into the further series could be found from the surface the cave should yield much more passage. The huge amounts of “clatch” and tight passages make this place, as stated – a real collectors’ piece.
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Derbyshire <i>dive</i>	Bagshawe Cavern 18/7/71 JC, CC, P.Colle, KJ, (Barry (WCC), 3 Norfolk lads, P.Thompson, Old Man Revill and Alan)	4hr 40m	Bradwell	Aim was for JC to push sump IV. We all dived to IV, finding Bagshaw 2. Most unpleasant – and James dived. After 150’ of rapidly enlarging sump he gave up and returned, losing the line reel en route. We then hastily returned to surface. The cave is extremely promising and it is unfortunate that access is so difficult. It seems Revell is thinking of trying to drain the sumps. It could be done.
Somerset <i>Dive Connection</i>	Swildon’s Hole 24/7/71 JC, CC, MW, KJ, BW, MJ, R?, AN, PC, (Pete, Paul Thompson, Vic)	6 ¼ hrs	Priddy	10 divers went down with several aims in mind. BW, KJ and MW put a charge in the 12 dig, JC and CC had a tourist trip to 12, AN, Rog and MJ dug at a hole in 7 and PC and I (joined later by BW and MW) dug and baled the 6 By-Pass. After many buckets of gravel, mud and water had been removed BW and MW passed the duck from the 5 side and PC and I went through the other way. 7 is now open to non-divers! A bloody good trip, a good night in the Hunters’ and a great w/e.
Somerset	Plantation Swallet 31/7/71 Jok Orr, Ashleigh (BEC) K.James, P.Moody (WCC)		Priddy	Assisted Jok and Ash with the re-opening of this impressive dig. We moved a vast amount of rock which had been used to fill up the old dig. An aluminium beer barrel makes a superb bucket.

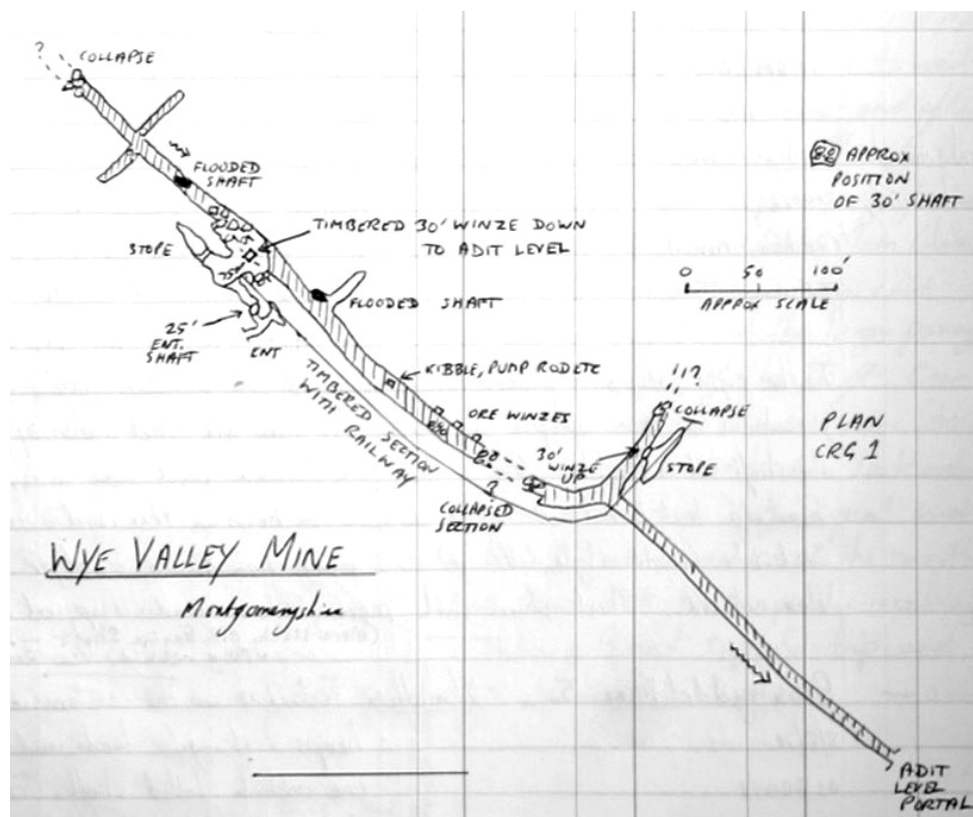
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Somerset <i>dive</i>	Swildon’s Hole 1/8/71 KJ (J.Keene)	4 ¼ hrs	Priddy	An exciting trip. On kitting up in 2 I found that Al Mill’s “O” rings blew every time I attached the valve. Eventually a suitable ring was found and we dived to VII. (Sump IV being free-diveable). We dumped our kit and spent an hour or so on bailing and widening the By Pass, when the sound of an “O” ring blowing and much escaping air assailed our ears. I was then forced to escape via the By-Pass and in so doing I swung into the wall at the IV end, injuring my back. Attaching a new “O” ring at IV I found I had enough air for the remaining sumps and we reached the surface without any more trouble.
Somerset	Swildon’s Hole 4/8/71 OCL, C.North, S.Spratt, Bob Pyke, R.Mayhew, C.Rogers, Jok, Alfie, D.Brandon, P.Hendy, J.Smart, Nigel, P. Cronin, S.Reid, A.Newport, A.Milb, B.Craig, R.Lewis, M.Jay, A.Thomas, P.Franklin, wife, P.Moody, K.James, Standing, etc, etc.	2 ½ hrs	Priddy	(Nipped down during the afternoon with Rob Harper to put the pipe in place as a present for OCL) – OCL’s 60 th Birthday Party in the Old Grotto. An excellent event with large quantities of sherry and cake (plus other alcoholic treats). After devouring the goodies and singing a few songs many became extremely drunk and had great difficulty in reaching the surface – myself included. We all sped back to the Hunters’ for an excellent singsong with Derek Brandon and his wife – followed by a couple of crates of ale at the Wessex! A fine event.
Montgomery-shire	Wye Valley Mine 7/8/71	1 ½ hrs	Plynlimon	<i>See below</i>

	(Al Ashton), T.Morris, J.Lewis, J.Savage			
	<p>After passing the remains of Dolminers Mine we reached Wye Valley. A shaft (once presumably an engine shaft) was laddered for 30' to a rubbish choke. The 25' shaft in the stream valley was then descended and led into a 15' drop into a collapsed stope and adit level. Upstream, Jon and I followed the waist deep level, over some flooded shafts, for c. 150' (including two side passages). Back in the collapsed stope a 30' square, timbered winze brought us to the downstream end of the level. This was followed for c. 150', past a flooded shaft, to a collapse. This level is beautifully timbered and there are the remains of wooden pump rods and tubes, and a kibble. Many fine orange, red and black formations. The adit portal was entered (at the bottom of the small valley) and followed to a junction. To the left we came to the other side of the collapse mentioned above and found a superb lime-green flowstone cascade. To the right, about 50' of passage led to a further collapse. A winze was climbed to a stoped chamber where John found an old shovel covered in "iron oysters" which we removed for display in Llanidloes museum (?)</p>			

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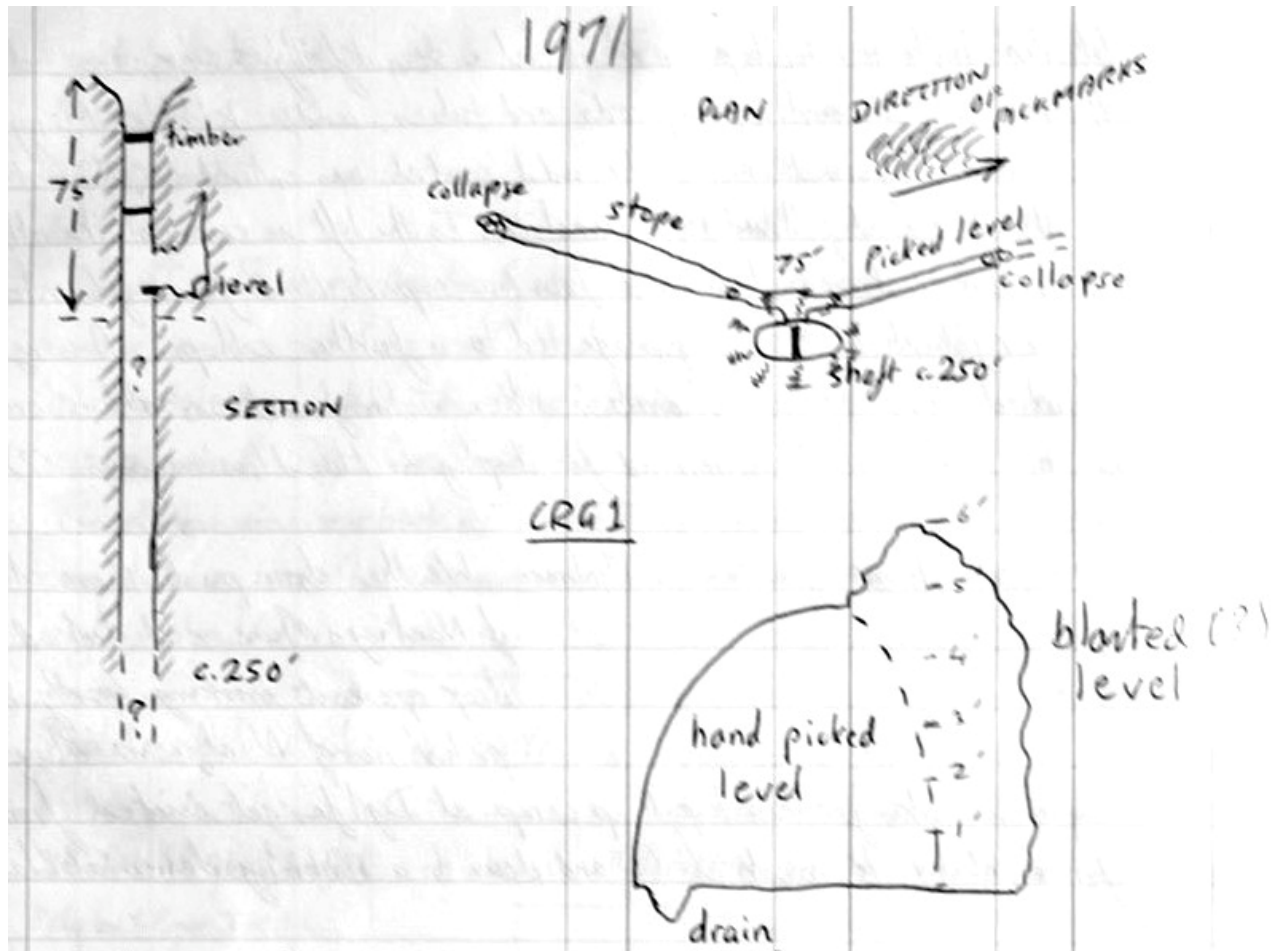
Montgomery-shire	Nantyreira Mine 7/8/71 (Al Ashton), T.Morris, J.Lewis, J.Savage		Plynlimon	We then drove past the extensive ruins of Nantiago Mine and looked at the deep opencast working (partly supposed prehistoric) of Nantyreira Mine – a most impressive working. Then to put up camp at Dylife, got evicted from the Star for drinking too much ale (!) and down to a rubbishy dance at Llanidloes.
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Montgomery-shire	Dylife Mine 8/8/71 (A.Ashton, T.Morris) J.Savage, J.Lewis	1 hr	Llanidloes	Descended 75' down the c.250' shaft nearest to Pen y Crocbren. At this point a timbered ledge led to a passage along the lode. To the left a stope working extended for a few feet to a collapse. To the right, a hand picked level, widened at a later date, was followed for about 60' to a collapse of deads. As there are shot holes apparent in the shaft it is highly likely that the picked level was widened by blasting but I did not notice any shot holes in this level. Several initials (in old style lettering) and many hob nailed boot prints were
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also noticed. Must return with more ladder and support. Boundary Shaft? (More likely old Engine Shaft – David Bick. Full of rubbish in January 2001)



Mongomery-shire	Rhoswyddol Mine 8/8/71 (Al Ashton), T.Morris, J.Lewis, J.Savage	5 mins	Llanidloes	Festered round the extensive spoil heaps looking for levels and finding only one rubbish filled shaft. Jon S, Trev and I then visited the deep stope to the west of the main road and explored the dry level leading into the stope about 70' down. Much to be looked at here. A good w/e
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Wiltshire	Box Mines 15/8/71 Jim, Mac, Pandy, Jos, Nigel, Pat, Ken, etc.	¼ hr	Bath	Annual Box Barbecue. Not much of a turn out this year but we made the best of it. Derek and Jean Brandon turned up and after the rudeness of the publican and wife at the Quarryman's Arms we had an excellent session at the "Lion" in Box village. Then back to the woods for more ale and a quick, lightless, drunken fester round parts of Jack's Workings.
Yorkshire	Bar Pot Gaping Ghyll 21/8/71 B.Cross, Clive (BPC)	3 hrs	Ingleborough	See below
	Walked over to GG across Newby Moss, looking at Longkin West en route. The CPC were camped at the hole, complete with winch and beer. While waiting for our turn on the winch we descended 100' pitch in Bar Pot which was rigged with rope ladder and then returned to wait again for descent of Main Shaft. Eventually our turn came and after being strapped into the bosun's chair we were lowered rapidly into the depths. The descent is a really magnificent experience – practically freefall until a few feet from the bottom. From the incredible Main Chamber we first took the East Passage to Mud Hall – another enormous void almost as impressive as Main Chamber. We followed the large passage beyond for a few yards then returned to the foot of the shaft. Our next visit was to Pool Chamber, Sand Caverns			

	and the extensive Stream Chamber. Upon our return to Main Chamber we had a look around and we were then winched up again. The return trip is of equal excellence to the descent – and one has time to look around at the smooth, sheer walls of the vast shaft and down at the rapidly receding points of light in the chamber below. A most superb trip and well worth 10/-.			
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Yorkshire	Tatham Wife Hole 22/8/71 B.Cross, 6 (BPC) 3 (White Rose PC)	3 ¾ hrs	Ingleborough	Down to terminal sump. A pleasant little pot with bits resembling P8 and Swildon's. Not as fast a trip as I would have liked but quite pleasant. Some nice small pitches.
Breconshire	Dinas Mines 27/8/71 Jon Savage	¼ hr	Glyn Neath	Quick look down the old mine and then a quick look round the new way in now permanently open and less diesel smell evident. Stayed at WSG Hut Friday and on Sat. spent 3 hrs lost on Pant Mawr looking for the Pot in mist and rain. Thence to Mendip and later, a Bob Cross/Jok Orr Eating Competition at the Shepton (yechhh)
Somerset	St. Cuthberts Swallet 29/8/71 Roy Bennet, Pete, B.Cross, J.Savage, D.Yeandle	4 ½ hrs	Priddy	A fine trip to II, where we commenced bailing Sump 2 so Roy could bang it. We couldn't bail enough despite some amazing engineering so retreated to surface by different routes. II is most impressive.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 30/8/71 J.Savage, Jos, Paddy?, "Pooh".	3hrs 50m	Priddy	Another fine trip to NW Stream Passage. Jon's first sump. Festered round, looking at all obvious holes, then festered out with failing lights.
Radnorshire	"Fowlers Cave" 3/9/71 Alone		Abbeycwmhir	At SO 058/715 approx. Marked in antiquity script on 1" map 128. Spent ages slaving through dense fir trees and undergrowth and eventually found a poxy little rock shelter which may or may not be the site in question. Eventually gave up in disgust and carried on down to S.Wales.
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Breconshire	Tunnel (Cathedral) Cave 3/9/71 Tourists	20m	Penwyllt	Looked round this recently opened show cave. A very impressive deserted stream passage with loads of stal. Very fine.
Breconshire <i>discovery?</i>	Bridge Cave LNRC 4/9/71 Guy Cox, Diana Atkinson, John?, M.Bishop, John? (WSG) R.Harper, G.Pickford (WCC)	1 hr 3 hrs	Ystradfellte	Unfortunately lack of boots forced me to do both trips in bootees and socks only! In Bridge, Guy and I followed the tributary passage on the right of the Main Stream Passage and passing the 1 st Duck we proceeded to free-dive three presumably untouched sumps of c. 5' each ending in a sump which needs a bottle. (NB. Although GC neglects to mention it in his WSG article I was with him on this trip and led through all the sumps – Amen !!!!) Quick fester round LNRC to Sump 2 and out. Footpath notice is still there. Stayed at WSG Hut. A good evening (still got the scars).
Breconshire <i>discovery dive</i>	Ogof Fechan 5/9/71 Andy Brooks, Martin Bishop, (GP, RH, S>King, GC, Geoff Bull, DA, J?, M.Haselden (WSG & Speleo Rhal)	7 ¼ hrs	Penderyn	Aim: to dive terminal sump discovered by MB, AB and Tony Giles the previous month. After diving the double 40' sumps (2) we followed the Main Streamway for several hundred feet to the sump. I kitted up and dived to find that it was only a duck. This led to some 70' of low canal terminating in a further sump. I was again given the doubtful privilege of diving first and so pushed on. This sump (3) was c. 40' long to a large airbell (Fechan IV). About halfway through the sump was a smaller airbell. Martin joined me and we waited sometime for Andy until Martin returned to find that Andy's light had poxed. I then dived into Sump 4 and after c. 45' of low

				passage with rapidly decreasing vis, I emerged into a large flooded passage with no airspace and possibly at least 2 ways on. Decided not to tempt fate too far and returned to MB. Fairly rapid return to I. (Sherpa'ing gear through Rectum Passage is bloody grim!) Possibilities of very large extensions seem good but the trip to the sump is lousy. ½ mile crawl etc. Don't want to return but suppose I'll have to.
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Derbyshire	Knotflow Mine 10/9/71 S.Hughes (NCMC) J.Savage	2 ½ hrs	Monyash	Simon gave up at the coffin levels due to lack of wet suit and Jon and I carried on to the end of Crimbo Swallow. We then followed the very long Chapeldale Level to its end. A very fine trip – and nicely damp.
Then on to Leeds for the 1971 BSA Conference. An excellent w/e's lectures and some good ale consumption on Sat. night. Jon and I helped Simon with his NCMC stand (complete with compressed air drill from Cwmystwyth Mine). Simon lectured on Mid Welsh mines.				
Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 18/9/71 P.Thompson, C.Chester, D.Lucas	3 ½ hrs	Castleton	(Evening trip so only managed one late pint in the "Dev") Used the winch down to 220' level and from there the climbing shafts to 360' where we cleared up the digging site. (much rubble had fallen onto it and slightly damaged the scaffolding). I dug several buckets of grot from the shaft bottom while the others hauled them up. The winch is superb and makes much more digging possible than could be done using ladders.
Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 19/9/71 PT, CC, Vic Holland	3 ½ hrs	Castleton	More digging, mainly at the dig along the 220' level. A lot of grot shifted and there is good hope of a continuation of the level beyond. Then down to the bottom of the main shaft where we removed a few more bucketfuls. Cheg installed a 'phone cable from the surface to the dig. An excellent planned and promising dig.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 25/9/71 Dick Pike	2 ½ hrs	Nordrach	Commenced digging in Pike's Chamber, Nettle Series and also prodded various digs around Sam's Dig area, F&C Series.
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Somerset	Plantation Swallet 27/9/71 D.Pike, J.Orr, G.Phippen, Mr Nigel (BEC)		Priddy	Assisted BEC with their highly promising dig. A rift has been opened up just inside the large, mined entrance – which takes the stream easily and seems to widen beyond.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 28/9/71 Rog Sabido, D.Pike, D.Parker	3 hrs	Nordrach	Much digging in Pike's Chamber. A large boulder was broken up in layers and almost completely removed. Zab and Dave took photos for Dick's project.
Somerset	Plantation Swallet 28/9/71 Jok, Tim Large (BEC)		Priddy	Evening digging session curtailed when Jok got splattered by the bucket after Tim had let go of the rope. Jok was not amused.
Somerset <i>dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 29/9/71 D.Pike, P.Moody, R.Sabido, G.Phippen	6 hrs	Priddy	To 12a. Pete, Zab and Graham accompanied us to IX after using the 6 and 7 By-Passes. We reached XII and I looked at the newly revealed Sump 12a. This is at the bottom of a thrutchy rift but could go(?). Met the others in IX and after leaving K.James' tad in VI we all free dived out, this being my first true free dive of sumps 2, 3 and 4.
Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 30/9/71 Alone	40m	Priddy	Nipped down to assess digging hopes at end of 380' Way. The best idea would be to erect a pully above the alcove over Morton's Pot and to dump spoil from the bottom of the pot into the rift

				behind the alcove. Came out on rapidly failing light.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 30/9/71 Dick Pike, Al Mills	¾ hr	Nordrach	Al laid two 1½ lb lumps of bang on the boulder and squeeze in Pike's Chamber. We fired it from surface and it sounded good.

