



*Mendip Fracking Update*

*Swildon's Hole*

*Mendip Underground*

*Keyhole Chamber Extensions*

*Are We There Yet!*

*St Andrew's Well*

*More Caves visited on Lundy*

# Chelsea Spelaeological Society Newsletter

Volume 57  
Nos 1 & 2  
Jan/Feb  
2015

Tim Morgan in Atlas Pot-Thrupe Lane - Photo by Steve Sharp

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ISSN 0045-6381

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The views expressed in the Newsletter are those of the author of the article and do not necessarily represent the views of the Society. Photos and illustrations not accredited are by the editor.

## Membership

It's now over three months since your subs were due so this is the final newsletter that unpaid members will receive."

Please send all subscriptions to:  
Gary Jones, 6 West Down, Bookham, Leatherhead,  
Surrey KT23 4LJ

Current rates are:

**Full** £25

**Joint** £33

**PLUS your BCA subscription per person of £6 for non cavers and £17 for cavers.**

Members who have BCA membership via another club need not pay twice but should include their BCA number and membership club with their payment.

**Associate** £21 (BCA Non Caver already included)

**Provisional** £20

Provisional members made into Full members this year

have to pay the Full member rate.

**New members** wishing to join should send a cheque payable to **Chelsea Spelæological Society** along with their membership application form to the Secretary. Members who are renewing a subscription should send the payment to the Treasurer. The committee will normally consider voting provisional members up to full membership after 6 months by which time they should have become known.

Provisional membership can be extended for another 6 months, but only once, if a Provisional Member has

been unable to become known socially and as an active caver within the club. Please contact the Treasurer with any queries.

**Cover Photo** - Lee Hawkswell in Antler Passage

Photo by Steve Sharp



## CSS Luxury Face Packs



Gary Jones is trialing a new luxury face pack from Agen Allwed, please contact Gary for details while paying your Subs!

# Editorial

The start of a new year is upon us all  
This year starts with a bumper edition  
which includes the Keyhole Chamber Extension  
article we've all been waiting for.

Please send in your photos and trip reports etc  
Please send all material to:

*Steve-Sharp-Photography@virginmedia.com*

Or put on a CD and send to:

**Steve Sharp**  
**43 The Crescent**  
**Sea Mills**  
**Bristol**  
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*Steve Sharp*

## Curry Evening *By Paul Tarrant*

The Curry Evening was a great success. Whereas recent Curry Evenings have had about a dozen attendees, on this occasion we had 25 people (someone thought we were up to 30 bods) attend the evening. There were a number of different types of curry on offer with Lamb Rhogan Ghosht, Dhals, Bombay Potatoes, Green Thai curries and Chicken Tikka Masala being some of the ones I could remember. We also had a supply of Naan breads, bhajies, popadums and snacks which enabled everyone to have a good sized meal. Joe managed to cook sufficient rice for everyone, getting the quantity correct, right down to the last grain! Duncan made some festive mulled cider which was particularly good.

As well as eating there was a veritable wealth of caving activity taking place with several trips into Agen Allwed, visiting the new Upper Keyhole extensions, as well as a trip to Sand Caverns. There was a trip involving over 75% of Busman's/ Antler Passage being explored via Prices Dig. Another stalwart dug Fell's Swoop.

There were some comments about making the Curry Evening an all ticket affair next year as the numbers made cooking a little challenging. I am not sure I would want to put a limit on numbers because it turned

out to be a thoroughly good evening in the end. The club needs to perhaps make available a couple of camping stoves and gas cylinders as contingency for big weekends like this as some food could have been cooked in the outhouse away from the main action taking part in the kitchen.

The atmosphere was really good and I think people enjoyed the evening. A couple of SWCC bods joined us for a short while and they too commented to me how good the atmosphere was in the cottage so all in all it was a very good weekend. Thanks to everyone who contributed with their curries, and those that provided the Indian snacks etc.



# Candidates from North East Somerset taken on awareness tour of po

In early December, Mendip resident and caver Mark Lumley invited candidates from all political parties on a brief tour of the Mendip Hills and Somerset Coalfield, visiting stream sinks, resurgences and mines of PEDL 227 in particular the East Mendip region, widely believed to be the source of the water for Bath Hot Springs. The trip included a short visit to Shatter Cave between Stoke St. Michael and Oakhill.

The intention was to ensure that candidates were aware of issues particular to the cavernous, fractured geology of the Mendip plateau and Somerset Coalfield. In particular the possible dangers to our reservoirs and water supply if drilling were to take place amid the area's countless underground streams. The hydrological link between this area and Bath Hot Springs was

discussed at length, together with worries about methane leakage to communities above old mine workings if the government were to override concerns raised by Mendip and B&NES councils, and give the green light to fracking or drilling for coalbed methane in this fractured, cavernous, heavily mined area.

Previously Mark, an advisor to Somerset County Council's East Mendip Strategic Groundwater Study and a cave explorer for over 45 years, took Wells Constituency Conservative candidate **James Heappey** down Swildon's Hole at Priddy. **Tessa Munt MP** (Liberal Democrat) has been caving before and is aware of the issues. A trip is planned shortly for **Chris Inchley** (Labour).

**Todd Foreman** (Labour NE Somerset), **Wera Hobhouse** (Liberal Democrat NE Somerset), **Dr. Gordon**

**Ingram** (Green Party NE Somerset) accepted the invitation and the trip took place on December 5th.

The visit was a great success with all three candidates finding the trip constructive, leaving them with a clearer understanding of the delicate relationship between the Mendip Hills and the surrounding area and the way that this might be damaged by drilling and by human error at the wellhead and in transportation of polluted fluids leading to widespread consequences.

Unlike his fellow candidates **Jacob Rees-Mogg MP** (NE Somerset) declined the invitation, deeming it more important on that day to filibuster a bill aimed at safeguarding spending on foreign aid. In his response to the invitation he said the trip was a publicity stunt and that he was 'aware of the work of William Smith'.

**William 'Strata' Smith** was a geologist who lived from 1769 to 1839, working on the Somerset Coal Canal as well as part of the Somerset Coalfield. In 1799 Smith produced the first geologic map of the area around Bath.

Alongside his work on the coalfield, William Smith was the expert called in by City of Bath officials in 1810 **to investigate the failure of part of the Hot Springs complex**. Although it proved not to be the main contributory factor, Smith was successfully able to demonstrate that pumping operations at trial coal shafts more than 4km away at Bathampton **were having a significant detrimental effect on the refill rate of the famous baths**. The situation only returned to normal when mining operations ceased c. 1813. This discovery, reinforced by a similar unfortunate event involving

**UK Methane have renewed their licence for PEDL 227 (Petroleum Exploration and Development Licence) which runs from Clutton and Timsbury in the North close to Shepton Mallet and Downhead in the South.**

**An application for an 800 metre borehole and over 20 kilometres of seismic surveys in the area are anticipated.**

**"I am a strong supporter of renewables and an opponent of fracking because it is a fossil fuel. But until the caving expedition, I hadn't understood the complex geology of the Mendips. Nor had I realised the big gaps in our understanding of how water reaches the hot springs in Bath. Seeing the way water flows through the rocks underground, and the way nature has twisted and contorted the geological strata, I cannot believe that any fracking company is going to be able to predict how drilling will affect our water supply."**

**Wera Hobhouse** Liberal Democrat Party candidate for North East Somerset

**"It has just reinforced that here is not the appropriate place for fracking."**

**Todd Foreman** Labour Party candidate for North East Somerset

**"It seems ridiculous that the licence has been granted at all."**

**Dr. Gordon Ingram** Green Party candidate for North East Somerset

# Somerset and Wells constituencies potential North Somerset gasfield

a brewery well some twenty years later, has uncomfortable parallels to current concerns raised by B&NES and others about **the impacts of drilling for coalbed methane above the catchment for Bath Hot Springs**, which are estimated to bring £12.3m p.a. to the local economy.

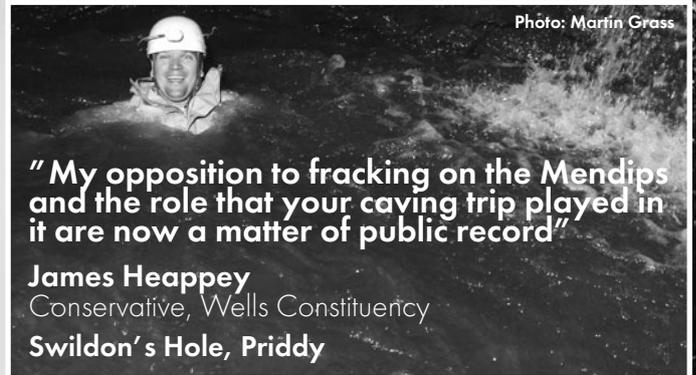
Mark was disappointed by Jacob Rees-Mogg's absence, stating that the invitation, accepted by other invitees from parties of many colours, was a well-intended, non-party-political attempt to ensure that candidates were well informed on these crucial, local issues.

It is well known that Mr Rees-Mogg is an enthusiastic supporter of fracking, with a family history in mining on the Somerset Coalfield, a founding partner of **Somerset Capital Management** which has interests in fracking overseas,

who recently stated on TV that Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty might be fracked in 'exceptional circumstances'.

