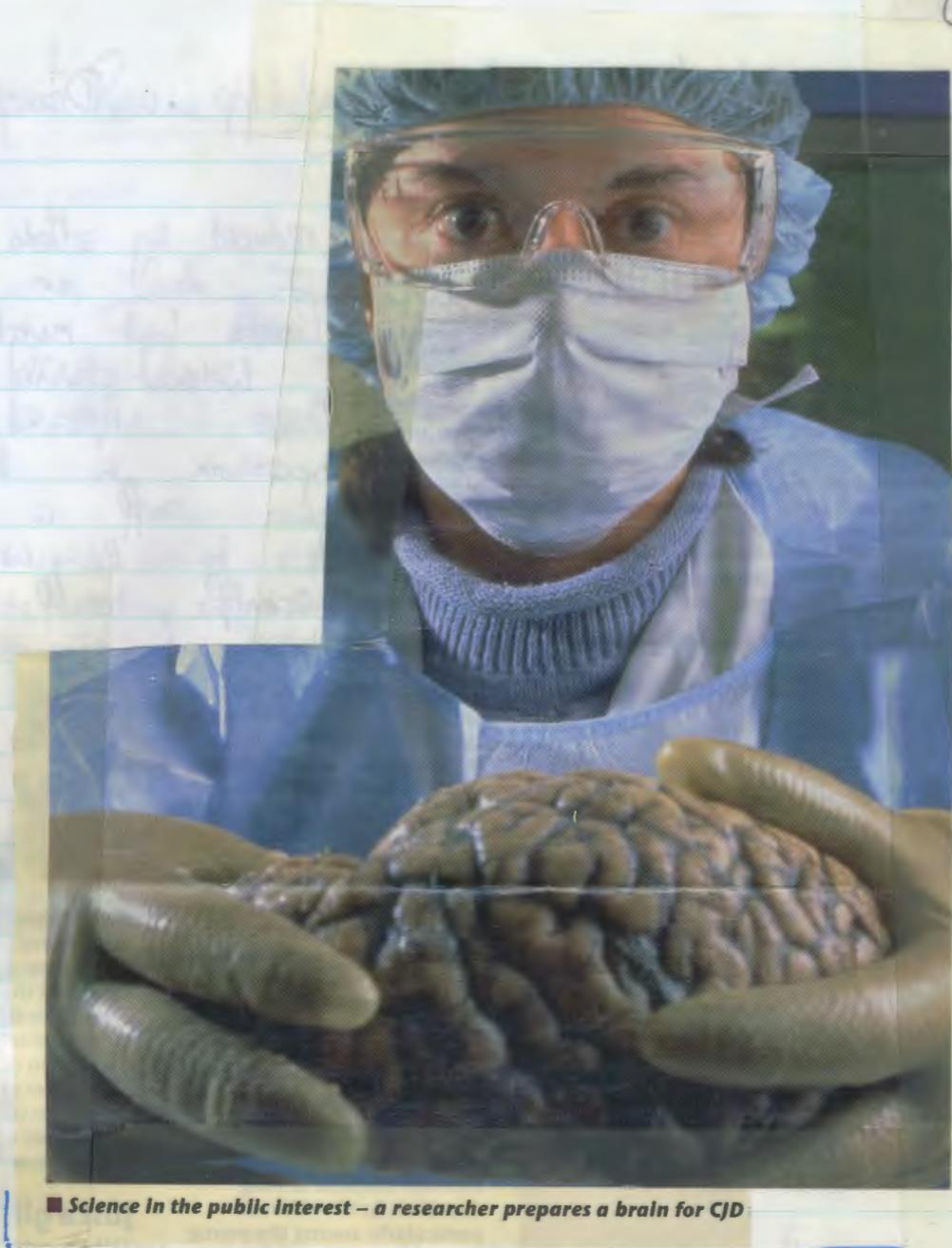


SWCC  
fill  
10:30  
then went  
& walking  
instead.



Maarten "Kitti and I once tried to make the first ascent of Mount Sinai!"  
 "But didn't Moses do that?"  
 "Yeah but he took 40 days"  
 "It was solo though"  
 "And he took two stones on the way back"  
 "I + was taking the tablets that did it."

4/5/96: "Dazen cilau" - Harvey - Dave - Fenella & Kitti - overnight camping trip to see the "Blue Greenish" ... They better be good! .