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Somerset	Swildon's Hole 1/10/71 DP, PM, GP	5 hrs 10m	Priddy	<i>See below</i>
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Long, hard round trip (not done for c. 3 years). Dick, Graham and I followed the streamway to Trats, laddered Shatter Pot and continued through Double Troubles to IL. Here we met Pete and together free dived 2, 3 and 4 into Swildons V. Pete went to VII to get a bucket while Dick and Graham went up Damp Link to Siphon Gloop (?) Sump. I dug at an inlet passage high up on the LH wall and could hear PM coming back along the 6 By Pass so didn't push it further. We then joined DP and GP and after an hour's bailing and siphoning passed Gloop into the Damp Link proper. DP started bailing Grit (?) Sump when we had all got through Gloop; and the sight of water flowing back and filling up certainly makes you think; as your retreat is cut off! After about another hour we passed Grit into the thrutchacious Causer's Calamity – much rejoiced and relieved! Out via Shatter Series and down to the pub. A damn good trip and extremely sporting! (NB Shat near Shatter Pot!)

Somerset	Dolebury Levvy 2/10/71 Stu Reid (CCG)	10m	Churchill	After much searching we found the entrance squeeze to this 19thC mine level, recently re-opened by ACG/MRBA members. The squeeze led to c. 500' of practically circular c.5' diameter passage ending in a blank wall and of little interest. Very similar to Sandford Levvy and probably driven by the same miners.
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Derbyshire <i>discovery</i>	Hollandtwine Mine 9/10/71 Cheg Chester, Paul Thompson	8 ½ hrs	Castleton	<i>See below</i>
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The club had been digging in a natural, phreatic passage leading off to the left of the bottom level. We continued with the dig and after removing many tins of silt opened up a squeeze between bedrock and a very unstable boulder. I stripped down to a T-shirt and trousers etc and after a really viscous squeeze managed to get through (once committed!) A winding, dry natural passage led off in one direction and from the other direction a small stream emerged from a rift and dropped into a hole in the floor. I threw a rock down and was struck dumb! It bounced down for several seconds. A look upstream revealed a huge aven c.15' square from which came the stream. As the others couldn't get through I stabilised it from the natural side and returned. We then started to dig a passage below the squeeze, hoping to emerge 6' down from the top of the pitch but digging was so grim that we packed in about 9pm. It seemed as if we had probably rediscovered the Great Swallow which T'owd Man had found – and if this isn't the case we thought that we were on to something very big.

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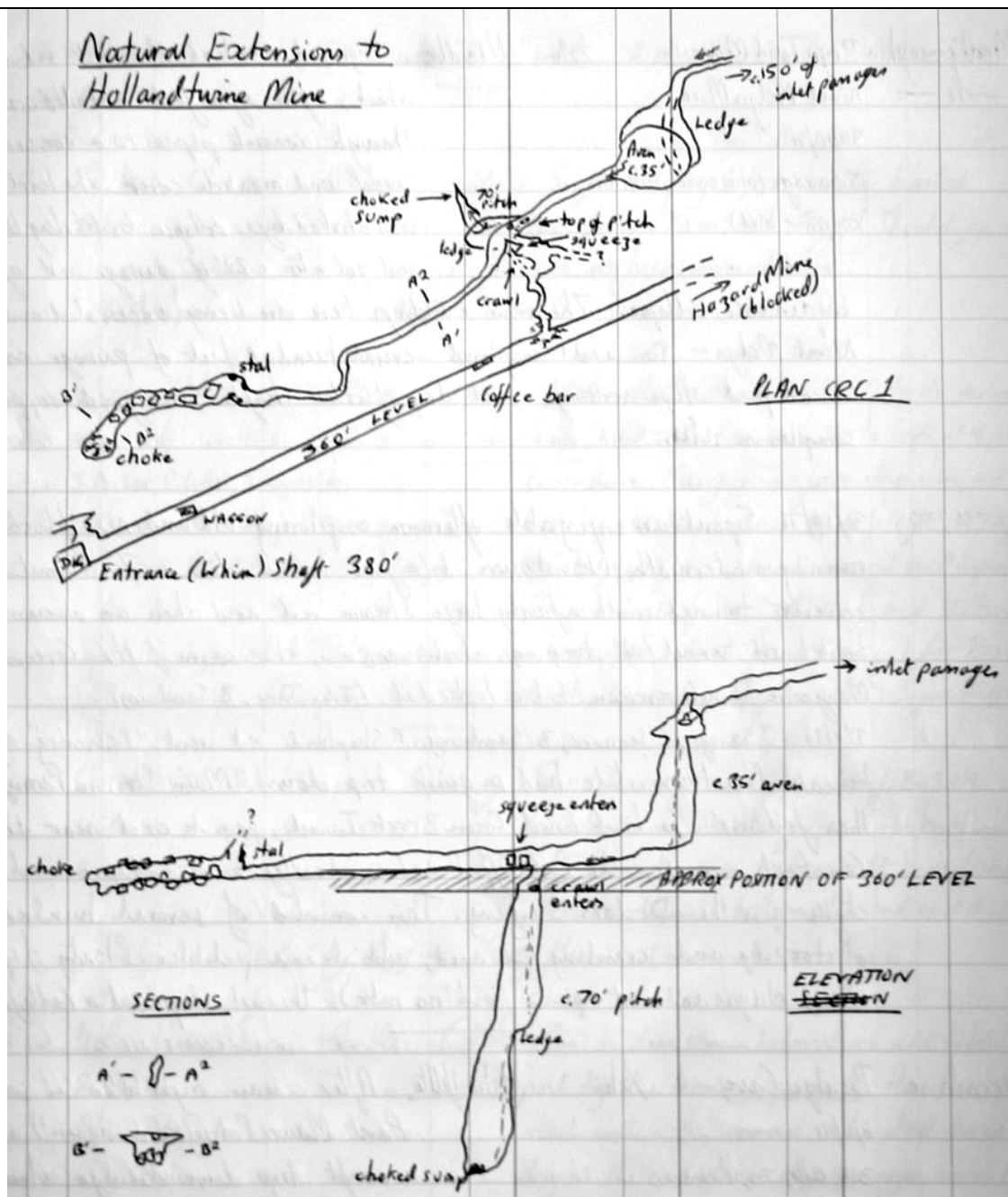
Derbyshire <i>discovery</i>	Hollandtwine Mine 10/10/71 Cheg, Paul, Dave Lucas	6 ½ hrs	Castleton	<i>see below</i>
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Continued digging in the crawl. I again pushed the squeeze (half naked) and after lowering 25' of ladder down the pitch, started to dig from that side. A couple of hours later we had widened the passage enough to crawl through and Cheg joined me. He was equally impressed and together we climbed to the top of the pitch (Paul being unable to pass the tight pitch top) and explored the upper passage for c. 200'. This passage starts as a clean, dry scalloped tube but runs into a section of collapsed and collapsing boulders and ends in a mud and rock choke. Halfway along are some fine crystal pools, straws and immaculately white curtains and flowstone. We had another look at the superb aven and could see a flat roof c. 45' up. After a quick return through the crawl for coffee (Dave was brewing up for us in the 360' level) we returned to the pitch and Paul and I laddered the 40' or so to the ledge. Paul then descended a further c.40' to find, disappointedly, that it terminated in a tight, choked sump. Paul then returned to the ledge and I had a brief look. As we were all getting cold and wet we decided to call it a day and return on the following w/e to:- a) Dig out the choked sump b) Climb the aven c) Photograph the pretties so that we could dig the upper passage d) enlarge access points to the system (the squeeze and the crawl) – There is no doubt that this is one of the most exciting discoveries in Derbyshire for some years and hopes of extensions are high. The total horizontal length of new passage is c. 300' and vertical range is c. 135' (top of aven to sump). The pitch is c. 70' with a ledge halfway and the lower part may be in a rake vein. The small stream sinks easily into the sump. Total depth below moor level is around 425 feet.

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Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine	10 hrs	Castleton	<i>See below</i>
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<i>discovery</i>	16-17/10/71 Cheg, Paul, Spud, (Vic, Dave Gough)			
	Down at 2.45pm, out at 12.45am. Cheg and I climbed the aven with the aid of "Cheg's Cheating Sticks" – thin alloy rods joined together and used to hang a ladder on unattainable rock projections. We used this method for c. 20' and then I free climbed the last bit. At the top (c. 35') was a large ledge with a tight rift passage leading off. This, we followed for c. 150' to a boulder chamber where the way on can be seen but has not yet been entered. Two minor side passages were looked at and there were many fine stals in this section. Paul and Spud photographed parts of the passage beyond the 70' pitch and Dave and Vic attacked the boulder squeeze. After a time Dave and Vic left the mine and Spud and Paul continued belting the squeeze – as yet to no avail. Cheg and I started digging the choke at the bottom of the 70' and this will need some hard work, and probably damming and bailing, in the future. Also fitted a bolt at the top of the aven.			
Derbyshire <i>discovery</i>	Hollandtwine Mine 32/10/71 Cheg, Paul, Spud, Ratarse	6 hrs	Castleton	After more hammering at the boulder squeeze Cheg and I went to push the upstream limit of the cave. I went through an unstable boulder squeeze into a small boulder chamber with some nice stal flow and cave pearls. The stream issued from a rift in the roof which Cheg climbed to find that it quickly forked and both passages became too tight. This had added c. 60' of passage to the cave, making the total length c. 500'. Ratarse and I then returned to the level and followed this to the collapsing section heading towards Hazard Mine. I climbed up into the roof here and entered a c. 40' ginged winze (ore chute) which was blocked by two wedged boulders. A fairly big cavity could be seen beyond.
Derbyshire <i>mine discovery</i>	Hollandtwine Mine 24/10/71 Cheg, Oaul, Sulo, Ratarse (Barrie Parker)	2 ¼ hrs	Castleton	Detackling trip. Ratarse and I returned to the ore chute found the previous day and I climbed up clutching a hefty crowbar. A few deft pokes and I was able to squeeze through into c.25' of stoped passage blocked by collapse at both ends. There were several miners' initials on the wall and the remains of a wood and clay launder. No possibilities of entering Hazard from here, though.
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Montgomery-shire	Bryn Tail Mine Nant Melyn Mine 30/10/71 J.Savage (M.Newnes, A. Ashton, "Kippin" and bird)	½ hr	Llanidloes	Bryn Tail – entered the wet adit level which, after a few feet entailed crawling through concrete pipes to a concrete “aven” and manhole cover. The level beyond was blocked by a collapse but I dug this away and got into c.20’ of passage and a final impassable, collapse. The mine buildings here are being excavated and restored. Nant Melyn – Jon and I explored several hundred feet of passage ending in collapsed stope workings and deep, flooded shafts. Some good copper samples in situ.
Montgomery-shire	31/10/71 Spent an enjoyable afternoon exploring old and new flood drains running underneath Newtown. We first looked at a c. 7’ diameter concrete tunnel with a fairly large stream in it and then an ancient, dry, brick-lined tunnel (all stooping) which was, or is, the course of the Green Brook. Many more tunnels remain to be looked at. (JS, Jane, B.Sambury.)			
Montgomery-shire	31/10/71 J.Savage, C.Leonard, B.Sambury, F.Shepherd and I went “sewering” again beneath Newtown. We had a quick trip down “Main Stream Passage” and then followed the brick-lined Green Brook Tunnel, from its exit near the Cenotaph – under the Post Office and eventually to a collapse and mud			

	choke near the Doctor's Surgery. This consisted of several hundred feet of stooping and crawling in mud, rubbish and pebbles. Plenty of spiders, lice, slugs and rat-prints (but no rats). Thence to Elephant and Castle for beer.			
Breconshire	Bridge Cave 6/11/71 BS, CL, JS, M.Newnes, Ian Pickford	½ hr	Ystradfellte	After a vain night hike in search of Pant Mawr Pot (foiled again!) we had a swift trip down Bridge which all enjoyed. Water levels fairly high. Thence to New Inn where met Glenn Jones and assorted Croydon/Westminster types. Good drinking then back to Newtown.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 14/11/71 Dave Bacon, Pete Moody	4 ¾ hrs	Priddy	Free dived to 9. In VII I climbed c. 60' up a very tight aven (full of mud) just before Sump 7 on the right. This closed down. Pete and Dave investigated Thrutch Tube in IX. A christening trip for new wet suit and mask.

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Somerset	Cuckoo Cleaves 20/11/71 A.Newport, J.Savage, Titch Thompson	1 ¼ hrs	Priddy	Swift digging trip to remove blasted rock from Terminal Rift. Should go with a few more bangs.
Somerset <i>dive</i>	Wookey Hole 20/11/71 J.Parker, P.Collet, T.Reynolds, R.Churcher, M.Bishop, K.James, A.Newport (OCL, JS, Titch, D.Alexander)	2 ½ hrs	Wookey	While all the others went to 20 to do various things, AN, KJ and I went to 9 to look at 9 (2) extensions. Many fine formations in red and white and tree roots in topmost rift. 9 itself is a huge rift like chamber and most impressive. We were all filmed diving and kitting up by Harlech Television who are making a film (Caves and Caving) for Bristol Museum. A superb P/U was later had at the Shepton Hut. Superb w/e
Shropshire	Cave (SJ370/130) 26/11/71 Alone		Alberbury	Sandstone rift cave at side of B4393. Llandrinio – Shrewsbury Road – in cutting. c. 15' long, this is a natural rift cave (perhaps with some solutional development) and could possibly be extended by digging. Many flies and one bat live there.
Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 27/11/71 Melvin Batchford, Cheg Chester	6 hrs 10m	Castleton	Aim: to dam stream below Aven ands to bail and dig the terminal pool. As there was too much water this was not attempted so we dug at the end of the dry passage instead. After digging down 4' in boulders we came across a small hole full of nests of minute cave pearls. The way on could be seen but not entered. We then tried digging over the top but got fed up and came out, investigating odd bits of mine en route.

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Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 28/11/71 Cheg, Sulo, Paul, Dave L.	3hrs 20m	Castleton	<i>See below</i>
	<p>Hairy trip! Sulo and I scaled the climbing shaft leading up from the 150' level. After c.80' (?) it was blocked by loose boulders which I decided to pull out. After removing several we thought it prudent to retire and were just going when the lot collapsed behind Sulo (who acted as a sort of dam!) A bit of gardening freed Sulo and we decided to beat a hasty retreat. About 20' down we crawled into a small level to see where it went and had both just got inside when another collapse occurred and a load of boulders hurtled down the shaft. After waiting for some time we got down as quick as we could and recovered ourselves with a tin of sardines. If we had been actually climbing in the shaft when either fall happened we would be almost certainly dead. Sulo and I then continued down to the streamway and de-laddered the 70' pitch etc while the others dug out a small hand picked level, to no avail. Sporting trip!</p>			
Somerset	Sludge Pit Hole 4/12/71 Greg Pickford, P.Moody	1 ¼ hrs	Priddy	Festered round Upper Series looking at odd holes then went to look at Mike York's sump dig – and were most impressed. Thence to Shepton "Topping Out" ceremony – got well pissed and well fed.
Somerset	Hunters' Hole 5/12/71	40m	Priddy	Detackled the pitch (after having a look around) for MNRC* who had been too tired the previous

	Alone			day!!! when they had found the ladder to be wedged at the bottom. For this brief excursion I received £2! Let us hope MNRC go down Hunters' more often! * The legendary "Crikey Mollins" – Mike Collins!
Somerset	Thrupe Lane Swallet Rock Swallet 5/12/71 Tony Dingle, Pete Moody	5 mins	Thrupe Green Ore	Brief look at these two active digs. Thrupe was found to be completely choked with silt at shaft bottom. Collapses on surface may yield a way in. Rock looks very promising – and is easy digging.

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Breconshire <i>dive</i>	Bridge Cave / LNRC 11/12/71 D.Pike, R.Solari, T.Giles (7 QMCC lads)	5hr 50m	Ystradfellte	QMC took our fins in via Flood Entrance while we four dived in through Bridge Sump. At Sump 2 Tony and Rog dived, leaving Dick and I to wait 'til their return (due to insufficient air and fin supplies!) When they returned it was too late to dive so all returned to surface leaving 2 sets of kit for Dick and I to use on Sunday. (Sat night, got merry with WSG and CCC at the New Inn, after Croydon's annual dinner).
Breconshire <i>dive</i>	LNRC / Bridge Cave 13/12/71 Dick Pike	5 hrs 20m	Ystradfellte	Dick and I motorcycled to LNRC and entered via Flood Entrance. After an easy trip to Sump 2 (marred by my light dimming) we kitted up and dived. 2 is straight forward and fairly clear (small squeeze at end), 3 is very long but with good vis and loads of fish; 4 is shorter and also with good vis. We emerged in LNRC 5 and wasted much time trying to fond the huge, dry high level stuff – in vain! We followed the fine streamway down to Sump 5 and then returned. (Dick's light having failed by this time). Fairly hard work swimming upstream through the sumps, but even clearer vis coming out. Then a really grim slog back to Bridge Sump carrying two 40's, an ammo tin and fins – with only one working light! Dived out through Bridge and then motor-cycled (fully kitted up) to Croydon Hut and Westminster Hut. An epic, though somewhat disappointing trip.

Pegasus Club Xmas Trip to NW Clare, Ireland

Nottingham-shire	Hand and Hart Inn 23/12/71 Cheg, Paul and Jud.		Nottingham	Similar to "Trip to Jerusalem" (qv), this is a pub built in a cave. Somewhat rougher than the "Trip" though!
Ireland	Left Notts on Sat. afternoon and drove to Liverpool (via "Three Steps" and the hut). Took the night car ferry to Dublin, arriving on Xmas morning. Weegied around Wicklow Mountains and noticed 2 adit levels on Turlough Hill near Glendalough (copper?). We then drove on, arriving in Doolin, Co. Clare in the evening. After problem finding accommodation were let a superb empty house – Glasha. Sunday! established ourselves in O'Connors Bar (and went caving!)			

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Ireland Co.Clare	St Catherines I / Doolin Cave 26/12/71 Vic, Cheg, Dave G, Paul, Sulo	3 ½ hrs	Doolin	In via St. Catherines I swallet entrance. A low crawl in a stream gradually enlarges over several hundred feet to enter a much larger main passage. This in turn increases in size, becoming a superb Main Drain. This beautiful tunnel-like passage is followed for another mile to the 40' Fisherstreet Pot (Pollnagollum) near Shannon's Shop. Some fine stal in the cave. Then back to Gussie's for a really excellent evening. The traditional music here is fabulous. (2 whistle players, fiddle, bodhran (Stevie)) and banjo player [Mick Maloney – late of the Johnstons]). Followed by coffee at Glasha with
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				some Dublin folks. (One of these couples was found naked in Paul's bed – which helped liven the evening up! And Gren was in his usual excellent form).
Ireland Co.Clare	Visited Gussies soon after breakfast then accompanied Joe and Kathy Whyte, John and friends (ISA) to the 700' high Cliffs of Moher – tremendous shale ramparts dropping sheer to the Atlantic and usually overhanging some 30' or so. Looked at O'Brien's Tower then returned to the Bar where we found Gren (who had, of course, been there all the time).			
Ireland Co.Clare	28/12/71 Late breakfast then drove to Ennistymon (48 bars for 1100 people!) but soon returned to Gussies. Then went caving....			
Ireland Co.Clare	Pol-an-Ionian 28/12/71 Cheg, Paul, Dave, Vic, Sulo, Jim Shannon	2hrs 20m	Doolin	Took Jim down through the thrutchy 800' entrance passage to the large chamber beyond. Here, the huge stalactite dominating the chamber is an incredible sight. Several photos were taken of it. Cheg, Jim and I carried on a few yards to the terminal sump. A large rock in the chamber bears many clay insignias and sculptures, including a Jewish Star (Mike York has been here!). Out and back to Gussies (O'Connor's Bar).

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Ireland Co.Clare	Pollnagollum / Poulelva 29/12/71 As above	2 ½ hr	Lisdoonvarna	After much searching for Poulelva Pot (including a semi-descent of Polna-Michel) it was eventually found and rigged with 100' of ladder. It is a fine open pot, vaguely reminiscent of Alum Pot. We then drove to the much smaller Pollnagollum Pot and, using a handline for the first few feet, climbed down to Gunman's Cave. This was followed to the MSP where I had a brief visit back upstream to the bottom of the shaft. We all then followed this beautiful, meandering canyon passage downstream until eventually we were able to find our way into the Maze and the Craven Canyon – the connecting route to Poulelva. Out via Poulelva Pot. A very fine system indeed; easy going and with beautiful passage showing tremendous effects of water action. At one point a geyser of water was found bubbling up from a tiny passage under the stream bed. (On way back picked up two girls from Dublin who were hitching to Doolin – Peggy and Langen). (After the evening's drinking in Gussies we all went back to James' Cottage just up the road where a fabulous singing and dancing session took place. Much poteen was drunk and a relationship with Peggy established!
Ireland Co.Clare	30/12/71 Cheg, Jim and I festered around and looked at the 120' shaft to the old phosphate mine near the village. A semi-collapsed adit entrance was also found. Several buildings remains and a winch in situ. This will be worth looking at next time. Michael*, one of the locals, worked in the mine for 3½ years and says there is c. 7¼ miles of passage. At least two men were killed in the mine – one from an explosion and the other due to a cage collapse. Guess where we went to in the evening. Then all (plus Langen and Peggy, went back to Glasha for coffee). * Michael Sherlock.			
Ireland Co.Clare	Aran View Swallet / Doolin Cave 31/12/71 As above	2 ½ hrs	Doolin	New Year's Eve Trip. Aran View entrance is full of clutch. The passage is long, thrutchy and dangerous in parts due to loose slabs. Towards its end it becomes larger and contains many pretties. Entry into the MSP is impressive and just downstream is Fisherstreet Pot – and a large ominous sump downstream. Great New Year's Eve with Peggy.

