

# UBSS

Newsletter

Series 3

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Summer 2017



# Caving Horoscopes



Find out your caving fortune in our new (and probably last) horoscope section. What mysteries lie in your future?

## Aries

March 21 - April 19

The planets are orbiting the sun, which means you will have many muddy trips this month. Or not. Depends where you go.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Taurus

April 20 - May 20

There is a vacuum in space, which means you'll need your wellies if you are heading underground.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Gemini

May 21 - June 20

A satellite crosses over your head, but it's too far away to see without a telescope. Be careful you don't get lost.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Cancer

June 21 - July 22

The evening star, Venus, is in the sky guiding your way through the darkness. But it's useless if you are navigating through a boulder choke. Use a survey instead.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Leo

July 23 - August 22

Mars brushes past Neptune, which will bring you good luck. In reality, Mars is over 2.5 billion miles away from Neptune, and has no effect. Don't trust old SRT kits.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Virgo

August 23 - September 22

A comet will appear to pass though your constellation later this month. It doesn't of course, the stars are billions of miles away. Pack an extra Mars bar, you need the sugar.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Libra

September 23 - October 22

Uranus is visible for most of the night. Maybe it's time to patch that hole in your oversuit. Consider new underwear as well.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Scorpio

October 23 - November 21

The moon will illuminate your love life, your soul and your future. Actually, hang on, that's a Scurion. It's just really bright. But it can still do all that.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Sagittarius

November 22 - December 21

Time is not your friend, it's a human invented concept. Potentially the 4th dimension. Don't invite it on a weekend away to the mendips.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Capricorn

December 23 - January 22

Much like Pluto, you may turn out to be less than people thought. Maybe don't go caving this month.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Aquarius

January 20 - February 18

Your potential is like the dark side of the moon, hardly anyone has seen it and Nazi's might live there. Stick to easy caves.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

## Pisces

February 19 - March 20

If it's a clear night, you will be able to see the stars. Look up. But also down, or you may trip over.

Your spirit cave: **Goatchurch**

# Ireland: Sept 2016



**Towards the end of the summer break of 2016, a group of seven members of the UBSS travelled to County Clare on our annual Ireland expedition.**

Our main objective was to continue our surveying work from the year before in the Coolagh River Cave. Unfortunately, due to exceptionally wet weather conditions this plan was not possible (as we would have drowned), and so instead we worked on several smaller surveying projects in the area.

In our first week we focused on Cullaun Zero cave, which consists of one crawl-sized stream passage, with multiple entrances. We made good progress, with access to the deeper section of the cave blocked by a fragile straw formation. In addition to this we surveyed the nearby, small Cullaun Zero-One cave, which I believe Jacob and James will be glad never to have to go back to.

Through the second week work began in Cullaun One – a much larger cave in the same region, in order to update previous work done by the UBSS dating back to 1951. We surveyed 1.8km of passage, however there is much more still left to do. From the main entrance one team worked downstream in mostly walking-size

passage, with an occasional waterfall and multiple oxbows. This continued to a protracted wet crawl, alongside many pretty formations, and continues on. Another team surveyed upstream through winding passages, and past several more entrances to the cave.

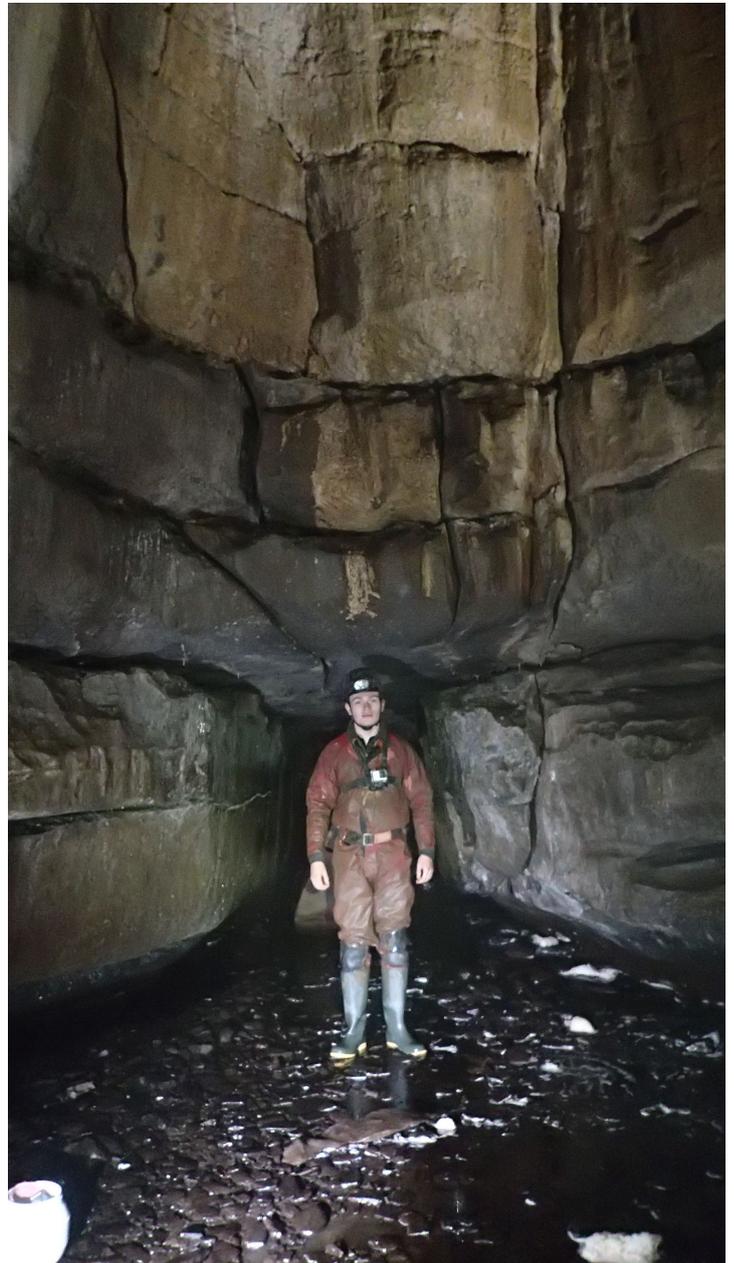
In addition to these projects, we also surveyed Carran Mine Cave. This consists of a former lead mine which intersects with a natural bedding plane – in which we discovered a near complete badger skeleton. Although we did have to survey a rather scrotty crawl after sending Simon down it as a joke. Unfortunately, it went.

