

News Items for 2004

21 December 2004 – Rathmell goes Global (positioning)

Through Leica Geosystems we have purchased our first GPS survey system; a Leica GS50 to support the current growth in landscape survey contracts. This system uses real-time correction to capture locational data at typically accuracies of 0.4m (plan) and 0.7m (height) with data presented within the Ordnance Survey National Grid co-ordinate system. Data is exported through .shp files for easy integration with our in-house GIS software.

06 June 2004 – Digging deep with the Time Team

We were delighted to be invited to supply excavation staff to the recent Time Team excavations at the Wemyss caves in Fife. The excavation uncovered new carvings within Sliding Cave and sampled a midden outwith Well Cave, which sealed ard marks on a sand layer beneath. A possible burial marker was investigated in a section of eroding foreshore near Jonathan's Cave. We will have to wait until early next year to see whether we have the misfortune to appear in the background to the finished programme.

28 May 2004 – New Premises

At the end of May we took possession of new commercial premises at 10 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning KA13 6PU. Telephone and web contacts remain unchanged and the old address remains the registered office, so any correspondence to our old address will reach us. The move gives us a more suitable base with improved storage and work areas.

16 May 2004 – Silver in St Andrews

The analysis of a crucible fragment showed that it had been used for silver refining activities, perhaps the melting down of coinage. This analysis is part of ongoing post-excavation research into a range of industrial material (crucible fragments, a tuyere fragment, slag and metal processing byproducts) from our excavations in the public library in St Andrews (see case study). This material is interpreted as pre-dating 1410 AD and potentially linked to the building of the Holy Trinity Parish Church between 1400 and 1410 AD.