

CUCC EXPO  
LOG BOOK  
2016.

19/7/16 SONGS

19/7/16  
S102

25/6/16 Becha, Andrew, Siân  
T/1 Thurs.

Tunnochies - rigging to start of String Theory

I found the end of Natas rigging on the crux over above the final snow slope + rigged down with 3m less rope than would have been ideal. Some fine ice columns at the bottom of the pitch. I then rigged caramel latarsis on 7m of the unloved 11mm, using all the way - I had to brace to force my way down + the knots were like dinner plates - no more 11mm please, ever! We then decided to rig the traverse over the top of Ural Subjects to avoid the long route round which, oddly, everyone has chosen to do in the past few years. However, this left only 8 bolts left for String Theory so Andrew rigged down to the corner above the main pitch with the new 200mm of 10mm + we headed out the long way round to slow Siân the way. Traverses all left rigged on nutty red 9mm. Siân got v.v overheated coming out of the entrance so I think my double lung advice won't be taken up. Walked down the hill just missing the storm.

23/6/16



Bedra, Andrews, Sion

T/U 8 hours 7 1/2 hrs walking

Walk over Grünberg. Climbing from Niederbütten via Grünghütte, Mutterek + Grüneggstadel. Ending at Kalm.

Left my bike at Kalm then drove to Niederbütten (this is definitely the better route for the bike → can shuttle as all downhill!). Set off 2:45 but already hot + near heat stroke on the initial ascent. I had 3L water which wouldn't have been enough except there's an excellent spring source way above the Grünghütte where we refilled. & after a few wires + metal foot poles so like ~~as per~~ an unprotected via ferrata on ascent + descent + maybe problems with snow earlier in year or in a high-snow years descent down steep ridges + narrow snowy gullies in a fairly improbable manner - impressive to see a route over at all. A very fine day out though sadly Julian didn't get to hang-glide over us though we collected him from his field in Bad Mitterndorf.

Nat

22/06/2016



Nat, Ash & Elliot

T/U ~ 3? hours

After day of top camp setting we set off to Balcony Hut to rig the entrance shaft; after initially intending to do ~~only~~ a carry. We reflected en-route, so as to be able to find our way back, arriving ~ 8 pm. I rigged the first ~~so~~ few belays, digging deep ~~into my~~ not really understanding what the bolts wanted me to do. Elliot took over & we eventually got to the bottom with someodge. ~~As we were~~ not due to a lack of inspiration ~~we~~ we headed back out & back to top camp, getting there ~~with~~ ~ midnight.

23/6/2016

~~weekend trip~~ ~~weekend book~~

Thurs

23/06/2016

Nat & Ash

23/06/2016 T/U 4 ?? hours

Feeling keen we set off to rig Turnock's entrance shaft; optimistically we took ropes ~~no~~ hangers to get to the bottom of ducks on ice. Burdened by several bags & equipped with my skyhook I set off; several exciting swings & wall destruction (by skyhook) complete saw Ash & I in sight of the ice plug bottom ice/snow plug; after a final skyhook swing & lunge to gain a skyhook placement to put a ~~bolt~~ bolt in

& looked up to see the other ~~hills~~ for a  
y-hang out of reach. At this point I got fed  
up & we went home of silly acrobatics, & we  
went home despite the end being in sight.  
of the entrance

26/06/2016? T/U 5P Nat & Elliot Friday

After a disgustingly warm carry up the  
hill with Anthony, Nat & Elliot, Elliot & I  
decided we still wanted to go caving. We  
headed over to Balcony with 100m of 11mm  
snake rope, ~~bolts~~ & setting & surveying kit.  
Rigging the pitch too thin, previous rope we  
set about swinging into windows on the 34m  
pitch ~~the~~ my only lead from 2014 that  
hadn't been snaffled. After a loose climb &  
another scary climb (that Elliot went up) it  
crapped out, giving ~~the~~ <sup>new</sup> grand total of surveyed  
passage of <sup>in</sup> 10m. After re-rigging the entrance  
on speed 11mm we went for a little bimble  
& found the natural high's had been derigged.

See 2 pages later for rigging guide  
8mations  
6 Krabs  
4 hangers  
2 straps

1 drill  
hammer/ setter  
bits + 2 sets

26/06/2016 Nat & Anthony T/U 8th  
Rigging trip down Turnocks, continue Anthony  
continued rigging down String Theory whilst I  
sat & refrigerated. String Theory rigged we consolidated  
rigging kit & Anthony continued rigging down  
procrastination; I continued to refrigerate. Rigging  
complete we headed out. 9 Krabs, 9 mations, 9 hangers  
N of 3 magic glue (dev.)

27/06/2016 T/U 11.5 hours Nat & Wokey

Set off to continue rigging down Turnocks  
(aiming to carry 2 bags ~~to~~ camp). On the way  
the hardline one bolt wonder hardline was  
converted (more or less) into a bona fide  
traverse line. Picked up ~~sign~~ Krabs, hangers & mations  
from bottom of string theory & carried on  
down procrastination; ~~too~~ Wokey rigged number  
of the beast & we carried on down to magic  
glue, putting deviations in along the way.

Once at Magic glue jaff ensued with rope  
misbehaving & getting tangled. Once <sup>I was</sup> at the  
bottom, wokey installed a elevation; having  
previously dropped Krab/sling down the pitch:  
"it's a good job we're not climbers or we'd  
have to retire that", on a spike, bags were  
left just below magic glue, with a long plod  
out.

stuff left: 2 camp bags of camping stuff  
1 drill, 2 drill bits, 1 battery, blow tube  
hammersetter & hilt's

### No drill tackle sack

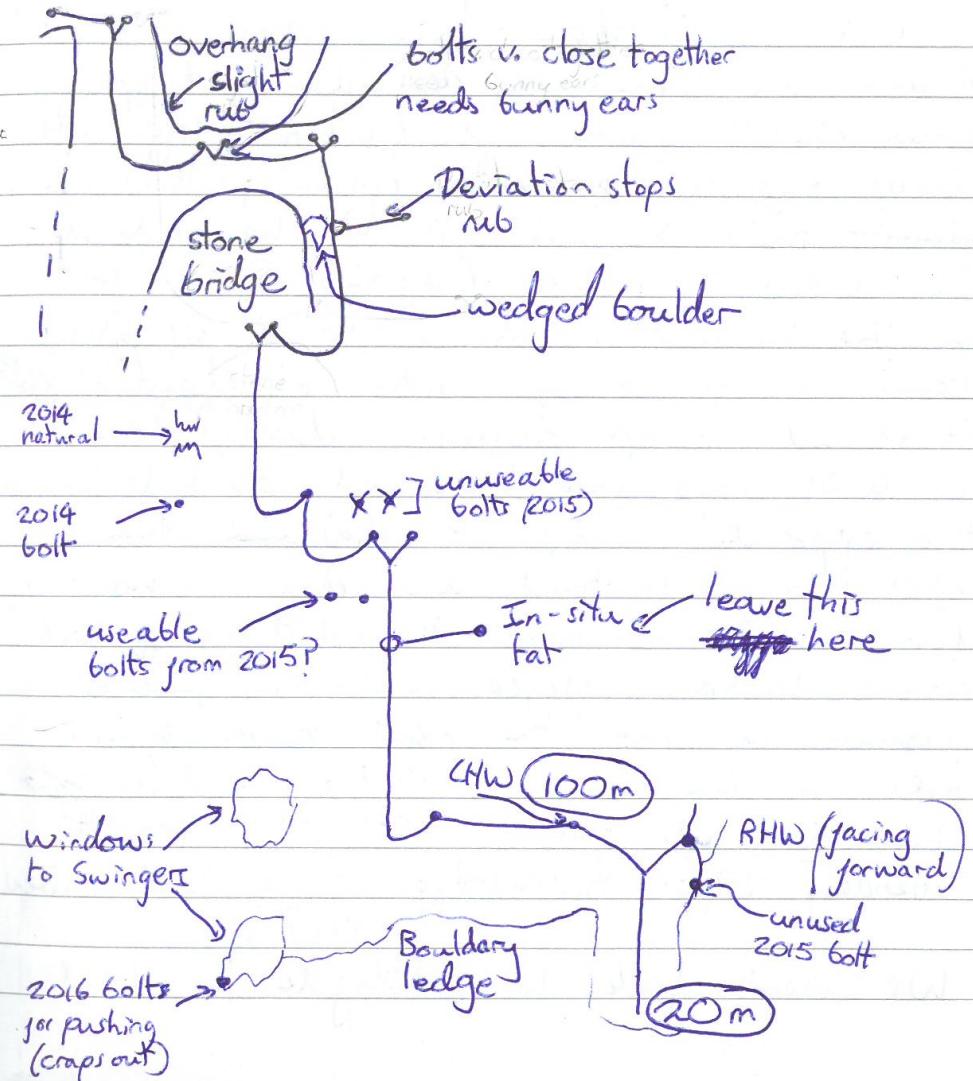
8 mailons  
6 Krabs  
4 hangers  
2 bits by bat

28/06/2016 T/U 4 hours Nat & Luke

### Fettled Tunnock's entrance:

- ~ Replaced all slings or deviations with bat
- ~ Fiddled with hang on 2<sup>nd</sup> ~~protection~~ (clown)
- ~ Fiddled with deviation on 2<sup>nd</sup> belay (taken out)
- ~ Re-rigged final drop onto ice plug (similar to 2015 now as opposed to 2014 rig?)
- ~ Added natural to y-hang at Caramel Catharsis pitch

24/06/2016 Nat & Elliot  
Balcony rigging guide (start of 2016)  
100m + 20m  
~17 hangers required



Monday 27/6 Balchenhöhle  
Sunday 26/6 ~~Fannacke~~

Signed, Becker, Andrew  
TU 6½ has

Went for an explore with a few 30m lengths of rope. Was nice & Andrew's first trip down & Beela hadn't been down since 2014.

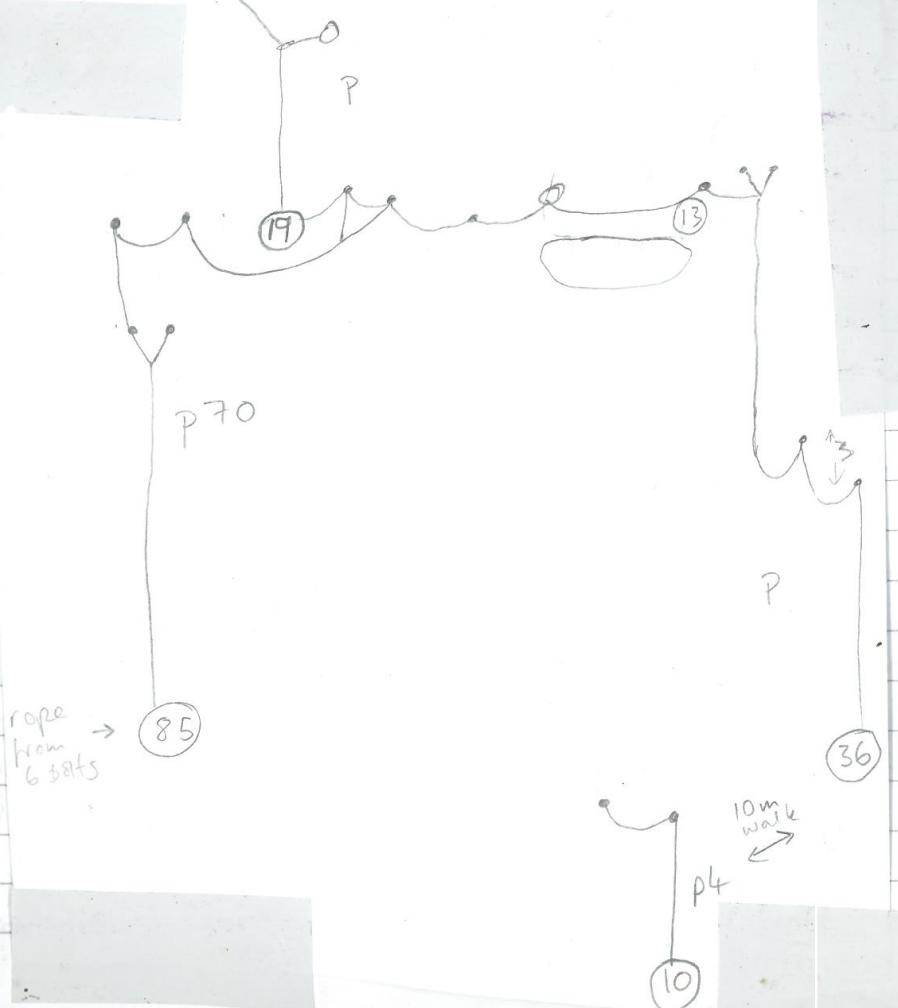
Andrew was initially considering dropping down one of pitches at Natural High but Greg suggested a better option further on down that turned out to be called Consolidation Pitch. Rigging of a bolt on the boulders across a series of pitches down to a ledge with a <sup>series of waterfalls</sup> drop straight down. Due to lack of rope we had toed over to the opposite edge to descend the pitch beyond that was dry. We then descended with a couple of rebelayed indeed on a boulder slope with a passage coming in from the right & a squeeze over a 4m drop at the bottom. This led into but we had no rope left.

Tuesday 28/6 Balchenhöhle Signed, Becker, Andrew  
TU 6 hours

We went back to investigate the lead

with some more short pieces of rope & 100m of 9mm. Having recovered a 15m piece of rope from what had been dropped at Natural High we rigged the pitch initial drop & continued back to the bottom of the boulder slope. Squeezing round a pillar <sup>we descended</sup> into a wet chamber with some pretty <sup>sharp</sup> rock formations. The passage continued round the corner & ended with a hole in the floor <sup>slopes</sup> & a <sup>small</sup> river coming in from the right, where we found a survey station. This turned out to be <sup>where</sup> elliot's ended up at the end of last year having come in through the passage coming in from the right at the top of the boulder slope. ~~They~~ had free climbed the squeeze bit. He had just run out of batteries for survey equipment & not been able to return (hence the name - Batteries). We decided not to survey the incoming passage & instead Beela went down the main <sup>75m</sup> pitch to investigate and survey. There was nothing at

the bottom & surveying turned out to be impossible as the disto we had test day was only up to 50m (the one we used the day before was 100m). So we de-rigged and came out.



Thu 23 June ? Wed 22 June 101 survey practice Jonny + Ollie  
2007-71 Ngarahole

Got surfaced gear up the hill to go caving tsh (failed to remember sensen my safety cord and a few other things).

went to 2007-71 to look at pitch roads. Started with 07-02C, as it looked easier to get into than 07-01B. Pitch drops down on right, passage continues a few meters on ~~bend~~<sup>right</sup> with a couple of other holes to the pitch bend ends as ~~an~~<sup>the</sup> inlet.

Ollie rigged down, natural backup in main passage, natural, bolt, bolt, deviation to get to the floor. Right got wider on the way down to end in a moderate sized chamber with an icy/rocky floor and a very pretty snowcone. Sadly no air on. I pushed into a tight passage, but it only went a couple of meters. Exited, confirming that 07-01B connects.

Left rigget to survey one we've calibrated the disto.

checked 15-0(B) - it is too small to get in to sadly. It might be possible (but not trivial) to make the R.R.

T/U: 3½ hrs

Sun 26 June 101 survey practice Jonny + Ollie  
Got a lift up the hill in the morning and learnt to use the disto and topodroid in the big cave. Learnt enough to go and do something useful, so headed to 101. E sounds simple. Sadly we didn't completely remember where 101 was (last visited in 2012) and we had no data in the GPS to help. Spent our an hour wandering around the plateau in cavity gear. Needed and

to camp to outfit the GPS + another prospecting map product. Found the cave easily!

Searched in sprawling and topoloiging (in colour!) as we went. Got past the steep entrance and down the climb before it got too light for oily, and we were cold. Headed out searching out the steep entrance as we went.

Tu 2 hrs

Mon 27 June 2007-71 Negrilas survey Jenny toily

Down to the Negrilas snowcave and surveyed out. On the way we left the rail post back down the pitch (I looked for a while, but gave up after a bit). I sawing across with a general shaft from 07-013 and confirmed there were no further leads.

Then Pings and poised to move onto 15-023, but had failed to bring a drill battery - that a wonder on the surface in fact (no new entries).

Later on used for an unsuccessful drill battery, for 2007-off, thought it did at least warm us up.

Tue 28 June 2007-71 15-023 Jenny toily

Oily rigged down 15-023. Sadly started about where the final drift leg of 2015 landed. Drilled out and removed all of our gear from the cave. I was very sad it had ended. Went to look at 07-017 the day before I had drilled down the entire chimney to see if the outlet connects to 2007-71c w/o

worth it rig - it's as it will just be too hot down there. The chimney is a fairly easy climb but trying in current ice levels to exit at the top - it is tight and you are wedged in at the top of a 10m climb! - Anyway, today we searched from the big tree down the climb.

Had a look at the surface near 2007-71c, there is a strong linear feature with a small chaotic off-set, but not really an actual cave.

Tu 2 1/2 hrs

Tue 28 June (continued) 76 nifty Jenny

Took the first rope in to 76 to make a test on the rigging. I've barely rigged in years, and not been to 76 since 2007, and was using the stop that Julian kindly lent me, having only used a rock for years. Any fall would fail, and 76 was comfortingly familiar; the hills had survived the last decade fine (though the one at the top of Draft Both had a bit of rusty grease in it). Got to the rock bridge safely and decided a drill would be useful to add a higher deviation so I came out, ready to walk down the hill and experience going to the dentist in from the next day!

Tu 1.5 hrs

29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> June

Weds 29<sup>th</sup> - Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Chris, Anthony, Nathan

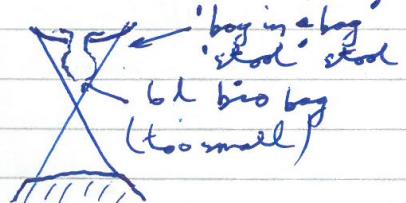
Turrocks - 'Living the Dream'

Weds 29<sup>th</sup>

I had spent a year dreaming of where the 5m diameter phreatic tunnel 'Octopussy' fed from the bottom of Kraken chamber. Sitting on the knot at the end of a long length of 6mm cord, the tunnel ramped downwards at 30° but we really had run out of gear and time on 2015 expo.

So it was wonderful for Anthony & me to return together with Nathan, laden with a fat tackle-sack each and picking up 2 more + drill left by work & Nat on the way down.

