

Whitriggs Horse Level
25th March 1984

Eleven members turned out for this trip. We entered the Horse Level at about 11.00am through Ray Bland's dig and made our way to a very tight squeeze through a run – in which had been shored up by E.G.H some months previous. Immediately following the squeeze was a crawl through a pool of liquid mud. This proved to be the most filthy mine any one of had been in!

We traversed a large chamber, the roof of which had fallen in leaving a neat and very natural looking ceiling. Very dodgy place though. We then entered a complicated series of levels, which is beyond description; suffice to say we pushed everything to its limit except a rather splendid raise to to which we have vowed to return with pitons and rope.

In the far series of levels we found a drainage tunnel which had all the features and is identical in every respect, to the Whitriggs Drainage Level (bottom level in Pickshaft Cave). If this proves to be the W.D.L. then there is a possibility of winning in to a whole new system. Both ends of the tunnel require digging. In this vicinity we could smell diesel fumes and also near the tight squeeze; the fumes weren't present last year. However, it transpires Robert Thompson recently lost a tractor down Pylon Pot Could there be a connection?

We found plenty of artifacts but left them in-situ – shovels, picks, drill-steels and det. Boxes.

Lyndsay Harrison took photographs.

Alen McFadzean