Of course it wasn't just surveying (generally whilst lying in a steamway) that we got up to. There were many evenings of beer drinking, board and card games, and generally having a laugh. There were also many other entertaining moments, such as the time Tom and I spent sat in a bothy bag by the side of the road waiting for our lift to turn up.

**Expedition members:** Ashley Gregg, Jacob Podesta, James Vallins, Simon Hadfield, Rory Colville, Chris Burnley, Tom Crowther.

Next year we hope to continue previous efforts in the Coolagh River Cave and further progress our survey of the cave. We also hope to continue, and possibly complete, work from this year in Cullaun One. The club would like to thank the Alumni Foundation and Tratman fund which continue to enable us to carry out this expedition.

**Ashley Gregg**



LEFT: THE 2016 EXPEDITION TEAM  
RIGHT: TOM AT THE FIRST VERTICAL FEATURE,  
CULLAUN ONE  
BELOW: JACOB IN A WET CRAWL IN CULLAUN ONE  
PHOTOS BY CHRIS BURNLEY 2016

FRONT COVER: ADAM HENRY AFTER A TRIP IN NETTLE  
POT, CASTLETON. PHOTO BY STUART ALLDRED  
REAR COVER TOP: HELEN FRAWLEY IN OFD1. PHOTO BY  
BRYAN WONG  
REAR COVER BOTTOM: RESCUE TRAINING. PHOTO BY  
BRYAN WONG



# CSI visit UBSS Museum



DR. RHIANNON STEVENS, INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON. SAMPLE TO BE TESTED.  
PHOTO BY A.SUMMERFIELD (14-11-16)

**The good news is that no animals or humans have been harmed recently, well not for a couple of thousand years in anyway.**

The research is being headed up by Dr Rhiannon Stevens from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London and Dr Sophy Charlton from the Natural History Museum in London. They are making a return trip to the museum in the footsteps of their colleague Dr Hazel Read who came to Bristol in 2015. Their purpose was to sample material from both King Arthurs Cave (KAC) and Sun Hole (SH). Sampling is being undertaken to obtain material that can be tested for DNA, Radio Carbon Dating (C14) and Oxygen and Nitrogen Isotope analysis.

The 'Up North' project researchers are making investigations to look at evidence from material from the Late Upper Palaeolithic and Creswellian period, which is numerous in KAC and SH. Both these sites provide evidence of the earliest occupation of humans after the last Glacial period (12-13,000 years BP). Samples were taken from large faunal species; Horse (*Equus*); Red Deer

(*Cervus Elaphus*) and Reindeer (*Rangifer Tarandus*).

Using the results from the from Oxygen and Nitrogen Isotope readings it is hoped to build up a



DR SOPHY CHARLTON, NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, LONDON. CLEANING THE SAMPLE IN ORDER TO REMOVE ANY POSSIBLE CONTAMINATES PRIOR TO DRILLING. THE MATERIAL WHICH IS TAKEN OFF THE SURFACE IS COLLECTED ONTO A PIECE OF TINFOIL AND THEN DISPOSED OF IN ORDER TO AVOID CROSS CONTAMINATION WITH THE SAMPLE TAKEN FOR TESTING.  
PHOTO BY A.SUMMERFIELD (16.11.16)

picture of what the climate in Britain was like at the time. From a human perspective, was the climate or the availability of large fauna the most important factor for humans recolonising Britain? Samples were also taken to establish possible DNA similarities of the animals in Britain and to those on the continent.



