

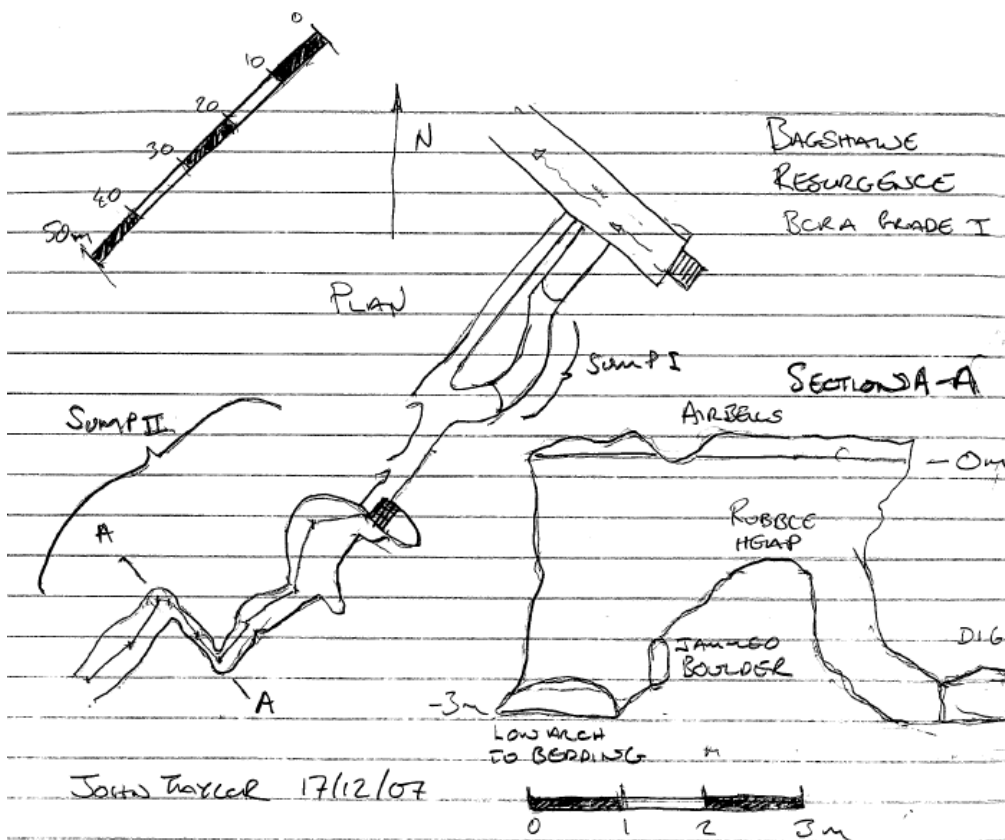
BAGSHAWE RESURGENCE, Bradwell, Derbyshire (SK174810)

DIVE REPORTS 2007

Report by J Taylor - 15th Dec 2007

Divers; S Brooks, J Taylor

Access was gained via sump I with the divers having to fight against the high flow. SC Dived sump II and pushed the line down the rubble heap where he met a low arch to the left. SC then belayed the line and removed some loose rock from the rubble heap before returning to dive base. JT Then dived sump II pushing the line beyond the low arch and into a wide low bedding. JT then returned to dive base rebelaying the line through the arch and up the rubble heap. A further dive was made by JT who pushed the line to 30m from dive base at a depth of 3m with the passage still continuing and the main flow still coming toward the diver. On his return JT noticed that the bedding reaches a maximum depth of 4m. Flow was high and visibility poor at around 3m.



Report by J Taylor - 13th Dec 2007

Divers; S Cornhill

SC gained entry, with difficulty due to high flow, via sump I where he attempted to open the sluice but was prevented by the pressure of the flowing water. SC noted that the water level of sump II was above the dive-line belay. Diving sump II to the point reached on the previous dive SC attached the new line, arranged belays and progressed over the top of the rubble heap to 19m from dive base. Flow was very high with access only just possible and visibility poor.

Report by J Taylor - 1st Dec 2007

Divers; J Taylor, S Cornhill

The divers could not gain access to sump I or the parallel culvert due to flood conditions.

