



**CAVING LOGBOOK  
2014**

Acq. No. 05868

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If you wish to put a diagram or rough survey plan with your write-ups, please use a piece of plain white paper, and stick it in.

“Lifting” your diagrams from the photocopied pages, deleting the lines and increasing the contrast for printing in the Wessex Journal is a lot of work and takes ages.

There are sheets of A5 and a Pritt Glue stick in the library. Thank You, Noel.



Lu-29

The contents of this logbook are the opinion of the author(s) concerned, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Wessex Cave Club, its' Officers or Members

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For later reference, please include the following with each trip report:  
Date, cave, party and writer's name

# 2014

1/1/14 Home first. Fred.

Wednesday 1st. January 2014 - Brimble Pit

Atli Moody, John Cooper, John Osborne, Emma Osborne  
+ Pete Moody.

Quick trip to put a charge in the holes drilled last Saturday. Towist per EG and PM. The cave was surprisingly wet.

Atli Moody.

1/1/2014

Rode Pot.

John Cooper, Pete Hall, Pete Hann, Kev Hilton,  
Adrian Vanderplank

Sub contracting trip to end of Erratum Passage  
Lovely trip admiring the white flowstone,  
Crystal Gout pools, and delicate formation  
2 x 1 metre holes drilled, loaded, ~~grouted~~  
and fired. Its nice to go down a cave  
with no mud!

Adrian Vulp. (he should have gone to Spec Savers)

Mallorca + Mas - New Year 2013-14.

22-12-2013 cova de cal pesso

23-12-2013 cova de cap siow.

24-12-2013 cova de sa campana

26-12-2013 EL Forat 502.

27-12-2013 covota de sa penya Rotta

28-12-2013 cova des Dinets

29-12-2013 cova de cornavaques

30-12-2013 cova des coloms 1

31-12-2013 - Gorg Black Sea Fosca.  
1-1-2014 Long Sea swim!

Mixed Wessex / Bradford Team, eight caves and one canyon trip. Not a bad way to finish one year and start the next. Will do article for WCC Journal.

Mike Thorne

03/01/14 Goatchurch Cavern

David Alderson, whose last caving trip was over 25 years ago when a member of Southampton University Caving Club, contacted us to see if he could arrange a trip with his sons, 13 & 14.

Jude Vanderplank arranged this Friday evening trip for David, Harry & Ben and John Cooper joined them "just in case".

However they were all happy going in the Main Entrance, doing the Downpipe and climbing back out The Tradesman's entrance without a rope. 1 hour.

John Cooper

3/1/14 Lead's Cavern

Noel, Hannah & Peter Buckley

A very drippy Lead's today. Managed to get into the cave via the wet way without getting wet. Down through Red Alley & then ladder/lift down Splendour Pit. A steady small stream down the Windpipe - all through without issue. Looked at BS swamp - which was high & foamy. Quick look (& then retreat) up the Clatter, Slope. exceptionally wet & loose & to be avoided. Back out via Waterfall Gables. Great trip enjoyed by all. 2 1/2 hrs. wet! Pat

3/1/2014 - Bramble Pits

Ali Moody

Quick trip to take in a cement mixing boat and water catching tub. - 20 minutes!

Ali Moody

4/1/14 SPIDER HOLE

Ade > Jude VdP, Aubrey Newport, Barry Wilkinson, Chris George, John Riley, Tom Chapman, Nigel Graham.

Some 3 dozen buckets of rock pulled out. Pete Hains unable to come due to injured arm. WJ

4/1/2014 - Bramble Pit.

John Cooper, John Brisbane, Pete Buckley + Ali Moody + <sup>Bob Adams</sup>  
Big clearance session and ~~excavated~~ <sup>spool</sup> retaining wall built half way up the lower shaft. Further holes drilled to widen the working area before the dig face and charge laid. Baby ~~nest~~ <sup>nest</sup> rescued from the bottom. Guest appearance on the surface by Martin Cross. - 3 hours. To see how we were progressing with ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> dig. Ali Moody

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014. Swildan's Hole

John Cooper & Barry Weaver. Went & peered down S Ratter Pit. On route spent 30 mins bailing the Mud Sump & dams. On arrival the top dam was overflowing and the Males' dig about 30cm from the top. After bailing 14 buckets of water from the Mud Sump it was 15cm from the top. We then emptied the top dam & established the water flowed out of the rift directly into the top pool (the rift with the scaffold poles in). 2 hours.

John Cooper

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014 Limestone

John Cooper, Murray Knapp, Aubrey Newport, Adrian Vandoplenk and Barry Wilkinson. Spoil cleared & more created. 1 1/2 hours.

John Cooper

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan '14 SLUDGE PIT

Photographic trip via Aragonite Rift, star passed by your truly in spite of rain. Down to Sump & out via stream way. Very pleasant. Note big ESCC on ledge just in side cave. 2 pit in box, but still could open bucket to get in. Hence this item. The Samin

Terry Waller Deek Sanderson

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014 Rod's Pot

John Cooper joined the Cheddar CC digging team of Andy Sparrow, Peter Hall, Max Fisher & Steve (Ellis?) for another session of slip hauling. PH checked out the end rift & was impressed by the damage done. One large rock too big to remove left in place. Wire removed. 2<sup>3/4</sup> hours.

John Cooper

09/01/14 Charterhouse Cave (2<sup>1/4</sup> hours)

Rich Carey led John Cooper and Emma Gibborne on a trip to inspect the water levels + visit Portal. There was water entering down the entrance rift - water levels were generally higher everywhere. Aragonite crawl had a nice stream flowing through it. At the bottoming of Dragon Pitch the water was pissing in and it was hard to see the way on. Just below at the Confluence there was a large amount of water flowing in from RB. We all went <sup>down</sup> Highway 120 to the Frozen Cascade with water trickling down it. Finally we went to check out 100 Fathom Passage but the gravel squeeze leading up into it had only 3" of air space above the pool so it was left for another day.

Emma

11/01/14 Eastwater - 13 Pots (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday)

Rich Carey, Clive Westlake, Alan Brady, Jude Vanderplank, Andrea Russe and Emma Gibborne went in via the Woggle Press. The entrance was wet with water <sup>pouring</sup> in. ~~From~~ From Boulder Chamber we went into the Canyon to Crossroads - down Dolphin Chimney. Then went down the ladder and Dolphin Pitch to the Bold Step - across it and round the 13 pots and out.

Emma

Saturday 11 January 2014 - Brimble Pt.

John Osborne, John Cooper, Pete Buckley + Ali Hardy

Good clearance session, more wall building than drilling and charge. The steeply descending passage where we are working at the bottom of the cave can be seen continuing for another 3m. - 3 1/2 hours.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2014 - Unlucky Strike Eastwater Cavern  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Trip)

Wayne Staresmore, Tim Ball, Irish, Flos & Will

A good sport caving trip, well led by Wayne who was the only person to have visited this part of the cave before. Rapid progress made to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rift Chamber, and then the pace started to slow down a little as we traversed across to the start of the vertical tube. Impressively thick curtain in the first chamber. At the foot of the ladder, it was not possible to reach the rock bridge at one end of the second chamber since this was covered in at least a foot of water. Crystal pool ~~clear~~ free of water but now brown in colour. Wayne visited over the summer and said that the crystals were white. Due to the water being very high on the other side of the chamber it is possible that the water rose up high enough to flood this and make it dirty. Much easier journey on the return, apart from the tube uphill (dug passage) in Unlucky Strike. I got a ladder in the face! Exit to warming sunshine.  
≈ 3 3/4 hours Tim.

P.S. - really great trip not as scary as I thought it might have been. Big thanks to Wayne for rigging all the climbs and drops. Will have to go back to give ~~headsets~~ the Squeeze another go. Will.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2014 Swildon's Hole  
John Coope, Aida Harrin, Emma Gisborne, Paul Gisborne,  
Barry Weaver & Clive Westlake. Sump 1 and then  
photography on the way out. 1 3/4 hours.  
John Coope

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan '14 SWILDONS HOLE  
To Sump Two then up Vicarage landing & along obit! Sump 1 rather tighter  
than usual. Said Happy New Year to a leech at bottom of landing. 2 hrs  
Kerry Walker & Derek Sanderson

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014 Rod's Pot  
John Coope, Emma Gisborne, Peter Hall & Steve Ellis.  
Bag filling at top of climb into Evraton chamber. 2 hours.  
John Coope

Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014 Kwie Kiln  
Aubrey, Barry & Colin  
Very wet with waterfall at bottom.  
Haulers revolted so we only moved  
3 buckets.

Swildon's Hole. 17-1-2014.

François Tollemer, Michael Thomas, Claire  
Cohen.

Trip down to sump 1 after work.  
water levels nice and interesting.  
Good to see the cave above again.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014 - Road's Cavern.

Ali Moody and Andrew Atkinson.

Another 100 m surveyed which now makes the  
length of the cave to be over 1000 m. Still around

3 survey trips still to complete. Very wet and cold trip - 4 hours.

Ali Moody

Saturday 18th January 2014 - Bramble Pt.

John + Emma Osborne, John Cooper, Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson

More wall building, spoil clearance, drilling and a charge. Passage ahead is starting to change in shape and looks more interesting, but still pretty small and will require enlarging all the way - 3 hours

Ali Moody

Saturday 18th January - Cuckoo Cleeves

Wayne, Will, Ali, Ylles, Yrancis, Geric

A great trip down Cuckoo, kindly led by Wayne. Taking in most of the main areas of the ~~the~~ cave (not the lake!). Water levels the highest Wayne has ever seen them, apparently! 2 1/2 hours  
- Ylles

Saturday 18th - SHATTER CAVE.

Allan Rynkiff, Jude Vdp, Adrian Vdp, etc

Amazing formations and great to enjoy the scenery instead of squeezing bodies in smaller spaces.

Saturday 18th Jan 2014.

Box Mine - Helen Dear, Paul Wilman, Carl Clarke, Amy Clarke, Jess Wilman, Daniel Price, Alistair Smith. Trip to MOD section, Crane Alley, Robots, Stone Steps and Cathedral. Slight trouble with navigation after

leaving Cathedral resulting in a couple of amusing circulars out and back! to Cathedral but we found our way in the end.

Sunday 19th January 2014. Sludge Pit  
John Cooper, Aidan Harrison, Francois Tollemer, John Curberne.  
Emma Curberne.

first visited the Sump - much water flowing in passageway.  
Retuned to the entrance via Argenite Rift. A fun few minutes trying to make sense of things at the 'Paintpot'. One more loop around archways chamber? before out and the Hunter. 1 1/2 hrs. John G.

Sunday 19 January 2014 'water wheel'

Flos C-S, Will R, Francois & Ali C-S - 1.15 HRS

V. fast + fun trip to water wheel, water quite lively & chilly, nice swim & quick scramble back out.  
(Reached a poor little frog too, thanks Will). Lonely. acp

Monday 20th January 2014 "Rods pot"

Francois Tollemer & DAVE KING

Nice fun trip to entrance. Very nice area with obviously lot of job done inside the cave before we visited it!

Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014. Upper Flood.

Rich Walker, Chris Gosart, Mike Watworth.

Fun, if ~~at~~ a little slow trip to Newland. Wet for this cave, by all accounts but a great day out.

Got some great photos of the formations and a few trophy bruises on the knees. Rich

Thursday  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014 - Digging with BEC in  
Stewart Lindsay, Dan Burnett, Shedge Pit (1 1/2 hrs)  
Steve Panton, Mark Whyte, Emma Osborne and  
Barry Hulatt had fun digging at the bottom.  
Emma

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014 Rod's Pat.  
John Cooper, Adrian & Jude Vanderplank. Popping  
walder in ongoing rift - trying out Adrian's new toy. 2 hrs  
John Cooper

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2014 - GB Tim Rose & Sas Watson.  
First trip for Sas in 6 months to see how the injured foot  
would hold up. In the usual way, down to bridge, along  
the shelf, round the oxbow & back up the waterfall.  
Very gentle trip with lots of photo breaks ~ 2 hrs.  
Tim.

SAT. 25 JAN. Came out to see the guys. Saw that very  
good to be back at UP. albeit that I am currently  
cracked with a torn ACL (waiting surgery). Picked up  
this book to loan but couldn't find the 2013 book ??  
Ally Neel

Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014 Tom, Lawrence, Lucy, Stephanie, Jack, Aidan 'Moist' & Chaz

Just had an hour in East water. "It's a dry cave, it'll be dry" they said. Well it really wasn't, especially not when Larry decided to reward our hard work with a good dousing of welly water on the final ascent out. Much joy! The traverse was a good laugh and I now feel I could crack a walnut with my thighs. All in all for ~~that~~ <sup>my</sup> 1st trip of the new year a very memorable experience. Many thanks to EMSS & Wessex CC (not forgotten) Plymouth Uni CC for making it happen.

PS Bunter was the usual obscene awesomely creative & borderline wrongness, frankly the kind of "conversation" cavers excel at (possibly because underground you're sure that you won't be overheard).

Saturday 25 Jan 2014 - Bramble Pit

Ali Moody, Pete Buddley, John + Emma Osborne

Clearing of debris from last weekend and wall building.

The floor of the passage ahead (left) appears to be dropping out again. Further charge laid before lowering.

Ali Moody

SAT 25-1-14 SPIRE HOLE

JUDE AND ADRIAN VANDERPLANK, PETER HADIN, NIGEL GRAHAM, NIK NAK

NO PROGRESS AT THE FAR END OF THE DIG SINCE LAST TIME; HOWEVER!! A BIT OF TICKLING BY PETER STARTED SOMETHING INTERESTING. A SIX INCH DROP RECEIVED A RETREAT. NIK NAK THEN HOLDING THE LET BAR AT ABOUT LENGTH GAVE IT A POKK... RUMBLE... AROUND 1 M<sup>3</sup> OF ROCK ON THE FLOOR. ITS NOW A LITTLE BIGGER. ALL ROCK PULLED BACK READY FOR HAULING. ROCKS TAKEN OUT FOR A WASH.

NIK NAK

26/01/14 - Sludge Pit (1 1/2 hrs)

John and Emma Osborne, Barry Weaver, Clive Westlake and new Wessex Cave Club member 'Damian Dundee' went down to visit the snarp. Then climbed up into Aragonite Rift back to the entrance - and a little loop in the maze. Great fun little trip.

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2014 LINE KILL DIS  
John Cooper, Pete Hann, Colin Shapton & Barry Williams  
cleared all spoil from bottom of railway in low  
John Cooper

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2014 Sludge Pit Dig - Cheddar  
Cave Club  
Andy Sparrow, Rachel Sparrow, Nicki Dennis, Chris Castle,  
Max Fisher, Steve Ellis and Emma Osborne were  
digging in the Upper series of Sludge Pit.  
Emma

Tuesday 28 January 2014 - Locke's Hob and Bramble Pit.  
Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson  
Both caves surveyed, Bramble is now 45m long. Ali Moody

Saturday 1st February 2014 - Bramble Pit  
Pete Buckley, John Osborne, John Cooper, Andrew Atkinson  
Ali Moody + Martin Grass, + Rob Adams  
The previous charge (a traditional charge) had achieved  
a considerable amount of damage. A very large amount  
of spoil removed. Further excellent wall building by  
John x 2. Martin turned up to take some digging  
photos for Descent and to check on our progress.  
The passage ahead is becoming more rift like. A  
further charge detonated before leaving - 5 1/2 hours.

Ali Moody

1st February, 2014 Spider Hole,  
Pete Hann, Nick Nak, Nigel Graham, John Riley, John Hill  
Damian Dundee, Rich Carey, Jude & Adrian Lamb  
plank, B.W also TOMMO!  
2.6 bags of sand carried into the cave  
pb.

24 skips of rock removed from the dig.  
"A Grand day out"  
AC Donaldson.

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> Swildons

Swamp - Cold very high water. Very satisfying. hr 25. Sat & cogitated  
at Swamp. Terry Walker & Derek Sanderson.

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> February 2014 - Shatter Cave (Fairy Cave Quarry)  
John Walsh led a really enjoyable trip for Rachel Sparrow  
and Emma Cribborne.

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2014 - Swildon's Hole Short Round  
Trip (2 1/2 hours)

John Cooper and Emma Cribborne got to the Mud  
Swamp which had 6" of air space so we floated  
through on our backs. We had a few problems getting  
the siphon at the 1<sup>st</sup> trouble going - turned the pipe  
round and it started going then. Continued to bail  
for 20 minutes (collected a net suit hood left on the  
side) still got right ear wet! Second trouble similar  
level to first. The 3<sup>rd</sup> trouble needed bailing but by  
taking our hats off + doing a nose scraping manoeuvre  
managed to get through ok. Collected some swimming  
goggles the other side but left a length of tube someone  
has tried using as a snorkel(?). Swamp One had a bit  
of a current running through it. Then at the bottom of  
the 20 we found a <sup>white</sup> webbing belt with karabina (steel).  
Got to the entrance and met Duncan Price and Claire  
Cohen who were trialling a new ladder on the 20  
made by Tommaso.

Emma

8th February 2014 Manor Farm Swallet  
Wet conditions and ventured as far as Hams Corner  
with Damian, Jude, Wayne and Thomas. Farm sludge  
entering at various inlets downstream of Alberts Eye.  
Drank coffee in Curtain Chamber while Wayne & Thomas  
explored Upstream Passage. J. Dundee

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2014 Brindle Pit

Digging. 3 1/2 hours

John Cooper

Ali Moody, John Cooper, Pete Buckley, John Osborne,  
Emma Osborne, Jake Parrish, Mike Kousiounis

An excellent session with a very large quantity of  
spoil removed from the working face. - 3 1/2 hours.

Ali Moody

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2014. Swildin's Hole.

John Cooper & Barry Weaver. Bailed Mud Sugs for  
20 minutes and it is now passable face down. 1 3/4 hours.  
(check Harvers found & now in lost property locker).

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb. G.B. Derek Sanders and Tony Waller.

In via Mud Route - Stream in the Gorge very noisy.

Had a look at lower end of Devil's Elbow route - very wet.

Visited East and West Extensions before going down to the  
Balcony overlooking Main Chamber. Then climbed down to the  
stream before heading out. Very pleasant.

Back.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014. Lion Hill Dig 1 1/2 hours.

John Cooper, Pete Hams, Murray Knapp, Ashley Napier, John Skipton & Angus

Spoil moved from face to bottom of railway & more sorted.