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Ireland	1/1/72 Alas, it was time to go. Spent the morning tidying up then Peg and I visited Doolin Strand. All			
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Co.Clare	retired for a last session at Gussies and after fond farewells were said to the girls we got down to some serious drinking. In fact we got so drunk and the atmosphere was so good, that we didn't leave 'til too late and missed our boat from Rosslare by about ½ hr. We had already driven some 170 miles but we carried on halfway to Dublin that night.
Ireland Co.Clare	2/1/72 Reached Dublin and arranged a lift on the mailboat, then spent the day looking round the City. Went in a backstreet bar and were later amazed when John (Kathy Whyte's bloke) suddenly burst in with a shout of "Youse English Bastards" – More drinking followed; and it wouldn't have taken much to miss that boat as well!
Ireland Co.Clare	3/1/72 Arrived in Lancashire, drove to Notts and motorcycled back to Newtown. So ended a fabulous trip. Footnote – The scenery, people and caves of Clare are almost too good to be true. The atmosphere at O'Connors, with the local musicians, is so real and spontaneous that it is impossible to forget. At all times there is continual traditional music matched only by the hospitality and kindness of the local people. All this, surrounded by the unrivalled scenery of the Burren, Cliffs of Moher, Aran Islands etc makes this caving area probably the finest in Britain – if not anywhere. And Dublin birds are tremendous. Amen.

8-9/1/72 Consisted mainly of getting thoroughly pissed up at James Cobbett's farewell PU at the "Stags". Cotham, Reese-Evans, Pegasus, BSA, Eldon etc all turned up – excellent.				
Somerset	Singing River Mine 15/1/72 C.Richards, Marie Clark, Ray and Kay Mansfield, Milch, Phil Collet etc	2hr 40m	Shipham	ACG trip. A very complicated and interesting calamine working with several thousand feet of passage. The 35' entrance pitch is rather nice, as is the "Stinking Gulf" and the c.100' long Lake Chamber. There is probably a good chance of extending this interesting system, especially via the natural (?) swallow at the end of the stream galleries.
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Somerset	Cuckoo Cleaves 16/1/72 A.Mills, A.Newport, P.Moody	2 ½ hrs	Priddy	Digging and blasting trip to the terminal rift. The floor was deepened a little to let the stream flow more easily. The way on needs banging but is promising.
Cardiganshire	Bwlch-glas Mine 22/1/72 J.Savage, S.Hughes, J.Ashton, Steve and several small boys (NCMC)	3 ¼ hrs	Talybont	Entered upper level and descended laddered climbing shaft to 60' pitch. 5 of us descended into a large stoped chamber at one end of which lay a complete underground headgear with 2 cages (ref: NCMC Nsltr). Several passages were explored here. We then came out and entered the lower, adit level. This was neck deep in water for several hundred feet to a flooded ore raising shaft. A miners' bog was photographed (in action again after c.50 yrs) Some enthusiastic digging was done at a section of collapsed deads.
Derbyshire	P8 30/1/72 Vic, Al Eaves,Tip, Dr Gough, 4 lads	2 ½ hrs	Castleton	Novice trip for the 4 lads. All enjoyed it to varying degrees, despite much ice, snow and water. I helped a couple of Orpheus kids out who looked a bit distressed. Good, pleasant trip. No obvious sign of diving line in the sump.
Devon <i>dive</i>	Pridhamsleigh Cavern 5/2/72 John Reese-Evans, (Honker Stanford, John,bird, Sue and another) EUSS	2 ½ hrs	Buckfastleigh	<i>See below</i>
Devon	The two sets of 40' bottles were sherpa'd to the Lake by EUSS. John and I kitted up and swam over to the shot line. John dived first and I followed fairly closely behind, clearing my ears as I descended. Vis was 6-8' but mud was becoming thicker in the water as we went down. At 80' John waited for me on the line leading to Prid II. I joined him and we swam up the ascending line for c. 150', emerging in the vast dome of II. The water surface in II forms a c. 40' diameter lake, with just one small sloping ledge to rest on; on the opposite side of the chamber to the line rawlbolt. We both swam across to the ledge and John took his fins off to climb a ladder which was dangling down from above. This led to a small grotto but at this point his harness came adrift and only his gag strap prevented the lot from dropping into the lake and disappearing. We then returned, me leading down to the main shot line in the pot. We went down the extra 20' to 100' where the line was anchored and then gently surfaced. A superb dive, mostly in excellent vis. The huge underwater chamber is incredible (and according to Fish, may well be a PASSAGE! – yet to be pushed). It is also very confidence inspiring to reach 100' in a sump. (Then to EUSS Dinner '72. Usual fine PU – highlight this year being two MCG bods doing a hand traverse round the central heating pipes in the Imperial Hotel dining room!			
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Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 12/2/72 J.Savage, Paul, Sulo, Spud, Vic.	4 ¾ hrs	Castleton	Digging trip to upper passage. Dig consists of a flat out bedding plane half full of mud. The way on can be seen for c. 30' but needs the floor digging out. Put some fluorescein in the stream and erected "GAS ST" and "FOOTPATH CLOSED" signs in the 380' level.
Breconshire	Pant Mawr Pot 14/2/72	1 hr 20m	Ystradfellte	Beautiful weather – so finding the entrance was relatively easy – AT LAST. Swift trip to the

	J.Savage, C.Leonard			sump and back.
Yorkshire	Disappointment Pot / Bar Pot 18/2/72 J.Savage, D.Pike, John, Keith (6 QMCC), [Vic, Sulo, Paul, John]	6 ¼ hrs	Ingleborough	Exchange trip. Our party of five descended via Dis – a superb, easy pot with nice short pitches – into Hensler’s Passage of Gaping Ghyll. We then followed Hensler’s Crawl (which lives up to its reputation) into GG Main Chamber. After the usual festering about here and admiring the view we carried on towards Bar Pot, meeting the others just down the passage. We all then retraced our steps to Bar and the others carried on via the short route to Dis. We met the Pegasus photographic team coming down Bar and after a spot of bother on the 100’ pitch we all emerged to daylight – and the Hill Inn!

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Yorkshire	Stump Cross Caverns 20/2/72 J.Savage	20m	Greenhow	Show cave with a difference – no guides! We took in our Nife cells in case of electricity cuts and apart from admiring the coloured lights and broken stals we had a look at several passages closed to tourists. Quite an interesting system. A good w/e.
Derbyshire	Old Tor Mine 25/2/72 JS	40m	Castleton	Blue John collecting trip. Many samples found – none particularly brilliant.
Somerset	Hollandtwine Mine 27/2/72 John, Paul, Ratarse	3 hrs	Castleton	Paul and I put a load of fluorescein in the stream (at 12am) then Jon and I went up the climbing shaft (roughly measured to c.110’) and lit four smoke pellets. No sign of smoke on the surface and, as yet, no sign of dye at Peak Cavern. [NB: later dye found in Ink Sump area, Peak Cavern]
Somerset	Cuckoo Cleaves 4/3/72 AN, PM, S.Reid, M.Walker, P.Collet	3 ½ hrs	Priddy	Digging in terminal rift. Not much forward progress made but passage widened with prodigious use of the lump hammer. Should go soon.
Derbyshire	Peak Dale Quarry Tunnel 11/3/72 Sulo, Paul, Ratarse		Peak Dale	Sulo photographed the pretties. Thence to Midland Hotel where we got pissed off our skulls on draught barley wine.
Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 12/3/72 Paul, G.Cooper (EPC)	2 ½ hr	Castleton	[Dye tests positive to Ink Sump] Trip mainly a tourist trip for George, who was duly impressed. Had a swift look at the “Dysentery” Dig, which was full of water, and decided to return another day. Thence to Peak Dale to watch TPU pumping out Peak Dale Cave.

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Montgomeryshire	15/3/72 Investigated old iron mine shaft on plan SJ2517 at 2571/1752. Circular brick lined 5’ diameter shaft – full of water and clatch.			
Derbyshire <i>discovery</i>	Hollandtwine Mine 18/3/72 Vic, Paul, Sulo, Ratarse (Surface – H.Lord, Sarah, Dave etc)	4 ¾ hrs	Castleton	Sulo and I took radio location gear to the top of the climbing shaft which Harold Lord detected from the surface. Vic and I then went down to Dysentery Dig and after bailing all of the water into the polythene sheet I went in and dug. After digging for c.10’ in 8” deep liquid mud I managed to squeeze along into a clean passage, slightly descending and with a draught – small stals on the roof and the noise of trickling water further on. It seemed to be getting too tight – and just then my light went out so I retreated and we both went out. Further progress will need more mud clearing and bailing. [Sunday: Vain surface digging to locate climbing shaft]
Shropshire	Ogof Llanymynech Winze Series	1 hr ¾ hr	Llanymynech	Quick fester round both series, mainly to show Rob “what it’s all about”. Vast amounts of

	23/3/72 Rob Deely (OS)			carbide, shit and graffiti.
Wessex Cave Club Easter Trip to NW Clare, Ireland				
Ireland C. Clare	Faunarooska Cave 26/3/72 A.Newport, Titch Thomson, Rich Law, Jeff, Jon Savage	2 ¾ hrs	Slieve Elva (West)	Meandering, somewhat monotonous passage leads eventually to larger passage and wet pitch. Looked at dry passage – presumably to head of dry pitch? Wet pitch(es) somewhat sporting, especially the “70” which Jon and I free climbed – it being merely a series of 20’ drops in a rift with large flat fins of rock dividing the passage. A deep terminal sump lies at the bottom – well worth a dive.
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Ireland Co. Clare	St. Catherines I Swallet / Doolin Cave, Disused phosphate mine 28/3/72 Rich, Titch, Jeff Price	1 ½ hrs	Doolin	Rich and I explored the level of the old mine in the village. After c. 30’ of slightly descending, timbered, collapsing level it became flooded to the roof. Not a nice place. We all then walked up to St. Cath’s entrance and did the through trip to Fisherstreet Pot. The pink fish noted at Xmas was still alive and in exactly the same position.
Ireland Co. Clare	Coolagh River Cave / Polldonough North 29/3/72 Jon, Titch	3 hrs	Lisdoonvarna	A very fine system and obviously a bloody dangerous one. It is only too obvious that most of the cave floods to the roof in heavy rain. The route out of PN is quite pleasant – with some really beautiful formations en route. One emerges through a layer of red mud, bones and a cow’s skull through a tiny, grass covered hole. Very fine trip. (Entered via Polldonough entrance.)
Ireland Co. Clare	Cullaun 2 30/3/72 Jim Shannon, Morade Lynch, Jon, Aubrey, Jeff, Titch	2 hrs 10m	Poulacapple	A very sporting trip down this fine stream cave (in flood conditions) I tried lying in the stream and it swept me along like a Cresta Run outing. Superb chutes and meanders. Some fine pretties en route – alas one less since Jim buggered it up. We were stopped when the whole stream just hurtled down a bloody great chute and down the pitch to the final sump. It was impossible to descend this so we returned up the streamway and took the old, dry passage back to the entrance series. Morade did very well, especially as she was the only one without a wet suit.
Ireland Co. Clare	Pol-an-Ionain 2/4/72 Peggy, Langen, Jeff, Jon	2 hrs	Doolin	Took Peggy and Langen on their first caving trip which they seemed to enjoy. The cave was much wetter than last time and quite sporting. As usual, all very impressed by the stal. Jon, Jeff and I looked at the sump. Met a Kilkenny Speleo Group party in the cave. (NB Bottom of Fisherstreet Pot flooded and exit into streamway well under water)
Ireland Co. Clare	A very fine week despite lousy weather. Music and Guinness as good as usual. Also attended several sessions in the Ritz Hotel, Lisdoonvarna and went to a Sinn Fein Ceilidh. Had a brief dive in the sea near Crab Island and got a sea urchin for Peggy. Most distressed to leave. Ray, Joe and Kath Whyte, John and the Dublin Crown all turned up.			
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Derbyshire discovery	Hollandtwine Mine 8/4/72 Jon	4 hrs	Castleton	See below
Jon and I went straight to “Dysentery Dig” and recommenced digging. Just beyond the furthest point I had reached last time was a slit containing a small boulder. After some digging I reversed the passage and pushed the rock out with my boot. I was then able to back through into the new passage which revealed itself. Jon joined me and we proceeded to explore. The passage was c.10’ wide at first, with many straws and small stalactites and an old, stream deposit floor. This gradually descending passage was followed for c. 100’ to a point where a flat out squeeze led to a collapse totally blocking a drop in the floor. A way on here would be extremely difficult to find. It was then that Jon found the most promising lead yet. An old dry cross passage which he had investigated, although blocked by a couple of small boulders.				

emitted the sounds of a large stream. We groped at these for a few minutes but were so knackered, and the rocks so awkward that we gave up. This is the most promising bit of cave yet found but getting through “Dysentery Wallow” is pretty grim. (Unfortunately could not push the find on Sunday as Jon – under the influence of much POP, rolled his Mini down Lack Lane and we spent all day re-shaping it with a sledge hammer.)				
Derbyshire <i>discovery</i>	Hollandtwine Mine 15/4/72 Paul, Jon, Sulo, Al Wicks	5 ½ hrs	Castleton	<i>See below</i>
After having tasted the pleasures of the muddy crawl we attacked the boulders blocking our way on. After much hard work they were shifted and Jon squeezed through towards the sound of the stream. He entered a loose chamber some 30’ long in which a fairly large stream sank in loose rocks and rubble on the floor. The whole chamber, in fact, was composed of boulders and clatch and was somewhat unhealthy. We tried to excavate the floor but this will take a lot of hard work and will be dangerous. Our hopes of running along miles of huge stream passage were shattered (and to add insult to injury we had bet a gallon of ale that Eldon wouldn’t find as much passage in their dig as us – they did!) On the way back I looked at the inlet passage which may go with a bit of determination. Good night in “Stags”.				



The Three Stags Head, a 300-year old inn at Wardlow Mires

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Somerset	Swildon’s Hole 22/4/72 P.Huyton (EUSS), C.Gledhill, J.Parkhouse (WCC)	1 ½ hrs	Priddy	Chris and I free dived to IV while Paul and Johnny waited in II (Good PU at Jim Abbot’s 21st)
Somerset	CCG Sandford Mine (Triple Hole) 23/4/72 J.Smart, D.Edwards, Nigel (Mac on surface)	1 ½ hrs	Sandford	The CCG 8 yr old dig has gone at last. Sloping shaft about 40’, two chambers and a 30’ shaft in floor to terminal chamber. A nice little mine – quite interesting and promising. Clay pipe in situ.
Derbyshire	Knotlow Mine 30/4/72 P.Walkinson, B.Parker, Ratarse, Paul, Steve, Laurence, Hairy John, Dave, Al, Shag, Gough Bros,	2 hrs 20m	Monyash	Cave rescue practice from bottom of Waterfall Pitch. No real problems. (Good DCRO meeting and Stomp on Saturday).

	Spud, Sulo, Vic the Wop.			
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Merioneth-shire	Llechwedd Slate Mine 6/5/72 Sulo, Aileen, Laurence, Jon, Bob Proctor, Maggie (Pegasus) George Cooper, Angie, Cal and woman, Tony +1 (Eldon)	¾ hr	Blaenau Ffestiniog	Show “cave”. Half mile trip on a tramway through the 1846 Level A. Very interesting reconstruction of miners in a large chamber. Well worth a visit.
Merioneth-shire	Oakley Slate Mine 6/5/72 Jon Savage	1 hr 40m	Blaenau Ffestiniog	Entered the level behind the climbing club cottage in Cwmorthin and after passing several collapses we followed a small passage down on the left. This led into the main workings of the mine and many large chambers, inclines etc were found. At a point where a large double winding gear at the top of an incline was reached, we turned back. Must return as it is possible to go right through to Oakley Quarries from here.
Merioneth-shire	Cwm Rhossydd Slate Mine 7/5/72 Sulo, Aileen, Lawr, Jon, George, Angie, Steve, Tony, Cal, Woman and 1.	1 hr 40m	Blaenau Ffestiniog	A large, very long main level led to a chamber with various engine remains and incline to surface. Continuation of incline downwards led to cross level with two large lake chambers. Various other passages explored leading from chamber, including an immense sloping chamber extending up dip for hundred of feet and c. 80' high. An incline with sledge and balance truck in situ was followed up to surface and a series of caverns open to daylight. A good trip and a great w/e.
	13/5/72	CDG Dinner and AGM, Bear Hotel, Crickhowell. Quite a good evening.		
Breconshire	Ogof Rhyd Sych Ogof-y-Ci 14/5/72 P.Moody, Jeff Phillips	2½ hrs ¼ hr	Vaynor	ORS is a very sporting and thrutchy system of tight passages and bedding planes leading to some very large and beautiful passages ending in a massive boulder choke. We did a swift through trip in O-Y-C, entering via a small hole upstream. Interesting area and caves.
Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 20/5/72 Paul, Alain Grignard + 2 other Belgians	1½ hrs	Castleton	Quick tourist trip round mine and as far as Aven in natural section. Belgians are “Groupe d’Activites Speleologique” members. Smoke tested climbing shaft again in vain. Good PU in “Stags”.
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Derbyshire	Peak Cavern 21/5/72 Garry Kitchen, Jeff (BSA) Paul, Sulo (PC) Everest, Alain, Yvonne +2 (GAS)	5 ½ hrs	Castleton	After changing inside the cave we split into two parties. Our group went up Pickerings Passage, past Neil Moss to Anniversary Chamber. On the way back there was a distant explosion and small shock wave. We thought that some bang had been fired and there was great apprehension – especially with Jeff who appeared out of the other passage doing approx 80 mph! It turned out that one of the Belgians had accidentally exploded some carbide leaking from his lamp and caused a 3 metre long sheet of flame – scorching his eyebrows and browning everyone else’s underpants! We then went up Main Stream Passage looking at Lake Passage and Ink Sump en route. Looked at Far Sump then returned downstream to the superb section of stream passage ending in Buxton Water. After a look at

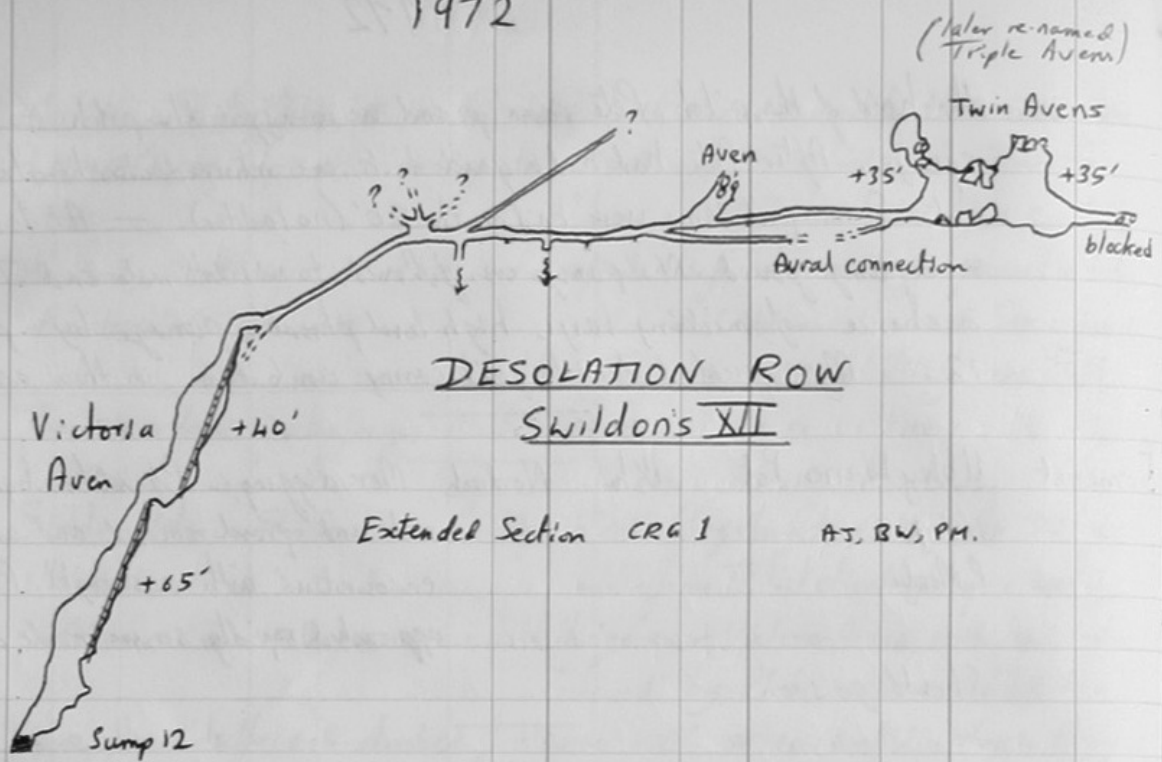
				Treasury area we met up with the others and returned to the show cave to change, amidst many tourists. A fine system and a great trip. Great w/e
Somerset	Eastwater Cavern 26/5/72 J.Savage	2 ¼ hrs	Priddy	To bottom via Twin Verticals. Had a look halfway up Ifold's Series.
Somerset	Rhino Rift 27/5/72 Lawr, Vic, Paul, Jon (PC)	4 ¼ hrs	Charterhouse	The Pegasus bottom Rhino! A most impressive series of shafts with some bloody horrible loose rock hanging over the pitches. Just what Mendip needed.
Somerset	Stoke Lane Slocker Lamb Leer 28/5/72 Al Wicks, Paul, Jon (PC)	1 ¾ hrs	Stoke Lane Harptree	Stoke was very filthy – brown froth and turds on the sumps. Al and I went to II for the usual look round. Festered down Lamb Leer to head of chamber pitch then festered out again. A good w/e with much booze, snuff etc and representatives from BSA, Eldon, Pegasus and all Mendip clubs.

