

Bradwell Cave Index

Introduction

The caves of the Bradwell catchment area are often overshadowed by those of neighboring Castleton, which is inevitable when you consider Castleton is home to Titan (the UK's biggest natural shaft), the Peak - Speedwell and the Giant's - Oxlow systems, but.... there's a lot to go at here, and a lot more still to find. The longest and most complex cave in the area is Bagshawe Cavern which year on year yields more new passage.

Bagshawe Resurgence Cave, although short is highly significant, producing more water than the combined flow of Castleton's Peak Cavern and Russet Well. Divers over the years have tackled the underwater choke in Sump 2 pushing it to a point some 20m from base. The dig has yet to gain open passage but there is still great potential. The furthest known feeder to this site is Dowse Hole 3.4km away and 115m higher. The Bradwell Master Cave is somewhere waiting to be found. If vertical is your thing then Long Rake Mine won't fail to impress, even if you prefer "natural".

Badgers Rift

Length: 18m

Access: Unknown.

More Info: Descent #131 (p9) Aug./Sep. 1996.

Bagshawe Cavern

Grid Ref: SK 17163 80887 (GPS), Alt: 235m.

Length: 3.5km+

Access: is available for organized parties led by qualified instructors. Contact Mrs. Revell, Bagshawe Cavern 01433 620540.

Description: See the separate "Bagshawe Cavern" PDF download.

Bagshawe Resurgence Cave (The Lumb or The Yeld)

Grid Ref: SK 17405 80986 (GPS), Alt: 185m.

Length: 80m+

Access: No known restrictions.

Description: See the separate "Bagshawe Resurgence Cave" PDF download.

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Hitch n Hike, the Caving, Climbing & Outdoor Shop

www.hitchnhike.co.uk

Batham Pot

Grid Ref: SK 15238 80790 (GPS), Alt: 380m.

Access: technically this site is as for Long Rake Mine but it is right next to a public right of way and doesn't warrant "caving".

Description: Large open pothole, 10m wide, 20m long and currently 10m deep. At one time is accessed mine workings but is now partly filled in with rubbish.

Bird Mine

Grid Ref: SK 15754 81188 (PGPS), Alt: 353m.

Depth: 100m.

Access: Unknown.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District (p35), DW Gill & JS Beck 1991.

Bradwell Cave

Grid Ref: SK 17390 80687 (TBC), Alt: 215m (TBC).

Length: 30m.

Access: Unknown.

Description: Crawl ends at mud choke.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p35).

Bradwell Dale Cave See "Walkers Grotto".

Bradwell Parish Cave

Grid Ref: SK 17215 80580 (TBC), Alt: 222m (TBC).

Length: 30m.

Access: Unknown.

Description: Crawl ends at mud choke.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p35).

Brookside Sough

Descent #156 (p9) Oct./Nov. 2000.

Burtons Pingles Pipe

Grid Ref: SK 17173 80525 (TBC), Alt: 226m.

Length: 160m+

Access: Unknown.

Description: Passage leads to internal shaft flooded at the bottom.

Surveys: Descent #155 (p8) Aug./Sep. 2000.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p34-35).
Peak District Sump Index (p9) CDG 1994.
Descent #155 (p8) Aug./Sep. 2000.

Cartledge Farm Swallet

Grid Ref: SK 17912 77735 (CAP), Alt: 305m (TBC).

Access: No access.

Description: A collapse prompted a dig (undertaken by the EEG) in the lawn of Cartledge Farm's garden!

More Info: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p36).
Descent #156 (p9) Oct./Nov. 2000.

Cow Hole

Grid Ref: SK 17255 80422 (CAP), Alt: 220m.

Access: Unknown.

Description: Large entrance and chamber modified by mining.

Crematorium Pot (Bradwell Moor)

Grid Ref: SK 14935 80707 (GPS), Alt: 390m.
SK 14928 80720 (CAP).

Depth: 10m.

Access: Contact SUSS.

Description: Active dig.

More Info: Descent #160 (p11) Jun./Jul. 2001.
Descent #184 (p17) Jun./Jul. 2005.
Surveys: Descent #160 (p11) Jun./Jul. 2001.
Descent #184 (p17) Jun./Jul. 2005.

Dowse Hole

Grid Ref: 18118 77662 (CAP), Alt: 300m.

Length: 125m+

Access: Ask at the farm.

Description: The top entrance to the theoretical Bradwell master cave. A mammoth digging project forced the cave to it's present length but unfortunately failed to reach open cave. The water that sinks here is next seen at Bradwell Resurgence 3.4km away and 115m lower.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District (p36-37), DW Gill & JS Beck 1991.

