



Contents

Editorial	42
Features[§], Papers[‡] and Reports[†]	
Charles Chilton and the discovery of ‘well-shrimps’ in New Zealand: a case study of serendipity and contingency [‡] Max Moseley	43
Additional possible finds of flint implements at Kirkhead Cavern, and the legacy of excavations by the Lancaster Cavern and Mine Research Society [†] Phillip J Murphy and Andrew T Chamberlain	58
Invertebrate palaeontology of Wait-a-Bit Cave, Jamaica: a brief review [†] Stephen K Donovan	61
An interim report on radiocarbon dates obtained on human remains recovered from an Early Neolithic burial site at Kewstoke Road rock shelter, Weston-super-Mare, UK [†] Vince Simmonds	67
Caves and karst of SW Sarawak, Malaysia – an overview [†] David William Gill [deceased] , David Clucas and Martin Lavery	71
The strangeness of Stump Cross Caverns, North Yorkshire, UK – is the answer from below? Possible hypogene speleogenesis in the eastern Yorkshire Dales [†] Phillip J Murphy	83
Forum (Notes for Authors — The positive side of rejection.)	89
Extended Photo Feature: (Hydrological anomalies in Magpie Sough, Ashford, Derbyshire, UK. Photos and text by John Gunn.) [§]	91

Cover photographs:

Cenozoic limestones crop out widely on the North Island of New Zealand, and the most well-known of the cave and karst areas developed on them is the King Country, about 190km south of Auckland, where about 400km² of limestones crop out in discontinuous patches, with a similar area of karstified limestone at sub-crop beneath younger rocks and sediments. There are many fine caves in the King Country, including the world-famous Waitomo Glowworm Cave, and the collection of photos on the front and rear covers provides a sample of typical cave passages and speleothem.

Front cover: The “Springy Thingy” in Agamemnon Cave, one of several caves in the Mangaotaki area of the King Country that contain extensive gypsum speleothem deposits.

Rear cover: a collage comprising seven images from caves in the King Country, as outlined above. Specific details of the seven images are provided below. All photographs were taken in 2020 by John Gunn, with assistance from David Shearsmith.

a	b	Image a	Cave wetas [wētās] – crickets – (<i>Pachyrhamma cavernae</i>) near an entrance to Mangapohue Cave, Waitomo.
		Image b	Adam Hartland (on the right of the photo) and colleagues collected water samples from this flowstone in the Organ Loft, Waipuna Cave, and used them to investigate how the drip water hydrochemistry responds to atmospheric circulation dynamics in the southwestern Pacific region. Beth Fox and team also used this site to study how magnetic particles are transported to speleothems by floods and drip water.
c		Image c	The Portcullis in the Castle Grotto of Hollow Hill Cave, Waitomo.
		Image d	Gardners Gut Cave, Waitomo, is the longest on North Island with about 12km of passage. The fine vadose canyon is 10 – 15m high but, in places, has been almost blocked by extensive flowstone that is regularly submerged and, hence, must have formed during a drier period.
d	e	Image e	One of the other fine speleothems in Waipuna Cave.
	f	Image f	Calcite speleothem in Agamemnon Cave, Mangaotaki, a few tens of metres from the gypsum speleothem highlighted on the front cover.
	g	Image g	Cymru Passage, Mangapohue Cave, Waitomo. John Gunn rests his hand on an oil drum that he (and assistants!) installed in 1975, together with a 90° v-notch weir that can be seen downstream. In 1976 a water-depth recorder was mounted on top of the drum, with a float and counterweight that passed through the hole. Water depth was recorded by an ink pen on a paper chart, and this rotated once a week, being driven by a clockwork mechanism. The charts were changed weekly for 18 months as part of John’s doctoral research; a modern data logger would run for at least a year!

Editors: Dr D J Lowe d.lowe@bcra.org.uk
Professor J Gunn j.gunn@bcra.org.uk

23 Cliff Way, Radcliffe on Trent, Nottingham, NG12 1AQ, UK.
GEES (School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences),
University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT, UK.

Cave and Karst Science (ISSN 1356–191X) is published three times a year and issued free to all appropriately paid-up members of the Association. As BCRA’s science journal, it has been published continuously since BCRA’s foundation in 1973, firstly as the *Transactions of the British Cave Research Association* (ISSN 0305–859X) then, from 1982 to 1993, as *Cave Science* (ISSN 0263–760X).

Annual subscriptions are available to non-members at a rate of £28. For destinations outside the UK, extra postage of £3 (Europe) and £6 (outside Europe) applies. A special discounted subscription rate is available to *bona fide* students. For more information about BCRA publications and publication sales, please refer to the details on the inner back cover of this Issue.

Copyright © BCRA 2025. The BCRA owns the copyright in the typographical layout of this publication. Additional copyright in the text, photographs and drawings may reside with the authors. Subject to statutory exception, no material may be reproduced by any method without permission of the copyright owners. The authors’ opinions are not necessarily endorsed by the editor(s), nor by the BCRA. See bcra.org.uk/copyright.

Publisher: The British Cave Research Association, The Old Methodist Chapel, Great Hucklow, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 8RG, UK. The BCRA (enquiries@bcra.org.uk) is a UK Registered Charity, Number 267828. It is a constituent body of the British Caving Association.

First edition printed by MTP Media Ltd., Kendal, Cumbria, UK. [Subsequent digital reprints by the BCRA.]