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	Page
Editorial	2
Geology of Mongo Gill - Stump Cross Caverns	3
Frog Pot - Priddy	11
Meets List	12
Extensions in Ogof Fynnon Ddu	13
Notes and News	17
Gingling Hole	18
Review - H.W.C.P.C.	19
Tackle Lists	Supplement

EDITORIAL

There seems to be distressingly little to say here as everyone has produced their articles in good time. Furthermore the mere fact that the Journal is out, in the slack caving season of College exams is quite remarkable. It can only be hoped that the standards of speleology and journalism will improve further when the majority of club members get underground again.

The next issue, in October, will be slightly different as it should include articles on various members' exploits in foreign caves - namely in Czechoslovakia, France, Greece, Italy and Yugoslavia.

Further copies of the Journal may be obtained from R. C. Lethbridge, Zoology Department, Imperial College, Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.7., at 1s. 6d. inc. p and p., or 5s. 6d. for one year's subscription. This address will change in July 1968 and will club librarians please note this change from last year's. While the Journal will soon sell out, the Tackle Lists Supplement will always be available for 1s. 3d. (inc. p. and p.) from Hon. Sec., I.C. Caving Club, Imperial College Union, Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.7.

It only remains for the retiring editor to wish the new one every success.

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A NOTE ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND GEOLOGY OF THE STUMP CROSS -
MONGO GILL CAVE SYSTEM NEAR GREENHOW, YORKSHIRE

The caves are situated on the pass between Wharfedale and Nidderdale at a height of approximately 1,175' and 1,250' a.s.l. and lie to the right of the road from Grassington to Fateley Bridge. It is almost impossible to miss Stump Cross Caverns, but Mongo Gill is rather more difficult to find, lying some 10' from the small stream from which it takes its name, about a quarter of a mile from the main road and due south of the old mine working known as Jamie Shaft. The entrance is covered by a large sheet of corrugated iron.

GEOLOGY

The caves are developed within a large anticline which plunges east north-east at about 8° and which is cut off to the south by the North Craven Fault zone. It has been suggested that this faulted inlier may be the northern continuation of the Skyreholm anticline which lies to the south and west. The limestone here can be divided into five groups of varying thickness and lithology:

(a) Timpony Limestone - Named after Timpony Joint, a crevice lying 50 yards from Dry Gill House and from which a large flow of water is observed to emerge, particularly after heavy rain, and which fills the lower reaches of Dry Gill. The limestone is of thinly, but well bedded grey limestones ranging from 3' to 2'6" thick and separated by shale partings. The fauna recorded includes *Caninia archiaci*; *Diphiphyllum gigantium*; *Productus corrugato-hemisphericus*. Hudson considers the horizon to be of S_2 age.

(b) Stump Cross Limestone - The name is taken from the Caverns, whose entrance lies within the formation (the original Cross marked the boundary of the Forest of Naresbrough). A bed containing *Hemitrypa* is taken as the base of the division, although it is never well exposed. The horizon is badly bedded and jointed and it has been suggested that a shale or marl parting exists between this limestone and Timpony limestone, but of this I could find no surface indication. Generally the formation forms a low lying topography, with no development of clints and grykes or scars. The rock is fine to medium textured with scattered Calcite plates. The thickness of the division is calculated to be approximately 260' and the age is probably D_1 . The fauna contains *Koninckopora* and *L. Junceum*.

(c) Greenhow Limestone - Named after the excellent exposure in Greenhow Hill Quarry to the east of the area described. It is a massive, white well bedded limestone with beds 2' - 8' thick, separated by very thin shale partings. It is within this series that Mongo Gill system develops. The thickness of the division is about 400' and the fauna contains *K. inflata* fragments and *Palaeosmilia murchisoni*. Near the top of the succession the limestone is particularly fossiliferous.

(d) Hardgate End Limestone.

(e) Coldstones Limestone - The latter two are very interesting horizons, but do not concern us with the development of the cave systems. Above the Coldstones limestone in this area is an unconformity, the limestone having been uplifted and about 250' of beds removed before the Grassington Grit series was deposited.

The Millstone Grit in this area under immediate consideration was laid down to a depth of at least 1,500' before folding and faulting gave the area its present topography.