**LEFT:** DR SOPHY CHARLTON, NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, LONDON. AFTER PREPARATION THE ARTEFACT IS DRILLED TO OBTAIN A CLEAN SAMPLE. IN THE CASE OF DNA AND ISOTOPE ANALYSIS DIAMOND DRILLS CAN BE USED. HOWEVER, WHERE THEY ARE RETRIEVING A SAMPLE FOR CARBON DATING, TUNGSTEN DRILLS NEED TO BE USED AS DIAMONDS ARE PURE CARBON AND THERE IS RISK OF CONTAMINATION.  
**RIGHT:** DR. RHIANNON STEVENS. THE MATERIAL FROM THE DRILLED AREA IS CAREFULLY COLLECTED IN A PIECE OF CLEAN TIN FOIL AND THEN TRANSFERRED TO SAMPLE TUBES, SEALED AND LABELLED READY FOR TESTING AT THE LABORATORY.  
PHOTOS BY A. SUMMERFIELD



PICTURE OF CUT MARKS ON A LEFT TIBIA OF A HORSE RECOVERED FROM SUN HOLE SUGGESTING THAT THE ANIMAL WAS HUNTED AND DE-FLESHED BY HUMANS. PHOTO BY A. SUMMERFIELD.

evidence of humans being present during large mammal migrations from Europe after the last glacial period. The aim would be to provide a better understanding of faunal movements which can be correlated with human activity of the same period.

The story does not end here, as the ‘Up North’ team have more research to carry out which will take them around the country and onto mainland Europe. Due to the importance of the collection held at the UBSS museum we are told to expect another visit in the very near future and we will continue to keep you updated of their progress.

#### **A. Summerfield**

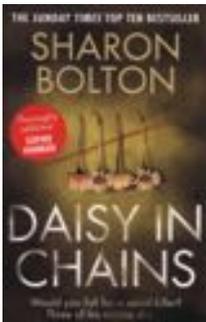
In addition Rhiannon and Sophy also examined bone material for cut marks which would indicate human interaction with the fauna. This would be

**It has been over a year since the last newsletter! Whoops. Part of the reason was me not being organised, but I also need articles from YOU! Please write-up weekends, evening trips, etc and send them to me! Don't forget to take photos!**

**I am also collecting new/old/historic funny stories, short noteworthy-trips, expedition write ups, photos, etc for a special edition of the newsletter in 2019, when UBSS will celebrating 100 years!**

**Please send these to [ubss.centenary@gmail.com](mailto:ubss.centenary@gmail.com)**

# Book Review: Daisy In Chains



**Former doctor Hamish Wolfe is in prison, convicted of the murders of three young women and suspected of the murder of a fourth, and maybe more.**

The women all shared one characteristic. He is said to have preyed on overweight women and there are persistent rumours that this started as long ago as his days as a medical student at Oxford, where it is alleged that he and some of his fellow students formed something called The Fat Club, where they filmed themselves having sex with women and then selling illicit videos of what they got up to. The other thing the women have in common is that their bodies were found in caves under the Mendips.

But despite this, Wolfe, like many convicted murderers, has his own fan club, who believe him to be innocent and campaign for his release and even attempt to form romantic relationships with him,

Maggie Rose is a lawyer who has successfully secured the release of several high-profile murderers, managing to cast enough doubt on the police cases to have the convictions overturned and the men released. It doesn't seem to matter to her whether the men really are innocent or not. All that matters is finding and exploiting holes in the prosecution cases. She is also a true crime writer, but Maggie starts a lot more books than she ever finishes, as she's selective about the cases she takes on, and she's determined to resist the dubious charms of Wolfe, no matter how good-looking he is and no matter how much his mother and his fan club try to convince her of his innocence.

I've been a fan of Sharon Bolton's dark and often twisted thrillers for a while, and Daisy In Chains was right up my street from the start. The bodies of the three murdered women were found in caves under the Mendip Hills – two in Burrington Combe, in the well-known and frequently visited Goatchurch Cavern and Sidcot Swallet, and the third in Rill Cavern, in Cheddar Gorge. Neither Rill Cavern nor Gossam Cave, another one named in the story, exist, but if they did, Rill Cavern would certainly be a popular trip. I immediately focussed on that angle of the plot, convinced that there was no way you could hide a body in a cave so that it

could end up being badly decomposed before being found. Decomposing bodies smell, and even a dead mouse or rabbit can stink a passage out, as I know from my own experience. My critical pen was already poised over the page...

But, with disbelief duly suspended, I became absorbed by the characters and the rapidly unfolding plot, told in a variety of ways through letters, court reports, police evidence and a present tense narrative that shifts seamlessly between sharp, reclusive Maggie Rose with her blue-dyed hair and her no-nonsense attitude, and DS Pete Weston, charming, persistent police officer who had been instrumental in securing Wolfe's conviction. Weston's boss is concerned that if Maggie Rose starts digging into the Hamish Wolfe case, deficiencies might be exposed and he's not a man who likes nasty surprises, but Weston is convinced that the case is bomb-proof. But where Rose is concerned, nothing is ever quite so clear-cut.

