

# EXPO 2005

Friday  
22/07/05 July 05

Setting up 76 camp

Jenny + Olly

We carried up a load of gear the night before, but sadly the water bucket I'd carried up a few days earlier had only managed to collect a few inches of water. The first job was to get out the gear we left in a cave (too small to have a number or name) at the end of last year. This should have been easy, except what had been dry last year now had enough of a middle of water to have lots of ice. Some of the gear came out easily (food was fine), but I had to sit in the drips for half an hour hammering out the torps from the ice, fortunately we had a rolling hammer bus. Next we set up the water tarp and my hands thawed! The water we had left in bottles in the cave seemed to have survived fine, probably due to being frozen most of the time.

We looked at 76a and noted that there was still a bit of snow and no entrance, though ~30cm had melted in the last 2 days. We walked over to 97 which we had more snow than last year but looked open, exploring this became Plan-B.

We headed back to 76a and whilst Olly took photos I kicked out snow from the entrance. Finally we had a cave to explore again! &

We headed back down the hill, me to carry a load I had left at top camp a few days before, and Olly to find a more direct route to the col. Not via old Top Camp in the process he re-found some old caves: -

Jen: T/U 30m/s

22/07/05 Attempting to Reinvent the "SUPERDIRECT" route

Olly

The earlier explorers of 76 speak of a "super direct" route from the col. to 76. The route we used last year went via top camp (handy for stopping for a drink!) and

then swung out onto the plateau, then back to 76 with a few awkward climbs, so there seemed scope for improvement. So I started from the tent pitched near the 76 bivouac (2004/01), and headed along the break of slope towards the col. The route seems pretty promising, and partly already cairned. At one point I walked across a snowfield which might be harder once the snow melts... Eventually I popped out on the open limestone pavement to the <sup>far</sup> right of lower top camp as you look out onto the plateau from there. Just by a spirit cairn I noticed faded orange-ish paint. Hard to be sure, but it seemed to say "80". Took a few pics. Looking later, this is in the right area to be 80, but 80 has a tag and the paint is/was on the shaft wall, not on the pavement by the cairn. Need to go back to look for tags. Backtracked and aimed up and left to catch the start of the 161/24 path, which I ~~successfully~~ succeeded in doing. With a bit of fiddling and some more cairns this is a very promising route!

Jenny would be a while longer so I ambled down, directing into the terraces before Bräuningalm. Investigated a few holes, and then the foundation for what will presumably be another hut. There's currently a cement mixer (orange) and a large tarp covered object (green/blue) next to the foundation. Just below this I discovered a gaping entrance numbered "96" in orange paint - this is an ~~location~~ "exact location unknown" cave, so needs a GPS fix - mine was at 76 so will try to fix it later, although the new hut will make it hard to miss (it'll be the <sup>only</sup> hut on the other side of the path to all the others!) Wandered a little more, then rejoined the path just before the Stögerweg turnoff. Crossed the temporary electric fence and waited a few minutes for Jenny while fending off inquisitive cows.

PS: The Renault garage down the road is very good + cheap + quiet.

16th July

Tony & Wook drive out.

Tony collected Wook from home then headed to the T-stone where we found that I had a large pile of gear. It was clear that it wouldn't all fit, but we got most of it in, just leaving the extra complete warden & pinker plus some of the 1st aid stuff behind for the next coming out after week 1.

Ferry was a couple of hours late & for some strange reason we couldn't catch in the port so were given an exit pass & sent out to wait in love for an hour. So had some chips.

Uneventful drive over apart from when smoke started coming from the dashboard. Fiddled for a bit but couldn't get dash apart so turned everything off & continued. (Turned out to be from relay crimp). No rain all the way. Arrived at about 3pm Sunday 17th.

T/U: 0

21st July

Earl & Wook rig gaffed.

Mack & Wook had rigged the entrance whilst we jettied camp & generally sorted the bins somewhat. Finally got underway at 2:50pm weighed down with 300m of rope. Overlaid setting to top of gaffed, with Earl giving work the work's hour on his 1st 204 trip.

Wook rigged down with 100m rope, earl added setting 40m up that he missed. Did some gardening at the top of Tase warden then rigged on down. Failed somewhat rigging traverse up to LX

Got as far as the top of Lishang. Wook too much of a wuss to reach Earl's spike, so rigged off a different one.

Good trip. Long way back up gaffed. Out 10:15

T/U = 7:25

2005-07-22

Wook & Wral

More gaffed rigging.

Back to gaffed to carry on rigging down. Rigging the steep traverse up to castern is a right pain. (Being a shylock). It would be best to leave this rigging for in future. Got to the bottom of castern to find that the 50m we were going to cut off the bottom of the 200m rope to rig off gardeners world with was only 12m long, so our plans were a bit haggard. Also we had forgotten the extra traverse rope so used a little 7m bit we had.

Thimble through the underworld only bits & rigged gardeners world traverse with the 12m bit. added one extra bolt before the end then tried rigging down with 33m. It wasn't long enough to get to the bottom so took part in a bolt on the LH wall to try & improve the rigging then we pised off at from -250.

Out at 9:15 T/U = 7 1/2 hrs.

Shotage of care food (Plymouth & Angus) shared off by wook, sausage & creekie pot.



2005-07-23

Work, Wind, Tony, Credit Mum Park.

Relatively short & easy trip as we wanted to go down the hill & had run out of our food. Went down to credit run (some fun passages) to the choker at the end containing a wet lead up a bodge climb & a continuation leading to a pitch.

Decided not to do either of those & instead aimed for dark hole up to solution level we had put in down from.

Work shined up, doing some gardening en-route. Good thread near top made it reasonably non-scarry despite high level of chossiness. Passage went, so we spent the best couple of hours surveying it. Nice passage, despite not being huge. Lots of small leads. Still going at the end and quite chilly, so must have a blanket.

Guarded choss above Khim RMP pitch en-route when work tried to slip from rock & whole pile became unstable, rolling a rock onto Khim which he was trying to have a spin. Some very big rocks stuck down pitch.

T/U. 5 hrs 20 min.

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Jenny + Olly

Rigging 76

Walked back up to 76 in the afternoon, discovered that the "80" Olly had found the previous day was 80, was tagged and is practically on the rest path. Much sorting out of gear later we got underground about 5:30pm and Olly proceeded to rig the thick 112m down Plugged Shaft. I followed and took the bolting hammer to the ice in the entrance, which was quite satisfying but made ice water go in the holes in my gloves +

gave me cold hands for most of the rest of the trip. Olly rigged down, adjusting the rigging a bit from ~~the~~ last year (adding a rebelay instead of the guide line that didn't work), he then wanted to add a rebelay, so I had pushed back up to the entrance where I had left the pit of spits & the drill bit - ops. The new bolt definitely improved the rigging, ~~as does~~ as does one less snow plug (it seems to have already melted & collapsed). Olly continued rigging down (probably one more bolts needed between rock bridge + epic deviation), past the ledge down to the ledge below, and so on down to the bottom of Plugged Shaft, where the rope ended (with out much spare) and we came back out.

TU: Olly: 5 hrs 35

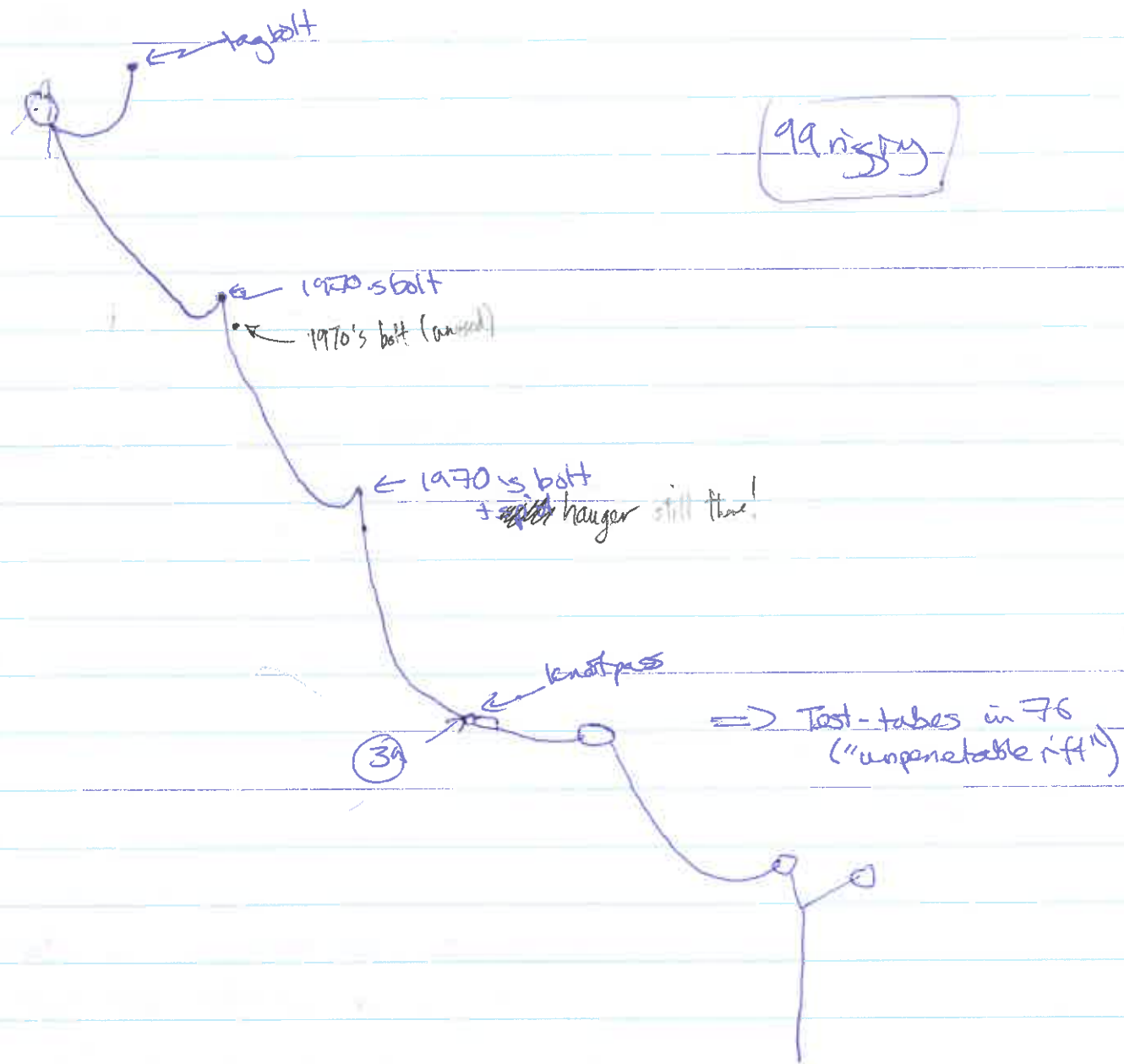
Jenny: 5 hrs 25

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> July

Jenny + Olly

99

Wake up planning to go in to Brave New World and begin tidying off QMs, but there was a message on the phone asking Ol to phone home as chest mail, we didn't know how urgent it was so he SMS'ed home + was surface surfed whilst waiting for a reply. We discovered that the disto was with us long above ground on a sunny day... we scurried from laser 6 to 2005- to 2004-02 and 2004-01. The phone message turned out to be about our hover alarm + therefore not urgent, but Olly was not feeling so enthused about 76 any more + time was passing on. So we re-explored 99 instead. Olly rigged down using the original spits & naturally (rigging down over the page), there was more cave than last year (because there was almost no ice), but still a fair amount of snow + one hell of a draft. Just as the 31m rope ran out we got to what had been described in the <sup>the</sup> FIO's as an "impenetrable rift", it was still impenetrable (obviously...) but we could see ~ 2m away the cairn Ol had built in the Test Tubes in '76 last year - so it had