CAVE DEVELOPMENT

(a) Mongo Gill

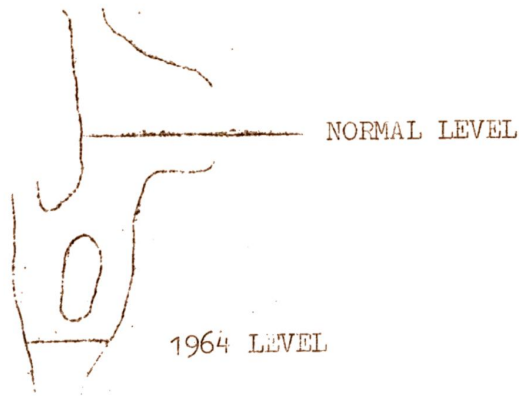
The effects of the North Craven Fault are clearly seen in the area of the most southerly entrance to Mongo Gill. Here intense shattering of the rock has occurred and the limestone is seen to be dipping locally to the south. The small underground stream in this region is running down dip and presumably passes into the fault zone, although this cannot be seen.

The trend of Mongo Gill system follows the trend of the beds as they pass around the strike of the anticline's nose. Generally the system is horizontal apart from the entrance pitches and lies at a depth of about 50 - 60' below surface level. The shape of the upper cave passage suggests almost complete development by phreatic action, with the water even then flowing from the East.

The cave can be divided into two series - upper and lower, the latter containing the main stream passage. The upper series has a fairly thick layer of mud over most of the floor surfaces and it is unlikely that it has carried a great deal of water since the lowering of the water table led to its abandonment. The only exception to this is the stream which has been noted to come from Freezeland and pass along a shallow depression into the Bear Pit in conditions of extreme flooding. At the bottom of Bear Pit are sumps, the water appearing to be almost static. A small pool chamber is also known below East Hade.

The stream passage is generally large but varies considerably in height. In the draught of 1964 the upstream passage was pushed beyond sump 5 - a long pool in a bedding plane. Beyond, water was seen to emerge from a bedding plane about 4" high as well as from a slightly larger southern inlet. Unfortunately, weather conditions since 1964 have never been good enough to allow sump 5 to be passed. Between sump 4 and the crosscutting Powderhouse Vein a small passage passes off to the north east. Again, this is normally flooded.

In the area of 1792 cavern and Ladder Cavern a connection exists between the upper and lower series and it is interesting to note that it is at about this position that surface mapping puts the junction of the Stump Cross and Greenhow Limestones. The passages in this area consist of large upper chambers with underlying anastomosing, generally small stream routes, the water eventually sinking in sumps near the 56' aven. These sumps are at the bottom of two pots, the first of which is roughly 12' deep. A cross section of the sump is:



(b) Stump Cross Caverns

The development of this system is far more complex than Mongo Gill. Here three levels appear to be present, although each level is again fairly horizontal. The two main series of passages lie on an east - west and north - south axis. It would appear that the former has developed along a bedding plane in much the same way as Mongo Gill system (with which it actually does join, although I understand that at the time of writing the connection has again collapsed). The north - south development

is rather more difficult to explain as it cuts across the dip of the limestone at a fairly steep angle. On the surface a number of lead veins run in a similar direction and these appear to be due to emplacement of the ore along joints. It is probable that the north - south development of Stump-Cross is similarly related.

Water is not all that common in Stump Cross, but the inflow into Hell near Miners Chamber is thought to come from Mongo Gill's sumps mentioned above. A number of avens are found in the passage beyond this chamber, and it would be nice to think of a dry series, comparable with that of Mongo Gill, lying above Heaven! The hydrology of Hell appears complex but can be traced fairly easily as far as the Rat Trap. Here the water is lost, but appears to be heading towards the sump below and to the north of Gothic Gallery. In this sump however, the water is flowing southwestwards, as it does along the whole length of Far Upper Stream Passage. One of the most northerly inlets of the Far Stream Passage is from a very narrow joint only 3" wide, although the main inlet is from a sump - as yet unforced. Along the whole of the stream passage are a number of sumps and the water is finally seen flowing southwestwards below Putrell's Cavern.