5/5/96  
6/5/96 ----

↓ They were, after 11 hours of dragging ourselves to the end of the Cave ... Oh help, tomorrow we have to get out again ... And we won't be back to catch a pind I'm afraid.

(42)

4/4/96 A sporting trip in Draenen ... ?

A club trip greatly reduced by Mads and Finals found Andy, James and I doing our bit for the profile of University Cavers by mingling with all the leading lights of Welsh caving. That was in the Rifleman's Arms. After that we went to the Draenen Symposium in Blaenauon.

Some good exploration stuff in the morning contained plenty of refs to the work of 'the Oxford' and then so the scientific stuff started up in the afternoon, Tim turned up to give his talk, so we pinched a light from him and went caving instead.

Getting underground about 3.30, we met lots of Chelsea who had decided to give the conference a miss, so we told them how good it had been and beeted off along White Arch, Indiana highway, Megadive and as far as Balcony pitch, where we discovered that Andy is actually a secret agent (Go on - you try asking him about his past! And then try to find someone else to ask him and see if the two stories correspond! Hum.)

James had terminal light failure by this point but it didn't seem to bother him, so we had a quick wander down the Canyon, which is a fun if rarely-visited rift with some huge piles of bat shit lying around and promising leads (!); I dug about a yard of pointless oxbow in my quest for caverns meagreless whilst Andy and James patiently grumbled above me.

On the way back out we went into alternative Canyon rather than the correct way, but this was perfunctory the course. Over the course of the weekend we:

- (i) got lost between Abergavenny and Gofelen looking for Draenen
- (ii) missed the turning for Abercraf from the A465 because there were no lights on the A465 (!) and drove 1/2 way to Neath
- (iii) Drove all the way from Abergavenny to Monmouth without getting onto the A40 once ...

Good trip! Good weekend! Shame about the navigation  
Nobday

Mendip Rescue Weekend @ MNRC 10-12 May

Present are :

- Kith, To, Alex, Gavin, Nobby, Anita, John
- Pauline, Harvey, Chris V, Andy, Richard Ward
- Jim, Dave L., Dingo, Sally, Steve, Sandra

How to avoid being rescued (G. Lowe): ... , avoiding your dangly bits getting caught..

12/5/96

"CUCKOO CREEVES."

11.05 : Dave & Jim, silly pain that they are have failed to turn up for a callout.

Alex is appointed controller.

1<sup>st</sup> wave : Gavin & Chris V. are appointed 1<sup>st</sup> wave - Trauma kits, Brew, survival bags.

2<sup>nd</sup> wave : John, Joanne & Anita.

stretcher      Sit Horners  
ropes      "sleeping bag"      spare light

11:30 : 1<sup>st</sup> wave leaves for cave

11:45 : 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> wave leaves for cave.

3<sup>rd</sup> wave : Steve Andy Alex  
more rope and food.

[12.00 - Rescuer's leave on doomed trip]

12:10 - First wave leaves car.

12:30 - Second wave leaves van.

12:55 - Third wave leaves van

13:15 - Message reaches the surface: Dave has broken his leg

17:35 - everyone out. Casualty Stable.

19/5/96 - Otter Hole - Alison, Nobby, Dave, Ian

I just don't want to know  
(about) the missing person  
- Alpine Start, eh, Kitti? .....

After meeting at the hut at 8.00am and arriving in Wales, at 10.00, an hour early and then discovering we couldn't go into the cave until 1.00 so we ended up going to a tea shop twice. The cave was really beautiful although very muddy. There was a slight delay while we waited to see if the tidal swamp would fall low enough so that we wouldn't be trapped in the cave, as there was a lot of rain forecast.

Alison

"This can't be a sport if you have to use your crotch"  
Suzanne L'Herminier

The question which should never be asked: "Would you prefer to go Caving or have sex?"

Depends on the person / cave.

Southscales Weekend 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> May 1996

Present are :

- John, Anita, OJ, Kitti, Jim, Sara, Luke,
- Alex, Rob, Fleur, Alison, Katrina, Steve,
- Urs, Nobby, James, Dawn, Suzanne, Graham,
- Richard, Danny, William, Nicola, Paul C. Mr X, Carol

John " You should always have at least two independent bananas....."

25/5/96 'Old Bits' Lanes Trip

After failing to get as far as Link Pot. Rich Gregson, Dom and myself (as nominal Old git minder) ended up going down here since there were no ropes there already.

We braked around Marlayne west of Bill Taylor's passage almost before we were before even getting a grade 1 change and arriving at the Manton by 5.30!!