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Denbighshire (Shropshire)	Cambrian Slate Mine Lower Ceiriog Cave 1/6/72 Nick Lowry, Rob Deeley, Colin Leonard (OS)	¾ hr ¾ hr	Glyn Ceiriog	Festered round the main mine workings (Nick's first trip). Then to Lower Ceiriog Cave – basically a scalloped rift leading to a mass of phreatic tubs and a mud wallow – the end. Some good digging sites and odd bits of nice stal. The lads only came halfway.
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 3/6/72 P.Collet	5hrs 10m	Priddy	To 12 (forgetting to pick up our 75' of ladder from IV) I climbed up a muddy ledge near Victoria Aven and had to be "rescued" by Phil. I then tackled the main Aven itself and climbed for some 100' or so until stopped by a vertical squeeze above which the aven seemed to continue. I hope to return next w/e and push it further. On the way back my light gave up the ghost and I temporarily lost my teeth in IV ! Snuff taken at XII.
Somerset	Manor Farm Swallet Ubley Warren Pot 4/6/72 (Mike Thomson, Aubrey, Jeff) (Tony Tucker, K.James, Alan [Crewe CPC])	1hr 20m 1 ½ hr	Charterhouse	Helped NASA with the dig which is most impressive and relatively easy going. It should go fairly soon. Then to Nettle Hole where Tony showed me his new 14' of passage and we all had a clearing session in Pike's Chamber. Much rock and clutch removed after Al Mill's excellent bang. Will continue soon.
Somerset <i>discovery dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 10/6/72 Pete Moody	6 ¾ hrs	Priddy	Reached XII easily and re-climbed Victoria Aven to previous point reached (c. 130'). (NB this was a free-climb and no bolts or protection was used. It was very exposed!) Laddered the aven in two sections and then, after much effort, passed the squeeze to emerge in a sloping bedding plane. Crossed this for c. 10' to a vadose trench and rift. This was followed for c. 100' to a phreatic tube on the right – again followed for c. 100'. At this point the passage split and an ascending tunnel was followed to an aven chamber with at least two ways on. I built a cairn here and then returned to the head of the pitch. Pete came up and we re-rigged the pitch to avoid the squeeze. After Pete had had a quick look we returned to the streamway and out. Some problems were had on the 20' (no ladder). At least 300' of new passage found. No passage was followed to its ultimate end. There may be a chance of meeting large, high level phreatic passage by-passing

				Sump 12. My greatest (and longest) caving ambition is thus accomplished.
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Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 11/6/72 P.Moody	1 ½ hr	Nordrach	More digging in Pike's Chamber. Much rock and gravel removed and an open rift encountered with a draught. Pub time approached rapidly so we made a swift exit. Should go soon.

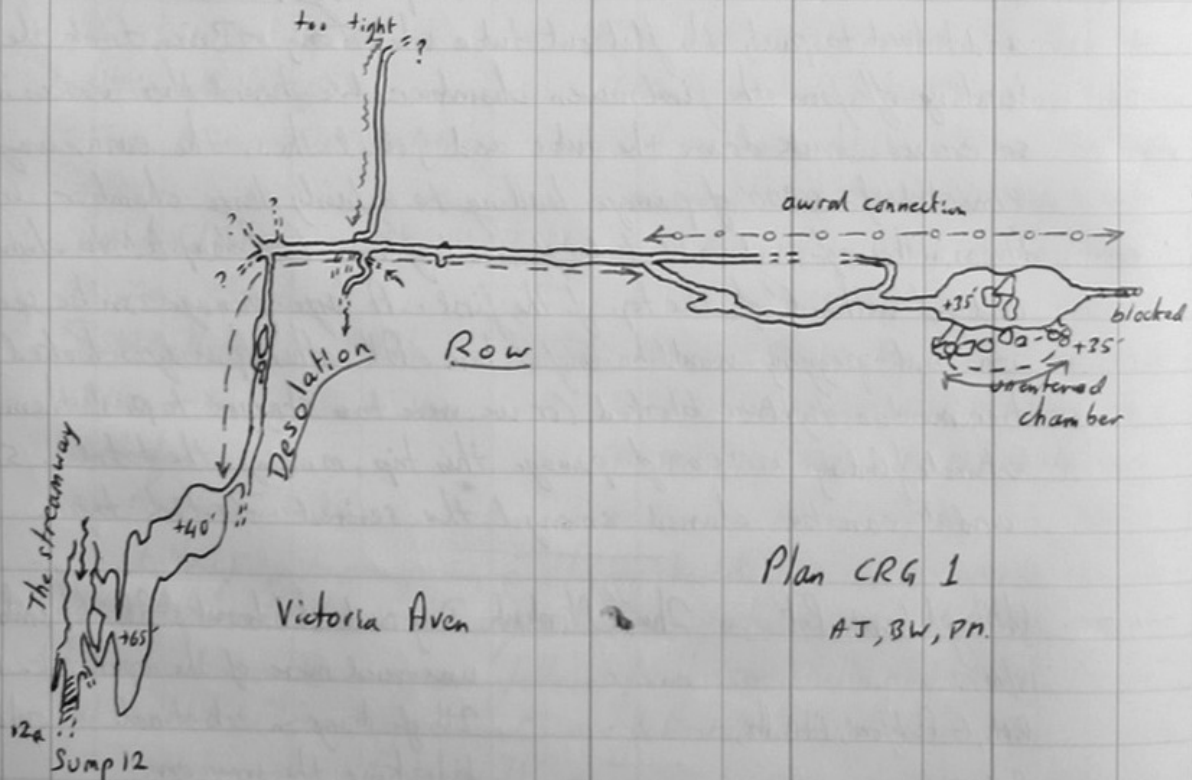
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Extended Section CRA 1

AT, BW, PM.

← - - - → 10/6/72
 ← ~ ~ ~ → 8/7/72
 ← o - o → 17/6/72
 ← ——— → 8/7/72



Plan CRA 1

AT, BW, PM.

Somerset <i>discovery dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 17/6/72 P.Moody, B.Woodward, Aldwyn Cooper, Tony Boycott, Ken James	7 ½ hrs	Priddy	All to XII – relined Sump 9 en route. Aldwyn couldn't pass squeeze leading to Victoria Aven so he and Ken returned to the surface. We re-tackled the top section of aven and then continued with the exploration of the new passages – Desolation Row. Pete and I tried to push the flat out tube while Tony and Brian took the passage leading off from the first aven chamber. We heard their voices in front so reversed back down the tube and joined them the easier way. This consisted of c.200' of passage leading to a fairly large chamber with Twin Avens in the roof and a blocked rift leading on. I attempted to climb these and got within 6' of the top of the first. A large passage can be seen going on but pegging would be useful here. All other passages looked at either became too tight or blocked (or we were too shagged to push them). We estimate finding c. 200' of passage this trip, making the total c. 500' – and it can be claimed amongst the severest British trips.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 18/6/72 PM, G.Pickford, Al Mills, P.Cronin	2 hrs	Nordrach	Dug much clutch out of Pike's Chamber and uncovered more of the open rift. Al fired 2lb of bang on obstinate boulder blocking the way on.

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Derbyshire	23-25/6/72 Superb w/e in Derbyshire. Eldon "Stomp" at the Ashwood on Friday night. Then to Stoke to pick up Peggy and Cath who came over from Dublin. Saturday spent festering, Land Rovering and Trundling. Also visited Bleaklow Mining Co's site at Calver and looked at one of their levels. Fabulous Sat/Sunday. Festered and walked over Eldon Hill with Peggy on Sunday.			
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 30/6/72 Steve Thorne (OS)	1hr 20m	Priddy	To Sump 1 and back via Trat's Temple. Trip to show Steve the cave.
Somerset	Ubley Warren Pot 1/7/72 Steve, Al Bentley (Crewe) (J.Tucker +2)	3hrs 20m	Nordrach	Digging in Pike's Chamber while Tony and Co. carried on in his dig. Plenty of shit removed but no major progress.
Somerset	Shatter Cavern Ubley Warren Pot 2/7/72 Steve, Al Bentley	¾ hr 2 hrs	Stoke Lane Nordrach	Swift pretties admiring trip round Shatter. Thence to Nettle via Hunters' to continue digging. Excellent organisation and much spoil removed.
Somerset	3/7/72 Pete, Steve and I walked round Charterhouse area looking at J.Cornwell's dig and Timber Hole.			
Somerset <i>discovery dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 8/7/72 Julian Walford, P.Moody, (Mik? [Orpheus], Chris Gledhill) [OCL, Bob Craig]	8hrs 20m	Priddy	OCL sherpa'd to Sump 1! Bob bashed his head in Sump 2 so went out and Mik and Chris came to IX with us. We three then continued to XII and into the new series. After looking at possible ways on in the first part of the horizontal section, I noticed an unexplored hole just along the passage. This led to a steeply ascending, vicious passage which I pushed for c. 120' followed by Pete and Julian. A squeeze at the end stopped further exploration. We then continued to the Twin Avens where I climbed the first one (using a peg). This was c. 35' high leading to an area of collapsed boulders through which I could squeeze up to my hips into a chamber (c. 20' long, 12' wide) Then came out.
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Somerset	9/7/72 Tim Reynolds, Pete Moody and I festered round Priddy area looking at Sandpit Hole, Twin Titties etc			

	14-16/7/72 Attended Dick Pike's wedding in Blackpool, via the Stags.			
Somerset <i>dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 22/7/72 P.Moody	2hrs 50m	Priddy	To XII where my main bulb blew – continued on dip. Looked at three possible ways into the unentered chamber from Twin Avens. All ways impassable so came out. I think it's about finished here for a bit – at least until access is easier. We must now concentrate on a by pass dig to Sump 9.
Somerset <i>dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 30/7/72 PM, J.Penge, C.Gledhill, Fred Davies, Jeff +1 (Charles)	5 hrs 20m	Priddy	Left Fred, Jeff and Charles at Cowsh Avens and continued to VIII. Chris and Julian stopped here to climb a promising aven while Pete and I dived to X. Pete then followed the airspace back for c. 30' until it closed down. I had a look, then we both returned to IX where I found Mike Boon's Taddy – it had been in Swildon's for about 11 years! Pete then had a look at a large airbell c.20' into 9. A possible aural connection with this bell exists from the sump pool. Returned to surface with Taddy. Julian and Chris found c.50' of passage ending in loose boulders; Fred and Co are still going up!
Somerset	Swildon's Hole 5/8/72 Jojo (Czech), Pete, Greg, Pat, Chris, Charlie, Phil, Andrew Nichols.	1 ½ hrs	Priddy	Dinnertime, after pub trip. Quite pissed. Took Jojo to Sump 2. First trip, with only ½ a wetsuit. (Wasn't even meant to be on Mendip but he was found hitching by Phil and practically kidnapped to the Hunters). Good atmosphere all w/e. Much drinking, singing, music etc etc
Somerset	Buddle's Wood minshafts 7/8/72 Pete Eckford (Speleo Rhal) [PM, A.Mills, T.Thomson, R.Meyhew] +Jenny Murrell, A.Audsley	5 m	Chewton Mendip	Searched for "All Eights Mine" in vain. Found several open shafts and Pete (Speleo Rhal) and I descended a 40' one.

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Somerset <i>dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 19/8/72 J.Phillips, P.Moody "Bazza" (CCG)	2hrs 50m	Priddy	Intention was to dive to XII and de-ladder Victoria Aven, also to do some digging. At Sump 2 my borrowed Nife went out so I carried on to VI minus helmet or light (very pleasant). IX and beyond stank foully due to vast amounts of cowshit in the streamway. Bazza swallowed most of Sump 5 so he and I returned to surface after visiting VI. Pete and Jeff continued to VII.
Derbyshire	Knotlow Mine 26/8/72 BSA, EPC, BSG etc MacAnus, Pat, Martin, Stu, Bazza, Mik Durdy, Jeff etc.	1 hr 40m	Monyash	BSA/EPC/BSG Pumping weekend. Two 7" pumps were used to unwater the workings below the 210' engine shaft. Sat: Went down on winch and pumping commenced. C.10' of shaft drained while we were there.
Derbyshire	Knotlow Mine 27/8/72 Jerry Wooldridge, Pat, Martin, Dave Draper, Paul Deakin etc	3 hr 10m	Monyash	Explored some of the unwatered workings and found a RAG AND CHAIN PUMP with its wooden pumping pipe. Two waggons and several chisels also found. See BSA nsltr.
Derbyshire	Knotlow Mine 28/8/72 Bob Mehew, Ray Mansfield, Mike, Pete (SMCC) Jerry, P.B. Smith	4 ½ hr	Monyash	Ray and I went down at 3.10am (night shift). Watched the pumps and recovered a second rag and chain pump.
Derbyshire	mineshaft	10m	Middleton-by-	180' shaft looked at for benefit of local

	2/9/72 Alone (surface – Ratarse, Paul, Ian Duncan and Keith the prospector)		Wirksworth	prospector searching for barites vein. Blocked at bottom. Nearly all in a natural rift. Much yobbing done in quarry.
Derbyshire	Mineshafts Hollandtwine Mine 3/9/72 Ratarse [surface:Paul, terry, Bru etc] Ian Duncan [mining engineer]	1 ½ hrs	Calver Castleton	Looked at several short shafts for Bleaklow Mining Co. Ian laid ½ lb bang at top of climbing shaft. A very epic trip including such delights as collapsing ginging, tape measure smashing my watch glass, abseil burnt shoulder etc. Tape recorded the blast – much rumbling of boulders followed. Forced to free climb main shaft both down and up.

During last week in August/first week in September, I festered round the limestone areas of Cilcain and Loggerheads in North Wales, noting various caves, swallets, mines etc.

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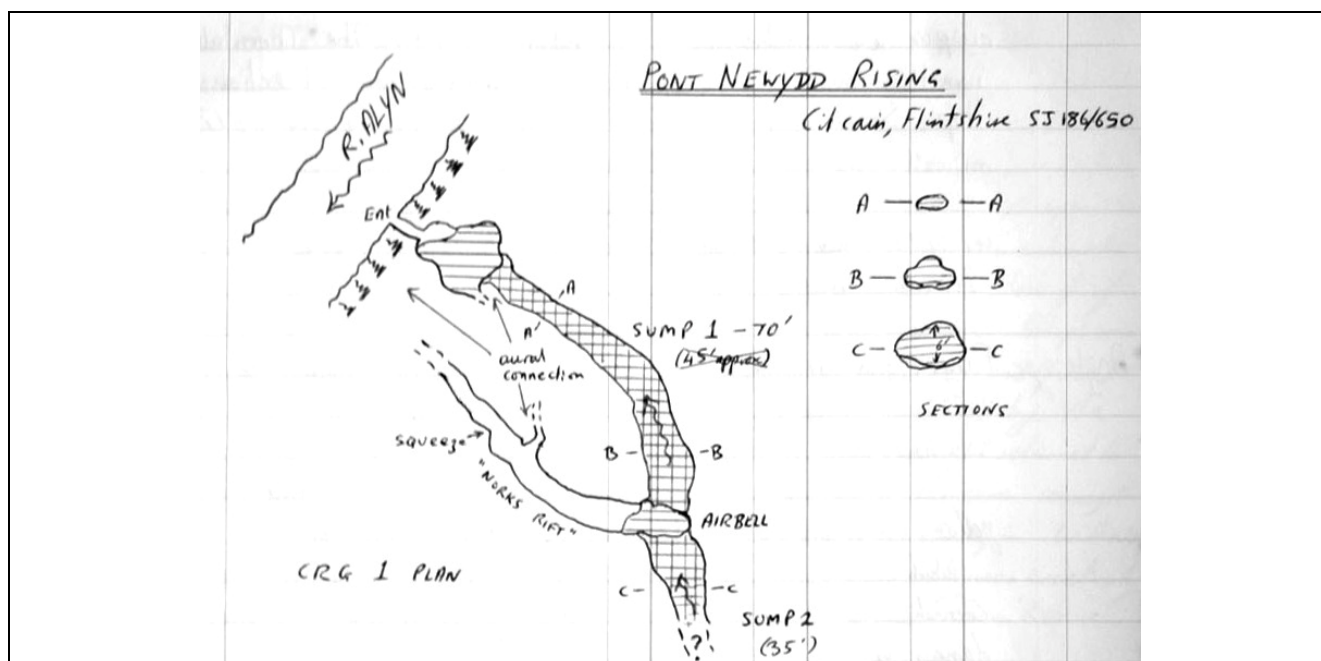
8-10/9/72 BSA Conference – Sheffield. Some interesting, though sometimes boring, lectures. Also the film “Caves and Caving” in which I appeared in a short sequence. A good PU – stayed at P.B. Smiths and met yer actual M.Boon.

Ireland Co. Clare	Doolin Cave / Sta Catherines I 22/9/72 Peggy, Jim Shannon	2 ½ hrs	Doolin	Superb trip. Borrowed helmets and “lights” from Jim and descended Fisherstreet Pot on a 60’ wood and rope coastguard ladder! No wetsuits – and although there was a drought on the surface the water was waist deep underground. Nice walk through to St. Catherine’s entrance and then, while Peggy walked back to the cottage, Jim and I hitched a lift on a donkey cart back towards Doolin. Fantastic. [A fabulous week’s holiday in Doolin]
Derbyshire	Hazard Mine 30/9/72 [surface – Paul, Toky, Paul, Lawr, Steve]	50m	Castleton	I descended the main shaft (of impressive dimensions) to the 210’ level where I managed to swing into one of the levels. This was blocked by collapse after c. 30’. The level on the opposite side of the stoep was too hairy to enter but also appears to be blocked.
Derbyshire	Dr. Jackson’s Pot 30/9/72 Steve, Lawrence	2 ¾ hrs	Castleton	Aim: to dive terminal sump. Laurence stopped at the vertical squeeze and Steve and I carried the gear on to the head of the first pitch. We had no ladder so I free climbed the pitch and looked at practically everything below, but couldn’t find the sump. An evil place – tight and shitty.