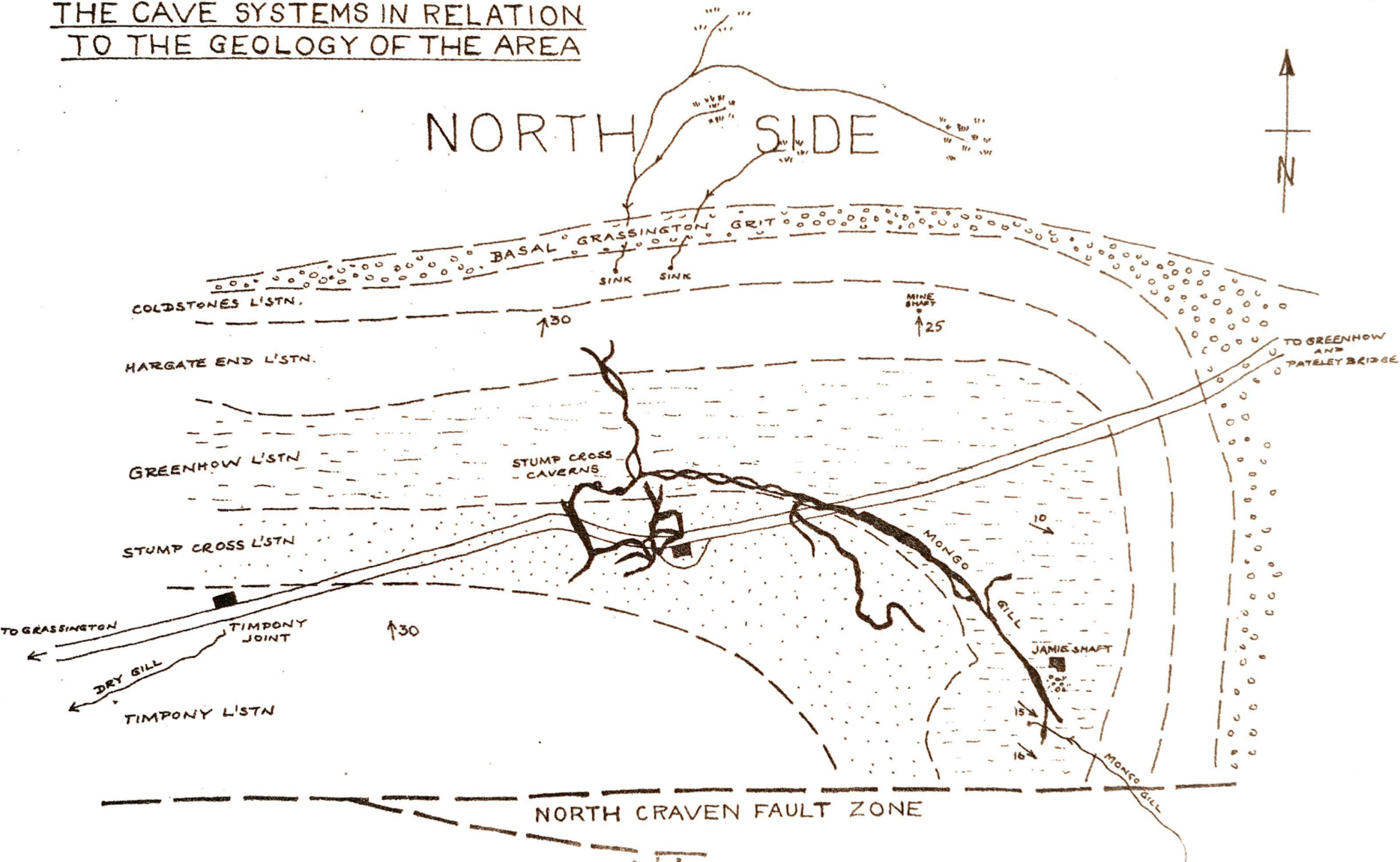
The Middle series of Stump Cross consists generally of large, mud filled caverns with occasional low bedding type connections. It forms an arcuate connection between the Show Cave Series and the Far Upper Stream Passage and the Heaven and Hell Series. One of the lowest parts of the series is in the region of Heartbeat, where the passage appears to have developed entirely by phreatic solution at considerable depth. A number of pots take water in this area and this presumably passes into a continuation of the stream passage although this has not yet been proved. One of the most striking things about descending the lower series of Stump Cross is the marked lack of formations compared with the excellent stalactites and stalagmites in the Show Cave. This is equally noticeable in Mongo Gill, where excellent formations are seen in the dry upper series. Of particular interest in Mongo Gill are the vast numbers of Helectites - normally only rarely seen.