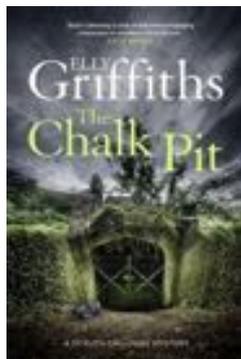
Bolton's narrative is cleverly constructed and absolutely compelling. The character of Hamish Wolfe looms over the whole narrative. At first it's hard to see the charm he exerts over complete strangers as he comes over as arrogant and uncooperative, with apparently no desire to cooperate even with someone who might be trying to have his conviction quashed, but as chinks in his armour start to appear, he becomes even more interesting.

I ripped through Daisy In Chains at a positively indecent speed and wasn't disappointed. The denouement is an object lesson in how to play your cards close to your chest but still treat the reader fairly, and the final reveals are done with enormous style. Despite my early reservations, the ending wholly convinced me. Sharon Bolton has pulled off another dark, edgy standalone thriller that will suck you in from the beginning and hold your attention right to the end. She is also the absolute mistress of the killer last line.

**Linda Wilson**

**Author: Sharon Bolton**  
**Publisher: Bantam Press**  
**Date: October 2016**  
**ISBN-10: 0552172480**  
**ISBN-13: 978-0552172486**  
**Paperback / 464 Pages**  
**£7.99. Kindle edition also available**

# Book Review: The Chalk Pit



**The disappearance of one rough sleeper and the deaths of two others all seem to have a connection to the mysterious network of old tunnels under the city of Norwich.**

Elly Griffith's latest outing for Norfolk archaeologist Dr Ruth Galloway, involves the chalk mines under Norwich, with which I have a certain amount of history even though I've never visited them. The combination of mining and archaeology promptly took *The Chalk Pit* to the top of the To Be Read pile.

When a homeless woman goes missing. DS Judy Johnson does her best to get information out of the local rough sleepers, who – understandably – are wary of any involvement with the police.

Matters become complicated when two homeless men are knifed to death, one on the steps of the police station. Nelson, Judy and the laddish DS Dave Clough are all dancing to the tune of their boss, Superintendent Jo Archer, who isn't pleased that little progress seems to be being made with any of the investigations. Things go from bad to worse when a local mother of four goes missing from her own doorstep and the press are all over that like a rash, after mostly ignoring the disappearance and deaths of the rough sleepers, but no surprise there.

Griffiths handles the sprawling soap opera of a bunch of coppers and their partners in rural East Anglia well, and their love lives never feel in danger of swamping the story. I've followed the series sporadically, enough to remember that Ruth had a fleeting affair with DCI Harry Nelson, and is now the mother of cute Kate. Nelson's glamorous wife Michelle knows, and even seems to be OK with him seeing both Ruth and the kiddie, but he hasn't yet plucked up the courage to tell his two grown-up daughters, although he's very clearly skating on thin ice, especially when he ends up having to take Kate home with him when Ruth has to dash off to her mother's bedside when she's taken ill.

As a caver, I enjoyed the way the various tunnels under Norwich undercut the story – quite literally in places – and my own connection with the old chalk workings beneath the city came up very quickly in the story. In 1988, I received a

rather bizarre phone call at work from a fellow caver in Norwich, telling me that a double decker bus had fallen into an old chalk pit, and he was worried that the city council were just going to fill all the tunnels with concrete. Things like that matter to cavers!

I got the call as I was then the chair of the Council of Southern Caving Clubs. In response to my weak rejoinder that I didn't really think our area went that far, he briskly pointed out that Norwich certainly wasn't 'Oop North'. I then suggested he tried the Derbyshire Caving Council as they were probably geographically closer. His rejoinder: 'They told me to ring you!' rather put an end to my attempts to pass the buck. I then spent the rest of the afternoon on the phone to the planning department, trying to convince them of the historic value of the mines. I think the wholesale deployment of concrete was at least temporarily foiled by my frequent mention of bats being a protected species! I had no idea whether there were bats there or not, but neither did they, so the argument carried some weight. Fortunately, my boss at the time was caver and cave diver Mike Thompson who saw nothing odd in the slightest about me spending all afternoon, when I should have been working, talking to people about a bus down a hole on the other side of the country.

My only quibble with *The Chalk Pit* is that the use of the present tense seems a trifle awkward at times, lending an oddly stilted feeling to some passages, as though the book isn't quite at home in its own skin. But that's a very minor gripe in an otherwise excellent read. I'm well and truly converted now and want to find out what happens next in the complicated private lies of a bunch of Norfolk coppers and an archaeology lecturer.