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Somerset	Dr. Jackson’s Pot 1/10/72 M.Durdy, P.B.Smith, G.Parkin	3 ½ hr	Castleton	After leaving Mick at the 2 nd traverse, PB and I continued down to the sump (until stopped by a “Neil Mosser”) Still not having found the sump we dumped the gear and came out, meeting Gordon en route who told us the sump was below the “Neil Mosser”. Alas, this means another trip!
Denbighshire	Bont Newydd Cave Cefn Cave Cefn Natural Arch 3/10/72 J.Savage	10 mins	Cefn	Interesting dry spacious caves. All are well worth digging. Then to.....
Cornwall	East Pool Mine 4-6/10/72 J.Savage		Redruth	Looked at odd sites of interest en route to Cornwall – ie Pengelly Cave Research Centre, Reed’s Cavern, Camborne School of Mines, etc. Then to look at East Pool Mine’s two preserved pumping engines – very impressive. Back to Derbyshire via Mendip visiting Great Rock Mine in Devon en route.
Derbyshire <i>dive</i>	Dr. Jackson’s Pot 8/10/72 Steve (Sulo, Ratarse,	4hrs 50m	Castleton	Steve and I carried the gear down the final thrutch to the sump. I dived to 10’ depth in the first part of the sump finding no way on and a

	Andrew, Mick)			thick silt floor. To reach the back part of the sump I dekitted and had a swift free dive. No way on.
Caernarvon-shire	Parc Mine 12/10/72 Frank Shephard (OS)	¼ hr	Llanrwst	Entered No.3 Level (1 mile SW of Llanrwst) Went in 480 yards then returned to Eagle's Hotel where we met assorted old miners (and pissheads) including a survivor of the Gresford Colliery mining disaster. A good night.
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Caernarvon-shire	Parc Mine 18/10/72 F.Shephard (and a disc jockey)	2 ¾ hrs	Llanrwst	Entered No.3 Level to a large shaft which we climbed up on miners' ladders. This led to No.2 Level (and a sealed off level labelled as a Liverpool Univ. Experimental Section). A level here led out to grass. We found a waggon which we relayed on the track and spent some time playing on this. Met a local disc jockey and returned to No.2 level which we explored to its end? A ladderway here was descended in a stope to further large levels – left unexplored. Returned to surface. We must have covered at least 2 miles of passage (some fine pump rods and pipes in situ).
Derbyshire	w/e 20-22/10/72. DCA Congress in Buxton. Good lectures and exhibition (I arranged a CDG stand) and above all – bloody good boozing. Amen.			
Flintshire	25/10/72. While triangulating at Axton, Flintshire, I had a brief look at a 20' choked lead mine shaft and a small artificial cave in a quarry. (once lived in) Also -			
Caernarvon-shire	Parc Mine 25/10/72 Terry Wright	2 hrs	Llanrwst	Followed No.3 Level, past and under a large a stope, to its termination some 2 miles in where the roof had collapsed. Several other levels were looked at but no really major way on found. Came out via ladderway and No.2 level.
Flintshire <i>dive discovery</i>	Pont Newydd Rising Devils Bridge Spar Mine Leet Caves 26/10/72 (Terry Wright)	¾ hr	Cilcain	Dived for c.45' on base fed line along a 2' square passage widening into elliptical passage c. 5' across with silt floor. Excellent vis. At this point felt like some fresh air so went up into 4' diameter airbell with c.40' of passage leading off. Aural connections established between both sump pool and surface above entrance. Good hopes of digging entrance to by-pass Sump 1. Main Passage continues underwater. To be continued.... Then on to Spar Mine etc.
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Derbyshire	Thistle Pot Hollandtwine Mine 28/10/72 M.Durdy, Jeff, G.Parkin (EPC) Steve Watson, Andrew (PC)	4 hrs	Castleton	Tourist trip down "Grolly" for the Eldon. They seem to have enjoyed everything – especially Dysentery Crawl! Paul, Sulo and Pete Moody put a lid on Thistle Pot Dig – a 45' pot/rift.
Derbyshire <i>mine discovery</i>	Hillcarr Sough 29/10/72 Laurence Hurt, Dav Epston (NMRG) Paul, Andrew, Steve (PC)	4 hrs	Alport-by- Youlgreave	This sough is in the region of 7 miles long, including branches. Dave and Laurence had pushed it, over 6-7 yrs, for a distance of 1 ¼ miles. The air is extremely bad – mainly methane, CO ₂ and sulphuretted hydrogen etc. Bottles are taken in in a canoe so that an occasional breath of fresh air can be taken to revive oneself. Breathing gets difficult; dizziness and headaches occur and it gets difficult to think clearly. At the 1 ¼ mile mark all except myself and Laurence had returned to the entrance. We continued working at the collapse here and after lowering the water level some 18" pushed on in neck deep water for a further 400-500 yds. At this point there was a mere 1' of airspace and we were freezing so we returned to grass. The Thornhill Sough junction must be very close. A damn good, but exhausting trip. Sough begun in 1766 – driven 3000' in shale by 1769 (date on wall) and took 21 yrs to complete.

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Derbyshire	4/10/72 Peggy and I attended the Pegasus Club Annual Dinner and Dance (PU). Bloody great.			
Anglesey	Parys Mountain Mine 8/11/72 F.Shephard (OS)		Amlwch	Visited this vast, lunar-like opencast copper mine on an exceptionally stormy day. Vast slag heaps and craters. The slag is a multitude of colours, yellow, red, green etc. Sheltered from the rain in a large cave-like working in which lived several pigeons. Several ruined windmills and a fine Cornish engine house in situ. Many open shafts – all exceeding dangerous.
Derbyshire	Thistle Pot 11/11/72 Chris Coles, Steve, Andrew, Paul	1 hr	Castleton	Much digging and shelter building done in stinking weather.
Derbyshire	Thistle Pot	1 hr	Castleton	More digging and boulder removing – in worse

	12/11/72 As above			weather!
Derbyshire <i>rescue</i>	Giant's Hole 12-13/11/72 Andrew and Paul (D.Allsop, D.Draper, G.Cooper, H.Kidd, D.Gill, Worm, P.Deakin, etc) (Al Stean, Chuck – victim)	4 ½ hrs	Castleton	<i>See below</i>

Tokyo Paul arrived at the hut to say that Al Stean and Chuck Barnaby were 1 ½ hrs overdue. The three of us went down. Paul stayed at the head of Garlands Pot which looked like Niagara Falls due to extremely high water. Andy and I continued and met Al halfway down Crabwalk. He shouted to “leave me and get to Chuck”. We carried on and found him wedged in “The Vice” with only his head above rising water. As we tried to get him out the water backed up behind us and flowed over his head. I pushed him and he was swept back down the passage where he stopped at the head of an 8’ pitch. Andy and I managed to drag him back into an alcove where he was to stay for several hours. Andy went back to call the rescue team while I stayed with Chuck and vainly attempted to cut his exposure suit to release the water inside. He was too exhausted to move. After at least 1 ½ hrs Dave Draper appeared with a flask of coffee. Another bloke was behind him but soon went! About 1 hr later Allsop’s voice was heard upstream of the Vice. I then left Chuck and Dave and pushed back upstream – “my” (Ratarse’s!) wet suit trousers being torn off by the water in the process! Allsop couldn’t get through the Vice so I returned to Dave with the exposure suit and then carried on out of the cave amongst a horde of INCOMPETENTS. Luckily the Eldon lads were coming in. Without these blokes the victim would probably be dead. He was eventually brought out at 6.30am, Monday – luckily alive. [See “Rescue Cuttings” and DCRO report]

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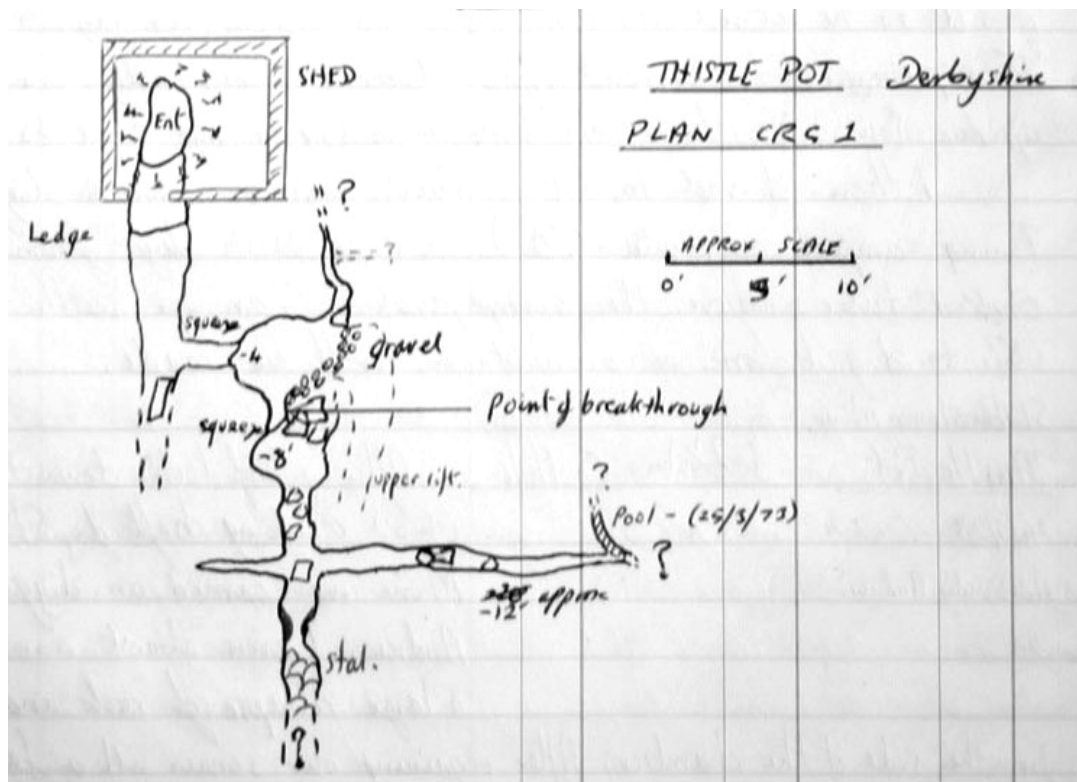
17-19/11/72 Dublin. Superb w/e				
Denbighshire	Eyarth Mine 23/11/72 Paul Parsons (OS)		Ruthin	Had a brief look at a small (c. 25”) mined cavity at Pwll Glas, near Ruthin. The “cave” was excavated along a clay (?) vein. Nothing of interest, though there may be other sites nearby. Probably part of Eyarth Mine – p.15 “The Non-Ferrous mines of Denbighshire”.
Derbyshire	26/11/72 Pleasant afternoon’s festering at Thistle Pot – tidying up dig site and enlarging “shed” entrance etc.			
Denbighshire	30/11/72 Drove round Esclucham/Eglwyseg Mountain area noting Taylor’s Shaft of Minera Mines en route.			
Denbighshire	1/12/72 Rhewl area, Ruthin. Several small holes and fissures found (Ref. SMC year book). Also looked at disused Rheul Quarry – nothing at all found here.			

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Caernarvon-shire	Parc Mine 2/12/72 P.Thomson, Vic, T-Paul, Lawr, Steve, Andrew, Nigel	2hrs 50m	Llanrwst	Straight down main level to flooded shaft where we removed chain ladder. Up climbing ladders to top level and along to winze near end. The large levels at the bottom of this were waist deep in floodwater and one of these was followed to a climbing shaft emitting a terrific waterfall and impassable. We then came out and had some interesting sport with the L/rover when I drove it over a 3’ drop! Got pissed at Pen-y-Gwyrd Hotel.
Merioneth-shire	Llechwedd Slate Mine 3/12/72 As above	20m	Blaenau Ffestiniog	Tourist trip. Amazed to see a fully lit Xmas tree in one of the chambers. Also visited a level leading into Oakley Mine which was blocked by a roof fall several feet in (Nigel had been through here several months ago). Then to Cwmorthin where Paul and I took the L/rover up a fire track and through a deep ford.
Somerset	Gough’s Cave 9/12/72 Peggy +3	20m	Cheddar	Tourist trip. Most pleasant due to lack of tourists. Guide much more informative than usual and several bats seen flying round the cave. Fine w/e
Denbighshire	11/12/72 Llanarmon-yr-lal, near Ruthin. Noted several sites of speleological interest including a fairly large swallet near a road junction – a good digging site!			
Derbyshire	15-17/12/72 Festered in Derbs. Went to Eldon Stomp. MacAnus banged in Thistle Pot for us.			
Denbighshire	Cambrian Slate Mine	¼ hr	Glyn Ceiriog	Quick visit to deep drift near the road.

	18/12/72 P.Parsons (OS)			
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Denbighshire	20/12/72 World's End, Llangollen – Looked at various caves and mine workings with J.Finlay and A.Price (OS). Interesting area deserving a proper exploratory visit.			
Pegasus Club Xmas Trip to NW Clare, Ireland				
Ireland Co. Clare	Cullaun 5 26/12/72 Jim Shannon, Vic, Paul	3 hrs	Lisdoonvarna	In via 5 entrance and under 5b to the terminal sump. Interesting system with good pushing possibilities. A great Xmas.
Derbyshire	Thistle Pot 5/1/73 Alone		Castleton	Quick look to assess bang damage. More needed.
Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 6/1/73 Sulo, Steve	2 hrs	Castleton	Took chain ladder to 25' climbing shaft for permanent rigging and went to top of climbing shaft to assess bang damage. Not much change.
Denbighshire	9/1/73 Geraint Jones and I looked at two uninteresting 15' long caves in the gorge near Rheul, Ruthin. One is probably mined (?)			
Merioneth-shire	Slate mine (Pont yr Afon Gam) 4/2/73 Peggy	¼ hr	Blaenau Ffestiniog	Small, well decorated and interesting mine on Ysbyty Ifan road out of “Bluenose Festerin’ nig-nog”
Denbighshire	6/2/73 – Looked at an impassable resurgence at Llanrhaedr, near Denbigh.			
Caernarvon-shire Denbighshire	Parc Mine Cefn Caves & Arch, Bont Newydd Cave 7/2/73 G.Parkin (Garry Jones)	½ hr	Llanrwst Cefn Cefn	Fester round entrance passages Saw a badger in Cefn Natural Arch and a bat in Bont Newydd Cave.
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Derbyshire	Hollandtwine Mine 10/2/73 Steve, Paul, Dave	4 hrs	Castleton	Digging at bottom of engine shaft.
Derbyshire	Thistle Pot 11/2/73 As above +M.Durdy		Castleton	Digging.
Denbighshire	Cambrian Mine 13/2/73 G.Parkin (EPC)	½ hr	Glyn Ceiriog	Festered round main workings. Also looked at a small through route stream cave at Craig Fechan (see SMC Year Book)
Denbighshire	14/2/73 GP and I visited World's End area, looking at entrances.			
Somerset dive	Swildon's Hole Wookey Hole 17/2/73 (J. Reese-Evans, P.Cronin) Sulo, Pete Moody [A.Wilkins, OCL, etc]	¼ hr 1 hr	Priddy Wookey	Attempt to dive to Swildon's XII cancelled at the well due to Sulo's failed light. Drove down to Wookey and dived in from resurgence to 3 rd Chamber – much to the delight of the tourists.
Somerset	Hollowfield Swallet 18/2/73 P.Moody	½ hr	Priddy	Bottomed this nasty little hole to look for digging sites – ‘orrid, and exactly like Ubley Warren Pot!
Denbighshire	Mine level 20/2/73 G.Parkin		Ruthin	Looked at a c.200' mine level near Ruthin.
Flintshire discovery dive	Pont Newydd Rising 28/2/73 D.Pike (GP +1)	1 ¼ hrs	Cilcain	Found extra 40' of dry passage off (1 st) Airbell, with many roots in the roof. I dived Sump 2 for c. 25' to a 2 nd Airbell with a loose choke and inviting black space above. Then my light went out so I did the same.
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Flintshire	Pont Newydd Rising 2/3/73	½ hr	Cilcain	A couple of hours digging to the right of the entrance grille in the hope of entering the dry

	GP			passages and by-passing sump 1.
Flintshire	8/3/73 More digging at Pont Newydd Rising			
Derbyshire	Thistle Pot 10/3/73 Spud, M.Durdy, Dave, Andrew	3 ½ hrs	Castleton	Much digging in the side chamber. A bedding plane can be seen and loose stuff rattles away down various holes.
Derbyshire <i>discovery</i>	Thistle Pot 11/3/73 As above +Sulo, Lawr, Al Stean, Paul, Ratarse etc	3 ½ hrs	Castleton	Broke through at 6.00pm Sunday night! A viciously loose (?) and nasty hole in the floor was pushed by me into an 8' pitch. A well decorated cross rift led off with an undescended c.20' pitch to the left. Approx. 60' of passage found. Doubtful about further progress.



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Yorkshire	Sir Francis Level 17/3/73 Torchy, Mik Durdy, Dave (EPC)	1 hr	Gunnerside	Met Pegasus at entrance then we three went down to view the fine hydraulic pumping and winding engines about a mile in. Boring level but the engines and engine chamber are worth seeing.
Westmorland	Hilton Mines and Murton Mines 18/3/73 Paul, Vic, dave, Spud, Sulo, Terry, Steve, Torchy, Mik, Barbra, Tokyo	1hr 40m	Hilton	Explored three (4) of the levels in the valley – there are others. The bottom, or haulage level (horse level) is a beautiful piece of workmanship in ginging. Torchy got loads of “clemmies” from the top levels. A fabulous area and interesting mines.
Flintshire <i>dive</i>	Pont Newydd Rising 21/3/73 Dick Pike (G.Parkin)	1 ½ hrs	Cilcain	Dick dived first to base of 1 st airbell where he clipped on a new line and pushed through bedding plane to larger phreatic passage. After 40' the main passage appeared to go off SSW down into a bedding plane (15' deep). He then ran short of line and got caught in a cloud of silt so he retired to the roof and made his way to 2 nd airbell. Two phreatic tubes lead off bell one vertically, one at 45°-50° up due south. He returned to base measuring sump 2 at 35' en route. I then dived to 1 st Airbell and commenced digging (re-lining Sump 1 en route – 70') GP and

				DP dug from the choked tube above the sump pool. Gave up with about 8' to dig before a connection will be made.
Derbyshire	Slitherstones Mine Thistle Pot 24/3/73 Mik Durdy, Andrew etc.	2 ½ hrs	Castleton	After a brief look down the blocked (c. 40') climbing shaft of Slitherstones Mine we carried on digging in Thistle. Andrew and I were almost annihilated by a large collapse of rock and gravel from the side of the chamber. After regaining our senses with a fag we did a bit more digging then went for several more calming pints.

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Derbyshire <i>discovery</i>	Thistle Pot 26/3/73 Mik, Andy, Steve (etc)	2 ½ hrs	Castleton	More digging and a few more minor collapses. Eventually re-opened squeeze and I went in for a quick look. I descended the 12' pitch to find an impossibly tight and partly water-filled bedding tube at the bottom. So much for that. The way on now seems to be straight down the main rift – more digging!
Derbyshire	Nettle Pot 7/4/73 Mik Durdy, Andrew Broadbent, Vic Holland	6 hrs	Castleton	Good trip to bottom of Beza Pot. At one point I nearly fell down Elizabeth Shaft and at another I nearly fell down Crumble Pitch!!! Interesting and technically sporting pot. Sunday spent festering and walking up Cavedale to Peak Forest.
Denbighshire <i>dive</i>	Mine level World's End Cave No.4 11/4/73 G.Parkin	1 hr 40m	Llangollen	Dived the 10' duck, later followed by GP, who had a bit of trouble on way through. I then dived the terminal sump for c.30' – gently descending tube. At this point my valve began leaking badly so I returned. I free dived back through the duck, followed by GP who was using my bottle. He lost the gag half way and I only just got him out in time. A somewhat hair-raising trip. On way back to Ruthin we had a look at a short trial level on the Old Horseshoe Pass below the café. Dead end after c.120'
Breconshire	Agen Allwedd 20/4/73 Mik Durdy, Gordon Parkin, Icarus Gill, Dave Blythe +(the "scouts", EPC))	7 hrs 20m	Llangatock	To 4th Boulder Choke which was blocked by fallen rocks. Then, leaving the Scouts to go out, we went on up Coal Cellar Passage and round via Midsummer Passage to Turkey Pool and out. Very tired towards end of trip, but thoroughly enjoyed it.

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Carmarthen-shire	Dolaucothi Gold Mines 21/4/73 Torchy, Jim Kinsman, Cal, Bill Whitehouse, Mik, Icarus, etc (EPC)	20m	Pumpsaint	Festered round in dry gear looking at various holes and adits including Mitchell's Mine. Waders or wet suits needed for the more interesting adits which we didn't enter.
Breconshire <i>re-connection</i>	Agen Allwedd 22/4/73 Bill Scaithe, Dobby, Nik, Bernard, Mik Durdy (EPC)	7 hrs 20m	Llangatock	Down Southern Stream Passage to Main Stream Passage. Looked at the fine sump then wandered up and down looking for Beza Passage. Eventually found this and carried on to top of 4th Choke where Nik, Dob and I cleared the collapse. We then completed the Grand Circle – along MSP and out. Fabulous trip (c.3 miles).
Breconshire <i>dive</i>	Porth-yr-Ogof 23/4/73 Ratarse, Sulo (Hairy John and Janet)	¾ hr	Ystradfellte	In via main entrance then dived out and festered round in the resurgence. Very fine but bloody cold.
Merioneth-shire <i>Animal rescue</i>	Natural rift cave 26/4/73 G.Parkin, G.Elmy (RSPCA), J.Roberts	2 ½ hrs	Moel y Slates (Trawsfynydd)	Gordon and I assisted in the attempted rescue of a terrier which had got trapped in the cave three days earlier whilst fox hunting. A low crawl led to an unstable chamber where the dog could be

attempt	(Snowdonia Warden), etc			heard barking some distance in. Despite much removal of debris and digging from both inside and on surface the dog could not be reached. The rescue continues and NWCC are to be called in. (See Rescue Cuttings file). I don't think there is much hope.
Denbighshire	30/4/73 and 1/5/73 Investigated sink and resurgence of a cave (active) system near Llanrhaeadr, Denbigh. A large swallet at SJ0660/6260 looks enterable (with perhaps a bit of digging ?) and the resurgence at SJ0820/6340 (looked at previously) seems impassable – though a nearby culvert may lead into it. Several quarries nearby were looked at and a few sand filled phreatic passages found.			
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Cheshire	2/5/73 Various minor sea caves looked at on Hilbre Island, West Kirby, Wirral. Nothing of interest. Land Rover driven out to island!			
Denbighshire	3/5/73 GP and I wandered round the R.Alyn area looking at various sites of interest including sinks, digs and resurgences.			
Denbighshire	Ogof Rhewl 4/5/73 G.Parkin	2 hrs	Llanrhaeadr	Descended the sink at SJ0660/6252. a wide, rubble floored passage enlarges into a 6' high streamway ending in a dirt choked rift after c.80'. Several side passages are worth digging. We dug for a short time and found 6' of new passage with water sinking in the floor. The resurgence is 1,568 metres away in a straight line (SJ0795/6335). The most promising cave I have seen in North Wales (or anywhere else come to that!)
Denbighshire Caernarvon-shire	Ogof Rhewl Llandudno Copper Mine 6/5/73 A.Hawkins, C.Williams, G.Woolley, Keith, Les, Gerry, Pete etc, etc (NWCC), Gerry, Cearbhall O'Meadrhe	¼ hr 3 ½ hrs	Llanrhaeadr Llandudno	North Wales Caving Club trip. Entered mine via adit on West Shore, near yachting pool. After reopening a collapsed section in thick grey mud we continued on to explore a series of stopes and levels. Jerry, Cearbhall and I then went down the cave at Prion (a recruiting drive for a digging team). The Liverpool lads were very impressed indeed and digging should commence soon.
Denbighshire	7/5/73 G.Parkin and I investigated a choked swallet at the north end of Ty-Mawr Reservoir (SJ0594/6302) near Prion, Denbighshire. Looks fairly easily diggable and is presumably part of the Llanrhaeadre rising system.			
Denbighshire	8/5/73 GP and I commenced clearing the entrance of Ogof Rheul.			
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Denbighshire	10/5/73 Assisted by GP I levelled down to the resurgence at Ffynnon Ddyfnog. Alt = 54.903m O.D.			
Yorkshire	w/e 12-13/5/73 Peggy and I attended the Cave Diving Group dinner and AGM at the Hill Inn, Yorkshire. A superb w/e. (Got bogged down on Ingleborough on the Sunday).			
Denbighshire	15/5/73 G.Parkin and I spent 3 hrs digging out the entrance of Ogof Rhewl. Much gravel and several large rocks removed and the stream now goes down a hole on the RH side.			
Denbighshire	16/5/73 Gordon and I did 2 hrs digging at Ogof Rhewl entrance.			
Denbighshire	Ogof Rhewl 17/5/73 Alone	1 ½ hrs	Prion	Continued clearing out the entrance and first part of cave.
Derbyshire	Thistle Pot 1/6/73 Alone	2 hrs	Castleton	Dug in left hand rift of collapsing chamber to reveal a tight open rift, only passable with liberal use of bang and probably not worth the effort involved.
Derbyshire	Windy Knoll Caves Bradwell Dale Caves 3/6/73 BW, GP, DG, PD (Eldon) PC (Cotham) etc		Castleton Bradwell	Visited these three very interesting and extremely promising digs.
Denbighshire	Ogof Rhewl 5/6/73 Nigel	1 hr	Prion	An hour's digging, mainly clearing the first section of passage.