Kraken was roughly as we remembered it and Anthony & Nathan set about leveling the dry mud floor in the large alcove we had identified as our bivouac location. I collected water, installed the antennas for the oucc system Nieda (the original) that I had borrowed, and installed the latratory:



WARNING: Approach the crapper in a way that a male porcupine may approach a female, i.e. VERY CAREFULLY.

Andrew's specially made bivouac tent was eventually suspended from the roof, with one corner requiring a large boulder to be rolled uphill by the 3 of us to act as a footstool to place a bolt in the roof. At 9pm we plugged in our radio for our pre-arranged call to Steinberichs, only 650m distant according to the survey.

We heard the same noise as we had heard on the surface when testing it but no voice. Nothing. We enjoyed boil-in-the-bag curries with couscous and slept soundly.

Thurs 31<sup>st</sup> July 30<sup>th</sup> June

We rose to make our 9am call this time couldn't even hear any noise - total silence. We had produced too much humidity for the bivouac tent fabric to breath, so we had an enforced 3 hr fest to dry out the sleeping bags and set off for the bottom at 12:30pm.

Anthony placed a second bolt at the top of Octopussy, and replaced the short length of SRT and long length of 6mm cord left in situ from 2015 with a 100m length of new 9mm. He descended the ramp and a while later called up to say if we wanted to reach the bottom we

should bring more rope. Nathan took what he had, and soon all 3 of us were looking around at a 10m diameter phreatic tunnel that we had dropped into. It was a beautiful passage in pale limestone with many ~~stalactites~~ delicate fluted formations in the floor.

"Octopusy is a 5m diameter 100m long phreatic tunnel that ramps down-dip to the West at an angle of around 30 degrees. It drops into 'Living the Dream', a series of phreatic tunnels. To the North is organically unexplored, with a ~~dry~~ phreatic ramp heading up East parallel to Octopusy, and a possible choke to the NW (QMC). The South, Living the Dream ~~tunnel~~ is initially 10m diameter and reaches a cross road after c. 30m. The main passage heads East up a ramp to a dry horizontal dry cracked mud floored passage. This ends with a climb down a ramp East to the head of a 20-30m pitch (QMA) or a climb up a steep gully to the West which leads to a steeper 25m traverse over a pitch / rift (QMB) and a hole down (QMC).

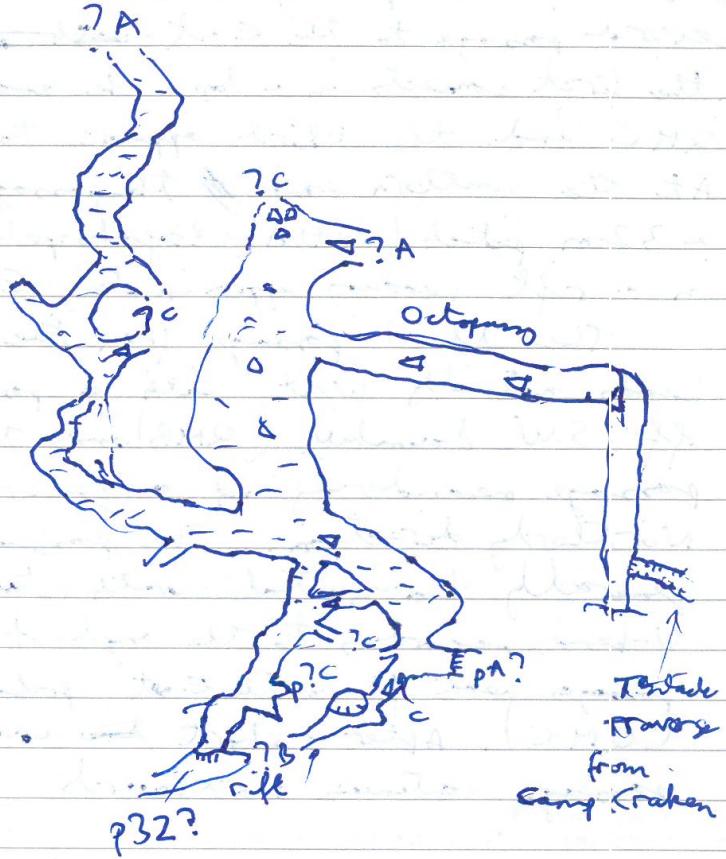
Back at the cross road 30m S of the junction between Octopusy and Living the Dream, a dry red floored passage meanders South, past several passages to the East ~~and away~~ (the first connects in a loop, the second is a QMC and the third appears too tight). At the Southern end of the passage ends in a 32m pitch (QMA), Psychotherapy (?) in a rift heading approximately East-West.

The third passage from the cross-road heads initially West into a passage leading off SW down-hill (QMB) and the main passage meandering in a generally Northerly direction. The passage is generally horizontal with two dry U-bends according to the angle of dip. Two passages lead off to the East, probably connecting (QMC). After a short ~~down~~ crawl the passage continues Northward (QMA)"

With c. 300m in the book we headed out, adding 2 bolts to Tentacle Traverse and stopping for soup at Kamp Kraken. We left camp over 7pm - 8pm, staggered for safety, exiting over 12am - 2am not necessarily in the same order.

T/U 36 hours

'Living the Dream'



30 June 2016 - Bedia, National, Sian, Andrew  
258 - Rigging Champagne on ice. T/u. 9½ hrs  
(Tunno des)

Nat + I had good memories of the leads down Champagne on ice so we packed 4 backboards + m 260m rope + started rigging. Missed the 1st two pitchs by starting by the Tom Clayton sneaky route through boulders below the short climb on the main route. Took turns rigging + cursing the rigging guide which gave no indication of scale + insufficient detail (Nat got particularly grumpy) but after a couple of false drops + q. some hunting for spits (not helped by thorough greasing of the spits making them near-invisible) we rigged to the bottom + the short traverse beyond.

1st July 2016 - Bedia, Julian, Andrew  
264 - Balkonhoehle - Frozen North  
T/u 8 hrs?

Had a good orientation session trying to spot good QMs in 264. Went up Turblehead + looked for QM92A + concluded it probably didn't exist (it was just the pb). Then looked out to N, looked at S side of QMA pb0 but u. wet this side so we picked our way around to passage on its S side.

+ Andrew rigged down to a large ledge + ten  
floor, no way on - a fine 40m pitch but a  
disappointing end. Then checked the snow slope  
on far NW of frozen Northne. Andrew kicked  
steps up snow for ~15m then I came up + he  
put in a bolt + I belayed him up another ~20m.  
Good frost + lots of moss, leaves etc but no  
sign of light so our hopes of escaping out of a  
new entrance were dashed so we headed back  
via the Cork Aren.

2nd/3rd July 2016 - Bushi, David, Mark (Rescuer)

264 Bullockville - Cathedral Chasm

TU: 18 hours.

First 7 hours of the trip went relatively smoothly, despite David forgetting to bring a penil for belaying. We made our way to Cathedral Chasm, which included getting past a particularly awkward climb, requiring removal of SRT gear and much swearing on my part. Traversed around a rather large pitch, and put in an extra p bolt at the end of the traverse before continuing onwards, to the possible lead. David rigged the ~~lead~~ but put in some bolts to rig the traverse, but was unfortunately cut short after he dropped the setter down the ~~pitch~~ pitch. I did some exploring and found an alternate route to the chasm, about 3 metres ~~into~~ which opened around 3 metres into the traverse David was

rigging. Since the loss of the setter essentially aborted the trip, we decided to head back, although David remains optimistic that the lead will be fruitful. We made it to the series of successive pitches, and then it all went wrong. The pitches were wet, but we foolishly decided to attempt ~~the~~ going up regardless. I went first, got up to the first belay point, started up the second but only got a couple of metres up before deciding that continuing upwards would be a terrible idea - the pitch was around 30m and at this point the water was falling hard, heavy and cold. Oh, so very very cold. Down proceeded til I hit the ground, but then managed to get my hand jammer stuck, essentially tethering myself to the rope, under a waterfall of freezing down. Alternated between trying to free myself, which required going ~~up~~ directly under the water, and standing to the side to avoid the water. Seemed hopeless, but ~~the~~ the water cooled. After about 10 minutes David came up and rescued me. We went back down the pitch and back into the cave. At this point I was fairly slow to respond and lost some motor function. I recall having some very weird thoughts. At this point it was about 8pm, and the start of a very long, cold night. Tried to warm up as much as possible without much success, while waiting for cave rescue. Mostly, it was boring - time seems to drag so 10 minutes feels like an hour. Conversation between David and I was forced - included ~~some~~ pineapple trivia. The survival bag did work though; we were alive when Mark arrived at 11pm.

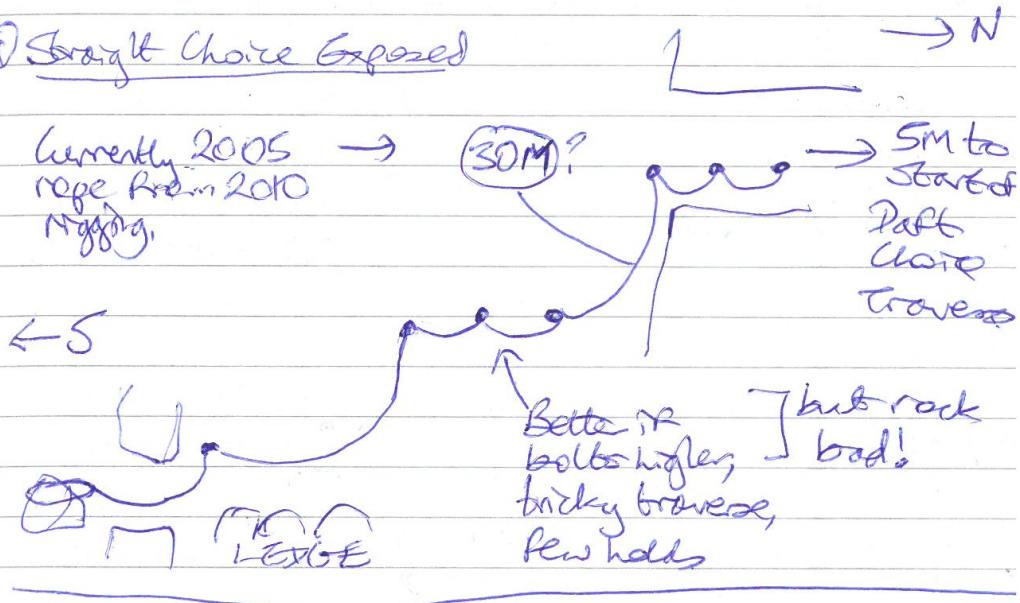
I death listing fairly bad, but apparently less coherent. There was some miscommunication between David and Mark which delayed rescue by 15 minutes or so; neither could hear the other over the water, which was incredibly foreboding at this point. After that last, Mark finally got down and from that point things moved pretty efficiently. Got into a bivy, consumed some soup and then we waited for about 5/6 hours. It wasn't the most comfortable night. That said, going from incoherent to somewhat lucid was a definite improvement in condition, so I won't complain too much. Misery levels were high, but ~~were~~ not as high as they would have been had we died of hypothermia. I suppose dead people can't feel misery but it would have been a ~~hassle~~ for everyone else. Around 8pm, the condition of the pitch had dramatically improved, and ~~we decided to~~ Mark made the executive decision to get out then. Again, it was a very efficient operation. Mark and I tandem descended out, and David followed behind. By 6am, we were officially out of Balkanishki.

There are several lessons to be learned here. The first is to avoid wet pitches - don't be swayed by hubris. Secondly, appreciate cushions ~~if~~ sitting still ~~is~~ on an unforgiving limestone for several straight hours if you don't. Thirdly, you don't need to take days to experience altered states of consciousness. Just get really cold. But at the end of the day, it was an experience, albeit not a fun one. We live to cave again.

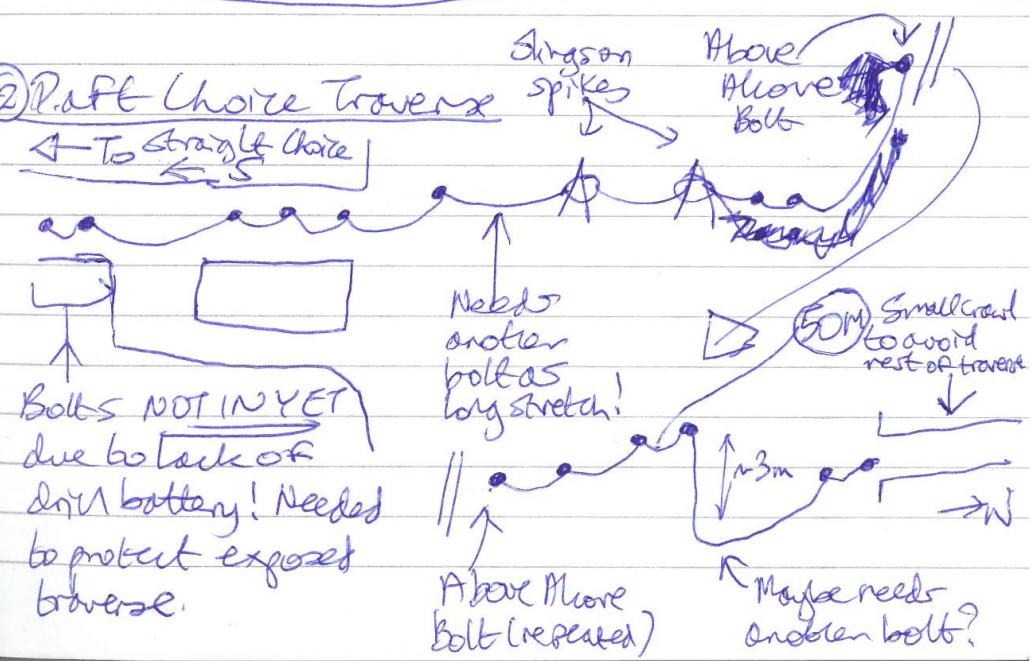
Tunnocks Rigging Guide. (2/7/16 - Andrew Becker  
Luke)

## ② Paff Choice ~~&~~ + Straight Choice Exposed

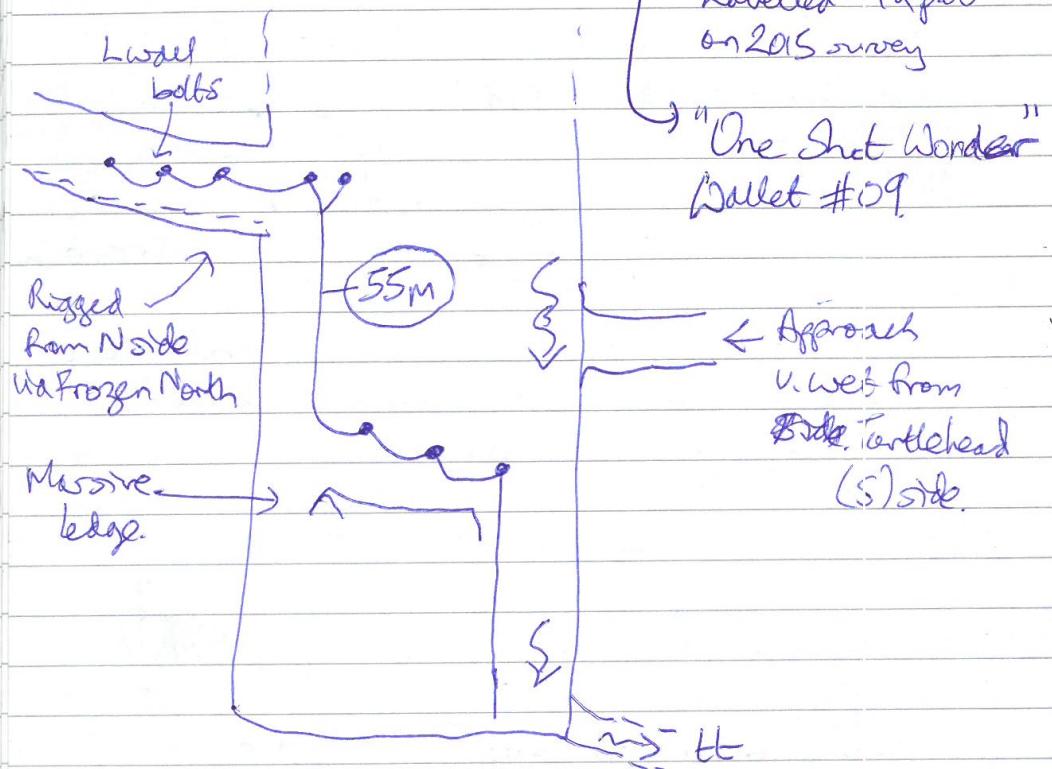
### ① Straight Choice Exposed



### ② Paff Choice Traverse



Balkonhöhle rigging guide - 93b pitch  
(1/7/16 - Andrew, Becka, Julian)



Looking for 2<sup>nd</sup> entrance Balkonhöhle  
3/7/16 Andrew, George, Luke, Becka, Sian

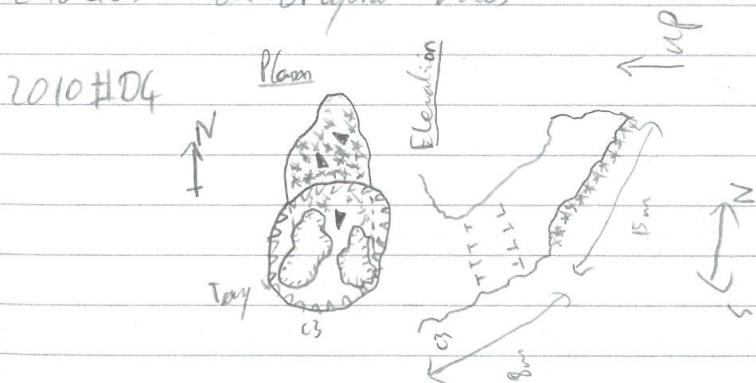
Dropped 2010-04 using natural to get to snow slope. Andrew + I used the shovel to dig at the base + the side in 3 spots. Soft snow initially + some gaps but no draft. Gave up after less than an hour. Survey in folder #08  
2016 - 08 ↗

Dropped 2010-03 using natural. Becka down - no way on. Turned out Noel had also checked this in 2012 + surveyed it.

Surveyed area but nothing new found.

To Becka + Andrew ~1 hour, others, 0 hours

2010 #03 - on original notes



2<sup>nd</sup> July Balkenhöhle Rescue

Mark, George, Nat.