Candidates of all parties would be well advised to research beyond the work of a fine geologist from a time when it was believed that the world was created as described in the book of Genesis, when Mendip's caves were unexplored and were considered to be the abode of evil spirits, an era before Darwin, when the vicar of Banwell, the Reverend Dr. Francis Randolph, believed that the bones discovered in Banwell Caves were the remains of creatures that had perished in Noah's flood.

A fuller understanding of the issues is provided by the British Geological Survey and specialist local expertise is freely available to all with the **Mendip Cave**



**"My opposition to fracking on the Mendips and the role that your caving trip played in it are now a matter of public record"**

**James Heapey**  
Conservative, Wells Constituency  
**Swildon's Hole, Priddy**

**Registry & Archive** mcra.org.uk, an independent organisation founded in 1956 and recognised by both Somerset County Council and the regional District Councils as holding the most comprehensive database regarding caves, springs, stone mines and stream sinks in the affected region.

**Local geologists** have also been urging our politicians to discussed these local issues far more thoroughly before any decision is taken on drilling.

## The Somerset Coalfield

At the heart of PEDL 227

From the slopes above Marsh Lane Drift, Ruett Pit and Farrington Pit looking towards Paulton and Midsomer Norton over the Old Mills Colliery, Springfield Pit and beyond.

### Politicians from North East Somerset in Shatter Cave, East Mendip

From left to right:

**Dr. Gordon Ingram**  
Green Party candidate

**Todd Foreman**  
Labour Party candidate

**William Hobhouse**  
Liberal Democrat

**Wera Hobhouse**  
Liberal Democrat candidate



Photo: Mark Lumley

# CSS Evening Trips *By Paul Tarrant*

An evening trip to the Silica Mines 18-11-14

Six of us visited the Silica Mines at Pontneddfechan last night and very good they were too. We could not park in the Dinas Rock car park as this was locked up, but a discrete quick change in the village hall car park did the job. We followed the river Sychryd and paid a quick visit to 'Blue Steel Mine' which is one of the oldest of the mines situated on the river bank. We had no problem locating it as someone has placed a 'No Potholing or Caving allowed in the Mine' sign outside the entrance! This mine has lots of closely packed pillars and a fairly wet section that looked fun for those that were inclined to wade around in it.

Next followed a reasonably dramatic traverse up the Sychryd Gorge, passing the spectacular Bwa Maen Rock formation which was well lit up by our lights. Continuing past this we climbed up the waterfall on the left hand side, noting the entrance to Will's Hole which gives about 2 hours of interesting caving. We, however, continued up to the top mines, where we first explored the Bwa Maen Mine with its large entrance by the footbridge. We basically did the lower loop route and ended up throwing stones at the rock to show the way these gave off sparks in the dark, which impressed the first timers on the trip.

Time was pressing and we wanted to see the main mine. This is easily located on the other river bank by the same footbridge. The entrances are large and we quickly passed one of the portals to descend to the main passage just above the flooded levels, noting the fine Halloween skull that was leering at us nearby. We explored all of the lower level to its end and then explored upwards along parallel passages nearby which extended slightly further into the mountain. We noted the final wall with several partly drilled shot holes which rather gave the impression the mine was abandoned yesterday. The passages hereabouts are fabulously coloured with creamy coloured sandstones which have bright red streaks colouring it. Areas nearby which have responded to rising water table showed interesting false calcite rafts on the surface of the water. The rafts have the same shape as stones and rocks lying below the surface of the water.

We explored back towards the entrance, rising up along the levels, passing the winch and its switch gear and the steeply rising passage which goes to a higher entrance. We climbed several levels up near the entrance which gave access to a very large chamber supported by dozens of pillars. In this area we came across a further couple of entrances which seemed to

offer alternative routes back to the car park but we passed on these due to the dark and not being sure on the surface as to where we were. We retreated back to the main entrance, walked back via the high level Dinas Rock path, and quickly changed back at the car park to call it a night after two and a half hours of good, easy exploration.

Participants: Liz Winstanley, Becky Healey, Lisa Boore, Dan Thorne, Claire Vivian and Paul Tarrant

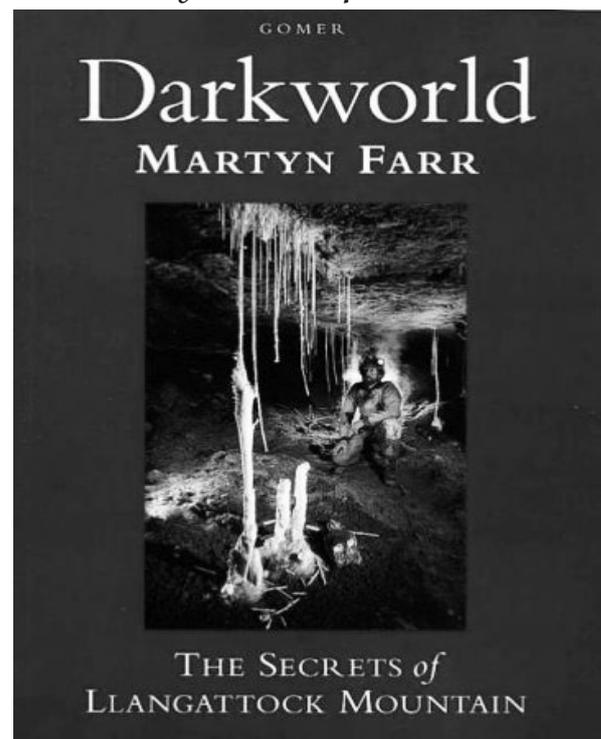
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## FOR SALE

### *Martyn Farr's Darkworld*

**£12:00**

*The club has acquired a limited number of brand new hardback copies of this excellent book for sale, written by our own Martyn Farr. The book is a history of cave exploration in Llangattock, covering the golden age of Daren exploration as well as earlier and later discoveries in Craig y Ffynnon, Carno and other places. If you have not got this book you have the opportunity to buy at the discounted price of £12 (normal retail is £15.95). The book is becoming a rarity and you won't buy this cheaper on Amazon!*



*Copies can be bought at Whitewalls or contact Paul Tarrant the Librarian.*

# Swildon's Hole *By Duncan Price*

28th December 2014

Gary Jones and family were in Mendipshire between Christmas and New Year visiting relatives and Gary wanted to get underground. Given the need to accommodate Jones Jr. and associated paraphernalia, cave diving was out so we agreed to visit Swildon's Hole instead. Changing at Upper Pitts seemed more comfortable than the barn at Manor Farm so he and I arranged to meet at the Wessex HQ at 10 am. Unbeknown to me, Tim Morgan was also coming along, this being a rare opportunity for the three of us to go caving together now that we are all "grown up" with other commitments.

JC was taking Barry Weaver up to the Mud Sump but we had no definite plans until I suggested that we go to the Black Hole Series as it is one of my favourite parts of the cave. Gary had never been there and Tim hadn't visited the place for a long time. JC was able to tell us that there was a traverse line rigged across the Black Hole which would mean that we didn't have to take a lifeline for it. I had brought a short ladder for the Twenty and Gary had brought a standard length ladder (the "Northover" ladder) which we could take for the top part of the Black Hole.

We'd just reached the blockhouse when Steve Sharp and party arrived - they were going down Swildon's to visit Swyne-Puke Passage. We set off ahead of them making good progress to the top of the Twenty which had already been rigged by Connor Roe (on a solo trip to Sump 2 and back) - he was leaving the ladder in place to take a group down the cave later that day so my ladder was left behind next to JC's bag. Just beyond Sump 1 we left the streamway via Howard's Dig and grovelled along to the Ten Foot Overhang. We saw a light above us - Wayne Stansmore had gone ahead on his own to visit Abandon Hope. There was a handline on the climb which helped a little and we soon reached the Black Hole.

The Northover ladder was much too long for our purpose - although it didn't reach the bottom of the 13 m pitch. I went first and a join in the traverse line proved "interesting" to pass using my single cowstail. Tim followed and then Gary caught up the rear, taking more time than us as he had never done it before. I think that his cowstail comprised of an old bit of tat which also engendered caution. We headed up the fine passage beyond the Black Hole, along a short wet grovel into increasingly

handsome passage. Just before the first Boulder Choke we came across a new dig going off towards the Swildon's 1 streamway. This is being worked in an effort to link it to a high level passage near to Barnes' Loop (though whether this is a GOOD THING or not is another matter). The spoil is being neatly stacked either side of Sore Knees Creep and there was a bit of foam mat to sit on and take a rest.

Fools Paradise beyond the First Boulder Choke is arguably one of the nicest bits of Swildon's: easy walking in a little stream through a passage that wouldn't be out of place under Llangattwg. The walls are covered in clean flowstone and one wonders how long it would stay like this if there was an easier way to get there. All too soon the route ended in a calcited choke. I let Tim and Gary investigate this before we headed back out to the surface at a gentle pace. Getting back across the Black Hole proved easier than on the way in and I had the foresight to attach two krabs to the end of my single cowstail so I stayed connected to the traverse line all the way.

On the way out, I remembered that I had first visited the Black Hole Series on Boxing Day 1983, just over 31 years previously. That trip was more auspicious for the fact that my light went out before reaching Sump 1 and I did much of the trip by relying on the rest of the party for illumination. Oh how things have changed! Today we all carried a back-up light each.

It was gone 2 pm by the time we got back to Upper Pitts and since the Hunters' would have been shut by the time we got there, we went for a drink at the Queen Vic. instead.