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Denbighshire	Dell Cave Afon Meirchion Cave Jock's Pot Brasgyll Caves 6/6/73 Gordon Parkin	1 ½ hrs	Henllan	Groped around several assorted holes. All are promising digs and Jock's Pot is a nice, sporting and pleasantly wet system.
Flintshire	Alyn Gorge Dig (Ogof Hesp Alyn) 7/6/73 Phil Hunter, Graham Woolley (NWCC)		Cilcain	2 ½ hrs digging and bucket hauling revealed a large open rift with just a couple of large boulders blocking the way in. Looks good.
Flintshire <i>major discovery</i>	Pont Newydd Rising Cave Alyn Gorge Dig (Ogof Hesp Alyn) 8/6/73 (Pete Appleton)	2 ½ hrs 1 ½ hrs	Cilcain	Spent the afternoon digging out the "sump by-pass passage" in Pont Newydd. I was then joined by Pete and we carried on digging at the NWCC dig. After an hour or so several boulders shifted as I was digging and I was able to squeeze through into a fairly large passage. I was joined by Pete and we proceeded to explore several hundred feet of large and impressive passages without reaching the end. The system is an old, drained phreatic one and will almost certainly be the largest in North Wales. A fantastic find. It could literally go for miles! Read on.....
Flintshire <i>major discovery</i>	Ogof Hesp Alyn 9/6/73 P.Appleton, Alan Hawkins	4 hrs 10m	Cilcain	Pushed on past furthest point reached to find c. ½ MILE of large tubular passage – similar to parts of Peak Cavern. A right hand series led to a chamber with a couple of small ways on (left unexplored) but the left hand (main) passage was big and beautiful – ending in a strongly draughting hole partly blocked with fine sand. Other passages were briefly looked at on way out – one ending in an undescended 40' pitch. Too good to be true. This cave is the longest in N.Wales and could easily be one of the longest in the country!

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Flintshire <i>major discovery</i>	Ogof Hesp Alyn 10/6/73 Mel Davies, Graham Woolley, Jerry, Chas, Phil Hunter, Phil Ford (Les and Tony)	5 ¾ hrs	Cilcain	Found another ½ MILE of very big passage ending in an undescended c.50' pitch! The sand choke was dug through for some 20' and a "hands and knees" passage led to a very large chamber with a beautiful domed roof. From here the main route became a 50' high canyon (rift) passage with awkward climbs and traverses. A 20' deep sump pool was waded across using underwater ledges and after passing through a boulder chamber we reached the pitch. There's still no sign of a stream. We are only in the dry stuff but have already found about 1 mile of passage. The potential is enormous. Words cannot describe how great it is to find something like this. It's a once in a lifetime find. And there's more to come.....
Denbighshire	June '73. GP and I levelled to the entrance of Ogof Rhewl. Permanent brass rivet situated 3.0m E and 2.3m above entrance. Alt. 169.76 metres O.D. Diff: sink to rising = 99.87m			
Flintshire <i>discovery</i>	Ogof Hesp Alyn 23/6/73 Jerry Dobby (Phil H, Graham, Mel)	3 hrs 50m	Cilcain	Jerry and I went in and put fixed handlines on the awkward climbs and explored various odd side passages in the system; finding about 100' in all, some of which requires digging for further progress. We climbed over the terminal pitch and along the top of a deep, tight rift which we did

				not descend. The cave doesn't look quite as promising as we thought. The others shored up the entrance and Mel explored the entrance passages and took draught and temperature readings.
Flintshire <i>discovery</i>	Ogof Hesp Alyn 24/6/73 (13 NWCC) B.Farmer, C.Williams, S.Edwards, P.Appleton, J.Dobby, G.Woolley, Les, Tony, Phil, John Needham, Phil, Keith W.	4 ¾ hrs	Cilcain	The advance party pushed on to the front and laddered the “unpromising” terminal pitch. It turned out to be an 80 footer, split by a ledge. This was immediately followed by a 20’ climb in a wide rift which led to a large, muddy passage. About sixty feet along this a further 15’ pitch was descended and an ascending mud tube followed to a fine 40’ pitch. From this a 15’ climb and boulder ruckle led to a further 15’ pitch which we couldn’t push due to lack of tackle. A large, loose boulder here decided to run away when I touched it – making a minute scratch on my knee and almost making Keith a resident! It’s still going – big and deep!!

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Somerset <i>discovery dive</i>	Swildon's Hole 30/6/73 Pete M, Paul Hadfield, Sulo	5 hrs	Priddy	Dived to VII to push a passage found by Pete, Paul and Chris Gordon the previous week. A hard thrutch up a mud lined rift led to a tight rift/traverse and 20’ pitch (free climbed). A big muddy passage went for about 20’ at the bottom with several diggable ways on. A climb up a rift went nowhere. Not a very pleasant trip.
Somerset	Rhino Rift 7/7/73 Crang, Petes Moody – Eckford – Hiscock, D and R Gordon.	4 hrs 20m	Charterhouse	Abseiled to bottom using “figure of eight” descendeur and prussicked out on Jumars. Did quite a bit of hairy digging in the boulders at the bottom. Doesn't look too promising. Excellent sing-song at Morris Ile's “20 th Year on Mendip” barrel followed by a sortie of the resurrected Elsan Cave Club!
Somerset	Writhlington Colliery 13/7/73 BEC trip (23) including, N.Taylor, D.Turner, D.Irwin, D.Stuckley, Don Thomson etc	2 ½ hrs	Radstock	(Lower Writhlington) Superb tourist trip down the pit. Writhlington Downcast shaft 1,461’ deep, was descended by cage and a mile or so of gates and workings inspected. Several fine “fern” fossils were removed from the working face – where we saw a coal cutter and propping methods in situ. Much of the way back was covered by travelling flat out on the conveyor belt – superb.

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Flintshire <i>discovery</i>	Ogof Hesp Alyn 15/7/73 Andy Nichols, Martin (CUSS)	4 hrs	Cilcain	Tourist trip to end of main passage (top of 80’ pitch). We then traversed out over the series of very deep rift beyond the pitch and found a few feet of passage. Returned to 1 st junction and explored c.200’ of loose passage leading on from the top of the undescended “40” pitch. Mucky trip. The lads were very impressed!
Eire Co.Wicklow	Avoca Mines 21/7/73 Jeffrey Thomas		Avoca	“Cousin” Jeff took me on a guided tour of the surface workings of this large mining concern. The company are working on the site of old workings and there are several fine Cornish engine houses in situ and many adits, shafts etc. The new main level is some 17’ square and descends spirally to 2,000 level. It is possible to drive a L/Rover to here! On the opposite side of the river a large opencast working (Cronebane Pit) is being dug on a fine copper lode. Jeff is on a summer geological job with the company. We had a brief look into one of the old adits.
Merioneth-	Oakley Slate Mine		Blaenau	Had a quick look at entrance to “Cwmorthin

shire	24/7/73 Alone		Ffestiniog	Adit” and answered the call of nature.
Caernarvon-shire	27/7/73 P.Pana and I looked at a shitty little sea cave at Blackrock Sands, Porthmadog			
Caernarvon-shire	Blackrock Sands Sea Caves 1/8/73 Alone	10m	Portmadog	Early morning visit to several large and roomy sea caves – one of which was artificially enlarged to act as a “resurgence” for a large stream. This was also entered via two small shafts on the shingle beach above. The water appears from a culvert which I have not yet investigated fully.

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British Expedition to the Réseau de la Pierre St. Martin, Pyrenees, France / Spain, 1973 Or (The Amazon’ Raisin Show goes ever on ...)

3/8/73 Dave Gill gave me a lift from Portmadoc to Buxton where we met up with George Cooper, Alan Gamble, and Richard Townsend. We drove down to London in the L/Rover and trailer, picking “Dicky” Dickenson up in Westminster. We left Ramsgate (via hovercraft) on 4/8/73 and drove down through France yelling the usual obscenities at the locals. We arrived at the Pyrenean village of Aramits (Armpits) on the night of the 5th to find a carnival and dance in progress. Joined in, got pissed and arrived at the St. Engrace campsite around 4.30am the following morning. We were not exactly welcomed with open arms by the other expedition members in residence ... beware the PYJAMA MOB!

France/Spain Pyrenees	Gouffre de la Pierre St. Martin 6-7/8/73 G.Parkin, G.Cooper, W.Ricket (EPC) N.Taylor (BEC), P.B.Smith (BCRA)	7hrs 50m	St. Engrace	<i>See below</i>
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Entered the cave via the EDF Tunnel. A long walk along this gallery brings one to the enormous vault of the Salle Verna. No roof or walls can be seen and you keep looking up to see stars! This is one of the largest and most impressive underground chambers in the world. It is just unbelievable!! We assisted Paul Deakin to take a photograph of this vault using several synchronised flash guns placed round this chamber, including high up in the Aranzadi Passage – some 300’ up the far wall. We were also filmed by a Bulgarian Television/Cinema caving team. Six of us then started off for the Lepineux shaft through the huge chambers upstream (Bill Whitehouse’s party turning back almost immediately). We scrambled along these vast halls for a long time, rarely catching a glimpse of the roof, until we met Mikes Wooding and Jeanmaire returning from Louben’s memorial. They told us we had a long way to go and as we were all knackered we decided to return. A brew up on the way restored us incredibly and we fairly ran back down the last section into the Verna. A tiring trip (due to altitude and lack of sleep). An amazing cave but quite boring and strenuous. Difficult to believe it’s a cave at all at times – it’s comparable with walking through a series of large quarries at night!

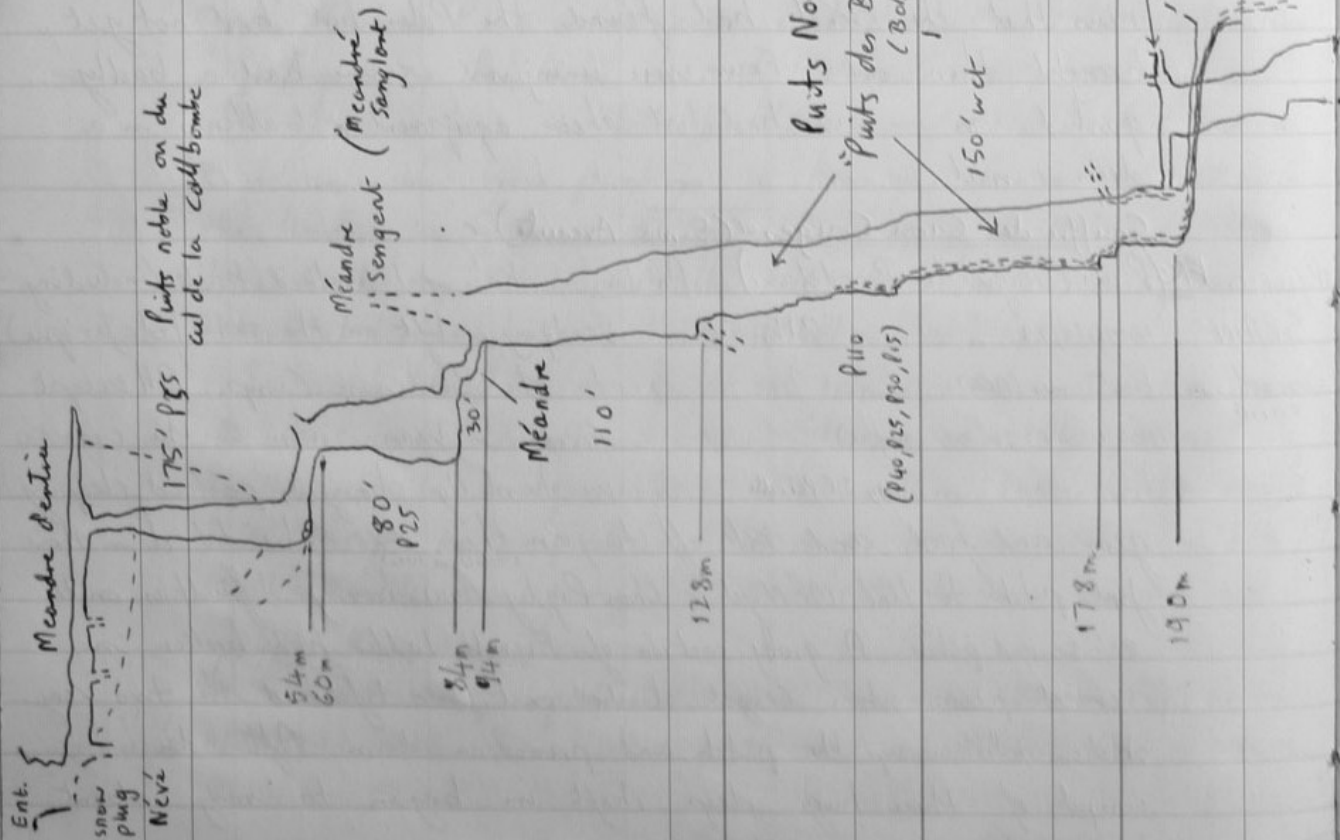
7/8/73 Met the great French caver Max Cosyns at Lieg. An incredible man and true genius.

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France/Spain Pyrenees	Gouffre de l’Arphidia 8/8/73 DG, MGC, GP, (EPC) Spike (LUSS) Al Gamble (DCC)	5 hrs 50m	St. Engrace	Descended the wet pitches in the system for 120m to a final, very promising sump. GC and AG surveyed this section and GP had a sad day when he dropped his “Clogger” down a 30m pitch into a deep pool! A fine set of wet pitches – just like a Yorkshire pot. Good trip.
France/Spain Pyrenees	Five Polish cavers reported many hours overdue from a PSM through trip (without permission!) Several of us drove the 40km to the Tete Sauvage entrance, high up on the plateau where we bivouacked for the night. The following morning a team from Speleo Club de Paris arrived and went down the pot – forbidding any English or Poles to do so. Ruben Gomez turned up and sent Spike and I to look for the club of the Speleo Club de Bordeaux who were pushing a deep new system just over the border in Spain. Our team were to carry on exploring this cave, to dye test the stream and to de-ladder the pitches. We didn’t know what he had let us in for! Spike and I set off in high spirits at gaining ourselves an easy day off but soon realised we had followed the wrong route when we ended up near the Lepineux Shaft – midway between the FRENCH and SPANISH border posts! After much discussion with nomadic English and French caving types and a lot of sunburn we met up with Mike and Liz Jeanmaire and Dave Yeandle who were touring. As we had no passports with us we had to walk a mile or two extra to avoid the border post and eventually arrived at the Pierre St. Martin Hotel where we all re-grouped and had a wine or two with Jacques Caurura,			

	M.Accouce (Spelo Club de Rouen – very ‘ard) and his mates. Then back to St. Engrace.
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France/Spain Pyrenees	<p>10/8/73 The lads decided that the French rescue teams were useless as they had still not even found the Polish team. Al Gamble, John Nev, Bill Brooks and Co went in via the EDF Tunnel to try and find them first.</p> <p>Helped Speleo Club de Paris dig drainage trenches when their camp became flooded.</p> <p>Drove the remaining Eldon men to the Plateau and helped carry gear up to the Bordeaux camp. Were caught in a frightening mountain thunderstorm just as it got dark so were freed to hurriedly erect the tents in pouring rain in a slight valley on the mountainside. Spent a very wet night illuminated by the tremendous lightning flashes striking all around us. Early start the following morning. After a gruelling march down across the lapiaz in burning sunshine we eventually reached the isolated Bordeaux camp. After a brief rest I had a look at the even more isolated Gouffre de Bordelaise and then did a solo hike across the mountains back to the L/Rover. Drove back to St. Engrace to find the English rescue team half pissed and news that the French had found the Poles but had not yet brought them out. Four were uninjured and one had a badly gashed arm – all had lost their equipment and batteries in a deep canal.</p>

1973



GOUFFRE DES CAOU-COUGES (FR3)
ALIAS SIMA ARCAUTE
ALIAS

(Gouffre (Puits) de
Bordelaise) FR3

ANIALARRA, SPANISH PYRENEES

SKETCH SURVEY (Speleo Club de Bordeaux)
(AND NOMENCLATURE)

(See also Spéleo Sportivale Pierre
Saint-Martin, 1985, p. 106)

PITCH LENGTHS
(IN FEET)

175

80

30

0110

051

05

000

575

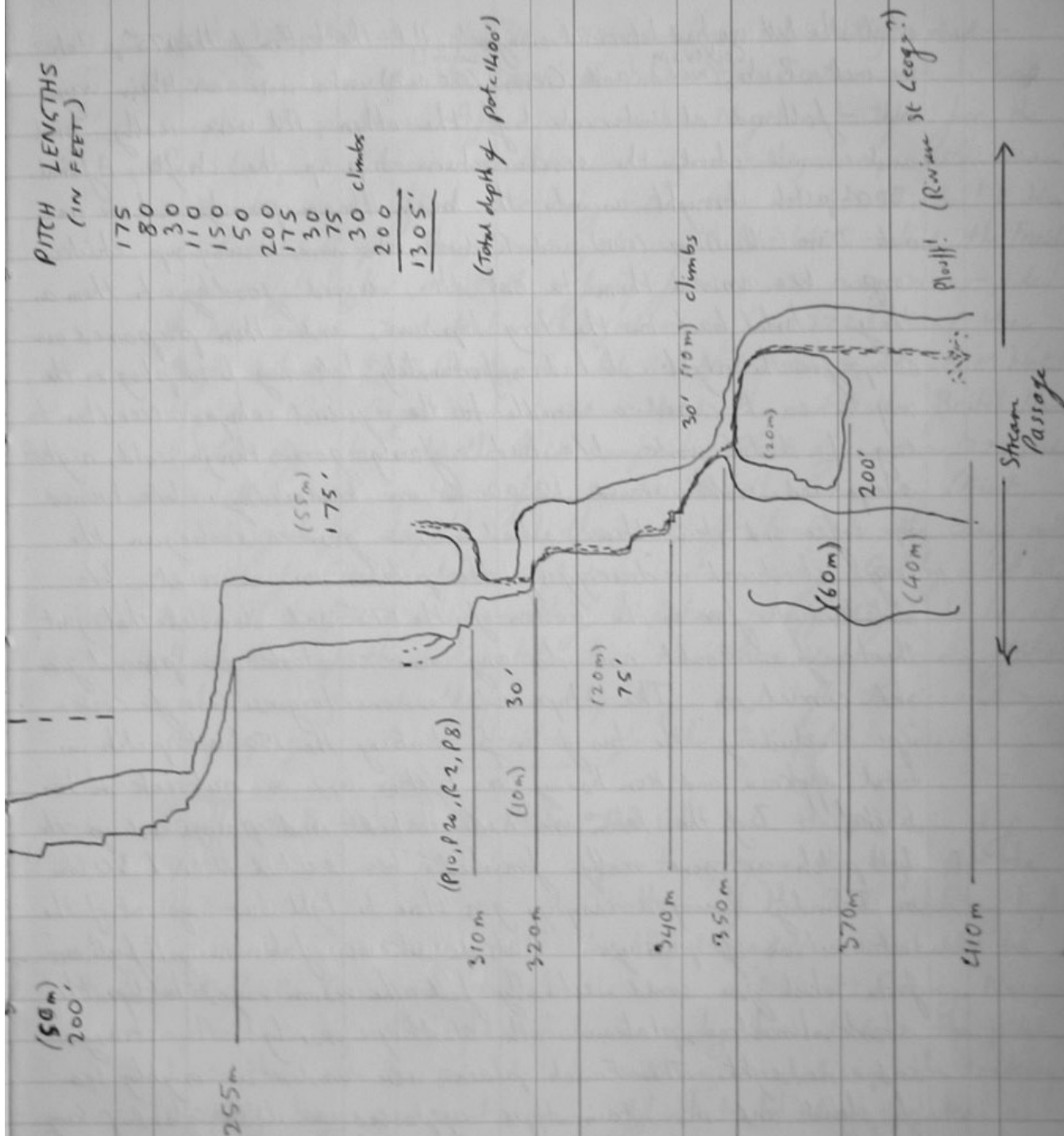
30

54

30 climbs

200

(Total depth of pot. 1400')