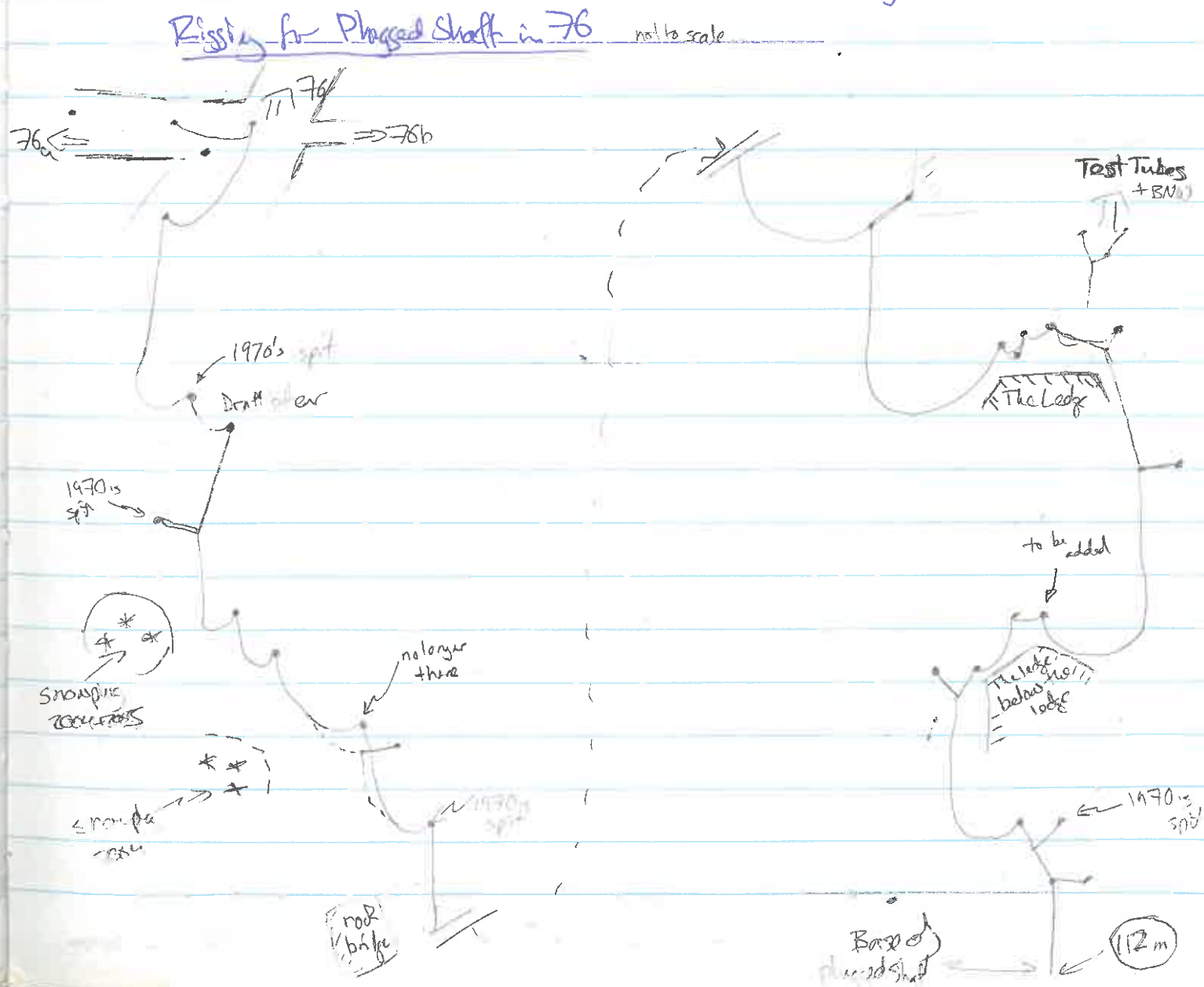
99. right

connected, and pretty much where we expected. This is where most of the draft was coming from. OI continued down, the cave was now much smaller, but less drafty + much less snow. We got to the limited of 1970's exploration, at an undescended ~20m patch, we had no slings left, or the drill, but found 2 reasonable threads + OI went down. The patch turned out to only be 7m deep, and then the cave ends - maybe a good thing as the 99 is cold + snowy + nasty! We set up back up, surveying as we went. Oly was very cold as he had to wait at the 76 connection for a while while I got the backseat + we up

the bottom bit. So we postponed surveying the top half of the cave, and left the 31m rope in place. I gave Oly the backseat to take as as I had brought it in + some way out, and I thought carrying it would help him warm up. I regretted this most of the way out as I hadn't realized OI was ill - he kept saying he might be sick and I was lower down the cave. OI managed to get both himself + the bag out the cave without being sick which was nice. We sat around each makeshift pit stop trying to warm up enough to go back + finish surveying. In the end we gave up + walked down the hill wearing our fanny suits.

T.M: Oly 3hrs 30

Jenny 3hrs





2005-7-25

Journey out

Frank, Becka, Dave

Mainly uneventful: I spent most of the journey asleep, having only recently returned from a trip to Argentina.

The only noteworthy incident was an irate German who tried to have us arrested after Frank forgot to turn his lights on before pulling out of a service station (turning them on a second or so later). We sat on the hard shoulder for half an hour waiting for the police to arrive, but they didn't, so we bugged off.

2005-7-26

Surface work near  
Brave New World

Ol, Jenny, Dave

Finally woke up at 11:30, having walked up the previous evening in the last of the light, and found myself being talked into looking for caves ~~in the vicinity of~~ in the vicinity of No Ways Aven in 76. Well if gons had woken up earlier we would have all gone caving.

~~There~~ Slightly to the south of the GPSsed point, near the ~~the~~ path from Top Camp to 76, we found 2005-92, a narrow shaft with a strong draught; Jenny descended + reported it choked.

Not far from here was 2005-93. This had a rusty but usable spit, ~~but~~ but no evidence of a runnel or other marking. I abseiled down to a snow plug; a ~~slot~~ slot down one side required caving gear, so Jenny had a look, but it was too tight.

2005-94 is a small shaft, descended by Jenny to an impassably tight rift.

2005-95 is a somewhat larger cave with three ~~or~~ interconnecting surface shafts to a snow plug; there may be a way on under the snow,

but it could not be reached ~~in~~ with the present snow levels.

2005-96 is somewhat to the north of the others (the other side of the bundle clump directly above: No Ways). It is a narrow (~1.5m across) tubular surface shaft to a pebble + snow choke.

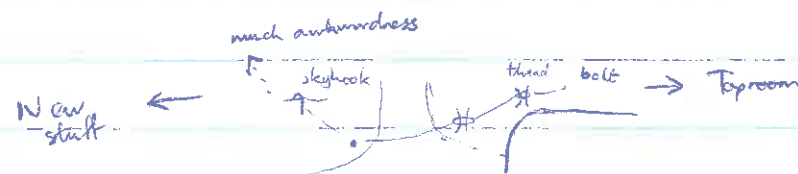
T/U = Jenny 3/4 hr  
Dave

2005-7-27

76: Lead off Taproom

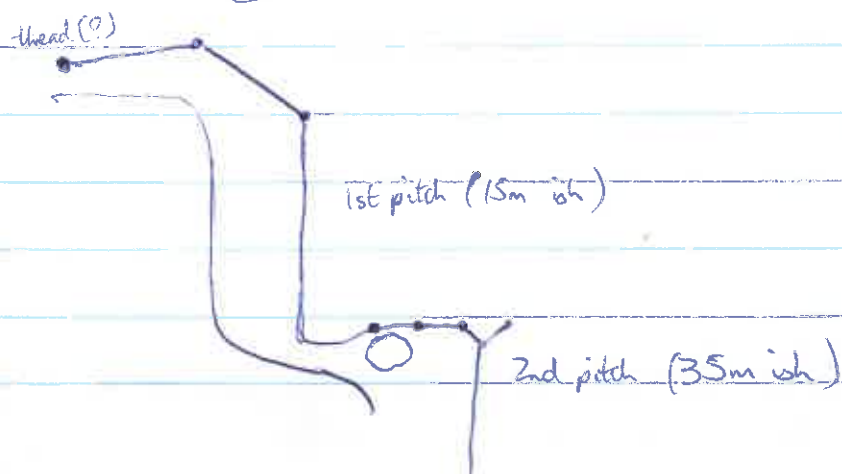
Ol, Jenny, Dave

We all slogged down to the Taproom with a tacklebag each, and Ol began rigging across the shaft to QM 77-04A. An interesting pendule/traverse ensued:



eventually Ol reached the other side and Jenny and I surveyed across, denigging the middle anchors of the traverse en route to leave a classic pendule.

Meanwhile Olly had wandered along the rift (~1.5m) to the next pitch. We elected to rig down this, not the shaft with the pendule, as it wasn't drippy.



Oddly enough, the second pitch landed in Keg series (at the ledge just before the 2004 limit)

Ol was feeling a bit tired and ill, so I took over the drill to bolt up to the window in the wall (04-47A). This led to 20m or so of pleasant passage with a slot in the floor. Jerry thumped into Razor Pounce and we established that RP was the bottom of the aforementioned slot. The new passage continues until the floor runs out (where the slot widens to the whole width of the passage), at which point a rope is needed to descend to the floor. This lines up pretty neatly with the undescended pitch at the end of Razor Pounce below, and will be much easier to get to.