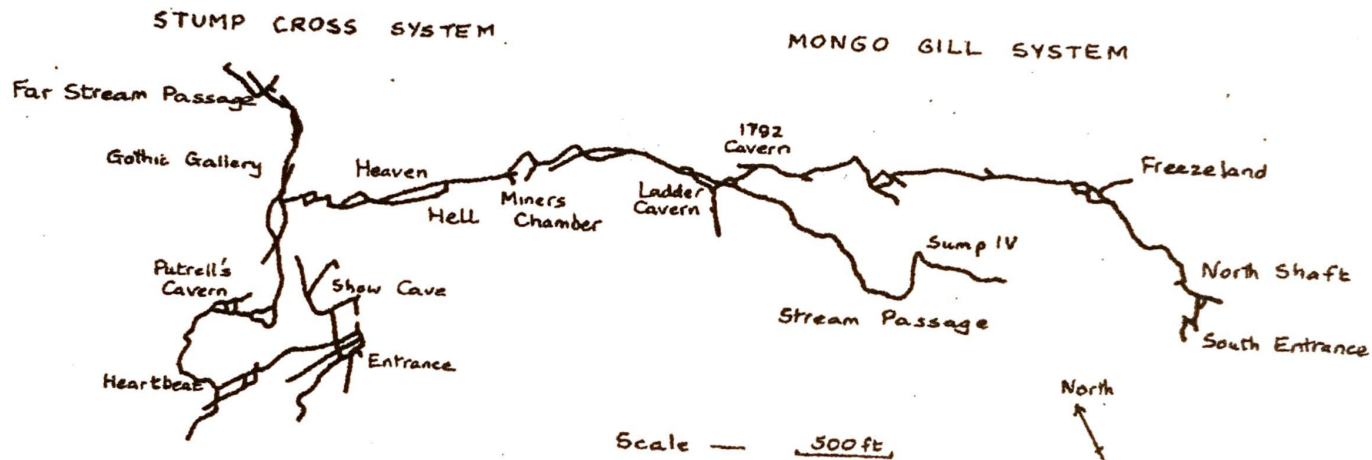
SUMMARY OF CAVE DEVELOPMENT

The systems appear (by the nature of their generally horizontal development) to have been formed phreatically at a time when the water table was at a higher level for a considerable period of time. It seems reasonable to believe that water sank into the many swallets in the area, having drained from the grits

THE CAVE SYSTEMS IN RELATION
TO THE GEOLOGY OF THE AREA

NORTH SIDE





NOMENCLATURE OF STUMP CROSS - MONGO GILL

to the north and south, and united underground with water from the north - south joint system. A lowering of the water table has now initiated the latest of the active stream routes. What effect the development of Dry Gill has had on the caves' hydrology is uncertain. The Gill has now been recognised as a glacial overflow channel and it is possible that the cutting of this valley has allowed the water table to be locally lowered. It is certain that the Stump Cross water appears at Timpony Joint in periods of heavy rain, but it has been suggested that under normal conditions the water resurges lower down the valley. The water resurges in the middle of the limestones due to a perched water table held up by the North Craven Fault. (See map). Unfortunately, any records which were made of water tests appear to have been lost. It would satisfy a lot of interested parties if an effective water test were to be carried out on many of the streams in this area. The results should be very interesting and shed light on the nature of the stream between Putrell's passage and the resurgence.

The importance of the junction between the two limestones appears to be fairly fundamental in that chambers are more developed in the massive Greenhow Limestone (i.e. Mongo Gill Series) as opposed to small branching joint controlled streamways in the well jointed Stump Cross Limestone (i.e. Stump Cross Series). It has been claimed that a shale band lies between the two and that stream erosion along this line of weakness is important. The evidence for the shale is however, rather negative, and not wholly convincing. Whilst in the area recently it was suggested that a new survey should be made of both systems. If this could be done to a high degree of accuracy, with spot heights marked frequently, I feel that the full effect of the stratigraphy and tectonics on the development of the systems would be better appreciated and from this the possible location of new passages might become more obvious. I personally feel that if Long did discover a new series in Stump Cross, as he claimed, although subsequently blocked it up due to an argument with the former cave owners, without disclosing its whereabouts, it would be best to concentrate the search along the length of Heaven series, as I feel that he must have broken into a higher level series probably comparable to the upper series of Mongo Gill.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank most sincerely Mr. Gill and Mrs. Hanley, joint owners of Stump Cross Caverns, for their great kindness in allowing me continued access to the Show Cave, and for permission to descend the lower reaches of the Cave at the height of the Tourist season last summer with Mike Cowell (also of C.S.C.C.). Thanks also to Mr. G M Davis for permission to consult his many

references to the caves of Craven Moor and for the gift of an as yet unpublished survey of the caves of Craven Moor, which he generously gave me. Also to the many cavers and local inhabitants of Greenhow, too numerous to name separately, whose stories gave me much to think about.

I. C. L. Chamberlain

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RUMBLING HOLE IN FLOOD

Not so long ago at the disgustingly early hour of 9.30 in the morning, Julian Coward (U.C.) and Tony Walthan (I.C.) found themselves on Leck Fell in pouring rain. "Definitely a fine weather pot" it said in Pee You, so they went down Rumbling.

