

# MEMOIRS

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**LEICESTER UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY RESEARCH  
PROGRAMME.**

R.S. Harker

Researches into the caves of Portland have now been completed. Under the directorship of Dr. T.D. Ford, the bulk of the field work was carried out during a week's stay at a farm house in Chickerel, near Weymouth, at the end of June 1963. The underground survey was carried out mainly by the engineers in the party whereas the geology was left to the geologists. The immediate result of the work was a survey plotting every known cave and every major joint in the Portland Stone on the Isle of Portland.

Further work on the part of Dr. Ford and M.J. Hooper, (now employed by the Uganda Geological Survey) has resulted in a fairly lengthy paper describing previous work on the subject, the major underground systems and putting forward a hypothesis as to their origin. The paper is to be published by the Caver Research Group of Great Britain.

The Society is at present engaged in a survey of the Ecton Copper Mines, North Staffordshire, which is to be followed by an underground geological survey which will be correlated with the existing surface geological survey. To date, the survey of the workings of the Clayton Level has almost been completed. As with the Portland project, we will probably make a prolonged assault on the mines in June 1964. Members of the Northern Cavern and Mine Research Society are cordially invited to come along and help with the project.