

Hidden Earth 03

Hidden Earth 2003

This caving conference was held in October, near Worcester. The author and Terje Solbakk were Norwegian representatives. They were met at Great Malvern by David Judson, secretary of the conference. Together with T. Gustafsson, chairman of the Swedish Speleological Society, they were put to work in preparing the campsite. No visits to caves were arranged. However, there were numerous impressive exhibits and project reports, in particular from the Wookey system under Mendip Hills.

Participation in a mapping competition turned out to be no great Norwegian success.

Several cavers with experience from Norway took part in the conference. David St. Pierre had invited the Norwegians to his Yorkshire home in High Bentham after the conference. Outstanding hospitality and memorable cave visits resulted. Among the friends encountered was Jenny Watkinson, née Smith, who has given name to the Smith cave in Beirn.