## **MEREGILL HOLE**

22nd March 2003

People present - Adam Cooper, Alan (Alfy) Gray, Martin Donaldson, Simon Halliday, Sam (from Pegasus)

After the usual meet at Bernies we were introduced to Sam who ended up taking the lead for most of the day, we headed off in the cars to try and find somewhere to park as near as we could or so we were told!! Not Fancying the chance of getting wiped off by a truck or a bus we decided to park back at the pub its a lovely big grassy car park we all pulled in and started to get changed whilst the landlord was giving us looks from the conservatory we sorted the kit and started the trek off up the lane only to meet some bog trotters that informed us that a party of 4 had just gone down Meregill.

Myself and Alfy have decided that next time there's a long walk extra kit should be issued to those long legged buggers that always seem to set the pace, I was steaming before I could even see the cave and poor Alfy wearing a wet suit found a seam that started to rub a delicate place. As we guessed the mere was down and we spilt into 2 teams myself, Simon and Rupert to go via the mere and the rest by the Aven I know I made the right choice as it is tight and awkward to get onto the the top of the pitch down.

Our team got to the top of the first pitch and seemed to wait for ages for the others, as the water was low with 1% chance of rain and two sets of rigging high up on the flood route the traditional one was chosen most would appear to have been 'P' hangered but we still found the need for two bolts and a deviation from a thread with some very old cord but I must say it did do the job very well, it was somewhere at this point that Martin disappeared then to re-appear high up in the roof on someone else's ropes. He then went down that way to save a bit of time, Alfy had smoke which we all had to enjoy then next thing he's playing Tarzan high above our heads forgetting to use his cows tails!! This just proves how good bacci is these days!!

We then met up with two guys from Norwich, had a chat and turned round at the top of the last pitch. As time was getting on we headed out the rest of the party thought it was about time that Alfy did a de-rig and sure enough he did the whole cave. Well done! Well what can I say a great cave that I will definitely return to and bottom. Thanks to Sam for leading the party. A very good day had by all.

Adam Cooper

A <u>Black Rose Caving Club</u> trip report.