John Cooper

12/2/14

Peter Hellier and myself had down to a wind and rain lashed lane somewhere far from civilisation and there, in some anonymous field, a gathering of fanatics, lit by sodium lights, led us down into an almighty gash in the crust of this earth! Men toiling and calling, motors whirring so far below as to be just a spec to the eye! Down and down and down, ladder after ladder, stage after stage and at the very bottom, bucket after bucket of rock and gravel and slurry, hauled for miles and miles back up to the normal world above. My glimpse at the wonder that is Templeton Pot! J.Dundee.

10/02/14

Tom Chapman and Emma Gilborne did some SRT practice. Ledge Pitch and Saps Pot. Good confidence building session for me. fivebats at first belay point.  
Emma

13/02/14 Sludge Pit (2 hours)

Richard Carey, John Cooper, Damian Dundee & Emma Gilborne. We went in via Shale Series looked at choke. Then took a lower passage into Tributary Passage and looked at other side of choke. Into Tributary Passage right to the end. Up into Skeleton Passage and looked at the muddy grotto with pretty decorations. We then went and had a look at Linnet Inlet but it became rather small. John had a look in 'Skeleton Series' at the dig face of four Pots rift but everyone else wanted - it looked far too tight! Back to Tributary Passage into the Maze + four Pots Rift then had a look at Andy Sparrow's dig. Through Triple Arch back to Main Rift and out into Aragonite Rift. Everyone climbed without a ladder but all lifelined. Excellent Trip - then greeted by a snow blizzard.  
Emma

PS. Emma then soaked as Ham, Egg & chips!!!

15/2/14. Kerin Turner, Chas Sed, Adam Hembury + family x4 -  
Goathead in the morning to check out first time caves and then  
Suddons for a wet adventure. Down long dry, back up wet short  
dry way. Medium-high water.

15/2/2014 - Bramble Pit.

Pete Buckley, John Cope, John Osborne, Ali Moody, Rob  
Adams, Jake Parrish + Andrew Atkinson.

More spoil hauling and small breakthrough where a steeply  
sloping oven type passage entered from the right. This is stal  
covered and has straws, but terminates after 4m in a mud and  
flawstone roof. The main rift continues past this point but  
has become constricted with mud and flawstone from the side-  
passage. A small charge was put in before leaving - 4 hours.

Ali Moody

15/2/2014 SPIDER HOLE.

Pete Hane, Aida & Jule VdeP, ~~to~~ Thomas...? Nigel.

More boulder-moving, 3 tubs of mortar in.

Df

15/2/2014 Sludge Pit

Flos C-5, Will Reed, Ali C-1

Straight down the pit, had survey but no practical  
knowledge of the cave - down to boulder hall (?),  
over the top of entrance to streamway along to  
4 pot x rift (?), back & down streamway to dig.  
Had attempted to build Aragonite Pit from the  
ladder chamber, but in the end we found  
it from the other end @ streamway, so up the  
nippy entrance & along ~ not sure if was  
quite right, but then saw the ladder. Don't know  
what level of water is normal but streamway  
evident & lots of wet mud! Took loads of photos -  
2.5 hours.

16<sup>th</sup> February 2014. Swildon's Hole

John Cooper & Barry Weaver.

Bailed Mud Sump for 25 minutes. Sump bucket now exposed with only an inch of water left on the floor. 2 hours.

18<sup>th</sup> February 2014 - GB (3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>)

Rich Carey, John Cooper and Emma Gilborne went in via ~~Woolley Dy~~ Devil's Elbow route. Then into Boulder Chamber - down the Gorge and over the bridge into White Passage. Took left passage to the oxbow back down to the Lower Gorge. We then went up into Ladder Dy - surprisingly the ladder dy gate crawl was bone dry. The duck was still very wet. Found our way up into Great Chamber via the tight route - took road + came back down to Bat Passage. We then tried finding Disappointment Chamber and between Rich and John we found it (after 28 years of trying for Rich). Then we went to have a look at Bat Passage. Then out up the Gorge, climbed up the waterfall and out the Mud Passage route. Really good trip!

Emma

Swildon's Hole

20-2-2014

Michael Thomas and Robert Thomas.

Trip down to sump 2 in medium water levels photos taken at sump 1. Good trip and good exercise.

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2014. Ogof Cwm / Ogof y Darn Cwm  
Richard Carey, John Cooper, Emma Gibson, Doretta Hilton,  
Simon Richards (Nick Nat) & Jude Vanderplank. A pleasant  
amble along taking in Uchwin Orsow on the way. 4 1/2 hours.

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2014. Cwathhouse Old Cave + LVS  
Alli Moody, John Cooper, John Gibson, Rich McLean.  
A wonderful tour of the Old Cave Caving of the team.  
I'm very pleased to fit through and highly enjoyed  
the experience. When done, we all headed to Longwood  
VS to deposit + install Winch in position. Well-earned  
tea and cake. 4 hrs in total. John G.

Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2014, Spider Hob,  
Peter Harris, Adrian & Jude Vanderplank, Nick Nat,  
Nigel Graham, Andrew Horedyj.  
— 3 hours or so at the building site, 20 buckets out, plus  
a bit of cement in. A chance for new 'guest' member  
Andrew to practice SRT on the pitches (cos he's chit rusty git)  
Andy Horedyj

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014 - Buddle's Wood.

Alli Moody.

A morning spent assessing the condition of the shafts in  
preparation for resurveying the whole complex. Shaft 9 is  
still wide open but 7 and several of the other will  
require digging out. It is hoped to start the survey of 9  
next Tuesday. Also found an unknown (to us) covered  
shaft that will need further investigation at some stage

Alli Moody

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2014. Swildons Hole - Fault Chamber.  
John Cooper, Lee Hawkswell, Andrew Horeckys & Barry  
Wear. Spent Dry Way to Fault Chamber & out via  
Barnes Loop & Wet Way. 2 hours.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2014

Swildons Hole to the base of the old fort. J. Light and A. Light  
(aged 11). Alexander's first visit to Swildons. He started to get a little  
chilly in the water rift so we called it a day there. Hot tea and  
chocolate in the Old Grotto revitalised the little fellow. All smiles  
as we surfaced. 2 hours. D. Dundee.

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2014

Today I went caving down Swildons Hole and  
I went with Damian (above) and James ~~below~~. I'm  
Alex, im 11 and live in Lymington. At first sight of  
the entrance with the raging river pounding past me I  
wasn't so keen on entering. But considering we have  
travelled all the way from Lymington I wasn't  
going to let that chance slip out my hands. I  
carefully entered my caving adventure...

It all starts off descending down the main stream  
into the cave about 10 feet. We then went to the right  
of the cave and zigzagged down the zigzags. Following  
onto Jacobs Ladder. At the bottom of Jacobs Ladder  
I was told that in the past, cavers have got lost  
at this point so to prevent that happening to us we  
placed some large logs as a marker. We then carried  
on our caving adventure by going down Short  
Dry Way, which wasn't very short neither dry...

Next we entered the Old Grotto and spoke about  
what it would of been like discovering such a  
beautiful and intricate cave. Carrying on we went into  
a big chamber where all the two streams meet to

make an ultra big river. We went down it  
the water rift, which soon tired me out. It was at  
the Eight Foot Drop when we decided to call it a  
day and headed to the Old Grotto to have a  
nice hot cuppa tea...

Carrying on our ascent we spotted a bat?! This  
baffled us to how it got down through the  
deadly entrance. Finally we got out and rewarded  
ourselves a pat on the back!

We got back to the club house to have a nice hot  
shower, had dinner and headed home...

Alex Light,  
Age 11

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Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> 2014 Swildons TO TOP OF SHATTER POT. The 40'  
Wet conditions 20' was exciting. Mud Sump bone dry! Pleasant amber  
(Isihara new boulder in water chamber?) Terry Waller & Derek Sanderson.  
Makes it an easy step up!!

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Fairy Cave - Hilliers Cave through trip

Damian, Jude, Rich, Andrea, Richard, Nik Nik

1 hour -

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Swildons. D. Dundee solo. zigzags. Short Dry Way to top of the twenty.  
Nice having the time to look around instead of rushing through  
to get somewhere. Downstream from the old fatig, ten yards beyond  
the right hand bend, I stood on the boulder which spans the  
passage and had a proper look at the fabulous white  
flintstone and straws hidden above and upstream. I've not

been to the Twenty since the new hangers have been installed. The two above the pitch move slightly when attempting to rotate them. Not much, but a definite 'click' could be felt. Climbed out of the Water Rift to look down the old Forty. Took the Long Dry Way out. Found the way into the New Grottoes but didn't venture in. Went down Kenney's Dig to the Wet Way and was surprised that the water no longer falls down The Well but all of the flow goes down the rift to the right now. Had a look at the changes around Showerbath Chamber and, much as I tried <sup>couldn't</sup> climb up the tricky 6ft drop which is of course, a tricky 9ft drop. Exited via the wet slab. 2¼ HRS.  
(Resin hangers reported to Les Williams and deemed to be serviceable).

1st March 2014

Andrea, Thomas, Charlotte -  
Lionel's round trip - explored Horfice 1 we think - went and looked at the Sump and the dig - decided not to look at Horfice 2. We then explored the lower series looking at the streamway - Charlotte lead the trip.  
Aruse -

1st March 2014 - Brimble Pit (2½ hours)

John Cooper and Emma Gisborne cementing - more wall building with plenty of space for mud from the bottom to go. No visitors today but a nest was on the wall near our building works.  
Emma

Tuesday 25 February 2014 - Buddle's Wood Shaft 9.  
Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson  
Started the re survey of Shaft 9. Approximately 120m

of passage surveyed in Main Passage South, -  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours.  
Ali H.

Wednesday 26 February 2014 - Bramble Pit

John + Emma Osborne + Ali Moody.

Quick trip to inspect the bottom and put in some tape.

Ali H.

Saturday 1 March 2014 - Buddle's Wood Shaft 9.

Pete Buckley, Ali Moody, Andrew Alkusa, James Waldegrave.

Trip to take James Waldegrave back down shaft 9 (he last did it 30 years ago.) to see the rest of pearls in Main Passage South. He was suitably impressed. Having returned James to the surface the rest of the team continued with the survey. The squeeze behind the bottom of the pitch was found to be suitably "snug". -  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

Ali Moody.

Saturday 1/3/14 Spider Hole

Pebe Hann, Adrian Vanderplank, visit from Rich Marlow

3 large rocks capped, and bits cemented back into R/H. wall. Cave drippy, and very

little draught. We seem to be going through

an area of small boulders and mud at present.

makes a change from large clean washed rock!

Adrian Jobs

Sunday 2/3/2014. Hilliers Cave + Fairy Cave

John Cooper, Clive Wetlake, Emma Osborne, John Curran

An enjoyable trip as far as the first boulder

chuck and return. Clive + Emma exited via

Fairy with Johns x 2 exiting Hilliers. A first trip

to Hilliers for Johns + Clive. We must return

1.5 hours. See 9.

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2014 - Eastwater Cavern MadFi, Charlotte H, Lee (NFI) + Dave (NFI)  
I joined Fiona and Lee and Dave for a great trip - the round trip  
upper series. We got to Hallelujah Hole, Fi went first and Lee  
decided with his bum feeling wedged he'd prefer to not 'commit'  
and kind himself wedged. So we about-turned and headed for  
Woggle Press and continued on our way. We did the trip and  
reached the other side of Hallelujah (Fi went through it again!)  
Then turned around and headed out. We all had a great trip!  
Charlotte.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Swildons, SAT down the Old Forty and on to the top of the 20'  
D. Dundee. 2 hrs.

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2014 - Buddle's Wood 9

Ali Moody and Andrew Atkinson  
Surveyed another 80m including Bouncing Bunny Level  
and the approach to Steel Chamber :- 3 1/2 hrs  
Ali Moody.

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2014 - Longwood Valley Sink

John Coape, Emma Gisborne, Pete Buckley, Darrel Instrell,  
Dave King, Ali Moody, Rich Witcombe, Geoff Newton, Simon  
Meade King + Lima May

Excellent and lengthy session, Aid and Darrel repairing  
the dam wall and the rest of us removing the several  
cubic metres of debris deposited by the winter floods.  
Two-thirds of this removed and this task should be completed  
next week - 4 hours.

Ali Moody

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March. KING MINE

Interesting but muddy. Artefacts worth a look. Afterwards had a quick top down memory lane to SANDFORD LEVY. The floor at the end is definitely worth a look.  
Terry Waller x Derek Sanderson.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March SWILDONS SHORT ROUND TRIP 2½ hrs.

The first of the troubles needed 15 mins bailing but everything else was open.  
Terry Waller x Derek Sanderson.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March SWILDONS Sump XII ADS

Terry and Derek kindly took in ladder. Pleasant saunter down the streamway to take a look at the state of play in the last sump, after the winter floods.

Many thanks also to Rich Mardon & friend, who sheparded a vital load to Sump 2 viz two packets of chocolate buttons, which were most welcome on the return!

10/3 Spider Hole

Ade + Jude Vanderplank, Nick Nakk, Tony Scollen, John Cooper, Peter Hann. 33 man size buckets removed while being Saranacted by the Spider male voice choir (A.V.T.S), various songs but using the same words sadly to different tunes and ~~key~~ key.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Swildons Hole - down the twenty and back out! D.Dunder

Self-lifeline with junior

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014 - Swildon's Hole (2 hrs 10 mins)

Rich Carey, John Cooper and Emma Osborne did the short Round Trip. first trouble needed bailing for ¼ hour - other troubles had plenty of air space.

The rectangular bailing container wasn't at the first trouble when we first got there - it had migrated to the second trouble but is now back at

Thanks to us.

The first! The sump was just below the rope on the rock the other side. We all went out the wet way. Really good trip.

Emman

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2014 LUS

Rob Adams, Tony Boycott, Pete Buckley, John Cooper, John Gisborne, Ali Moody, Geoff Newton & Tomasz Kawka  
More winter spoil removed & row down to dig face again.  
Drill & bang. 4 1/2 hours.

John Cooper

Sat 15<sup>th</sup> March Lime Kiln

Aubrey removed holes John C. made on Wednesday. 1 1/4 hours.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014 - Eastwater 13 Pots (2 1/4 hrs)

John Cooper and Emman Gisborne went in via Woggle Press into Boulder Chamber - through the Wind Tunnel into The Canyon. Down to the Crossroads and turned left to the top of Dolphin Chimney. Rigged a haul line down it (put tackle bag on the end) and both went down to the bottom. Then onto Dolphin Pitch where John rigged the ladder + told me to start climbing down but to check the ladder had fully uncoiled - as I was going first. Unfortunately it remained rolled up at the bottom but after we shook it - I carried on down. Usually I tend not to look down but glad I did today! Then across into Harris Passage to The Bold Step - then we took Muddy Oxbow Route to bottom. Up the 13 pots - back to Harris Passage via Bold Step. Then to the bottom of pitch + retraced our route in back out. Less water going in than last time through the Boulder chock - making it much more enjoyable. Emman

4  
Saturday 22nd March. Longwood Valley Sink.  
Pete Buckley, John Gishore, Kevin Hilton, Geoff Newton  
Rob Adams, Tomaz Kawa, Jake Parrish.  
Effective Spoil and Mud removal session with  
everyone taking turns at each station. Four rings  
of original iron ladder visible, ready for next week.  
It was John Gishore. (Darrel Instell joined for part of  
the session to help rebuild the wall).

Sunday 23 MARCH Came out to photo the log Book. No  
covering, alas, still cracked with a burst knee from  
17 April and should be starting back towards fitness after  
that. Good to see the books out here. Noel

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014. Ogof Cwm → Daren Cilan. John  
Cooper & Ali Moody joined the Lee Hawthorn 50<sup>th</sup> birthday  
through trip. Total of 10 caves completed the trip, with  
several bags of rubbish being removed through the entrance  
cave. 4 1/2 - 5 hours.

John Cooper

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2014. Swildan's H. John Cooper &  
Barry Weaver to Sump II. Lots of rocks in the way today!  
1 1/4 hours. John Cooper

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2014, Manor Farm Swallet, Tim, Matt, Alan  
Straight forward trip down to the bottom of NASA gallery  
Ladder / Line on entrance & handline on sept. rift  
No issues with CO<sub>2</sub> & only a bit smelly (excluding Matt's  
additional smells) in the bit before climb up to NASA  
gallery. ~ 3hrs.

Tim

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Easter - Kev & Charlotte - 13 pots  
Good trip. Charlotte enjoyed the trip.

Tuesday 25 March 2014 - Longwood Valley Surt.

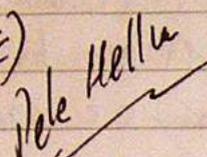
Ali Moody, John Coops + Emma Gisborne.

Tennis Ball left and charge put in - ready for a clearing trip on Saturday.

Ali Moody 

Weds 26<sup>th</sup> March 2014 - North Hill Swallet

Pete Wether + Pierre Ourgard, Bill Comby, Steve Chitty (3x8&c)

Tourist trip. Nasty grey-green trickle all the way. Disgusting 

Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014 - Bath → Rods

Will R, Ylos C-S, Mike Waterworth.

Quick + simple trip. No route finding issues. Saw ~~a~~ bats  
Mike pre-climbed pitch. Nutter.

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014 - Upper Ylood.

Will R, Ylos C-S, Rich C, Tim R. 5 1/2 hours<sup>??</sup>

First trip into Upper Ylood for Will. Went to Neverland  
and saw the park pies. Good trip, glad I had a small  
breakfast. Also had a quick look down South Passage(?)  
Ylence C-S.

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Read's Cavern

John Coops, Tony Seddon & Mike Waterworth.

Z-Alley to bottom ramp. Up a couple of metres from  
last time which meant hitting up would be with  
head underwater so air kept for next time. 1 1/4 hrs

John Coops

29

Saturday 26 March 2014 - Longwood Valley Sunk.

Alti Moody, John Osborne, John Cooper, Pete Buckley, Rob Adams, Rich Witcombe, Rich Carey + Andrea Russe.

All the flood debris deposited over the winter has now been removed. Also the rocks from Tuesday's charge. We can finally make onward progress. The tree trunk left from the 1980's was extracted from the wedge where it was wedged. Rich Witcombe completed the dam wall (- this looks superb) and has started rebuilding the steps!  
4 hour session.

