

Tuesday 9th August. Riano: Badger, Tackleberry, Ben & Lucy

Objectives: to look at passage to left of the Acid Bath, & and to re look for Lank's pitch upstream of second river inlet.

After a casual trip to reach the Acid Bath area, we split into to 2's, Tackleberry & Ben went to look for the pitch upstream of second river inlet, after not being able to find it last year, see separate report from them Badger & Lucy, we went up the passage right of the Acid Bath, this show promise as on survey splits into two, the left hand passage heading towards Quadruphenia passage, Uzueka, and within 100 metres, after fairly easy going along the start of the passage we came to an awkward climb down on very jagged sharp rock, I climbed down leaving Lucy first I went along the right hand passage which although on the horizontal had to negotiate up and down, the passage was well decorated, and ended in a calcite slope and blocked, there where several avens to the side of the passages which in time would be looked up/down, however further exploration should possibly kept to a minimum due to the formations and consideration I would say to the potential of the avens, most which have been looked in in this part of the system are all blind leads. Back at the climb down there is a passage of to the left at floor level, this went through into a very sandy horizontal crawl which meandered a lot, after a while the crawl split, with a branch going left and behind the way I was heading, after another 10 minutes the passage became tighter, and being on my own decided to not push any further, the passage has previously been entered although I am not sure at what point the survey ends, so this might not have been drawn or surveyed. On the way back I ignored the passage now on the right, a bit further back there was another passage on the right, on the survey just shown as a branch and question mark, proceed down this passage and beyond where previous footprints ended, this then came to a T junction from right to left, I turned right, this went back to the passage originally crawled along, I did not head back down the passage as firstly had been gone for some time from Lucy, but also I believe the passage will eventually end back in the main passage, and obviously this does need to be confirmed but as we had not got a survey kit with us decided it might as well be survey at the same time as we push it. Reasons I believe this passage links back to the main passage, the look and feel of the passage looks the same as the one which enters the main passage, I think it will be at the same level, and the passage probably in wet periods takes a small stream. Potential for the passage into Uzueka is still good and if it blocks believe it would be easy digging as filled with sand from the Riano side.