T/V 11 1/2 hrs Dae  
12h O+J

Gaffered → Earthware / Hardware 26/5/05  
Beela, Woodley, Nial 7/11 9 1/2 hrs

Stored lots of QM's between Earthware & Hardware, surveying lots of loops & trying to make end of the survey. Mostly kicked things off, just leaving a QM down a narrow, nifty passage with a small stream in it going to be a pig to draw. Dave had

~~made~~ a damn up laminated survey just of Subsoil which was the Bee's knees for checking off QM's + re-~~adding~~ survey stations

Weta Run 27/5/05  
Beela, Terry, Nial TIM Shaw

Surveyed the pretty bits + then steeply up an tight passage

until got to a pitch head (p20?) with a possible continuation of the passage on the far side. Very cold & windy so checked out various QM's on the way back. Went down via Helter-Skelter - much better than Sings + Roundabouts.

Gaffered → Earthware + Heavily Soiled 28/5/05  
Woodley, Earl + Beela TIM 10 1/2 hrs

Earl rigged the slot in Earthware we step over (04-26B?) which Woodley + I surveyed ~~04-25B~~ 04-25B (04-27A and 04-28A don't exist) for 30m or so until got to a very draughty pitch. We then bled off 04-33A (soon checked) and 04-38B (ditto) + double-checked the pitch at the end of Hardware (04-40B probably downgradable to a QML as is 04-39B). <sup>SOFTWARE</sup> <sup>FIRMWARE</sup> Back to Earl + Woodley went ~25m down his pitch to the end of a rope + a ledge. Dragging rocks revealed a further 20m pitch + then further rubble - rather damp. Then was Heavily Soiled + soiled passage to the end, surveyed the chamber just with an 8m headline would be spike + then spit in (Hippocratic Oath) to descend 04-55 to a fire large, ascending passage with a strong draft - QMA. Out, leaving three strongly drafting leads (SOFTWARE, down HIPPOCRATIC OATH and end of Hardware).

On a Mission → Peter → Beyond Belief 29/5/05  
Woodley, Andrew, Beela TIM Shows

Surveyed for two hours, no meaning + cold, in q. small, awkward passage with a break in a largish, loose dumble with a pitch and another through rocks into the floor. Still going down piles but not terribly engaging. One light, drafting horizontal lead left too, just after the drifty small chamber



2005-07-28

Small caves nr 76

Dave, Olly, Jenny

In the morning, Olly + Jenny went down 79 to complete the survey + deig, while I slogged up to ~~204~~ 204 to collect some blank tags.

We then indulged in some tagging:

- 97 and 104 now tagged
- 2005-91 now tagged + surface surveyed (?)
- " -92-6 tagged (photoed + GPSsed previously)
- 81 GPSsed + tagged + photoed (next to 85 which was already done)
- 85 tagged + photoed
- 96 + 95 tagged, photoed + GPSsed

These two go back to 1977!

Jenny tried to find 86 but without luck.

T/U O+J 2 hrs (?) in 99

2005-07-29

Dachstein

Dave Nial Frank Mark

Up insanely early (5.30am!) and Frank drove us to the Dachstein-Sudwandbahn cable car station, arriving just in time for the first cable car at 7.50.

A slightly laborious trek over soft snow brought us to the beginning of the via ferrata up to the summit of the Hohe Dachstein. This ferrata was easy but exceedingly airy, at least for a novice like me. We topped out at around 10.30.

The second part of the ferrata down the western ridge was easier and much less busy, and we soon emerged on the snowfield. Here we

swung to the right to rejoin the cables across the northern spur at Steinersehör'n. Three of us laboriously trekked down the other side while Frank bumslid down a snow slope at an angle of about 50°; he was with difficulty persuaded not to climb back up + have another go.

By now it was getting really hot, so we hurried (as best we could on soft snow underfoot) back to the shade of the cable car station, returning via Lürzer in absolutely stifling heat. This is definitely the way to do it: get up early and do the walking before it gets seriously sunny.

2005-07-31

Rigging down 70s Route

Dave Olly Jenny

We wandered down to the Taproom, with interludes while Olly bypassed a dodgy bit of rope in Plugged Shaft and Jenny rerigged the Boulder Chamber stuff with a shorter, thicker rope.

In the Taproom, the promised lead at the far left hand corner didn't seem to exist; rigging down at the far right corner revealed a long, narrow, straight rift with a pleasant traverse level ~~to~~ to follow. Around 30m later a short pitch led to a small chamber with a deep hole in the floor.

In fact the route dropped down on the right, but continued on the left, so the two leads kind of merged.

Olly attempted to rig down this, while Jenny and I followed behind surveying. Having put in a rebelay 5m down Olly declared himself too cold and too psyched out to continue.

On the way out we went into BMW - the Test Tubes were  
 nowise near as bad as I had feared - and all of us had  
 a try at the climb in All Ways chamber; soon all of us decided  
 it needed rope and bolts, and finally came out.

T/W 11h

2005-08-01 Surface documentation work Done, Work

'n the course of a long and inordinately long surface walk,  
 visited the following caves:

207 + 208: Both tagged already; took photos.

159: ditto.

220: did tag, photo + GPS fix. (35885, 82531) 7m above 145b

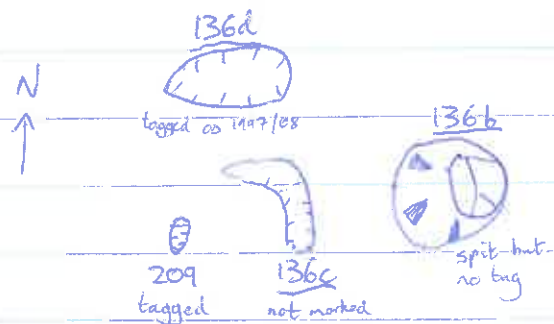
145: Photoed 145 + 145b ents. Took a photo of what we think  
 is 145c.

156: already tagged; took photo.

1997/07: took photo.

209: not tagged (contrary to list) so added tag + took photo.

136: sorted out confusion over which ents were which +  
 photoed b, c, + d. (a is already tagged).



135: tagged

220<sup>s</sup>: tagged, GPSed + photoed 35931 82452 1738m

96 WK 12: renumbered as 2005-89 + tagged as such;  
 GPSed + photoed. 35694 82252 1694m

Magic GPS Numbers (for Garmin GPS12)

Datum: Austria

Pos Fmt: User Grid

Longitude Origin 13° 20' E

Scale 1.0

False Easting 0

False Northing  $4.8 \times 10^6$

30/7/05

Gaffered → Heavily Soiled  
 Andrew + Becka

T/W 8 hours

Surveyed Ram Hypocrite Oath up a v. steep ramp in lovely  
 shaped passage. At the top, took the main left ~~ward~~ following  
 the draft. A sling is handy to traverse around a small hole  
 + then the passage got smaller + more wiggly + we bailed  
 off all but one small drafting lead. Efficient bng. given I'd  
 had to start from Base Camp.



3/17/05 Gafferred → Heavily Soiled (again...)  
Andrew, Wooley + Becka T/U 10 hours

Andrew took photos whilst we flash-scoped. Unfortunately the shot of Gafferred didn't work out. Then we surveyed to the right from the top of the steep ramp <sup>(from yesterday)</sup> into a chamber where Andrew found a fairly obscure way on through a narrow rift on the left. This led to a small chamber with two ways on that soon fizzled out and a boulder choke. We were about to pack up when Andrew wriggled up ~~to~~ behind the boulders + disappeared. For some time Ben, I moaned + wiggled all the way up a 45° slope of perched boulders covered in impact marks lovely-jumbly. This led to a big space at the bottom of a huge even with just one small lead off in one corner heading down steeply (needs a rope to be sensible) he ended up way above all the underworld level - petty.

1/8/05 Faith → Beyond Belief → Atheism  
Andrew + Becka T/U 5 hours

A relay start as Andrew's light died in the entrance crevice (good place to do it though) so he went back out to borrow Frank's + got what. Went sidley after that. I grumbled big-time when I realised that the pitch Andrew was going to rig wasn't the long one over a dodgy traverse but was another wriggle down through boulders following the draft. A psychological backup loopig a rope around one of the boulders was followed by an apparently placed spit in the middle of the boulders down to large craggy passage which went for about 30m to a squeeze up

through left another set of boulders + to the bottom of a large even with no tempting ways on. Back in the 30m of passage there is a <sup>small</sup> drafting pitch on the left but with yet more boulders balanced at the top. We headed back out to the junction just after the drifty chamber + I had a look left down the passage <sup>that</sup> today, Andrew + I hadn't surveyed on 29/9/05. It went down, down, down for over 10 minutes of crawling with a couple of squeezes over wedged boulders. The draft seemed to gradually weaken ~~that~~ + it got a bit smaller but I couldn't manage to kill it. Out nice + early for the stamp down the hill for the dinner.

30<sup>th</sup> July 05 76 - rebelay failure + surface stuff Jamy + Oly

We headed into 76 with a heavy tackle set each planning to go down the 1970's route, with Ol belting on down + me re-rigging ropes to free up the 9.5m rope without needing to cut it. ~~But~~, so we entered the cave, with Ol in front, just as I was starting to abseil down Draft Bitter I heard a Bad Noise followed by the sound of Oly swearing. My first thought was that I had knocked rocks down, except I was in a freehanging bit of the pitch. Then Oly shouted up that he was ok, but that something in the rigging had "changed" and that he was going to prussik up to the rock bridge rebelay. Once Oly was safe, I could abseil down, inspecting the rigging enroute. It turned out that the new rebelay was no longer fully attached - that is the rope was still attached to the hanger, which was still attached to the spit, which was still attached to the rock, but that a 20cm ~~thick~~ diameter piece of rock wasn't attached to any other rock on the wall of the cave... we calculated it as a fall factor 1/2 and the hanger above looked fine, as did the rope, though the bit Oly's stop was on was quite elongate. Most



importantly, Ollie didn't seem to be hurt. One I had checked the rope was safe for Ollie to ascend, we decided to come out, partly to check that Ollie really was OK, and wasn't just being brave + partly cos we had picked the drill at the bottom of the bag, planing to get some stuff out in the Taproom, not hanging in the pot.

Having safely exited the cave we had somewhat less enthusiasm for going back underground than I normal, so we did some surface wandering instead hoping to re-find 2004-04.

We did not succeed in this, but we did discover several other interesting holes: -

2005-97 - a fluted drilling shaft, roughly between 76 and 97

"fluted pot" Ollie descended on natural belays + it was 4m before being too light currently untagged

~~2005~~ UTM WGS84 33 410657E 5281932N 1623m alt

2005-98 - this had no visible point or tag, but a few meters down

"hanger pot" was an insitu hanger with traces of orange paint. It was the sort of hanger you do up with an allen key not a spanner and was an old-style <sup>pot</sup> hanger.