Alti Moody

29

26 March 14. SPIDER HOLE

Ale VdeP., Pete Hann, Nite-Nak, Nigel Graham. 2 mixes of cement into dig-face, some in spoil retaining wall. Still digging horizontally - we need to start removing floor to keep down a greatly dipping pneumatic tube below fire corals. Masses of muddy clatch among the larger boulders so good hauling session needed next.

- Nigel

30 March 2014 Swildon's Hole

John Cooper, Emma Osborne & Barry Weaver. Mud Sump now dry. 1 1/2 hours.

John Cooper

30<sup>th</sup> March 2014 Lime Kiln Dig

John Cooper, Murray Knapp, Adrian Vandopland & Barry Withers. Found the bottom pit with a lake occupying the floor! Murray has tried to clear the drain hole! 1 hour now.

John Cooper

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014. Rod's Pot

John Cooper, Steve Ellis, Peter Hall and Andy Sparrow.  
Digging ascending passage at top of latest extension. Cobbles  
and mud - lots of mud! Draught coming towards us. 2 1/2 hrs.  
John Cooper

THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2014 LIME KILN DIG B.W. & J.C.

LAKE INSPECTION: THE TERMINAL TUNNEL IS NOW DRY. DIGGING  
CAN CONTINUE. YIPPEE! (but which way!!!). ☺

SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2014 TUMBLEDOWN, SWILDONS

A QUICK DIGGING TRIP AND INSPECTION FOLLOWING A LONG ABSENCE. ALL OF THE  
METAL WORK IS EITHER RUSTED SOLID OR TURNING TO JELLY. TWO HARD WOOD BUCKETS  
REMOVED FROM THE END. NIK NAK.

Saturday 5 April 2014 Spider Hole.

John Riley, Nigel Cotnam, Barry Wilkinson, Tom Chapman  
Pete Hann & Adrian Vandepolke,

With the large amount of spoil STILL down the  
dig, the team today took out 80 buckets of  
spoil. Pete Hann built up the top wall to retain  
more spoil. We will soon need a ladder to  
be able to get up to where we are dumping  
the spoil

Adrian. [Estimated > 1/2-ton of spoil lifted - NG]

Saturday 5 April 2014 - Longwood Valley Sink.

John Osborne, John Cooper, Tomasz Kawka, Ali Moady  
Geoff Newton, Andrew Atkinson.

During last week the Longwood stream had started  
sinking in a small rift in the right bank about

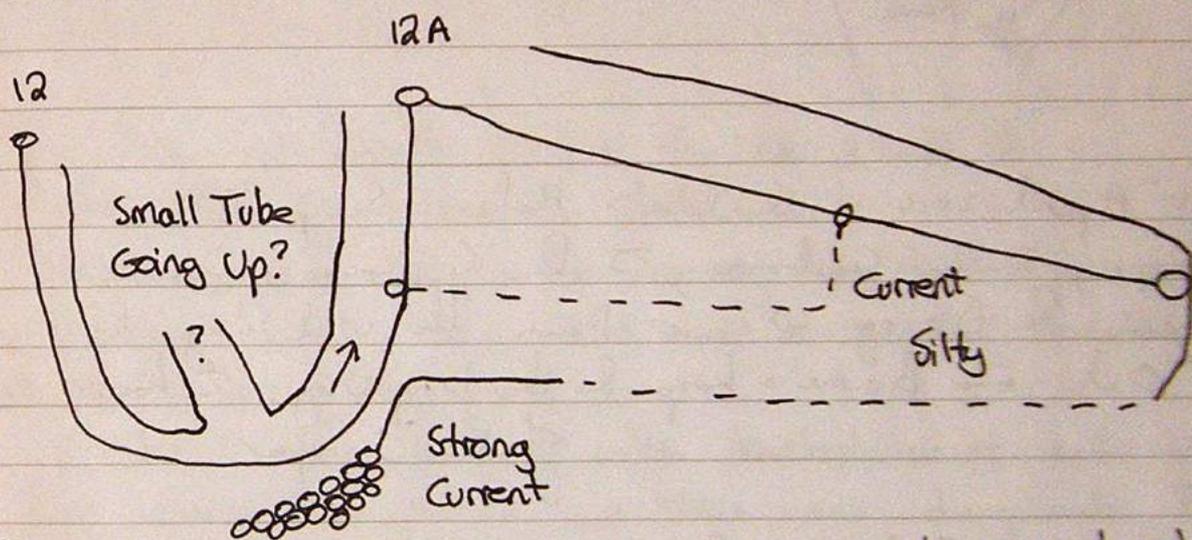
8m upstream of the blockhouse. This was taking all of the stream, making the main swallet completely dry. Taking advantage of the dry conditions, an hour was spent digging out as much debris as possible with the aim of improving the drainage.

We then continued to LVS where a considerable amount of sediment and rocks were removed. Tennis Ball left was drilled and a charge set off before leaving.

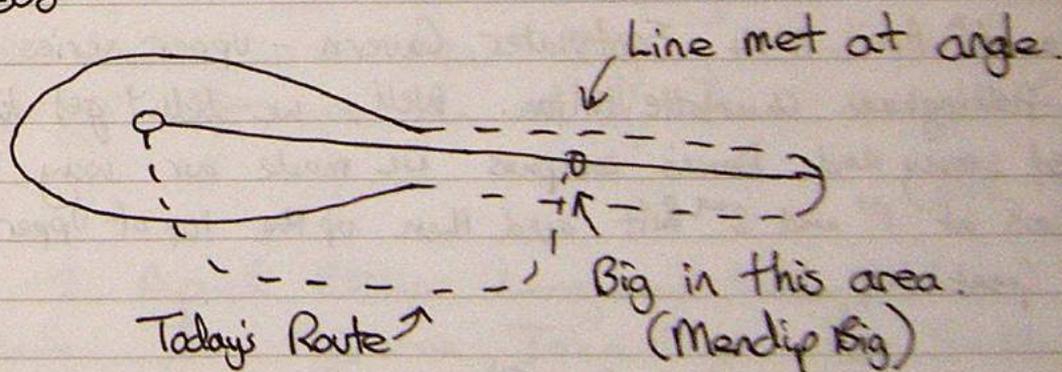
Ali Moody.

Saturday 5th April - 12 - Mirek & kev

Profile



Plan



Still no real idea of what is going on! Big leeches in sump 3.

kev

5th April Fester Hole

Celebrated 76th birthday with a couple of hours digging at Fester with Tommaso Digging at the top ~~near~~ at the end, where we are very close to the end of the grotto on the right. There is a flat roof? with a ~~flake~~ flake / boulder on the right.

The fill is a mix of stratified clay or pebbles etc with two layers of old calcite about 1 inch thick. Bits of broken calcite



~~Layer~~ layer in the mass

Maurice Hlois

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014 Swildan's Hole Sump II

John Cooper, Emma Gibbons, John Gibbons, Dave Hollingham & Barry Weaver. Down the wet way to Sump II. Out via Bane's loop & the Dry Way. 2 Rows  
John Cooper

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014 Eastwater Cavern - upper series round trip

Dave Hollingham, Charlotte Hilton. Well, we didn't get lost! Using a traced survey and Dave's compass we made our way round. Had a look at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Rift and then up the top of Upper Traverse - very tight. Great trip.

Saturday 12th April Sludge Pot - 2nd Saturday

Another well supported second Saturday trip.

so we went in as two groups.

1st group - Hayne, Darren, Tim, Plos, Sam & Nick - they rigged the pitch - they went to the sump and up Aragrote rift - then to the maze

the second group - Jude, Andrea, Dave, Neil, Imran & Gary entered soon after the first group and followed the same route - only seeing them briefly. The first group had a good look round the Maze, second group had a look at the Cheddar dig and exited first. Everyone ended up quite muddy!

Jude \* Will provided administrative support.

Sat. 12 April 2014. SPIDER HOLE - Pete Hare & Nigel Graham only.  
Only about 3 hrs in cave but further bar cemented in place - these are to provide bases from which to build cemented roof in horizontal section. Some clutch dragged back to base of shaft.

- if

Tuesday 8 April 2014 - Budd's Wood 7

Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson.

The original plan to survey Shaft 8.5 was abandoned because of the very dead and extremely smelly pheasant? at the base of the pitch.

Shaft 7 was blocked with barbed wire and vegetation 2m down the pitch and this was dug out. Fortunately the rest of the shaft was clear. Eighty-nine metres of passage surveyed before we ran out of time - 4 hour trip.

Ali Moody

Saturday 12 April 2014 - Longwood Valley Sink.

Geoff Newton, John Osborne, John Cooper, Pete Buckley and Ali Moody.

Another clearance, drilling and banging session - 4 hours.

Ali Moody

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Sinder's Hole.

John Cooper & Barry Weaver. Did the Old Hoft, passed down the Twenty & the out via Butcombe Chamber. 1 1/2 hrs.

John Cooper

SUNDAY, 13.4.2014.

SWILDONS HOLE, UPPER SERIES.

Wayne led Sam and Nick ~~to~~ down through the old grotto and on as far as the 20' pitch. Returned back up the stream bed in low water levels. Nick and Sam both had fun ascending the last drop before the exit.

13 April 2014 (Sunday) Eastwater, Florence, Will, Ali (A)

Boulderchoke - upper traverse - Dolphin chimney -  
out via canyon / Wozle Prep 2.5 hrs.

13/04/14 Longwood Swallet: Tim, Matt, Allan

Stream entering cave via swallet hole slightly upstream from entrance. Water confirmed for Ali M to be appearing in chamber to the right at bottom of the two 10ft drops. ~~who~~ Went on and out via great chamber. Showerbath dry on way in, but wet on return. Explored the up stream series & a quick look down stream. On way out Matts bum cheeks tried to eat a rock. Upon exiting some of the stream was diverting past the new sink point down the old route.  
4hrs 30 Tim.

14/04/14 Swildons Hole, Short Round: Connor, Elle, George,  
Harry, Matt, Quinn

Connor took us round the Short Round, using the SLT kit to ascend and descend the 20 + 40ft drop. We went through the four ducks and the sump. After the 40ft pitch in pairs we naved back to the entrance, only got a little lost! Took plenty of stops to look @ Speleothems.

6hrs - Elle.

p.s great time staying @ the Hat for the week. THANKS?

Spider Hole 18-4-14.

John Cooper, Pete Mann, Nigel Graham, Rich Carey Will Rod  
Flos Crowther Smith, Niknik (Simon Richards). Jude &  
Adrian Vanderplank,

Strong team assembled for a mammoth hauling session. Unfortunately no one remembered to count how many buckets we'd filled!

Quite a lot of spoil, removed from the end in the floor & the front. A large boulder in the roof is now visible which will provide a safer working environment. Right hand wall is still not visible, but as the boulders are getting larger it ~~is~~ should be easier to build the walls & support the roof.

The end of the choke was draughting quite well (outwards) and the end is beginning to become more gappy.

Adrian.

18/4/14 Swildons (Sump 1)

Paul Wilman, Sam Drake, Kurt Charnock + Jody East

Inaugural trip for Kurt + Jody to Sump 1. In via short dry + out wet ways. quite quiet for Swildons approx 4 1/2 hours

19/04/14 Swildon's Hole - Short Round Trip

Ken Passant and Emma Cishorne went in the short dry way. Took photos of each other in the Inclined Lift - climbed up into Trantman's Temple and took more photos. Then on through the Mud Sump (bucket full + small puddle). On sand to the first trouble - syphon hard to get working. Switched the pipe around - then it worked. Lots of laughing by both of us - photo session other side of first trouble. Second

Trouble usual level and third trouble had plenty of air space. We got to the snarp and Ken filmed me going through and then filmed his dive to the other side. We went out the Wet Way and climbed up the Rift and out.

Really enjoyable trip - hope the pictures turn out ok and can't wait to see them. Not sure I'm very good with the camera though, ~~litter~~ <sup>litter</sup> side!

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2014 Longwood Valley Sink.

Pete Buckley, John Cooper, John Gisborne, Geoff Newton & the boys (Ali Moody). Cleared spoil and created more. 4 3/4 hours with only one short chocolate break.  
John Cooper

Sunday 13 April 2014 - Charterhouse Cave

Ali Moody, Dave Cooke + Pete Hall.

Validation trip for the new Cheddar Charterhouse leaders to the Old Cave - Very pleasant 1 1/2 hr bumble.

Ali Moody

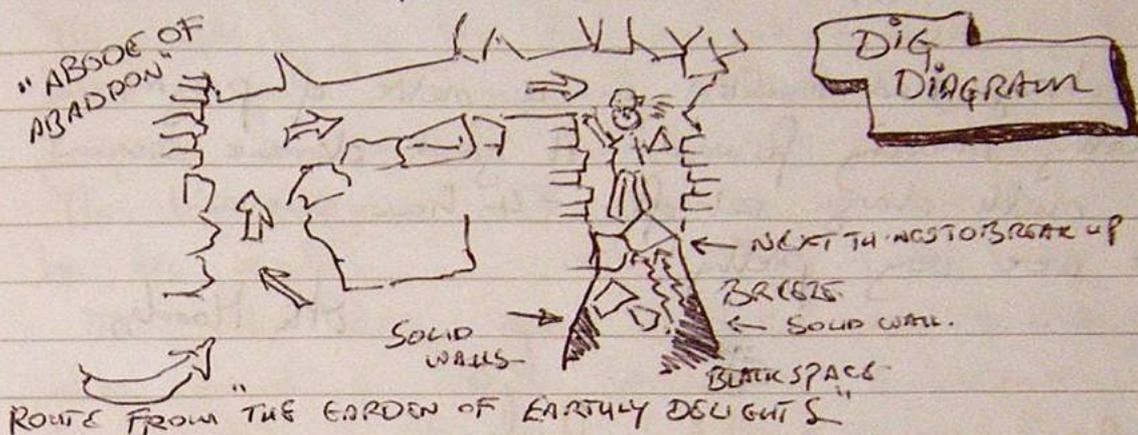
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2014 - Charterhouse Cave

Validation trip for various new leaders to Portal Pool. No problems with air quality although the Tunnelis were very stuffy. We were enjoying ourselves so much that we continued all the way to the big square passage beyond Talus Cove Aven. 4 hour trip.

Ali Moody

SATURDAY 19TH APRIL 2014 GREEBE SUMMIT DIG.

ED WATERS, KEV SPEIGHT, CHRIS BINDING. MORE MUDDY SQUORR BUT THERE'S A BIT OF "DIG FEVER" GOING ON AT THE MOMENT DUE TO HITTING A GOOD BRICK & SOME DARK VIEWS ON WEDS EVENING. TODAY WAS WHEELING, CEMENTING & BAGGING OUT SPOIL. ABOUT 3 HOURS.



Monday 21st April EAST WATER CANYON

John Cooper, Emma Gibbons & Peter Buckley

In via Upper Traverse - no sign of anything interesting (no walllets for eg) - to the Baker's Chimney bypass. Dolphin Pet & Pikel & then over to 13 Pots. Back out via Woggle Pass. Great little trip - no mud! Took over 2 hrs. Pelt

SATURDAY 26TH APRIL TUMBLERDOWN, DULDON

A SHORT DIGGING TRIP; 2 BUCKETS OF SOIL REMOVED FROM THE END. SEEM TO BE CORRECT. THE LARGE SOULDER AT THE END OF THE PASSAGE APPEAR TO ACTUALLY BE WALL, IN WHICH CASE THE PASSAGE IS BENDING LEFT.

REPLACED THE OLD ROTTING LADDER; THANKS AGAIN TOMMY FOR THE NEW SHED AND NIK NAK.

Saturday 26th April Spider Hole

Nigel Cateham, Nik Nak, Jack & Ade Help

3 bags of sand carried down. The bar taken down last week, cemented in and rocks cemented on top.

L/H wall seems to be bending round to the left, but it could prove to be another alcove. (time will tell!)

ad.

CONT → 35

(80 m down)

→ All heard odd noise right down by the dig face. It sounded like a heavy vehicle going up the gorge but we've never noticed vehicle sounds at that depth previously. Curious! - Nigel

Saturday 26 April - Longwood Valley Sink.

John Cooper, Ali Moody, Pete Buckley, Job Adams, Andrew Atkinson

Last week's charge had resulted in a metre of progress - we are finally moving forward! A good clearance session and another multi-charge set off. - 4 hour session. The bluebells were very pretty!

Ali Moody

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2014 Swildon's Hole

John Cooper, Emma Gilborne & John Gilborne.

As JCo's back was giving him gyp he retreated at the top of the T venty whilst the remaining two went and dried out the Mud Sump then on to peer down Shatter Pat.  
2 1/4 hours John Cooper

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014 Swildon's Hole

John Cooper. Collecting Spelsa Rahl tackle (30 m rope & 10 m ladders) from T venty. They had left in situ as they saw a group was still in and there was no other tackle left at the top to replace chairs if they removed it. This was Sunday afternoon. 10 min in, 10 min detachable & 15 min out (bag was heavy!).

John Cooper

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Stodge Pt

John Cooper & Emma Gilborne joined the Chaddar Digging Team of Chris Castle, Nicki Dennis, Andy & Rachel Sparrow & Jack (Nuce) for a couple of hours spoil removal.

John Cooper

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014 - Buddle's Wood.

Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson.

Surveyed shaft 8½. Then went to investigate the new shaft further up the hill and just outside Buddle's Wood.

The miners had capped this with an arch of capping stones but the central keystone has dropped out. At present the shaft is far too dangerous to descend and the ginging bolts suspect on one wall. Rocks dropped down the shaft drop a considerable distance and land with a loud boom. The top capping will need to be removed for a safe descent to be made.

We then dug open shaft 6 and surveyed this. We also found a steeply ascending side passage that had not been noted on the trips in the 1980's. The roof of this passage has some impressive hauling grooves from ropes. ~~The top~~ <sup>The Passage</sup> leads up to a ginged shaft plugged at the top with a keystone. The survey indicated that this point is only just below the surface. 5 hour session.

Ali Moody.

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2014. Longwood Valley Sink

Ali Moody, John Cooper, Pete Buckley, John Ashmore.

Three quarters of a metre further progress, trending steadily downwards. Still more wet mud on the floor to clear next week. Many surface visitors enjoying the bluebells and Rich Whitcombe's wall which is also progressing nicely behind the entrance. John G. 4½ hours.