Yards of ladder were tied to the tree and Julian set off down a dry pitch which had a fine view of the huge waterfall at the other end of the shaft, one of the best entrances in Yorkshire. 90 feet down was a large ledge followed by a spray soaked climb down to the foot of the waterfall (60' of ladder useful). Here conversation was impossible and the vast amounts of water made drowning a distinct possibility. The intrepid explorers leapt down an overhanging boulder slope and into a small streamway with numerous pools and rapids. Soon a crawl, half full of water, led to the next pitch - which was bypassed. Lifelines are superfluous on the 55' staircase down a dry rift on the right, but at the bottom the water was met again. The next drop is officially a ten foot climb, but with nearly a foot of water going over the mantle-shelf, it was more like a swim.

From here on there was the ever present background noise of huge waterfalls - a genuine rumbling. Straight away was a 35' pitch down a circular shaft just a few feet from the water, though the atmosphere was about 20% water as well. From the bottom there was a ludicrously wet 10' pitch, so Julian did a fair imitation of a fish and descended but just round the corner was another climb, this time made impossible by the water. However tackle had run out as the final pitch had been prophesied as impossible too, so a return to the surface was made.

Hauling tackle up the low streamway was great fun and the 10' overhanging boulder pile at the foot of the main shaft was awkward. However this latter obstacle no longer exists because while Julian was standing on top of the boulder pile it collapsed, the boulders getting washed down the passage and Julian getting

caught by his mirth-consumed companion. The surface was regained after less than three hours - and it was still raining.

A C Waltham

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F R O G P O T , P R I D D Y

Last November, a chill Sunday morning saw a straggle of I.C.C.C. bods searching for new glory.

In attempting to locate Hollowfield Swallet on Mendip's Priddy Hill Farm two men wandering in a cow field came across a hole - a wrong hole. The orifice, 3' square was sited close to Chancellor's Farm (S.R. ST.5235 5260). Mr. Watts, the tenant, declared that the phenomenon had appeared suddenly but a few days before. It lay in a rift running at right angles to the dry valley which gives Hollowfield its name.

A laddered descent fixed the depth of the discovery at about 18'. Two frogs and a golf ball were found at the bottom. These were decapitated and confiscated, respectively.

In wry Mendip terms Farmer Watts deduced that the golf ball belonged to two would-be record breakers. In attempting to hit a single ball across the Mendips (not in one stroke we presume) they had lost it at Hollowfield. Apparently they had pulled up every gorse bush with their bare hands before setting off in the direction of Wells to start again.

At the newly-dubbed Frog Pot, a dig was commenced. However, the long winter months of rain and frost enlarged the entrance so that digging became soft and progress slow, as the field sank into the hole.

Just as the Spring weather began to inspire new hope Mr. Watts declared his stolid intention to fill in our hole. He conceded half an hour in which to discover the Mendip Master Cave, but despite frantic digging it was to no avail. The dig was written off.

R A Davis

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M E E T S L I S T

- Feb 25 Notts, Short Drop - Gavel, Giants, Oxlow
26 Simpsons, Stream Passage - Flood Entrance, Giants,
Oxlow
- March 11 Notts, Flood Entrance
12 Simpsons, Swildons 2
18 Stoke Lane, Swildons 2
19 Eastwater, Agen Allwedd
23 Lost Johns, Yordas
25 Lost Johns, Bar (Henslers)
26 Notts
27 Quaking
28 Alum, Car
29 Snorkel
31 Dow
- April 4 Pollanionain
7 Faunarooska, Pollnagollum
16 Ireby
29 Swildons (7, Shatter,1), Longwood-August
31 G.B. Cavern
- May 6 G.B. Cavern
7 Swildons (Troubles)
19 Rumbling, Sell Gill
20 Rift, Jockey
21 Gaping Gill, Bar
27 Swildons (Shatter,1)
28 Eastwater

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EXTENSIONS IN OGOF FYNNON DDU II

In the middle of April a party of divers went through to Ogon Fynnon Ddu II and explored one of the large dry series to the left of the main upstream passage. At the end of one of these chambers they came to an extensive boulder choke which they attempted to pass. After some judicious boulder moving they were through into a boulder chamber which after poking led them into a section of cave which they recognised as the bottom of Cwm Dwr Quarry Cave. The link with this cave had at last been made after many years of effort by the S.W.C.C.