This is a twin shafted pot with snow - too cold + ice too descend further without an oversuit! (descended by Ollie)

UTM WGS84 33 410640E 5281925N 1643m alt

currently untagged

2005-99 - promising looking smallish horizontal entrance from across the shale hole. I (Jenny) went in some way till it got too tight to do alone + without an oversuit

"cockless cave"

UTM WGS84 33 41063E 5281892N alt 1629m

currently untagged - returned later on

Then our rain dances picked up and our water butts filled, gag!

18 Aug 05

Surface Stuff

Jenny + Ollie

I wasn't feeling too well, so we decided to do some surface stuff. We headed back to 2005-99 with our suits + got to where I got to 2 days before. Ollie said he wasn't really in the mood for nasty light cave, so I went in, wiggling along the rift, (was fairly solid seemed to continue + get wider. It was tighter than it looked, and whilst it did get wider, it wasn't wide enough to turn round in, and a few meters further it got too tight. The draft present at the entrance seemed to wash down the boulders on the right, not down this passage.

Ollie very kindly moved rocks out from behind me + helped me wiggle backwards, generally it was a bit crap. We scoured + put in a hole for a tag, but currently it is untagged, cos Dave + Wooley had the tag kit.

We walked out further west and thought we had found the alluvial Tantalus Shochto, but it didn't have bands nearby for the 'bangle hole'. We then re-found 2004-08 which had more snow than last year.

33 410647E 5282126N 1616m

We walked further west and re-found 175 33 410551E 5282186N 1656m

and 176 33 410573E 5282240N 1682

which was nearby - from here lovely views to the Brauning Wall + the coll. We looked for 174 but didn't see it.

We walked back to the bit behind 2004-07 on the way.

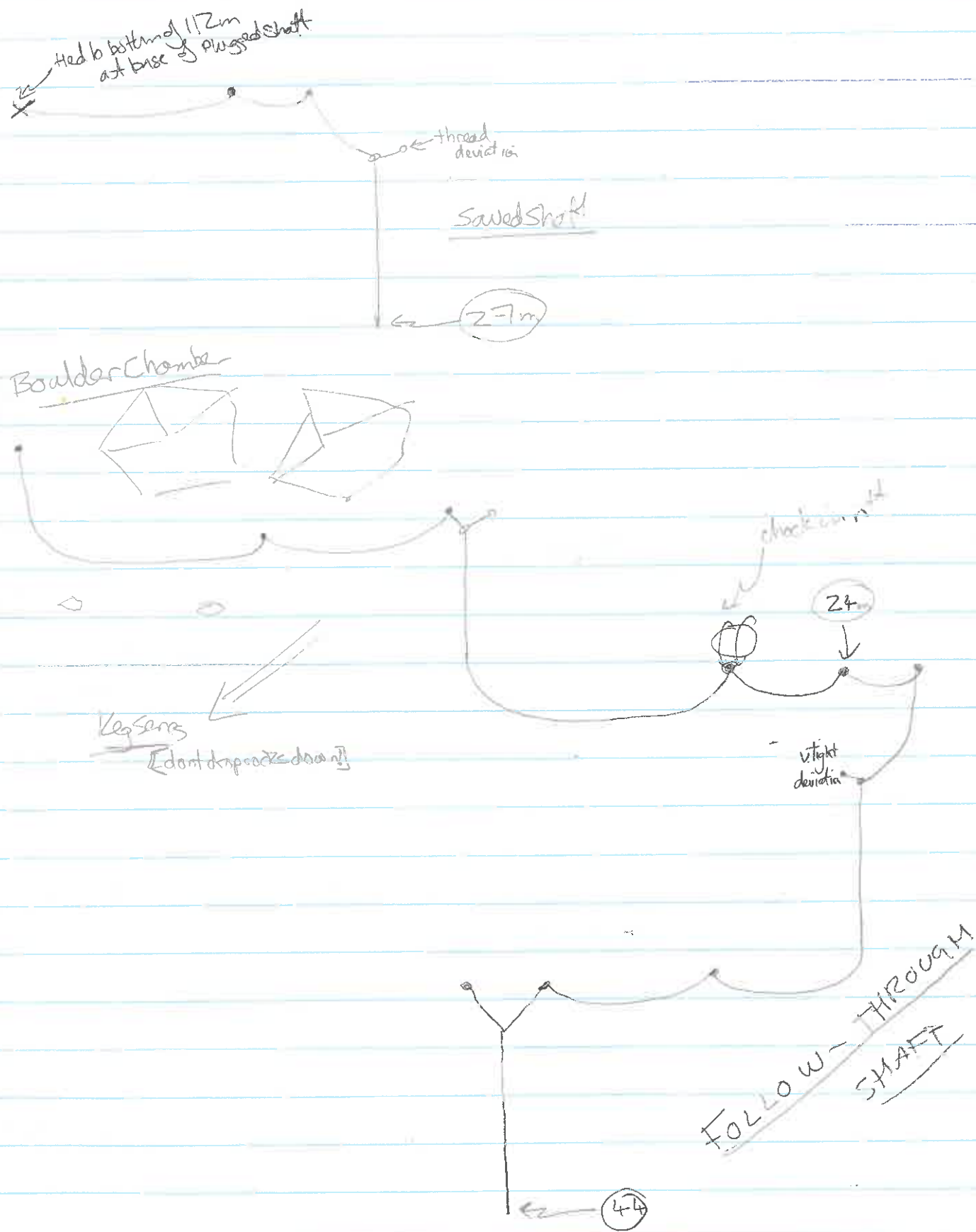
33 410612E 5282159N

T/U ~ 1/2h

T/U



Rigging Guide for 76 → Sawed Shaft to the Top Room



3/8/05

Wolphaehle - 145

Beckia, Andrew, Marcus

TU 6 hours B&M plus 6 of Arge

TU 7 1/2 hours Andrew

Over the past year

Robert Winkler + I had coordinated a joint UCL/Arge trip to resurvey the upper levels of Wolphaehle + look for possible horizontal connections to nearby caves. ARGE had spent four days up near Greistrogel (complete with helicopter gear lift) to a new cave here but unfortunately it had finished at -350m.

We set off with an astonishing set of three survey teams (Andrew + Marcus I = ①, Beckia + Marcus II = ② & Jörg, Heiko + Martin from Holland = ③) plus a rigging team (Louis Martin plus Robert). All the rigging gear was ARGE's - thank you! Me in team ② - we surveyed from the entrance, we doing poor old Marcus's head in, what with leaf propping seats and having multiple survey teams all using multiple for a station (weird system...). We managed to rip the end off the tape early on then unburled the whole sodding thing along the plumb on the first pitch - I stood at the bottom just drawing in tape. Upper <sup>are</sup> present levels are attractive + ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> first pitch also nice + fortunately we didn't have to do any of the squalid lower stuff.

Andrew Marcus Schauer <sup>(Arge)</sup>

Down to first pitch to find Martin and Robert - at the first pitch. Video and camera gear out, lots of light. Surveyed back out 1 leg 1 video, 6 photos. [See guide to how to do things really slowly] Met team 2 coming in and sent of to survey side

leads, very dull. Down the pitch more photos, more video. Then sent off to survey back from 83m pitch. Took down hill turn at the bottom of the small sloping pitch. This is not recommended, gets very small and muddy, yuk! Found pitch surveyed back. On the way out more video in wolf chamber. It was passing down on the surface, horrible.

3/8/05

Prospecting

Mark, Dave

Walked up to 2004-18 Descended to check out continuation from yesterday's trip by Mark + Ally. Rift narrowed to the size of my boot, so I gave up and declared the cave done.

Meanwhile Mark had been checking out some holes further down the same gully towards 204D. These were

2004-04 Twin shafts separated by a narrow bridge, clearly interconnected from sound of thrown rocks.

GPS: 36458 80004 1780

2005-05 Phreatic tunnel descending at  $45^\circ$

GPS: 36621 84005 1792

I bolted down 04 while Mark attacked 05.

I encountered: a wide daylight shaft for perhaps 5m to a constriction, then a freehang to a snow floor, where the other shaft could be seen coming in.

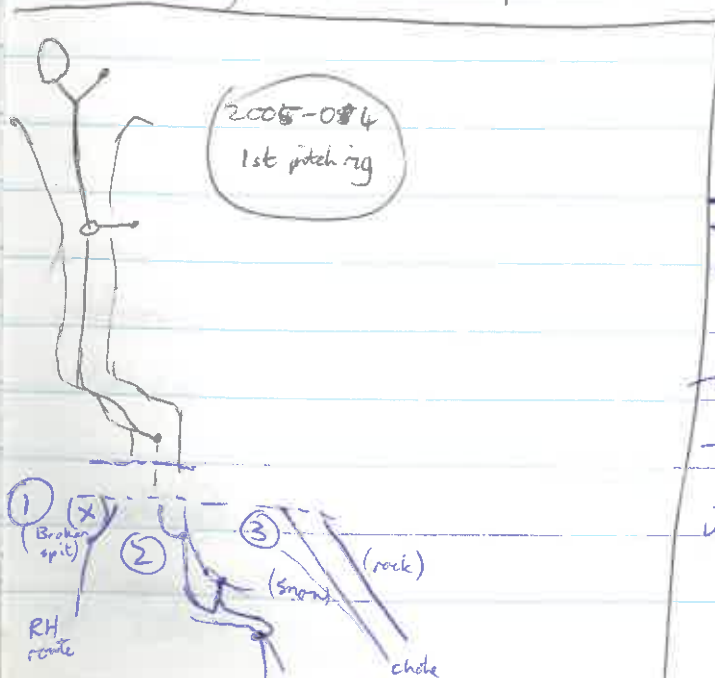
A freeclimb of a couple of metres leads to another pitch down a narrow sloping gap between snow + rock.

Descending far to the right led to a snow choke. ~~the pitch~~ Another route further left led to some horizontal, with a pretty ice slope and a choked upward crawl.

Finally, descending far left then swinging to the right ~~pitch~~ portway down led to a ledge overlooking a pitch into a mercifully snow-free area.

Pushed out to find that it was raining on the surface. Mark had descended his tube, which had grown steeper; I went down (having more worn gear on) over a snow + ice slope to a floor with passages sloping down to left + right.

We were both absolutely frozen by this point so we bugged off back to the bin in the clog; ~~off~~ putting the coords back into the computer (Mark had his laptop up the hill) confirmed that they were well placed for the end of High Hopes.



T/U perhaps Sh

The spit driver I was using Ally's driver and it knackered itself very tediously, the screw thread getting stuck in a spit. So to use the spit marked X, screw a broken driver into it + tie the rope to that!