25/5/96 My first Cave!! → County

Instinct tells me that this is the most fun that a person can legally have with a pair of wellies and a hard hat. Today I went down a hole in the ground for 5 1/2 hrs with Ursula, Jim, Micki and Suzanne - the Aussie and my eyes were opened to a new world. Forget Hallucen - trippy Drugs. This is the business. To summarise what can I say other than my life will never be the same!!!

GL

I said I'd never go caving again after last time, but here I am saying the same thing today!! Suzanne soon

\* That's not my name, but I like it!

It was really killing!! she was sch. it's a phreatic today!!

Well at least it's not "I can't believe it's not Butter." (SH).

(47)

Cow's pot (Nobby, Rob, Katrina, Fleur, Anita)

Good cave but not an exemplary first SRT novice trip. Green entrance, a scary traverse (well done to Katrina and Fleur - some birthday present, eh?). A nasty take-off half-way down the big pitch (allow 20 min on way up). Brilliant streamway! Made the trip all its worth.

"I'm sexually buttoned up apparently." Me  
— "I'm really worried." "

OJ Talking about wet dreams underground.  
"Well, it would never happen, and if it did, you wouldn't TELL ANYONE."

Anita "Has anyone seen my beadedava? It was on my head."

Nobby ^ FECUNDITY

MOIST

VODKA

Rob "This is a theme I'd rather not pursue"

(48)

26/5/95. Paul C went to Illusion.  
Great scene, lots of pretties. Treat  
with care!

26/5/95 / Brown Hill | or Farts Head  
59h, James H, William Stead. | revisited  
or 'a ~~Farewell~~ Farewell <sup>to Fens</sup>'

How pleasant to look round at the fell  
around the Brownhett entrance and not think,  
more or less subconsciously - "I might not see  
this again" - I said as much

Then I thought how long the ropes  
had been in place & wished I hadn't -  
A rapid trip to the swamp. I commended  
a little with my thoughts, admired  
the clear clear water under the scum,  
& had a ceremonial piss.

William & James broke this sad nostalgic  
revere of many an hour spent finning through  
peat soup, freezing, with a demand valve  
held in by me had to stop it of being  
stivensed out - the horrid line entanglement  
after falling down the 'well of Conelion'  
on my second dive.

It was time to go.

Dave's horrid old bottle & my fins picked  
up, we headed out. With just three  
of us, it was a bit of a struggle  
to the end ... giving us a suitably  
heroic feeling as we by one, we  
emerged to a foul rainy evening.  
No warm sunset glow this time, but  
the Mucker beckoned strongly as ever.

AVE ATQUE VALE

THE  
END?

Steve

To be completed . . . .

Song by Steve and me  
to tune of Y.M.C.A. song.

Old fart, there's a place you can go  
It's the Berger's, it's easy you know  
When you're forty or fifty or so . . .

Old fart, you know the Berger's the game,  
You can do it, with your Zimmer frame,  
When you're ninety you can do it again . . .

James

26/5/95 Simpsons Pot  
(pull through)  
Urs, Graeme, Richard, Nicole,  
John.

Had a fun pull through  
trip. Graeme enjoyed his  
first abseiling and his  
first hangover cure trip.  
Richard spent about an  
hour at Slit Pot. He  
won't be going that  
way again . . .

Lots of people and ladders  
in the master cave. It rained when  
got out . . .

I like spanking  
AND THOU  
DOH - All!  
A little bit more  
Just a little bit  
AND BUT  
STAYS



50

Reserved for Yorkie write-ups ;

ii.

26/5/96 Roaring

Alex, Olly, Katrina

Pottered up to Roaring, found the cave but thought it was the wrong cave so carried on pottering. Eventually decided it was the only cave around so went caving anyway.

Went down the first pitch and through the boulder choke to a muddy chamber which seemed to be the end so we went back to Southscales to read the guidebook and discover we'd been in the right place after all.

26/5/96 Bull Pot (Kingsdale)

Rob, Anita, Nobby, Flew, Alison

Having failed to actually reach the big pitch in Cow Pot on their first SRT trip because of a shortage of time, those on their second SRT trip got a bit more practice this time. We got down the first three pitches with no problems except for an awkward rebelay on the first.

However, what had been a nice friendly little streamway on the way down was quickly becoming less friendly as the rain poured down outside. Rob, Flew and Alison went out whilst Anita and I splashed down to the final chamber, and then got out very quickly.