At 22:00 David & Roshni's callout went live. We scanned the hill for lights but saw nothing. So we prepared for a rescue and departed for the entrance. We had the response bag and Mark had some extra emergency equipment in his own kit. Nat stayed on the surface, prepared to run for more help if needed. Mark & George descended the cave and established contact halfway down the entrance pitch. Mark went down through the water (it was very wet) and arrived at the bottom to see a rather cold and worried David and a very cold Roshni. Because of the risks of descending the pitch Mark signalled to George that he should go back out. First action was to put extra clothes (duvet vest) on Roshni. We then set up camp. Tackle bags etc on the floor to sit on and then

the bothy to get into. Hot soup and plenty of flapjack. Candles for extra warmth.

At 05:00 we judged it sufficiently improved that we could try to get out. That went very smoothly. Mark gave Roshni an assisted prussik and she put in as much effort as she could. We met Becca at the col whilst slowly making our way back to camp.

Some thoughts:

- The bothy shelter was great.
- The extra clothes I had were very useful. On a call out, pack a few fleeces, cagoules, whatever in a dry bag and take down.
- The short length of SRT rope I took was very useful, not only for prussik assist but also for latching up the balcony climb.

d) Communication with David up the pitch was impossible. Use a whistle! If you are in trouble and need the rescuers to come down give the standard emergency signal (six blasts).

Thu Mark 7 hours  
George 3 hours  
Nat 2 hours

Haydon 2 hours

↑

extra reinforcement at the surface

1<sup>st</sup> July Tunnocks - Champagne on ice  
George & Nat

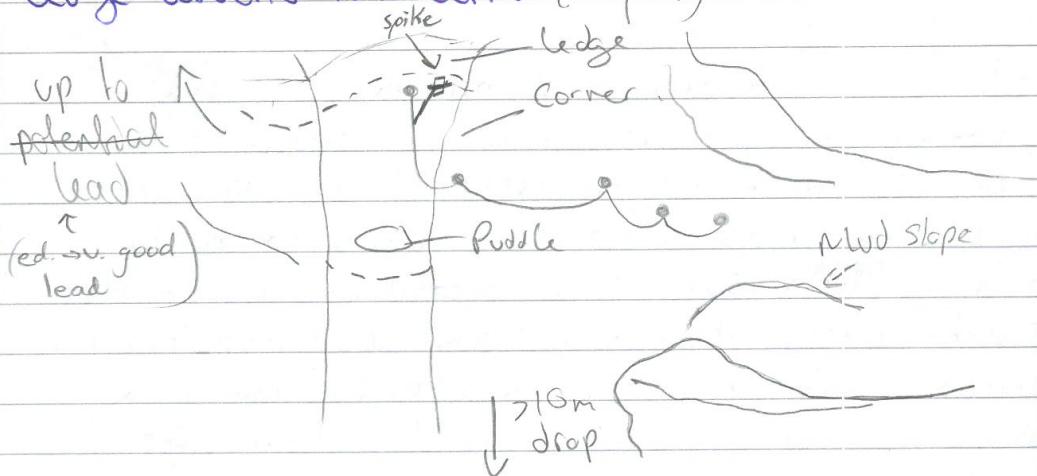
Nat promised me an "adventure" and so led me down Tunnocks after creative fail to push a lead he'd last visited in 2014. We descended relatively efficiently and route finding was not much of an issue. The following changes were made to the 'champagne on ice' pitch series:

- Replaced sling at 1<sup>st</sup> pitch head with additional bolt to form proper Y-hang.
- Improved the traverse at the very end with the addition of a single bolt in the ceiling of the passage at the very bottom of the series.

Beyond this I rigged a P5, although it should be noted that this pitch is probably longer than 5m as an 11m rope was insufficient to reach the bottom. After rigging a pre-bolted traverse we soon arrived at the lead, a drafting hole atop a seemingly easy climb just beyond a >10m hole. The traverse required to get round the hole was somewhat more sketchy than Nat remembered. For a fully comprehensive recreation of the sounds Nat made during the sky-hook-facilitated bolting of the traverse please consult either Nat or myself. 'What would Your Mother Think?' traverse was

rigged around the corner has a floor at the base of the climb up to the lead. At this point we turned back due to tiredness, cold and Nat being a big baby.

Thus far the traverse consists of 4 bolts ascending to a further 5th bolt up to a ledge around the corner. (+ spike)



Fri 1 July 76 - rigging plughed shaft

Back into 76 to continue rigging. Oly continued where I left off, starting the 65m rope at the Ledge. This year we rigged along the ledge side, with a deviation on the Top Tubes side. This was a good success - it uses fewer hangers, is easier + quicker to pass and hangs better. Oly rigged tightly - the Y-hang at The Ledge below the

Ledge was temporarily a single hang with deviation - I was about to complain about the lightness of the rig when Oly shouts up from Yesterday's Terminus that he has got to the end of the rope and could I feed Zen of Black through! I wasn't convinced there was Zen of Black rope in the whole cage let alone at this pitch. Anyway I converted the comfortable Y-hang to a light single hang with deviation, then the rope just reached. We realised this wasn't very workable, but also a knott pass isn't good in trade routeing. So we headed out to re-think

Tu 3.5 hrs

Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> July 76 - Plughed Shaft rope work

We come up with a plan of starting with our one remaining 72m rope (21m) and shaft everything else down accordingly. Oly needed a day to rest his knees, so I spent the day unbagging + re-tying knots in Plughed Shaft. On the second go I got the 21m to reach the second of the twin rebolys (31m would be better). Then, the 65m reached Yesterday's Terminus (again a few m more would have been better). Then the 48m comfortably reached the bottom of Squeezed Shaft. I tweaked some of the lengths on my way out. Today the weather gods smiled on me, and I got my gear dry before the heavy rain started

Thu 4.5 hrs

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> July 76 - Keg Series

Much wetter in Plughed Shaft today, but totally possible. Got the Boulder Chamber + Oly started through to rig Keg Series.

Oly + Jenny

We were last here in 2004, despite me resenting which spear rigged it on then I had no idea on the actual rigging details. Only started from the Follow Thru Shaft head - I had a go and concluded that was wrong. I also concluded that the original rig needed to be added, was loose, and looked pretty dropped. So we decided to chug along and rig down Follow Through Shaft, then go down the 2nd entrance in Time + Space route to the bottom of Keg Spires (last visited by us and Dave (after in 2005). Again we were here on the rig.

I was happy that the traverse had been left rigged at the top, and was only a bit droopy. Only rigged down for about 10m, eventually finding a suitable derivation for the add'l bit. Last 10m or so was droopy (but less bad with the derivation). I had a quick look in Razor ~~Base~~<sup>Adome</sup> while Oly cored down Keg Spires was very wet + droopy, but Razor Adome was dry, so left the add'l + survey bit here and headed out. When I did + took just over 2 hrs out.

4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> July Tunnocks, camp Nat, Wooley & T/W days (6) Chris

After a fairly restful previous trip with Hayden down Balcony (dropping honey drop), I came back to camp to find Chris attempting to recruit keen people to go to camp.

As he'd only managed to recruit a partially recovered Wooley <sup>reluctantly</sup> I volunteered to go down to camp. After ~3½ hours I reached camp & set up the washing line (major task #1); Wooley & Chris, set off to do the Tentacle Traverse whilst I caused havoc by spilling mushroom soup everywhere. After a brief scalding from Chris we ate dinner & went to sleep (n.b. creamy pasta with herbs & risotto travellunches are very salty).

The following day we got up at 6.30am (!!!) & were caving by 7.15am, in massive, phreas. Surveying continued until ~12.9 (an ~11 hour surveying day without significant breaks). We managed to generate more leads than we killed; by passing a pitch Chris rigged, surveying tunnel sized passage to finding a dreamy (!!!); a greasy traverse above the stream was deemed to need a rope & we went back to the draughty railway tunnels. After a scary slope (made harder by technical caving loops), Wooley & I started to grumble about dinner after several more hours we were finally allowed back for dinner. The following day we went & surveyed ~250m of passage that was unkillable (Hydra). After a few hours we headed back to camp to be met by Beckay, David & a haggard looking Julian. A few hours later saw me catch up with Luke & George who'd been down champagne on ice.

Stn 55g Balkenhöhle - Roger Nath.  
Signed, Andrew

- After finding a promising-looking snow slope on a previous trip with Becker & Julian, and following an unsuccessful ~~surface~~ prospecting trip to identify the ~~second entrance~~ the entrance from the surface Andrew convinced me to accompany him on a trip to dig our way out. from inside.

It was very cold  $\rightarrow$  unsuccessful. Andrew finished off the 5m rope that had been left from the previous trip getting to the top of the slope when a further few metres of digging in the snow didn't get anywhere. Another 17m rope was used to traverse from a rock ledge into a passage in the ceiling but that closed down and the rope was left in situ.

6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July Tannoches Camp: David, Becker, Julian  
 $\sim 34\text{Lm}^{\text{P}}$  TH 36 hours 15h

We got to the entrance at 10:40 am and started the long descent leaving behind a plateau ~~asleep~~ under a blanket of clay. Down we went, accompanied by a barking track of grumbling from Julian. He was clearly enjoying himself.

Krachen was as big as promised and we made it to the camp at about 4:30 pm just as the previous team were coming up octopusy. Nat bubbled with excitement as he described what lay below. Wooley sketched out a plan of the leads they had found - our survey being ~~so~~ missing some 800m of passages. The only bad news was a shortage of boat roll having been promised there was plenty! Fortunately we were able to separate Nat from his emergency supply.

After some soap its ~~as~~ we descended <sup>octopusy</sup> a fantastic 5m wide steeply sloping tube. We then headed to our first A lead - a large bore phreatic tube heading up a muddy slope. We followed this for at least 100m before it ended at the bottom of a downward slope where the mud filled the passage. This passage had some pristine white formations and excellent mud floors. A fine

start to our surveying.

We proceeded to explore the remaining known passages. Discover the upstream sump from which a small stream emerged. Julian also spotted a large collection of dead 'cave lobsters' in the passage leading to the sump (washed into a muddy crawl during a flood).

This ended our first day of exploration and we made the tough ascent of octopusery. The mud makes the climb slippery and impeded jammer operation. On return to camp we set about making dinner and getting ready for bed.

After a relatively comfortable (compared with the night I spent underground a few days prior) and very warm night we arose. Julian & I were moaned at for our lack of enthusiasm for leaving our nice warm pits until after breakfast. However we were soon once again doing battle with octopusery.

We set off down our next A lead - relatively horizontal 5m diameter tube heading north. This passage had 2 smaller passages off the left which we connected back into known passage. The large passage ended in a reached a fault in the rock where a short pitch of ~20m would no doubt result in more care. Having made eating our pre exit dinner ~~12:00~~ (~4pm). A long pressie followed.

good progress (survey legs typically exceeding 20m) we started on another nearby A lead to where Chin's team had turned around. We followed more massive passage before reaching a chamber around a stone pillar some 10m across. Five ways had off from here. One passage sloped down to the sound of water requiring a rope another 2 tubes (only 2m in diameter) lead off upwards while the 6m passage took a downward direction after meeting another large passage from above.

First we set off down, the passage meandered before reaching a pitch ~~on the order of roughly~~ 30m deep, it couldn't be approached safely without a rope. However the real highlight of this passage was a living cave lobster! Whilst sat at a survey station I noticed it climbing up the wall, no idea where it thought it was going, or what it could be eating, but it could certainly move. My comrades took photos & video. Then finished our survey by ascending the aforementioned slope leading to a large rift. The two up sloping tubes connected and lead to a 4m free climb which we left for the next party. We met the team in question at the camp whilst

Rigging Daff Chørre beyond  
Straight Chørre Exposed

2 July - Turnrocks - Champagne on ice

~~Bedrock, Shale, Sandstone + Sandstone~~ F1F2

Betha, Andrews, Luke

Tu 12 hrs

A short trip with the drill back to the Straight Chørre Exposed, bolted climb that Andrew had climbed whilst I belayed back in 2010. The ankle-high traverse wasn't too bad once you realised ~~the~~ where the holds were but definitely non-standard SRT, Luke + I then scuttled down to flagstaff whilst Andrew bolted a traverse across the continuation - the left wall of a p1S on so. This, again, was a fairly strenuous move to cross but he eventually gained a small tube on the left which bypassed the last few metres of the traverse. This was sufficiently tight that we dumped SRT kit + squirmed through to find a DMC and a QMB - hum, rather a let-down after all that effort. However, the B-led on the left came up trumps + after some initial low crawling gradually widened to 2-3m + easy crawling with various minor side passages until we came to a wet over. Climbing to the side of this, the passage improved to walking but sadly soon closed down. However,

climbing C3 up out of the passage on the left led to passage both sides. We surveyed left (passage in R, N side, was done by Frank + me on 5/7/16 - it soon closed down to a drafting dg). This led to a fairly complex breakdown site. We finished after ~40 survey legs looking onto a fairly promising continuation. When we plotted the data the bottom of Champagne on ice pitch was only ~18m from the far end of the Daff Chørre traverse which would obviously make it much faster + easier to gain the Daff Chørre leads but on 5/7/16 Frank + I didn't spot a continuation from in Daff Chørre, e.g., 6/7/16 Andrew, George + Luke didn't connect when they rigged a parallel shaft in Champagne on ice.

5 July - Turnrocks - Champagne on ice

Betha, Frank, Readley, Kately

Tu ~10 hrs?

Daff Chørre 2 ↗

Only I had been to Champagne on ice before + Kately hadn't been to Turnrocks so we touristied to the head of Song Theory on the way in + took a few photos on the way down. We all went ~~across~~ <sup>Kately</sup> across the Straight Chørre Exposed climb but decided to split up at the Daff Chørre Traverse. Kately +

Feeley continued taking photos whilst Frank + I surveyed the chasmognath passage on the right after the C3 described in my 2 July logbook entry + then the DM on the R near the end of the 2 July survey which we got a visual connection back to the end of the 2 July survey but ~~but~~ this needs being in. Still some leads in there, particularly the one right at the end of the 2 July survey, + some draft. All met up on the pitches, on the way out + I turned one of the numerous pitches on Champagne on the into a traverse to simplify the route (which needs a rappelling guide, Nah! :))

Thu 7<sup>th</sup> July

76-Keg Spires

Oly + Jenny

headed into Razor Advance with drill, rope (~~ladders~~) + survey kit to see what happened next. On the way in we had switched the rope in Adventures in Time + Space for the 72m - a few more longer would be better. We also added a bolt to protect the traverse across to the rope up to Razor Advance (but there was insufficient rope to add a bolt up).

Followed the rift on, and it quickly became apparent that the rope was needed. Oly put in a few bolts and we got further along the rift to a nice spot to descent, a Y-hang gave a lovely long - this is an inlet into a much larger cross rift. Water comes out on the right just way down - it seems

likely that this is the Keg Spires water from the size + position. Pitch + slightly dips but not too bad in dry weather - who knows in wet weather. At the bottom is a huge block that has fallen from the roof. Way on is down stream in a canyon. We followed a stream level round some corners, past a narrower bit and a couple of climbs to a short drop that didn't look climbable. Went back to a higher level that had a prehistoric roof and was sometimes a separate passage. A strength further, but again got to an <sup>not</sup> free-climbable drop. Attempted to survey out, but after a couple of legs realized the dRoxz wasn't properly calibrated (we discovered this quickly thanks to Andrew's advice to take the three readings + a leg in different sections every 20m). Gave up and decided.

Tu 10<sup>th</sup> hrs

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> July

171 survey

Oly + Jenny

I'd noticed that 171 was a moderately sized cave on the plateau that others surveyed, so decided it was a nice job for a rest day. To make life easier just b helmets, clothing + survey kit. We'd spent the morning successfully recalibrating the dRoxz in the blue cave. Started at 171 and surveyed to 171b - a nice prehistoric passage with multiple ledges. A low bit in the middle. Continued a bit beyond the 'b' entrance, but decided to return to finish with our sides.

Thu 21<sup>st</sup> hrs

7-10<sup>th</sup> July Tunnels Camp

Mark, Anthony, Luke

Day 1

Descended lunchtime and went down at a steady pace. Met up with David, Julian and Becca at the camp. After a quick brew we went off exploring. We headed to the 6m climb mentioned by the previous party's write-up. Mark climbed it and beyond the passage soon arrived at another pitch down where we could hear water. After that it was time to get back to camp for dinner. The night was pretty comfortable.

Day 2

Big day of exploration. First lead was the "short pitch of 20m". A quick rig from Mark and it was 2m. Below a false piece of passage led to a blind alcove. A smaller side passage led directly to a mud sump the consistency of a blancmange. We christened this "The Wrong Custard".

Next up was a ramp just after the northern branch splits off. Luke took the lead and up we went! Some superb cracked mud floor at the top.

Then we finished off with a coach at the deep pitch in Lobster passage. Mark put the first few traverse bolts in, then Luke took over and rigged the actual descent. A superb 45m freehand into a chamber. At the bottom was some very glutinous mud and a sump. An inlet passage led to an aven at least 20m high.

Day 3

We had breakfast and then Mark went up the boulder slope to get onto the rope... but couldn't find it. Anthony (our illustrious trip leader with a pocket full of surveys and notes) came up the slope prepared to point "the old duffer" in the right direction. But, he soon

realised that the rope really was missing. With our lights on full power we managed to locate it about 20m off the floor. Bugger.

To avoid wasting a day, we decided to go pushing anyway. A rescue seemed inevitable but we couldn't do anything about it.

First up was a B lead not far from the bottom of Octopusy. This went for in 140m, sloping down all the way to a very muddy conclusion. After this, Mark went back to camp (in case another party came down). Meanwhile Anthony & Luke took a look at the two pitches nearby. One (to the left) proved awkward due to a big loose boulder. The other (to the right) is in a rift and was easier to rig. Anthony took up the anchors and descended down to a chamber/passage with two ways on. Either another pitch or an ascending ramp.

Those were left for another day. Dinner was calm and we spent some time inventing ridiculous games to pass the time in case of a protracted wait for rescue. "Song snap" was one idea.

#### Day 4

At about 11:45 we heard the first sounds of rescuers approaching. Soon after the welcome sight of Nat descending down meant that we were at last able to get out. An efficient process out, and everybody was back on the surface by 17:00.

Many thanks to all the Expo members who organised a very efficient rescue!

T/u 77 hours

2nd July. 2 hrs.

Baboon Hole. ~~SWAT~~ TWAT  
Mark, Ashby, Sionel, Haydon

Went down the long drop after boulders  
desire to do some fueling cavity  
after ecdis.

First tried to approach pitch from wrong  
direction after Marks misquided directions  
from last year and haydon bringing out  
questionable naturals. (Hammer and seter  
may have been left here!).