4/8/05

Golbered

Nial Dow Dave

Woke up to find the weather was still minging, so we elected to avoid it by going deep. Nial guided us down thru the ~~Underworld~~ Underworld and Fat Worm; I put in a 99 rope on the Cebus traverse, which we can leave there permanently.

Dow and I inspected the rig on the big pitch in Apocalypse, and decided it was fine, despite Nial's reservations. I abseiled down to the floor, noticed another pitch (~5m, with another beyond), and a side passage leading off from a ledge slightly above. This was a peculiar spiralling tube in very sharp rock, which I followed for some distance past a tight bend until it closed down. SRT kit removal was needed to get out past the tight bend, and somewhere en route I had ripped my suit.

Pranking back up to the swing off into the Underground, I found a somewhat frustrated Dow, who had dropped his dangly bag - containing the blits - down a pitch. He abbed down off one bolt, I hauled up the dangly on the end of the rope and put in a proper Y-hang that we could safely prank lock up.

Much fun was had with the next pitch, a funnel-shaped hole thru boulders. Nial located a large but loose thread, + I put in a bolt for a Y-hang and a deviator off the other side. Unfortunately I put it a bit close to the edge making a very tough get-off.

At this point we realised it was time to go. Took nearly 5 hours

to get out; Nial + I surfaced at 1.20 am, Dow somewhat later.

T/U 13h.

5/8/05

2005 - 04 + 05

Sarah, Stuart, Dow

After a magisterial fall I led S+S to the new lides, via 204D (which is a terrible route, utterly hopeless). I showed Sarah how to put in a bolt for the OS tag while Stuart descended. Being more adventurous (or less sensible) than I, he got further than I, descending the right-hand passage at the bottom to reach another pitch with conservation tape at the bottom!

Before surveying this S+S went to survey the other hole while I walked back to the bivvy for ~~my~~ my carry gear.

On returning I went down to meet them on the ledge by the horizontal side series, and I left them to survey that while I went down to the pitch I had seen on the last trip to bolt it properly. And at the bottom was more tape! (thanks to Earl who had been in on the evening of the 3rd + laid tape at the bottom of the avars to aid ID).

I pranked back out to meet S+S warning back up on the surface, and I went to bolt OS while they finished the survey of O6. Ran out of rope at a reelay bolt from which I could have descended to the floor. Waited for S+S before walking back via O4-18.

T/U 5h (perhaps)

\* Warning: due to fairly complex circumstances, case 2002-X14 has now been labelled as 2005-05. Don't ask. Luv, Phil \*  
\* 2005-05 (original) is now 2046 \*

6/8/05

High Hopes

Andy A., Dave

Plan was that Andrew and I would survey the far end of HM while Stuart + Sarah surveyed down 05-05 (now 204G) so we could tie in the survey to that + 05-04 (now 204H), with S+S also putting in a leg to connect the other shaft next to 05-04 (now 204I).

We got a bit lost in High Hopes for a while, but found the two caverns + surveyed out. No sign of a survey station in G, so we put paint on the wall + decorated it with cons tape; found the marker in H without trouble. Couldn't find the point in High Hopes either.

Transpires that Stuart had knackered his knee surveying I → H and jacked, so 205G remains unsurveyed. This is probably a Good Thing as there is a pit to look at in the chamber at the foot of the G exit pitch.

Walked down hill. Ate lots of stodge at Loser Blütte. Drank Göse. Listened to Melothica. Drank more Göse.

Thu 4th Aug

Surface Shift

Jenny + Ollie

Walked up the hill in the morning in the rain + fog. I told Ollie that seeing as we had walked up, we had to do something, either go caving or do surface shift. I kind of imagined Ollie would pick caving cos it kept raining, but he didn't, so I couldn't back down. We walked across to 175 ish, turned left and saw 174 which was where it should be. Saw a cairn + path with red paint spots (interestingly only painted on the ds side of rocks as if you were walking back to old Toplamp

on The Berg restaurant or some such) followed this to 1996-05 which we figured wasn't the purpose of the path as it continued north from here with cairns + more paint splodges. The cave really didn't seem to have been descended before → no evidence of bolts, paints, random bits of gear tape, survival line, and as the path decided stop here there is no reason to think it has been explored. It looks an interesting area to prospect, as there were lots of big holes, it's in blank space on the map + it is easily reached by a good path from near old top camp (near 174 at least).

We headed back to 175, walked up to 176 and continued in the hope of re-finding 98. We looked quite thoughtfully but didn't have any luck. Wonder if we were in the wrong place, ~~if~~ as the paint was no longer visible?

Fri 5th Aug

Brave New World, 76

Jenny + Ollie

It was pretty wet, so we decided the 1970's route + Key Series might well be really wet + nasty so headed for B/W instead. On the last 1970's route trip we had taken half a dozen of our hangers back out for such an eventuality. Unluckily Dave had carried them up to 204 by mistake. We found we had a dozen on top with no bolt and a homemade 1970's hanger with no bolt rescued from 99 earlier. Then we found a bag of bolts + things locked up. I derigged 4 "non-essential" hangers on the way in as well. We carried the drill + a 39m rope into B/W and I looked at QM 04-19B first. We had run exact decord strings so the rope was attached to a boulder by 2 relaxed cowstails. This concentrated my mind into not falling off, I traversed across the pitch <sup>→ QM 04-15A</sup> which actually looked quite pleasant and on, the roof tube QM <sup>04-20C</sup> reconsects mainly here, and the passage continues, gets low, then reaches another pitch (= 2s drop). I traversed back, wimping a bit at the shield below and length I was horizontally in it. I then bolted a Y for the pitch (the 19A). Ollie took our setting to second bolt as I am crap at hammering. It was a lovely free hanging 20m pitch, landing

T/U  
Lh  
approx



in a pleasant rift passage, gradually descended for ~ 30 m till it reached  
another pitch (~30 m deep). This turned out to be half way down the big  
pitch from the 4 ways junction, thus Oly named the passage "Pleasant  
but Pointless". We scurried back along top, and Oly started to bolt across the  
4 ways junction pitch to QM 04-23A till we got cold + tired + went out.

TU = 9 1/2 hrs

Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug

Brave New World, F6

Jenny + Oly

Got bored of sitting in the tent in the rain. (There are only so many games of Eye Spy  
you can play...) and went back to BNW. Oly continued bolt across to 04-23A  
and traversed over a secondary secondary pitch that joins the main lower down.  
Sadly the passage it reached soon was choked with lots of rocks which was  
a shame. We scurried and moved to the disused Allways Chamber, using  
a string to find in to place the first bolt then came down and Oly climbed up  
and placed the second, higher bolt and scrambled over the top. Whilst our  
methods seemed to work, they don't seem to really match those in  
"Alpine Caving Techniques"... The disub led to a passage on the left, up  
and over boulders to an aven, with no way on. Back at the top of  
the disub, another disub up on the right led to a short section of proximity  
pitching passage and a choke. Oly designed the disub, but the bolts  
are still there if anyone else wants a look at an aven or a choke...  
We moved on to No Ways Chamber where I climbed up the aven  
to the west with the aid of a bolt as a runner. This was also  
checked, though there may possibly be a way through that I  
couldn't see, for small people, but it didn't look likely. We gassed up  
for now, somewhat disappointed at the lack of horizontal passage  
and wind out.

On the way out the big snow plug had gone, presumably due to the

large amounts of rain. And the draft was reversed! It was almost  
like being in a different cave, quite spooky.

TU = 11 hrs

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Aug

Walking back

Jenny + Oly

Woke up to see it had snowed in the night + the snow had settled...  
~~the snow~~ we decided to walk down the hill, the bit across the plateau  
was during a snowstorm + quite epic - slippery snow covered rocks  
and stuff. Once we got to the col it was much better + less snow,

T/U = 0 hrs ~~the snow~~

3/8/05

Vague Wanderings in 204

Phil, Oly M, Sarah

Marie finally walked up the hill, I decided that an  
easy trip would be in order. So I gladly accepted  
Oly & Sarah's invitation to go & push some "C" leads  
in Swings & Roundabouts. A prompt set-off saw us  
underground at noon. After a brief argument with 204e,  
I found myself travelling down Crowing Glog passage. Here,  
Sarah & Oly played in the ox-bow. And then we went on.  
Oly climbed up the crazy, crazy climb in the aven just  
west of Treeumphart ~~at~~ south of the junction  
with Crowing Glog. Oly got a good 10-15m up before  
he declared it a bit airy and came down. And then  
we went on to Magic Roundabout. Went up Emistudy,  
and by the cusses notes we have, got a good

2m further up the passage. At this point, Sarah found a tight vertical squeeze, and forced herself into it. At this point, my memory becomes clouded by the risks of hypothermia. I seem to remember Sarah ~~was~~ screaming & ranting 'cos she couldn't get any further. I explained that I was now a) cold and b) definitely <sup>not</sup> going up the bit Sarah got stuck in.

And then we went on to South Circular, where we sent an ~~or~~ Ollie up the horrific boulder slope that is QM 01-94. This gets too tight after ~10m. QM killed! Hurrah! DOES NOT GO!

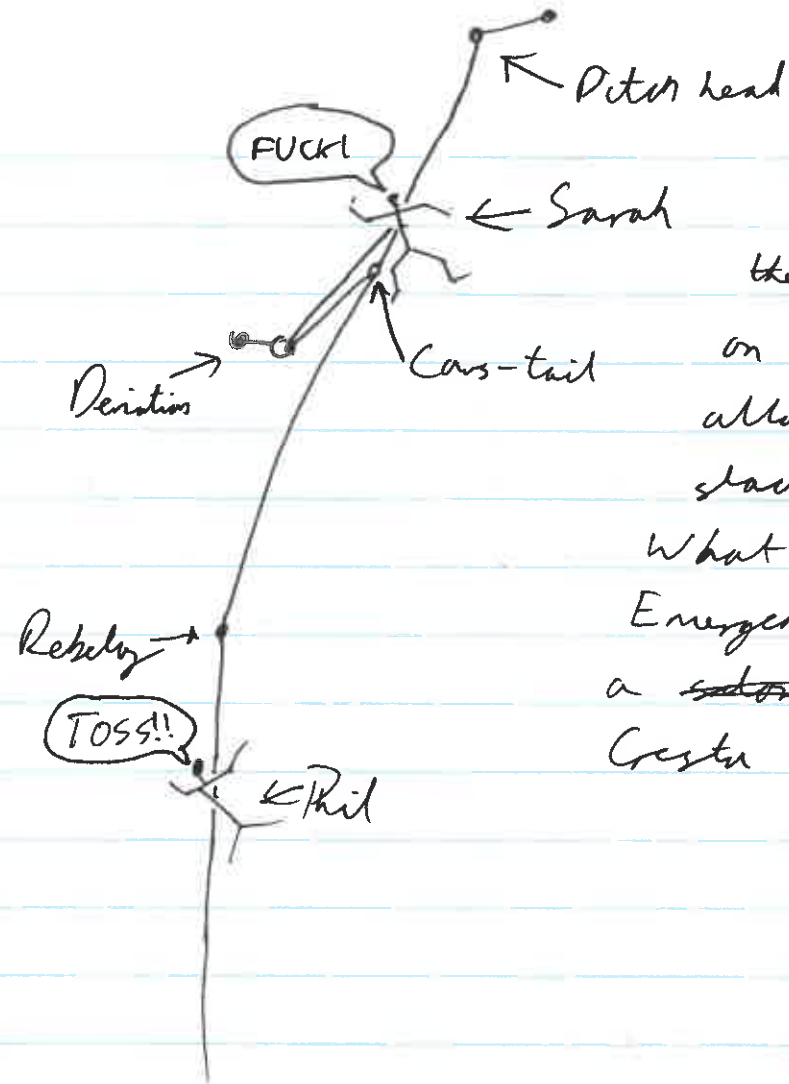
And then we went on to QM 01-85C. This appears to be ~~an~~ an ox-bow on the west wall of Swings & Roundabouts. But it isn't. Leads to a tunnel shaped hole which leads via an easy ~~to~~ climb / corker into some places. This rapidly degenerates to a faintly tight 2s drop. Needs a rope.