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2014. Swildon's Hole

John Cooper, Emma Gisborne, John Gisborne & Barry Weaver. Barry went & tried the Glistening Gallery Squeeze but he still doesn't fit. Out through Sump I. 2 hours.  
John Cooper

08/05/14 - Snivdon's Hole (Short Round Trip) (2 1/2 hours)  
Chris Seal, John Cooper and Emma Cusborne went in  
via the Short Dry Way. We bailed the first trouble for  
quarter of an hour + got the cyphon going. Second and  
third trouble were usual level with plenty of air space.  
Sump One still a sump and the level is below the rope  
anchored (in the One streamway). Then out the Wet  
Way. Good trip - pie and chips + cake afterwards.  
Emma

8 GB Tom King Andy Moese Mike 8/5/14

Great trip, been raining quite constantly so a bit more  
water on the climb which was "fun".

Uneventful trip with plenty of good photos and video  
particularly of Bat passage and the top chamber.  
T.K. wasn't impressed with being sent through the  
wet squeeze (after the ladder climb). Gosh think we  
got video of everyone "enjoying" the cool water. Lol.  
Andy, Mike managed the climb round and up into top chamber  
still looks scary!!  
Tommy.

Longwood NOT AUGUST!

10/5/14

Aiden Hamner, Adrian Burnett, Jim Sall.

A very physical trip at the limit of my comfort zone due to  
the amount of water going down the cave. Absolutely no  
chance of doing August chimney. Swing pitch very wet  
indeed! Time underground two and three quarter hours.

Jim.

Swickons round trip (3 hours ish)

10/5/14

Matt Meers, Rich Coey, Michael Hawsman, ~~EMERY HALL~~

Very wet! Which made it quite cold on the way back up from swamp. Attempted blue pencil, all made it through but me (Matt). Spent about an hour baiting the first of the ducks. <sup>Trouble Session.</sup> The shower and cup of tea was very welcome after! Fun

10th May. Having failed to find anyone to dig Fester hole, I volunteered to help a surface worker at Longwood Valley sink with all, John Cooper, Pete Buckley, and John?. Removed about 70 buckets and then the experts drilled 6 holes and applied the ~~best~~ bang.

Probably the most beautiful dig site I've been at. Blackbills and gulls in full flower. Pits about the odd shaver! Maurice

Pleased to see John Thomas at the dig after his bypass op.

11/05/14 Goatchurch Cavern.

Nick Butler, John Cooper & Sam Storrar.

In the main entrance and down to the end of the Drainpipe before an exit via Trademan's entrance. 1 hour.

John Cooper

11/05/14 Sidcot swallet.

Nick Butler, John Cooper & Sam Storrar.

Down to the top of the Labster Pat. 1/2 hour.

John Cooper

11/05/14. Mangle Hole. (R0CC/RRCR/Trip) + M. Harworth (see?)

Visit to a new cave (new to us) lovely trip down right hand route. very muddy at bottom. - think left hand route better to allow access to Mud Bank chamber! - and beyond.

Bill W.

12/5/2014

Bill N (NRC/RDCC) + NJB (RRCR) G-B Cavern.

Thanks to Brian P for the keys.

Pleasant trip down this fascinating cave. Moderate amount of water going down after last night's rain. We went down to the bridge up over, and around to just above the waterfall. NJB very impressed 😊.

I was! Fabulous + beautiful array Bill.

of formations, easy overall but with the add little challenge to keep me on my toes - the perfect antidote to being mangled by mangle hole yesterday. Lovely trip, the best helictites I've seen.

NJB. (Thanks Bill!)

15/05/14 Bath Smallet / Rod's Pot through Trip

John Cooper, Chris Seal and Emma Cribb - rigged Bath Smallet with both ladders initially. Then went into Rod's Pot slithered past the blind pots and into main Chamber. We carried on down to the bottom and all climbed up Eyeball Aven to the top and back down again. On then to Purple Pot descending down the rope - up Diggers Shaft. Before descending up the ladders out of Bath we carried on along main passage past 'The Chimney - Great Wall' - of Bath. Past several more dig sites then into a drop leading to the top of the cake hole. Then climbed down to the start of Vagina Rift onto the The Cervix (ignoring Emma Result) ended our trip at the dig face. Then up both ladders and out.

Emma

First time in Rod's Pot in more than 25 yrs - barely recognise the place. After exiting Bath, we headed over to Drunkard's Hole. Probably more than 30 yrs since I last poked my nose in there. Unfortunately I'm no longer quite as slim as I was back then. The way down was a comfortable cozy fit but nowhere near as much fun as the

return back up! Continuing down we bypassed the ~~first~~ 10m pitch by traversing across it and explored the various dips off the 2nd Riff Chunks. The way is fine except for the lack of footholds when trying to get through the tight rift squeezes! Thanks John for a little anatomy at this point.

17/5/2014 Spider Hole

Nigel Graham, Murray Knapp, Aubrey Newport,  
Mike Nakk, Jude + Ade Vanderplank, Pete Mann

30 bags of Sand delivered to Mining Station

3 mixers used in dig face

Thanks To Barry Wilkinson + Tommo for delivering Sand to entrance.

\*Pete was going to give a description of what is happening at the bottom & which way the dig is heading only, but now he's not. He says "he's confused"  
achars

17/5/2014 - Longwood Valley Sunk.

Pete Buckley, John Osborne, John Coopes, Ali Moody, Andrew Atkinson, Rob Adams, Geoff Newton

A lengthy clearing session with a vast amount of spoil removed. JG trialled an aerial ropeway system for moving the buckets across the surface. With a few tweaks this should be very effective. We are now working down at the end of the rift to where it is wide 1.5m of depth gained in this session. 4 1/2 hour session.

Ali Moody

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2014 Spider Hole

John Coopes, Barry Weaver & Clive Westlake.

Cleared the rocks out of the bottom pipe (kids!).  
Went and inspected the Sidest U-Tube - still surged, but only by a couple of cm. 2 1/4 hours.

John Coopes

18/05/2014 LIME KILN DIG

AUBREY, MURRAY, ADE, JOHN C., BARRY

CLEARED SPOIL, LARGE NOISE, FOLLOWED BY MYSTERIOUS RUMBLING!

B.W.

22/5/14 Sludge Pit

John Cooper, Emma Gilbourne & Chris Seal.

SRale Series, kimlet Tilet then down to the sump.

Back via Aragonite Rift. Emma found a loose boulder!  
1/2 hour John Cooper

23/5/14 Hillgrove Inwallow. G Newton

First visit to this historic dig - a bit like the Moine Celeste.  
It was clean washed, not muddy enough for a Mendip dig.  
There was a bit of a drought but as it stands is difficult to work -  
a shortage of starting space and the squeeze next to end needs taking  
out - so this was just a tourist visit. (P.S. Lots of bluebells in  
vicinity).

20/5/2014 - Buddle's Wood Shaft 9.

Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson.

An extremely hard show plus survey trip with  
only 77 m surveyed. We ran out of energy at  
squeeze No 54! To date around 340 m of passage  
surveyed with another 300 m to go - if the place  
doesn't kill us first. :-C

Ali Moody

24/5/14 - LVS

Pete Buckle, John Cooper, Geoff Newton & Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson.

Progress made again 0.5 m<sup>2</sup> x 1 m down. Things have become a tad muddy.  
Working 1.5 m below an ankle trap means shifting spirit is tricky.  
Large rock slabs will be smaller next week - unlike the large rock that

Loss about 75 ldes (+ plug/factors) in it. Trawl stuff this rock.  
An intriguing little passage is appearing on the right - but needs a lot  
of clearing before we can say which way is on. Feb.

24/5/14

Andy, Wayne, Tony, Ken, Charlotte - round trip plus blue  
pencil. Swildons 4 very smelly and water solid brown. Above  
sump a water clear? Good trip.

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2014. Swildon's Hole.

John Cooper & Barry Weaver. Went to inspect the First  
Trouble following a report that the system was not working.  
Fettled it by turning it round and left it flowing  
nicely. A subsequent group reported it nice & dry.

2 1/4 hours.

John Cooper

Tues. 20<sup>th</sup> May Fairy Quarry

Hilliers - Fairy through trip + the three Balch entrances etc. Worthwhile

Tues. 27<sup>th</sup> May SWILDONS → shatter - down the pitch + the 1st two  
squeezes. Pub beckoned! 2 1/4 hrs Terry Waller x Derek Sanderson.

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2014. Swildon's Hole. Short Round Trip.

John Cooper, Emma Gishorne & John Roe. Spent about  
15 minutes drilling/syphoning the First Trouble which was  
overflowing on arrival.

2 1/4 hours.

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014 Langwood Valley Sink.

Rich Witecombe surface walking. Pete Badley & Ali Moody digging  
spiral out at bottom. Geoff Newton guiding tubes into tube  
while Andrew Atkinson, John Cooper & John Gishorne winched  
& disposed. AA split the boulder at the bottom of the entrance  
rift. Finally drill & bang the pencil point at the end drop.

John Cooper

Tuesday June 5th. Eastwater West End Pretties  
Visited Wardour Street - by mistake - not to be recommended! Then back to Regent  
Street. Pretties still worth a visit. Put down missing them first time to age & lack of eyesight.  
Terry Walker & Derek Sanderson. 2 hrs.

#### LIME KILN DIG

5/6/14 \* You can ~~wait~~ wait ~~hours~~ for an interesting dig to  
come along and then turn up within weeks. I somehow got roped  
in to join a weakened team for a session in Lime kiln. Originally  
I only ~~intended~~ intended to pull stuff up from the surface, but  
ended up hauling buckets up the lower slide, which were filled  
by Colin. Surprisingly he managed 53 buckets. At the end I  
descended the ladder (first for about 6 years) and crawled up to  
the end where Aubrey was setting charges. It then slowly dawned  
on me that he was not even following a recognisable crack.

The whole bloody dig is in solid limestone. At least it  
is near the "chamber" we predicted in 1968 with the  
georesistant meter. Keep plaster casts! Maurice  
ps Thanks to John Cooper for load of felas felt and eye line.

#### 06/06/14 Swildon's Hole - Upper Series (2 hours)

Chris Seal, John Cooper and Emma Crisborne went in the  
Long Dry Way - into the New Grotto. Then on around the  
rest of the LDW into the Old Grotto. Down to Water Chamber  
then up into the Lower Oxbow - climbing up to visit  
Upper and Lower Loxbow. Then back out up Wet Way  
through Lavatory Pan. Climbed up and squeezed through  
to Cittern Dig - had a look then back down. Then up to  
Oxbow Junction to have a look at the other side of the  
squeeze in Lower Oxbow (one for another day + lots of  
dicking). On to Butcombe Chamber - direct route out  
via tight rift into the Wet Way. Very good trip - never tire  
of visiting this part of Swildon!

Emma.

Thursday 27th May 2014 - Buddle's Wood Shaft 9.

Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson.

Hard 6 hour survey trip to complete West Series South. Removed the 32 year old Wessex rope from the final chumb. - This rope is now covered in a film of calcite. Surveyed 97m of passage. Successful trip except for the new Distox rolling down ~~causing~~ a tight deep rift on the exit. This could be seen but not reached.

Ali Moody

Tuesday 3rd Jun 2014 - Buddle's Wood Shaft 9.

Andrew Atkinson, Si Flower and Ali Moody.

A 5 hour trip to dig down and retrieve the Distox lost last week!

Ali Moody

Saturday 4th Jun 2014 - Longwood Valley Sink

Rich Witcombe, John Cope, John Osborne, Pete Buckley, Ali Moody, Geoff Newton, Tom Harrison, Tony Baycott + Andrew Atkinson.

Rich completed the wall behind the entrance. The charge from last week had reduced the 2m step down at the end making it easier. Vast amount of debris removed again and we now have a pool forming at the end and the passage to the right. By the end of the session the end chumb was back to 2m depth due to lowering the floor. The end rift was banged before leaving. As it was Dig Fest a halftime break was made for Andrew's excellent flapjack and biscuits 4. hour session.

Ali Moody

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2014 Silden's Hole  
John Cooper, Emma Gilborne & John Gilborne  
Sump I. 1<sup>1/2</sup> hours.  
John Cooper

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June. Eastwater Cavern  
John Cooper, Chris Seal. First time down in many years (20+?).  
My memory of the place is very vague despite leading countless  
trips down there at University and School. I have no memory of  
the string through the boulder choke and the Upper Traverse seemed much  
shorter than I remember. Took Baker Chimney bypass route to the canyon  
and ~~came~~ down <sup>to</sup> Dolphin Pot. For that matter I don't remember <sup>the</sup> climb -  
perhaps ~~we~~ we free-climbed it! Down the pitch and across to the  
bold step via Harris's passage. Then down the muddy elbow and  
up the Thirteen Pots. Pot number X ~~was~~ was much harder than  
I remember. Then back out via Dolphin, Wind Tunnel and Woggle Press  
2<sup>1/2</sup> hours. CHRIS SEAL

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June LVS

Pete Buckley, John Cooper & Geoff Newton  
Spent clean, trip from the crystal clear pool at the wide open  
end of the canyon rift. Andrew had left a few rather large rocks -  
some of which refused to shrink - however, a determined attack by  
all three of us rendered the end clear after 3 hard hours. JMC made  
a few holes in the angry face. Ptt

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June - Lionels Hole -  
Andrea Russe, Pippa, Maxine & James -  
It was Pippa's 2<sup>nd</sup> trip caving into  
Lionels Hole - we did the round trip  
with Andrea leading - Everyone enjoyed  
the trip - Pippa found it challenging  
but felt she ~~achieved~~ had a sense  
of achievement - Hopefully she will  
come again - Andrea.

Saturday 14th June 2014 Rod's Pot

Jude, Richard, Wayne

Despite my forgetting my undersuit went down Rod's through Purple Pot into Bath Swallet to look at the dig. Return journey back up into Rod's, Wayne and I decided to go down the blind pots to look at the Cheddar Dig. It's very messy but easy going along the conveyor belt. Then up and up to Erratum Chamber. A quick sand trap back at. We had a quick look at Easy Ready Passage as for as El Capitan.

Sunday 15th June 2014 Swildon's Hole

John Cooper & Barry Weaver. Went and peered down the Black Hole. The big ring bolt has been removed and two P-hangers on the approach to it installed. There is an airspace through Sump 1; First time this year. 1 1/2 hrs.  
John Cooper

15/6/14 Reservoir Hole T.F.D.

Maxine, James + Aubrey tourist Trip  
3 1/2 hours

Sunday 15th June 2014 Lime Kiln

Whilst John Cooper & Aubrey Newport cleared the dig spoil from the bottom as far as the bottom of the railway Murray Knapp drilled more holes. Finally more spoil created to replace the over 20 buckets full removed. 1 1/2 hrs.  
John Cooper

Tuesday June 10th

G.to Bat passage

2 1/2 hrs

Tried to find the supposed easier route into Great Chamber - failed. Will stick to a ladder next time. Formations in Bat Passage still in very good condition.

Terry Waller & Derek Sanderson.

Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup> Hunters Car Park Dig. 25mins  
All going well until Derek decided to launch his ladder straight into his right eye. Lots of blood. Visited Roger Das first aid station. Treatment applied both outside & inside!  
Terry Walter & Derek Sandersm.

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2014. Charterhouse Cave.

Pete Buckley, John Cooper & Geoff Newton. A preliminary trip to check out the diving route into Skeleton Passage. An early trip led by Mark Holmes set the Portal Pool sypson going and we met them just upstream of Frozen Cascade as they were leaving. We waited at Sand Dig until the sypson stopped (probably about 45 minutes max sypson time) and then went through. Diesel Duck was dry so we continued to Quickstart Chamber. The pool stretched right across to the left wall but looked beautiful & clear. We then continued along Route 66 as far as the twelfth ave, which is where the big Boulder passage starts. Although there were no deep pools en route some of the gravel floored sections were at water table level. Back at Portal Pool after an absence of 1 1/2 hours and the level of water was up by about 5cm. I reckon it would take many hours before it becomes full. Out to lots of horse flies after a 4 hour trip. There is 1 2K weight at Frozen Cascade & 1 2K weight at Portal Pool.

John Cooper

Goodrick! Billy Normans [T.M.] doing some exercise & cleaning, namely RHINO LIFT & SWEDONS AFTER FAR TOO MUCH DIGGING, RECENTLY, PREPARING FOR SOME OVERSEAS ROPE TRIPS NEXT MONTH. GLORIOUS SUNSHINE ON THE SURFACE MEANS IT'S PROBABLY INCREDIBLE TO GO UNDERGROUND.

Chris Harding!

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2014. Smildon's Hole

John Cooper, Emma Gilborne, John Gilborne & Barry Weaver  
An amble to Fault Chamber. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hours.

John Cooper

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Revel Sanderson and Dave Watt

SLUDGE PIT. Down via Aragonite Aft  
and out via Shale Series - Good variety of  
passages in a short distance. Revel.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2014 L.V.S.

Andrew Alheim, Pete Buckley, John Cope, John Gilborne,  
Ali Moody & Geoff Nentor. All rocks removed from  
bottom and stacked at end of the top tunnel. Some  
and hauled to surface. Two large holes drilled in bottom  
on right and popped. 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours.

John Cope

Sat 28 June. Charterhouse Cave.

Pete Hann, Nigel Graham. As far as Narrows. Tapes &  
choke guide-line all OK. if

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2014 Smildon's Hole.

John Cooper & Barry Weaver. Sump II. The cave  
was VERY busy today! Brought a small toad out from  
Creep 1. 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hours.

John Cooper.

01/07/14 Smildon's Hole (2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs)

John Cooper and Emma Gilborne went to Blue Pencil to  
enjoy the four streamway. Went to look at Sump Four first  
then Sump Three. On around the Short Round Trip - first  
trouble didn't need bailing and there was a small air  
space at Sump One. Exited the cave via the hot way.

Emma

02/07/14 Swildon's Hole

John Roe and Emma Cuthorne went in the Short Dry Way through Sump One and visited the Black Hole via Howard's Dig. Back out the Wet Way.

Saturday 5th July. Longwood Valley Sink.

Alison Mealy, John Cooper, Geoff Newton, John Cuthorne, Emma Cuthorne.

Productive session clearing rock and boulders to the base of the rift and then hauling and stacking in the ash. After a spell taking mud and rock to the surface, the remainder of the session was spent digging in the floor. The line of the vertical rift temporarily lost but a straight can be felt to the right. More investigation needed. 4 1/2 hours. John G.

