

Saturday Sept 27th 1980. Drove to Speleo Holland but behind the pub Robais au
Fond du Bachon in the little village of Bachon, Belgium.

Sunday 28th. AM to Hen-ru-hone for slow car trip and in PM to the
National Park at Fuyfroy and looked at all the small caves of the
Ruis horse and the locked entrance of the Trou qui Fume.

Monday 29th Finally to the Grotte de Combain-au-Pont which had closed for
the winter but we found a heap of leaflets. Then to Remouhemp for a
tour around the cave in Dutch and German, before getting on to the railway
and off to Sauerland, Germany.

Tuesday 30th. A round trip of the Sauerland visiting Kletterhöhle,
Dachenhöhle, Heinrichshöhle, Rechenhöhle and Balreshöhle.

Wednesday 1st October. AM to Attendorn Tropfsteinhöhle (Altshöhle) and then
to Attendorn. PM to Siegen.

Thursday 2nd. AM to Wilder Tropfsteinhöhle and Boggertshöhle before driving
to meet Jan Paul van der Pas in Schinvast, Holland.

Friday 3rd. Maastricht market in the morning, then a visit to the mines
at Valhenburg in the afternoon. In evening with Anner & Elise Tampstra
to AM of Speleo-Himburg, a slide show of french caves and a midnight
visit to the St. Pietersburg mines at Maastricht.

Sat 4th. A look at the stone quarries and mines at Schin-ap-Geul near
Valhenburg.

Sun 5th. to Peter Staal's in Schiedam via the dike and Zeeland.

Monday 6th Amsterdam.

Tuesday 7th. Rotterdam and Vlaardingse.

Wednesday 8th. Delft in AM - PM to Delta Exhibition

Thursday 9th. Back to Belgium and a visit to the Grotte de Hille at Une near
Hatten then via Puchepast (closed) and the tourist centre at Hen-ru-hone.

Friday 10th Grotte de Dinant and then back to Calais via Grotte de Floresse
(also closed).

CHELSEA SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CLUB MEMBER - CAVE RESEARCH GROUP OF GREAT BRITAIN

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15. 9. 80.

Dear Heather Rooke,

Ray Mansfield has passed your recent correspondence on Maggie Mine to me. I was very interested to see it and would be pleased to have a sight of any other information you might gain on this or any other mines in the vicinity.

I don't know if you have seen my publication "Caves and Tunnels in Kent": - Records vol. 6 of this Society, but I refer to the mine on page 39. It is at NGR TQ823545 on the A20 at its junction with the A20(M), behind the now derelict "Caves Cafe".

It was described by E. A. Baker in "Caving - episodes of underground adventure", Chap. V, publ. Chapman & Hall, 1932. He says that it was dug to provide sand for glass for the Crystal Palace (1849?) but provides no sources or evidence. He described it as a 3-dimensional maze where he became completely lost for a while.

It was opened briefly as a commercial cave by Charles Gardner (of Chislehurst Caves fame) in 1960 but then closed and the whole lot was given away to ~~the~~ get

material to build the ~~A~~ A 20 (M). I have been unable to trace any other documents or a plan and never succeeded in visiting the mine myself.

However with the information you now have it would be worth visiting the Kent County archive to see if they hold anything in Parish Records, deeds, tithes or manorial rolls. I can't help feeling that someone has a plan, possibly the A 20 (M) instructions did a survey.

I can at any rate confirm that the tunnels were man made. There were other mines in Mote Park and Willington Street and strong circumstantial evidence for natural caves at West Malling and Loose.

Stocks of Chelsea Speleological Society publications in print are held by Barry Weaver, 19, Delia Rd., Rochester.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Pearman.

Joan Rooke,
14, Trenton Close,
Maidstone
Kent.

copy to R. Mansfield.

ME16 OHL