Went to have a look at QM 01-84C. Got distracted by the huge hole in the floor (QM 01-92). Lots of hanging death here, so we kicked some of it down.

It went BOOOOMMM. Quite a long way down there. Pitch now looks in a reasonable state to be dropped.

Nice natural spike (big!) on south side of pitch.

And then we went back to 204e & prised out. Unfortunately, Sarah forgot to unclip her Carstair after passing the ~~the~~ re-belay, and got severely strung-up at the following deviation (see diagram). Cue more screaming & ranting.



And so I prised up to the re-belay, and put my weight on that (rather than the rope) allowing Sarah another 4" of slack, allowing her to escape. What a hero, eh!

Emerged to find Earl off on a ~~short~~ solo mission to Cresta Run to get his gear.

TU & hrs.

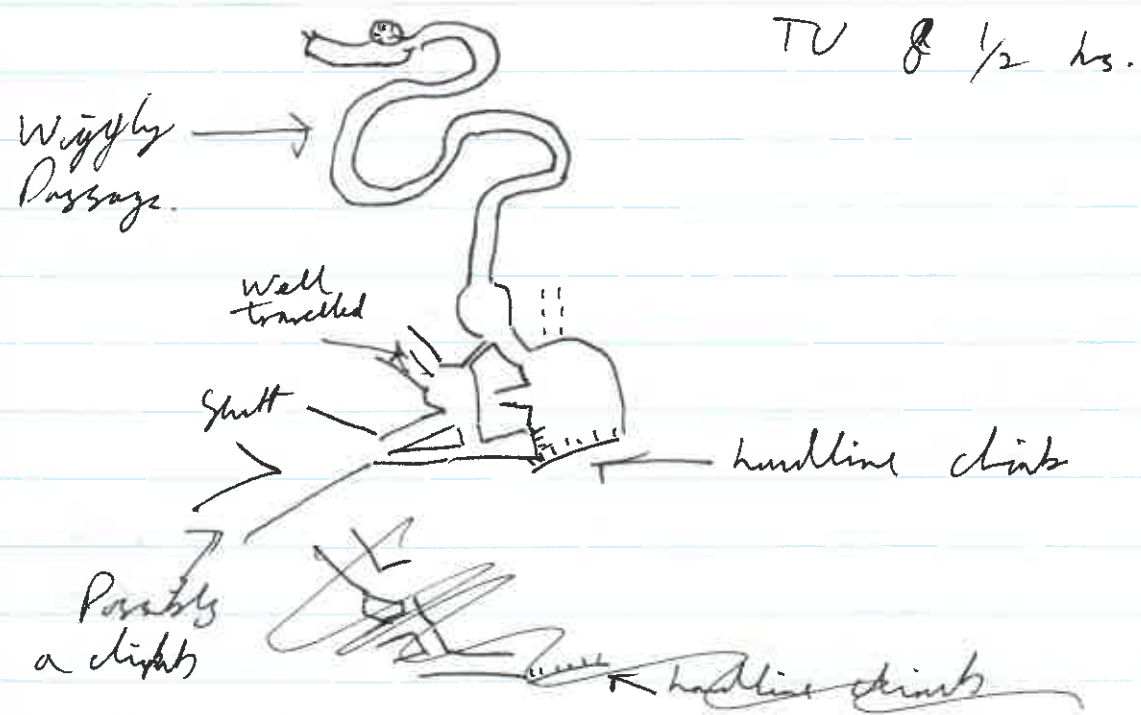
9/8/05 Horizontal Stuck, Pie Series, Hauchkoble Phil, Dave

Entriced by tales of easy crawling \* with no tight bits\*, I decided to join Dave on a "quiet" trundle down Hauchkoble. Some four hours later on, I was crawling backwards through a muddy wallow. How? - Read on, dear reader...

Following a prolonged patting session by the Underparts, we finally arrived at the entrance to find our Hero sweating buckets, wheezing, and not having an inhaler. So on return to bivvy (in overcoat, neo. Heeze & black vinyl Heeze) to collect inhaler. Subtracted 2 litres of sweat to find a faintly crap Phil, who found ~~the~~ \*absolutely\* a bit hard work. Carried two boxes



& heavy dangle bags through the network leading it  
 "Oh, yeah, I'd forgotten about that" and through tuckers-  
 fucking-bikes "I'd forgotten about that bit as well."  
 Went down the pitch series TC, and reached the handline  
 Went off to the left, to find a medium sized chamber.  
 Collapsed it into gibbering heap, whilst Dave went off  
 in search of the mythical "6-second drop". Drink some water.  
 Felt a bit better when Dave came back. Felt worse  
 when he said "we've got a lot of surveying to do!"  
 Dave had found a going horizontal lead. Knob.  
 Actually not too grim, except for the muddy narrow  
 bit. V. rough sketch below. No really, it's very rough.  
 Gisser's great. Surveyed the wiggly passage - name  
 Pi R square, or possibly Pie Arse Canal. Then  
 we surveyed out to the known bits of survey.  
 Never did find that 6-second drop.

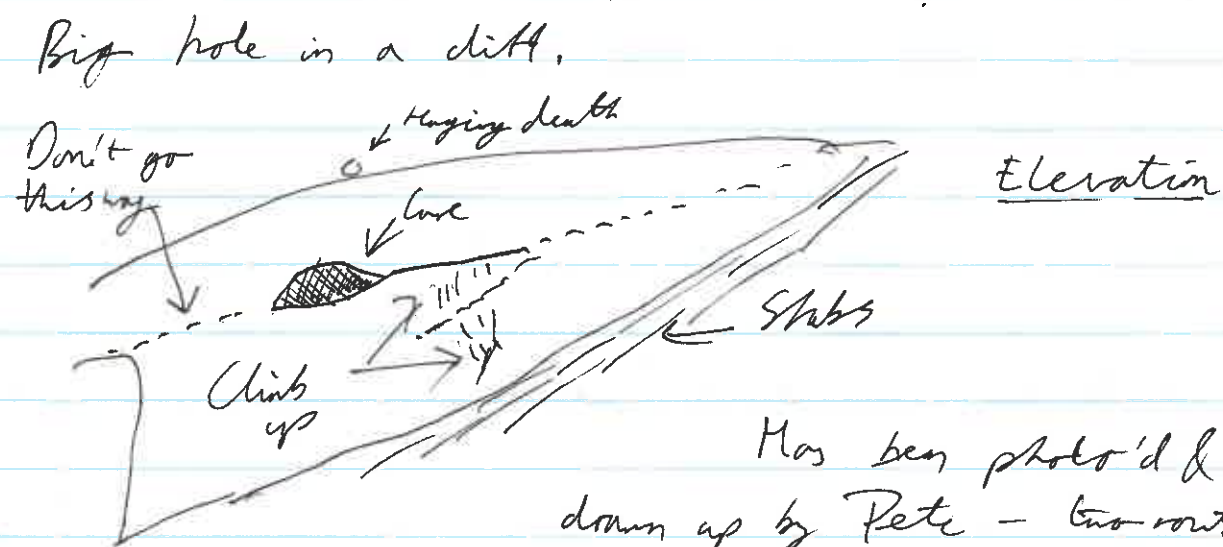


10/8/05 Survey Documentation Work

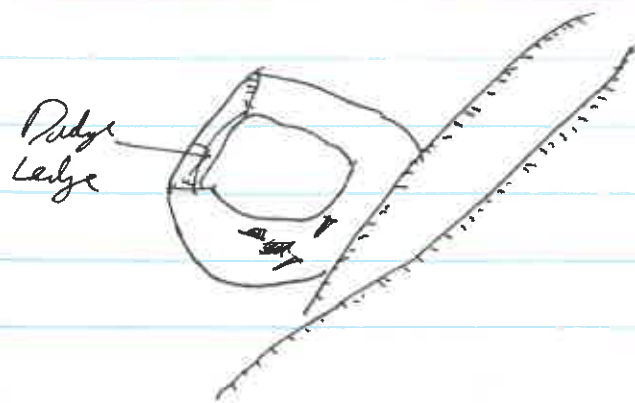
Phil, Pete

Having decided that I would have a short day, I got  
 "persuaded" into finding & tagging some caves. We originally  
 set off for 2002-X11, so we set off from 204 on a  
 NE bearing and walked a bit. Stopping to check our  
 GPS, we found that our target was a long way away  
 across a big valley of buns & choss. So ~~we~~  
 we re-aimed for 2002-X18. This also seemed to be  
 across a big valley full of buns & choss. So  
 we compromised & went for 2002-X14.

2002-X14 (2005-05)



Has been photo'd &  
 down up by Pete - two routes,  
 which both lead to pitches (probably the  
 same pitch). One tagging work-up now tagged as 2005-05  
 Plan - Grade 0-I



2002-X13 (2005-06)

Found by Dave's GPS.

Tag placed.

Looks like it goes down a bit. Needs a ladder rope.

Photos taken - Tagged.

2002-X12 (2005-07)

Found by Dave's GPS.

Explored by Pete to Conclusion - Does Not Go

Survey to go on computer.

Photos taken.