# Mendip Underground

## *A Photographers Paradise/A Cave Model's Nightmare!*

Back in February 2012 I was contacted by Robin Taviner with a request for photos for the new all-singing and dancing Mendip Underground a request that brought music to my ears. Previous editions of the book have been very informative and a Mendip Bible for cavers, the promise of a full colour book with more photos, surveys and topos, was an opportunity not to be missed.

At this stage all I had was a single email with Tav's wish list in hand, my digital camera and trusty Scurion caving light!

Cave photography relies on fellow cavers who are willing to carry gear, stand around in the freezing cold until the perfect shot is achieved with the promise of recognition in a popular caving magazine, website or book if they are lucky enough.

Cave photography is very competitive so I had my

the case in some places there is also a wealth of larger caves seldom visited and recent discoveries enabling longer trips associated with the larger systems of neighbouring South Wales.

One of the caves on the wish list was Stoke Lane Slocker. Tav had commented he had not seen any large shots of Bone Chamber so, armed with a copy of Mendip underground I employed the artistic skills and stamina of Gary Kiely at rate of £0 pounds per hour. This position demanded driving skills, the ability to keep calm in rising water and relevant diving skills to get me through the short sump!

This would be my first time beyond the sump; a previous evening trip had failed miserably due to our late arrival at the sump at 11pm. Time constraints, route finding issues and a 12pm call out time made further exploration impossible!

On this occasion we made it through the sump. No amount of reading the description could prepare me for the cave passages ahead. Was I really in Mendip? The vast chambers and passages were magnificent, large curtains and formations decorated Stoke lane in all directions. I would put Stoke Lane Slocker on my top ten list of Mendip caves and would encourage a group visit.

Cave photography has always been about the light, some shots have been inspired by cavers indirectly lighting up



*Thrupe Lane*

work cut out. I have based my photography around long exposure/light painting, a skill taught to me by Mark "Gonzo" Lumley back in 2008. It requires a tripod and a good cave model who can keep perfectly still for 1-8 seconds! It's a far cry from taking pictures in the park. Associated risk included permanent damage to cameras lenses and gear. I've lost two cameras in the past, one fell in a stream way and the other eventually seized up from dust trapped in the lens.

The photos for the new book would act as a portal to a hidden world beneath Mendip, encouraging cavers to visit the caves and see them at their best. Mendip has gained a reputation in the past for being squalid, muddy and tight. Although still



*Manor Farm*



*Upper Flood*

passages/chambers during a trip, painting a idea in the mind for a future photo opportunity. Goatchurch Cavern is a good example of this. “The Terrace” between Boulder Chamber and Water Chamber makes a good photo and always raises the question “Is the photo really Goatchurch?”

Swindon’s Hole with its active stream way gives the photographer a chance to experiment with long exposure water and test out the commitment of your cave model!

Over the next few years many photos were taken and submitted for approval along with many other photographers submitting some of their best work. The photography scene in Mendip is a close network of

various individuals, all from different backgrounds. We often meet up for shoots and trips together to share ideas, compare work and encourage others to take up the hobby. One of the main shoots for the book was Thrupe Lane Swallett, this cave is often affected by floodwater so a photo shoot was paramount. A large team was put together to photograph the cave, one caver, Naomi Sharp single handily rigged the cave one evening after work. Such dedication from the people behind the photos has made the book a reality.

I would encourage anyone with a camera and a group of loyal friends to visit the caves listed in Mendip Underground and take their own photos and share the magic of this caving region. Digital mediums such as Flickr and face book enable photos to be shared with fellow cavers across the world encouraging them to visit our beautiful caves.

The book also serves as a good coffee table book to showcase the Mendips to those faint at heart and others who may be encouraged to take their first caving trip inspired by the promise of large chambers waiting beyond the crawls and squeezes.

*Story and photos - Steve Sharp*



*Shatter Cave*

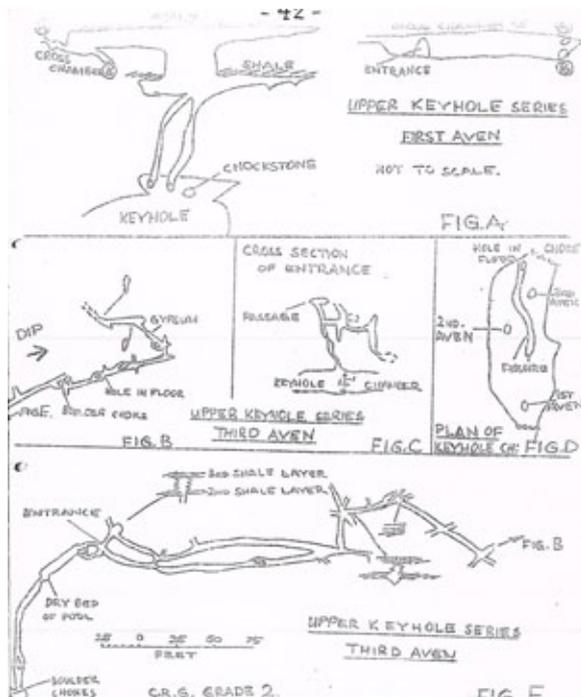
# Keyhole Chamber Extensions

*By John Stevens and Mike Green.*

As the resurvey of Agen Allwedd continues we have to go further and further into the system to start work. So we have left a few sites for those short trips that we do on function weekends. Upper Keyhole was one of those sites. I had done some research on the passage, as I could not recall anyone having visited since I was a member. Going through the CSS records, it was found in June 1960 with a description in Vol 2 page 86. 1st aven, 2 shafts lead up to a large cross chamber some 40' long. 3rd aven some 600' of passage found.

A grade 2 survey was produced CSS Vol 3 p42. A better grade 4 survey was later published in Vol 5, p80 by Geo Feltcher, Colin Holdsworth and Tich Morris which had 492ft surveyed plus 50ft of oxbows and unsurveyed passages.. This I had used when compiling surveys in the past for the Llangattock Jnl.

*Reproduce grade 2 survey from CSS Vol 2, circa 1962 – not too large*



The original is CSS Newsletter Volume 3 Number 5 February 1962 Page 42.

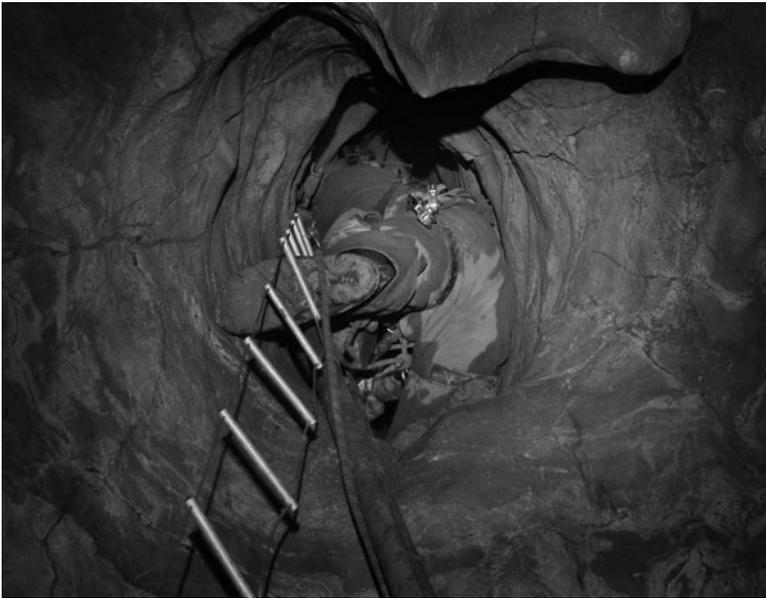
This early survey also mentions a few features the later survey does not. Part way along the SE branch, Fig B, a 'hole in floor' is noted as are boulder chokes. Since this was found we have discovered and extended Crystal Gallery, which runs roughly parallel to Upper Keyhole. A hole down may bypass the end choke/dig in Crystal Gallery, so this would be worth an investigation.

A maypole had been brought back from Flood Passage on a previous trip and was now waiting in Keyhole Chamber.

The First November was the CSS bonfire do, so a party of four entered to survey Upper Keyhole.

The first task was to erect the maypole and this time we had a spanner to tighten the joiners. In Flood Passage we had ended up with a banana of a maypole to climb. But the joiners all loosened up and then tightened even though they had been underground for over twenty years. Mike climbed a good rigid pole with ladder attached, to installed the first stainless steel through bolt and hanger. We noted the original explorers had used two pitons and some of the steel wire was still attached.

Mike then proceeded up at 45 degrees through a squeeze before fixing a second bolt. The squeeze was later removed by Alan. While Mike Read and myself surveyed the SE branch hoping the hole down mentioned would be worth while, Mike Green and Alan Brady headed the other way to look at the end choke.



