

M E N D I P C A V I N G G R O U P

News-sheet No.8

February 1962

St CUTHBERTS TRIP A visit to this cave has been arranged for 2nd March 1962. Any who are interested contact the Meet Secretary as soon as possible.

THE JOURNAL Almost all the articles for the Journal have now been received and a start has been made on cutting the stencils. If you have any photographs of special interest contact Malcolm at once. We have plenty of material but can include anything as long as its of importance, except the discovery of a new major system. So until the Journal appears, Watch where you dig!

It is hoped to produce 200 copies of the Journal at least 120 of which will be on sale. Profits, if any, will be kept as a separate account and go towards the cost of purchasing a club duplicator.

CALOR GAS STOVES The Cottage Warden has now installed two more gas rings at the cottage. This will mean less waiting and that everyone will do their washing up as soon as they have eaten.

TALK ON LADDER MAKING At Last ! . This will take place on Thursday February 8th 1962. At this meeting the spacing between rungs will be decided upon.

CLUB FUNDS These now stand at £ 167. 0. 0. Of this £ 137.12.3 $\frac{1}{2}$ is in the Cottage purchase fund. This sudden increase is of course merely seasonal, as most people have now paid their annual subscriptions.

COTTAGE FEES The purchase of rescue equipment and materials for ladder making has and will be a financial strain on the club. During the coming year a certain amount of money must be spent on the cottage for the general comfort of all concerned. This will include, new shutters, more beds in both rooms, the completion of the shed outside and some form of fanlight in the middle room. In order to offset the cost a little the cottage fees have now been raised to 1/6d per night for members and 2/- for others. This will include the cost of all fuel.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP These have to be signed by two members. As the rule now stands they may not be signed by a junior member, i.e. a member under the age of 18 years, and should not be signed by a member of the committee, as there worthy gentlemen have to sign it on the other side.

IT MIGHT APPLY TO ANYONE Heard at a Thursday meeting "Do you go caving, or do you just come along on Thursdays".

Note. You may have noticed the change in the spacing of lines from the previous page. This is to get you used to the spacing we are using in the Journal.

DEVON SPELAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY A small party from this society visited the cottage on Jan 6/7th, led by Chris Reynolds, who is also a member of the M.C.G. As a result of that week-end we welcolm to the club a new prospective member in the person of Wendy Davies, who lives near Exeter and is studying History at London University.

C.S.S. By the time this news-sheet appears Chelsea will also have spent a week-end at the cottage.

MEMBERSHIP We welcolm Pat Walsh as a full member of the Group and John Jackson as a probationary member.

HEARD ON A WEEK-END AT THE COTTAGE. "I feel like doing" and "I can't think of anything" (Sorry about the blanks)

Wendy Davies.

SURVEY OF PINETREE As most of you know, an accurate survey of this cave had never been done. On 20th January three surveying parties descended the cave. Tony Knibbs and James Gibb surveyed Back Passage, Mike Rennie and John Jackson, concentrated on the main part of the cave whilst Malcolm Cotter and Eric Catherine finished surveying Easy Street, a task which took them nine hours. The survey was almost completed and will be published in the Journal.

DAVE AND ALLEN Strike Again. Another new discovery in Eastern Mendip. Numerous human bones and a roomy chamber with plenty of promise. For details, see the Journal.

EASTWATER TRIP This has been arranged for 17th Feb. Two Verticals Route to Terminal Rift, led by Mike Rennie. Those wishing to go, contact Meet-Secretary.

INTERNATIONAL SPELEOS This organisation, with which the club has had some connections with in past years, has written to Pete Dyer giving an outline of its programme for this summer season. Instead of visiting one area they intend to go to four i.e. 1. Department du VAR. 2. Department des Hautes Alpes. 3. Department de l'Isere and 4. Department de l'Ardeche. This would take between 15 to 17 days, 4 or 5 of which would be reserved for "des visites de sites touristiques".

"Si ce plan est susceptible d'etre accepte quelques Membres participants 1961, ou par des Membres du MENDIP CAVING GROUP, je vous demande d'atre assez aimable pour m'en aviser, afin de me permettre de vous transmettre la documentation se rapportant a leur sejour".

Anyone who is interested either as a group or individual contact the Editor for more details.

LEADERSHIP UNDERGROUND. This has by no means come up to the standard expected of a caving club and one or two incidents that happened on the 20th/21st January will it is hoped bring this matter to a head. First it must be remembered that nobody is allowed to stay at the cottage, other than a club member unless he or she is 1. The guest of another member or 2. Under the sponsorship of one of the committee, Malcolm Cötter, Richard Woollacott or Arthur Cox (the non-member must ask one of these people before hand and get their acceptance) or 3. A member of another organisation that has Committee sanction to stay at the cottage.

In every case the member or sponser is responsible for that persons caving and general conduct over the whole week-end, until the non-member is handed over to another for leadership underground. On the week-end in question one novice was the end-man in a caving party, and when lights failed no-one stopped. What kind of leadership is this?

Mike Rennie, Hon. Editor