SAT 21st June & SAT 5th July OTTER HOLE.

BADGER, HELEN DEAR + Various Caves FROM FOREST CURBS / FOOTREGS.

FILMING PROJECT TO CEYSTAR BALL PASSAGES & TUNNEL LIGHT.

Paul Taylor (G.C.C.) has been given permission from Otterhole committee to film in the 2 passages normally not frequented on Otter trips as due to the delicate nature of the passages, both trips 12 hours plus, the tidal sump behaving itself opening & closing allowing the filming teams through. Having been into both passages it is very clear that these passages must remain as out of bounds as they would very quickly become silted and formations damaged. CBP also requires very careful carving through loose boulders - the comment from John Elliot (1 of the caves who found CBP) was one they were digging through the boulders they whole thing dropped 2/3 foot. It was very hard trips transporting a lot of film kit but very rewarding, being able to witness some unique formations. Badger.

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2014 Sirdon's Hole.

John Cooper & Barry Weaver. Went and checked the Sidcot U-tube. Still surped. Someone has left a tackle sack containing ladder and slack rope at bottom of 42ft rift. 1 1/4 hours.

John Cooper

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014 - GB (2 1/2 hours)

Ben, John Cooper and Emma Osborne visited the lesser parts that none of us had been before. We went in the Wind Passage route down the Gorge across the Bridge into White Passage. Near the end we took a low crawl into West ~~Passage~~ <sup>Passage</sup> - very snaggy! Terminated in several boulder choked roofs. On coming out we climbed up into West ~~Passage~~ <sup>Passage</sup> which was more beautifully decorated. Back down White Passage and took the hoop to Rumba Alley to the end which ends in a boulder choke. On the way out we had a look at the Bedding Chamber - really pretty. Before the climb down we went into a crawl leading to Bertie's Pot - we took a ladder but would recommend a hand line next time. Up onto the Gallery and out Wind Passage Route.

Emma.

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014 - Longwood Valley Sink

Ali + Pete Moody.

A traditional Moody + Moody special on the large boulder at the end of LVS.

A. Moody.

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2014 - Longwood Valley Sink

John Osborne, Pete Buckley, John Cooper + Ali Moody.

The rocks from Tuesday's charge were used to continue

The backfilling of the adit. We then continued digging out under the overhang to the right. About a body length of progress made and this appears to be a bedding and the way on. Excellent session. A boulder barged before leaving - 4 1/4 hours.

Ali Hardy.

12/07/14 2nd Saturday Trip - Box Mine (4 hours) (12 people)  
Les Williams, Shaun Richardson, Will Reed, flos ~~Cropper~~-Smith  
Smith, Emma Gussome, Cheryl Lingard  
Tony + Magda Modski, <sup>Muszyński</sup> Tony Tomaz Konka, Martin,  
? John (comes with Chris Bradley), Fran (friend of flos + Will)

Went in Jack's Works ~~visited~~ - known as 'Jack's Entrance'  
Please leave ~~used~~ <sup>used</sup> ~~les + maggy~~ then travelled along Black Horse Road ~~then~~  
: here there is a picture of a horse

Box Mine Trip - 2nd Saturday (12/07/14)

We entered via Jack's Entrance and followed Owen Bishop Road (OBR) to Allan Nutt's Loop and then crossed to Via Equi (VE) (I can't remember if we used Tucker's Traverse or Hell Traverse) and followed Via Equi to the point where it meets the end of Black Horse Road (BHR) just by the roof fall where there is a large black horse drawn on the wall. From here we followed Route 2 (R2) to Frank Spalding Cut (FSC) and, after climbing through the fall, turned left and went along Bridgegate Road (BGR) to look at the crane (The one holding up the roof). Retracing our steps from here we then turned onto VS Extension (VSE), leading to VS Route (VSR) which we followed over several collapses almost to Westgate before turning right onto Roman Way (RW) which we followed to Four Ways. Straight on at Fourways and after a brief sojourn along Alpha Passage (AP) we returned and took Beta Passage (BP) and then turned off over deads to Coronation Cut (CC). This was where we saw the big change in floor levels due to a geological fault. From Coronation Cut we briefly followed Bat Route (B.R.) until we passed through a big roof fall into B12 Route (B12) just before the walled off section near one of the Box Tunnel airshafts. We followed B12 Route for some distance over a few falls until we arrived at the deep well (the one with the railway line across it to protect people from falling in). Staying on B12 we went up a slope (the one with all the canal tunnel graffiti) and continued along until the Brick Robots. Stopped here for a snack and to build a brick dog. From the Brick Robots we followed B Passage (BP) to Old Kent Road (O.K.R.) that sloped down to the Wind Tunnel (W.T.). At the grill in Wind Tunnel we climbed through the hole and continued on (off survey now) until the end of Wind Tunnel, at the Submarine Door. The other side of this door is Spring Quarry.

We then retraced our steps to the grill, but instead of passing back through, we turned off (still off survey) and after passing an open gate we went along the passage until we ended up in Brewers Drift. This was the very large passage with the concrete columns. This ended at another red door, affectionately known as the Red Door. The other side of the Red Door is Tunnel Quarry. From here we went along Brewers Drift in the other direction until (having passed under some alleged "dangerous roof") we arrived at the wrong side of another grill, again with a hole in it allowing us to get back on the "right side". Here we picked up the end of B Passage and followed it back towards the Brick Robots. We didn't go as far as the robots but kept right, following the "Escape Route" from Tunnel Quarry. This led to the Delta Rectangle Shafts (DR Shafts). These were the large round shaft with the old stone steps just behind it.

From here we followed Alternative Delta Rectangle Passage (A.D.R.P.) until it met up with B12 Route again, just past the robots. We followed B12 Route past the Fish Well (The well with no water and a drawing of three interlocking fish). At the far end of B12 Route we joined Cliff Passage (CLP) and followed that until the junction at the start of B11 Route (B11). Along B11 we crossed over a few falls and then got temporarily misplaced near some remains of a crane on O Route (OR). After a brief resce by our leader we climbed over deads to get us to the Cathedral. From the Cathedral we followed a continuation of O Route and then headed to Back Door. From Back Door we exited the quarry and headed to the Quarryman's Arms, the most important bit of the trip for some.

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Swildon's Hole.

John Cooper & Emma Gishborne.

Did a circular trip. Up Maypole Aven and down the 42ft rift. We used the in-situ rope to haul a 10m ladder up Maypole Aven. Once at the top we went along the rift with a bag containing a 20m rope & my personal box of goodies. Once in lower Terminus Chamber I took the end of the rope up the disals and lifeline Emma up & into Terminus Chamber itself. Packed up the rope then down the crawls and a left turn up to the top of the 42ft rift. Used the rope to descend then Emma packed it away whilst I returned through the crawl to Maypole Aven and retrieved the ladder. Out after a very enjoyable 3 1/2 hrs.

John Cooper

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July. GB Cavern.

John Cooper, John Cusborne, Emma Gishborne.

'Tourist' trip around the loop and elbow. In via Devil's Elbow and out usual route. Lots of admiring the scenery en-route. One large Stag Beetle retrieved. 1 3/4 hrs.

John Cusborne.

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July Longwood Valley Sents

Ali Moody, Pete Buckley, John Cooper, Geoff Newton

@ Clearing rocks & mud, mostly mud. Working in relays, getting 12 buckets of taking to foot of rift, then all move up and transport stuff to surface. Then repeat ad nauseam. Drought still a bit elusive then banged a boulder or two.

4 1/2 hours @ N

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2014 - Buddle's Wad shaft 9

Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson.

Surveyed from Stal Chamber to The Upper Chamber in West Series North. The ongoing squeeze (an extremely tight angle over a drop) looked horribly tight and was left for the next trip. We then surveyed the last remaining section (a lower ~~one~~) option using the Hole in the Floor.

of West Series South. The cave is now a very  
respectable 503m in length with probably about  
100-150m still to survey.

A. Moody.

Wednesday 23rd July - Longwood Valley Sunk.

Pete Buckley + Ali Moody.

A useful afternoon spent draught testing with Magic Smoke.  
A charge laid and set off before leaving.

Ali Moody.

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July - LVS

Pete Buckley, John Cooper, Emma Gisborne, Ali Moody, & Geoff Wain.

Spent ages, er, waiting.....

Pulled out spoil from previous bangs & tried to find a sensible way  
forward. Underground crew got cold (there's a cold cold draught), surface  
crew got bitten by horseflies. Charges laid to widen the ongoing  
narrow rift.

Also had a quick look @ T1 - in comparison, this is a small ongoing  
passage for at least 5m.

Back, earlier, for tea & cake in the den. 3 hrs. Pet

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2014 Swilder's Hole.

John Cooper, Emma Gisborne, John Gisborne &  
Barry Weaver.

Went and looked longingly down Shatter Pat.  
1 1/2 hrs. John Cooper

Tuesday 29 July 2014 - Longwood Valley Sunk

Ali Moody + Pete Buckley

Assessed the bottom dug (Tennis Ball left) and

did some clearing. Work with hammer in the upper  
dug - Triassic Tunnel and then laid and set off charge.  
Sweat working in Longwood Valley putting in walking posts.

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014 - Svirildon's Hole Ali Moody.  
John Cooper and Emma Gisborne went in Short Dry  
Way. All the troubles were low and no bailing required.  
There was an air space at Spring One. We went out the  
Wet Way.

On entering the cone climbing down into Binnie's Link  
Emma dislodged a large toast which John rescued and  
put back above ground. 2 hours  
Emma Gisborne

Friday 1st August 2014. Longwood Valley Sink.  
John Cooper, Emma Gisborne, John Gibbons.  
Mechanical trip to WS for the purposes of cutting  
every battery for Triassic Tunnel. The usual strat/  
fresh air through the cone. 30 minutes. John G.

SAT 02 Aug. Noel Cleave + 2 Grandsons, Cameron +  
Sebastian (both 12) en-route to camp! Beth Swinton  
"Veteran" of several trips to 20. After at his camp  
down from Barnes into the area, Cameron laid the backless  
and slid down into the stream when he was  
shooked, bowed & proffered. About us now is a  
bullet hole, moments later, Andy Sparrow and a  
mob of hairy leeches appeared, the cavity, no less!  
They promptly bailed him out with Barnes and for  
the we ambled straight out. There was now  
melon hairy musla on the 20, too. 3 hours  
of excitement and adventures for! Mod

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2014. Longwood Valley Sink  
Pete Buckley, John Cooper, Emma Gilborne, John Gilborne,  
Chris Milne & Ali Moody.

1x3m + 1x3.5m length of conveyor belting transported  
across & installed in first part of Triassic Tunnel. Stop  
at the S-bend at present.

All rocks removed from bottom dig.

Most debris removed from end of Triassic Tunnel until  
sufficient space to turn round.

2x Big holes drilled on left & 2x Small holes on right  
before debris created. 3 hours.

John Cooper

2 August. Dry Caving - again? I could do 2 I did. Down to  
20, out through the Dry and Zig Zag. (Have they really got harder  
since 1958?) Think to ask more for nursing me. (and ~~James~~<sup>Jerems</sup> and John.)  
man.

SAT. 2nd August 2014. SPIDER HOLE

Adrian Vanderplank, Nik-Nak, Pete Hana, Syntan, Nigel Graham  
(Jude was helping the "Try Caving" trips). Further general  
lowering of the floor of the shaft that's become the current dig  
face, in calcified boulders. More mortar in walls. *dy*

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2014 SWILDON'S HOLE

John Cooper, John Gilborne, Chris Milne & Barry Weaver.  
To Sump II. In the Dry Way, out the Wet Way. Strong  
draught blowing out of Sump I. 1 1/2 hours.

John Cooper

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2014

+ Maurice

Andy Morse, Jeremy Rawlings and Jon Wetherall. Having  
1<sup>st</sup> Goutchuck followed by Swildons. 1<sup>st</sup> cave for Jon.  
Trip to Goutchuck, in ~~brodeur~~ entrance down to drain pipe.  
Got as far as the descian ~~to~~ metal work. Out the end of  
entrance. Stopped for an ice cream before continuing  
down Swildons. Picked up Maurice on the way. Down  
zig zags and short dry to 20' pitch. Out via long dry  
way.

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2014

Andy Morse, Jeremy Rawlings and Jon Wetherall.

G-B cave. In through Devil's Elbow, quite tight.  
We then did the round trip coming out the  
blasted passage.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August

Noel & Pete Buckley, John Cooper & Becky Yates. Swildon's Hole.

Quick tourist trip via Lay Dry Way & then down to Sump I. Return at  
Wet Way. 2 1/2 hrs.

First visit to Sump I for Noel & Becky - they'll be back for  
more, once they can move again. It was really just ~~Billings~~ ~~Pete~~ ~~noon~~

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2014 Line Kilm Dig

Aubrey Newport drilling, Barry Wilkinson filling buckets,  
John Cooper hauling up pit, Wayne Starnore sweeping to  
tubs, Adrian Vanderplank hauling up the conveyor and adding  
to bottom of railway, Tim Wallace hauling up railway the  
Roger Robinson & Daryl Zittel hauling to surface for Tom  
to build patio. Abby <sup>chever</sup> visited to see Aubrey drilling.  
All spoil moved to surface before Aubrey created more. Char.  
Jul Cooper

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2014. Souldon's Hole.

John Cooper, Aubrey Wainwright & Colin Shapter AN drilled 3  
holes at the end of Rolling Thunder ready for a late night visit  
1 1/2 hours John Cooper

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2014 - Buddle's Wood.

Ali Moody + Lee Hawkeswell.

Evening surface survey trip to tie in Shafts 3, 4, 5, 6  
~~6, 7, 8, 9~~ 7, 8B + 8C.

A. Moody

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2014 - Longwood Valley Sink.

Pete Buckley + Ali Moody

Cleared the workface at the end of Tmassic Tunnel. Two  
metres of progress has been made since the stinking Pool.  
Holes drilled and various charges put in. Very  
appreciative Cheddar residents on the surface. 4 hours.

Ali Moody.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2014 - Longwood Valley Sink

John Cooper, John Osborne, Emma Osborne, Chris Milne,  
Pete Buckley + Ali Moody

An excellent days work. The spoil from two sets  
of charges removed to the surface. Another 2.5m of  
conveyer belt put in giving us a superb 9m long  
slide (more difficult on the exit). Further holes drilled and  
charges put in. 5 hour session.

Ali Moody.

Wednesday

~~Thursday~~ 13 August 2014 - Head's Cavern.

Andrew Atkinson.

Another long surveying session. We have now finished

all the passages below splash Pot. Updated length of the cave is now 1,100m. Hopefully just one more session to complete the cave.

Ali Moody.

Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> August LVS

Pete Beckley + Ali Moody

Cleared spoil to reveal dig face. Lots of damage done - so lots of spoil moved. Charges laid left + right to increase working space. About 4 hrs. felt

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2014 - Sludge Pit (2 1/2 hrs)

John Cooper and Emma Gibson went in down the ladder (belaying each other). Then into Strike Chamber and had a look down back Passage - retraced our steps. Into Aquareite Rift climbing down into Main Rift ending up at the sidrup. Back up main rift to fault Passage - climbing up into the Maze. On then to Triple Arch past Cheddar dig and entering Four Pots Rift traversing back to the Maze. Up Tributary Passage to look at the other side of 'Shale Series' chole. Back up Tributary Passage down Linlet Inlet to the end. Then down Skeleton Passage down both branches admiring the muddy grotto down the left hand branch. Back along Tributary Passage to the Maze climbed up <sup>goreled</sup> rifty passage to other side of Shale Series chole. Back to Boulder Chamber and back up ladder pitch (life lining each other back up). Survey proved very useful - really interesting trip reversing on normal routes.

Emma

Saturday 16 August Longwood Valley Link  
Alison Morley, John Weyler, John Kirkman, Geoff Newton  
Cleaning soil from Triassic Tunnel, then hanging again.  
4 1/2 hours  
Geoff Newton.

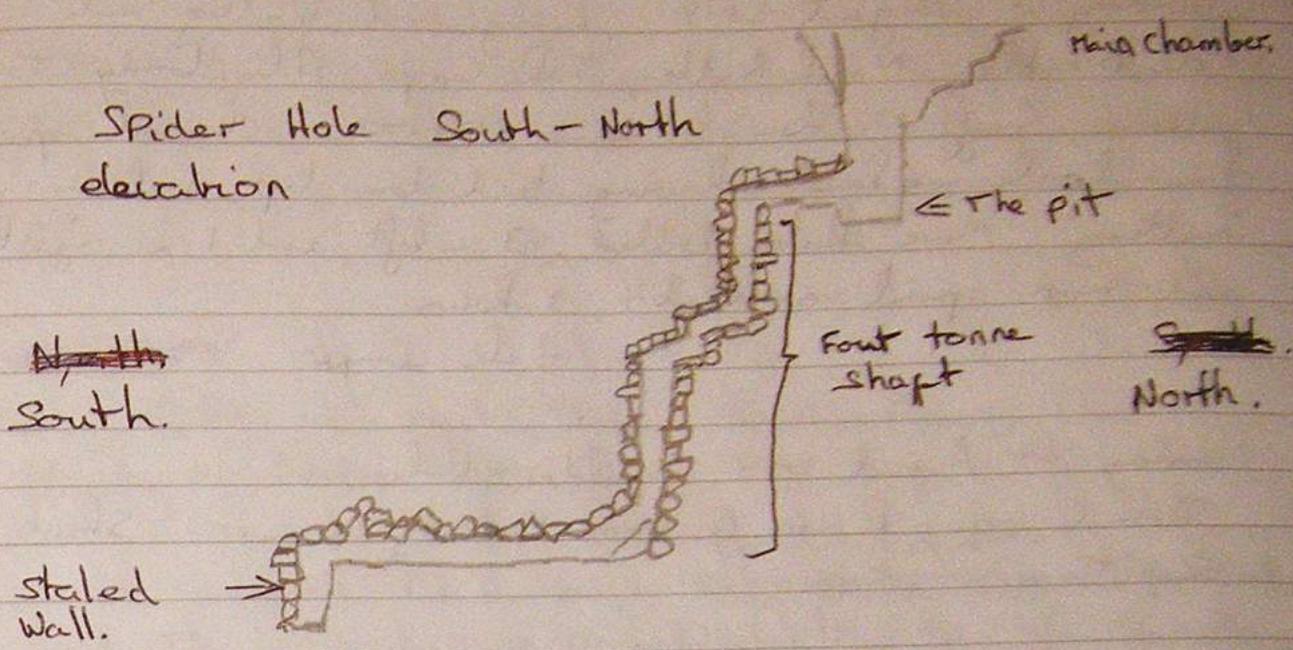
16/8/14 Beauty of the Beast, Eastwater Cavern.