After continuing to the correct pitch ledge continued  
to try the pitch only to find that  
the hammer and seter was left at the last  
pitch. Ashby and Sionel retrieved this from  
the previous pitch while haydon gathered  
some sizeable boulders from a ledge down  
that Ashby could hear from the  
other end of Baboon Hole.

After rope and seter had returned Haydon  
dropped the pitch to approx 50m and the

first main ledge to continue the next day  
having heard cold groundings from the top  
of the pitch. (Who knows why?).

Ashby Perspective continued below...

Ashby, Sionel and Ashby retrieved the hammer  
and seter flat some narrows had yet at  
the previous distance (aka Haydon) Haydon began  
his dodgy bolting down the pitch. In  
between, Mark, Sionel and Ashby fixed up  
the top of the pitch and quickly got back.  
So we decided to do some survey practice  
there a side passage of loose rock.

After giving up of using a PIA's  
a right pain in the arse we continued to  
fix the hole one fits off at the top of the  
pitch. Eventually the (unt) Haydon returned  
from bolting / am he was all to  
leave this stayed pitch flat will be the  
end of me.

11<sup>th</sup> July Pete, Fleur + Nathan (+ Andy A).

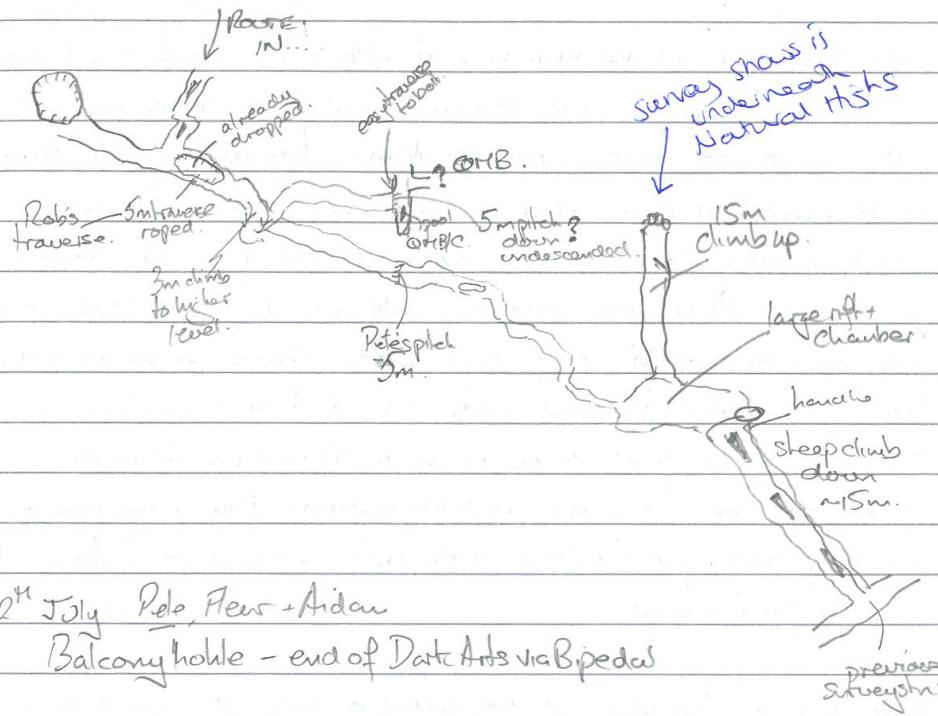
Balconyhöhle - Hilti-aplanti

"ROUNDABOUT.SVX"

Pete + Fleur's first caving trip of 2016 exp - to a lead in hilt-aplanti following a tip from Rob Watson et al. We rather enjoyed the Hilti pitches, where we met Andy Atkinson. Nicely sculpted fistful shaft action, top notch. Then we went to Boulderchamber down some sandy tubes, and arrived at a pitch that Rob had free climbed across. We put a rope across, and found two possible ways on. Pete bolted the more obvious way on down a 5m pitch, whilst Fleur + Nathan surveyed up a 3m climb to a higher level that also stopped at a pitch - which was left undescended. It is a reasonable lead, probably only 5-7m pitch, with a traverse (3 bolts - easy) to a continuing small phreatic passage.

Meanwhile, the team assembled at base of Peter's pitch, which carried on as a small rift that descended - carried on for ~50m to a larger rift-chamber. Then a very nice 3m wide descending phreatic tube was sped + looked very exciting. Nathan just free climbed down it, whilst the others put in a handline. Unfortunately, Nathan found a survey station - so this must connect back. Back in the chamber above, another clean washed phreatic tube headed upwards. Nathan climbed that to the base of a choke,

with the others following to survey. Then back to the ranch for tea + medals, or at least a curry.



12<sup>th</sup> July Pete, Fleur + Aidan

Balconyhöhle - end of Dark Arts via B.pedals

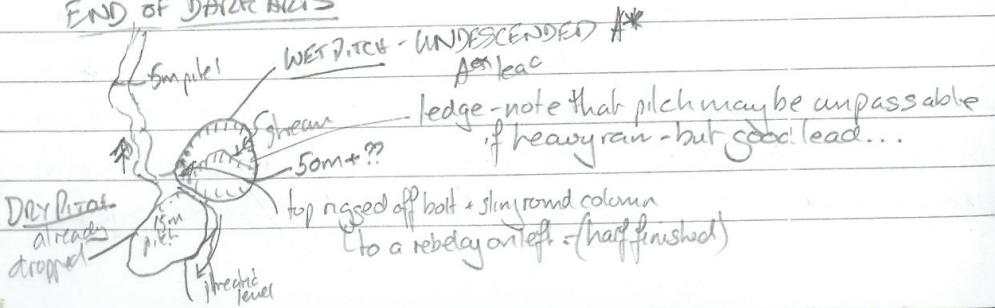
previous surveys

The first aim was to do B.pedal Traverse, which was soon despatched by Fleur. The 40m rope was then taken to the end of Dark Arts. There was some climbs and traverses along Dark Arts, including final climb that stopped Fleur + Pete two years ago. The new end was down a short 5m pitch and looked rather good - with a strong + exciting draft. ~~Floated~~ The dry pitch on the right had been dropped, so Fleur started bolting the drippy shaft

on the left. At 2pm the drip suddenly became a waterfall onto a ledge - so the team headed out rather nervously wondering about the entrance pitch. Sure enough there was 100s of water and rambling at the entrance pitch. No horn. The forecast was for the amount of rain to increase - so that made just sitting it out today. After watching the water for 5-10 mins they decided it was not getting worse, and Pete headed up. The pitch was very droopy but fine, and the team were soon at the top. Aidan had some excitement with his central malon, and did rather well. Indeed, it was sunny when they got out + walked back to camp. Very nice. But at 1pm there was a large storm that blew rain into the upper regions of the bivvy. The other team in Balconyhöhle that day were not so lucky and got flooded in by this second round storm for a couple of hours.

Note that the flood pulse we saw at end of Dark Arts was almost immediately after a short period of rain. <sup>(4-storm)</sup> There may be a delay. It is an A lead with draft but needs dry + soft/dry weather!

#### END OF DARK ARTS



6<sup>th</sup> July Balconyhöhle - Alice, George, Rob

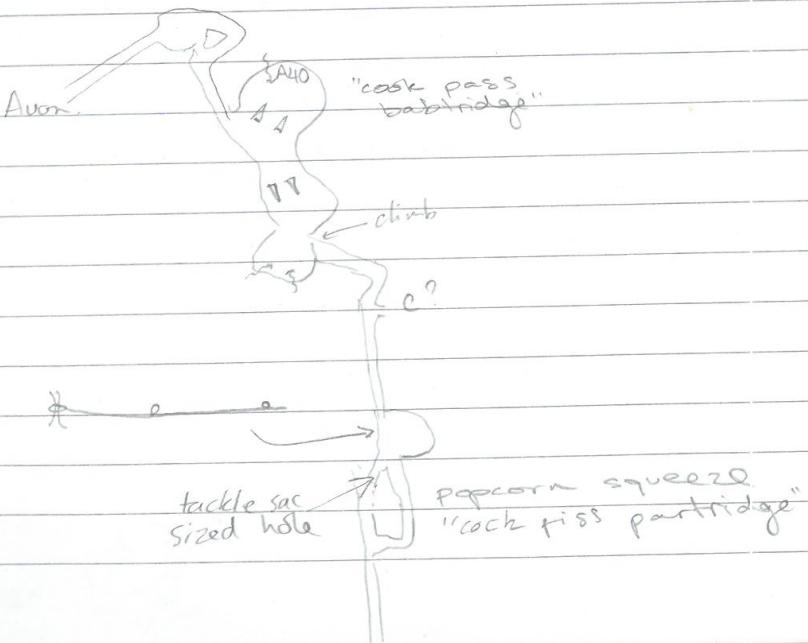
→ Hiltiablenby, surveying Northern Straight

My (Alice) first surveying trip. We started at where myself, Katie and Rob had had a nose around the day before. George and I started surveying while Rob went ahead to rig a traverse further ahead across a pitch ~ 6m. The larger passage continues to the right into a tight popcorn squeeze which brings you out onto a wedged boulder which prevents you from falling down the pitch.

After a lot of contorting, Alan Partridge references started blossoming from Rob and George, which ended up blossoming some of the names for bits of passage. Once the passage is continued to the north, with a c lead looking fairly small, muddy and miserable to the west, and the main passage continuing to the west before reaching a massive pillar and a short climb down into an avor, which eventually becomes enormous (40m up on a disto shot onto a ledge - actual roof probably higher) with a cobbly floor which climbs up to a small passage which leads up to a small chamber with a choked floor. When surveying this section, a leg

was shot straight across, followed by one which came through another entrance to the chamber. An extra survey station had to be added in between the two (2m apart) to connect them - which made both nice and confusing. From there, a leading rift went up to the right, and a passage continued up a 45° slope to the right, finishing in an avon (Rob said this has now clogged out).

All in all a good trip ~200m surveyed.



Sat 9<sup>th</sup> July 16-18-01 Höhle der Guten Hoffnung Oly + Janus  
Intended to go back and finish surveying 171, so took oursuits, knee pads as well as helmets + survey kit. Oly wanted to take different route to walk there, so headed past 2006-70 and up from there. I saw a few shafts and had to have a peer down each one. No - the local high point was an especially interesting hole - I climbed down the 3m climb into the snow filled shaft hole, at the S end a keyhole passage led off. I followed the top of it, in largely solid clean white rock, down a couple of climbs + with a draft. Very exciting!

I went out to get my oursuit, knee pads, sargekid + Oly. We returned + descended a couple more climbs. This reached a harder climb down to a ledge overlooking a large chasy chamber. Oly traversed round to get a better look + I reached this was also free climbable.

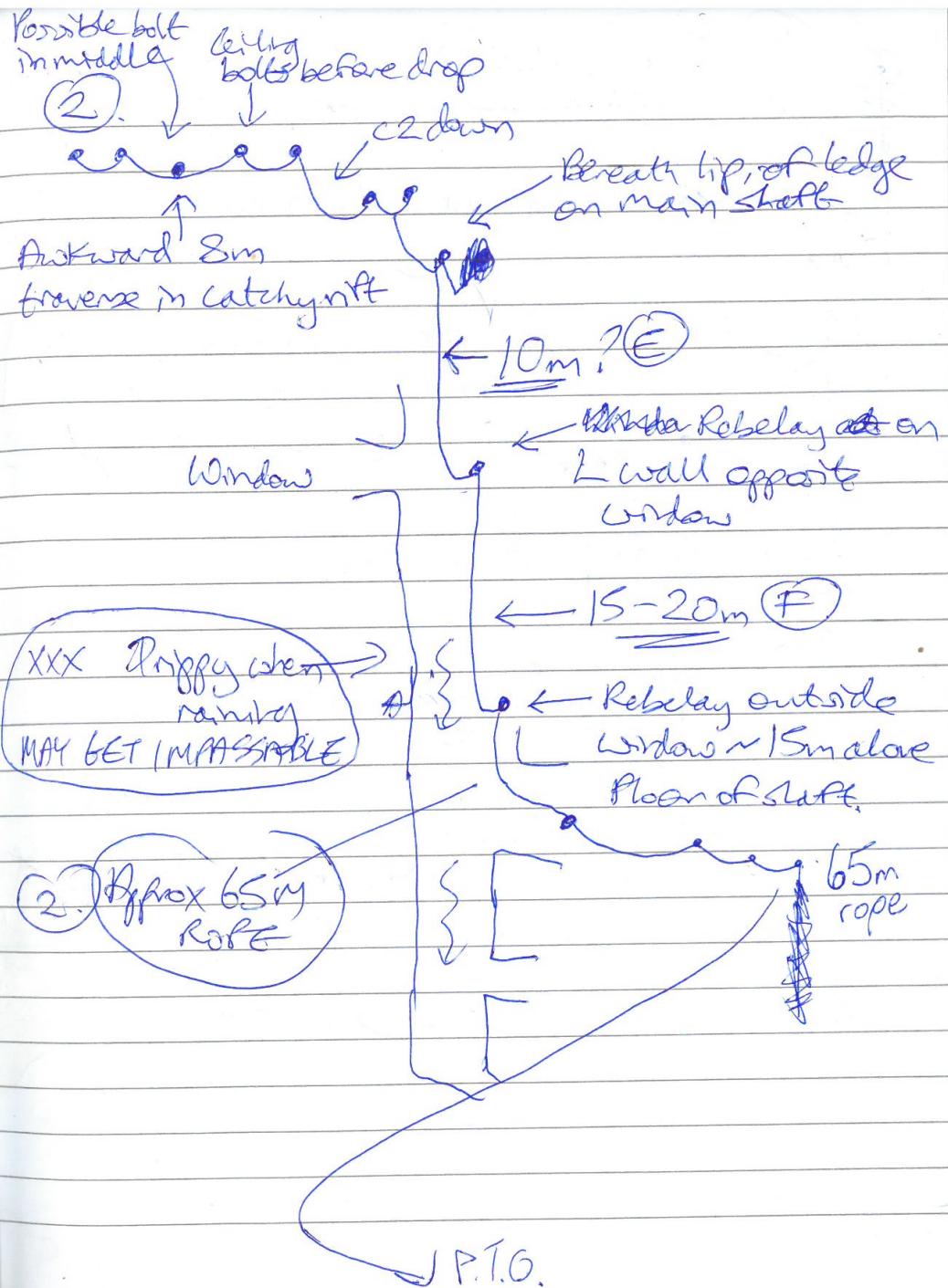
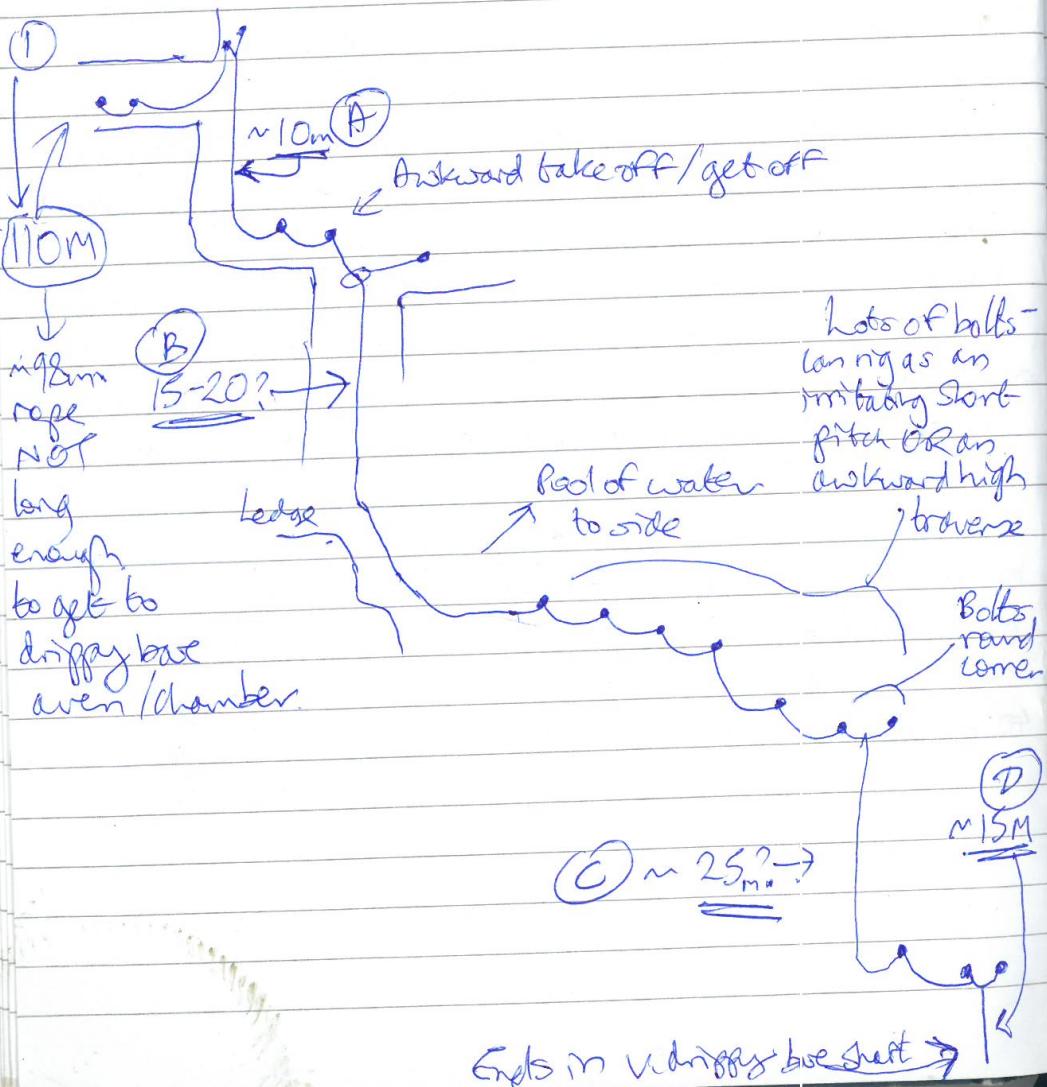
The chamber was dippy and full of loose rocks. Down a climb to the bottom and led to a squeeze overlying a dirty snow plug. Back at the climb a pitch goes back underneath - this is undescended. Surveyed out. Cave drops a surprisingly 40 m (over 80 m of survey) all with descended without gear.

