

Expedition Caving Experience CV

Last updated :- 3rd February 2020

Personal Details

Full Name	Philip John Rowsell		Nickname	Madphil
Age	54		Gender	Male

Short Caving Summary

Short Summary	<p>I am originally a UK caver, and have logged over 1500 trips both in the UK and abroad, totalling some 11,000 underground hours with a wide range of sport, teaching, exploration and digging trips. I have partaken in over 67 foreign Expeditions of which I have been the Leader for at least 17 and been Assistant Leader for a further 17. Surveyed over 50Km of cave passage and 27km of surface traverses (mainly in Ida Bay, Tasmania)</p> <p>I have camped over 250 nights underground, mainly in an exploration environment due to commuter time to the pushing front not economical to continue bounce trips. I have also camp 34 times at the REU (for 2-3 night) digging at the extremes of the system, Spade runner, Warren, Star Bar, PainKiller and others. All these camps were under my leadership (being my digging team - The fat belly boyes).</p> <p>I am also know as a reasonable bolt climber having climbed the numerous aven around the world and climbed what is regarded as one, if not the highest free drop bolt climbs in the world highest bolt climbs (264m free drop, Dark Star, Hirlatz Hohle, Dachstein). This will soon be surpassed by an aven climb in China which is already 200m high and still not site of the roof.</p> <p>I have been on the Ghar Parau Foundation Committee for 15 years (Rotational & Co-opted Member for 11 years, Secretary for 4 years, and Trustee & Secretary for 1 year)</p> <p>I am currently on the BCA council as a Individual Member.</p> <p>I am now working in China for the Guilin Karst institute (6 month a year) to explore and document caves in China. (Surveying, including geological information). I am also charged with training Chinese cavers in SRT techniques and exploration techniques.</p>
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Personal (Sport/Digging) UK Caving Experience

Personal Caving (Trips & Hours)	UK Trips = 946 UK Underground Hours = 5367 England = 3095, Wales = 2245, Scotland = 27
UK regions caved in	UK Regions = 8:- England, Mendip (725), England, Yorkshire (85), England, Derbyshire (56), Wales, Llangattawg (52), Wales, Forest of Dean (9), S Wales (8), Scotland, Assynt (7), N. Yorkshire Nenthead (4) (see attached sheet)
Summary	<p>I am a UK caver, and have logged over 946 trips both in the UK, totalling some ?? underground hours with a wide range of trips: predominantly digging, some sport & teaching, exploration when lucky enough to discover.</p> <p>My main place of interest is the Mendip where I have logged over 381 into Eastwater Cavern (300+ digging trips - mainly the technical masterpiece and sump 1, & 2) , 140 St Cuthberts Swallet trip again mainly digging at sump 2) and 24 trips to Manor Farm where a reasonable break through was achieved.</p> <p>Camp 34 times at the REU, Daren Celiu, Llangattawg, Wales (for 2-3 night each time) digging at the extremes of the system, Spade runner, Warren, Star Bar, PainKiller and others. All these camps were under my leadership (being my digging team - The fat belly boyes)</p> <p>My trips to the other UK caving regions have mainly been sport trip, with some digging trips.</p> <p>Qualified member of Cave Dive Group since Oct 2009 and have logged over 156 cave dives, (total time underwater hours = 99.5, Max penetration 810m , Max depth 61m, Longest cave dive = 2 hours). Over 42 of these dives have been in St Cuthberts Swallet dive digging sump 2.</p>

Foreign Expedition Caving Experience

Number of Expeditions (Attended, Assistant leader, Leader)	Total Expeditions = 67+ (over 6000hrs Underground Time) Leader = Over 17, Assistant Leader = 17
Expeditions Countries	Expeditions = 67+, Expedition countries = 13 Austria (12), Canada (1), China (26+), Germany (2), Greece (2), Ireland (1), Kosovo (1), Myanmar (2), Malaysia (2), Peru (1) Spain (11) Switerland (2), Tasmania (2 + 2.5 years continuous exploration)
Foreign Sport Experience (Attended, Assistant leader, Leader)	Total Foreign Sport Expeds = 6 Leader = 0 Assistant Leader = 2
List of foreign sport Expeds countries	7 Foreign sport Expeds in 2 different countries :- France (4) , Spain (2) Oman - Teaching (1)
Summary of Foreign Experience	<p>Over 67 expeditions to a wide variety of country's with different exploration environments. I spent my initial expedition experience focused on mainly on the Dachstien, Austria and I did 7 Expeds to the high plateau and a further 5 winter trips into the Hirlatz (the main horizontal development). I also spent 2.5 years in Tasmania, caving or doing surface in particular (setting up a 25km surface survey network in Ida Bay) virtually every day.</p> <p>More recently (since 2010) I have spent a significant time in China, initially coming and going on exped, but then moved to China to run expeditions, and more latterly, I now working in China for the Guilin Karst institute (6 months a year) to explore and document caves in China. (Surveying, including geological information). I am also charged with training Chinese cavers in SRT techniques and exploration techniques. I have currently done over 26 expeditions in China many of them I have led or co-led.</p>

Caving Qualification & Instructor Experience

Qualifications	Mountain Rescue Casualty Cas Carer 2003 (Now lapsed) Qualified member of Cave Dive Group since Oct 2009
Instruction Experience	<p>Through out my caving Career I have taken many people caving for the first time or with limited caving experience. Many more are hidden in the log. More recently I have been requested to take Chinese Novice cavers into relatively large fairly simple caves.</p> <p>The majority of my teaching and coaching has been at a higher level that Novice i.e. SRT (at all levels), i.e. no SRT skill, to coaching on personal techniques, to rigging new pitches (rigging methods/bolting, hazards, bolt climbing etc), to rescue techniques (stretch handling and hauling techniques), underground camping techniques. This has mainly been focused on people wanting to go on expeditions. Many other trips particularly on expedition (not included) have had a continual element of coaching ("on the job training") which is very difficult to log and quantify.</p> <p>I am now working for the Guilin Karst Institute in China, employed to explore and survey caves, and teach these techniques to the various Chinese cavers and caving clubs in China. I have run a number of these including a number of advance workshops in Surveying and Bolt climbing techniques.</p>

Caving Club Membership

Clubs & Position held	Bristol Exploration Club, The Chelsea, and the Bradford Pothole Club.
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Other Related Cave Information

Any other supporting evidence (e.g. involvement in Cave Rescue, Cave Research etc.)	<p>I have been on the Ghar Parau Foundation Committee for 15 years (rotational & co-opted Member for 11 years, Secretary for 4 years, and Trustee & Secretary for 1 year)</p> <p>I am currently on the BCA council as a Individual Member Rep.</p> <p>Involved with the BCA recreational training guidelines and developing the training and accreditation modules.</p> <p>Was a MCR (Mendip Cave Rescue) warden from 2003 to 2009, resigned only due to the fact that I moved out of the area and was spending more time abroad. Was responsible for the organisation of a number of training sessions and workshops.</p> <p>Wrote the Cave description/guide for Eastwater Cavern and Manor Farm in the current Mendip Underground Guidebook.</p>
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