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NB

This publication was originally issued in the 10 by 8 inch format then used by the society. It has now been digitised and reformatted at A5. This has changed the original pagination of articles, which is given in square brackets.

(i) Alum Pot Area.

The first research meeting in this area took place on Sunday 28th. April and was attended by R. Guthrie; Mrs. J. Guthrie; Miss. J. Guthrie; B. King; Miss D. Turner; J.C. Wade; Mrs. M. Wood and D.T. Richardson.

A survey of Upper Long Churn Cave was completed by J. Guthrie and J.C. Wade by means of measuring tape, prismatic compass and tripod. Survey stations were marked out in advance of the surveyors by Miss Guthrie and B. King - the latter being employed to cut permanent bench marks. This system allowed the surveyors to move rapidly and was a most useful innovation. D.T. Richardson made sketches of the cave passage, took p.H. readings and collected six underground and three surface waters for chemical analysis. Miss Guthrie also busied herself by taking readings of the temperature of both water and air. Notes were taken of the more interesting phenomena. There were many examples of stalagmite and stalactite formations originating along the line of joints in the limestone. There are groups of unusual shaped stalactites in the form of inverted beehives and what is probably more interesting is the fact that we have found what we believe to be a group of these "beehive" stalactites in an active state of growth. It would appear that they originate as fast growing concretions of soft stalagmite which eventually hardens off into a very solid inverted 'beehive'. The survey has already been sketched out by Mr. Wade. The analyses of the water samples has been completed by Mr. Richardson and the results are more than interesting – see separate article.

The second meet in the area was held on the 26th;May and was attended by R. Guthrie; Mrs. J. Guthrie; Miss J. Guthrie, J.C. Wade and D.T. Richardson. A surface survey of the moor was carried out which included Lower Long Churn, Upper Long Churn, Borrins Moor, and Wilson's caves. A prismatic compass, tripod and surveyor's chain were used. Photographs of the various cave entrances were taken.

More help is needed with this project and we would be pleased if more members would find the time to come along. The next official meet to the area is on Sunday July 7th.

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