T/u: 3 hrs

See (XXX) Flood Warning Becka + Nishanwal

## CHAMPAGNE ON ICE - RIGGING GUIDE 2016

- Starting from climb down at retreat junction  
(to avoid first 2 pitches from Hedonism Highway route)



(3) ~54M ROPe

~4m

(6) ~2m slight rub on rock ledge

(11) ~15M

DANGER XXX  
Impassable  
Waterfall in Flood!  
2016 - WAITED 5 HRS FOR  
WATER TO DROP

Swing  
around  
rock  
Window  
about  
10m  
above  
bottom  
of pitch

(1) ~10M

(2) ~5M

→ Parallel shelf  
ledge

Ledge:

→ To horizontal  
ledges

END OF MAIN PITCH SERIES

(4) TRAVERSE

20M

(5) Short pitch

~22M

(6) Traverse around 1/2 big pitch

Approx 9 hangers + ~25M  
rope

2016 TOLL ROAD ASCENT			
Start -	↑↑	End -	↑↑
Time	start	Went up	100%
①	Wed 22 June - Becka - 52m 05 - 2pm - HOT		
②	Thur 23 June - Becka - 50m 52s - 7pm - Q hot =		
③	Fri 24 June - Becka - 49m 55s - 8pm - Good temp		
④	Sat 25 June - Becka - 48min - 8pm - Good temp (Good weather, no sun)		

Finish - "Castlegard" thing at start of upper car park

→ 25° Seehöhe 1000m, 40% Kletterb., 60% double bung signs + views kaserne, <80° "Sisi" Klettersege sign → Arch by booth just past ski lift station

Tourist trip in Balcony and American Independence Day Celebrations 4/7/16

Rob, Katelyn, Peachey, Elliott, Nathan, Alice, Frank.

There was no cold to crow for the momentous day of independence for the country served by K. Bender, but fortunately Denham did arise at dawn to fall impressively before camping. We waited for Elliott to get back from retrieving his thermals from the car before going underground, so I utilised plenty of fall ourselves underground by 3pm. Went to Haydon's big pitch whilst looking at leads still to be pushed en route. We have: Natural High Pitcher & Pit Pot mainly, along with possibly something at the end of Bipedal Traverse. We arrived at Haydon's big pitch & were impressed. Then a fast gearup & Rob, Nathan, Elliott & Katelyn went out while Alice, Frank & Peachey took photos. THU: 5 hours.

Katelyn did her "The Star Spangled Banner" loop all day in some kind of patriotic attire.

I also dropped my tackle bag down a pit so was duty bound to retrieve it the following day.

Balcony - Batteries! finishing off & bag retrieval.

5/7/16 Rob, Elliott, Nathan.

A day of tying up loose ends and transporting equipment. Went & rigged Batteries! & surveyed it to a conclusion. About 50m in the back ended in a too tight tube heading down. In common with other passages taking water in Balkony there was very little development. We then went & retrieved my tackle bag which required a 15m pitch to be rigged. I hung off 2 naturals (thread & bag column) with Spike deviation. Another immature clean washed area. Drippy. Then left The designed Batteries! Tape at filter Plenty for rigging that. Bipedal traverse still rigged. Out quickly with drill & bolted kit. T/U: 6 hours.

Sun 10 July 171 survey trip

Ollie + Jenny

Headed to 171 with overalls + kneepads to finish the survey. On leaving basecamp, discovered that the camping team were overdue, but that things were in hand, and there was nothing we could do in the short term. Took the phone with us to get updates.

Started at 171a and surveyed down to the final daylight entrance. Heard the rescue helicopter, which arrived as, but no message from basecamp, so we continued. Went down the wide but low + back-doubling side passage. This continued to pop out 2/3 of the way down a daylight shaft.

Headed out after surveying this, and failed to identify the daylight entrance from the surface - it must be a narrow grotto by the surface.

Headed to 171b and surveyed both along a slightly drafting passage that is a side tube, small and ends at yet another daylight area. That ratbag is a puddle, off on the left with a snow patch and an old dry Hilti area. There is a small passage doubling back here that we didn't thoroughly explore, because we assumed it would hardly connect. The passage finally ends at a low drafting (cont'd) area. Looking at the survey shows this is very close to the end.

Got a text message reporting the camping team were safe which was a relief. Ollie cancelled our callout (by phone) which unfairly didn't make the call out back. So team rescue very efficiently came down to our camp to check we were safe - thank you!

Tu:

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> July

76-Atomic

Ollie + Jenny

Ollie's knees were recovered enough to cope with possibility, so we returned to key series with the ropes happily calibrated distances. Started surveying in to get the pitch done, incase it rained later, or it took a while. Drippy gear & first time out in 1 leg.

From the bottom followed the stream to the drop, and Ollie rigged down. IMPORTANT: this hilti is not properly set \*\*\*. If I've made a nail polish dash across it. If anyone goes there again, please set it first, or else right high (probably better).

The shaft continues beyond this, ~~now~~ at stream level it is light, but higher is much colder. Shortly the roof drops down to the cold level, and it becomes

The phreatic roof took off a very tall boulder passage. I stopped following the arête which reached some loose looking packed rocks above a chasm. I retreated and walked along at stream level, down a drop + through some bits narrower than my helmet. Reached the base of the chasm. I'd looked down on, and ascertained that it was chiselable and the rocks were well wedged. Climbed up to get the sweep tool + chisel. Again followed boulders back the stream until the roof dropped down, and we reached another drop. This was wider but not freefall malleable. Subsided out. I decided to keep going and left that ropesay at The Tap Room. Took the drill bag all the way home.

As we were ascending below through shaft, we heard a low rumbling note. It sounded like people coming - I wondered if we had a rollcall mixup, and people were coming to rescue us. Then the rumble got louder, and louder and it became apparent it was raining. Fortunately we were past The Tap Room + ropesay, so had a nice cold seat.

12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 Derigging and pushing Champagne on  
ice - Tunnocks / George, Nat + Becka

Set off with the intention of de-rigging traverse beyond Arctic Angle and pushing Nat's lead (what would now Mother Bay), before finally de-rigging the champagne on ice pitch easier + de-rig traverse between Arctic Angle and WWMS. Off to a flying start I forgot both drill batteries, only realising at the bottom of Champagne on ice. Subsequently, myself and Becka went to replace slings on Andrew's traverse past Arctic Angle with rope cut from even length of the existing rope + salvaged a

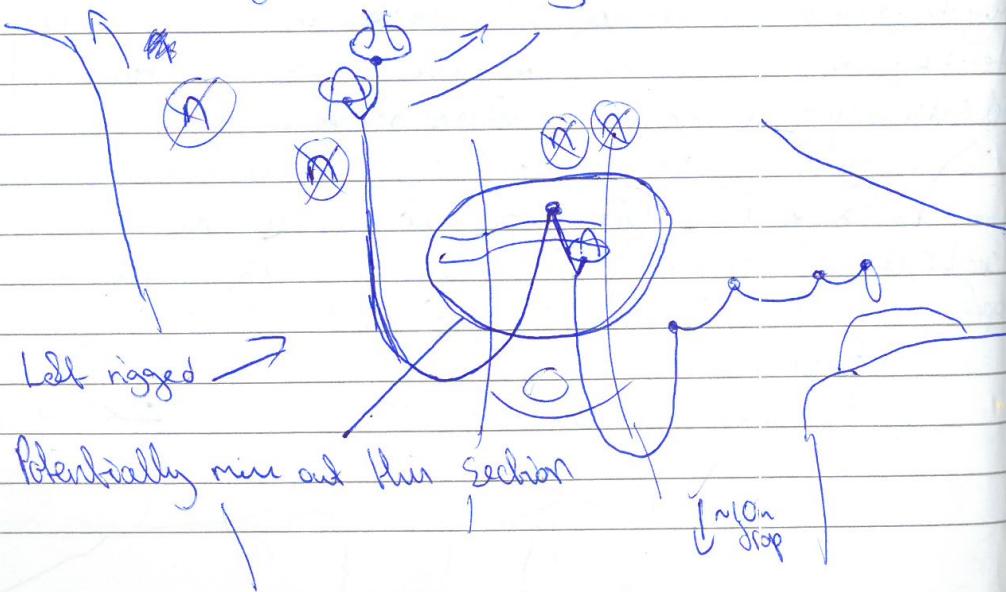
couple of hangers from the traverse. At ~14:30 we went to meet Nat to see if progress had been made on his bolt-less bolt climb. WWMS is easily found by bearing left at the 1<sup>st</sup> junction after the PS (probably longer than 5m). Begone! The way after this is cairned at Maser Sandstone and involves a traverse around a large ~30m hole. We discovered that Nat had bravely / foolishly already reached the top of the climb some 6-7m above the traverse previously rigged on another trip. The new rigging differed in that it comprised completely of extremely sketchy natural rock not a bolt or reliable belay in sight by virtue of my forgetting to bring drill batteries. We tentatively followed Nat to the top of the traverse / deathtrap - see below for updated rigging diagram:



/drought?

From the top of the climb, following the draft lead to a 2/3m climb down, continuing evergreen into large hanging rift and good 'a' lead requiring rope to continue further. The only other alternative passage atop the climb lead to a large overhang (very drippy at far end) with stream descending 10-15m through hole in the floor (2.c)

On the descent, after having surveyed as far as possible, Becca knocked a fairly integral natural belay off the wall with surprisingly little effort. As a result the rigging was modified to allow me and Nat to get down 'safely', see below:



To avoid monumental clusterfuck that was left rigged but using the rope to ascend beyond the bolted traverse should be done so with EXTREME CAUTION or not at all due to the nature of the materials it is backed up to. Rather cold and glad to be alive we began the return journey, derigging the traverse and P5 on the way. Upon arriving at the bottom of champagne on ice pitcher (~19:00) Nat reported hearing a flood pulse. At the bottom of the 15m hang we encountered a waterfall not previously reported that rendered the pitch impassable without getting soaked. We waited ~5 hours in bolts at a ledge below for water to ease. Eventually pressickled out when flow was weaker but still involved briefly swinging under very drippy section. Higher up was still a bit drippy but not too unpleasant. Everyone out of the cave by 03:30. Several empty buckle sacks were left below the wet section + one full sack. Drill was brought out with some hangers.

Nathanael should not be allowed to rig unsupervised in the future.

Turrock carrying gear to get to Oxford / Chris

1. System Nicola: Black peli case at Steinbrücker  
Yellow peli case at base  
Blue box with spare wires at base

2. Camp gear: 3 gas stove at camp

~~3~~ 7 Alpine style undersuits  
(3 at underground camp, is it Steinbrücker)  
2 Down duvets at camp

Gear suggest to have in Kraken:

4 ponchos  
2 pans  
4 cups + spoons  
radio antenna wires

Distro & in Grey pelicase - callout box.

Martin Green to bring kit back.

all

Rob.

Hiltka Plenty Exploration (several trips).

1. Rigging Trip - Rob, Alice, ~~Lukas~~, <sup>Lukas</sup> 6/7/16

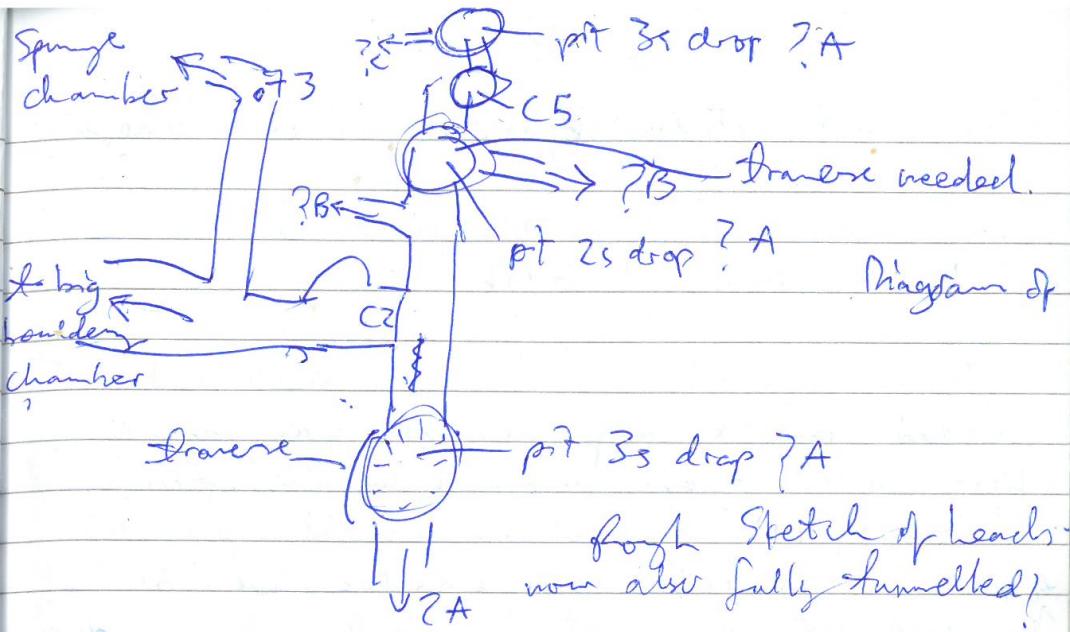
Underground by 11am. It being Alice's first exp., we wanted to give her some experience of rigging in Austria & this seemed a good choice being close to the entrance, quite deep but not too deep and promising quite a few leads to push later. Alice rigged very well-safe, tight, high & functional rigging all round & efficient too. Once at the bottom, we decided to have a look around at the leads, & what had already been surveyed. First we went left from the bottom of the pitch series to a small bouldery chamber, from here we went left & along a tightish passage to a draughty area. Quite a promising lead via a traverse over the area & into a small phreatic sandy void was left. Then we went back to the small bouldery chamber and went up a vadose ramp to sponge chamber (4 feet in a row), then back to find some excellent mud formations. Then back to the bottom of the Hiltka Plenty pitch & turning right to the large bouldery chamber with many leads. Having pushed for another day, we then headed out.

T/U: 6 hours

2. Surveying Cock Piss Partridge. Already written up by Alice Smith 7/7/16.

3. Dropping pitch & finding more. 8/7/16  
Rob, George & Frank for a bit

Frank brought his spade/shovel along in case of digging potential, but unfortunately his then prevented him from achieving this. Then me & George went to the pitch down the sandy ramp & climb. I bolted the pitch & put George on back. It turned out this was a bad idea. 14 legs & shit later we descended & left for Sponge Chamber. We tried to find survey stations but they were not especially well marked. We found station 73 & got started. Turning left at the T junction we passed an oven or the left & down a 2m climb to 5x5m barchole passage. Excite! forst we went right down - will do a drybag pitch, which could also be traversed to a continuation beyond. Then we went uphill & a pit which could be dropped (pretty dryishly) or traversed over to the right for another horizontal continuation. We did a bit of an exposed traverse to a straight on lead, & heading up a 5m climb to an an uphill ramp to a big drybag pit. Around 180-200m in the books then out. TM: 9hrs



4. Amoyly Recovery & no Cashback. 8/7/16  
George, Rob. (Pitch is now called Yonk Lone)

After discovering lots of easy horizontal passage the day before, we returned to get that sorted. After 11 long legs, we popped out in The big bouldery chamber. We later found out that Nathan had surveyed this ~~passage~~ - quite amoyly. Then we went to bolt the pitch at the end of cock piss partridge - pk - aptively named cashback. Cashback appeared to be a premature prediction as the oven crapped out into an immediate reenter immediately after we got to the bottom. George then bolted the pitch below the Cock Piss Partridge, which also crapped out immediately.

## Das Lieden von über Erde

Then out. T/u: 6 hours. Still lots to go at!)

The Non Rescue - 1st Response Team.

Nat, Rob. 10/7/16

Team were overdue in Tummock so we and Nat headed down to Camp with the gear bag & first aid kit. ~~base~~ descended by 8:45. Arrived at Kraken for 11:45 to find rope caught up beneath to the one bag belay on a ledge. Then started ~~head~~ out. Rope at the bottom (I might have got wrapped around a large boulder - be aware of the rope catching on the boulders when you ascend the pitch) out reasonably efficiently after waiting to see if Nat could untangle the rope from Magor Glue. T/u: 7 hrs.

Camp - Tummocks Master Case of Impenetrable depth potential! 11-13/7/16

Chris D, Rob, Peachey, Kately

A most amazing trip, which despite being shortened by the verue of the previous day managed to provide much new case and

a lot of new prospects. We arrived at camp for 11:15 and ate some noodles and soup off dinner trays for 2pm. Headed to the bottom of the 30m pitch bolted by Anthony et al in the last camp day. After a quick reconnoitre of the area we split into 2 surveying teams.

06/07/16

The Pitch Formerly Known as 'Hayden's Pitch'  
→ 'Long Drop'

Elliott, Peachey, Nathan

Sorry for the write-up delay!

After Hayden had headed down the H.I. Nathan, Peachey and I took over the 'project'. Hayden had said he had dropped ~60 m to a large ledge, before getting a 6 second drop off it! Of course, we didn't believe him.

We tidied up the initial traverse, began Peachey went off to get bolting. As Hayden's team (R busy, good-for-nothing \*!#\*!?'s) hadn't surveyed Squat Nathan and I got on with it. ~50 m to the first ledge, which Ben jams the tube off to a >120 m pitch! Peachey has some surprises yet...

From the LHW, a short traverse takes you to a pitch lead rapp. ~25 m down, walking towards the right, a good sized window

gained entry to 'ICO with a View'. Chock Stones provide a dossy  
shelter in which to stretch up a Beddy.

I found Peachey in the ICO, having a good garden and  
looking slightly taken aback by the Scaley Range! After  
re-supplying him with kit, he set off down a rift that  
leads from the ICO from the North. Masterful bolting from  
Peachey saw us ~60 m further down a lovely series of  
ribcaves. The pitch follows the R.M.V. (looking from the ICO)  
& pulling you away from the initial, pretty loose rift. The  
passage is ~4-6 m wide, but runs N-S from the main  
rift, towards the North for ~80 m?

Peachey had got bolting on the next day, but on  
run out of longs I rope.