France/Spain Pyrenees	Gouffre des Caou- Couges or Sima Arcaute or FR3 (Puits (Gouffre de Bordelaise) 12-14/8/73 Ken James (ACG) (DG, NT, CP, JL, DD, a frog, etc)	31 hrs 50m	Anialarra	<i>See below and Sketch on previous pages</i>
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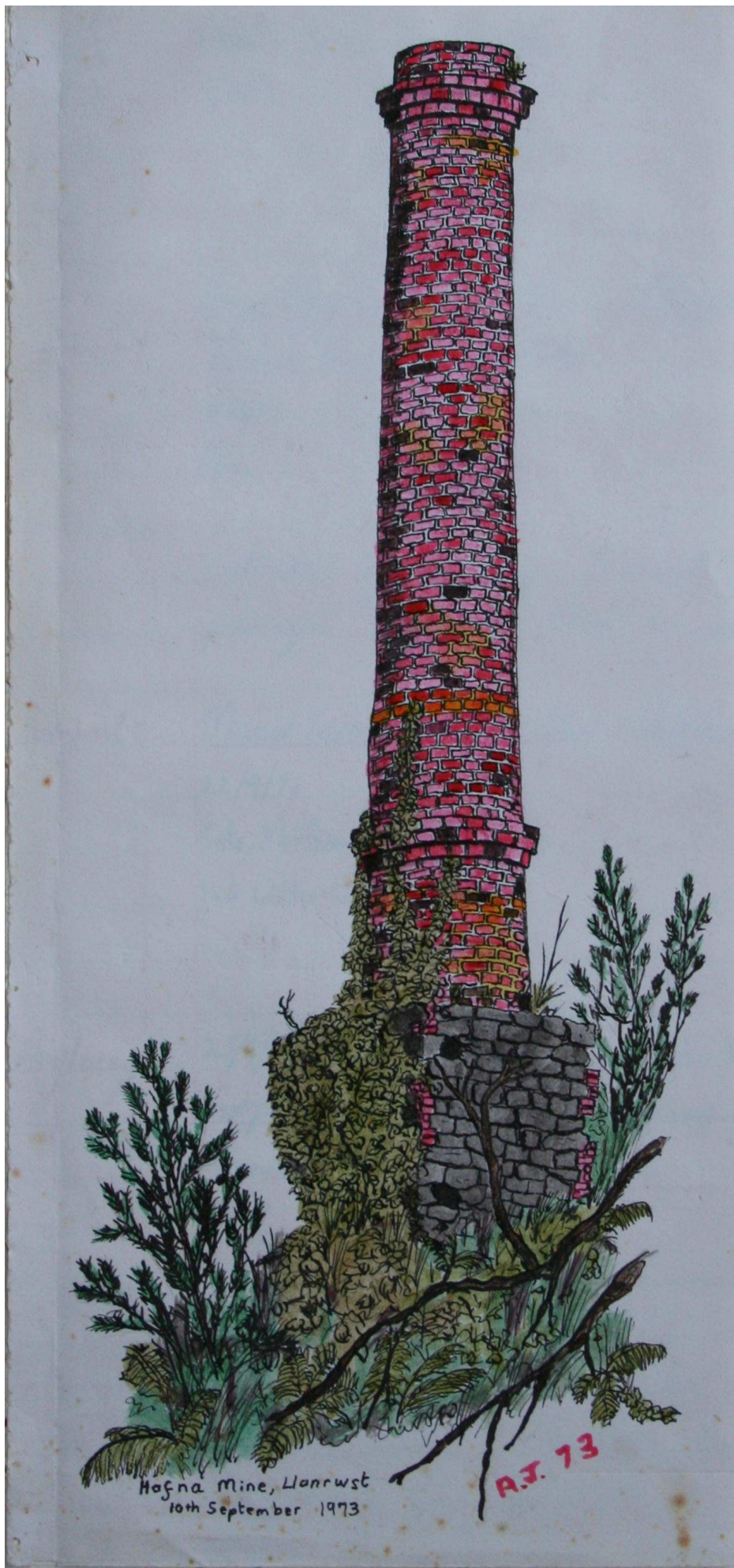
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France/Spain Pyrenees	<p>Ken and I walked back (including cadging a lift on the ski-teleferique) to the Bordeaux Camp. All except Gordon and Wayne were in the cave so we hurriedly changed, packed sleeping gear and food, and set off to join them (5.40pm Tues). We abseiled down the first pitch to find “Mr” Nigel and Chas Pugiley (SUSS) having difficulties on the 80’ second pitch. A grotty section of French ladder had broken in several places when Nigel climbed on it. We lifelined the two very shaken blokes up the pitch and pressed on down. After descending several of these huge deep shafts we began to worry about what the hell we had let ourselves in for! At the bottom of the 175’ pitch we met Bob Cockeram (NCC) and Gerard (SC de B) who were on their way out – followed at intervals by the others. All were really tired and worried about the severe return trip up the shafts. A final 200’ pitch brought us into the main stream passage where we met Dave Gill, Alby (LUSS) and Richard who were brewing up chicken soup. We assisted them to eat this, waved goodbye to them as they started back on the long trip out, and then prepared our camp for the night. I had unfortunately lost my Lilo plug on the way in so I carved a candle to the required shape. Needless to say it didn’t work. We had a fairly good, though cold, night’s sleep and woke up around 10.00 am on Wednesday. We brewed up coffee and stew then packed up our gear and began the long climb out, re-rigging the pitches as we went. We detackled as far as the bottom of the 175’ and decided that just the two of us could not do any more so took our personal gear and carried on. The trip out was one long series of cock-ups including the two of us climbing the 150’ wet pitch in total darkness and Ken having no lifeline and a rucksack on his back!! By the time we had reached, and prussicked up the 1st pitch we were really finished. We exited at 1.30am on Thursday (using a camping gaz stove to light our way out of the last section of passage). Outside it was fabulous. A full moon, from which you could actually feel the warm rays, lit up the stark limestone plateau with startling clarity. A strange and eerie sight. The French plains were under a mighty sea of cloud and mountain tops appeared as little islands poking up through the cloud banks. An arduous but fantastic trip into one of the nastiest, coldest and most promising potholes in the world! Amen.</p>			
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France/Spain Pyrenees	Gouffre des Caou- Couges (or Gouffre de Bordelaise) 14-15/8/73 Nigel Taylor, Ken James (DG and 8)	6 ½ hrs	Anialarra	<i>See below</i>
France/Spain Pyrenees	<p>Dave and the other 8 had gone down to continue the de-laddering of the pot. We were to meet them at the 1st pitch at 6pm. By 1.00am we were decidedly worried – especially in view of the torrent of hail and thunderstorm which had swept the plateau. After some 6 ½ hrs Nigel and I left for the Paris Camp to summon assistance – using a tilley lamp at 2.00am in the morning to find our way across the clints (2 miles!) Ken waited to see if they were just overdue. We reached the French camp early to find them all suffering from severe hangovers – piles of honk outside each tent. We grabbed a few ZZZ’s and then Nigel returned to Anialarra while I walked down to the PSM Hotel to phone Max Cosyns – who could contact the rest of the British team. On my return to the Paris camp I grabbed a few more ZZZs and was later woken up to a fine meal with the Parisiennes. (First decent grub for days!) I then set off back to the camp with a couple of French lads and were welcomed by Grotty and Co who had all surfaced alive – they had been trapped for 16 hrs at the bottom of the wet pitch when the thunderstorm run-off had rushed underground. Unfortunately they had left Ken’s and my sleeping gear at the bottom of the 2nd pitch. So....</p>			
France/Spain Pyrenees	Gouffre des Caou- Couges (or Gouffre de Bordelaise) 15/8/73 (Ken, Aubrey)	3 hrs.	Anialarra	I abseiled down the pitches in dry gear to retrieve the bag. At the bottom of the 2 nd pitch my light went out and I was unable to re-light it. Ken went back to the camp and sent Aubrey Newport up with a cigarette lighter which was duly lowered down the pitch. I was then able to prussick out and we hauled up the soaking sleeping bags and got down off that bloody plateau as fast as we

				could.
16/8/73 Packed up and headed for home, George did the 700 odd miles to Calais non-stop. Arrived in Buxton for a lazy weekend on the 17 th . On the way back to Portmadoc with Dave, I was beaten up by a Polish bastard whose mate ran into our car. The Expedition Jinx lives on A complete cock-up but a great Expedition !!!				
Page 158				
Caernarvon-shire	28/8/73 Jim Shannon (Doolin) and I festered round surface workings of Parc, Cyffty etc Mines, Llanrwst – noting buildings, shafts and adits.			
Derbyshire	Eldon Hole 2/9/73 Jim Shannon, Sulo Sulomen	1 ½ hrs	Castleton	Abseiled down 200’ side using new Whillan’s Harness and weaing Lancashire clogs! Laddered out. Sulo took several photographs.
Denbighshire	Tan yr Ogof Caves 4/9/73 Alone	10m	Abergele	Visited 3 large but short caves here. All are promising as digs and I started work in the most southerly. A 20’ high passage blocked after c.60’ by mud. (No.1 dig).
Denbighshire	Tan yr Ogof Caves 6/9/73 Alone (J.Bacon BEC)	2 hrs	Abergele	Spent nearly 2 hrs digging – gained about 4’ and widened the dig. John arrived and we had a quick look round the other caves. (No.1 Dig)
Denbighshire	Ogof Rhewl 7/9/73 Alone	10m	Denbigh	CUCC have blocked up what I think are the most promising ways on and have opened up more of the tight side rift!
Flintshire	Pont Newydd Rising 8/9/73 Alone	1 hr	Cilcain	More digging in “sump by pass” 3 ft or so gained and widened. Also looked at old mine tips on Moel Famau
Denbighshire	Maeshafn Cave 9/9/73 Tony (NWCC)	10m	Maeshafn	A large descending passage leads to a junction of two crawls. Didn’t push these due to a twisted ankle. Looks yet another promising dig site!
Caernarvon-shire	10/9/73 Sketched old mine chimney near Parc Mine, Llanrwst			
Caernarvon-shire	11/9/73 P.Parsons (OS) and I looked at Trecastell Mine near Conway.			
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Denbighshire	Tan yr Ogof Caves 11/9/73 Alone (J.Bacon and Dave[-umber])	3 hrs	Abergele	Dug for 2 hrs making considerable progress then the others arrived and Dave had a vain attempt at pegging up to a high level passage in the middle cave. Will try again. (No.1 Dig)
Denbighshire	Tan yr Ogof Caves Dulas Cave 14/9/73 Alone	2 hrs ¼ hr	Abegele	Two hours digging gained about 4 ft of widened passage (No.1 dig). There appears to be a rubble choke in the roof. I then explored Dulas Cave – several hundred feet of roomy natural passage widened and extended by mining. Several good digging sites seen and not all passages explored. Must be part of a very large, old cave system.
Somerset	Manor Farm Swallet 22/9/71 Sulo, MacAnus, (Chris (BR) I and G Wilton-Jones +2	2 hrs	Charterhouse	Good trip into the 3,000’ of new passage. Mostly walking and plenty of fine pretties including a superb 10’ curtain. Steeply descending and most impressive. Much digging needed to progress further.
Anglesey	25/9/73 Frank Shephard, Arvon Price + John Hansom and me visited Parys Mountain Copper Mine, Anglesey – spending the afternoon photographing and throwing stones!			
Derbyshire	Eldon Hole – to look for a lost calf. Sulo volunteered to abseil down. During his descent of the slope down to the top of the 120’ side he slipped and fell onto the ledge at the head of this pitch. After a few moments he fell from this ledge to the bottom of the pothole and was mercifully instantly killed. His body was brought out some three hours later. He was one of the best blokes you could ever wish to meet.			



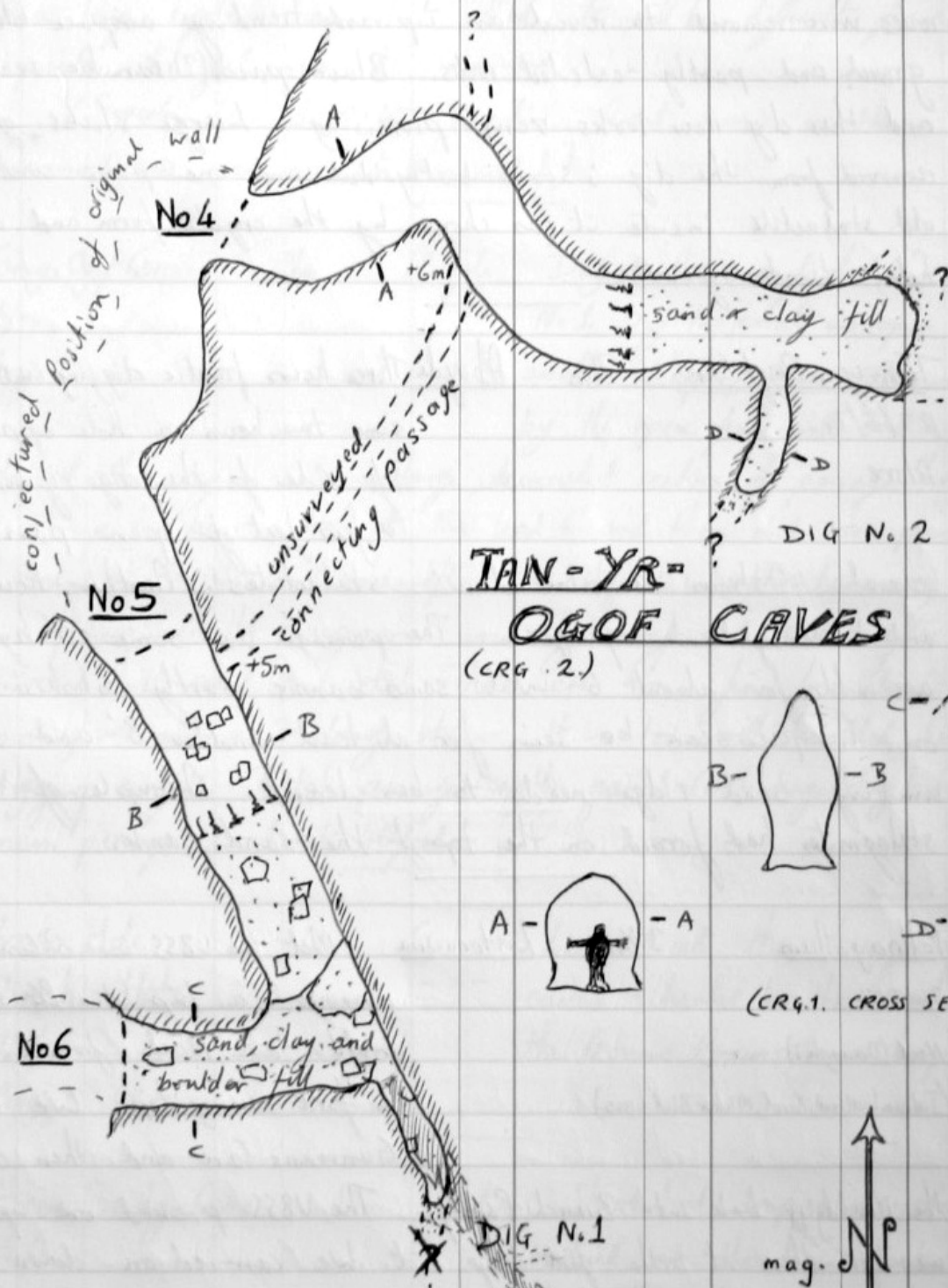
Hafna Mine, Llanrwst
10th September 1973

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Gloucester-shire	6/10/73 Peggy and I visited Forest of Dean area in a vain search for the Clearwell Show Cave.			
Somerset	Ebbor Gorge Caves 6/10/73 Hank, Dave (EPC (MKD) Phil Hendy		Wookey	Visited various caves in the top of the gorge including Hawk's Nest, Square Entrance, Kid's Hole etc. Attended BEC Dinner on Saturday night. Very fine.
Denbighshire Flintshire	14/10/73 G.Woolley, C.Ebbs, M.Charlton (NWCC) and I visited various sinks, caves and mineshafts in the Llandegla – Pantymwyn areas. The swallets (14) at “Llandegla” are extremely promising digs and the short stream cave at Graigfechan deserves a good look at. The shafts visited (and depth plumbed with Graham's wonderful machine) were:- Pantymwyn Mine – New (Cae ?) Shaft: 490 feet. Llyn-y-Pandy Mine – Conqueror of Wales Shaft: 480 feet (previously plumbed) Andrew's Shaft ? : 345 feet Footway Shaft ? : 195 feet			
Flintshire	28/10/73 Phil Hunter and I, assisted by the rest of the “NWMEG” contingent, levelled from Cilcain (Pont Newydd) Bridge to the entrance of Ogof Hesp Alun and then on to the quarry. Thence to....			
Flintshire	Siamber Wen Cave (and sink) 28/10/73 Phil, Jerry, Graham, Les, Ted		Cilcain	Interesting resurgence cave and extremely impressive sink about a mile above it, which the lads are digging. Sink takes a vast amount of water and looks very promising.
Derbyshire	Oxlow Caverns 4/11/73 Eldon, DCC, Pegasus, etc, etc, etc	1 ½ hrs	Castleton	Annual firework trip. Bloody good but vast amounts of smoke generated necessitating rapid retreat. We may have caused a rescue. Police in evidence.
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Denbighshire	11/11/73 Bill, Tony and I completed levelling at Ogof Hesp Alyn			
Caernarvon-shire	16/11/73 Festered up Snowdon looking at various slate quarries and levels en route.			
Caernarvon-shire	Simdde Dyllaun Mine 21/11/73 Jon Savage	20m	Rhyd-ddu	Investigated several short levels and stopes. The vein appears to run parallel with the cliff face and the workings are bloody loose. Two water filled adits were found but not entered. Probably much more of interest in this area. Within sight of Snowdon.
Anglesey	Parys Mountain Mine 22/11/73 Jon		Amlwch	Festered round the site throwing the usual rocks down the usual shafts. Explored a couple of loose “stopes” which are more likely to be “gulls” formed by collapse of the sides of the opencast mine.
Denbighshire	Waen Las Mine 9/12/73 Richard Townsend (Eldon PC)	1 ½ hrs	Maeshafn	After Mr and Mrs “Whacker” Woodall had chickened out at the 2 foot high entrance, Rich and I carried on up the culvert like adit – very ‘ard on the knees. After c.100 yds the level increased to walking size and we followed this for some 3,000’. We also looked at a couple of other side levels and raises. Nicely decorated mine and quite an enjoyable trip. (Good PU Sat. night).
Cardiganshire	12/12/73 F.Shephard, A.Price and I stayed at NCMC cottage at Caegynon Mine, Cards. And Frank and I had a brief look in the entrance of Caegynon adit.			
Merioneth-shire	Gwynfynydd Mine 13/12/73 Alone	¼ hr	Ganllwyd	Visited this famous gold mine and followed the main adit – straight in to where it curves away leaving a dead end straight on. Looked up a few side levels and noted several interesting hoppers, flooded skip shaft, stopes etc. Also festered round the mill and looked at a couple of other levels. Fabulous place with two very fine waterfalls at the river junction.
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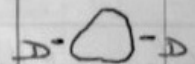
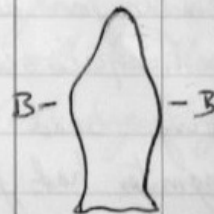
Anglesey	15/12/73 Festered around Pen mon estates, Beaumaris, Anglesey looking for anything of speleological interest – found absolutely nothing and the area doesn't appear to be worth another visit.			
Caernarvon-shire	Nant Peris Copper Mine 16/12/73 Alone	5 min	Nant Peris	Explored a minor level and stopes high up on the hill side. Strong draught shows it must connect with the adit level a couple of hundred feet below (at river level). Could be a good through trip from the top of the mountain. Also looked at the curragh building site for the 1974 Hy-Brasil (Ireland-America in a curragh) Expedition. Visit to Brittonia Copper Mine (Snowdon) foiled due to depth of water over causeway across Llyn Llydaw.
Cardiganshire	Cwmystwyth Mine 17/12/73 Arvon Price, Frank Shephard (OS) S.Hughes, Phil, Steve, "Ben" Gunn (NCMC and UCWCC)	1 hr 50m	Cwmystwyth	Tourist trip round Level Fawr to incline shaft and associated stopes and coffin level. Nice trip.
Cardiganshire	Caegynon Mine 18/12/73 Arvon, Frank (OS)	40m	Cwm Rheidol	Explored the level behind the NCMC Cottage. After c.80' a large, stoped shaft (c.60' deep) prevents further progress along the level. I attempted to straddle across on rather hairy suspended railway lines and succeeded in getting to a central rock (?) bridge about 20 feet across. The remaining 20' was crossed by two lines, partly collapsed at far end, so chickened out – needs pegging. Frank and Arvon lifelined using a large winch as a belay. Another shaft and wide, deep stope was also found to the left of the entrance.
Montgomery-shire Merioneth-shire	Machynlleth Parc Copper Mine Gwynfynedd Gold Mine 19/12/73 Frank, Arvon	1 hr	Machynlleth Gwynfynedd	Frank and I looked at the "Ogof" or Parc Mine. A grotty, rubbish filled stope leads to a flooded shaft full of dead sheep and a smelly level leading to daylight after a couple of hundred feet. Then on to Gwynfynedd where we explored all available levels connected with No.5 level (the adit). Some superb ochre formations were found and a good trip had by all.
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Pegasus / Eldon Trip. Co. Clare, Ireland. Christmas 1973				
Ireland Co.Clare	Poulnagree 29/12/73 Vic, Mik D, Pat, Jim Shannon, Pat Redmond (climber)	3 hrs	Lisdoonvarna	Very fine, wet trip and an excellent cave. Of especial interest are the fine, wet avens which drop into the streamway. Another great Christmas.