Entries in Descent:

#93 (p13) Apr./May. 1990. #102 (p14) Oct./Nov. 1991.
#94 (p12) Jun./Jul. 1990. #107 (p15) Aug./Sep. 1992.
#98 (p12) Feb./Mar. 1991. #108 (p8) Oct./Nov. 1992.
#99 (p10) Apr./May. 1991. #114 (p10) Oct./Nov. 1993.
#100 (p16) Jun./Jul. 1991. #191 (p11) Aug./Sep. 2006

Durham Edge Swallet

Grid Ref: SK 17270 79242 (GPS), Alt: 244m.

Depth: 23m.

Access: No general access.

Description: This once choked swallet had been dug and investigated over many years but it wasn't until the EEG took it on that anything below ground was found. From the surface a short passage leads to an 8m pitch and a window into a parallel rift. All routes on and down are too tight for further progress.

Entries in Descent:

#157 (p15) Dec./Jan. 2000/01. #161 (p10-11) Aug./Sep. 2001.
#158 (p17) Feb./Mar. 2001. #162 (p14) Oct./Nov. 2001.
#159 (p12) Apr./May. 2001. #163 (p10) Dec./Jan. 2001/2.
#160 (p10) Jun./Jul. 2001. #183 (p10) Apr./May. 2005.
Surveys: Descent #158 (p17) Feb./Mar. 2001.

Hartle Dale New Cave

Grid Ref: 16445 80312 (CAP), Alt: 280m.

Access: Unknown, but close to the Hartle Dale footpath.

Hartle Dale Fissure Cave

Grid Ref: 16412 80326 (CAP), Alt: 280m.

Access: Unknown, but close to the Hartle Dale footpath.

Hazelbadge Cave

Grid Ref: SK 17117 80190 (CAP), Alt: 212m.

Access: Contact the DCA (see details at the end of this index).

More Info: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p36).

Descent: #55 (p5) Nov./Dec. 1983.

High Rake Mine

Grid Ref: 16389 77769 (GPS), Alt: 332m.

Access: Contact PDMHS for the current situation.

Description: A fine ginged winding shaft into solid limestone adjacent to the vein. It passes two choked levels and hits water at around 60m (1). Currently being archaeologically excavated / restored by PDMHS.

More Info: www.pdmhs.com

Descent: #47 (p15) Jan./Feb. 1981

References: 1). Terry Worthington, pers. comm.

Long Rake Mine (Long Rake Founder Shaft)

Grid Ref: 15287 80819 (GPS), Alt: 379m. Depth: 150m.
Access: Phone (or write) to Mr. Steven Hadfield, Oakhouse Farm, Smaldale, Buxton, SK17 8AE (tel. 01298-22139) at least 48 hours in advance. (Note that there are 2 Mr. Hadfields on that number and it is Steven you need to contact.) Please give details of intended trip, name of club and numbers involved. Avoid lambing season (10th. April to 20th. May inclusive). Roadside parking either on Batham Gate Road, and approach via Potter Barn, or, alternatively, from east end of road at Pindale and use public footpath. Avoid obstructing gateways, leave gates as found and entrance lid secure. (01/2008).

Description: A fine vertical trip rigged with resin p-anchors.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District (p40), DW Gill & JS Beck 1991.
Classic Caves of the Peak District (p113-114), I Barker 1997.
CCPC Rigging Guide, available from Hitch n Hike.

Moorfurlong Mine

Grid Ref: SK 16785 81187 (CAP), Alt: 255m.
Length: 210m+, Depth: 21m.
Access: Within House SK 16455 81122.

Description: Mine shaft and working intersect natural bedding cave.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p42).

Surveys: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p41).

Descent: Descent #47 (p16) Jan./Feb. 1981 (pollution).

Descent #182 (p11) Feb./Mar. 2005.

New Venture Mine

Grid Ref: SK 15437 81041 (CAP), Alt: 376m.
Access: Unknown.

Description: Mine shaft and working intersect natural cave.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p42).

Outlands Head Cave

Grid Ref: SK 16600 80800 (approx), Alt: 350m.
Length: 370m

Access: No access, entrance now blocked by industrial and quarrying operations.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p43).

Surveys: Published by John Beck, available from Hitch n Hike.
Descent #88 (p16) Jun./Jul. 1989.

Descent:

#88 (p16) Jun./Jul. 1989. #91 (p14) Dec./Jan. 1989/90.

#91 (p14) Dec./Jan. 1989/90. #110 (p15) Feb./Mar. 1993.

Quarters Farm Swallet

Grid Ref: SK 17288 79440 (AP), Alt: 238m.
Access: Unknown.