It's been a while since I was last here, the unpleasantness of the harness now forgotten and needing some SRT Practice, Bpats via Twin Verticals beckoned. Andrew Tamasz and I went down the dry entrance through the boulder chamber to the Cavern. From there the 1st vertical was rigged. I elected to only wear a harness as the squeeze between pitches had probably shrunk. Full haul sledged for the 2nd Vertical and a full descent was made. A very pleasant fee hang. The squeeze out into the aboos was smaller than I remember but got through ok. Quick trip round the aboos and Bpats and then out. Trip time about 3hrs  
Richard Coe. A

16/8/14. Spider Hole, cheddar.

Jude Underplank, Pek Hann, Adrian Underplank  
More digging, At present we are approximately  
4 metres down in the new bottom shaft.  
East & West walls are solid, about 1.2 metres  
apart. South wall, heavily staled rocks, and north  
side, large rocks which have required cement.  
Draft still coming out from the floor. The  
way on is still downwards, with the boulders getting  
much larger with enticing gaps!

Spider Hole South-North elevation



Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2014 Spider's Hole  
 John Cooper & Barry Weaver. Shatter Pit. BW was successful in passing the squeeze so we ambled along as far as the first duck. 2 1/4 hours.  
 John Cooper

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2014, GB Cave.  
 Buckley, John Cooper & Jay Hemmings.  
 A photography trip to the Straw gallery at the top of Great Chamber. To add to the complication, on a previous trip, Jay didn't fit through the letterbox squeeze. Today, we dropped a ladder/life down the alternative route.  
 Had a quiet foot break admiring the straws. Took lots of photos (not) & then beat a hasty retreat. *Pete*  
 ps: you need batteries to make a flash/cave work.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2014 Hagwood Valley Sub  
Pete Buckley, Nick Butler, John Cooper, Ali Moody, John  
Gibson, Geoff Newton & Sam Storrar. Cleared spoil  
from last weekend having tied down top sections of  
matting. More holes drilled, 3 on left and 1 on right,  
and more spoil created. 3 hours.  
John Cooper

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2014 Sniddar's Hole  
John Cooper, Emma Gibson & Barry Weaver. Short trip  
to Sup II. 1 1/2 hours.  
John Cooper

SUNDAY 24 August GB.  
Nick & Sam (prospective new members) took Dave for a look  
round GB. Down to ladder dig, looked at the fossils, played  
on the rock bridge, idled away 2 hours...  
Nick, Sam, Dave & B

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2014 Line K In Dig - Sam STORRAR,  
Dave Bennett, Nick Butler, John Cooper, Hulweg Newport  
& Davy Wilkinson. All spoil cleared to surface and  
then more created. 2 hours.  
John Cooper

24 & 25<sup>th</sup> Repairing driveway wall, at least its tidy now  
Balfourford.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2014 - Buddle's Wood.  
Pete Buckley, Andrew Atkinson, Ali Moody, James + Edward  
Waldegrave.

A tourist trip to show Edward Waldegrave some of the  
passage (Main Passage South) in shaft 9. This was the  
third trip down for James Waldegrave who is now 73.

Then all of us except for James down Shaft 7 to visit the boulder chamber and the mixed level off the side of this. Fairly quick trip due to two extremely smelly dead mice en route - so we didn't hang around.

A. Moody

Wednesday 20th August 2014 - Lead's Cavern.

Ali Moody + Andrew Atkinson

A trip to complete the survey - ~~the trial 2 sections~~ <sup>the trial 2 sections</sup> the Grotto area and then down to the bottom of the Boulder Maze off Zed Alley and continued the work in the middle heading towards the MNRC Chambers. Dug into a new chamber and also pushed on through an extremely loose unstable area where we had stopped at the previous survey trip. Think that this whole area should be called Death Wish. About 100m in total surveyed during the day and the final length of Lead's is around 1,200m.

A. Moody

Monday 28th August 2014. - Buefelles 9.

Ali Moody, John Ceepe, John Gibbons.

The trip began with a descent of Shaft 9 to install some guide tapes around the flowstone on the RWS of Main Passage South. Some additional taping was also completed at higher level in the Pine Riff. Some cleaning of the flowstone then followed and further cleaning and fency off of a nest of birds above the Main Chamber South. On entry, the other shafts were labelled to document the ongoing survey project. Last trip of the season and happy days Ali! John G. 2 hours.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2014

Eastwater Cavern

Dave Barnett and Nick Butler. Cross roads, Dolphin pit,  
as far as Dolphin Pitch. Returned via the ~~we~~

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2014 - GB

Tim Rose, Allan Kingshott, Matt Waddler

straight forward route over bridge, along the ledge & round  
the corner to get to the bottom of ladder dig. Once  
up the ladder & through puddle we entered the boulders.  
First mission - find Disappointment chamber ✓

Second Mission - find the route into Great chamber near the  
entrance to Disappointment chamber ✓ - This is  
easier than the usual squeeze or scary climb options (if  
you can find it).

finally went to the end of Bat passage for good measure.  
Out the usual way.

Took lots of photo's in Great & Disappointment chambers

At no point did Matt poo his pants today. Luckily as  
Tim.

it was Tim's spare suit.  
Farted in it loads though! ☺

Tuesday 26 August: Swildons Swamp one trip.

Ben, Jo, Mark, Dave B.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2014. Spider Hole

John Cooper & Geoff Newton. Geoff's first time in.  
It looks very interesting with all the calcified walls  
at the bottom. How.

John Cooper. . . .

Same trip - Pete Harr, Nigel Graham. Short trip to  
install steps for aerial ropeway for spoil-hauling. Crawl very  
sluggish. Quick inspection of dig face then out for tea & cakes.

*[Signature]*

Sunday 31st August - 2014. Langued Valley Sink  
John Tisborne, John Cooper, Geoff Newton, Barry Weaver  
+ Oli Hoody.

More of the usual! Clear, drill and bang. A little  
more forward progress each week. :)

Oli Hoody.

TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2014 - READS CAVERN

Quick look around entrance chamber and familiarised  
myself with route options. Nick Butler

TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2014 - BATH SWALLET → RODS POT

P.M. - JOINED Tom, Marie and Alex of T.C.C. for through trip.  
Went well so followed it up with a trip down DRUNKARDS  
~~Start~~ climb back up hampered greatly by kit bag. Nick.

WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2014 - G.B. - NICK, GRAHAM + CO.

Down the gorge, over the bridge, White Passage, Rumba  
Alley, Bertie's Pot, Oxbow to the sump then straight back  
to the top.

SAT 30 Aug @ Geoff Draenen

Trip to Dollimore Series. Into The Black, Yellow Jar, Nicola's  
Grotto, Squawling Pig.

Nicola's Grotto is very pretty & worth visiting; low crawl to very  
end in low collapsed roof route.

8hrs Dave B. & Malcolm Reid (B.C.C.)

WED 3RD SEPT. NICK (SAR ABOVE WITH GARY) + I (16 HANDBOOK) CARRIED LEADWORK FROM CARPARK  
BOUNDARY BY GATEWAY TO GRASS AT DISTANCE TO DRIVEWAY. ONLY SEVERAL AT THE CORNER. WITH

THURS 4TH SEPT. SWEEP ALL OF THE FLOOR IN LOUNGE/DINING + KITCHEN. WASHED TABLES  
BOTH ROOMS.

05/09/14 Swildon's Hole (2 hours)

John Cooper and Emma Cusborne went in the short day in rigging the 20. On then around the Short Round Trip. Bailed the first trouble for 15 minutes. Prior to that I followed JMC straddling the Blue Pencil Rift for a change still an airspace at the Sump - out the Wet Way.

06/09/14 Upper Eastwater roundtrip

Charlotte Hilton

With a roughly traced survey in pocket I was determined to at long last find my way round... and I did! Great trip, always brings back fond memories of the early days and late night trips, involving singing, pushing various canyons through Hallelujah Hole!

06/09/14 Charterhouse Cave

Pete Buckley, John Cooper, Pete Hann & Geoff Newton.

Carried in ladder and 1 2.5Kg lead weight. Checked the state of Portal Pool - open but we syphoned it dry anyway. On to Diesel Duck - about 30cm of airspace through. Downstream a channel was taking a bit of water from DD. Quickrand Chamber had water right round and the lower way in was completely sumped. Continued on to Skeleton Passage to check if the floods had done anything. Approaching the static sump we found the Purple gardening bucket - it had been washed through Quickrand Chamber sump and was wedged in an undercut on the right in Skeleton Passage. The sump had damaged a bit but still felt to be open under water. Left the lead weight on the right hand wall just down from the bottom of the SP Patch - Slow trip out. 5 1/2 hours.

John Cooper

ps Steamy photos of DD area taken.

06/09/14. Longwood Summit.

Highly Sporting Trip.

THE PLAN WAS TO DIVE THE SUMP IN LONGWOOD SUMMIT.  
AFTER A FEW WISE WORDS FROM THE <sup>MADE</sup> SENIOR MEMBERS  
IT WAS DECIDED TO DROP THE DIVE GEAR & SIMPLY  
"LOOK" AT THE SUMP. GOOD PROGRESS WAS MADE  
BUT WHEN PUSH CAME TO SHARE ~~THE~~ REYNOLDS PASSAGE  
NEARLY IS EXTREMELY ~~VERY~~ TIGHT & RATHER SINISTER.

I NEARLY DO NOT KNOW HOW THOSE EARLY DIVERS GOT  
THEIR DIVE GEAR IN LET ALONG THEMSELVES. WE SLIGHTLY  
REDEEMED OURSELVES BY ~~HAVE~~ HAVING A LOOK AT  
THE CRIBS FOR FURTHER POSSIBLE ~~EXPLORATION~~ EXPLORATIONS, WE ALSO  
MANAGED TO FINISH OFF ~~THE~~ WITH A ROUND TRIP WITH LONGWOOD  
AUGUST... WITH BAGS... PROPER ARO ;).

CHAIKE COHEN

KEV MILTON.

07/09/14 Suildon's Hole.

John Cooper, John Gibbons & Barry Weaver.

Shatter Pat. JG went and looked at Barry the  
other side of the squeeze. Decided to leave it to  
another day. 2"4 hours.

John Cooper

16. August Holme Bank Mine

I had a Lovley dive at Holme bank it was just  
Lovley it was nice to meet up with Jason P & Pickle  
I all ways love diving here Really nice conditions  
Mad Fi°

SAT 23rd Aug Hodge close

I had a Lovley time diving for 2 days at  
Hodge it was my first visit to this

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2014 Eastwater Cavern.

Pete Buckley, John Cooper, Gary Kieley, Geoff Newton, Chris Seal & Kevin Turner.

In via Upper Traverse, Baker's Chimney Bypass, Dolphin Pat / Pitch, Bald Step, Muddy Oxbow. Out via 13 Pat, Windpipe & Wobble Pass. A very enjoyable 3 1/2 hour trip.

John Cooper.

SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DINAS MINE

I had a wonderful Dive into DINAS Today with Rupert, Gary and Nick, it was just beautiful wow it was so clear - we dived along the bottom section and some of the other levels - it was amazing to see the other 2 divers going along their chosen line and I could see their torches it looked like they were in air space but they were underwater it was so clear looking forward to next weekend it was lovely to make 3 new friends in the process.

NICK, RUPERT, GARY & MAD FI<sup>o</sup>

FRIDAY 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014. Swildon's Hole

Richard Carey, John Cooper & Emma Gishome.

A gentle amble to Shatter Pat, Descended and went as far as the First Duck. All still very dry. 2 1/4 hours.

John Cooper

→ → → → → Walk this way for Hodge close

Saturday 20th September 2014 Longwood Valley Sink.  
John Cooper, Ali Moody, Pete Buckley, Geoff Newson + John  
Oisbarn.

A useful session clearing the spoil from three  
weeks ago. The workface is ~~becoming~~ <sup>becoming</sup> very awkward  
to clear as the roof is dipping down. Several large  
shot holes drilled including 2 in the roof, to make  
more headroom. We are now 3 body lengths beyond  
Stinking Pool (but we are not defining those body  
length!).

30 minutes was then spent clearing out the Main  
Sink as this was fairly dry. This is now looking  
pretty clear in preparation for autumn and the leaf  
fall.

Ali Moody.

20 September 2014 Spider Hole  
Ade + Sude Vanderplank - Pete Hadden  
1 Bucket Cement and Mixture of Caps  
PH

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2014 Swilder's Hole.  
John Cooper & Barry Weaver.

A leisurely trip to Sump I, which isn't a  
sump at all at present as there is a 10cm  
airspace (about 80cm wide). No one else  
seen in the cave. Just over an hour

John Cooper

→ → → → and Dinosaurs. Sorry for Long (3)

Hodge Close Sat & Sun 23rd/24th

Site. I arrived at Hodge early on the Sat morning I had driven all night long to get here. I took a little while to find it then I finally arrived - it was a beautiful day and the sun was shining - it was silent and not a soul around for miles I found a spot to park up and worked out where I needed to go - it took a good while to get all the kit to the dive base. I got kitted up and entered the dark water. I swam over to the point I needed to drop down to find the start of the mine entrance the slowly descended into the murky water - to begin with I was a bit disappointed as it was groggy and very dark but as I went deeper I was delighted as it cleared giving stunning vis at 24m - I dived along the main passage enjoying the stunning vis and the different points along the way I spent 2 days diving in and outside the mine. I really enjoyed my time here and cannot wait to go back.

Mad Fi<sup>o</sup>

Mon 25th Aug Hurtle POT

On my way back from Hodge I could not resist a re visit to Hurtle I have always loved this dive site. When it's in good conditions it's stunning a real treat to dive but good vis is rare. The sun was out on Sun eve so went to have a look and it was like dark tea with 1m vis so told myself it would improve by morning so next morning did the slippery slide with all my kit to the entrance it was 0700h and very quiet. The vis had not improved but was going for a dive anyway.

So kitted up and descended into the blackness slowly descending down the slope and into the tunnel. The vis was now down to half m I kept going for a while towards the wall but decided that was far enough for today with not much to see so headed back out. Usually on my return up the rubble slope the sun shines down and for the last 6 to 7 years I can see daylight but today it was a dark wall of blackness right to the surface - Looking forward to returning when conditions are good for a nicer dive there. -

Mad Fi°

### SAT 30th Aug Dinas Mine

I had a lovely dive today with Mike W it was a beautiful day and the best dive I have ever had there we did the kit carry and arrived at dive base and I laxed the line to the start of the main dive line and dived down to the bottom sections at 23m deep and enjoyed the stunning vis. It was crystal clear god it was just amazing as I slowly glided along the passages looking at the different trapping left behind from years ago wow it was just sheer delight to be there well worth all the toil to get here. I finished my dive and left the line in place for Mike to do his dive he did his dive and brought the line out. It was a fabul's day to remember.

### SUN 7th Sept Priddams Lee Devon

Today was a lovely day the sun was out and I had 2 good friends with me Lucy Greenwood

## Priddams Lee Continued

x Mike Waterworth and Little Max too. We all arrived and packed up and they kindly helped me get all the kit through the cave to the Sump pool. Wow the mud is the best of Devon's mud. It Lush getting into every crevice nothing prevents its advance. I kitted up at the beautiful pool and entered the water. The pool muddied up very quickly but as I swam out it cleared into beautiful vis stunning. I descended the line down to 24m then came on through the tunnel. He ascended the line up into part 2, it was lovely really pretty and could see the wire ladder hanging there. I swam around and then descended back down, the vis was just amazing, I could see different liners going off. I headed back along the tunnel and Stanley ascended the line and was just really enjoyed being there on my ascent I could hear a really loud rumbeling it was my bubbles. What a lovely place I must revisit again. Soon for another dose of Good old Devon Mud  
Mad Fi° Lucky Greenwood, Michel Waterworth

13/9/14 Fester Hole Maurice and Tomas plus ~~John~~ Jim William and Emily to inspect progress. Jim agreed that it is more promising than time felt! We made about 2ft forward progress following the roof. Interesting diversion when a ~~large~~ large boulder which Tomas was excavating fell rather sooner than intended and he held his leg against the wall. At the end of the session we pushed a metal stake into the roof through soft fill for over 1½ ft. (some geologists don't think metric.)  
Rock 1      TOMMO O

23/09/2014. S. Willbert + SWAUST.  
Auson Meeley, John Cooper, John Gibbons  
Amet and old route via ledge patches to Mud Hall.  
From visited Pillar Chamber and through to Boulder Chamber.  
From Upper Traverse Chamber we visited Heaven Passage to  
the Railway Tunnel. Saw the Cesteebe (Marvellous with  
Meeley crew). Climbed up to the Cesteebe, back to  
Curtain Chamber. Everest Passage to the finger. Down  
streaming to Cavern Series + Cavern Hall. Returned  
via the Swan. Highest passage to Travers Chamber.  
Up the Watermeet to Lower Mud Hall, Mud Hall and  
end. Totally amazing trip. Thanks to John + Ali. 2 hrs.

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2014. S. Willbert's Hole  
Richard Carey, John Cooper & Emma Gibbons.  
A trip to the Black Hole somewhat metamorphosed  
into a Sump II trip. 1 1/2 hours.  
John Cooper

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September LVS  
John Meeley, Ali Cooper, Moody, John Cooper, John Gibbons & a  
guest appearance by Chris Carling (CASS).  
Huge amount shifted today! Dig face finally exposed, so we  
stopped, made holes in the roof & finished off. Nice to be able to  
turn ~~the~~ around & knock up at the dig face. More of the same  
next week. 4 hours. JH

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014 S. Willbert's Hole  
Chris Carling, John Cooper & John Gibbons. Went to the  
side of u-tube. About 10 am airpax at present. 2 1/2 hours.  
John Cooper

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Leppwood Valley Sink.  
Ari Moody, John Cooper, Pete Buckley, Geoff Newton  
John Cusicko.

The usual crew assembled to make yet more progress. Approximately fifty buckets shuffled of dry, fine material and medium sized rocks from the roof. Not much forward progress made today as the main objective had been to generate more working space in the roof. It is possible to see forward approximately six metres. 4 hours.  
John C.