Report by J Taylor - 20th Sept 2007**Diver; S Cornhill**

SC Gained access via sump I and then dived sump II to remove loose rocks, left from the previous visit, from the bottom of the ladder. A further dive was undertaken to the dig face where more debris was removed from beyond the constriction and where the block was demolished. Before visibility went to zero the diver noted that the passage continued to the right.

Due to the very low flow, the visibility instantly went to zero as soon as the diver entered, and the abundance of loose rocks in the constricted passage, it was decided to leave further visits until sufficient rain had fallen.

Report by J Taylor - 24th Nov 2007**Divers; S Brooks, J Taylor, S Cornhill**

Access was gained via sump I. SB dived sump II and moved some boulders at the dig before returning to confirm that there was a possible way on via a boulder slope to the right of the breakthrough but that it needed gardening. JT Then dived sump II and upon reaching the boulder slope; moved aside a large boulder and several smaller ones and pushed forward the line before returning to dive base. SC was third to dive and returned to dive base declaring that the remainder of the 15m of line on the reel had been reeled out and that he had surfaced in a small air-bell at the top of the rubble slope. JT and SB then successively dived sump II to confirm SC's find both noting that the passage continued down the other side of the boulder pile to a window with a black void beyond. The divers elected not to use the dive reel that was to hand as it was tagged from 0m and opted to return with a line that was tagged from 15m (the end of the existing line). Recent rain had returned flow to normal conditions which improved visibility.

Report by J Taylor - 15th Sept 2007**Divers; J Taylor, S Cornhill**

Access was gained via sump I. Both divers then entered sump II and spent an entertaining half hour trying to use a kibble to remove debris from the dig face. After a team discussion at dive base the kibble was rejected and further dive was undertaken with the two divers passing rocks to each other. The visibility was zero and flow minimal.

Report by J Taylor - 13th Sept 2007**Diver; S Cornhill**

Access was gained via sump I. SC Dived sump II and began the removal of the debris left by the demolished boulder. Flow was minimal and the visibility poor to zero.

Report by J Taylor - 9th Sept 2007**Divers; S Brooks, J Taylor**

Access was gained via sump I. JT Dived sump II and hit the boulder in the dig exceptionally hard. The divers waited for the visibility to clear and then SB dived but no further progress could be made as visibility was still poor. JT then dived and confirmed that half of the block had been destroyed leaving a clean face into which he drove a pointed chisel. The remainder of the block then fell to pieces and was transported back down the passage. Flow was minimal and visibility poor with disturbed silt not clearing.

Report by J Taylor - 2nd Sept 2007**Divers; J Taylor, S Cornhill, C Jewell, S Brooks**

Access was gained via sump I. All divers spent around forty minutes each chiselling the boulder in the dig. Large lumps of the block were removed but progress was predicted to be slow. Flow had dropped since previous visit.

Report by J Taylor - 30th Aug 2007**Diver; S Cornhill,**

SC dived with his new chisels and began the slow process of demolishing the block, splitting off a big piece which raised the team's hopes of being able to break the boulder.

Report by J Taylor - 12th Aug 2007**Divers; J Taylor, S Cornhill**

Access was gained via sump I. SC and JT dived successively and attempted to wrestle the block down the passage but to no avail. Both divers made second dives and started to break the block up with a crowbar and lump hammer, which proved to be inefficient.

Report by J Taylor - 6th Aug 2007**Divers; J Taylor, S Cornhill**

Access was gained via Sump I. JT and SC both dived sump II twice and managed to drop the second loose roof boulder to the floor of the passage. This block was larger than the first and would have to be destroyed in situ as it was too large to be transported back down the passage. Flow was lower than on previous visit.

Report by J Taylor - 4th Aug 2007**Divers; J Taylor, S Brooks**

Access was gained via sump I. JT Dived sump II and removed the first of the two blocks from the roof of the dig before striping out the old dive-line on his return to dive-base. SB then dived sump II and laid new line before packing rocks at the dig face to secure a boulder forming the roof. Flow was less than on the previous visit and the water temperature colder; probably marking the last of the flood water having been washed through and the flow now coming from water that had spent more time underground.

Report by J Taylor - 31st Jul 2007**Divers; J Taylor, S Brooks, S Cornhill**

Access was gained via sump I by all divers. JT Dived Sump II and removed debris from around the loose blocks in the roof of the dig confirming that there were two blocks to be removed. SC then dived sump II and removed the line from the southerly inlet. SB dived next and re-belayed the main line with a large drop-weight by the spit belay.