Descent:

#162 (p14) Oct./Nov. 2001. #167 (p15) Aug./Sept. 2002.

#163 (p9) Dec./Jan. 2001/2. #169 (p15) Dec./Jan. 2002/3.

#164 (p14) Feb./Mar. 2002. #175 (p16) Dec./Jan. 2003/4.

#166 (p9) Jun./Jul. 2002. #176 (p16) Feb./Mar. 2004.

Surveys: Descent #167 (p15) Aug./Sept. 2002.

Raddle Pits Mine

Grid Ref: SK 14858 80232 (CAP), Alt: 406m.
Depth: 122m.

Access: Unknown.

More Info: Descent #97 (p9) Dec./Jan. 1990/91.

Springfield Rising

Grid Ref: SK 17421 81550 (GPS), Alt: 175m.
Access: Unknown.

More Info: Descent #156 (p9) Oct./Nov. 2000.

Walker's Grotto (Bradwell Dale Cave or Nickerlow Cave)

Grid Ref: SK 17316 80589 (TBC), Alt: 204m.
Length: 40m.

Access: Unknown.

Description: Steeping height passage enters muddy chamber. In wet weather water rises and ponds up from the hole in the floor and in severe flood a stream resurges from the cave entrance.

More Info: Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991 (p45).

Well Shaft

Grid Ref: SK 17124 80314 (GPS), Alt: 215m.
Depth: 15m.

Access: Unknown.

Description: Shaft intersects a short section of natural passage and descends to water. In very dry conditions this lowers to expose some short workings. These have also been explored by divers.

More Info: Peak District Sump Index, CDG 1994 (p76).

CDG Newsletter #87 (p19)



Description Notes:

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Further reading:

- Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991, now out of print ISBN 1-85568-034-3.
- Peak Rigging Guide, published by Crew Climbing & Potholeing Club.
- Peak District Sump Index, R.L. Carter & J.N. Cordingley 1994, published by the Cave Diving Group.
- Rocks & Scenery of the Peak District, Trevor D. Ford 2006 ISBN 1-84306-026-4.
- Limestones and Caves of the Peak District , Trevor D Ford 1977, out of print ISBN 0 86094 004 1 (paper) & 005 X (cloth)



Amendments:

Amendments and additions can be sent to:-
caveguides@peakdistrictcaving.info (information regarding access or safety issues is automatically passed on to the Derbyshire Caving Association).

Abbreviations:

- GPS = Positional data derived from Global Positioning System.
- CAP = Positional data derived from calibrated aerial photograph.
- TBC = To be confirmed.
- CRoW = Site lies within a designated Countryside Rights of Way area. See the note at the end of this guide.
- CPD91 = Caves of the Peak District, DW Gill & JS Beck 1991, ISBN 1-85568-034-3 (out of print).
- CCPD97 = Classic Caves of the Peak District, Iain Barker 1997, ISBN 1-86126-058-X (out of print).
- SCB197 = Selected Caves of Britain & Ireland, Des Marshall & Donald Rust 1997, ISBN 1-871890-43-8.

Clubs:

- TSG = Technical Speleological Group
- CDG = Cave Diving Group.
- SUSS = Sheffield University Speleological Society
- CCPC = Crewe Climbing & Potholeing Club.
- EPC = Eldon Pothole Club.
- EEG = Eyam Exploration Group.
- OCC = Orpheus Caving Club.
- PDMHS = Peak District Mines Historical Society.

Notes:

CRoW: Some sites lie within a designated Countryside Rights of Way area so, in theory, there should be no restrictions with regard to general access. However, we advise the utmost respect towards the land and the land owner. It is worth remembering, sites within CRoW areas can be freely visited but legally there is nothing to stop an aggravated landowner freely visiting the site themselves and filling the entrance full of concrete..... Be considerate and respect their wishes!! (e.g. Thistle Pot).



Contacts:

- DCA Access Officer:
Iain Barker, 56 Thornbridge Crescent, Birley, Sheffield. S12 3AE.
Email: iainbarker@peakland.freereserve.co.uk

WARNING!

Caving and exploring mines can be dangerous and fatal accidents can happen, especially if you are not sufficiently trained.

Anyone using this guide does so at their own risk while understanding and accepting that, although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the writers and/or contributors can not be held responsible for any outcome however linked to this text. Do not rely on this description as it may contain errors. Your safety and the safety of those around you is your own responsibility. The existence of this guide does not imply a right of access to the cave. An access agreement may or may not be in place with the land owner. Liability Insurance linked to a Landowner Indemnity Clause may be required.

CAVE RESCUE

In case of accident telephone 999 and ask for Cave Rescue.