4<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Spider Hole.

Nigel Graham, Aubrey Newport, John Hill, John Riley,  
Adrian & Jude Vaneyleak, (Surface Sand transporter Barry  
Wilkinson)

Another 24 bags of sand taken down the cave, John Hill &  
John Riley to the very bottom to look at our progress.  
then out for tea & cake!

5<sup>th</sup> October 2014 Sludge Pit

John Cooper, Emma Gilborne & Geoff Newton

Having left Geoff in Strike Chamber to root about Emma  
& John wandered about the rest of the cave. Emma moaned  
and moaned about all the crawling today & needed lots  
of cajoling. Back to find Geoff & then looked at  
the end of Back Passage - there was a nice sound  
of a streamway (very small) at the end and a nice  
draught coming out. 1/2 hour.

John Cooper

10th October 2014

Sludge Pit Geoff Newton

The intention was to dig for a while, then do a mini-tourist trip afterward. However ended up doing a mini-tourist before as well, missing the route to the dig (I found it first time last week!)

The dig is at the choke at the end of the descending tube in the floor of the chamber. Moving mud and rocks has opened up a view of what may be a passage with a trickle of water running right to left. Uphill is "open", downhill is partially blocked with stones. More work needed before I can tell if the "passage" is diggable upstream and possible upstream 4 1/2 hrs, G-N

11th October 2014

Longwood Valley Sink

Pete Buckley, John Coops, John Gilbourne, Ali Moody & Geoff Newton - joined at the end by Rich Witeader on the surface. 45 skips of spoil removed the more created. 4 hours.

John Coops

10 Oct 2014 Ogof Braeuen

Another trip to a dig site with a draught. Cleared out by hand, to the point where more than just hands are needed!

As an aside.... the crawls in Drwys Cefn entrance have been enlarged making it easier to enter Wyvern Extensions.

Tu 8hrs Dave Barrett & Mark Reed (Brynauw CC)

12th October 2014

Sludge Pit Geoff Newton

Continuing on the same dig as Friday. No route finding problems this time. Made good progress but still unsure if it will be a viable dig. Still unexplored and awkward. There is a passage but it may be too small. Time will tell. 4 hrs (plus 1 hr getting all the mud off me, my gear and the tangle!) ~~off my feet~~ G-N

DINAS MINE Sat 11th & Sun 12th

Well that was a wonderful weekend at Swcc  
Sat morning started promptly at 9am in the  
Dinas Car park and meeting up with Kev and  
Clare. <sup>& Josh & Leon</sup> a little kit shuffle and we were on our  
first walk up to the mine. half way up and the  
heavens opened. Wow they opened wide and the  
Hose pipe was on full felt we all got a good  
soaking and finally made it with the first load  
of kit - back to the cars for the second wave and  
all good - all kitted up and headed in with me  
laying the line to join the main line. main line  
found and attached and off we all went. Wee caverns  
mesurless to man. The vis was not so good at the  
shallower levels but stunning as one ventured deeper  
in and towards the end - o how I love my torch. Its  
like a floodlight lighting up the whole passage so you  
can see all the old workings and fine details.  
It make you wonder about all the workers and the  
working mine. Stowley gliding through the passage.  
Its an amazing and stunning in its own  
unique way. ~~It was~~ Day 2 Wee the weather  
was better making the double trip. Much nicer  
under foot another lovely cave. Many thanks  
to Michel Waterworth for helping me with my  
kit. Top chap. (i)

Mad Fi°. Dave, Kev. & Josh on Sat

Oct 7th Car Park Dig Hunkers' Lodge Inn Sink 1hr 3/4  
Terry Water & J. Sanderson

Oct 14th SWINDON SOUTHEAST INLETS 2hr 35

My 71st birthday trip. Went the sump into Renaissance  
showed 2" of air space. Previously in France during August-

Grotte de Garnie 1 1/2 hrs.

Gouffre de Briant 1 1/2 hrs. Turned back due to foul air and the low crawl after the second ladder being flooded. Place decorated with flowers! Event du Mirandol. Guide book says it's permanently rigged - it wasn't! Therefore ran out of gear to rig to main drain

Saut de Pucelle - enjoyable as always. / Waller D. Seider

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2014 Lime Kiln Dig

John Cooper, Chris George, Aubrey Newport, Colin Sleater, John (Tommy) Thomas & Barry Wilkinson.

Spoil removed from face to bottom of ladder; spoil removed from bottom of railway to surface patio; more spoil created at face. 1 1/2 hours.

John Cooper

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2014 Swildon's Hole

Richard Carey, John Cooper, Emma Gilborne, Chris Seal & Wayne Starnmore. Water gradually creeping up but still an airspace through Sump I. Did the Bold Step into Approach Passage then along and down the 11ft drop and finally down the 14m climb to the bottom of the 10ft drop. Back on the surface after 2 1/2 hours.

John Cooper

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2014 Sludge Pit GN

Continued on digging down through mud & stones. Gained access to an open stream passage!! A tight rift upstream. Downstream progress was stopped by a low arch, made lower by the slurry of mud I had disturbed, after about 2m.

The stream is a similar size to the one at the end of Back Passage, but I think they are different / separate, certainly as we had got through to Back Passage stream when I looked I will return when the stream has had a chance to clear the

mud, but it will be very awkward to dig. Back Passage is probably a better bet but is definitely a long term project.  
5 1/2 hrs. GN

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October

Spider Hole.

Andrew Atkinson, Nik Nak, Jude Vulp & Acl Vulp

Digging & Surveying

Total depth 85.71 metres.

Length 136.36 metres.

Nik Nak spent some time breaking boulders at the bottom, looking good!!

Adrain Vulp.

19. sandy Pool Down. Severe Hangover. Vulgaris so took it into swallows to frighten it. Met More and Tully got inside the entrance and they said I had the cave to myself. Lies all lies but usefully I met a rump-bound party of cove just below the Old Grate, so begged leave to follow them to 20 and then verify the integrity of their ladder. Did so. Ladder was fine. On my way back from the rump I met deep above Barnes Loop so they must have taken edge on the 20. There is 4 or 5 ends of arropae in the rump. Back to UP and found Hangover missing. Noel.

24<sup>th</sup> October Friday Sledge Pitt Hole G Newton

Formerly the dig was cramped, awkward and muddy.

Now it is cramped, awkward, muddy and wet!! The small stream flows under a low arch and the sound of falling water seems to be coming from ahead. However digging has now created a mud  
↑  
PS. This was an illusion! It came from behind!

rump, so losing the sound of falling water. Up to now I have been making good progress but it will be very difficult from now on.  
4 hr. hr GN.

25/10/14. SPIDER HOLE

Ade + Jude Vdp, Pete Hann, Richard Marlow, Nigel Graham.  
Useful session - more rocks out, more cement in. The shaft down to the present dig face is cold & drippy.  
if

25/10/2014 Longwood Valley Sunk.

Pete Buckley, Geoff Newton, John Coops + Ali Moody.  
Steady progress - more of the same - down, drill + bang  
We are probably about 3m away from a steady drip  
- once reached, our nice dry dig will probably turn into a muck hole.

Ali Moody

25/10. Suddons 1. Bob Pyke, Steve, Oscar (Son-in-law + Grandson) Noel, Grant, etc. A Baptism for Oscar, his first coming to top.  
Cave moderately crowded but no real hold-up on the way down or back. Thoroughly enjoyable & sunny. This was also Grant's first trip into Suddons for about 20 years.  
Noel

26/10/14 Sledge Pit Hole

Geoff Newton

Located more starting space. Going to need it in future  
2hr GN.

23rd OCT Holme Bank mine

Had a Louley Dive into Holme Bank today Water Levels quite low Mad Fi Rupert

24th OCT Hodge Close

Had A Louley Dive to the end and back at Hodge Close Brilliant Vs. Louley place

Mad Fi Rupert

SAT 25th ABERLASS mine (LOST) mine / CAMBRIAN

I had a stunning dive today into Aberlass Lost mine. We all slowly took the kit down and had some fun sliding around down the slope then after a couple of trips we finally all got here including Sash's Scooter. John laid the jump line to the start of the main line. To begin with the sump pool was a rich dark chocolate colour so we all carefully felt our way down to the main line got onto this and for a few meters more it was chocolate. Then it like curtains lifting it cleared and the vis was Louley - this was my first dive following this line as have always been used to 6m blue polly line so it was good to be doing something different. We all glided through the passages and it was Louley to see all the things along the passages after 250m in we arrived at the staircase and John laid a line back to the staircase wow it was a stunning site its beautiful we all got to the bottom and then turned to begin the swim out. a real treat but a serious place too as there is a layer of silt everywhere and 1 incorrect fin stroke and zero vis would be here in a second but everones buoyancy was brilliant so the stunning vis continued for the return trip too. Many thanks to John Carter & Sash London for a Louley tour of Lost mine. Thanks Ian France for your surface support & help with all the kit mad fi 😊

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014 Swildon's Hole

John Cooper, Emma Gisborne & Barry Weaver.  
Went and peered down Vicarage Pot and into  
Wet East Squeeze. Left them both for another time.  
Lots of people in the cave; still airspace through  
Sump I. Rescued an adult frog from the Wet Way  
on the way out. 1 3/4 hours.

John Cooper

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Hunters Hole

Down Sago Pot for SRT practice. Terry Waller & Derek Sanderson. 1hr 35

Tues. 28<sup>th</sup> SWILDONS. VICARAGE POT

Good trip saved the climb up the spikes for another day. Held up a little on way  
out re rigging the 20 for another party of 4. Only trouble krabs they left didn't fit the Group!  
Terry Waller & Derek Sanderson. 2hrs 25 mins

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014 Sledge Pit Hole Geoff Newton  
It seems that the water is not going under the low arch ahead but  
is going under the right hand wall. Not the direction I wanted it  
to take. Tried wearing a wet suit as things have got rather wet  
and muddy. Unfortunately it's an old wet suit which fell  
apart so it but fied! 3 dr. G.N.

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 Eastwater Cavern 4 1/2 hours

Tim Rose, Matt Wadler, Allan Kingshott, Mike Gornley

Trip to finally find Regent Street & Warden Street.

In through the traverses & Hallebyjoh hole. Down dolphin  
pitch / pot. No route finding issues. The wet crawl was  
fine. Matt nearly sat on a stal repeatedly (which he would  
have enjoyed very much). Out via the canyon & wobble pass.  
Great trip.

Tim.

Saturday 1st November. Longwood Valley Sink.  
Aidan Moody, John Coope, Pete Buckley, Geoff Newton  
John Gishborne, Jake Parrish. 4.5 hrs.

The team assembled and arrived at WS in good  
time and were digging by 11:30. 71 buckets were  
elected by 1:30! At this point and whilst  
drilling underway, the grill was re-fitted on  
the exit ahead of the water, ladder was also  
removed from the lower rift for another day.  
Passage looks clear ahead, trending downwards  
at  $\approx 30^\circ$  to the RHS. Top tube went 16.3 metres.  
John G.

Saturday 1st November

Spider Hole.

Pete Mann & Adrian Vanderplank

Two very large boulders at the bottom reduced  
to bucket sized chunks using 209m cord  
& dete.

Adrian Vanderplank.

Sunday 2nd November 2014 Swildon's Hole

John Cooper, Emma Gishborne & Barry Weaver.

Went and peered down the Black Hole. Sump I  
is finally a sump again. 1 1/2 hrs.

John Cooper.

SAT 1ST NOV DINAS Mine

I had a Louley Solo Dive into Dinas  
today. Today, picked a different Route to  
explore it. Was stunning. Vis nice to follow  
a different route on another level. Slowly going

To Cover all of the Levels & Sections in Hole  
Mad Fee

November 4<sup>th</sup>: Sludge Pit on SRT! + other passages hrs 39  
Forced Derek to assess his new stheness as I refused to let him continue using  
his much loved but ragged 1982 one!! Derek Sanderson x Terry Water

Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014

Small trip into Fester B.W. made states with hooks  
interesting  
Tommo + I.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014 Swildon's Hole.  
John Ceep, John Gubbare, Emma Gishorne.  
A pleasant evening trip to Sump II. Water entering from  
Approach Passage area running down walls and cascading  
from above. Fine water was clear. Much colored  
water entering from Leveling Sump and down at  
Sump II. Still air space through Sump I but getting  
more infilled. Steady pace end. 1 1/2 hrs. John G.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014 Sludge Pit Hole GN  
Shifting mud from the streamway. Miserable job! Will soon  
have to put the dig on the back banner until the stream dries up in  
the summer. 3hr

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2014 - Longwood Valley Sink  
John Gishorne, John Coope, Geoff Newton, Pete Buckley,  
Ali Moady, Mike Kousiouris.  
62 buckets of spoil removed. The usual session  
of clearing, drilling and barging. The Longwood stream  
was backing up in Main Sink - hopefully it will  
not overflow.  
A Moady.

8<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Spider Hole.

Peke Hann, Nigel Graham & Adrian Jadyplank

The whole of the bottom half of the cave was wet & drippy.

The bottom of the dig floor has a massive amount of calcite ~~on~~ it, though the water seems to be percolating through it with no problem.

At present we might dig both North and South to see what the rift is doing, and hopefully be digging slightly out of the water.

Interestingly the dig wasn't as wet at the bottom as the main rift would have indicated that it should be, so perhaps we have lost some of the water!

Adrian

Footballfield Mine Swirey Sun 9th Nov 2014

Today I had a very nice dive into Football I visited the dry sections nearly 10 years ago on several visits I knew there was a flooded

Section - so today all these years later was the day for me to dive it. It was a lovely morning and the sun was out. I arrived at the spot and went down the entrance with kit lowering bottles down the 40 foot entrance - Luckily the water is right there to greet you with a few meters from the ladder. Kitted up & laid the line to meet the main line and then headed off East the passages are smaller than other mines but still lovely the vis was crystal I came to the end of the line ~~and~~ to the end of the mine so headed back and took the other line and the passage closed down. I then headed back and headed West for a short time it was a really nice dive. Many thanks to Garry for surface support & help with kit

Mad F, &

PLEASE DON'T PRINT THIS TRIP PASS IN WIPES

PLEASE DON'T PRINT THIS TRIP PASS

8th Nov - 2nd Saturday trip to Chelmscombe  
Quarry Cave.

A very good turnout - 12 of use plus two leaders -  
Tim Rose, Sas Warsm, Allan Kingsett, Tracy, Wayne Starsmore,  
Rich Marlow, Pete Hellier, Laura Everett-cos, Andrea Russ,  
Mark Kellaway, Gary Bell + Jude Vap (Apologies if we got any names  
wrong)  
A big thank you to Paul Skillman & Duncan Price for  
giving up their time to lead us, & to Enzo for sorting  
out the key.

There are three main caves in the quarry, Box is  
quite roomy, with some nice formations, a rather wet  
aven and some muddy sections too. There is a second  
higher entrance but none of our group tried it as  
the face below is rather unfriendly and sheer.  
Reynolds Rift is quite small and not so inviting.

The access to Chelmscombe Quarry Cave is interesting -  
over a wall, along the top of another block wall  
and then a scramble up the rockface, using the  
netting for finger holds. There are some quite pretty  
formations after a fairly small entrance series -  
strangely not everyone went to all parts of the  
caves, but the weather dried up so we could look  
round the quarry, which is interesting - with its  
testing towers still in place. A thoroughly enjoyable  
way to spend a Saturday. J.V. Vap

9th November 2014 - Swildon's Hole (3 1/2 hours)

Geoff Newton, Barry Weaver and Emma Airborne went in  
the short dry way - rigged the 20. We were the first party in  
Swildon's. On then to Triton's Temple and through the  
St Paul's section. In the mud swamp the bucket was full of  
water and a small puddle before Paradise Regained.  
Then on up the Greasy Chimney + on to Blue Pencil.  
Geoff went to have a look at the end of Blue Pencil and

Barry and I after waiting what seemed like ages carried on to the second pot to find Geoff. He then appeared and we all retraced our steps. There was more water than I have previously seen running down (noticeably in the second pot).  
Out the Wet Way.  
Emma

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 Swildon's Hole

John Cooper & Emma Gisborne. Trip to Sump I. Gradually getting wetter but still only a couple of cm deep into bottom square hole of blockhouse. Froth on Sump I. 1 Row  
John Cooper

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2014

SWILDONS HOLE

Trip to Sump I. Pleasant noisy with at last some water! (see above)  
Terry Walker & Derek Sanderson.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Sludge Pit Hole

Geoff Newton

Rather depressing session. The muddy sump is tighter than first thought and an running out of sticking space (again). Digging out the sump is not (I think) a practical proposition until water levels drop (ie. next spring). There may be a way on removing the fill straight ahead instead, but will need a team to remove the spoil now that sticking space is the vicinity is running out. 1 1/2 hr  
GN

13/11/14 Hunter's Hole

Damen Mussen, Tony Mussen, Christine Gosset.  
Pleasant bit of exercise on string. 3 bats noted throughout the cave. Trying to persuade Mussen bros to join WCC!

15/11/2014 - Longwood Valley Sink

Pete Buckley, John Osborne, John Cooper, Andrew Atkinson, Mike Kousiouris + Ali Moody.

An impressive 94 skips of debris removed from the last bay. This allowed access to an enlargement at the head of a narrow deep rift. A persistent trickle of water out of the roof at this point promises to make future digging trips extremely unpleasant. A very cold wet team returned to Upper Pitts for tea and cake.

Ali Moody

16/11/2014 Swildon's Hole

John Cooper, John Osborne, Geoff Newton, Lee Venning & Barry Weaver. Went & dried out the Mud Sump. JG+LV looked down Shatter Pit. LV's first time in Swildon's. 1<sup>3/4</sup> hours.

John Cooper

15-11-14 DINAS MINE

Yep you guest it wee another dive here along the bottom of the mine with the Welsh Section CDC. It was Louley to have so many divers at the mine. a brilliant weekend followed by a wicked meal out with MARTYN & Helen Farrar at the Red Indigo Wicked MAD Fi<sup>o</sup>

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014. Longwood Valley Sink

John Cooper, John Osborne & Ali Moody. Plumbing in drip catchment system. 1 hour

John Cooper

Wednesday 19th November - Longwood Valley Sink.

Ali Moody + Pete Moody.

Photographic trip and also to take measurements for the drip-catcher. The length of Triassic Tunnel is now 20m.

