

2007

2007

1st January Toomullin Phosphate Mine

Pauline Cronin

Nice wander around the remaining buildings, in cold sunshine. Couldn't access the crane remains; good bit of bushes have grown over them. Into McDermotts for New Year Pint.

Occupied with building phase one, the apartment. Weather a challenging adversary.

April

Lost Dave Irwin

6th April Echo Passage, Doolin River Cave

Echo Sump.

Martin Grass, Dave Ryall, Brian Scofield, Cheg Chester

Aim: DR wanted to dive the sump and check the findings of O.C.L.

First caving trip in the Republic for DR & BSc; an uneventful trip to the site, and excellent vis, OCL was correct the sump is some 35 metres long, 2 metres deep and around 1.5m diameter an excellent training sump, considering the effort to get there. PC installed a bolt on the right-hand side at the top of the pot; hanger required.

8th April Poulmagollum

Branch Passage down pitch back to main entrance

Martin Grass, Dave Ryall, Conor McGrath

Photographic trip for DR, just at the beginning of B.P. (a little upstream from the muddy links) PC noticed a small aven with a possible passage above. CMcG was shown and agreed there may be something up there, so intend bolt it, a steady trip meeting several students from the forum along the way.

15th April Cullaun One

Cheg Chester

A steady trip with one ladder for a supposed pitch further down; confused with the book description, unsure quite where the "climbs" are. Down the streamway to a point where believed is the present limit, a pool at the base of a five-metre pot.

18th April Balch Cave

Mark Lumley, Mandy, Richard Witcombe, Dave King, Tav, Alan Gray, Tony Littler, Paul Stillman, Clive North

Digging; 74 bags of spoil removed, apparently a record; being enough personnel to bring direct to surface.

6th May Pouldubh

Cheg Chester

Aim, continue the survey; complete Pat's Passage and while there, push the end and the very low streamway beyond Figg's Bar & Grill. In McGann's after the trip the total of the surveyed length of PP is sixty four metres. The low streamway beyond Figg's Bar & Grill was estimated to be seven metres to a bend. The beginning of the streamway is very tight some 0.225 metre; a slim person needed! The end is also very tight!

12th May Poulmagollum, Branch Passage to Main stream

Ray Murphy, Lorraine (Ray's cousin) Conor McGrath, Eoin McGrath

Enjoyable trip for Lorraine, 2nd trip ever, also assessing the cave for the Rescue Practice.

2007

19th May Poulmagollum
Gunman's Cave
Core Team 18 members

The aim; to set up four different "hot points" to assess the efficiency of their erection and use. Also, the installation of a tyrolean from the floor of the entrance shaft to the surface via the quad pod, secured with bolts and stakes. Overall, a good session.

23rd May Pouldubh
Cheg Chester

The survey completed by crawling down the final passage off the lower chamber and also crawling down the very low streamway that leads off from four-way junction. At several points further evidence was noted of the cave sediments altering position, in one case disappearing altogether. Total estimated passage 550m.



Photo Cheg Chester

Entrance to Poulbeagnacoillte, "The Little Hole in the woods"

2007

28th May Cullaun 2

Tony Boycott, Graham Mullan, Linda Wilson, Bob Church, his 2 daughters, Mike Simms, Helen Wills + husband and 5-year-old boy

Desperate trip; so many, all went down the main streamway. MS and PC took the high level route, being the quieter.

29th May B4 area, digging at the hole in the woods,

Cheg Chester

Excavated the three “sinks”; interesting that each hollow is subtly different.

5th June Pouldubh South, Figg-Brigg Series

Julian Walford

Courtesy offered to UBSS members; JW accepted impressed at length of extensions.

7th June Aille River, Doolin

Solo

A chance find, after a walk down the coast, cut inland toward the UBSS rented cottage: acute hearing noted a tiny crack against the river bank. Passed off as too small, a later look cleared it of mud etc. A larger than body size vertical tube seen below. This hole is in the south bank beneath a tree at the edge of the riverbank in bedrock. Situated behind Paddy Maloney's Bed & Breakfast.



Photo Ken James

Pouluisceiliath, after removal of mud plug

11th June Aille River, Doolin

Cheg Chester

Took CC to the opening found previously. PC excavated more of the compacted cobble and mud surrounding the edge, amounting to a few handfuls. An undercut, water worn edge appeared; needs a bit of work with a lump hammer. The light showed a 0.6m wide shaft developed on a rift. At the bottom, heading off both north and south appears to be alcoves or maybe passages? Grey water discharge noted from the river bank; with the imminent rain there will be a chance to wash the area clean.

