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## **BELDON POT, BELDON MOOR, WENSLEYDALE    NGR 976941**

Short report by R.G. Guthrie

Tackle required 70 ft. ladder, 6 ft. belay. Lifeline.

During a search for new caves and potholes on Beldon Moor on the 18th April, 1964, Andrew Stobbs and Brian Morrell found two large sinks side by side, both took streams and both had fluted potholes of reasonable size.

Burnley Caving Club brought along tackle and surveying equipment on the 2nd May, 1964, and surveyed some 120 feet of the system. Wet conditions prevented further surveying but the crawl was pushed for approximately 400 feet before the roof lowered to about 10 inches, and the stream spread out over a 40 foot wide bedding plane.

On May 18th, 1964, a larger party tried to push the system still further weather conditions being more favourable. The double pitch totalling some 65 feet was not difficult nor was the crawl downwards with some three inches of fast flowing water helping us along. The 40 foot bedding plane was forced some 20 feet in two directions without success.

A somewhat disappointing find as it seemed at first as though it might be quite extensive. It is well ornamented with hundreds of stalactites but these are not noticed because of the uncomfortable conditions which prevail.

It is interesting to note that the underground stream flows NNW towards Swaledale due to a dip in the limestone whereas all the surface streams in the area flow in the opposite direction towards Wensleydale.

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