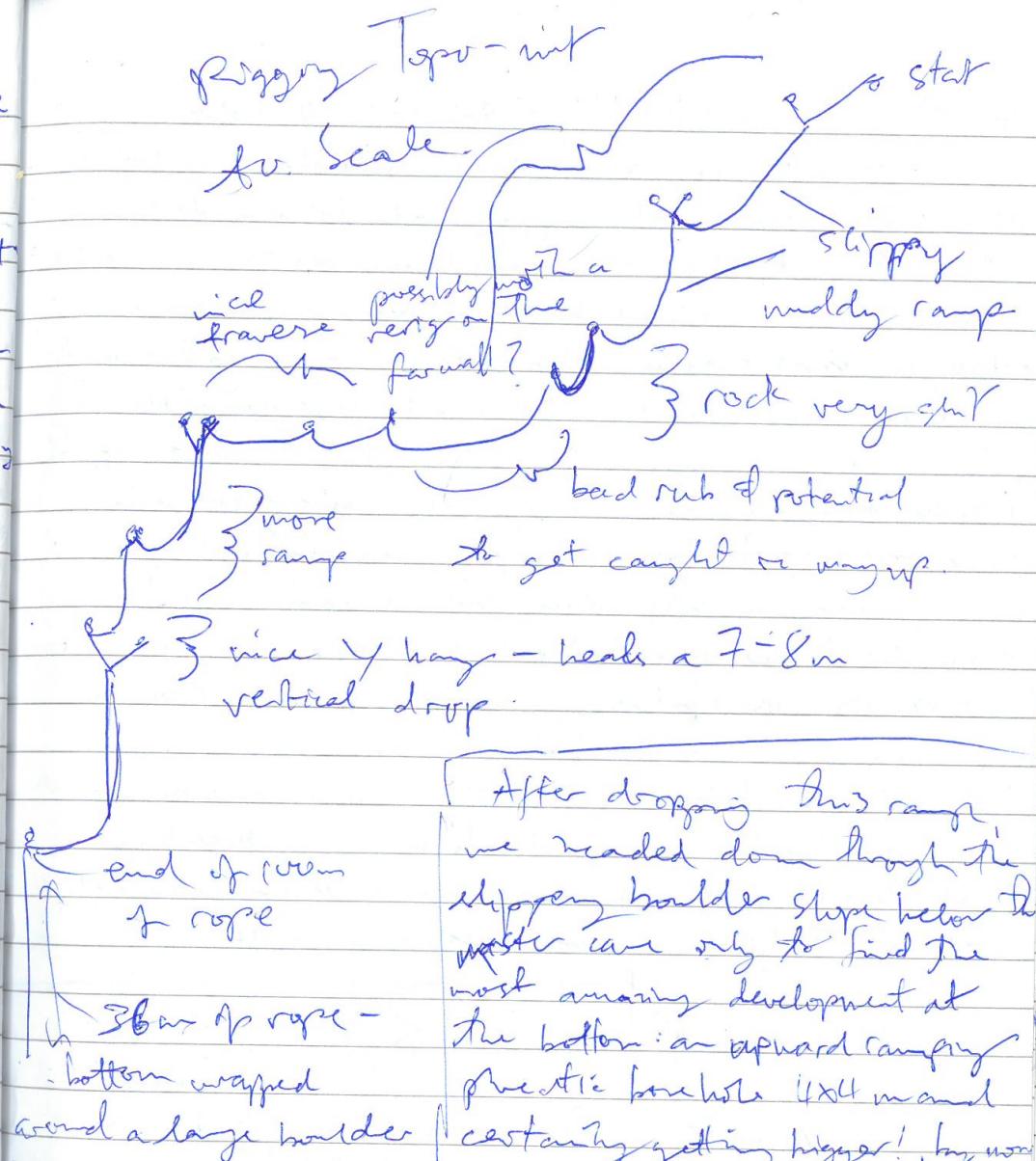
N.B. This actually occurred over 60 days!

T/U. - 17  $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs  
(total)

## Tumrock Master Cave Camping Trip contd.

myself & Chris initially headed in a Northward  
direction into a rather nice & very pretty chamber  
with a number of very nice stalactites & a  
wonderful poached egg on the floor. On the far  
side of the chamber was a 7-10 m climb which  
Chris started but then encountered so many delicate  
calcareous crusts/flaky formations to continue. Predicting  
that we might well drop into the passage from somewhere  
else anyway, we left it behind for another dip  
(which there hopefully will be, at least ramping up  
heading North & strongly draughting in Tumrock is not,  
for me qualified at!) Then we headed on toward where  
the others were surveying in the other direction. Chris  
soon described that if we carried ahead we could  
easily back more to them and thus avoid the  
frowned upon Sloop - little did we know of the wonder  
that lay ahead. After a lot of sprints along a muddy  
boulder floor (with an additional headline on a particularly  
treacherous slope that Peachey & Katey descended with  
nothing - weightly!) we arrived at a point where  
we were presented with 2 routes - a narrow slot up  
& a way down among boulders. I took the slot,  
but before that we noticed that both routes had

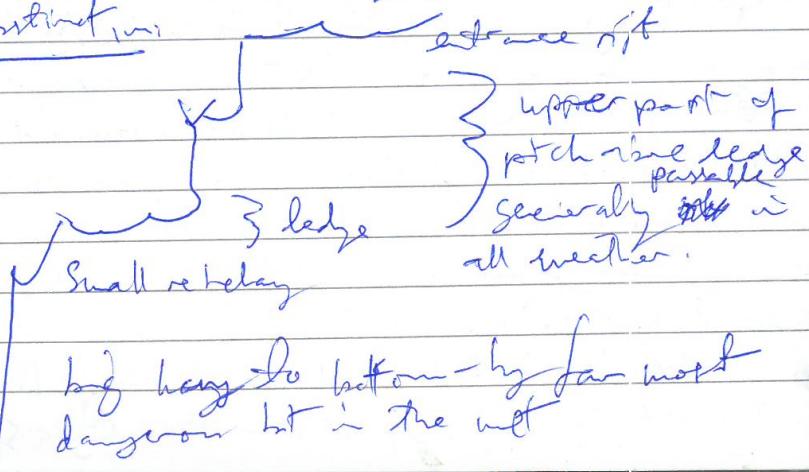
one thing is common - we could both hear a massive amount of water up ahead, of a magnitude very rarely found in this cave system. After coming out through the slot, what I saw was just incredible - the absolute essence of why canyoning is such an amazing exploratory sport. An absolutely huge passage, at least 15x20m width for height, and ramping steeply down at around  $45^{\circ}$ . for those who have been to Dictpuyn, think slightly less aesthetically pleasing in terms of the borehole shape but overall far more impressive. The roar of the water was by this time truly impressive - similar in size to Penghu's Streamway. Caught up in the exploration fever, Chris & myself climbed a long way down the boulder ramp until Chris got a hold of himself & decided we were being unnecessarily silly and, the grip of exploration fever having ebbed away we surveyed back to the junction where we met Blachey & Katay. Almost unable to contain our excitement, we told them of our findings. They then headed off up the ramp in the opposite direction to see what could be found (apparently a lot of passage) while Chris went to fetch the 100m of tubing from so we could rig this thing properly & safely - we were only about 300m deep but not more! I was charged with setting it, & soon we were down, albeit with a fair amount of risk points en route!



After dropping this ramp, we headed down through the slippery boulder slope below the water line only to find the most amazing development at the bottom: an upward ramping plastic borehole 4x4m and certainly getting bigger! By now it was long after 10pm & only getting later so we resolved to leave the scooped passage tomorrow & headed back to camp for a welcome tea. In bed by 1am. Up at 8am & needing a shit - the

farther we excellent! The camp overall is excellently thought out & organized. Many needles & oats along with a great water supply make for a wonderful stay. After breakfast, we headed back to the lead for a snoozy, accompanied by some excellent photographs of octopuses & at camp. 2 hours of snoozing later, myself & desharn had arrived at a 'spicy boulder slope' (slipping with no long way down) which at this depth really needs bolting. Leaving X for the next trip, we headed back to camp before attempting to head out & the cone. I unfortunately got to Rocaleta at 1pm just as a flood pulse hit the pitch I was at at the first belay when the pulse hit & I quickly was prepared to change over quickly & descend back to Roca & The Cliffs to wait it out for 12 hours until we made a break for it at 8am the next day after a rather restful night.

Rowantintin



big hang to bottom - by far most dangerous bit in the mt

After making a break for it after a long 12 hour wait, I was finally out for 10am to meet with Luke S on the last once sciles. Overall a truly memorable & excellent trip, one of my best ever & one to remember my whole life! T/U: 48 hours.

Hills a Plenty - Pushing & Evening Breakthrough

Robs, Luke 17/7/16

After a morning of gorm rain delayed the campers from camping, myself & Luke became bored & started talking of card games & headed up the balcony, in the mist to see what could be found. In quickly & soon I was bolting one of the 3 pots that we & George found in 'lets be Appalch' last time in. After a wee while & I rogue bolt which decided to fall out along with some of the wall while I was setting it; we were done. It was pretty draughty & seemed quite promising. We could see a shot looking inn above us in the floor below where we had hopped off the rope with some water in it. Not so promising. An upper continuation of the rift with a big draught in it was left - I believe it links in with the most northerly patch of the 3 we found in 'lets

be Appalling'. To the south of the pitch was a significant warren of nice sandy floored passage ramping down - great leads! After a quick scoop, we got on with surveying as much as we could.

We pushed some long passage to a pitch beyond which we left for another team to push. We then headed south to find the droopy west southerly pitch in 'Let's be Appalling' - there were still to be done but not as promising as the pitch for earlier. At the bottom a small streamway flowed out culminating in a too tight passage with what appeared to be a mud baffle at the end. We then went up hill on the camp rather than down it & found a prominent horizontal B lead - continuation of the ramp - & a climb up a plastic tube in which the sound of water could be heard. Exciting stuff, & judging by the survey heading off in an as yet unexplored direction - an excellent prospect for next year! T/u: 6 hours

push,  
Long Drop - final survey & Denz 18/7/16

Bob, Anthony, Ash

After a rather late start to say the least (~~we're~~ Anthony seen to have a way of starting far too late when we came with one another), I arrived at Balcony gear dump (having shown the Hilti a plenty leads I had the day to Pete, Elliott, Aiden & Motte before hand) around 3pm. We then headed to the bottom of Long Drop, where kit was sorted & we all got to business - Anthony hitting what was to be the final push along a traverse in a droopy aft, with Ash & I catching up on the survey backlog behind. The pitch B is very impressive, and the ending to its story is something of an anticlimax - Anthony belted around the corner & could see around 20m to the floor where the diggs closed down into an imitative meander with water in it - seen that before! With it all looking rather shit, we decided to turn around. I sprinted up the pitch, having absolutely frozen my bits of despite wearing all my clothes (belay jacket!) while surveying. First in the group the after about waiting for the others, then we got the denz under way - a warm up paella for the big denz on wednesday in Turnock.

16/7/16

Everything went pretty well, with only 1 intermediate pole before the top (at ICU with a view) and despite an extremely antisocial double fisherman's right below a reed bay we got all the knots out & it ran pretty smoothly. At the top it was 10:15 & we were pushing callout, so I headed out fishing first while the others sorted things out. Back at top camp for 11:25, our midnight callout was easily made. Great success! T/a: 11.5 hrs (Rob); 12.5 hrs (A&T).

Kakeen camp - pushing song of the earth (258)

Michael, Elliott, Nathan, George

Down to camp

Being the 6<sup>th</sup>? Camping trip to Kakeen, we supposedly had a lot of leads to choose from. Getting to camp was easy enough, there being almost twice as much rope as passage length along the way. Elliott, Nathan and George descending using Strops were faster than me with my Rack, and we went underground at 10:30 am and arrived all at Kakeen camp by 2:45. A brief rest and some noodles and we were set to go pushing.

Pushing

We went down Octopussy to the gear dump, Elliott bringing up the rear and replacing the 100m line on Octopussy with a 50m one as the lower section was nice by comparison. At the gear dump we ~~were~~ put together a pushing bag with drill, battery, hangers and such, with the now liberated 100m pushing rope. This was taken down as yet unnamed "Luke's Pitch".

"Indian rope trick"

Coming to the start of Song of the Earth, we left the drill for whichever team needed it, and split up. Nathan and George took a phreatic tube going upward, and Elliott and I went to find the deep end of Song of the Earth, hoping to push the cave even deeper.

Song of the Earth continued as a large phreatic tube angled downward at  $\sim 30^\circ$ , heading almost exactly west. The floor was treacherous boulder choke, covered in a layer of slippery black mud. After about 100m of similar passage, with the occasional rock arch or muddy helictite, it came to a large chamber ~20m high. The climb down into the chamber was tricky, but when there the black mud disappeared from the boulders. A depression in the floor looked to be the filled in way on. Striking round the depression and a large boulder pile showed two fissures on the far side. The first was a short way to a solid mud cung that currently marks the lowest point of Tunnels at -903m, obviously impassable.

The second lead went to a small squeeze with a gravel floor with a howling gale coming through. Not wanting to stop there, we dug the squeeze until it was large enough to pass through (Don't Stop Me Now). This entered another vedose passage now leading upward and north east, obviously a different passage leading the large chamber. We only followed this a short way because we ran out of time, and headed back to camp.

On the way back, we found another 20m had been tied to the end of the shortened rappel rope. Apparently Nathan and George had found the rope a bit too short, and had spent 40 minutes digging footholds to get up to the rope. We were all back in Karen camp by 10:30 pm.

### Faffing

Intending to get up and do some pushing before heading out, we agreed to get up at 8am. However, it turns out we were all very good at faffing about, so no caving got done in the end. It didn't help that Nathan and George capped out all their leads except ones that

needed bolt climbing, so the only viable lead (drill stop we now) was a 4 hour round trip from camp. Instead, we opted to wait around a bit to see if the next camping group arrived before we would leave. By 1pm no one had arrived (they had intended to have a 6am start) so we opted to go out.

Nathan went first, and just went hell for leather passing out, leaving George behind to also exit the cave alone. Not a clever move since Nathan was supposedly leading the trip I came third with Elliott close behind, he being faster than me. In the end, we were all up on the surface by 7:30 pm, where we found the weather a bit grim and claggy. That was the reason the second camping group hadn't come underground, and indeed lower Procrastination had been a bit drier than usual.

Time Underground 33 hours.

## Some Thoughts on Sponsorship Application

- Apply early - preferably before November as this is the start of the financial year & companies such as Makita only have a limited number of ~~free~~ free of charge (FOC) products to give out as sponsorship.
- Expensive things (such as drills, stones, camping gear etc) which last awhile are a better sponsorship option than small perishables that need to be bought every year such as food (not to say that these things aren't worth applying for, but they will have money spent on them anyway).
- Make certain to mention that we have spent money on their products before, & provide specifics where appropriate - does Makita mentioned in their rejection email? Show me that 'the distribution of FOC products does not seem to have lead to an increase in sales in the past among caners' which is clearly bollocks as we have bought 5 drills & 12 batteries from them.
- attach a PDF to emails to sponsors which is an expo report - this should be no longer than 1000

words & include lots of pretty photos beneath  
(preferably photos with clear product placement).

My suggested structure for this report would be:

- brief intro: who we are, where we go, quick history of exploration prior to this year, cave stats (length, depth etc).
- what we found this year: big camp, big ~~passage~~,  
big excite, long trips underground (mention that the camp was set up for 3 weeks with a team always there on rotation), extended Balkonhöhle, 760ft long & 10m
- what we plan to do next year: look for more of the master cave (does it lead toward Stellerneg?), so more camping ergo more camping kit, more Balkon, possibly a prospecting (surface) mission for a few days looking for new cave toward Ogarhöhle (needing a new surface camp ergo surface camping kit).
- look through the server for photos - they don't need to be from this year! People drilling, eating etc. Also some cool ones of camp, Octopus etc. Include a good variety of passage.

- Include an before & after survey to show progress.
- Include a link to the expo website at the bottom.
- The expo website for homepage should be amended to include a big list of sponsors with a 'thank you' note that can be seen immediately.
- When writing to sponsors in another country (no UK Office eg Travel Lunch) it is a great idea to do it in their own language - The Elaine Translate Tool is useful here.
- Alistair Humphreys (professional adventurer) has written a great guide to sponsorship application which is probably worth a read.
- Some companies eg Alpenit have written quite comprehensive guidelines on how they want people to present themselves on applications - this is definitely worth reading & considering.
- Present yourself well - keen, polite, friendly.
- Be persistent (if they don't reply for a month then send a follow up) but don't be annoying.
- Emphasise this is a student expedition/training the caves of the future - quite a rare thing these days.

Please add to!

## People to consider applying to for Sponsorship:

- Makita (bought 5 drills 12 batteries)
- Alpink (un bergen d camping gear, stove, bivvy bags, warm jackets - David & Elaine own their warm jackets, pretty much all of UEST use their bivvy bags).  
Alpink also lend out kit - talk to peachly.
- Group shelter companies - doing a bulk buy, cave susceptible to weather etc. Lifesystems, outdoor designs & alpink possibilities. Chris Jones (Peachley's contact mate, former darkstein caver) has contacts at the parent company of Rab which might be worth asking him about - he has also been sponsored by Alpink.
- Sella - pestos are awesome, they gave us a jacket in the past & probably will again.
- Timmicks - really reliable, good shirt.
- Travel Luck - bit salty but overall good & have a contact there now. Worth seeing if a full sponsorship instead of a discount can be had as these were pretty expensive.  
→ Other brands exist

- Soup companies - Ainsley Harriott, Hung Shot etc.  
→ Elaine asked in 2015 & it was a no<sup>o</sup>
- cereal/foods - Jordans, Dorset Quakers. Momflakes (have been sponsored several times in more distant past)
- Showa - carrying gloves. Designed for use on or off road & dead good! Not tried before.
- Kraken Rum - camping essential.
- "Lock What We Found" - ready food like the dinner, but lots of different types of meals.
- Stoves - for brew kits, camp. Pocket rockets, jetboils, pans, etc?
- Group shelters - have a good story to tell after this year!
- Camp pots - Snugpak - can we have another?
- Undersuits - camp funny suits?
- GPS units?

18-19<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Camp kraken - Song & The Earth + Camp  
Derig

Team: Katy, Flavie, Fleur, Ian

It was supposed to be a 2 night camp starting on Sunday. But on Sunday we woke up and it had been raining the night and continued to rain. So we decided to cancel starting off cold + wet. Instead an 'alpine start' was called for and I got everyone up at 6am on Monday. We were underground by 8am and down at camp for a late lunch. The idea was to try and make some good going leads in Song & The Earth. Flavie + Katy went to the downstream limit, supposedly drafting + flinging sediment in your face. Meanwhile I agreed to belay Ian up the upstream lead.

As we left camp I was impressed with Chris + Anthony finding the way on via tentack traverse - now a very slippery beast indeed! Luke's pitch down into Song & The Earth was much bigger than I expected, and perhaps a tad underbolted.

As we entered the master cave, Ian + I wet "upstream" via the bouldery awesomeness eventually coming at the limit of exploration. Ian was certainly correct that it was a promising location - howling gale going uphill, and the boulders appearing to continue in a ramp translated higher up. However, it was a long way up!

Ian was efficient though, climbing up around 10-15 metres until the rope drag was too much, while I went through my song repertoire. He then rigged a pitch for the first section while I took some photos. Then, after chocolate, we both went up to the belay so Ian could climb the next section. This was mostly a ramp as opposed to a true pitch. Although Ian was efficient again (another 15+ m ascended) I got very cold tied off to the belay.

