

17th March 1985
Newlands Valley

Meet attended by:

I. Tyler meet leader

K. Tyler

D. Blundell

R. Calvin

P. Fleming

M. Mitchell

A. Lings

D. Webb

The purpose of the meet was to attempt to dig open the adit at Castle Nook Mine and expose the No.2 Level at Dale Head Mine and its stopes. The party split into:

Dale Head Party: - A. Lings, M. Mitchell, P. Fleming, D. Webb. Castle Nook Party: - I. Tyler, K. Tyler, R. Calvin, D. Blundell. The Dale Head party left at approx 11.0am to return at 4.30pm. The day was cold and bright.

The dig commenced immediately and progress was soon made, the wall of the level was found and looked quite promising, however, fall after fall hindered progress and eventually we had to give up. Really this was due to lack of numbers and the dig is still a viable prospect with various timbers.

The time was now 2:00pm and we moved down to Far Broad Gill Trial, an extensive working of approx. 400yds estimated by the size of the tip. After a 3hr dig we had created the entrance walls. Much loose debris hampered progress but this is still a thought for the future.

By now it was getting dark and there was no sign of the other party. At 6:30pm they had still not appeared – “Do we send for mines rescue?” – “We are mines rescue!!” We established a deadline of 7:00pm. When we would leave for help on the non-appearance of the other party. Then at 6:50pm a light appeared at the adit entrance some 1 ½ miles away. What was said by the meet leader and others is definitely unprintable!

However, top levels were surveyed and altogether it was a successful meet.

Ian Tyler