*Mike climbing maypole*

Mike G's wrote :-

*1 Nov 2014 John Stevens (CSS) Mike Read (CSS) Mike Green (GSS) Alan Brady (CSS)*

*It was the weekend of the Chelsea Bonfire. We had already made plans the previous day for John, Mike Read and myself to scale and survey the main aven in keyhole passage. We already knew that it was fairly long based on the previous 1960 survey from which we knew that there was significant passage. It looked to be heading in an interesting area so we made sure we took digging kit in the form of a crowbar as well.*

*Discovered June 1960 – CSS Vol2 1st aven, 2 shafts lead up to a large cross chamber some 40' long (not the aven we did, its nearer 2nd choke) 3rd aven (the one we did) some 600' of passage found*

*We picked up an extra pair of hands in the form of Alan Brady and the four of us plus another CSS digging party who were visiting Sandstone passage entered Aggy that morning. We all had to be out in time for the start of the Bonfire celebrations else we would miss the food and possibly drink which would be a tragedy.*

*When we got to Keyhole we started work immediately. A hole was drilled and an anchor placed in the wall below the aven to act as the main belay point. The scaffold was erected and the joiners tightened using a spanner making it much more rigid than its previous use in Flood passage. Looking up into it from below, the aven is a small diameter hole a few feet across, steeply ascending up a fairly clean washed tube to a small blockage. There were some wires dangling down from the previous scaling.*

*Mike Read kitted up in SRT gear and climbed the ladder affixed to the maypole now solidly jammed in the aven. He put in another anchor as high as he could in the tube and then used this for protection as he climbed the slope and entered the squeeze.*

*I followed next and after the squeeze thrutched my way up the tight rift to gain entry to a small chamber with ways off. The rest joined me and we had a quick discussion about what to do next.*

*We decided to break into two groups. Alan and I would dig the obvious major Northern continuation while John and Mike would survey the existing passages and catch us up later.*

*The Northern end ended after a crawl at a right-hand corner with a small choke ahead and a passage terminating in a roof fall, totally blocked with house-brick size rocks. It had no discernable draught but was fairly loosely packed. We took it in turns to pull out the rocks and after 10 minutes or so a large block was extracted to reveal a space and a good strong draught. We were spurred on.*

*More digging through larger fill involving stabilising the roof eventually got it in state where we could squeeze through into the flat out crawl beyond. It continued over mud and the occasional fallen block to a mud bank that blocked progress. There was a space over it that was soon enlarged to encounter another crawl and mud bank. This too was dispatched. The way on was small and uninviting and it felt as though it would end soon, but I carried on into the flat out space ahead.*

*I emerged into an area I could stand in. I couldn't believe my eyes. Ahead the passage continued walking height over a traverse above a narrow canyon 3m to another mud bank dig. More interesting was that to my left there was a huge hole. I looked down and realised I was at the top of a 9m aven with what looked like a 2m wide passage at the bottom.*

*Another 5 minutes easy digging in the mud back ahead and I was through into the continuation much the same as the rest. A few metres more crawling then out at the top of yet another 9m aven. Neither of the avens were easily free climbable though the obligatory mud dig could be seen on the other side of the final one.*

*We exited and met John and Mike having just finished surveying to the other end which gets to tight. We told them the good news and although it was getting late and we needed to head out, they agreed to take a look and do a quick grade 1 survey.*

*We got back to Whitewalls just in time for the celebrations.*

*Mike R and I failed to note any hole down but a side passage would gain an extension with 30 mins work. The end of the main route, dropped down 2m before hitting a too tight rift. As we returned from the survey we met the other two would had broken through. We went for a quick look and did a low grade distoX survey (all the data just stored on the distoX, 1 reading per leg, no LRUD, and then a couple of readings down the new pitch). This gave us a good clue as to where it was heading.*

*The following week we all got back to push on down the new pitch.*

*Mike G continues the story.*

8 Nov 2014 John Stevens (CSS) Mike Read (CSS) Alan Brady (CSS) Mike Green (GSS/CSS)

*After the previous weeks breakthrough and the discovery of two new pitches that we were unable to descend at the time, the original team was reassembled for the return visit.*

*On this trip myself and Alan had a good go at the choke at the first corner in the Northern section. This dig generated a lot of spoil, being self digging in loose chossy mud containing head sized boulders. After a while we created an air bell with nothing solid above and only the walls having any solidness. No gaps had appeared and although there was a draught this dig looks very long term and unstable.*

*We headed in and met up with John and Mike R who were eager to descend the first aven. We unpacked the bag of the ladders and then realised that we'd forgotten the drill. It was still down at the base of the keyhole aven. We did however have a long rope and all the bolts and hangers. Amazingly no-one volunteered to go back down and fetch the drill especially when it was noted that there was a perfectly good natural belay in the form of a rock window and that we also had a number of slings.*

*Unfortunately this rig took the ladder into a narrow part of rift. Alan kicked down some loose stuff and then hauled himself into wider part of the rift to be the first to descend.*



*Looking up the first pitch*

*He called back up that it went down and both ways. We all eagerly followed. The aven had high level window into a secondary aven with mud bank. There is a small stream at the bottom running away from the main stream that has washed away a lot of the mud but large mud banks remain. Alan investigated upstream (back the way we'd come) at a large choke. I went downstream, while the other two surveyed what we had found.*



*The small stream at the base of the first pitch*

*The stream sinks under the left hand wall and is way too tight. Mud banks continue but there is a gap around by the wall that soon led to a sandy dig by a strange Christmas tree formation made up of stacked crystals. I soon dug this into a gap between mud banks with a small trench formed by water flow at some point in the past. I could see over the mud bank following the direction of the left hand wall into a small airspace ahead. It would involve a concerted digging effort to get there.*

*Alan had found a tube bypass to the upstream choke. This involves a tight muddy tube and large drop into a standing sized chamber between two chokes both of which are large and completely blocked with huge boulders. We spent some time building a towering step of boulders to allow us to climb back up into the tube to exit.*

*After we had all ascended the aven back into the main passage, Alan and myself crawled to the second pitch whilst John and Mike surveyed behind us. Alan started digging over the top of the pitch and had a look for belays to rig the pitch. I descended the now rigged ladder. On the way down I saw a small body sized tube heading back under the end dig about 2m below it. I bottomed the aven anyway and despite there being an interesting climb up, all ways were found to be blocked.*

*I then climbed up and entered the tube I had seen. This started body size into flat out on side and continued into a short rift traverse and then too tight. I thought that was that but when I turned around and came back I was facing the other way and now saw another tight passage where it had forked. I followed this and it almost immediately broke out into a walking size rift with ways off at high level and yet another drop. One of the climbs had a voice connection with Alan's dig but looked long term. Other climbs were just roof bells. I left the end alone and while waiting for the others I looked at a dig up into what appeared to be a chamber. However I really needed crowbar.*

*The other were into the tube now, but Alan went out and swapped the ladders so that we now had the long one so we could descend the new pitch. He rigged a natural belay around a jammed boulder and investigated. It was totally blind with no way on. John surveyed past me and immediately into a most impressive 4x4m chamber.*



### *The large chamber*

*Straight canyon walls and flat roof, mud floor with ripples and it had a column of rock with fallen block behind near a possible side passage, this ended in roof bell. The only way on that we could see was a small climb up out, at the far end of the chamber.*

*This continuation lead to another chamber with a climb down into it then up the other side. This ends in a number of choked crawls and appears to be on a fault, with dark blue rocks, small stuff and lots of loose self digging choss. This is very reminiscent of the corner dig from before. There is a good strong draught but it needs major shoring and it's not obvious in which direction to go. This defined the end of our exploration.*

*Back at WW John looked at the survey data and it does look like there should be a passage heading off from the large chamber, perhaps in the region of the fallen roof block. When there I thought I had seen a dark space behind the boulder from 3m away, but had assumed this was just an undercut and not looked closely as it was the other side of the tape. It could be something to look at next time we are there.*

This had been an excellent trip, partly because of the anticipation that had built up during the week and partly due to the fact that each of us had first footed some section of the finds.

The next trip would be on the Curry Weekend, so another shortish trip was called for. In the original description of the finds back in 1960, it also mentioned '1st aven, 2 shafts lead up to a large cross chamber some 40' long.' The aim this time was to look at the leads in the north and south of Upper Keyhole and to also see if we could get into this other 40' chamber. If it had not been entered for 50 years like the other high level, then an easy extension may be on the cards.

Mike G. writes :-

*3rd trip - 6 Dec. John Stevens, Mike Reid, Mike Green, Alan Brady, Steve Sharp, Adrian Fawcett, Naomi Stevens, Gary Jones?, Others ?*

*This trip was aimed at pushing the tight squeeze in the Southern end of the extensions and investigating the possible lead in the large chamber in the Northern end.*

*We first visited the Southern squeeze which is pretty awkward for the last 5m or so with a tight drop followed by a zig-zag rift. It ends at a really tight rift with no footholds or handholds round a sharp*

*left-hand corner into more tight rift of the same ilk. This heads for a couple of body lengths to another tight rh corner where it might possibly open up. Despite trying to force my body on both sides, and then my legs around the first squeeze, I was unable to enter it. However if I had, I doubt I would have got out again as there is nothing to push on beyond. To enter safely, or at all for regular length/sized people, it needs the corner removing.*

*On visiting the 'promising' lead in the Northern chamber it turned out that the space behind the bolder is total mud fill. There is an interesting descending tube behind the rock pillar where rocks thrown down it meet what sounds like a mud floor, but its 'Neil Moss' size and most likely a one way trip. The small chamber at the possible junction was looked at but no obvious place to dig could be found.*

