

Gjennombrudd i Bjørndalssjakta

Breakthrough in Bjørndalssjakta

In Autumn 2010, Anders Westlund and Knut Davidsen made a renewed attempt to find a connection between Bjørndalssjakta and Bjørndalshola, which had been left alone since 2001 (see NGB 38). They dug their way through the accumulated flood debris in Bjørndalssjakta to the previous limit, a wet crawl. This was passed to find a dam of loose stones, which was removed to lower the water level. After removing a further blockage and descending a few short climbs, the connection to the main streamway in Bjørndalshola was established in an obscure corner that had not been observed previously. The use of North Sea survival suits greatly increased the comfort of the explorers, and is generally recommended for visitors to this cave due to the amount of crawling in cold water. Visitors should also be aware of the significant flood risk, particularly during the spring melt.