Report by J Taylor - 28th Jul 2007**Divers; J Taylor, S Brooks**

The divers gained access via sump I with flow the same as the previous visit. JT Dived sump II and removed the boulder blocking progress. During the removal two large blocks forming the roof of the passage were seen to drop 5cm. SB dived to assess the dig and returned to dive base where it was agreed that the blocks in the roof would have to be removed before progress could be made. Visibility was good with silt carried away within a few seconds.

Report by J Taylor - 24th Jul 2007**Divers; J Taylor**

The diver gained access via sump I and noted that the flow was the same as the previous visit. Thirty minutes was spent at the dig face removing small boulders and transporting them backwards to the stacking space. The boulders were stacked between the large tabs of rock which form the passage walls and roof in order to arrest any possible movement. With the removal of more rock an opening of 0.4m x 0.4m into a continuation of the passage was gained. The diver was prevented from continuing beyond this opening by a fallen block which lay directly ahead. Visibility was again good with disturbed silt carried away quickly.

Report by J Taylor - 21st Jul 2007**Divers; J Taylor**

This trip had no more an objective than that of getting JT underwater (though a premise had been given that he was retrieving his line previously laid into the unsuccessful dig) and to confirm the demise of the troublesome boulder previously mentioned. The flow of water was high but entry to sump I still possible. The passage to sump II was, finally, clear of the previous obstruction and JT quickly entered sump II. The diver was halted at the base of the pot as, incredulously, blocking the

low arch to the continuation, was one third of the boulder! The diver reverently lifted it and laid the thing to rest in a corner of the pot. Continuing to his line JT was then distracted by the passage ahead and the boulders which blocked it. Retrieving a crowbar from the previous dig JT then set about the boulders ahead. To the diver's surprise the boulders yielded, they gave the appearance of being sizable but were actually loosely agglomerated smaller rocks. These were soon transported backward and stacked above and below the tabs of rock to the divers left. The dive was ended when the diver's air was sufficiently depleted with the dig far from concluded. Visibility was fair with slightly cloudy water and high flow clearing any disturbed sediment almost instantly.

Report by J Taylor - 22nd May 2007

Divers; J Taylor, J Barrett

Assisted by; B Dearman

The primary objective of the trip was to banish a now infamous boulder from any further entries in future CDG journals (see previous submissions regarding this sump). To this end BD ported the equipment required for the demolition through the dry culvert whilst JB and JT entered by diving through sump I. The demolition job was begun by BD, assisted by JB, and JT undertook one dive to the end of the southerly branch of sump II to affirm the conclusions drawn on his last dive. JT's previous findings were confirmed and he returned to dive base in time to help finish-off the boulder. Flow was low and visibility poor.

Report by J Taylor - 21st May 2007

Divers; J Taylor, J Barrett

Assisted by; B Dearman

The trip had two objectives; firstly to continue the demolition of the boulder, begun on the previous trip (18th May 2007), and secondly for JT to affirm his opinion on the nature of the southerly inlet. The two divers entered the cave through sump I while BD took the dry route. Carrying a six litre backup cylinder JT dived to the southerly inlet. Passing the first squeeze JT staged the Six litre cylinder where it would be accessible should a problem occur in the second squeeze. Having transcended the second squeeze JT examined the cavity ahead and noted that a downward step in the roof met a large boulder on the floor; a dead end that was confirmed when visibility, reduced by disturbed silt, failed to clear. Wriggling backward into the second squeeze JT then drew level with the small (0.3m by 0.2m) aperture from where flow issued. Small rocks were easily removed from around the hole and the flow was confirmed with visibility clearing in around one minute. The aperture had been enlarged sufficiently for JT to view a slot only large enough to accommodate the divers arm. It was the opinion of the diver that he was in the same wide bedding passage as encountered previously in the sump and that to progress the sump in this direction would necessitate breaking and moving the two large tabs of rock which form the floor. The boulder which was the second objective of the evening proved to be a worthy adversary for BD and JB dulling the edge of a second drill-bit and flattening two batteries; a further trip will be required to assess the damage done to the rock. Flow was lower than the previous visit and visibility was excellent in very clear water.

