

Team Newcastle i Tjorve

Team Newcastle in Tjorve

Three cavers with a connection to the University of Newcastle Caving Club - Stefan Persson, Dominick Mennie and Sven-Jöran Schrader - participated in the 2009 expedition in Norway's longest cave, the Tjoarvekraiggje. After some indoor training at the Bonådalen school on Saturday, using first old-fashioned surveying techniques and then being introduced to the use of DistoX, they were given the task to survey a loop between stations F18 - I2. Having fulfilled their challenge, they continued on Sunday by surveying side passages in the EB-series which had not been researched further during a previous surveying trip to this part of the cave a few years ago. Starting with a short passageway that ended after just a few metres, they continued to the next one, which soon seemed more promising. Passing through two parallel passages, following a faint draft of air, they entered into a large underground hall. Further exploration would have required rope equipment which the group did not have so that they decided to turn back. The discovery of a large hall in that particular part of the cave was unexpected. In line with Tjorve etiquette, the new passages are now off-limits for others for one year, which means that "Team Newcastle" can return in 2010 to continue surveying their discovery.