

MEMOIRS 1964

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CONONLEY MINES,

J.E. Holding

Both official meets to the area met with very adverse weather conditions. On the 23rd February we had to abandon the proposed descent of Mason's Shaft - the Incline Shaft was however descended to the Shale Chamber where the water and shattered walls compelled the party to turn back. This particular meet was, despite the weather conditions, very well attended some seven members of the Society and a further five interested parties being present.

Our next meet was scheduled for the 12th April but again the weather prevented us carrying on with the meet.

I am, however, pleased to be able to report that a considerable amount of work has been done in the area. Several facts previously unknown have come to light thus adding considerably to our knowledge of the area and a comprehensive photographic record of the area both in monochrome and colour transparencies has been made.

ALUM POT AREA

D.T. Richardson, A.R.I.C.

Examination of waters from the various springs, resurgences, caves and potholes in the area continues and a very complete dossier is being compiled. It is hoped that when sufficient of these analyses are to hand we will be able to give figures of seasonal variations.

We have pushed along with the survey programme and are pleased to be able to report that surveys of the surface, Borrins Moor Cave, Upper Long Churn Cave, and Borrins Moor 'Dougs' Cave have been completed.

On April 26th we were able to introduce a professional bacteriologist to Borrins Moor Cave and we hear that the results he has obtained so far are very interesting - we naturally await his final report with interest.

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LAKELAND MINES

J.D.J. Wildridge

Reports given in other parts of this edition of the Memoirs indicate fully the amount of work which is being carried out in the Lake District.

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CAVING OFFICERS REPORT

We have about eight members turning up regularly on caving meets, and this seems to be an ideal number. Thanks to the generosity of these members we have been able to raise enough ready cash to purchase 450 feet of nylon lifeline equipment which we were badly in need of.

We are endeavouring to take samples of water from all the systems we visit, these are being sent to Mr. Richardson for analysis and we understand that our efforts are more than repaid.

Eron Pot, Kingsdale N.G.R. SD 714.787 5th January 1964
A poorly attended meet. There was far too much water in the system and we were unable to descend the pitch. A subsequent visit proved more successful and we bottomed the pot.

Lost John's System, Leck Fell N.G.R. SD 670.786 9th February 1964
Sheffield University were our guests on this occasion. A very enjoyable trip was held the route being taken via Centipede and Battle Axe. Samples of water were taken during this trip.

Marble Steps Pot, Gregareth N.G.R. SD 680.770 1st March 1964
The route was taken via the Intestines to the final sump. On the return a descent was made of the blind 80 ft. pitch. Waterr samples were taken from various points in the system.

Flood Entrance Pot, Gaping Gill area N.G.R. SD 752.725 5th April 1964
A successful entry into Gaping Gill was made via this route. The party returned by the same route.

Sunset Hole, Chapel-le-dale N.G.R. SD 742.759 3rd May, 1964
We had hoped to go to Hardrawkin Pot but the weather made a descent of the latter system totally impossible. Sunset Hole was bottomed and we filled in our time by examining various sinks and risings and taking samples of water from these various points.

Ireby Fell Cavern N.G.R. SD 673773 30th May, 1964
An enjoyable day was spent in the system which was found to be much drier than on our previous visit in October 1963.

Oxlow Cavern, Derbyshire N.G.R. 43/126.824 6th June, 1964
The pot was rigged throughout with British Speleological Society tackle which we had kindly been given permission to use. It was, therefore, possible for us to go into the new Oxlow extension, which is about 1000 foot long - entered by the use of

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scaling ladders, with a further pitch of about 30 feet near the end. This pitch is in a very shattered chamber, at the bottom of which the stream can be followed through two pools, to the final sump. This is the furthest point yet reached, but work is still being carried out by the British Speleological Association.

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Disappointment Pot, Allotment Area N.G.R. SD 750.726 14th June, 1964
The pot was done in reasonably dry conditions and was followed as far as the sump in Hensler's Passage, Gaping Gill. Return was by the same route. Water samples were brought out for analysis.

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