Report by J Taylor - 18th May 2007

Divers; J Taylor, J Barrett

Assisted by; B Dearman

The trip had two objectives; firstly to demolish the large block obstructing the passage prior to sump II where it had been hauled, from the Base of the Pot, by J Lister and J Barrett and secondly to progress the dig in the southerly inlet. The two divers entered the cave through sump I while BD took the dry route. Whilst the boulder received attention from JB & BD the first dive into sump II was made by JT. The diver hand carried a spare six litre cylinder which he staged for use should a problem occur in the first squeeze. Once past the first squeeze JT noted that flow was issuing from a fist sized hole in the floor to the right. Reversing the first squeeze JT removed two small boulders from the floor before returning to dive base. JB then made two dives into sump II passing the low arch on the second then familiarising himself with the passage beyond. Two more dives were made by JT who continued to work on the floor of the dig. It was the opinion of JT that the dig is not a distinct passage or inlet, as he initially hoped, but part of a low, wide bedding choked with tabular break-down. The boulder proved to be particularly stubborn due to the hard nature of the

rock and the team agreed that a different strategy for its removal would be used on a subsequent trip. Flow was lower than on the previous visit (3rd May 2007) and visibility was good with slightly cloudy water quality.

Report by J Taylor - 3rd May 2007

Divers; J Taylor, M Crabbe

Diving to the inlet JT staged a spare cylinder and regulator and belayed a new line to the main line. The diver then squeezed past the constriction met on his previous dive. As JT progressed the gap between the roof and the tab got slightly larger; the reel was deposited 2 metres into the passage. Noticing that there were two flakes in the floor to the left JT began to dig; eventually removing the flakes he reversed out into the main passage and stacked them. One more push was made by JT who found progress easier with the rocks removed. JT then returned to dive base and MC took over pushing into the squeeze before returning to dive base to jettison his weight belt. On MC's second attempt he reached JT's previous position and returned to dive base. Both divers each made one further push into the passage and progressed four metres from the main passage. Further progress looks easier and a corner can be seen ahead.

Report by J Taylor - 28th April 2007

Diver; J Taylor

Diving to the inlet visited on his previous dive JT investigated the boulders jammed beside, to the left, of the tab of rock over which the main flow is seen. The boulders were found to be moveable and JT manoeuvred two large flakes into the main passage where they were placed under the tab. These actions changed the aperture from a horizontal slot of 0.3 metres height to an 'L' shaped hole. The constrictions new shape encouraged JT to attempt squeezing into the visible continuation which appeared to get larger and extend around five metres to a corner. Thirty minutes of digging had left the diver cold and had depleted his air so JT retreated without passing the constriction. Flow was moderate with a complete silt-out taking one minute to clear and water clarity was excellent. A return trip will be made with a lump-hammer and chisels to remove the corner of the tab.

Report by J Taylor - 24th February 2007

Diver; J Taylor

JT Inspected the inlet on the left, south, side of the passage beyond the low arch and opposite the boulder moved by J N Cordingly. JT noted that most of the flow came from this inlet flowing over a large tab of rock. JT noted that the tab could possibly be jacked upward and pulled into the main passage. Flow was high with any silt being washed away quickly but the water was cloudy reducing the visibility.

Report by J Taylor - 17th February 2007

Diver; J Taylor

Braced between the walls of the culvert and gripping the pre rigged rope (rope placed by persons unknown) JT Attempted to dive Sump I but felt that the risk of being ejected into the stream bed was too great. Access to the cave was then gained via the normally dry culvert that runs parallel to sump I which, on this occasion, had water of 0.1m depth flowing through it. In The cave/level water was above waist height with plenty of useable airspace; flow, although strong, was not strong enough to hinder progress to sump II. The line reel was retrieved from where JT had secured it on his previous dive and laid a further four metres of line upstream.

Report by J Taylor - 1st February 2007

Diver; J Taylor

Assisted by; C Bergman

The initial plan was for JT to reconnoitre the low section at the base of the pot in sump II; JT dived sump I whilst CB entered via the dry culvert and both progressed the short distance to sump II. With CB at dive base for support JT cleared a small amount of rubble from the base of the pot and progressed under the low arch. With confidence high that the arch now posed a manageable risk JT returned to surface and requested that CB exited the cave to retrieve JT's line reel from the car; a request which CB carried out with remarkably little protestation! JT then made one further dive

into sump II laying a new line from dive base tying off and leaving the reel six metres beyond the low arch before retrieving the old line.