Four members of Surrey University Potholing Club, John Phillips, Paul Steed, Dicky Gosling and myself, along with Tim Reynolds of W.C.C. decided to have a look at the system over the weekend of May 12th. Rumours of Iron doors, grilles and bars all proved happily untrue and access was open to Cwm Dwr as it has been since opened. We arrived on the Saturday morning and started down at about 5 o'clock. Progress through the acquired tastes of the Cwm Dwr crawls was fairly rapid, and soon we were gazing at the choke. A large passage 10 ft wide x 40 ft high vanishes into a jumble of boulders. My directions had been, go straight in the obvious place and turn right, and there you are in O.F.D. II. This was not quite the case. After twenty minutes of dicey boulder probing the guide wire was found the three of us went through, only to find the other two had disappeared. On returning through the choke they were found walking back upstream in Cwm Dwr having found the guide wire and followed it the wrong way!

Once all through the choke a short bedding plane slide and we were in "Big Shack I" the first part of O.F.D. II. Passages from here were followed by seeing where most of the previous footprints went. This method was successful although when we climbed down into the largest chamber, "The Smithy", we were probably the first party to do "The Smithy direct", involving a seven foot knee jam down. From here we shuffled through large sandy passages to Piccadilly where we followed a stream down to the left.

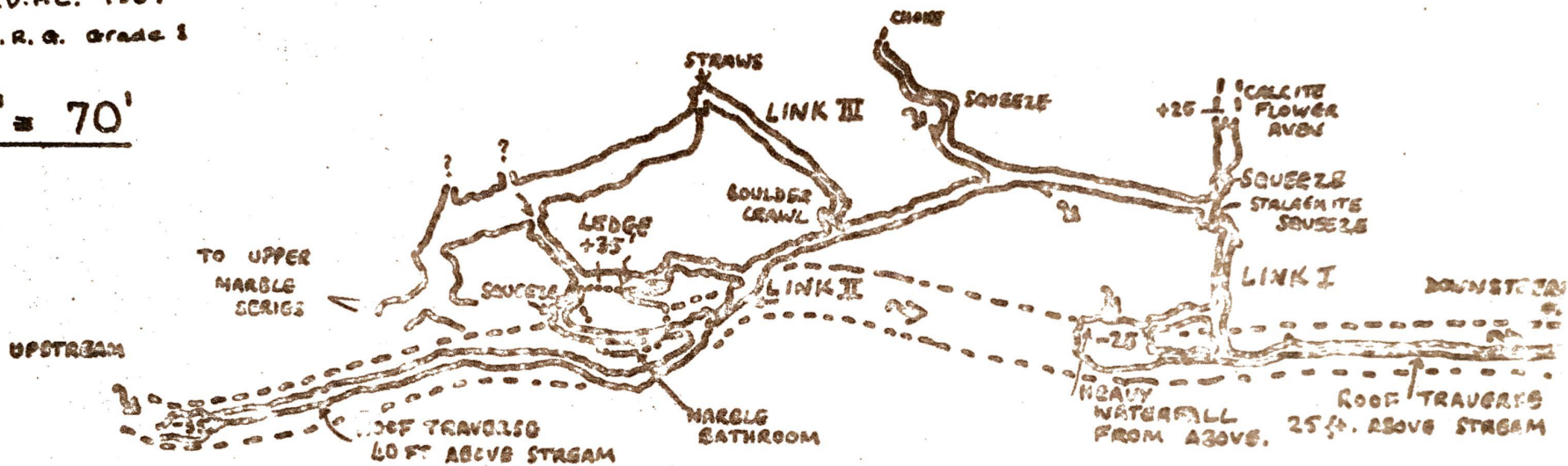
After more large passage we at last reached what could only have been the flood by-pass passage, with pools of fresh water and slippery boulders on the floor. Up this passage for a bit, and just where a stream came in from the left, we reached the main stream passage. At this junction the stream sinks into sumps almost straight away, but the upstream passage is clear, and after 50 feet the roof lifted to give a passage very similar to O.F.D. I streamway. This streamway is all walking, or wading or swimming but the first half hour's progress is made difficult by the tremendous number of really

