

Norsk Grotteblad nr 36, August 2000

Plura 1988

In 1987 Bjørn Olav Steihaug and Ronny Arnesen did their first dive in Plura, in the resurgence. They dived about 100 meters into the outlet and approached a depth of 31 meters.

The year after they came back with a bigger diving team, with the aim to get further into the cave. Nobody of them had experience with such a big project, and there was not any good team spirit. There were discussions about the goal, how to achieve it and general irritation about the disagreement. Some of the participants had spent a lot of time doing training and preparations before hand, but others had not been thinking about diving before they arrived in Plura.

Among all the projects organized by Ronny Arnesen, this was the most instructive.

We used an underwater scooter (Aqua-Zepp) and a homeroom habitat for the decompression. Two persons could sit in dry conditions in the habitat. We had a homeroom communication with the surface and breathed 100 % oxygen in the habitat with supply from the surface. In all other situations air as breathing gas and diving suit gas was used. The divers reached 485 meters into Plura from the resurgence, and a depth of 36 meters.

We had a reconnaissance dive in Steinugleflåget as well. The diver reported that big passages continued beyond the sumps.