Unsurprisingly at the top of the pitch the passage got smaller, containing an upstream canyon with boulders + water, before finishing at an oven. Time to go home to katsu.

By this time Flavie + Katy had appeared so

It was a quick survey before departure. The others had not had much luck "dawnstream" so I was ~~too~~ decided to do the Master cave. I was very tired (+ Elainie's cold) so Ian & kathy did this while Elainie and I took the drill sh back to camp. We arrived back about 11pm after 15 hours survey. The other two were about an hour to 90 min behind us.

The campsite was great and we had a comfy night, we sleeping and not getting up until almost 10am.

It took around 3 hours to get breakfasted + pack up camp. We sent Elainie out first. Then me & kathy. Ian organised kraken and we three packed up the Master cave + kraken kept in the base of Inferno.

[Note - Octopussy, Tentacle, Lett's pitch etc all left in situ.]

I left the base of the Inferno pitche around 8pm. Half an hour later Ian was shouting up about something ~~had~~ catching. He & kathy ended up dragging a little more. Meanwhile I proceeded on, catching Elainie

up ~~as~~ at the top of Shug Meery. We did the last section together and exited around 11pm.

Ian + kathy returned to Steinboden about one hour after us. TU: 39 hours

#### CAMP KRAKEN FINAL INVENTORY

18/07/2016

- spit driver, spits, cones
- Hilli setter
- hammer
- full pot of Hillis
- blow tube x2
- 2 lanyards
- 4 carry mats
- 2 pans
- washing line (in situ)
- nail varnish x3
- Theron protractors, 2x small scale  
3x large scale
- 2 pencils
- VG camp first aid kit
- 11 Travellunch
- 9 noodles
- 1 package peanuts
- hand Sanitizer
- 2 inches rum
- tent (in situ)
- scourer
- 2 survival bags (porch)
- drill padding
- metal knife (rope sealing)

- Octopussy + pitch to Song of the Earth leaf rigged

## UNDERGROUND CAMP FIRST AID KIT INVENTORY

19/07/2016

- lighter x1
- tealights x3
- Sharpie w/ duct tape
- pencil w/ duct tape
- waterproof paper x3
- Tuff kuts
- scissors
- nitrile gloves x8
- extra freezer bags x3
- eyewash tubes x2
- safety pins
- plasters x130, assorted sizes
- SAM splint (standard size)
- sterile wipes x8
- micropore tape, 1 roll
- stem strips x6
- 5x5cm swabs x5
- eye bandage x1
- tampons x4
- large dressing x1
- medium dressing x1
- ambulance dressings x2 (2,3?)
- trauma bandage x1
- drugs:
  - Voltarol 50mg x4, exp 11/17
  - Diclofenac 50mg x10, exp 02/12
  - same drug
  - Paracetamol 500mg x15, exp 03/19  
02/21
  - Domperidone 10mg x4, exp 10/13
  - Loperamide 2mg x4, exp 12/15
  - Aspirin 500mg x4, exp 03/18
  - Ibuprofen 200mg x16, exp 10/18
  - Cocodamol 8mg codeine x8, 02/20
  - Dextrose x1 package

- rehydration tablets x10

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> July 16-JB-01 Hopeless

Oly + Jenny

Walked up in the morning, having had a tooth extracted the previous day - I promised the dentist that I would avoid strenuous activities for a few days, and also not sure if it was healing (he was very concerned that we might underestimate the flooding risk underground!).

Went to look at the remaining lead in 16-JB-01. This time ~~of the flat~~ we had a rope so started it on the ledge overlooking the chossy chamber, avoiding the dodgy climb, ~~as~~ I put a bolt in and Oly went through the slot while I setted the survey kit. Oly got down with a natural sedlay to a small over/chamber. This led to a snowbanked similar over/chamber, but no through tunnel passage sadly. We had climbed up in difficult places, my climb from the 2nd chamber looked to connect with the second slot near the pitch. Both Oly's from where the chambers join became on taut.

Surveyed + deigned out. I carried gear up the chossy, while Oly had a final look in the chossy chamber, and found us another lead for the next trip.

Thu 4<sup>th</sup>

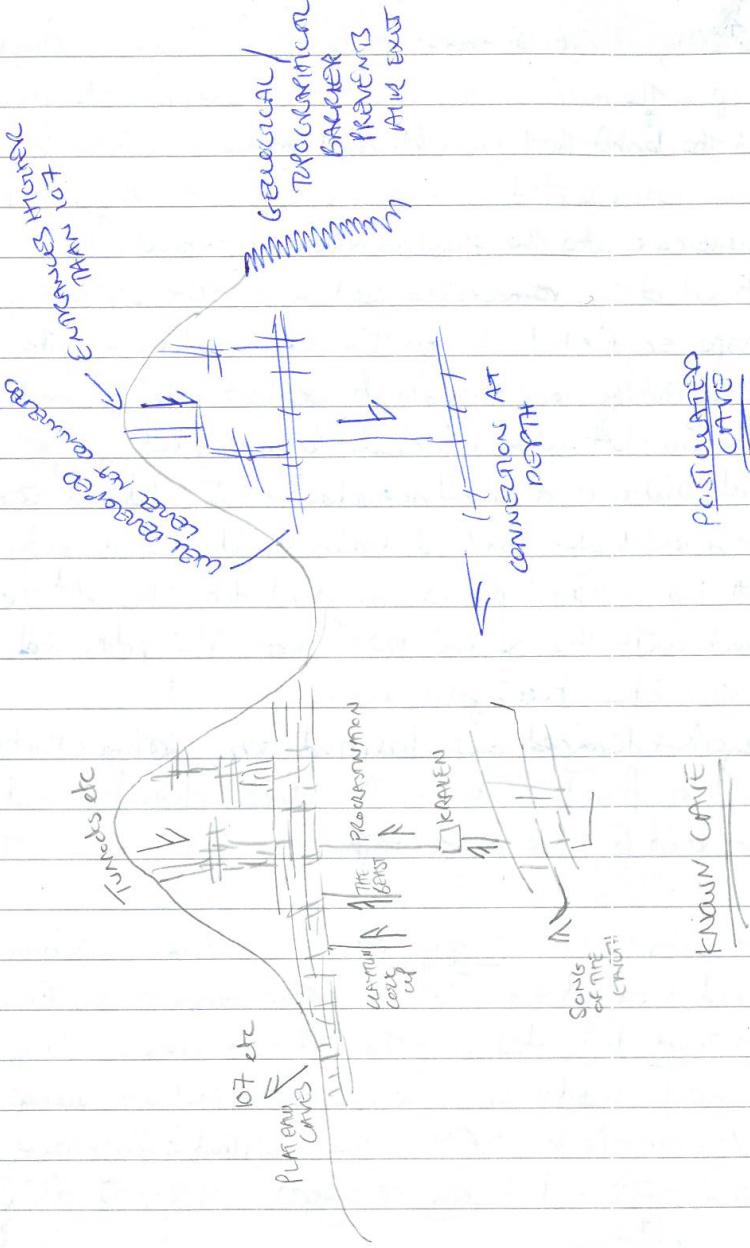
Sun 17 July

Tutting jobs

Jenny

It rained + rained some more, so enthusiasm was low for going underground and getting wet. It brightened up in the afternoon (it was drizzling not actually raining) so I made up some cave tags and we changed the BFI: (cave (2004-01) to 269, then I walked to Cairn Cave and tagged it (2006-70) and finally retagged 1987-02 as 267.

## CONCEPTUAL BULLSHIT MODEL:



U. ~~20/7/16~~

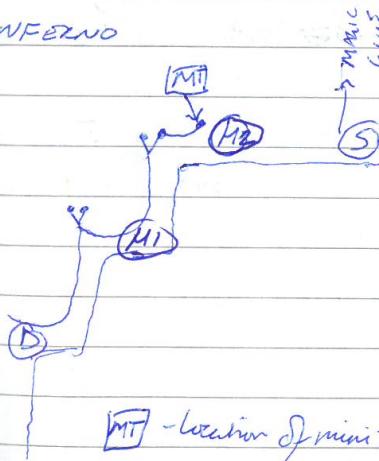
20/7/16 Turners Dering, Upper Kakan → String Theory

Elliott, David, Mark, Rob & Anthony

The objective of this trip was to ding at least as far as the top of the Pherd-prone Proscription pitch. The intention was to use the PAELLA (Pull An Extremely Long Length Altogether) technique which, a practice run in Long Drop apart, none of us had really done before. A planning session the day meant we had a good idea of what we wanted to do on each pitch, which made for a pretty slick operation. The previous camping team had also done us a massive favour by detubing the Kakan pitch and the bottom half of Inferno so we only had to go 2/3 of the way down Inferno.

The puller proceeded as follows:

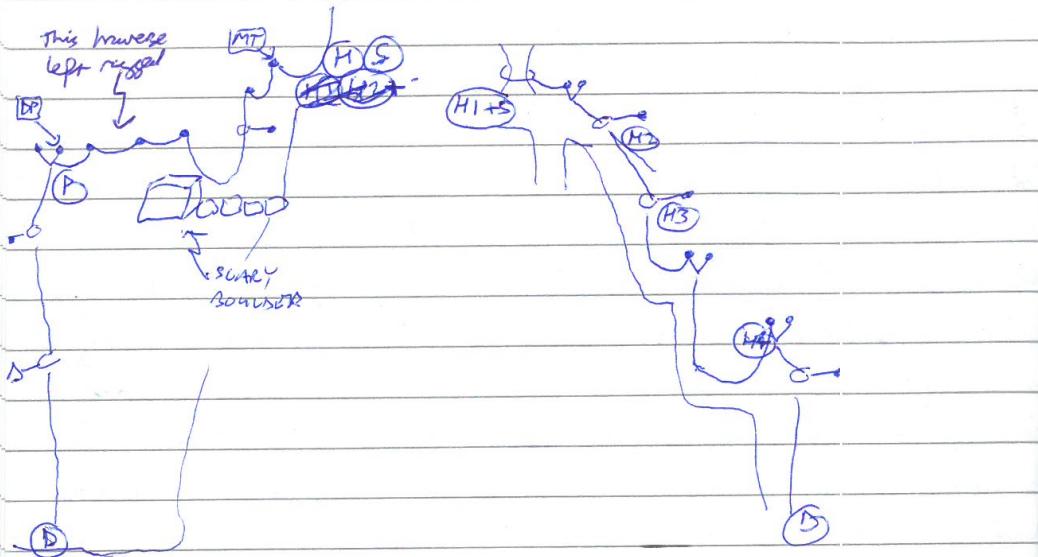
### INFERNO



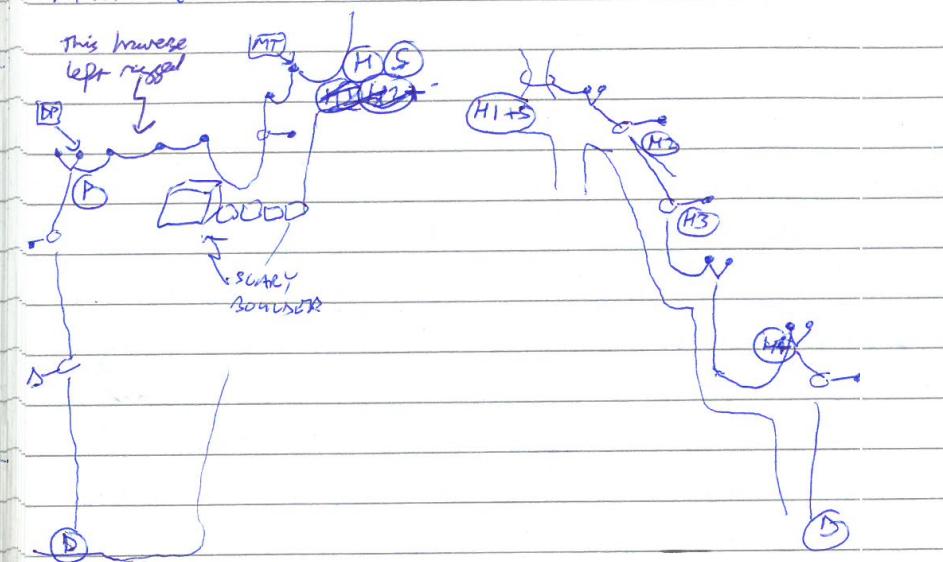
### Jobs

- (D) - Dinger
  - (H) - Header - musclebound bunks to yank on the end of the rope
  - (S) - Stack - makes a nice neat pile of rope
  - (P) - Pulley master - runs a deviation pulley when required
- MT** - location of mini-traction pulley
- DP** - location of deviation pulley (to move past the knot)

MAGIC GLUE

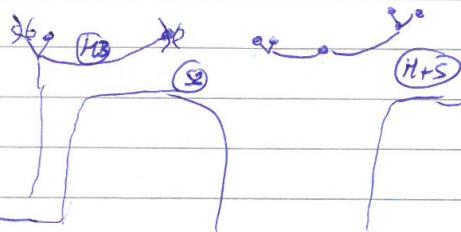
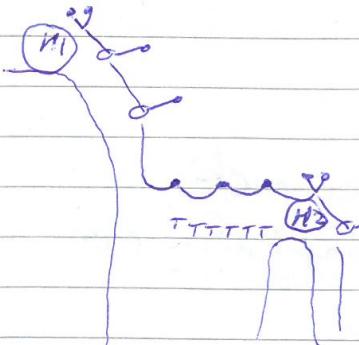


WIDOW TWANKEE'S KNUCKER ELASTIC



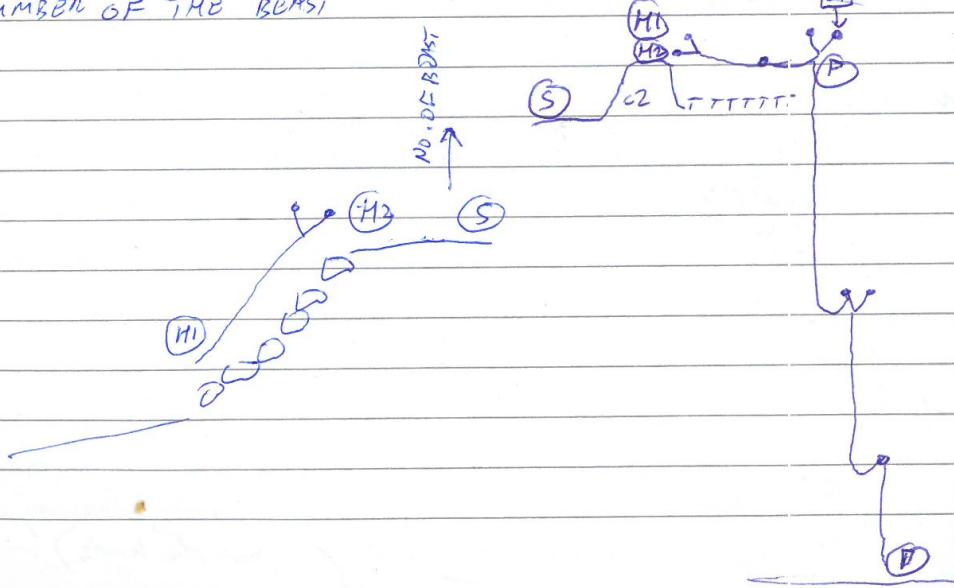
BRING ON THE CLOWNS → BOTTOM OF PROCRASITATION

(done in two stages)



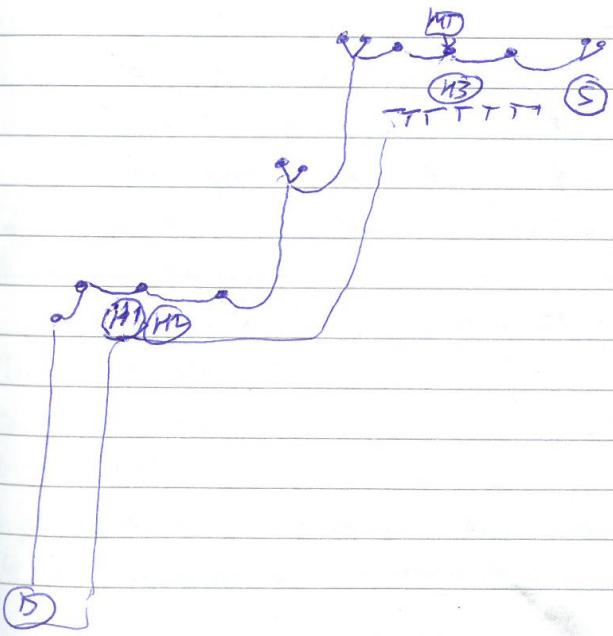
PROCRASITATION ↑

WIDOW TWANKEE → BOTTOM OF  
NUMBER OF THE BEAST



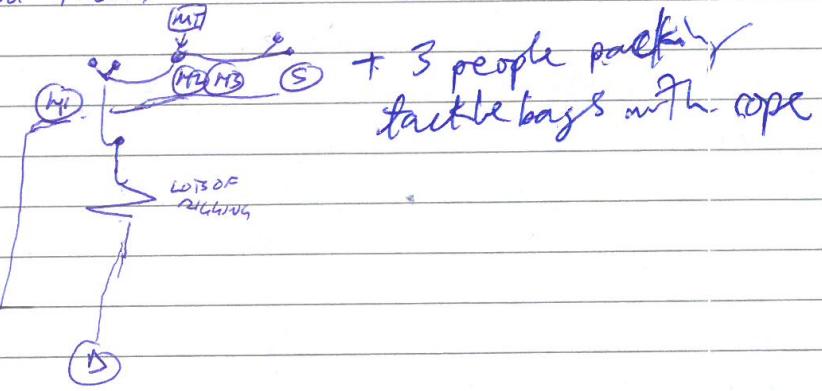
NUMBER OF THE BEAST

PROCRASITATION



At the top of Prohibition, the timely arrival of reinforcements in the shape of Pete, Ach and Julian allowed us to pull it and bring up String Theory by means of hand force

### STRING THEORY



At the top 9 trolley bags were waiting, so all the rope (~1200m of it) was bussed and ferried out of the cave. A most satisfying and effective debrukking trip and a good, solid effort from all concerned.

### Other events of note:

- When putting up the bottom part of Widow Twinkles, Rob managed to pull a 70 cm boulder off that caught him a glancing blow on his helmet and shoulder, smashing the glass in his visor. He walked away shaken but substantially unharmed. It could have been a lot worse - care required!

- When clearing String Theory, Elliott had left his personal bag at the bottom so had to put a couple of bolts back in to go down and retrieve it. This was greeted by sympathetic laughter at the top.