greasy boulders in the stream bed. After half an hour's upstream progress we met another party just where a heavy waterfall came thundering down into the streamway. They told us they had just been into the Marble Bath Room Series, which eventually led them to the top of the waterfall we were sitting under. We decided to have a look at this series and see what we could find. The Marble Bathroom we paced out as being 105 yards upstream from the waterfall. This place is well named, the black rock being streaked with white marble and the whole chamber being watered by four waterfalls from the roof. To climb to the upper series you ascend a rock flake on the right while a thin column of water smashes into your helmet from 30 feet up. About 35 feet above the main stream a wide ledge is reached and the way to the main series is in the left hand corner here. We decided to walk along to the right of the ledge which led us under another waterfall through a crawl on the left into a dry, man sized passage. This had been entered before as the set of footprints testified. After about 150 feet a tributary passage came in with a small stream which vanished into a small hole in the right-hand wall. The passage continued slightly downhill for another 100 or so feet then suddenly ended with squeezes going off right and left. The left-hand squeeze was examined first. After a 'U' tube followed by a right angle bend and constriction over rough crystalline stalagmite I was in virgin passage at last. John joined me and we set off down a sand floored passage about 8 feet high and 2 feet wide. After about 50 feet we reached a junction with the sound of water coming from both branches. We followed the left hand branch and within 20 feet we were over the main stream. A squeeze led to the right and to the left (downstream) a slippery traverse over jammed boulders led for 150 feet until we were only 15 feet above the stream. Here we dropped a marker onto a ledge in the main passage and returned. The average height of the traverse was about 25 feet above main stream level.

Tim meanwhile had followed the other passage from the first junction. This led upslope and then down to a ledge overlooking the main streamway from about 25 feet up. We were looking from half way up the thundering waterfall where we had met the other party. The spray made it difficult to see much detail. The right hand squeeze from the traverse was then followed back to this same chamber after moving a couple of boulders. Paul and Dicky had come through the squeeze and were light mending, so John and I went back through the stalagmite squeeze and had a look at the squeeze opposite. This was an easy one, slightly uphill, and once through promising hollow echoes were heard ahead. Fifteen feet further on we were in a chamber 20' x 8' with the way on up at about 60° with a 10 foot overhang barring the way on. The walls of the chamber were covered in Calcite flowers, so this was named Calcite Flower aven. To climb it would require maypoles as there were no cracks visible for pitons. The top was not visible owing to the angle. On returning

S.V.R.C. 1967
C.R.G. Grade 3

1" = 70'



Ogof Fynnon Ddu II. Marble Bathroom Area.
(main streamway shown as dotted outline.)

back to the others we found the time was about 6 o'clock so we decided to return to the surface. This was done at high speed and we were out within $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours without any hitches.

The next day, Sunday, Tim had to return early so John, Dicky, Paul and myself decided to go down and have a good look at some other passages noticed in the same series. We reached OFD II within 25 minutes which was very good going and we were soon back at the ledge in the marble bathroom. The first hole investigated was round to the left of the ledge up a bank of very loose boulders. John went first and I followed him in. After 15 feet he started boulder moving and we were through into virgin passage again through a horrible boulder squeeze. This passage was rift type and after 50 feet or so led to a junction. Straight on looked very low, but to the right was larger and swung round to give another traverse above the stream, this time 40 feet up and more difficult than the downstream one. This led for 200 feet to where the rift widened and a thirty five foot drop led down to the stream again. As we had no tackle we returned and examined the low passage at the junction. Thirty feet of crawling and we were back in the passage we had gone down yesterday. This we decided to call Link II, the passage leading to the streamway found yesterday being named Link I. On going back to the ledge we met Paul and Dicky who had been in the Main Marble series. We went back towards Link I to look at the left hand tributary passage. This decreased rapidly in size, a miserable clay squeeze led to a 50 foot extension with some good formations which ended when the clay fill came to within 6" of the roof. This passage was not new. The point where the stream trickled from was looked at next. "Looking at" involved lying flat out in slime trying to see round two right angled bends at once! This was not on at all!! Paul however had seen a hole on the left further back the main passage which the rest of us had dismissed as useless.

He thrutched into it, and after sounds of laborious boulder moving, vanished with a faint cry of "it goes on". We were reluctant to follow him, but when he did come back for a few minutes I went in and after a boulder crawl round two right angle bends the roof lifted and an ascending passage led past some good stal for about 100 feet. Here the passage bent round to the left and at the expense of some of a group of excellent straws we were in a big passage. There were foot-prints here. We had made another link, Link III. This joined with the main Marble Bathroom Series. After completing this circuit we went down to the main stream and washed off under the waterfalls. We then went upstream for about an hour and a half through the best stream passage I have ever been in. There are no boulders in the floor after the marble bathroom, and progress is delightful; with deep pools, pots to be swum across and black scalloped rock all the way. The stream comes through a sump about half way up, which is by-passed by a large dry oxbow passage.

We were hoping to reach the upper end of the streamway where a 30 foot waterfall is reached, but we turned back after covering a large part of the reputed $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of streamway. Coming back out, instead of coming through Piccadilly we followed the Cwm Dwr stream up to the Smithy which is a much more direct route. We emerged at about 6 o'clock after about seven hours underground.

