

June 12th 1988
Nenthead

Mike Mitchell Ann Danson John Helme Paul Timewell Edd Brown Dave Bowers Paul Nhiteridge Bon Borthwick

This meet was initially intended to show off the new ground explored by several small 'unofficial' groups in the later months of last year. But instead of the hoards of Nenthead devotees intent on having the delights of Carr's level and Prouds sump (& its extension) revealed to them, half the members present were completely new to the site. Anyone failing to guess where we went for the day surely will qualify for some sort of prize at the annual dinner.

It is interesting to note that though the other half of the group had been through the Smallcleugh Flats route on the 'odd' occasion before, the journey to Wheel Flats was not without one or two minor 'sight-seeing' detours. The famous Ballroom seems to collect more graffiti each time we visit it, all so unnecessary.

After the Ballroom we visited the Longcleugh workings which have been made accessible again within the past year or so by persons unknown. Half the group took the rather more sporting and dry, shaft route, the more pedestrian element (which includes this writer) taking the simpler way and consequently got wet feet. Bad news here, if you have been looking forward to seeing the beautiful 'blackjack' covered wall in Longcleugh then it is too late the collectors have beaten you to it. Litter and peoples scrawling are bad, but this sort of action borders on desecration.

These working having been duly explored we returned again via the Flats to a bright sunny afternoon. Smallcleugh is always a little special for those on there first visit but still has a definite charm even on the n'th trip. On some future occasion time will have to found for a more systematic exploration (or re-exploration) of some or the passages of the flats particularly around wheel flat & the Second Sun Vein. A very pleasant social sort of a day, also nice to be able to get ones gear washed and dry before setting off home.