Tagged

2002-X11 (2005-08)

Found by Dave's GPS

~ 8m diameter shaft, with ~~rocks~~ shaft adjacent  
Looks about 15m deep. Bottom has snow plug,  
and looks typically chossy. However, rift visible  
in North end of rift - could go. Could do with  
visiting.

Tagged, Photo'd.

TU - bag all. - Phil  
30 mins - Pete

And now it's time for bed. Goodnight  
Hugs & kisses, Phil

2005-08-10

Hauchhole again

Dave, Frank

Having met Oly, Stuart + Peter passing by when Phil + I emerged from  
Hauchhole on the 9<sup>th</sup>, I went underground again armed with a Frank,  
a drill and a detailed location sketch.

Some slightly tedious surveying in small tubes served to connect  
the previous day's survey to Oly + Emma's floating 'Wardland'  
survey. We then paused to look at an alternative side branch,  
with a climb up + short pitch down to where water disappears  
into a narrow sharp cleft. No thanks, I've already overloaded my  
gear enough this expo.

Continued up main passage, surveying in, until we reached a ~~pitch~~  
pitch. Threw a stone. Waited. BOOM! Having established we were  
in the <sup>correct place</sup> ~~wrong place~~ we went back for the gear, and I put in  
a Y-hang. Descending about 5m I reached a constriction with  
a bomber thread for a reelay; 20m or so further down was  
a big ledge and a good venue for reelay #2 in good clean  
rock at to the left. At this point the drill ran out. Buffer.

Meanwhile Frank had been poking around in some phreatic stuff over  
the head of the pitch, which apparently leads to another pitch +  
some more horizontal stuff, which we didn't get time to survey.

While getting out I became aware of a pain in my left foot. By the  
time we reached the ~~bing~~ it was severely unpleasant, and my foot  
was covered in huge red blisters. The cause of this is obscure, but  
the fact I hadn't washed my socks all expo probably didn't help.

T/U 8h



Useful Surface stuff

Daw, Julia

~~Daw, Julia~~

5th Aug 2005

The all important List of Things To Do included re-tagging the new 161 entrances (161G + H). I vaguely remembered walking to 161G with Brian and Martin two years ago so it made sense to add my memory to that of the GPS.

Took a fairly circuitous route over the back of the Hunter, and eventually found 161G, with the help of a couple of cairns. The GPS put us within 10m of the entrance. Entrance was ~~clearly~~ clearly tagged when we attempted to find 161H. Got to where the GPS said it was, but it wasn't. Looked around a bit on various levels, bungee-bashed some, then gave it up as a bad job, not really knowing whether the entrance was a) tagged ~~at~~ or b) what it looked like.

We ended up doing quite a bit of climbing to get up to a sensible level again. This time the GPS came up trumps and ~~led~~ <sup>led</sup> us straight to 260. 260 is tagged as 260, and is where it should be according to AJ's GPS. The GPS took us to a hole I thought I ~~recognized~~ <sup>recognized</sup> for 2003-07. There are no markings of any sort, as far as we could see, but I may have a memory of sitting at the top of it whilst someone (Brian?) descended. So said candidate cave has been photoed and is on the Expo map (Useful photos/Julia). It was deemed sensible to leave it unmarked as it may or may not be 2003-07, and we would it want no caves ~~lost~~ with the same

number, nor could we. Skulle ønske at jeg <sup>skrev</sup> ~~skrev~~ litt på norsk i løpet av Expo. I år er det ganske viktig å øve med å skrive på norsk, fordi jeg skal ta 'Bergens test' om et par måneder. Egentlig har jeg ikke så ~~mye~~ mye å si, men det er ~~meget~~ morsomt å oppdage hvis det fortsatt er mulig for meg å skrive ~~meget~~ norsk.

Julia, Daw.

10th August

More useful surface stuff

The Expo website features not one but two ~~set~~ pictures of 161H; a close up and one with a Brian per ~~seats~~ <sup>seats</sup>. We thought we should get the job finished, so pattered back over that way. A geese very helpfully stood on the skyline for quite a while and was very photogenic. Anyway, after some searching, AJ located 161H, quite a bit lower down than we'd looked on the previous occasion. So we tagged it as 161H. Anthony then used his homing beacon to find his namesake entrance and we surface surveyed 161E → 161H → 161G getting rained on half the time. One of the stations in the ~~survey~~ survey was a partially drilled spithole above a hole with a cold draft blowing out of it, as the 161 entrances do. Entrance is wide (4-5 meters) and lowish. The right hand side of the entrance (as you're facing the hillside) slopes downwards at about 45°. Anyway, having put the data in, we found out that we'd located 2004-13.



There's really no data about this, don't know how to know if anyone's been inside. The entrance is ~50 metres from stuff in klt.

Nur har jeg tenkt å legge meg. Det finnes noe her som aldri kan tenke seg å nyte litt stillhet...

5/8/05

204E - Photos +

Crowning Glory

Becha + Nial

T/U 4 1/2 hrs

Nial had had a long trip yesterday + I'd walked up ~~to~~ from Base Camp first thing in the morning + did a second carry to fetch stuff from Wolfhackle in the evening so a short afternoon trip was in order. Nial wanted to get a series of photos of the trip down Gafferred so we set off with our basic <sup>digital</sup> cameras, got some surprisingly good shots - Nial's hot trip seemed to work well! (1) use the self-timer + balance the camera on a rock else you get too much shake; (2) use the "night time" automatic setting to give a long exposure (3) if not using flash (which only works to a couple of metres distance) use your headlight to "point" with light - Nial's superbright beam is excellent for this. Took photos as far as the traverse line as Gafferred. Then out to check out Crowning Glory. The handline up was still rigged and, maybe only, there were still the two hangers left from the pitch down. I then put in a hand bolt to descend the next (<sup>3m</sup>?) pitch but last time Martin had gone down by just trailing the previous pitch rope down. From here there is a pitch down (QMB?) and a climb up that would need to be bolted (QMB/C). The previous survey

ends at the top of the handline climb so there is ~20m more <sup>down 01-10A</sup> <sup>un-surveyed</sup> <sup>passage</sup> from here (the 4m pitch down to a small chamber the the 3m pitch to a small area + the QMB pitch).

6/8/05

204E → Subway

Becha + Nial

T/U 12 1/2

Whizzed down the by-now pretty damn Jimmy Gafferred ropes to Pat Warm + then the Four Riddles of the Apocalypse. Moaned at the single spit rig for the third of these (what's the point of taking a drill down the cave if you don't use it ~~to~~ to rig properly? Moon, moon). Then also gaped at the pitch out of Turnstile Chamber that Dave had rigged ~~that~~ as you had to get on + off below the deviation so effectively whilst dangling over the pitch with no traverse line. Great. Down the final series of ~~the~~ <sup>u</sup> short (2m etc) pitches to a traverse. Nial + I then ~~to~~ handballed a traverse line along the traverse across a shale bank to new stuff. Surveyed up to a big ramp down ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> chided + up got u. steep + pretty small but a passage on the far side <sup>of the ramp</sup> <sup>was</sup> <sup>drifting</sup> strongly. This quickly led to a series of holes <sup>in the floor</sup> <sup>with</sup> what sounded like a roaring stream in it. We then surveyed down a v. steeply descending tube that eventually choked. Portaway down another tube led off v. steeply up with an extremely slimy, muddy floor. We surveyed up this until it got silly. Really we put in another couple of spits to drag the pitch back at the traverse line, on the right. Only I went down to check it - there was a drifting grey mud tube at the base with the sound of water. The Third of the Four Riddles of the Apocalypse was really <sup>on the way out</sup> <sup>wet</sup> and I got cold putting in a second spit for it on the way out. Still, an efficient trip



7/8/05 204E → Hanging On to Faith + Photos

T/W 4 1/2 hours

Beden, Nial + Andrew

Nial + I acted as flash slaves + Andrew took 50 odd photos through the trip including a fair few on Major Roundabout. Nial set off with a 48m rope. After a really messy rigging of a thread then a relay bolt he got to the end of the rope. We denegged + had a quick look down. Unfortunately I'd forgotten to pitch down to the dambers so we didn't have enough rope to rig the ramps - I'd wanted to check out the DM's west of Lat's flow but we couldn't get down so we went home.

8/8/05 204E → Subway (again)

T/W 14 hours

Beden, Nial + Andrew

Off to the holes with the sound of water that we'd got to on our last trip (6/8/05). Andrew + I put in pitch head bolts by hand then Andrew took down Anthony's drill to finish the rig whilst Nial + I surveyed down. Descended to a largeish damber but it fizzled down to a small damp hole - not exactly the master streamway I'd been expecting. From here a scrawny rift led off that Andrew hadn't thought much of (narrow + sharp) but I went a bit further + found a pitch so Nial + I kept on surveying down whilst Andrew jury-rigged the pitch using my retred string round a thread. Rather nice 15m pitch down but the only way on was through a squeeze. Andrew took off his string gear + got through + repaired more of the same from rift so

we called it a day + denegged. We then moved Andrew down the left pitch at Nial + my traverse of 6/8/05. Didn't gain no surprises there. We'd pretty well ticked off the leads beyond the traverse so denegged it + went up slope where Nial + Martin had surveyed on 1/8/05. Andrew climbed the start traverse + put in a

Redline traverse line + we surveyed up walking size but steep (up + down) passage to a pitch + to a rift. Time to call it a day. As I set off back over the start traverse I wobbled a bit at the hold step around a rock nose + started to garden it. <sup>Worrying me,</sup> Andrew then tended the belay on the rock nose looked <sup>loose</sup> ~~loose~~ so I came back + he kicked it + it wobbled - unfortunately we'd left both our handbolting kits + the drill on the far side of the traverse. Andrew climbed back over the top including a couple of what looked like exposed moves on desperately shoddy rock. Safely over, he passed the drill back to Nial who put in a spit for a higher level traverse. <sup>so up two could escape</sup> As I came back over I gave the original rock belay a gentle boot + it plummeted down the pitch. Heading up the third of the four pitches of the Apocalypse we realised it must be raining up top as it was horribly wet. I was up first. As Andrew started up there was a loud swearing - the lower deviation had snapped. This had been rigged using the wrap of thin green string + without using a mini-maitton so the string had just been cut by the tanger. Andrew got away with some bruising to his hip but it could ~~be~~ have been much worse as he ended up hitting the <sup>side of the shaft +</sup> garden the worst of the <sup>slab of gently</sup> ~~dangerous~~ rock. Poor Nial also had a hard time as he had to <sup>climb</sup> ~~push~~ up in the wet until he got past the rock point. Having got soaked at least I didn't overheat on the long <sup>prominent</sup> ~~prominent~~ out.