Thu 14-15 hrs

Mon 18 July      16-JB-01 Dirty Snow      Oly + Jenny  
 Weather wasn't great, so we had quite a slow start. Headed back to 16-JB-01 to look at Oly's new lead. Again we started the rope at the ledge but went down first along, then Oly went to the northern end of the chessy chamber and over a rock bridge to a rift. The end of this dropped down to a very dirty snow cone, with deep-dip holes. First I all looked south, and saw two small rifts dropping in (as the ones we were the topside) on the left). To the east was a short passage leading off which quickly ended. Traversed round the bottom of the snow, which is a layered snow plug, so presumably it has been here for many years. Passage continued to the north through a squeeze, through some rocks and a gap. Although there were a lot of brash and collapse it felt fairly solid. Decided that we couldn't go further without gear. Surveyed out.

Thu: 4hrs

Tue 19 July

76 Dering

Oly + Jenny

Decided to do 76 while it wasn't raining, and to free up rope for 16-JB-01. Last year I master-minded a very efficient debray of 107 with 3 people + 6 bags of gear. This year we had 2 people for 76, 4 bags, and 6 bags worth of gear. I went down to keep Srites to

ding that. I met Oly at the Tap Room, from there I shuttled bags out the cave while Oly descended.

I hopped around the cave, after much miscommunication, shoving and inefficiency we had 3½ bags out, and enough gear to the top below the top.

Went back in for another 2 hours of descending (Oly) and bag shuttling (me). Now we never need to return!

Thu 7th

(Below Hilti A plenty)

19<sup>th</sup> July 2016 - "GOST FREEPS GIVING + "WATER TROUBLE!"

Pete, Adam, Elliott, Martin + Rob (Guide)

↳ went off to long drop  
after quieting down

The team kept pushing the lead below Hilti-a-plenti rigged by Rob + Luke on 17/7/2016 (evening breakthrough). Rob kindly showed the rest of the team to the right place. Adam + Pete surveyed upwards from T-junction up a steepish phreatotube that was muddy but relatively easy to climb. The passage had the sound of water (murmur) and a draft (uumm) but the muddy phreatotubes choked. The noise came from a squeeze on right into a tight meandering rift. Pete squirmed down rift for 5m to small stream. It was too tight upstream and would need a lump hammer to make progress downstream - although it seems to

widen a bit after ~5m. I wonder if this is the same stream heard at bottom of pitch rigged by Rob + Luke the day before.

Meanwhile, Elliott had rigged + dropped a nice 15-20m pitch from the end of Rob + Luke's far point. This is very promising and goes into a bigish chamber with two ways on. But the two ways on may be going to same place. They both have a good cold draft. The first way involves scrabbling easily round a big jammed boulder to the low point in the chamber. Elliott climbed down stretchily for ~7m to see two possible pitches that are probable 10-15m deep (?).

The second way on from main chamber is a 15m traverse from the jammed block into a large descending phreatic tube. Nicely rigged by Martin from a bolt + various naturals / slings. If then goes to a blind area, but there is also a 10-15m pitch down with good draft.

Overall, these are A leads with a draft.

18-19 July 2016

Camp Kraken - Song of the Earth + Deny → Downstream

Katey, Elaine, Fleur, Peachey

To be read in conjunction with Fleur's report...

While Fleur & Peachey headed to the uphill lead, Elaine and I went down to the lead advertised as being a 2m wide rift with a howling draft, reached by a massive chamber with a mountain in it! Wow! As it turns out the chamber was similar dimensions to the rest of the preceding passage... okay. The sandy crawl was rather less drafty than advertised, but drafts are frickle, right? Three survey legs later we reached the end for that day. A 6m climb up lead to an upward sloping phreatic passage with a mud/water channel on the floor. The climb was a bit weeeey for ~900m and Elaine didn't fancy it so I marked the final station and climbed down. The ~~s~~ continuing passage we called a QMB and it will likely need some bolting to progress - steep incline + slippery mud = sadness. The climb up will also need bolting for any handline/rope. That done and slightly disappointed, we headed out to meet Fleur & Peachey.

20<sup>th</sup> July 2016 Höhle der Guten Hoffnung (2016-JB-01) Jenny, Olly

Continuing to push the same route as 18<sup>th</sup>, we (re)rigged on the way in, then dropped the down-climb wld called it a day at, then down a short pitch with a belay to reach some large boulders with a view out into a void beyond. A throw rock suggested a 20m drop but we only had a couple of metres of rope left so surveyed back to the end of the previous survey, briefly hampered by Jenny taking out a survey station which turned out to be less well connected to the boulder it was on than it appeared to be.

T/U: 6h 05

21<sup>st</sup> July 2016 16-JB-01: Nervous Breakdown

Olly + Jenny

This had to be our final trip, so we could carry gear down the next day. Managed to get underground at 9:05am to maximise our chances. Whizzed down to the pushing font and Olly started off with the rigging from the final bolt of yesterday, a couple of naturals then a bolt got us down to a big boulder slope - a scary boulder slope at about the critical angle of slope failure, with boulders a range of sizes. Olly crossed the slope to the other side and put another bolt in before I crossed. After I crossed and Olly was placing the next bolt, some of the slope started moving towards me. We survived. Another few bolts got us down a short pitch (formed by some very big boulders) to get more boulder slope. This was

# Base Camp First Aid Spares Inventory

First Aid at Base Camp 24/07/16	
- gloves	BOX #1
- 1 box M, 1 box L	
- 2 bags, assorted sizes	
- 7 pairs Tuffkuits	
- 7 pairs scissors	
- 2 plastic + 1 metal tweezers	
- 33 eyewash tubes (+ 2 small sachets saline)	
- 1 eye cup	
- 14 eye pads (No 16)	
- 1 blanket	
- 2 disposable hand warmer packs	
- burn dressings	
- 1x 10cmx10cm, 1x 5cmx5cm, 1x 10cmx40cm	
- 1 ice pack	
- conforming bandages	
- 1x 5cmx2m	- 1x 15cmx1.5m
- 3x 5cmx1m	
- 4x 7.5cmx4m (+ 1 7.5cm x ?)	
- 1x 7.5cmx1.5m	
- crepe bandages	
- 6x 7.5cmx4.5m	
- 1x 10cmx1.5m	
- 3 pencils	
- 19 tampons	
- 24 safety pins (assorted sizes)	
- blister plasters	
- 2 small, 9 large	
- 2 finger splints + gauze	
- 3 finger dressings	
- 2 rescue plan sheets (laminated)	

BOTH  
SIDES  
OF PAGE

marginal less steep and therefore considerably more stable. This was fortunate because we had run out of rope. Continued down the slope - passage got narrower, and was noticeably draughty (cold). Finally the roof came down, and the passage appeared to end. The draught came out of some gaps between the boulders. This looked stable, and plenty big enough, and appeared to drop about 10m. It did not look freefallable. We contemplated going back up, cutting the end off the rope and going down, but this really wasn't going to be enough time. So we looked down one last time, imagined the caverns measureless to man that lay beyond and saved out.

Looked at a few inlets/alcoves at floor level on the way up, but nothing went. Higher up there are many inlets 1/2+ way up the walls. Devised as we surveyed and surveyed survived the boulders again.

Surveying finished, I shuffled bags as only designed. Placed a Netti at the entrance, to which we added a tag two days later while packing the bivi.

Noticed that the entrance is incredibly close to the old path to 204/Topcamp (i.e. the one in all with traces).

TU: 10hrs

# Base Camp First Aid Spares Inventory

## - dressings

[BOX H2]

- 28x Sterile HSE Med (12cmx12cm)
- 13x sterile HSE Large (18cmx18cm)
- 1x sterile first aid large (10cmx12cm)
- 1x sterile first aid medium:

## - 25 wound cleansing wipes

## - ambulance dressings

- 2x no 1
- 2x no 2
- 2x no 3
- 6x no 4
- 1x Tb trauma dressing (15cmx18cm)

## - 20 triangular bandages

## - medical tape

- 7x Leukotac 1.25cmx9.2m
- 1x 5mx 1.25cm
- 2x 2x5cmx? }
- 1x 1cmx?

[WATERPROOF BAG]

+ olly + Jenny's  
drugs list

## - dressing pads

- 14x 10cmx10cm w adhesive border
- 8x 15cmx15cm no adhesive
- 3x 5cmx5cm "
- 3x 7cmx6cm "
- 4x 8.3cmx6cm "
- 2x 10cmx8cm "
- 7x 10cmx10cm " (assorted)

## - swabs

- 3x 5cmx5cm pack of 5
- 1x 7.5cmx7.5cm pack of 5

## - ~110 plasters, assorted

## - steri-strips

- 1x package of 3
- 2x package of 5

## - 1 tegaderm pad 5cmx7cm

## - 72m fabric dressing strips (total)

## - Star gel handwarmer

## - 12 hour lightstick

## - tealights + matches + 1 lighter

BOTT  
SIDES  
OF PAGE

marginal less &  
This was fortunate  
continued down the  
not really draughty  
the passage appears  
some gaps between  
planks big enough,  
did not look friend  
cutting the end a  
wasn't going to be a  
line, imagined the  
beyond and sawed  
looked at a few in  
nothing went. thigh  
up the walls. De  
survived the boulders  
Surprisingly finished  
a little at the on  
later while packing  
noticed that the  
path to Z04/10

19/07/2016 Balcony Cathedral Chasm.

Mark David Ashley

Went down to limit of exploration.

David rigged a couple of 10m pitches, but both were choked. Walls covered in some nice "flapjack" crystalline calcite.

Meanwhile Mark and Ashley explored a B/C lead. A couple of dead bats. After about 50m it began to get lower, but a flat-out crawl popped out into a big, obviously well used passage! It turned out to be right next to Trident Junction.

We finished off by detaching the upper way into Cathedral Chasm. Any further pushing can be more conveniently done via the crawl, rather than going all the way round which includes a slightly dodgy pitch and a couple of traverses.

T/U 8 hours.

GEAR LEFT AT TOP CAMP, END 2016

METALWARE:	Metalware 8 hangers drum	Large Poo pot	Small Poo Pot	TOTAL
AS + DYNAMITE		3	3	6
CLOUNTS	11		2	13
BOLLARD	3			3
TWIST	20	71	35	126
BEND	30	23	34	87
MR	1050	47	88	185-
RING	46		19	65-

• All metalware washed, dried and lubricated with WD40

BIG DAREW DRUM #1 (HEAVY!)

119 canvas

24 nozzles

BIG DAREW DRUM #2

4kg cornflour	7 soups	1½ bottles relish
1kg raisins	500g sultanas	4 spice paste
5kg muesli	~4 Preserbag rolls	black pepper
500g sunflower seeds	food clips	
7 bags Ready Brek	2 rolls bin bags	
500g sugar	8 jars pesto	
5 big rolls	1 bag mints	
1 kg Playgrate	1½ bottles mild	
		chilli sauce

### BIG DAREN DRUM #3

8 kg Playzack  
500g smash  
1 tin Monoflake  
6l soups

4 Truwellmiles  
43 curries  
22 nootles

### OTHER STUFF

Stretcher  
First response bag (complete)  
Big Daren Drum DJ electrical stuff  
8 x tape measure  
3 x big tacklesack  
- one of these contains  
90m 8/11mm (rescue rope)  
1 x small tacklesack  
2 x drill bag  
~12 camp beds  
~200 Hilti anchors  
7 short 10mm drill bits  
6 blowing tubes  
 $\frac{1}{3}$  drum chocolate drink  
empty corn cobs  
nearly empty crushed tay making kit  
5 kg Oats

7 notebooks  
7 pencils  
lots of punctured air mattresses  
2 gas cylinders (5kg)  
- 1 full, 1 part-used  
6 pairs  
empty gas cylinder  
1 roll gutter tape  
1 roll Lx tape.  
CCC expa brev kit  
1/10 drum sugar  
15 instant soups.  
1/10 drum milk powder  
1/10 drum res smash  
1/10 drum muesli  
2 x car battery (in boxes)  
4 x big camping mugs with lid  
2 x spork.

Full 400g gas canister

2 x part used 100g gas canisters  
1 x club hammer  
6 x bolting hammer  
1 x spit driver  
6 x Hilti setters

2 x crow bar  
1 x spade [IN ANVIL HOLE]

WD40  
6 x spits  
2 x 13mm spanner  
~30 reflective cavers

Bio tub  
2 x body bag (2mm, green)  
Tub of reflective belts (wid)  
1st response First aid kit  
in Peli case

Top Camp First aid Peli case

Top Camp callout peli case  
- contains assorted surveys  
& laminated bivie rigging guide

2 x dry bag  
- one contains 3 x big orange survival bags.

3 x deviation bat (2 with ring hangers)

6 mm cord

Assorted bivie rigging bat  
Big seat + mounting bits  
3 x rope protector.  
Water collection system  
(bottles, bags, pipes, funnel)

Shagged dengly bag  
1 x box emergency rations

## ROPE LEFT AT BASECAMP END 2016

Year diameter Length

2015	9	15	2014	9	58
2013	10	48	2014	10	99
2014	11	65	2015	10	24
2012	9	45	2011	11	61
2012	10	15	2010	10	80 ULSA
2014	11	50	2010	10	80 ULSA
2016	9	90	2011	10	22
2015	10	43	2011	10	31
2013	9	60	2009	11	13 ULSA
2016	11	86	2009	9	14
2012	10	29	2010	9	29 ULSA
2012	9	28	2009	9	10 ULSA
2012	9	25	2009	10	25 ULSA
2015	10	30	2009	10	35 ULSA
2012	9	25	2009	10	30 ULSA
2014	11	12	2009	10	14
2012	9	13	2008	10	27
2012	9	55	2010	10	34
2014	11	8			
2012	10	13			
2012	9	12			
2014	11.	9			

## GEAR LEFT AT BASECAMP END 2016

Pollmat x2

Websuit (m)

20' & 30' ladder + spreader.

Fibre pile pit (banded zip)

Basecamp quality pit-

Thermarest

Expo campbed labelled

"Matt Watson, not Express"

Karrimat x2

Mat top x2

Smugpak w/g camping pit x3

Basecamp first aid kit

(in 2 boxes)

5x6m tarp (new)

Log tarp

30m mains extension

Lead, European plug.

Dangly bag with enough

reflective canons for

TC path (~50).

Box of hardware - gear, saws, wire, gas, tape etc.

3x bags / boxes of extra med. supplies

Box of liquids - paraffin, milk, Suncream, Sealab

Peli case w/ Petzl permanent hangers, n° 7

Bucket of pegs & hangers

Ratchet set box

Makita box w/ tools & bolts

Makita 12V Drill x 2

1 Set of compasses

Assorted sets, pens, plates, mugs, cutlery

2x drill batteries

2x shore, "Danger Death" sign

2x Disto

~25 survey notebooks

~8 Large waterproof notebooks

Bear tent poles, bags, bolt slabs

Fluorescent light & bear tent

Box w. 57 MREs & 72 bags

63 karabiners (mix J-screws, & snaplinks)

65 chairs

29 bags

3x ABS hangers

Bread machine

24/07/16 Balcony - Galactica  
Hills-a-plenty

Ashley Martin

Went to explore Hills-a-plenty and push a pitch discovered previously by Rob and Co. Eventually named the pitch Deep Space 9 - suggested by Rob on a late trip. Martin bolted and rappel, began our descent to a low rocky passage. At the end of this was another rocky pitch which Martin began to rap, meanwhile I started surveying a screey side passage. The side passage was stable for a few feet before entering into a sandy chank from here an arduous lead to a massive chamber - Galactica. Petzl Duo could not make out opposite wall, left wall, right wall, ceiling or floor. Recently Martin with spot right camera detected early floor. down from side to side and 50m to new floor - could not actually make it out. Will need to go back next year. Considerably surveying a smaller lead off the first chamber to conclusion. Good 150m of cave surveyed not really massive Galactica. Of course it was the last day of pushing...

25/07/16 Balcony Derrygilly - Hills-a-plenty

Ashley Martin Rob

Went to shear Rob Galactica before then the big derrygilly began. Designed Deep Space 9 for the haulage of 0m? Then cart stop now this is bat country. Also found an odd lot of survey gear left by Rob from before on the pitch. Then I descended Hills-a-plenty with a tackle bag a tad too small. One re-haul near the top proved particularly difficult to derry, resulting in a slip and swing and crash too my discomfort. We met Elliott and Michael near the entrance pitch and got them to carry this as we hauled out. Rob left before Martin and I, descending down the hill rather quickly. We were a bit slower, weighed down with lots of gear. And the body all of haulage was finally cleared and the day was completed for this year.

# Food left at base camp

33

ENVS 2016

Sesh 16 - Notes

Please use this page to record details of the sesh, who ordered what, how much individual items cost, to avoid clutter on the opposite table.

red cabbage

2 jars chutney

olive oil

holistic - mixer

ketchup

hot sauce

tinmed beans x 6

tomato puree

oil

instant soup mix

pickled things

rice (1 kilo)

2 lbs sweet corn

macaroni

stock cubes

2 tins lentils

1 tin beans

pepper

3 litres + half ~~litre~~

big jar of THE WRONG  
CUSTARD

Instant noodles = one

large can full

3.5 litres the night  
custard!

1.2 litres instant hot choc.

11 small jars pesto

10 small jars other sauce.

16 packets instant souffle.

2 bags flour

macaroni

stock cubes

2 tins lentils

1 tin beans

pepper

knife  
fork

sack  
etc

bags  
decomposing

in play

2016

## MORE GONE LEFT AT BASE CAMP END 2016

Monitor

2x spreads

Another med kit (in Poli case) 3x dry bags

Keyboard

network cable

USB cable

2x <sup>British</sup> ~~British~~ 2x 4 way with European plug; 2x 4 way with British plug

Stereo

Scanner

Color laser printer

Spare black/white cartridge

Laminator + ~50 laminating pouches

Base Camp mains Mains Charger.

Cooking stuff (Scales, some flour, ~~measuring spoons~~, <sup>cooking rule</sup> ~~spoon~~ knife)  
Rattle

Assorted tools & chargers (N.B.: EXPD mouse does not work)

1 empty 5kg gas cylinder

1 mostly empty 5kg gas cylinder

1 empty 11kg gas cylinder

1 part-used 11kg gas cylinder

1 bag of Survival bags

1 bag assorted comp.

1 x HTC phone (donated by Sam?)

6x dry bags

5x largeish bubblesacks

1x ~~small~~ bubblesack

3x dry bags

250 x <sup>Decomp.</sup> Bags  
(if they don't decompose)