Merioneth-shire	Vigra Gold Mine 3/1/74 Frank Shephard (OS)	20m	Bontddu	Illegal entry into “working” mine by squeezing through bars in gate. Wandered round a few passages and returned to surface. Well worth a return visit to explore further. Also looked at the remains of the mill.
Caernarvon-shire	11-12/1/74. Peggy and I looked round the surface remains of an iron ore mine at Betws Garmon (in the Beddgelert/Caeathro valley). Two completely blocked adits were found – one with rails and a truck outside – and a small stream level (a through trip) explored. The large spoil heaps appear to have been the result of opencast working.			
Caernarvon-shire	Nant Peris Copper Mine 13/1/74 Peggy	½ hr	Nant Peris	Followed adit level in ankle deep water for a couple of hundred yards until way on blocked by flooded workings in the floor. Three other flooded stopes were traversed round before reaching this point. There is a strong draught here and the stopes are very high; so a through trip from the top level is highly likely. We then festered round the old Llanberis slate quarries and found a perfectly good 1945 Jerry Can! (Worth £2 during the present crisis).
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Caernarvon-shire	New Pandora Mine 20/1/74 W.Wodall, B.Whitehouse, J.Needham, Les, Jerry, Gray, Phil, Cris, Brian, NCMC, Alan Hawkins, Selwyn, Len Lyons, H.Morris, Dr. Jones (?), etc, etc	3 hrs 50m	Llanrwst	NWCC Rescue Practice. Lesley was the “victim” and pretended to have a badly gashed head and fractured arm. She was put in exposure bag and stretcher and hoisted to the surface, via three shafts exiting from the top level. A very well organised and rapid rescue and an exceptionally good turn out of blokes. Superb mine.
Merioneth-shire	Slate mine (Rhyd-yr-onnen) Bryn Eglwys Slate Mine 21/1/74 Arvon Price (OS)	10m 10m	Tywyn Abergynolwyn	Short mine with unexplored mine on opposite side of valley. Little of interest here. The surface remains of the Bryn-Eglwys mine are very impressive – many deserted buildings – one containing a c.150’ deep shaft lined with superb slate ginging and square. Another deep shaft was found nearby and a level was followed which entered this about 1/3 of the way down. A large, collapsed chamber was found and several other entrances noted, though the main level into the, presumably vast, workings was not noted. Well worth a revisit.
Derbyshire	Thistle Pot 27/1/74 M.Bishop, Mac, Gobby, Ratarse, Terry	20m	Castleton	Superb Pegasus Dinner and Stomp on Sat. Pulled a couple of rocks out of the dig in the main rift and then Mac and Ratarse laid and fired a 2 lb charge.
Denbighshire	Tan-yr-Ogof Caves 30/1/74 Alone	2 hrs	Abergele	Visited all the main caves and several other odd holes. Did some digging in the lower caves. At least three good digging sites here. The largest cave (higher up) does not look as promising as these.
Denbighshire	Cefn-yr-Ogof Mine Tan-yr-Ogof Caves Dulas Caves 1/2/74 Brian (Mr Sayle) [Gwrych Castle]	1 hr	Abergele	After a visit to Gwrych Castle to discuss the Tan-yr-Ogof caves, we looked at several small workings immediately behind the castle. A thin lead vein has been worked here by narrow adits and shafts. (These had been explored briefly by several “Medieval Joustes” who had left some nice candles and bits of rope behind!) Brian and I then drove to Tan-yr-Ogof Caves which we briefly toured and then had a look down Dulas

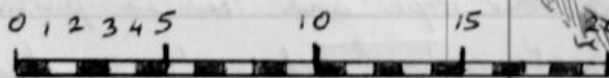
				Cave, with which he was very impressed. We hope to commence digging ay T-Y-O fairly soon.
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Flintshire	Ogof Nadolig 2/2/74 Crispin Ebbs (NWCC)	2 hrs	Cilcain	While Graham, Mick and Phil shored up the entrance shaft, Crisp and I went down the lads' new cave to do some digging. Crisp had a dig near to the 20' mined entrance pitch while I continued along the mud-floored phreatic passages to a chamber near the end which had been entered by miners. A sound connection with the surface could not be established so I began to excavate the base of a choked shaft – and succeeded in bringing down at least a ton of rubble leaving about 10' of shaft open and rubble still coming down. This place was best left for another day so I exited to join the others. On my way out of the shaft part of the “ginging” collapsed. A fine new cave promising lots more passage.
Flintshire <i>mine discovery</i>	Pant-y-buarth (Mold) Mine 3/2/74 Chris Williams, Andy, Gray, Crisp, Mik, Mike, Phil, Derek +2(NWCC)	1 ½ hrs	Ciclain	NWCC meet to descend a couple of old shafts in the hope of finding a natural section known to exist in the area. The first shaft had a fine “beehive” over it and had not been explored since “t’owd man’s” time. The beehive was removed to reveal a 25’ ginged shaft, a short crosscut and some 400’ of vein workings – a shaft and stope at the end leading to deep water. An old clog and several other bits of clutch were found. The next shaft nearby was of some 40’ depth with about 80’ of passage at the bottom. I didn’t descend this one.
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Caernarfon-shire	4/2/74 Frank Shephard and I visited the disused railway tunnel of the Welsh Highland Railway, at Pont Aberglaslyn. A nearby copper mine adit level was briefly looked at and the ruined terminal of the Cwm Bychan Mine aerial ropeway noted. A more detailed visit is needed to this area.			
Somerset	9-10/2/74 Mendip:- Very heavy rain so no caving. Visited Swildon’s and Wookey Hole which were both flooded. A level is being driven at Wookey to intercept the Ninth Chamber.			
Denbighshire	Tan-yr-Ogof Caves 28/2/74 Alone	½ hr	Abergele	Dug in No.5 (dig no.1) until light went out and then climbed round the cliffs above the cave noting several interesting holes.
Caernarvon-shire	Britannia Copper Mine 2/3/74 Ken James, Pat Cronin, Ted Meek	¼ hr	Snowdon	Long trek up in fairly heavy snow via PYG track. Explored a dry level for c. 300’ and a main level for c. 200’ to a flooded area and shaft in the roof – needs another visit with a wetsuit. Another wet level was looked at and the main shaft was not found. Fabulous situation on the side of Glaslyn – beneath Snowdon. Back via Miners’ Track.
Denbighshire	Tan-yr-Ogof Caves 3/3/74 Andy Sparrow, Ken James	1 ¼ hrs	Abergele	Much digging in the RH passage of No.4 (Dig no.2) Cave. Cleared about 3 feet of sand, clay and gravel. Very fine dig but probably long-term.
Somerset	Swildon’s Hole 10/3/74 Pete Moody, Bob Ellinor (Phil Collet, Tony Waltham)	2 hrs	Priddy	Intended “12” trip ended up as a very swift “Troubles” trip. Most sporting; with some very interesting ducks in places due to recent high water.
Caernarvon-shire	16/3/74 Peggy and I looked at a “through” sea cave near the Ty-Coch Inn, Porthdinllaen SH276/416.			
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Denbighshire	Tan-yr-Ogof Caves 17/3/74 Peggy	1 ½ hrs	Abergele	More digging in No.2 Dig and a rough grade 2 survey carried out.



TAN-YR-OGOF CAVES (CRG. 2.)

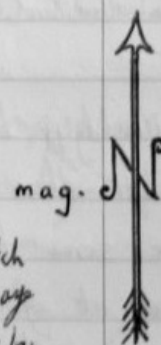


(CRG. 1. CROSS SECTIONS)



Scale in metres

Rough sketch
of panop
on 31/3/74



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Denbighshire	Tan-yr-Ogof Caves 19/3/74 Alone	4 ½ hrs	Abergele	Large amount of digging in digs nos. 1 and 2:- Made a couple of feet of progress in dig 2 and then widened and pushed No.1. At the end several loose rocks were removed to reveal an upward trending airspace blocked by gravel and partly calcited rocks. Black spaces (?) can be seen beyond and this dig now looks very promising. Large slabs of stal were removed from the dig; some botryoidal and one piece containing an old stalactite inside it (as shown by the crystal form and a horizontal hole). Looks good.
Denbighshire <i>discovery</i>	Tan-yr-Ogof Caves 22/3/74 Alone	3 hrs	Abergele	Three hours frantic digging in No.1 dig. After some two hours a hole appeared on the left side of the dig giving a view into a few feet of open passage with several 4" straws and ochre-coloured stalactites. Another hour's digging and I managed to squeeze in. The passage was some 3' high and accessible for about 6' until sand banks partly blocked the way on. Airspace can be seen for at least another 8' and only a winding sand ridge needs to be cleared. A couple of small stalagmites had formed on top of the sand bank.
Ireland Co.Clare	Pollnagollum 24/3/74 Noel (Danagh?) (Julian Walford, Carol, Mick and bird UBSS)	3 ¾ hrs	Lisdoonvarna	Met the UBSS in O'Connors and arranged a trip to PG so that I could take Noel (from Lisdoonvarna) on his first caving trip. We entered via Gunman's Cave and then crawled through the Muddy Link into Branch Passage. The UBSS pressed on upstream and we left them at the first deep bit. We carried on downstream and after some trouble with our rope and the 25' pitch (Noel slid down at great speed, hand over hand and partly unintentionally!) we reached the Main Junction. A nice walk back up the Main Streamway brought us to Pollnagollum Pot where we exited via a small muddy passage. Good trip – enjoyed by Noel.

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Ireland Co. Clare	26/3/74 Alone: Looked at Swallets A6 – A14, near Cregg Lodge, Ballynalacken. Several interesting sinks, some with small amounts of passage closing down into tight rifts. Spent a good half hour grovelling in these grotty holes, to no avail. Met Prof. Tratman in O'Connors and he believes there is a large system here but that it will be difficult if not practically impossible to get into it. (Superb few days in Doolin. Great music, weather, Guinness, accommodation, caving, etc. as usual.)			
Denbighshire <i>discovery</i>	Tan-yr-Ogof Caves 31/3/74 Peggy	3 hrs	Abergele	Dug at the end of the 6' extension in No. 1 dig to reveal an open space – another 6' of passage. This was terminated by the apex of the walls and a boulder which blocked the way on into a "large", decorated section of passage beyond. Peg came up to have a look at the first 6' and then did some passage clearing. I went back to the end and after some difficult boulder hammering succeeded in squeezing into the passage, which was very roomy and ended after about 10' – blocked with sand and stal. There are some fine formations here including mini-gours and a 2' long straw. It is too well decorated here for further digging as yet. Total passage length gained (including dug bits) from main passage is about 40 feet.
Glamorgan	Bacon Hole Minchin Hole	10m	Gower	Looked at these two famous bone caves situated in the southern cliffs of the Gower Peninsular.

	6/4/74 (Peggy)			Impressive size.
Pembroke-shire	Green Bridge Cave 7/4/74 (Peggy)	10 min	Pendine	Short but impressive stream cave entered at the large sink entrance and closing down to a sump after some 200'. Could be a good dig. Also looked at several fine sea caves and blowholes near Stackpole Quay.

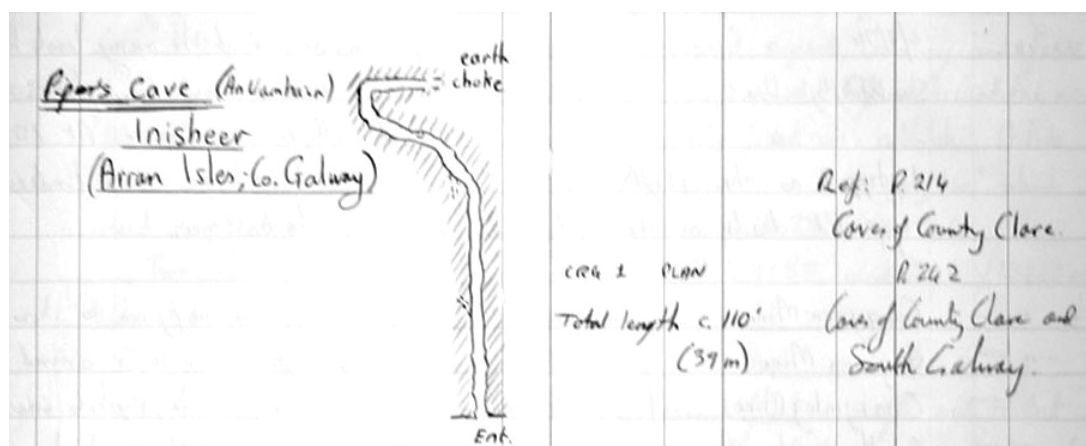
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Caernarvon-shire	Mine level (Aberglaslyn) Nant Peris Copper Mine 10/4/74 Alone	20 min	Aberglaslyn Nant Peris	Explored a short copper (?) level near the bridge at Aberglaslyn (runs below railway tunnel!). Nothing of interest. Then to Nant Peris mine where I followed the adit level to its end. The flooded winzes have been bridged by someone using "Acro" jacks and planks.
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Pegasus / Mendip Easter Trip – Doolin, Co. Clare, Ireland

Ireland Co. Clare	St. Catherine's – Fisherstreet Pot 14/4/74 Ratarse, Jim Shannon, Pat Cronin, Phil Collet, Ken James, Martin Bishop	1 ¾ hrs	Doolin	Usual tourist trip to Doolin Cave System. All were very impressed despite our overall lack of lighting. Out via Fisherstreet and then did some fine sea diving near Crab Island.
Ireland Co. Clare	Pollnagollum / Poulelva 16/4/74 Ratarse, Pat, Ken, Sean O'Connor, (Phil, Martin, Jim Shannon)	2 ¾ hrs	Lisdoonvarna	Sean's first caving trip. In via Pollnagollum, and then a gentle stroll down to the Poulelva entrance. Prussicked out of this very fine pothole. Good trip – Sean was delighted.
Ireland Co. Galway	Piper's Cave (AnUamhain) 18/4/74 Rat, Cheg, Peggy	10 mins	Inisheer	Investigated a c. 110' long abandoned stream passage on the Inisheer island. This is the only known cave and is located on the ridge behind the wreck of the Plasey. The passage is walking size for most of its length and ends in a loose earth choke – very diggable and worth a return visit. There is a legend attached to the site concerning a piper who can be heard playing in the cave. Good scope on this island for further work (See "Caves of Co.Clare and S.Galway", p.242)

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Derbyshire rescue	Thistle Pot Oxlow Cavern 21/4/74 Ratarse, Jim Smart (Allsop, Gill, Rat,	1 hr ¾ hr	Castleton	More digging and boulder shifting at Thistle – nobly assisted by a TSG hauling team. On way back to hut we noticed a police car at Oxlow. Four Stockport types were overdue from a connection trip having abseiled down the pitches.
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	Steve, Kidd and son etc)			The “defunct” Team J was soon on the scene followed by Team C. The idiots were found below the pitches and had returned because they thought the link had sumped. All over in a couple of hours.
Caernarvon-shire	(Bwlch-tocyn Mine) (Tan-bwlch Mine) Ashton Mines 2/4/74	¼ hr	Abersoch	- filled in shaft at SH31158/26678 - 3125/2665 Large are of tips – no open holes - 31746/26363. Open adit level explored for c.80ft to collapse. Stope (old shaft on map) at 31790/26332 leads to c.180ft of stooping levels. Some evidence of copper deposits. Blocked. Large adit level at 31851/26499 (in garden) noted but not yet explored.
Caernarvon-shire	(Penrhyn Mine) 1/5/74 Alone		Abersoch	Filled or partly filled shafts at 31202/26246, 31245/26245, 31270/26250, 31305/26250, 31351/26249 and 31381/26240. Ivy-covered engine house in good condition and also an unroofed magazine at SH31455/26197. Ruined terrace of houses nearby (Cornish Terrace – after the Cornish miners) and rumours of a level (?) in the cliffs nearby.

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Cardiganshire <i>dive</i>	Allt-y-Crib Mine 4/5/74 Simon, Toby Hughes, Steve.	½ hr	Talybont	Dived in a deep, flooded shaft just inside one of the many levels here. At c. 5’ down a level went for 30’ to a roof collapse – no airspace. At 20’ down I stopped as the shaft went on down as a ladderway with timber – supported deads on the right and no sign of the bottom.
Cardiganshire	Caegynon Mine Goginan Mine Cwnsymlog Mine Gwaith-yr-Afon Mine 5/5/74 Simon, Steve (Toby, Peggy, Francis)	2 hrs	Cwm Rheidol Goginan Gogerddan Gogerddan	Quick trip into Caegynon to show the girls the shafts. Simon and Co arrived and we went over to the superb incline shaft of Goginan Mine which ended in a flooded level after some 80’. I kitted up and started to dive but my valve leaked a large amount of water – the Kingfisher valve also refused to behave so the dive was cancelled. A neck deep passage to the right was explored for a few hundred feet but all ways on ended in blank walls. (The main level has an airbell some 5’ in and then continues underwater for at least 50’ – big passage. Needs another dive and looks very promising. Also threw rocks down the c. 700’ Bryn Pica Shaft! At Cwnsymlog and Gwaith-yr-Afon we looked at a couple of odd levels both of which were impassable after c. 200’.
Flintshire	Pont Newydd Rising 8/5/74 alone	3 hrs	Cilcain	Three hours strenuous “boulder chipping” in the “sump 1 by pass dig”. Little progress made and it looks like a job for Dr Nobel’s rock shifter!
Somerset	Flower Pot 12/5/74 “Fish” Jeanmaire, Martin Bishop	1 hr	Priddy	Assisted in “banging” an open rift at the end of this 300ft long new cave – found by “Elsan Cave Club” members the previous weekend. A foul muddy crawl leads to a series of phreatic passages with several possible ways on. Fired two charges with some boulder removing in between. Looks good.

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Caernarvon-shire	(Pant-gwyn Mine) (Porth-Neigwl Mine) 14/5/74 Alone		Abersoch Hanengan	- site levelled and built upon. - Photographed superb chimney and found that the shaft covered by rhododendrons was also completely filled with rubbish. A hole covered with rocks and “wiggly tin” which could drop into the adit level was found at SH29415/26746. Two blocked levels were found at SH29071/25158 (trial) and 29411/25440 and a
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				blocked trial shaft at 29133/25112.
Caernarvon-shire	Ashton Mines 15/5/74 Frank Shephard (OS)	5 mins	Abersoch	Noted several filled in shafts and went into the main adit level (in private garden on the beach). After some 50' a dam, holding back a large amount of water, prevents progress without wetsuit (and snorkel?). Still looks promising though. Small shaft just inside connects to surface on S side track. Useful for clandestine visits!
Cheshire	“(Bickerton Mine)” Gallantry Bank Mine 16/5/74 Alone		Bickerton	Photographed the fine chimney at this site. Noted the ginged engine shaft – rubbish filled about 12 feet down. A copper mine to which I know of no reference. (Ref: Brit. Mining No. 16)
Derbyshire	Thistle Pot “Bradwell Dale” Cave 17-18/5/74 (Curley), Cheg, MacAnus, Dave Williams, Mik Durdy	10 mins	Castleton Bradwell	Friday night – Curley and I crawled along the TSG Dig until it looked damp. After the pub we put some bang down Thistle and continued digging and shot hole drilling on Saturday.
Derbyshire	Thistle Pot 19/5/74 Steve, Dave W, Mik, Cheg, Mac, Shag	3 hrs	Castleton	Drilled three deep shot holes using the TSG drill. Mac banged – creating vast chaos. Walls and floor shattered to bits. A way through was cleared and I squeezed into 10' of tight passage choked with gravel. Looks like another 14 years work!