

**15<sup>th</sup> July 1984**  
**Helvellyn Mine**

About a dozen turned out on a glorious morning and made the arduous ascent to the mine. A small party went underground (Fleming, Mitchell, Webb, Matheson and McFadzean), while the remainder attempted to dig open No.2 level from the outside.

While abbing down the big stope Macfadzean pendulumed into a short level, about 30' long, in which he found an old clog. Once down on No.2 the team proceeded towards the entrance collapse and attempted to dig from the inside. We could hear the others digging on the outside but we gave up when things started to look dangerous. McFadzean had a go at digging up into the blocked raise at the innermost point of the level, but abandoned this for it was hopeless.

The outside team gave up at No.2 and climbed up the fell to attempt to dig into Arnison's Low Level. No luck here either. McFadzean and Mitchell thought they were digging in the wrong place – should have been further up to the right.

Finished the day with fresh strawberries (courtesy of Ash Fell Farm) and a pleasant pint in the "Travellers Rest", Grasmere.

Alen McFadzean.