

30th March 1985
Caudale Moor Quarries

I am writing this under protest because the meet leader, who should have been Dennis Webb, failed to materialise. So here I am, wasting time, paper, and ink all in vain because nobody ever reads these reports. I could probably ramble on for pages and pages in this bloody log book, perhaps write volumes, but my labours would pass unnoticed. I would probably be more productive, be more of a benefit to mankind, if I removed all these reports, placed them into bottles, and tossed them off the end of Askam Pier.

In the event, six people turned up at the lay-by at the foot of Kirkstone Pass. There was some confusion for it transpired that the Ullswater Foxhound had also chosen the same lay-by to hold their meet. The weather was torrential, just the same as it had been on our previous visit to these quarries several years earlier. Phil Merrin got lost in the mist and we had to send a search party, McF heard him blowing frantically on his whistle and guided him down from the top of the higher quarries.

We abseiled down the raise, passing Grissentwaite's Level which we had explored previously, passing Jock's Level, and finally alighting on Brownlee's Level at the bottom of the mine. There was a rather voluminous waterfall near the foot of the pitch and we all received a good soaking – most of us were dressed in fell walking gear.

We thoroughly explored the bottom level, finding lots of broken ladders, a clog wagon still on the rails, and Ingersoll Rand "Little Tugger" winze hoist still fixed to its screw jack, broken drills, a copper pip for charging powder holes, and various lengths of sump fuse. Mike Mitchell removed a broken drill steel.

Members present:-

Alen McFadzean
Mike Mitchell
C.D. Jones
Phil Merrin
Alisdair Lings
Chris Moore