**Linda Wilson**

*With thanks to [www.crimereview.co.uk](http://www.crimereview.co.uk) and [www.darknessbelow.co.uk](http://www.darknessbelow.co.uk) for permission to reproduce this review.*

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**Price £16.99. Kindle edition also available.**

# UBSS Weekends Away



## Christmas Dinner

Elaine arrived at mine in the afternoon and we proceeded to the hut with our secret Santa presents concealed in bags, while I sewed the bobble back onto Elaine's Santa hat; a perforating experience in a moving vehicle.

A few people were already at the hut but, for reasons known only to him, Bryan had decided to cycle to the hut. This would have been fine if we hadn't been waiting for him before we could pick up the traditional Churchill Inn Christmas dinner.

Growing impatient, Rosie went and got the dinner instead.

After dinner, Speleo Claus brought the spirit of Cavemas and distributed the secret santa presents. In honour of a heroic effort to remove them from Lionel's Hole, Ash received a pair of beautifully framed pants. I received a framed photo of myself, at the previous years Christmas dinner, holding a framed photo of myself naked among feet in Sidcot Swallet a year and a half prior, the photo gaining a new layer every winter like an aging tree.



The port got passed round and suspiciously soon after Andrew arrived, the idea of a naked trip to Goatchurch in the December sleet formed. By the time we returned, mulled wine was necessary for warmth and we worked our way through the remaining port. The following morning, no-one felt very christmasy.

## Jacob (Photos by Bryan)

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### Yorkshire

Lancaster Hole to Cow Pot: Jacob, Ashley, Tom, James. In reverse: Adam, Cat, Sion, Rosie.

Whilst at first an exchange between Lancs and Cow may seem highly unambitious, with the two entrances being a short walk apart, and not really a vast amount of cave to get from one to the other either, this turned out to be a thoroughly enjoyable day trip. We began with a nice easy pitch into Lancs and with no difficulties began to explore the system. Navigation was good and we didn't take long at all to reach the bottom of Fall Pot with an impressive outlook onto where the others would soon descend. It soon became clear we would be waiting for a while and so we decided to have a look around, and some other friendly cavers pointed us towards the Collonades, a sight certainly worth seeing.

The route out was a little more strenuous, with a fair bit of prussicking up out of Fall Pot, before some crawling, which is always fun in SRT kit. Before reaching the entrance a tight sideways squeeze had to be navigated, which proved a bit of a challenge for Jacob, Tom, and I, however James simply used his ninja abilities with no problems. Finally a short pitch past some goat or possibly ram bones, and we were back out ready to head back to the farm for dinner.

## Ashley

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### Bonfire Night

We met at the store ten minutes after the planned 0900, as per tradition. Dodging the chaos of the tackle store, I went on a quest for rosemary to put in the lamb. This took me all over Clifton in the rain and back to the store in perfect time to hop into Adam's van with Eleanor. The van had been converted from an old organ donor and blood delivery van but, on the 7th of November 2015, we were delivering different vital fluids. I needed to

pick up port for Elliott and Sion to thank them for making the Ireland expedition a success.

At the hut, after collecting wood for the bonfire and cooking the lamb, plans for caving were made. A storm of idiocy complicated matters slightly; Elliott had driven to the brewery to pick up the keg of beer, which would have been very helpful if Andrew had not have already done it. I would have found this funny, if I had not left my caving gear in Elliott's van. As a result, I was forced to tackle Swildon's upper in borrowed kit and trainers. Pippa and Ollie had brought a bunch of climbers along to try caving, so Adam and I joined them to go round and round in the upper series until everyone was dizzy and then see if any of them fancied sump 1.

Sadly, we became stuck behind a large school group, so we were confined to the upper series anyway. It was surprisingly dry given the weather, but it was still a fun potter. The climbers took to it very naturally, so we did every nook and cranny in no time at all, and the only hiccup was a broken head touch. One of the new people had decided they wanted to use their own head torch on a climbing helmet rather than a club one, so predictably it left Swildon's in three pieces.

When we returned to the hut the lamb was well underway and when Cara arrived, some of us went into the Combe to find Elaine's group. She had come all the way from Switzerland for the weekend and didn't know Cara was coming, so we thought it would be fun to surprise her.

Back at the hut, the lamb was ready and the keg was getting lighter. Whilst everyone was in one place around the fire I presented Elliott and Sion with their port and in-jokes and then we all enjoyed the fireworks. Thanks to a miscommunication we had bought double, so it was quite a show. At this point, a couple of friends of mine from SUCC showed up; they were staying at the Wessex and asked if I wanted to join. I agreed and left with them. I have no idea what the others got up to in Burrington Combe for the rest of the evening, I just know I involved. I was at the Wessex.

## Jacob (Photos by Bryan)



# Treasurers Reports

## Treasurer's Report 2015-16

At this time last year, I outlined some general points about the way that our income and expenditure had changed during my tenure as your Treasurer. Having no need to repeat those for a second time, I find myself with little to say this year. The year has been really very quiet and very 'normal' from a financial point of view. Long may it stay that way.

In scrabbling about to at least say something, you may note that grant income is down this year. That is because we had a major grant from the Alumni Foundation in the previous year, not something that will be repeated annually. We also spent more on duplicating & postage this year, as we managed to produce two newsletters instead of the previous none.