June (undated) Pouluisceliath (L82?) (Grey Water Hole)

Ken James

Returned to the Aille, used a lump hammer, opened a hole, big enough to squeeze down. Tiny amount of water in the river; 5mm deep, trickling into the hole, causing difficulty breathing beneath the cascade below. At the bottom unable to see clearly into beddings, that could be felt on both north and south side. Felt large rounded cobbles under the feet.

June (undated) Pouluisceliath (L82?) (Grey Water Hole)

Ken James

Due to the water issue, returned with sandbags to divert the overspill. Achieved; Ken descended and commenced digging, after only four buckets, the cobble floor was cleared. KJ began to dig into the beddings, both begun as 300mm high, swiftly shrinking to 200mm. This was accepted as the termination.



Pouluisceliath

Photo Ken James

June (undated) Depression subsidence, Doonmacelim Townland
Mattie Shannon

MS showed three areas of subsidence three hundred metres northwest of Doonmacelim castle. Similar to collapses adjacent Noel O'Conner's barn, one hundred and fifty metres west of the castle. Other collapses have occurred in Susan O'Conner's Garden one hundred and thirty metres west-south-west of the castle. The ground is of blown sand, up to ten metres in depth. Drawing a line through all three sites, suggests a potential conduit, which arrives at Fisherstreet Bridge vicinity, some hundred and fifty metres downstream from Pouluiscelaith. These collapses are on the west side of the river between Fisherstreet and the community centre, over a distance of some 1500 metres; a dry river channel flows around half from the north east, beyond the church.

Second phase of building work commences.

4th August Lough Aughrim
Ken James

Dived 23rd December 2003. Water levels some two metres lower; a search found several interesting other sites, none could be entered. A bedding was found in a pool seventy metres SW of Aughrim; too tight. Such water levels are higher than normal.

August (undated, 14th?) Wolves Hole, Cong
Martyn Farr, Helen Ryder

Travelled up to carry for MF to the upstream sump. The entrance is beyond Pigeon Hole by some 300 metres. A small track on the left of the path, near a bush, goes for some 10 metres around to the right, to the entrance. A fifty foot pitch drops into a chamber. Beneath the ladder a small hole through boulders descends to the lower streamway. Some fifty metres along, the roof lowers to meet a stream flowing left to right. The dive was to push upstream, alas very little further distance was made. Very clear water conditions. Downstream sump low; ending in boulders.

15th – 16th August Bunadubber Cave,
Martyn Farr
Assisting MF as Instructor with Cave Diving course.

Commenced the larger, phase of building the home.
Frenetic building activity caused many spontaneous trips to go unrecorded.

26th November Lost Mike Thompson, a really good man and pal.

31st December Poulnagollum
Solo

Last of the Year. Dry conditions; passing Poulelva. Noted cavers changing, stopped for a chat. Visitors from Belfast college. Left them to it. Free climbed the entrance. Decided to take Branch Passage; abseil the pitch. Expected to meet the others just below main junction. Reached the bottom of Poulelva, no sign of any tackle? Steady trip out. Passing Poulelva, no sign of their truck.

Legend

CC	Cheg Chester	Kilshanny
CMcG	Conor McGrath	Doolin
PMcG	Paul McGrath	Dublin/Doolin
EMcG	Eoin McGrath	Doolin
KJ	Ken James	Weston Super Mare
PE	Peter Eckford	Southampton
PT	Paul Thompson	Winster, Derbyshire
MF	Martyn Farr	Llangattock, Wales
BS	Barry Sudell	Knockalough
TB	Tony Boycott	U.B.S.S Scotland
JW	Julian Walford	U.B.S.S Bristol
NG	Nick Geh	Gort Galway
GM	Graham Mullin	U.B.S.S Bristol
LW	Linda Wilson	U.B.S.S Bristol
LMc	Lorraine McCartan	SUI
BSc	Brian Scofield	B.P.C – C.D.G
DR	Dave Ryall	B.P.C – C.D.G
MG	Martin Grass	B.E.C – C.D.G
RM	Ray Murphy	SUI
BC	Bob Churcher	U.B.S.S
MS	Mike Sims	U.B.S.S
CW	Carol Walford	U.B.S.S
HR	Helen Ryder	C.D.G
JS	Jayne Stead	
TD	Tony Donovan	S.W.C.C
MGs	Martin Groves	C.D.G
Jrat	Tony Jarratt	B.E.C (1949-2008)
CS	Ceily Sudell	Knockalough
AS	Alan Steans	Pegasus CN
GT	Graham Toffus?	Nottingham