

3rd December 1989
Greenburn Mine

Meets Report GREENBURN MINE DEC 3 1989

The members met at Little Langdale Ford at around 10.45 am, the day was crisp and sharp with a clear blue sky as we set off up the mine road. The path was icy in places and made progress slow, in fact it proved quite difficult to ford Greenburn Beck to examine the delights of the Low Level, its inviting two feet of water at the entrance was not disturbed by any of today's intrepid explorers. Although Matheson junior was game, dad was not.

The main site was reached and discussed in detail, including the possibility of some restoration work being done in the future, or perhaps have it listed as an ancient monument.

The long climb was then taken up to Long Crag Level and the ancient high workings. Whilst making the ascent an inversion had started to form below us creating spectacular scenes for the would-be photographers. Far away above Thirlmere sailed a lonely Hot Air Balloon. At Long Crag the main level was visited whilst others had lunch whilst watching the weather pattern developing below. The upper workings explored and crags were searched for more workings none being found the party moved on towards Birk Fell and the top workings of the Pave York Mine. The descent from the Top Working to the next level down some 175ft was not undertaken; Mike Mitchell said he had done the trip through, though many years ago. I recalled I had gone down a few feet but noticed that the hanging wall was very loose and unstable, being of sound mind and a coward I prussiked back out. All the levels were visited and it was noticed that a serious collapse had occurred in No2 level, filling the old sump.

On returning to day the inversion had come to meet us, the temperature was dropping rapidly and the visibility was becoming poor. It was decided to commence back to the cars for a well earned warm drink.

I.Tyler