Oh, and our outgoing donations are down a tenner as the PDCMG's treasurer didn't get around to telling me where to send a cheque. As the Secretary shall be at the dinner tonight, I shall remedy this.

Finally, I must once again thank our auditor, Derek Allen, whose sound advice and work are a great help to me.

Apparently I am willing to stand again...

**Graham Mullan**

## Treasurer's Report 2016-17

At this time last year, I gave just about the shortest report that I have given during my tenure in the post. This year's could be even shorter! It really has been a quiet year from the financial point of view.

Some items of expenditure have been higher than usual this year, the printing cost of Proceedings was significantly higher, but it was a somewhat larger issue and included quite a lot of colour printing, and some items have been lower. Overall, we are a couple of hundred pounds in the red this year, but that is, in percentage terms, quite close to break even. Given that we are almost wholly reliant on our own resources for funding, now, as regular assistance from both the University and the Students' Union has just about ceased, it is comforting to know that we can cope.

We are still in receipt of grants, but the University's Tratman Fund aside, these are usually one-off payments for special circumstances. However, with this in mind and although they do not appear in these accounts as the payments have yet to be made, I do have to thank the Oliver Lloyd Memorial Fund and the National Trust for grants for obtaining 14C dates for us. This is part of a collaboration with both the Bristol City Museum and the new dating facility in the University and I am hoping for quite a close relationship with, especially, the latter in the years to come.

Finally, as ever, I must thank our auditor, Derek Allen, for his sound advice and assistance.

The President has informed me that I am willing to continue for a further term.

**Graham Mullan**

**Important Dates to add to  
your calendars:**

**Next Annual Dinner  
10th March 2018**

**Centenary Dinner  
9th March 2019**

# UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SPELAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST JANUARY 2016

2014/15	<b><u>Receipts</u></b>		2015/16
£			£
3,061.00	Members subscriptions		3,084.00
795.00	Student member subscriptions		705.00
3,990.00	Grants		1,530.00
60.80	Interest on investments	Barclays Bank	93.44
658.47	Sales of Publications (not C.of CC)		400.80
144.00	Donations		102.00
585.30	Tax refund on Gift Aid		655.10
0.00	Sales of Charterhouse Permits (net)		20.00
527.00	Personal contributions to PI Insurance		527.00
0.00	Key Deposits		0.00
124.01	Miscellaneous		0.00
<b>9,945.58</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>7,077.34</b>
	<b><u>Payments</u></b>		
2,270.00	<u>Proceedings:</u>	Printing	2,024.00
527.73		Postage	432.19
1,953.58	<u>Tools &amp; Equipment</u>	Capital	0.00
0.00		Current	60.97
142.50	Library Acquisitions		129.10
0.00	Sessional Meetings		0.00
0.00	Other Postages		142.80
68.39	Stationery & Duplicating		372.94
1,514.00	<u>Insurances</u>	Third Party	1,396.00
307.92		Property	317.44
167.00	Subscriptions		160.00
35.00	Donations to Mendip Cave Rescue & PDCMG		25.00
245.87	<b>Surplus</b> /Deficit on Annual Dinner		38.00
10.00	IT expenses		40.12
0.00	Fresh		0.00
0.00	Miscellaneous		100.00
1,500.00	Tratman Grant		1,500.00
0.00	OCL Mem Fund Grant		0.00
<b>8,741.99</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>6,738.56</b>
<b>1,203.59</b>	Surplus/ <b>Deficit</b> for year		<b>338.78</b>

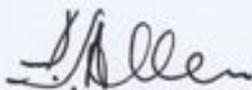
**UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SPELAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST JANUARY 2016

2014/15			£		2015/16
£	<u>Assets</u>				£
15,620.90	<u>Investments:</u>	Barclays Investments			25,714.34
13,387.09	Current Bank Account				4,047.46
39.67	Cash in Hand	Hon. Treasurer			5.34
<hr/>					<hr/>
29,047.66	<b>Total Assets</b>				29,767.14
	Represented by:				
	<u>Reserves</u>				
3,401.01	<u>Hut Fund -</u>	brought forward	3,532.01		
131.00		add/subtract year result	<u>1.82</u>		3,530.19
	<u>Printed Publications</u>				
3,830.00		brought forward	3,830.00		
0.00		Tfr to R&P reserve	<u>0.00</u>		3,830.00
	<u>Library &amp; Museum Fund</u>				
974.87		brought forward	1,050.69		
7.54		Tfr from CoCC Res.	17.30		
450.00		Tfr from R&P Res.	0.00		
381.72		add/subtract year result	<u>155.16</u>		912.83
	<u>Equipment Hire Fund</u>				
1,389.40		brought forward	1,438.90		
49.50		add/subtract year result	364.80		1,803.70
	<u>Pen Park Hole a/c</u>				
218.42		initial receipt	188.43		
29.99		add/subtract year result	<u>0.00</u>		188.43
	<u>Caves of County Clare Reserve</u>				
11,862.19		brought forward	11,930.13		
7.54		Tfr to Lib & Mus	17.30		
75.48		add/subtract year result	<u>172.88</u>		12,085.71
	<u>Receipts &amp; Payment Reserve</u>				
6,323.91		brought forward	7,077.50		
0.00		Trf from PP Fund	0.00		
450.00		Tfr to Lib & Mus	0.00		
1,203.59		add/subtract year result	<u>338.78</u>		7,416.28
<hr/>					<hr/>
29,047.66	<b>Total Reserves</b>				29,767.14

