

Norsk Grotteblad nr 45, Desember 2005

Norgessamlingen 2005

Norway meeting 2005

This year Tjoarve Week was combined with Norway Meeting. Excellent accommodation was provided at Leirfjorden School in Bonådalen. Eight Polish cavers took part. Admirable stamina! David St. Pierre came from England - his 26th visit! Together with the author he spent 4 weeks in the North. The author describes, for each of the 7 days, the activities of 3-5 groups, variously constituted. On the first day most of the participants started by walking up the T1 - the classical Tjoarve entrance, discovered by Torbjörn Doj and Johannes Lundberg as recently as 1993. The group proceeded to T2 - Stalluuxsa (Troll door), considered an independent cave until connected to T1 in 1997-98. Then on to the cave Stoppenålen (Darning needle), named after the entrance. It seems to be impossible to connect Stoppenålen and Tjoarve. Østdøren (East door) is the fourth discovered entry, connected to the large system in 2000, Tjuvsprekka (Thief's cleft) is the lowest entry, discovered and connected in 1998. The last stop was Eitersprekka (Venom cleft), a thin cleft with a huge thundering blowout. It cannot be entered, but people have come close from inside Tjoarve. Earlier in the summer trigonometric reference points had been established at the openings. Østdøren, T1 and T2 were linked to these points. In connection with the work at T1 Torstein Finnesand crawled into a side passage, hitherto insufficiently explored. After a while he saw daylight, but it seemed doubtful whether exit would be feasible. The next day, however, three cavers squeezed through and came out 80 m above the three blowholes which had been considered exit candidates. The new exit was named Trang fødsel (Narrow birth).

The 25-year jubilee dinner of the NGF was celebrated at the school on August 6. On August 9 a visit was paid to Johan Olsen, an 80-year old man, very interested in caves, who has often been helpful, for instance to David St. Pierre in 1972 and 1974.

Status aug 2005: length of Tjoarve 18516 m, length of Stoppenålen 469 m, length of Steinakslagrotta more than 2900 m with depth 191 m.