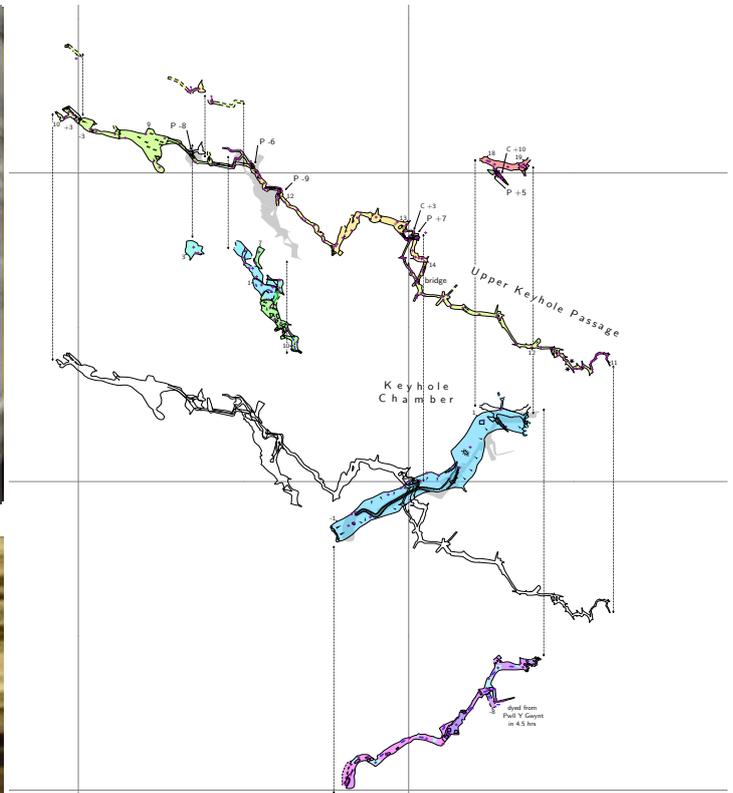
*On the way out Adrian spotted a passage in the second aven opposite to the tube entering the final extensions. This was eventually found to be a lower level route joining the two avens.*

During this the rest of the party started by creating a short maypole to look at the 2<sup>nd</sup> aven. This was blocked by rocks but seemed to enlarge above. Much prodding from the floor, we brought a couple of rocks. It was not until we attached a ladder to the end and Mike R climbed up, did we see and real progress. The rocks were all cleared to reveal a 4m high rift which pinched out.

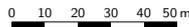


*Mike R. constructing the maypole*

The maypole was now used to access the first aven. I climbed up to a small chamber with a rift leading off. This ascended a body sized 45 degree tube before going vertical. This was a real thrutch and Mike R came up and took the lead while I put a bolt in for the ladder and pull through cord. Mike in the mean time had passed the tube and vertical section to a chamber above. Even with help from Mike, I was unable to get enough purchase to get up the tube, so Mike had to survey what was beyond by himself. The survey shows that this aven goes even higher than the previous ones but you need to be quite small to get up to it.



### Keyhole Chamber and Passages



Grey Passage - Underlying Passage, offset South  
 Outlined Passage - Passage Above, offset North

Length: total 704 m, Upper Keyhole Passage - total 434 m, extension 246 m  
 Depth: vertical range 30 m

Surveyed by: John Stevens, Mike Read, Alan Brady, Mike Green, Sally Dacie,  
 Fiona Hartley 2014

Compiled: on 7 January 2015

3 photos of the upper chamber in the 1<sup>st</sup> Aven.

Conclusions so far.

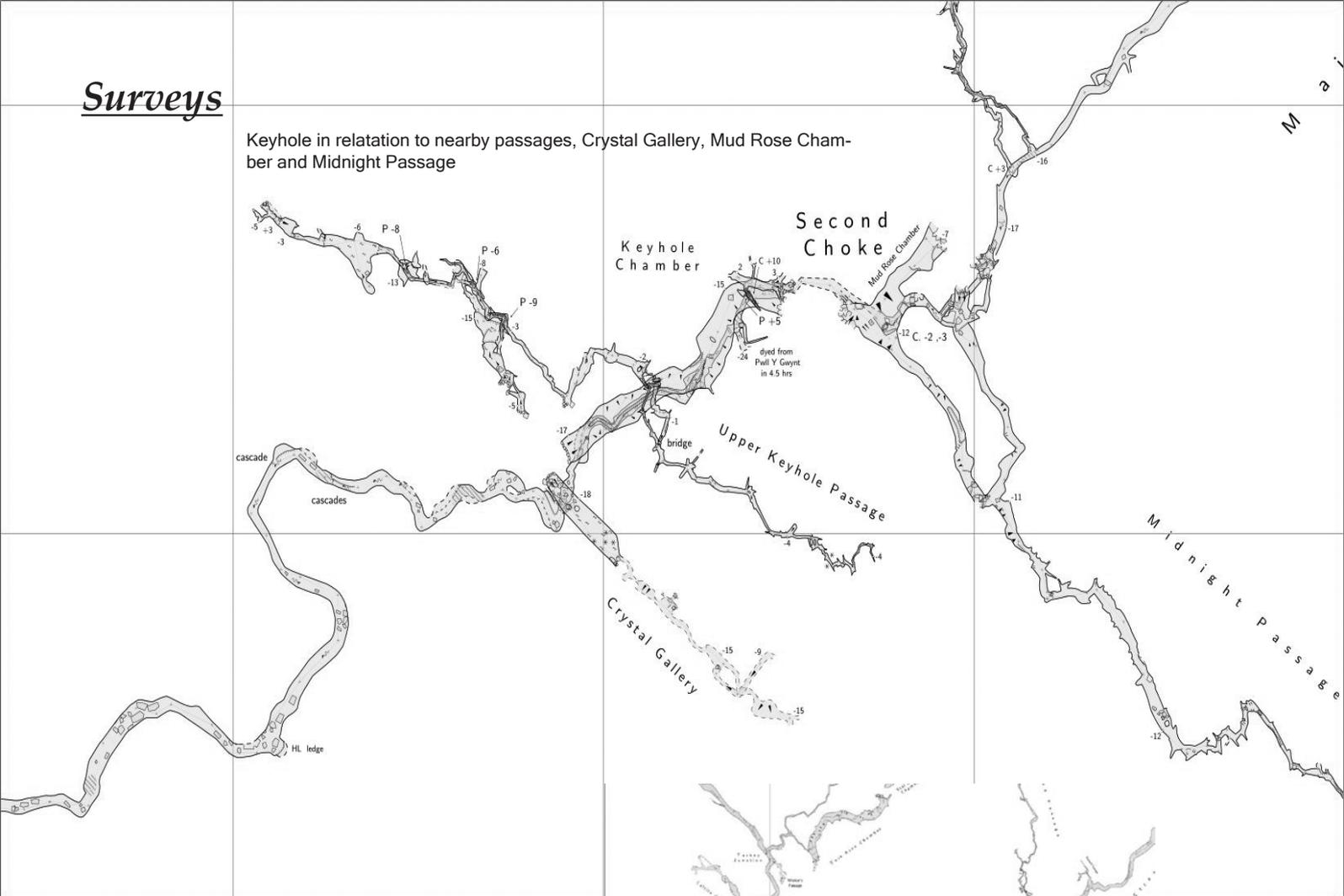
The passages above Keyhole Chamber are formed on the several shale/gobbit bands in the beds above. At least three levels of development exist, the higher ones seem small but the main conduit running NW is sizable but heavily filled with sediment. This could original from Twin Avens / Calcite Gallery phreas. The misfit stream that was found was only heard during flood conditions and its point on entry into Main Stream is not known but a heavy shower bath from the roof was noted by a party coming back from NW junction (the exist location is not known).

The Chamber above the 1<sup>st</sup> Aven is in an even higher set of beds and we have not finished surveying the area between the 1<sup>st</sup> Aven and Mud Rose Chamber. A high aven exists in this area.