**HONORARY AUDITOR'S REPORT:**

I have examined the above Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31st January 2016, and the attached Balance Sheet as at that date, and certify that they are in accordance with the Society's accounting records and explanations provided.



honorary auditor

# UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SPELAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST JANUARY 2017

2015/16	<b><u>Receipts</u></b>		2016/17
£		£	£
3,084.00	Members subscriptions		2,853.00
705.00	Student member subscriptions		600.00
1,530.00	Grants		1,700.00
93.44	Interest on investments	Barclays Bank	121.94
400.80	Sales of Publications (not C.of CC)		672.31
102.00	Donations		158.20
655.10	Tax refund on Gift Aid		672.32
20.00	Sales of Charterhouse Permits (net)		0.00
527.00	Personal contributions to PI Insurance		501.00
0.00	Key Deposits		0.00
0.00	Miscellaneous		13.71
<b>7,077.34</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>7,292.48</b>
	<b><u>Payments</u></b>		
2,024.00	<u>Proceedings:</u>	Printing	2,865.00
432.19		Postage	562.00
0.00	<u>Tools &amp; Equipment</u>	Capital	287.26
60.97		Current	20.00
129.10	Library Acquisitions		134.10
0.00	Sessional Meetings		0.00
142.80	Other Postages		0.00
372.94	Stationery & Duplicating		33.00
1,396.00	<u>Insurances</u>	Third Party	1,339.00
317.44		Property	330.02
160.00	Subscriptions		182.00
25.00	Donations to Mendip Cave Rescue & PDCMG		45.00
38.00	Surplus /Deficit on Annual Dinner		4.00
40.12	IT expenses		226.99
0.00	Fresh		0.00
100.00	Miscellaneous		200.00
1,500.00	Treatman Grant		1,500.00
0.00	OCL Mem Fund Grant		0.00
<b>6,738.56</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>7,728.37</b>
<b>338.78</b>	Surplus/Deficit for year		<b>435.89</b>

# UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SPELAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST JANUARY 2017

2015/16			2016/17
£	<u>Assets</u>		£
25,714.34	<u>Investments:</u>	Barclays Investments	25,836.28
4,047.46	Current Bank Account		3,557.88
5.34	Cash in Hand	Hon. Treasurer	15.20
<hr/> <b>29,767.14</b> <hr/>	<b>Total Assets</b>		<hr/> <b>29,409.36</b> <hr/>
Represented by:			
	<u>Reserves</u>		
3,532.01	<u>Hut Fund -</u>	brought forward	3,530.19
1.82		add/subtract year result	<hr/> 265.61
			3,795.80
	<u>Printed Publications</u>		
3,830.00		brought forward	3,830.00
0.00		Tfr to R&P reserve	<hr/> 0.00
			3,830.00
	<u>Library &amp; Museum Fund</u>		
1,050.69		brought forward	912.83
17.30		Tfr from CoCC Res.	7.60
0.00		Tfr from R&P Res.	0.00
155.16		add/subtract year result	<hr/> 65.19
			855.24
	<u>Equipment Hire Fund</u>		
1,438.90		brought forward	1,803.70
364.80		add/subtract year result	<hr/> 77.90
			1,725.80
	<u>Pen Park Hole a/c</u>		
188.43		brought forward	188.43
0.00		add/subtract year result	<hr/> 120.00
			68.43
	<u>Caves of County Clare Reserve</u>		
11,930.13		brought forward	12,085.71
17.30		Tfr to Lib & Mus	7.60
172.88		add/subtract year result	<hr/> 75.59
			12,153.70
	<u>Receipts &amp; Payment Reserve</u>		
7,077.50		brought forward	7,416.28
0.00		Trf from PP Fund	0.00
0.00		Tfr to Lib & Mus	0.00
338.78		add/subtract year result	<hr/> 435.89
			6,980.39
<hr/> <b>29,767.14</b> <hr/>	<b>Total Reserves</b>		<hr/> <b>29,409.36</b> <hr/>

