

In August 2014 the team returned to sunny Covanera. The exploration divers this time were Jason Mallinson (JM) Rene Houben (RH) and Rick Stanton (RS).

An experienced support team consisted of: Xesus Manteca (Teca), Alberto Medina, Hilari Moreno, Rafa Bernardo, Adrian Gonzalez, Xavi Labad, Viriginia Soria, Enrique Ballesteros, Pep Pujal, Leopoldo Trabanco (Poli), Roberto Cano, Carlos Garcia (Krilin), Pedro Gonzalez, Martyn Farr, Brian Schofield, Rob Dalby, Mel Dalby, Yolanda Spronck, Peter Goossens, Jose de Veer.

Several other volunteers from the Spanish diving and caving community also attended at various times.

The objectives for this expedition were:-

- 1) Continue the exploration of the dry passages leading off from Tipperary and survey them.
- 2) Attain radio communication with the outside via a Hey Phone cave radio system, loaned for this expedition.
- 3) Continue the exploration beyond Sump 4 in Razor II.

After the initial familiarisation dives to 2000m in S2, JM and RH were in position to dive to Tipperary and spend 1 night there to set up camp and carry out the first objective of the expedition.

JM set off into S2 first and immediately noticed a leak in the drysuit, continuing to 700m the problem worsened, and therefore he turned back rather than carry on for the possible 6 hour dive to Tipperary. RH had only just entered the water in S2 when JM returned to base, but he

2014

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decided to continue to Tipperary. RH traversed S2 and spent 1 night in Tipperary. He arrived back at S2 dive base the next day around midday.



In the meantime several problems were slowly being overcome by the other lead divers. A leaking drysuit was repaired. A damaged LED main dive lamp was repaired. One of the main AquaZepp scooters was completely rewired twice, following a relay burn-out, luckily this happened on the surface, as the motor stuck ON !

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