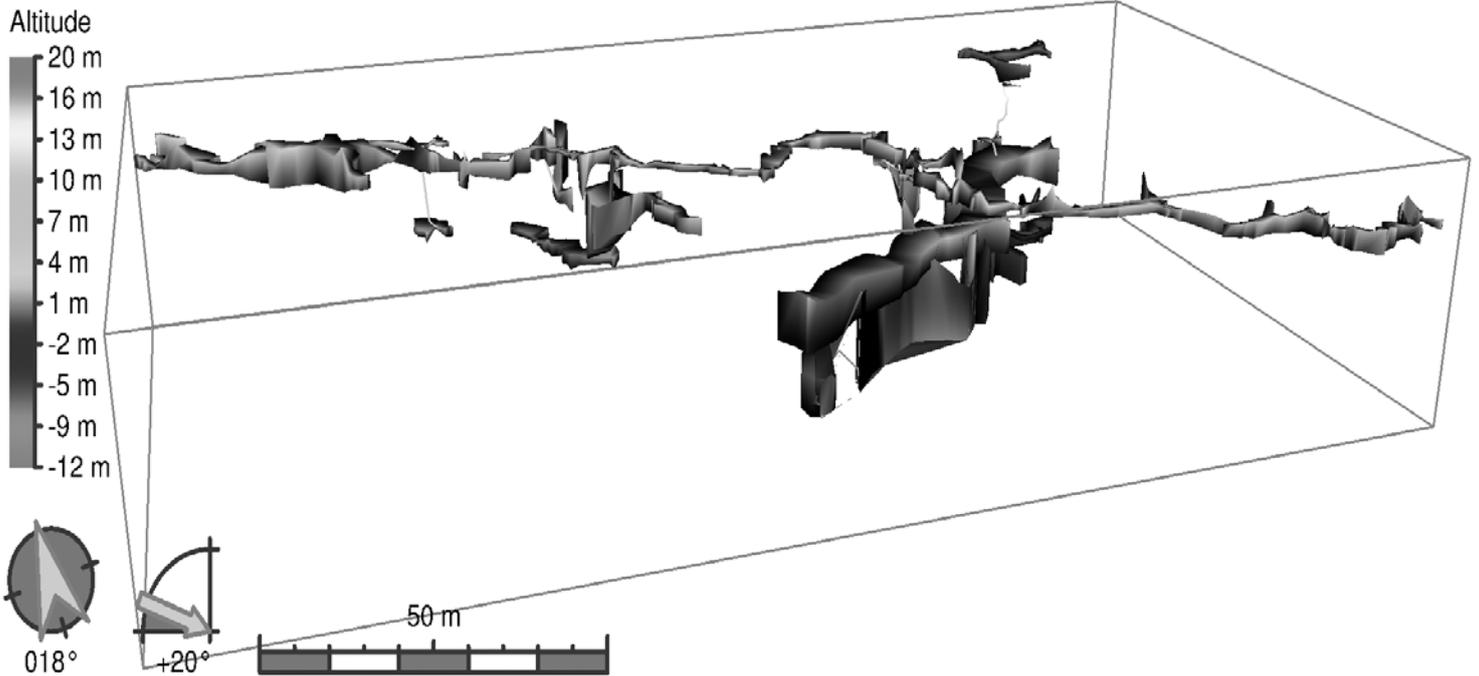
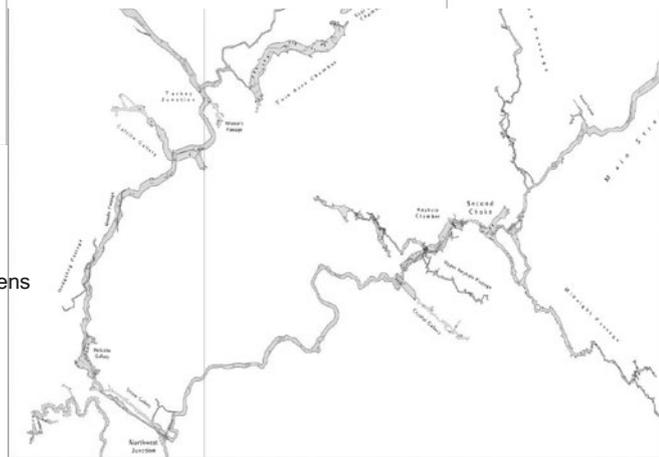
The alignment of Upper Keyhole and Crystal Gallery now seems a bit different and this means we will need to replace the grade 2 survey of Crystal Gallery at some time.

# Surveys

Keyhole in relation to nearby passages, Crystal Gallery, Mud Rose Chamber and Midnight Passage



Keyhole to larger area including Twin Avens Chamber and Calcite Gallery



# “Are we there yet?”

Saturday 6 December 2014

*By Joe Duxbury*

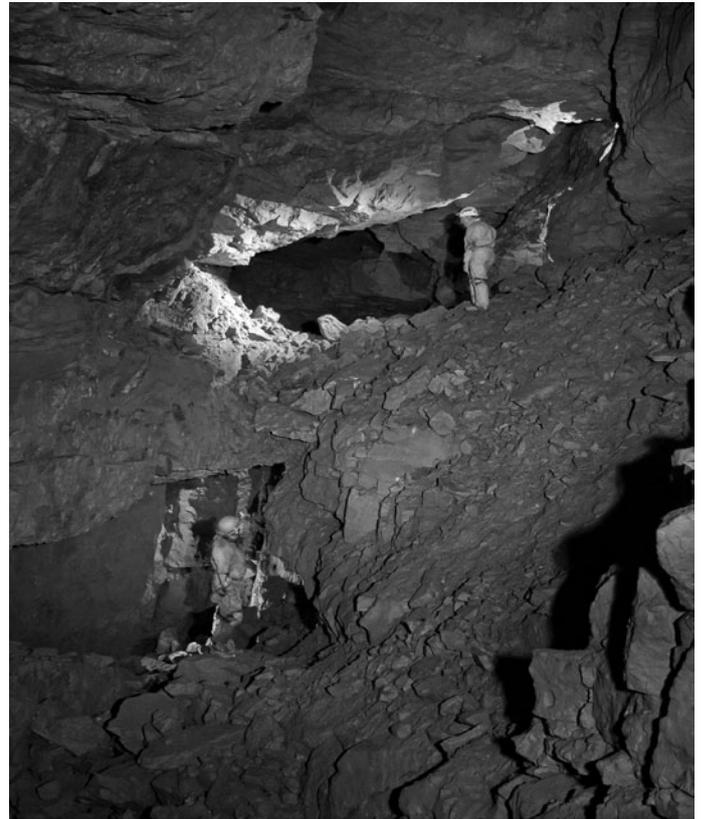
Joe Duxbury, Lee Hawkswell, John Newton, Steve Sharp

I arrived early on Saturday morning, and was lured into a ‘short trip to Busman’s’ by John Newton. It transpired that Steve Sharp wanted to take some photographs of the section of the cave between Busman’s and Antler Passage, to complete his portfolio of photos of this part of the cave.

After having to convince Doubting John that my direct route up the hillside to the Cnwc entrance was reliable, we did arrive, and plunged into the fathomless bowels of the earth. We quickly passed through the entrance series, and passed over the sump, which had very little water in it. In Busman’s Holiday passage proper, we admired the sweeping rock arches overhead, and the almost sinuous curved passage walls: imagine the flow of water that must have caused these.

When we got to the chain ladder down into Antler Passage, it became clear Steve had been labouring under a misapprehension – he thought Antler Passage was just the bit with the Antlers in it, and that’s where we were headed. So much for our short bibble along Busman’s! Never mind, let’s get on and see where Steve wants his photos.

At least there are no real navigational problems in Antler Passage. It’s just a matter of finding your way through the short collapses along the way. We were



continuously having to leave the relatively easy flattish bits to go up and under. We stopped for a photo at the chain and stainless steel steps, and another at a natural bridge. Steve was headed for the first chain ladder, and it should have been just a bit further along the passage. Surely it can’t be much further? But then we ended up at a drop, with a knotted rope hanging down. Surely it should have a chain ladder on it? Getting down would be one thing, but back up would be quite another. And John was not going to go all the way to the end of Antler Passage and out the Daren entrance! That was on his list of trips-never-to-be-repeated! Particularly as he had left the Cnwc key back at the log book inside the entrance.

So we turned round, and after a short stop to demolish Steve’s fruit loaf, and whatever else we had to eat, we made our way out.

On the squirmy bits in the entrance series I started to get cramp in one leg; I thought it would be alright when I could walk upright, but it wasn’t, and I had to stop on the tramroad and massage the muscle into submission. With the promise of unlimited curries awaiting, I didn’t take too long.

Looking at the survey afterwards, we must have got about three-quarters the way along Antler Passage. None of the fixed aids are marked, so that’s only an estimate.

*Photos-Steve Sharp*



# St Andrew's Well

By - Duncan Price

The southerly flanks of the Mendip Hills have three major resurgences. The Cheddar Risings are the largest with a mean flow of 900 litres/sec, closely followed by Wookey Hole with a flow of 800 litres/sec. In third place is St Andrew's Well (400 litres/sec) in the grounds of the Bishop's Palace in Wells and in the shadow of the cathedral. Indeed, the wells that debouche into the moat surrounding the residence of the Bishop of the diocese of Bath & Wells give England's second smallest city (the City of London is smaller) its name. Water tracing has shown that the risings are supplied by a catchment which spans the sinks dotted along the escarpment bounded by the A39 (Wells-Bristol road) and A37 (Shepton Mallet-Bristol road). Notable feeders include Thrupe Lane Swallet and the sinks at Windsor Hill. St Andrew's Well is actually a group of closely spaced risings (enclosed in land nearby being named for the country of which St Andrew is patron saint) with a common source and there must be a significant amount of flooded cave passage behind the springs as the entry in "The Complete Caves of Mendip" by Nicolas Barrington and Willie Stanton suggests:

Group of powerful springs rising through gravel and sometimes changing their positions, threatening the Cathedral foundations. Four main springs are in the bed of an L-shaped ornamental pool and one, Scotland Spring, is 30 yds SW of the north end of the pond. Mean daily flow is thought to be about 4 million gallons. Proved feeders: [list of sinks]. Dye from the traces appeared at all springs in equal concentrations, showing that they are all fed by a single conduit. The coal and cinder that contaminated some springs in the past came from rubble that was used to reclaim lawns eroded by new springs that burst up when the level of the lowest and biggest spring, Bottomless Well, was raised 4' during construction of the pond in 1824. Bottomless Well, is the most easterly of the springs enclosed in the pond; like the others it is almost inactive in dry weather, when most of the flow comes from the new springs under the lawn north of the pond. Water level is now about 8' above its natural level.