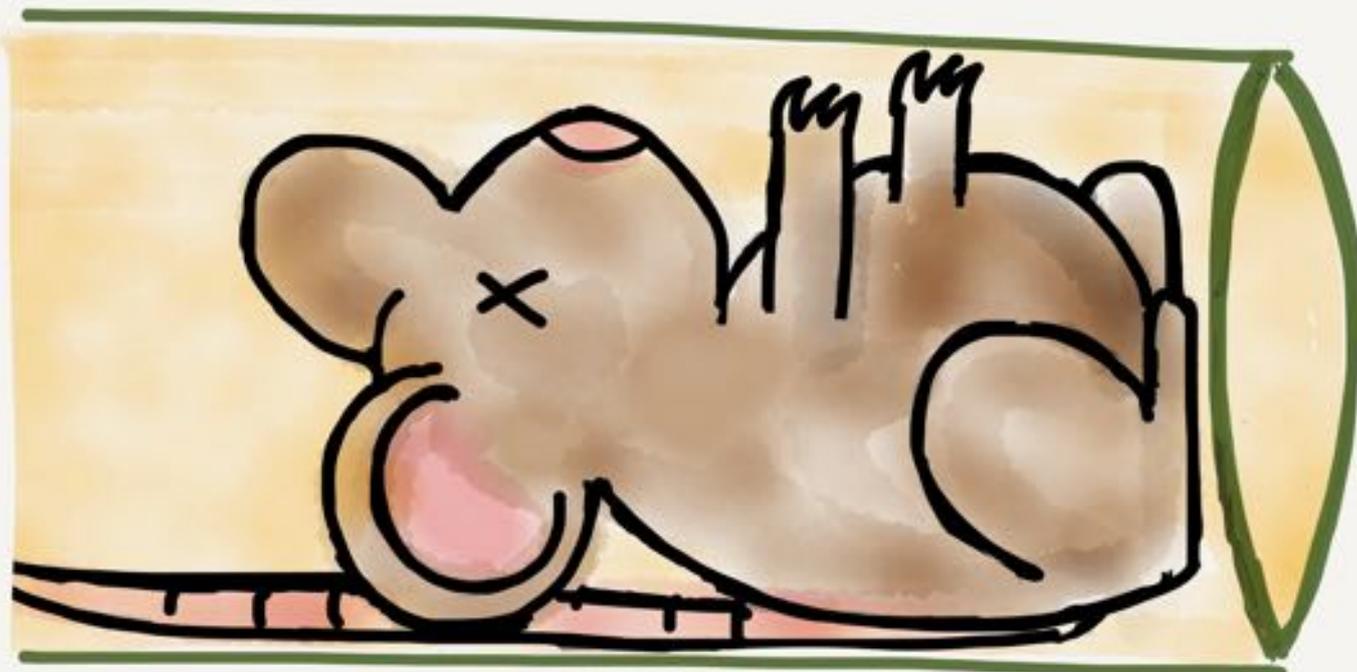
**HONORARY AUDITOR'S REPORT:**

I have examined the above Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31st January 2017, and the attached Balance Sheet as at that date, and certify that they are in accordance with the Society's accounting records and explanations provided.



honorary auditor

# Zombie Mice on Mendip



**Several years ago, a gruesome discovery was made at the UBSS hut! One evening, while unloading the shopping ready for the weekend, a leftover bottle of cooking oil was discovered on the kitchen shelf. But this was no ordinary bottle...for this one now contained a dead mouse preserved in the yellow liquid!**

Sounds of revulsion and many calls for it to be thrown away were made, until the more sensible members of the club secreted it away to the log store, to keep for future visitors.

For many weekends, it was brought out to disgust and delight the new members of our club. Or even better, once the evening meal was being prepared, the bottle would be sneakily placed on the kitchen shelf. An unsuspecting cook would then be asked to pass the cooking oil!

## **But no more!**

For on a recent bonfire weekend, it was discovered that the bottle was now empty! The mouse was no where to be seen and another hole had been chewed at the bottom...!

Naturally, we assumed that one of the many other creatures who live at the hut in the week had found our marinated mouse and helped itself to a tasty treat. We recalled the many times we had made a new caver scream, then returned to drinking around the bonfire with the others.

However, as the evening wore on, it became apparent that there was something wrong. Some



SIMON LOOKS FEARFUL AS HE HOLDS THE NOW EMPTY BOTTLE. WHERE HAD THE MOUSE GONE?  
PHOTOS BY STUART ALLDRED



We checked people for bite marks and everyone seemed unharmed, but the odd behaviour continued. Had the zombie mouse infected the lamb?

There was no way to tell for sure, although the vegetarians seemed fine. The unaffected ran to find safe shelter.



people weren't acting themselves! Was it freshers flu? Or something much more sinister?!?

Maybe the mouse hadn't been eaten after all, maybe it had escaped! Was there a zombie mouse on the loose?

After hiding out in Goatchurch for the remainder of the night, we emerged the next morning to find the others groaning and crawling about. We were about to take drastic action, when one of the affected asked for some water...

It quickly transpired that the "zombies" were just hungover cavers (who are odd at the best of times).

We had survived this time, but beware of the mice if you are staying at the hut!



ZOMBIE MOUSE ILLUSTRATED BY CAYLEY HOWARD.  
PHOTOS OF POTENTIAL ZOMBIES BY STUART ALLDRED