Ali Moody.

Saturday 22nd November - Longwood Valley Sink + Bramble Pit.

Ali Moody, John Cooper, John Gilboone + Rich Whitecombe (WS) and Simon Meese-King (Sohn) - 4 hrs.

Worked around drip catcher in WS to enlarge overhead passage + floor. Removal caters before charge.

Inspected bottom of Bramble Pit prior to commencement of mud removal in the weeks ahead. Pleasant afternoon (as always!) John C.

Saturday 22nd November.

Spider Hole.

Claire Cohen, Keo Hilton, Jade e Adrian Udp and Pete Hann.

Cleared last weeks bang debris, and probably dropped the floor another 2' feet. Another bang in the floor and were chased out by the fumes! So there was a draught in there today!

Adrian Odeplek.

Sunday 23rd November 2014 Swildens Hole

John Cooper, Emma Gilboone, Lee Venning & Barry Weaver.

Down to Sump II. Cave gradually getting wetter.

Very busy in the cave today but not delayed very much. 1 Row 40 mins.

John Cooper

22 November Foster Hole

Looking Good! Due to another communication cock-up, Tommas went ahead of us (ie Jon Williams, Emily, (dead in new covering suit) and myself. Tommas had been digging over half an hour and was all excited about finding air space. The trouble was it was in the wrong direction, ie back towards the entrance. John went up and into the end of the left hand grotto and proved we now ~~had~~ have a visual contact 3 inches high. We now know ~~where~~ where we are; ~~and~~ that is ~~at~~ about 5 ft beyond the grotto and following the same roof. Just below us on incl think ~~had~~ false floor. As we dig on this floor is rather one breaks away easily. The only way to the new is upwards, right up at roof level. The spoil ~~can~~ can be left on the floor to stand on, or raked back if it gets to high. Maurice

Monday 24th Nov. Swiden's Hole.

John Gribbene, Ruth Gribbene, Emma Gribbene.

A pleasant first trip for John's sister down to the Twenty and out the wet way. 55 minutes. John G.

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2014. Longwood Valley Snd.

John Cooper & Ali Moody.

Cleared dig face so Ali could lie under the drip when placing the next charge (on right to see effect on chest band). 2 Rows.

John Cooper

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 Chatterbox Warran Farm Sndlet.

Andrew Atherton, John Cooper, Emma Gribbene & Ali Moody.

Down the first pitch into Bone Chamber after leaving out the entrance. Andrew installed P-charges for the second pitch, two back where the old ones were for delay and the ladder one in the rift itself. chm.

John Cooper.

Friday 28th November North Hill Swallet GN

A thorough ferret around this sporting little cave. I did not notice any bad air but the stream did smell slightly of piss and it ~~was~~ foamed a little. Someone has been banging the end choke in the not too distant past. Looks a bit long term though. Nowhere else worth digging down there. Noticed a large leech just above Rumble-Plout. He looked a bit hungry. The guide book says that difficulties are confined to the banged out crumbles. This is a lie - the standard of difficulty is pretty uniform throughout. ~~The~~ If I had known the fixed rope on Rumble-Plout was still there I would have saved myself the trouble of bringing one in. Pleasant enough but won't be back in a hurry.  
Geoff Newton

Saturday 29th November Longwood Valley Grotto

Ali Moody, John Cooper, Pete Bachtley, Geoff Newton, John Gubson, Jake Parrish  
Clearing spoil (53 tubs). Conditions unpleasantly wet & muddy at the chaspend. Drill & Bang to enlarge working space at head of the too tight rift. 4 hours.  
Geoff

Sunday 30th November 2014. Sildais Hole

John Cooper & Barry Weaver.  
S.E. Zulets as far as the bottom of the 42ft rift. Pinned in the cave this morning. Only 2 small parties met. 1 1/4 hours.

John Cooper

Friday 5th December Swildons Hole G N

Basically a constitutional to Sump 1 or back. However I took a look at Hensler's Dig on the way in. The first part looks like an inlet, the last bit and the dip of the strata looks more in keeping with an outlet. Maybe its functioned as both during the passage of time. However the fill at the end has the consistency of concrete, not very encouraging.

Geoff New

Friday 5th December 2014. Charterhouse Cove.

Dave Cooke, John Cooper & Emma Gisborne. Took in a 3.5kg weight & left it at Postal Pool. PP was full - we started the system as we left. A nice afternoon trip. 2 1/2 hours.

John Cooper

SAT 6 SUN 30th Lost Mine N water

2 DAYS DIVING IN Lost Mine had a lovely time with Zoltan Rupert - Great Vis. Stunning.

MAD FI<sup>0</sup>

SAT 6th Thrope Lane Swallet

Bear led a team of 6 YSS into Thrope Lane. Water into entrance looked pleasant but turned nasty as we got 1/2 way down 1st pitch. It followed us down rift, going down necks and soaking to skin. It was flipping freezing, we were all chattering with the cold. Bear went through "waterfall squeeze" and looked at next pitch... He killed the trip off, we all thanked God and made our way out through the freezing streamway. For photo's look on YSS Facebook page and note the looks of pain and then pleasure on our faces.

N H Steel -

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> December WELLS CATHEDRAL

A Fine Sunny afternoon and a trip to this most excellent of Cathedrals. Of note are the Skinner workways, the worn Stairway leading to Chapter house and the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest medieval working clock in the WORLD. At 4 past the hour Clockwork Knight Joust above the clock a tradition that has been going on since the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. Pity the poor bastard who has been getting knocked off his horse all those years. Well worth a visit.

NH Steel.

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Dec - LVS (where else?)

Ali Moody, John Gibbaine, John Cooper, Geoff Nutter, Amy Douyette  
Boyd & Peterhille

Cleared 80 odd loads of debris from the massive chamber at the end of Triassic Tunnel. Luckily the drip was not in the work zone, but Ali still managed to get wet. The way in is obvious, although very small. Much work needed to enlarge. Cold on the surface waiting for holes to be drilled - although my de-aluminised space blanket worked well. Looking forward to next weekend - (it's a holiday!)  
4 1/2 hours.  
Peter

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Swildon's Hall

John Cooper & Barry Weaver. As far as the start of Blue Pencil. Very quiet. Met a party of 3 still on their way in below the Zuclined Rift as we were on our way out. 2 Hours.

John Cooper

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December

SWILDONS

Took two kangaroos & 1 stained hamstring down to the 20' & then the upper Series. visiting New Grottoes in way out. Terry Walker & Derek Sanders.

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014 - Swildon's Hole

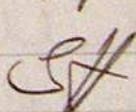
John Cooper and Emma Cishome went to ladder the 20 in preparation for tomorrow's Swildon's trip. Then we pushed onto the sump - lot of foam, no air space and water a couple of inches below the rope. Not as wet as expected.

Emma

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> December - Lions Hole.

Lead by Andrea, Team: Annabel, Charlotte, Lucca & Sam.

Freezing frosty day. So we took shelter in the cosy tunnels of Lions hole. We went down the first bit, left along a bit and passed some rock. Through a tight bit, then re-grouped.

Next we went under a rock, through a gap & over a puddle. Got stuck, got un-stuck. Down a bit more then some more tight stuff. In short I have no idea where we went but with Andrea leading the way it was a damn good trip. Hats off to the WCC for being so accommodating. 

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Dec - Charterhouse Old Cave

Lead by Mark H, with James, Paul + Maxine

Lovely sunny but frosty day, in December. We headed off to the cave for our first time. We decided on a trip in just the old cave as Maxine was feeling poorly still. The squeeze past the old gate was fairly tight on Maxine + Paul - but we got through.

We reached Singing Stal, then headed back via the Abode + Midsummer Chamber. A great trip and taste of the cave, which Paul + James will probably go and explore further another day.  
Maxine

Saturday 13 December 2014

Spider Hole.

Pete Ham & Adrian Uelp.

With a depleted digging team, due to other members, actually enjoying themselves! Pete & myself dug at the bottom removing quite a bit of rock. Conditions at the end were wet & drippy, which brought forth the comment from Pete, "Is this stupidity or dedication?" "Both", I replied "Dedicated Stupidity!"

Adrian Uelpelink.

Saturday 13 December 2014

Withyhill + Fernhill, Jude Uelp, Will Reed, Alison C-S, Florence C-S

First trip down both of these caves for us. Very impressed with them both. Withyhill had some very impressive passages to go with the stunning formations. Fern hill was lovely very impressive curtains. Thanks to Jude for leading.  
Will

Saturday 13 December 2014 Swildon's Hole

John Cooper, Peter Sanders (Cheddar CC) & Sam Storrer. A leisurely trip to Fault Chamber. Very busy in the cave today. 3 hours.

John Cooper

Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 2014 St Cuthberts Swallet. Pete Meller, Gevick Rhoden, Tony Moliski, Allan Kingsbott, September Chamber, Victory Passage, Cone & Musson, Catgut, Rabbit Women Extensions, Gorn Hall, returning via Evert Passage. Valve was opened after we went down, and closed again for our exit. Great trip, great time for all of us except Pete.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
Leader: Kevin  
Mike.K, Jeff, Sarah + Max  
Geoff

Priddy Green Sink

4 1/2 hours

Negotiated our way to Clitoris Crawl,  
Unfortunately Max had trouble passing,  
Kev ~~was~~ made his way back up to provide  
support, to no avail.

So, Sarah being behind Max, went with him to  
exit.

Quite smelly up to Tin Can Alley, then surprisingly  
fresh, the traverse line across to Bladder pot was  
quite slippery (cowtails would have been preferred.)

After negotiating the pitches, great rope work by  
Kev, we left through ~~the~~ Blue pencil/mud sumptuous

Back for tea + cake ☺

Mike.K

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December CH - Warren Farm

Ali Moody, Emma Gisborne, John Bennett &  
Andy Morse.

A superb trip led by Ali. The squeezes were  
no problems on the way down. We thought  
bone chamber was quite pretty until we saw the  
real formations. Amazing formations - suffering from  
calcite blindness. Coming back up was a  
little more challenging but I got there in the  
end. Excellent trip

Andy

SAT 13 Dec. More of Ali's organized trips this one to Upper Flood (Neverland) Lee led Clive, John Herd and Noel. I'd developed a dread/phobia about the experience 13 squeeze but everyone made light of the "squeeze" aspect. Nevertheless the boulder choke was an intimidating prospect. So after the long, long crawl and midnight shamble we set in - only to discover X relying on Chapman's tow, retreating from the hand men, fat bags. I cope to bouldering for a moment but on we went up & down, round and through. Not tight but endlessly awkward and demanding. We reached the main passage 1.30 for the entrance. Sea was great, guiding and abating all the way. At we met Bif, Mick, Andrew, Simon, who'd been to Nevelup for a brief visit. We went for a longer one. The "squeeze" stop at the Nevelup is one of the most awkward in the cave! We did the obligatory shamble and scrub before 30 mins of viewing and Ooohing. Then Clive did his pitotographic thing for a hot time before we redressed and headed out. The boulder lake was every bit as trying going out but upward & through some new places in reverse! The exit crawls had also got longer while we underwent (unstable geology). On the way after 6 hours to a gloriously frosty night --- absolutely shattered! Huge thanks to all for organizing, Lee for leading, Clive & John for their company and help.

SAT 13th DEC NINE BARROWS SWALLET - one of the Second Saturday Christmas Special trips.

Ali Moody (who had obtained the necessary permission & key), Richard Casey, John Da'Casto, Nigel Graham. Having visited the cave only once before, in 197x, it wasn't as I remembered! There's actually a bit more to it than Rich & I thought, with the Crystal Chamber

more impressive than I'd recalled. Hardest part of the trip was re-locking the gate, eventually solved by Ali pulling it closed with a snag while I locked it.

Thence to...

FERNHILL CAVE:

Martin Grass (BSEC, leader), John De C., Beth Benimar. <sup>my</sup> First visit for us 3 WCC - all very impressed with the beautiful curtains.

Then back to W.P.H.s for tea & cakes & the superb chilli buffet.

Many Thanks to Ali & Jude for the organising, & to the cake-makers & cooks.

Nigel Graham

Sat 13 Dec Charterhouse 2009 Extensions, Andy Jackson, Mark Adams, Tony Seddon, Coolie.

A pleasant trip at a reasonable pace to the portal Pomf combined with a visit to the Citadel on the way out. As leader it was great to have a team who competently just deal with the obstacles leaving me free to enjoy the trip.

Coolie

Sunday 14 December 2014 Suddon's Hole

Kith Binar, Nick Butler, Abby Chevent, Andy Moore & John Coope. Down to Sump I. In via Zig Zag & Short Dry Way. Out via Barne's loop & Wet Way.

2 1/2 hours

John Coope

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Reads Cavern  
Pete Buckley led Dave Walker and Nick Butler down  
the zig zag to splash pot. Visited most of the cave  
including LADS Luck and alzheimers pool, chattering slope  
and the sump. Dave ~~took~~ took photos in the further  
reaches of the cave.

Water levels in the wet way entrance was low (summer  
level?) In the cave about 3 hours in all.

NICK BUTLER

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014 Goatchurch Cavern  
Keith Biner, Abby <sup>cheverst</sup> Clement, Samantha Storer, Nick Butler  
In main entrance, Grants stairs, Terrace, boulder chamber,  
The slide, the drain pipe (Keith + Nick only) on the way  
back Keith opted for bloody tight and the tradesmans.

NICK BUTLER

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014 Swildon's Hole  
John Coope removed ladders & lifeline from the Twenty.  
John Coope.

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014 Spider Hole  
Tom Chapman, John Coope, Pete Mann, Nick Nash,  
Adrian & Jude Vanderplank.  
Over 40 tubs of spail moved up the Main Shaft.  
1 1/2 hours.

John Coope

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2014 - Swildons

Tim, Sas, Matt, Julie

The trip started with Matt being called a 'Lesser spotted  
cave penis' in the car park by another wec member. This  
obviously is fully justified. We mad our way down

to sump 1 stepping in Barnes Loop & That means to take some poor quality photos & generally get cold. Julie, Sus & Matt went right down to the sump whilst I went looking for interesting vantage points above the streamway, ready to get everyone cold again. Made our way out the cave half via the short dry & half the wet finishing off by me climbing out ~~over~~ the tree. Once back at the changing room Julie used the 'blue' tap and was shocked to find only cold water. Matt was obviously on good behaviour & hadn't eaten sprouts the night before, Sus on the other hand had issues.

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December Spider Hole.  
Bottom dry very drippy lots of rock removed + red + Clutch after 2 hrs lost dedication after 3 hrs lost the Stupidity called it a day very wet. It will not take many cups of tea for the Stupidity to return.

\* N.B The shaft is being called "Dedicated Stupidity Shaft!"  
AV.

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2014 - Longwood Valley sink.  
John Coape, Pete Buckley, Ali Moody, Claire Cohen, Jake Parish, Mike Kousiouris, Rich Witcombe + Simon Mark-King, + Emma Gibbons.

Excellent clearance session and the top of the rift is now very roomy. A further set of charges were placed with the aim of continuing to work and descend the rift. 64 buckets of debris removed.

Ali Moody

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2014. Sniddon's Hole

John Cooper & John Gibbons. Went and  
peered down the Black Hole. 1 1/2 hours. Accompanied by Mark Redman  
to Sump I.

John Cooper

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 Lime Kiln Dig

John Cooper, Lucy Knapp, Murray Knapp. Great  
spoil from the 6 holes drilled last Sunday. 1 Row.

John Cooper

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Sniddon's Hole

Sump I visited by John Cooper, Claire Cohen, Mark &  
Duncan Price. 1 hour.

John Cooper

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2014 North Hill Swallet

The dig at the end of the cave looks a better prospect than  
I remembered but needs a team to work it, so took my tools out  
again. The cave was relatively fresh and clean for North Hill  
so it was a pleasant work out. Geoff Newton

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2014 LVS (where's Nat?)

Pete Borkler, John Cooper, John Gibbons, (Clive North), Ali Moody & Geoff York.  
Cleared from last week at top of rift. Spent a while with lump  
hammer trying to increase the size of the working face. There is still NO  
danger of falling down the rift - in fact, you could probably  
drop a chisel & not worry about it.

Cold on the surface whilst waiting for next week's debris to be  
created.

Pete

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Spider Hole.  
Pebe Hurn Adrian Vanderplak & Nik Nak (yes Nik Nak).  
Digging Session at the bottom, It seems we are  
eventually out of the mud & clutch. and now getting into  
large boulders. The south side is still heavily  
calclited and will probably need some chemical persuasion  
to break it up. North side boulders seem to be less  
angular & more rounded than our usual ones.  
The bottom as usual was damp & drippy with  
no discernable draught.

AOceleplk.

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Swildor's Hole  
John Cooper, John Gilborne & Barry Weaver.  
Went to the start of Blue Pencil and checked out  
the First Trouble. Full and overflowing. 2 hours.  
John Cooper

29<sup>th</sup> - December 2014.

Hunters Lodge Inn Sink  
Christine G, Fred Mann, Charlotte, Will.  
Cracking little trip to see the pretties & take some photos.  
All managed the cranks & climbs easily.

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2014 Lime Kite Dig.  
John Cooper, Murray Knapp, Aubrey Newport, Adrian  
Vanderplak & Barry Wilkins. All spoil moved from  
bottom up to bottom of railway whilst Murray drilled &  
holes and created more spoil. 2 hours.

John Cooper

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2014 Spider Hole  
John Cooper, Pete Mann, Simon Richards (Nick Mal), Adrian  
& Seide Vanderplank. A session Rauling spoil up the main  
boulder shaft whilst Pete built nose wall and filled in  
behind it. 2 1/4 Rows.  
John Cooper

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2014 - East Eastwater  
Connor Roe, Tom Chatterton.

A first time trip down into the lower series  
for both. The hope was to get as far as  
possible via dolphin pot. we made it down as  
far as the S-bend at gladhamspot, trip was  
very much enjoyable, I think the best way  
to describe it was 'relentless'.

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2014 - St Cuthbert's Swallet  
Ali Moody, Maria Lynch, Alex Gough, Emma Cisborne, Jake Parish,  
Pete Buckley.

Great trip with lots of pretty formations to look at and a great variation  
of passages. Curtain chamber was particularly impressive - the biggest curtain  
I've ever seen. The rat run was fun and Gowr Hall was pretty.  
The passage past sump 2 was very different to the rest of the cave.