A chance meeting with the Rt Revd Peter Price (no relation!) in the Hunters one evening during 2009 prompted a discussion about whether anyone had dived in the risings. The Bishop (who retired in 2013) and had just been taken caving down Swildon's Hole by Martin Grass, while I had dropped in for a drink with Richard Witcombe and Jim Hanwell after a meeting to discuss the Wookey Hole book that we were then planning. Seizing the opportunity to get permission from the householder himself, I asked if I could take a look. "Sure!" was the



Photo - Martin Grass

reply, "Just talk to my staff..."

Well, that was over five years ago, and it took an awful lot of badgering by Martin of a succession of people at the Bishop's Palace who never replied or followed up on emails before we finally got the green light to pay a visit on the evening of Thursday July 3rd 2014. It had rained a few days beforehand so Naomi & I had walked down from home every evening to check the conditions as the brown water of the moat gradually cleared. This time we had arrived by car and met up with Dave King, Paul Stillman & Ali Churchill while we waited for Martin & Nicola Grass to arrive. With plenty of sherpas to help carry gear, I put on my drysuit and we were led to the springs by the caretaker, Paul Arblaster. The visibility in the spring pools was such that I didn't really need to dive to see what was going on, but I waded into one of the satellite springs anyway to wave my hand around in the boil of sand kicked up by the water coming up through the floor. As described by Barrington & Stanton, the spring nearby, Scotland Spring, appeared to be fed by water coming through a culvert under the lawn and there seemed to be some exposure of the underlying rock. Since we had to be off site by 9 pm and the hot weather was already in danger of dehydrating my helpers, I pressed on with a dive in the main kidney-shaped lake

which feeds the moat.

As I was making final preparations to enter the water, I was joined by the Bishop's Palace cat, Maisie (maisiethepalacecat.com) who settled down beside me as I put my fins on. She seemed unperturbed by the activities and nuzzled my elbow to solicit some attention. After delaying the dive in order to pet the animal, I slipped into the water and finned along the lake through the weeds towards the "Bottomless Well" - this obviously wasn't bottomless as I could clearly see a clay puddled floor below me. I dived to the bottom anyway to get a depth reading (2.5 m). The sides of the lake had been built up and apparently a load of gravel had been dumped into the Bottomless Well. This had blocked the water flow and just before this point a small cone of sand boiled up with a modest flow of water trying to make an alternate escape. I scooped this with my hands; the sand was very mobile but there was no way I was going to dig my way in anywhere!

Having examined the eastern end of the lake, I swam on the surface, fighting my way through the weeds, to the western end of the lake nearest the Cathedral after pausing midway for some photographs. I spotted a piece

of pottery and picked it up. Under closer examination I could easily date it from the writing (in permanent marker) on the back which said "2011". I had hoped to find a few old coins since visitors must surely throw them into the lake as offerings (as they do with the Rive Axe in Chamber 3 of Wookey Hole which is covered with money) - no such luck for them or me.

Rather than traipse through the grounds of the Bishops' Palace dripping water everywhere, I got into the moat and swam back to the cars passing the artificial swan "Guinevere" next to the drawbridge over the water. It was a little disappointing (but not unsurprising) not to find a way into the cave system behind the resurgence but also a reward to finally have got to visit the place. Later research showed that I was not the first diver to explore St. Andrew's Well - according to H.E Balch, George Kennion (Bishop between 1894 and 1921) "had dived into this spring and touched the bottom with his head" (W. I. Stanton, Annual Reports of the Wells Natural History and Archaeological Society, 99-100 pp25-48 (for 1987 & 1988)). This contradicts the headline which appeared in the Wells Journal for 24th July "First dive performed in Well" but at least I made page three.



*Photo - Paul Stillman*

## Reservoir Hole

By Nick Chipchase

Reservoir Round Up.

Not a diary this time as work slowed with the Christmas holidays and absent team members.

A small team of two continued work at Skyfall through December and were rewarded with a minor breakthrough into an ascending narrow rift. This was about three metres high and long pinching out to the south where the fault continues. The upward continuation of the rift is still blocked with boulders and work continues to carefully stabilize the situation. Happily most of the mud is gone and there is some stacking room in the rift. Currently the roof is of boulders stalagmited to the rift wall. These appear to have toppled down from higher up. A draught seems to be present as do further scallops higher up so the team remains hopeful.

Elsewhere in the cave all the work to enable access for the drone box has been completed. The drone and its systems are ready to fly which should enable us to film the high balconies at the top of TFD. I am rather hoping they will await my return for this. It seems some sort of stable door has been fitted above Skyfall pitch to stop boulders falling on unsuspecting photographers.

My own situation is not a happy one. After seven weeks in a plaster to the shoulder they decided that there was non union of the ulna. I was pretty upset but they took me in straight away to plate and screw the break. That's where I saw in New Year. The painful hernia got worse but they refuse to fix that until the arm is better. This week after lots of pleading I now have a date for that on 30th Jan. I could be fit later in Spring but I now have muscle wastage due to the seven weeks in plaster. Continuation of caving for me is a tricky one. Much depends on how confident I am of my repairs whilst of course my left hand is still a bit weak. I don't foresee me returning to heavy digging or boulder poking. The wife really has had enough this time. We shall see.

*Send in your trip report with pictures, the CSS Newsletter is a great place to tell your story. Old or new we'd love to read about it.*

## Mendip Trip Reports Swildon's Hole

By John Cooper

Swildon's Hole Sunday 4th January 2015.

John Cooper, Lee Hawkswell, John Newton, Chris Seal and Barry Weaver. During a trip down the upper parts of Eastwater on New Year's day Barry and I discussed doing a trip over the Black Hole in Swildon's on the following Sunday. On Friday 2nd on a trip down Swildon's Hole John Gisborne thought he and Emma might like to come along. Then that evening Lee rang up to say he and John Newton would be about but had to be in the Hunters' Lodge Inn before 2pm, which would mean a very fast trip (unlikely!). On Saturday evening after digging with John Gisborne during the day he rang to say he and Emma couldn't get along, so I rang Lee and Barry to say no Black Hole trip, just Sump II. In the event Chris Seal turned up as well so it was five of us at the entrance to Swildon's Hole at 10.30am. The water level was down quite a bit from Saturday, which had been quite high following heavy rain overnight Friday. A steady entry along the Dry way saw Barry and I laddering the Twenty when Lee arrived to say John Newton had been washed off the 8ft drop and hurt his arm. He had continued along with Lee and Chris as far as the Twenty but didn't think he would manage the ladder climb. I went back with him to see him safely back up the climb before returning to catch up with the rest at the Double Pots. At Sump I Chris and Lee decided to turn round and exit via the Dry Way in case John Newton had had any problems. Barry and I continued on to Sump II before returning and an exit via the Wet Way. Didn't see anyone else in the cave. John Newton had got out without any problems and spent a nice time drinking tea with Tony Seddon. Off to the Hunters' for lunch. 1½ hours



Nick Chipchase - On the road to recovery



# *More caves visited on Lundy*

On Friday 24th October a small group of HSCC were off to Lundy again, some of us had visited in 2010 and again in 2012. Apart from the usual walking and bird & seal watching on this beautiful island and nature reserve I was keen to get to check out a few more sea caves, I think I was the only enthusiast though! Anyhow I almost managed to get to the interesting cave of volcanic origin near the base of the Montagu steps (the HMS Montagu was a first class battleship and was wrecked near Shutter Rock on the southwest of Lundy in 1906). The steps were built to assist with salvage from the ship which continued until 1922! However, down at sea level the tide was low but not fully out so I was able to photograph but not to get access (Photo 1). I also managed to locate Tibbet's Point Mine (Photo 2) but could not get access without some SRT and rope (next time may be) due to the significant exposed drop adjacent to the cliff gully or zawn (Photo 3).

But on Monday at the South East of the island I was more successful getting through the Needles Eye cave into Lametry Bay to enter the caves there at low tide (see Photos for Caves 1,2,3). Access to the bay is done from the Landing Key and staying right by the cliffs near Devil's Cauldron then climb up and over the cliffs on the landside of Mermaid's Hole, a natural small swimming pool, and across the first small bay over into the Needles Eye where a careful climb allows you to enter this large entrance which narrows to the far end where you can climb down onto a shingle beach



Lundy Island Lametry Bay Cave No 1

of a Lametry Bay inlet in the rock formations. Note: This must be done at low tide plus or minus 1.5 hours maximum or you will be cut off in the small bay. You have been warned.

Once in Lametry Bay the first cave on your right is Cave No.1 at about GR 1430 4367 it is the longest cave at 49m with a large pool in the entrance, followed



Lundy Island Adit

# Lundy Island - October 2014

by a deeper pool and seaweed. It has no side passages and closes down at the end.

Cave No.2 is the second on your right when you enter the bay at about GR 1425 4370 in the corner under an obvious fault line. It is about 40m deep leading to a nice pool followed by deep seaweed and a roomy end chamber with a 6m long side passage both with sandy floors.