This cave system, the deepest in the country, holds a tremendous amount of potential in upper dry series for further extensions and the area we looked at was only one very small part of a really vast system. As far as I have heard no leader systems will be operated for OFD II, but a gate may be fitted to Cwm Dwr to keep out irresponsible parties (i.e. Boy Scouts with candles!), the key for which would be kept at Fenwyllt, obtainable by any member of any responsible caving club.

D Tringham

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NOTES AND NEWS

Notts Pot - The final sump was dived in April by John Ogden (MWCP) but was found to go into an excessively tight bedding plane.

Providence Pot - The entrance has fallen in once again (April).

Notts Pot - A fourth route down has been discovered recently by members of U.L.S.A.

Pollnagollum (Co. Clare) - The pot is now open again since the Lisdoonvarna Tourist Board bought the entrance from the farmer.

Faunarooska - White to colourless and presumably blind frogs were observed down this system some 1500' from the entrance by an I.C.C.C. party at Easter. These are thought to be rather rare - ?

Dan yr Ogof - Another half mile of large passage was discovered by D. Judson et. al. in April leading off from the Mostest.

Swildons Hole - The thefts of caving gear on Mendip appear to be continuing, as an I.C.C.C. party had some of their tackle stolen from the Twenty and Forty, late in May. (It was definitely not mislaid - so cavers beware).

Hollowfield Swallet - An I.C.C.C. party recently pushed a dodgy crawl for about 50' from near the entrance, but it is very loose.

Rhodamine B. - Cavers should avoid using this dye as tests indicate it may include carcinogenic (cancer forming) substances - according to the C.R.G.

Caving in Corsica - A new map locating all the caves in Corsica is now available at 2 francs from Manuel Zafrilla, 1 Rue Major Lambroschini, Ajaccio 20, Corse.

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GINGLING HOLE

Julian Hardenberg and Tony Waltham (both I.C.C.C.) managed to get a trip down the N.P.C.'s Extensions to Gingling with a large party mostly from Happy Wanderers - who actually had permission for the pot. A very late start was made but conditions were so dry that the trip was very comfortable and wet suits were unnecessary.

The entrance pitch and a short letterbox led to a crawl and then the canal in a dead straight rift. At the end a narrow stream passage was followed mostly at floor level but often up in the roof - in fact there are n different routes down at various levels. A short pitch into a pool followed and then more narrow clean stream-way. We traversed straight over the next pitch and then stayed in the roof for some way. Down the pitch leads through a very tight thrutch and is best avoided. Soon we were about 120' above the final chamber in a narrow rift and a 20' pitch and an easy climb took us to the top of the last pitch in P.U. This was avoided by an airy traverse on the right wall of the chamber, which is easier than it looks, and we were then at the end of the old series.

A 15' letterbox at the bottom of the chamber led into the new series - a low bedding plane which took us back into the main passage. This was some 300' long, about 10' high and wide and fabulously decorated with thousands of pure white straws, and walls covered with every shape of stalactites and stalagmites. The whole trip is worthwhile just to see this passage. A tiny trickle of water was then followed down an easy 30' pitch into a cross passage which led into a rift containing masses of precariously balanced boulders in the roof. Another short pitch belayed to a minute stal pillar led into the tight part of the rift which involved traversing up and down through a few squeezes. This rift can be followed along and down another six pitches - known as the dry way - which is very tight in parts and far the harder of the two routes.

However, we dropped down a slot in the rift and then down a 35' pitch which was very tight at the top. Here the streamlet was met again and followed down a fine clean passage to a 25' pitch and a small chamber. From here it was just a short thrutch and a 210' pitch to the bottom. The pitch is dry and mostly down the walls of the rift with a few small ledges, only the last 80' hanging free, and in the floor is the sump - about 560' below the entrance. Due to the lack of time only about half the party went down the big pitch but even so it was almost dusk before we reached the surface after seven hours underground. A very fine trip and not all that difficult down the way we went.

A C Waltham

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REVIEW - H.W.C.P.C. JOURNAL

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The Happy Wanderers Cave and Pothole Club Journal provides a very readable account of an impressive amount of caving and exploration by this small but active club. The club has a high proportion of C.D.G. members (eight at the time the journal was written), and as a result of this was able to undertake such trips as the Rowten - Swimsto exchange. The Journal includes articles on Aygill, Skirwith, Hammer, Agen Allwedd, Lancaster Hole, Malham Cove and an expedition to the central Pyrenees. The journal also contains surveys of Dale Barn Cave, Turbany pot, King Pot, and King Pot extension.

J.F.H.

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