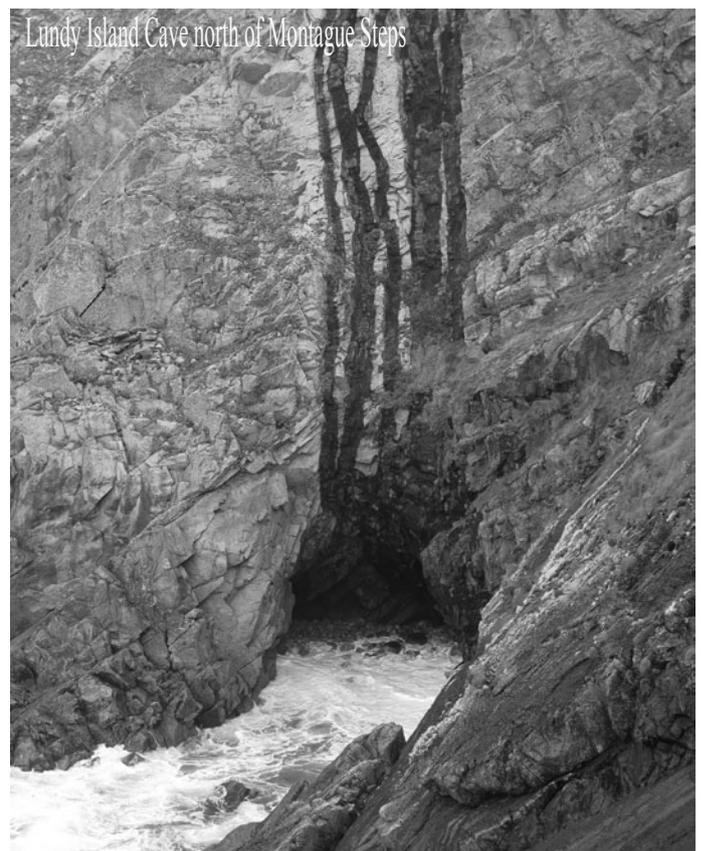
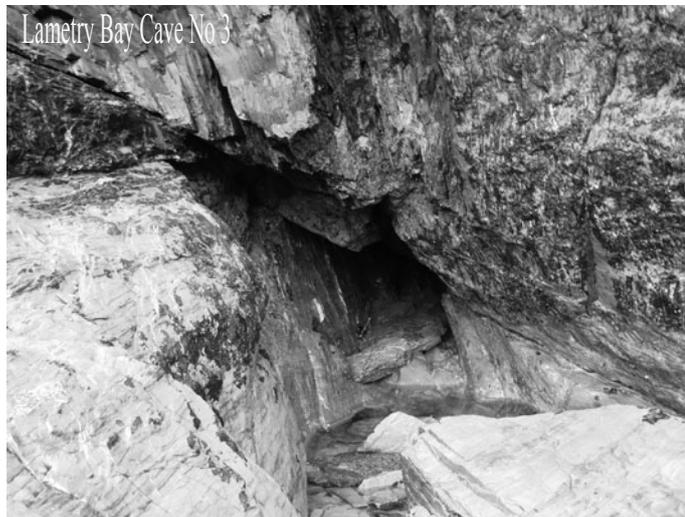
Cave No.3 is shorter at 24m and is opposite where you entered the bay at GR 1418 4362. This cave also has a high level chimney hole in the cliff above and separates into two short parallel passages. The tide was lapping at my feet when I entered this cave, so do it first.

Unfortunately we had return home from the island early which curtailed my other planned visits.

If you want more information on the other Lundy caves and access policy etc please see my full write up in the Chelsea Spelaeological Society magazine Volume 55 Nos.9&10 Sept/Oct 2013 to which this article is an add on.

My thanks go to my patient friends in HSCC Phil & Sue, Ralph & Gavin and of course my wife Susie.

**Story and photos - Andy Watson**



# CSS Meets List 2015 *By Paul Tarrant*

Christmas is now behind us and it's time to think of the year ahead. Our next club event is the annual dinner which will be held at the Bear Hotel in Crickhowell at 8:00pm on Saturday 24th January. You will all have received the menu and booking form which was issued with the last newsletter. Please send me your meal choice and payment as soon as possible. I shall be giving the Bear final orders on Mon 19/1. The AGM takes place on Sunday 25/1 at Tretower Church Hall at 11:00am. Caving for the weekend will be based on Llangattock and Draenen.

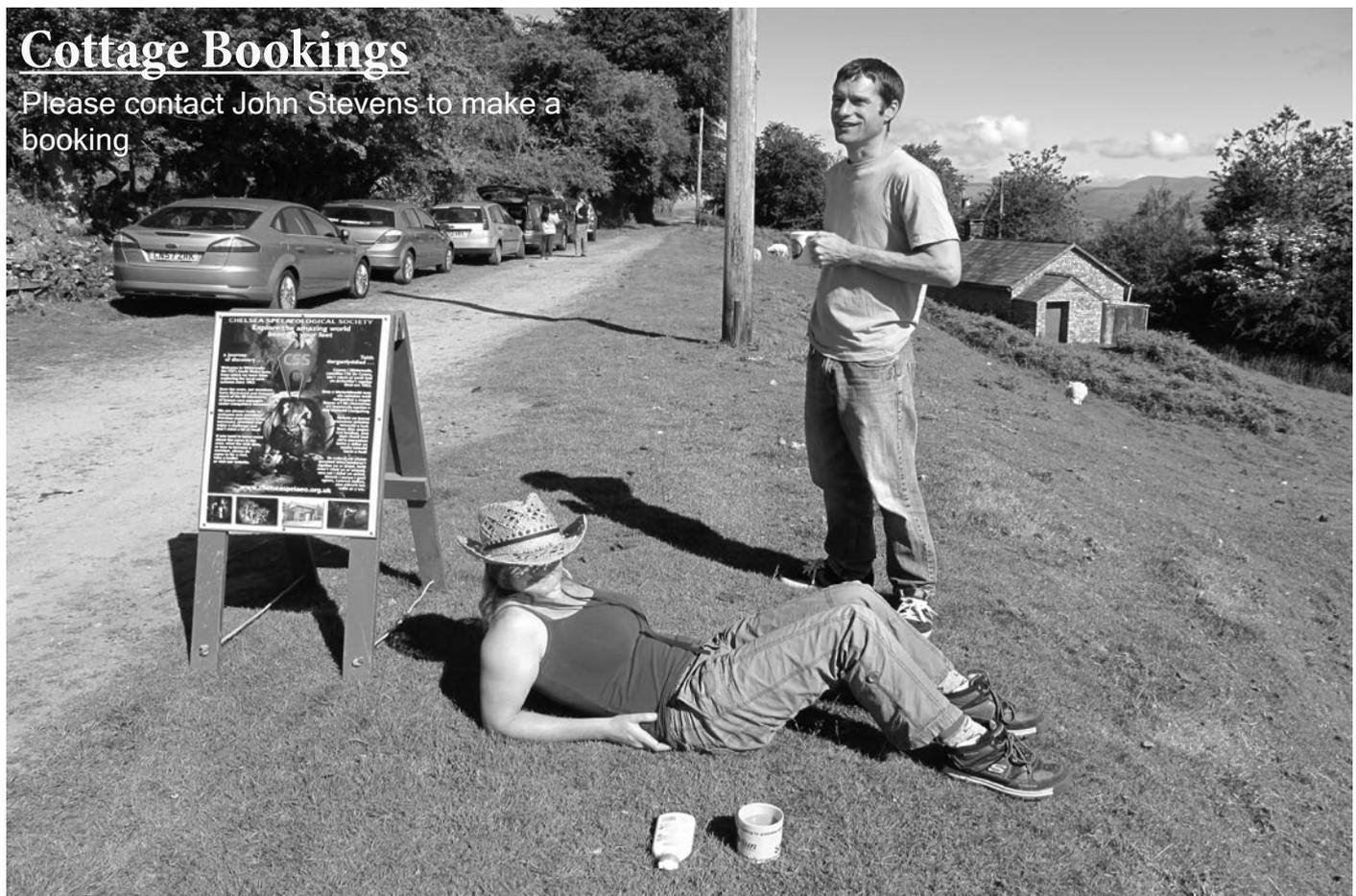
## Book for Sale

The club has acquired a number of Martyn Farr's excellent book Darkworld which is for sale to members for £12. The books are brand new and hardback editions and cover the golden age of exploration in Llangattock and caves nearby. This is becoming harder to buy and you won't find it going for this price on Amazon. Copies will be available for sale at the Annual Dinner or from Whitewalls at other times.

## Cave Rescue Practice Sat 17th January 09:30am

The SMWCRT are holding a half day training session on the above date at Penwyllt, providing 3 training modules covering use and load up of the new Team LandRover, securing and loading a casualty into a rescue stretcher and demonstrating how it should be carried safely, and demonstration of the new Swiss made CaveLink communication device (send text through rock!). All of the modules will take no more than an hour each and the intention is to wrap up the practice no later than 13:00pm. It is good to learn this sort of stuff on the surface under controlled conditions rather than at 3:00am on a wet Sunday morning when there is a real rescue! Anyone wishing to attend, contact me and I will pass on your details to the rescue team.

That's enough from me and hope to see you at the Dinner. Keep sending those menu choices to me,  
Cheers



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## Who was Fell? By Joe Duxbury

*Duncan Price and Naomi Sharp are digging in Fell's Swoop, along the tramroad between Whitewalls and Eglwys Faen. Note that it is 'Fell's Swoop', not 'Fell Swoop'. So who was 'Fell'? I don't suppose it was the*

*Doctor Fell, who is the*

*subject of the nursery rhyme:*

*I do not like thee, Doctor Fell,*

*The reason why - I cannot tell;*

*But this I know, and know full well,*

*I do not like thee, Doctor Fell.*

*So, over to you Duncan and Naomi – just who was the eponymous Fell?*

# Upper Flood