Note - <sup>the</sup> only properly wet pitch in the whole <sup>of the trip</sup> ~~traverse~~ is the 3rd of the four pitches of the Apocalypse - though the 1st of these pitches is also quite damp, especially with the current rubbish too-bright rig which means you get <sup>some</sup> ~~some~~ <sup>water</sup> ~~water~~ <sup>from</sup> ~~from~~ <sup>loose</sup> ~~loose~~ <sup>rope</sup> ~~rope~~.



9/8/05 204E → Hanging Ledge Path (again)  
T/W 5 hours Becka + Andrew ~~Becka + Andrew~~

Back to Faths Traverse with the original 48m rope and a 62m rope, determined to finish it. Andrew handballed his way down the lovely but sloping shaft which would be ideal doll territory. He kept warm putting in spits in available places whilst I froze at the top. Eventually I went down ~~to~~ as he said he was at a ledge. After an SRT obstacle course (free hanging rebelay, deviation way out there on the far wall and a knot pass) I got to a small stony cleft in the shaft + stuck in a spit to keep warm. Andrew rigged the last hang only to find we'd sodding run out of rope again. ~~Given the~~ <sup>Andrew</sup> suggested passing up then surveying back down again but that saved a spit so we left it rigged + went home.

10/8/05 204E → Subway (again, again)  
T/W Andrew 14 hrs Becka, Andrew + Nial  
T/W Becka + Nial 15 1/2 hrs

This was to be the first digging trip down Giffard so we knew it would be a long one. I rigged Hippocratic Oath on the way down so we could take that rope out with us then we went to the <sup>pitch next to the</sup> ~~up slope~~ traverse that we'd had fun with at the end of the 8/8/05 trip. Andrew + Nial put in spits midway down the pitch ('Pip's Ear Pitch') - the top was rigged off the huge rock column + then a roof deviation. We surveyed down + got into large (but <sup>mostly loose</sup> ~~mostly~~ boulder-filled) steeply descending passage.

Some good long legs led us to a muddy pitch head with some of the worst rock any of us had had the displeasure of trying to rig - like chalk with a thin coating of peanut brittle. Stuck on, Andrew + I managed to get in two 50-50 spits well back from the edge but then Andrew had half a dozen or more attempts at getting a main hang ~~to~~ spit in. He eventually got one that didn't totally crater or fall off but he didn't sound at all happy about it. We surveyed down ('Dog's Dinner Pit') to a small boulder-filled chamber then Nial put in two more <sup>(again in rubble/rock)</sup> spits to drop a final rather attractive pitch ('The Dog's Bollocks') to get to a sump! <sup>+ it's over 50m deep!</sup> Well, that's what Andrew + Nial achieved. To me it looked like a shallow pool with a tiny opening above it. I tried to have a celebratory pee in it but was disturbed by, first, the puke and at the edge that kept eating my wellies and, second, Nial dragging rocks at me as he ascended. We left at 5ish (after our customary 9am start) + (thinks the other two were ready to descend + head out but I persuaded them to look at a steeply sloping up tube in the main passage below Pip's Ear Pitch. This went up (including two successive >50° dino legs) in an almost-too-steep-to-climb way then choked - but just before <sup>this point</sup> a passage doubled back on itself + headed steeply down-mud. We kept on surveying though time was flying as the legs were long + it was frustrating not to come to a definite end (we expected a pitch or to link back to the main passage). Nial eventually decided to call it a day when it looked like it was closing down - but a quick peek <sup>upward here</sup> showed it still to keep going in walking sized passage so that's another that needs returning to. We dugged except for the start traverse line ~~to~~, then Andrew took



After two dry days on the surface this was now  
not ~~so~~ very damp at all so it reopens quite fast to rain.

At 9am out to Tenstone Chamber then suggested that for the  
drill + headed out. I designed all the small pitches to up to  
the third of the four pitches of the Analyse then Nial + I  
took out all that rope plus the 60m at the bottom of  
Cynodens World. We headed out bred + sandy, ~~the~~ the  
event enlivened by Nial doing more rocks on me down  
Tape Room pitch or I tried to suck water out of the 2mm deep  
puddle at its base (I got badly dehydrated on this trip - as  
usual I'd taken no water with me + I had to steal some of Nial's  
so I started to feel pretty <sup>heading out</sup> parched. Andrew had food ready when  
we got out gone midnight - star. Stats: - we surveyed 349m (vertical  
range 96m) put in 7 hard bolts (+ endless other attempts) to drop 3  
pitches, ~~designed~~ about 10 pitches, took out 2 bags of rope + the drill.

11/8/05 204E → Hanging onto Faith (again, again) } Zoomuh!  
T/W 6 1/2 hrs. Beelia + Andrew

My last day of coming so <sup>spirit</sup> ~~hard~~ was willing but the  
body was oh, so weak. We were determined to crack the  
pitch since so it off with another 50m of rope as that had  
to be enough to bottom it. We surveyed down. I'd forced  
Andrew to do notes because my pitch sketches look like randomly  
placed oval. Unfortunately he ~~never~~ scribbled on making a good  
job of it which meant none of my trademark joke <sup>are allowed</sup> ~~plumbers~~  
lots of <sup>if I had to do</sup> ~~the~~ quimpy ~~athletic~~ instrument readings and <sup>it was all</sup> slow gong.  
We finally arrived at our previous mini-ledge + rigged the new  
rope. It only just reached but it did get us there, yee-ha.  
The excitement was short lived - <sup>Hanging onto Faith</sup> ~~despite~~ ~~it~~ a beautiful  
way, any pitch since ~~there~~ which would make a lovely trade  
route but it just ends in a boulder-filled chamber. We wrapped

up the survey + designed out. We'd brought 2 backless desks in  
+ I'd thought there were more down but there weren't so we  
ended up with a sack each and found or more charred ropes.  
By the time we'd got taking the 155 pitch designed I was  
feeling wiped out so was persuaded to leave the rope we  
couldn't fit in bags in Maybe Roundabout chamber + I  
tottered out. Then I got given 3 1/2 minutes at Top Camp to change,  
pack + stomp off down the hill to Box Camp. ~~some~~  
~~the~~

9/8/05 Survey 204E Frank & Dow

Wandered over the g Quire in the general direction of the new  
204 entrance, which we found easily with the aid of Dave's GPS on  
the last section. Nial put in a big bolt at the T entrance, and also a  
new big bolt at G (the original ~~to~~ being been placed in a redstone  
boulder). Frank and I surface surveyed from 204T to G and connected to  
Frank and Earl's earlier surface survey from 204D → 204-18.

We then festered in the surclimb for the better part of 2 hours  
before donning gear to commence the underground survey. Frank went  
down with an extra rope to complete the rigging. Apparently the rope was so  
tight he could barely rig his rack, so some slacks was introduced. The  
tight rigging at least had the advantage that when a 1m<sup>3</sup> chunk of  
ice detached itself it completely missed the rope. Then we surveyed in,  
which was moderately tedious in a 45° ramp full of ice. About halfway  
down, a parallel sloping shaft appears, which would give an ice free  
descent. Some serious gardening is also required, as there is lots of loose crap  
at the top which goes all the way down the main haul.

With the survey complete we had run out of time, and also escaped from  
the Land of Hanging by Death. T/W 2 hrs.



11/8/05 High Hopes Dery, 2044-76 Through trip Frank & Dery

Frank assured me that it would only take a couple of hours to rig up some loose ends in High Hopes and fix the rope out. This estimate turned out to be wrong by a factor of 150%, so this could almost be called a proper caving trip.

Went in the 2044 entrance, leaving that to follow us in and dery the rope. Deryged a traverse in High Hopes, and reworked a couple of legs to link the surveys. The rope was left on the next muddy downclimb, though the hanger and rope were retrieved (the rope is left tied round a natural). We then came across a blind pit in the floor with a rope down it. Frank went down with an end of rope for a quick Grade 2 sketch and then deryged it. The down-pit <sup>(coming from a side)</sup> -cum-climb into the chamber near Pole Dery was left rigged. All other ropes between there and the down-pit into Spring were removed.

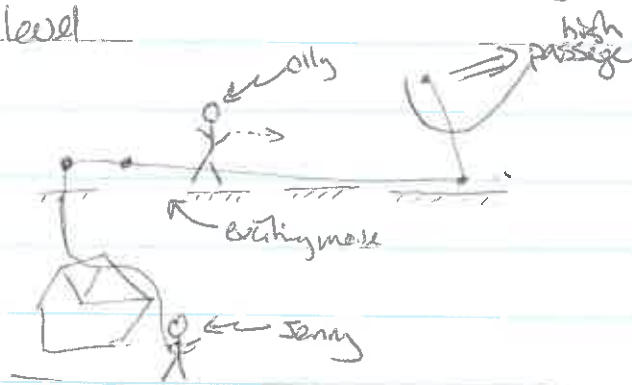
With that we staggered out of the E entrance with 3 bags between 2 feeling depressingly unfit. A nice haul through some bits of the cave I've never previously visited. 7/4 5 hrs.

9/8/05 Surface Shift Jenny + Oly

Walked back into the bivi in the afternoon attempting to find 99-03-01 and 99-03-02 on the way. Failed in this - though we did re-find 101 and 102 which we tagged (though 101 is a visit and the print is very faint) these were duly photographed. Discovered that the bearings for 990302 line up quite near Pancake Aven, so plan to look harder for it next year.

10/8/05 76-BNW-Loopy Oly + Jenny

Went into BNW with the drill battery to climb the final good up-lead (04-30) then look at some of the down pitches. Oly climbed up to a ledge and put in a bolt, and traversed across placing 2 bolts on the way. The climb/traverse wasn't too epic, except the only rock good enough for bolts was at foot level.



Oly successfully reached the passage without falling off. And we decided the best way to retrieve the hangers was for me to second the climb climbing style which was quite exciting as Oly had placed a bolt to protect him stepping across

the exciting bit, but I had to remove it RFA. Anyway, we walked along a short way to the top of 04-290 as expected, and scrambled down (shl attached to the rope) into the fairly stable toadler slope and walked up it. The main way on chocked, but a walking passage led off on the left, this shortly split with the right hand passage chocking (though quite possibly digable on the left, but that seemed to reconnect). The two left hand passages soon connected, with the second being the easier route, another passage led off the right which we looked at later. We headed off down the main passage, initially crawling then walking in the roof type of a rift passage. I predicted it would reconnect near where we started the climb and Oly predicted it would join the Oxbows. We reached a junct, where left continued in a similar fashion to arrive near where we started (04-31C) and I hated being right... Straight on got small, right of way for 25m to a choke. We headed out, surviving it as we went. When we got near the start of the rift Oly looked at the last lead which



very soon connected with the airbrows (Aidey off 04-43B in the process) so for the first time for me at least, our first and last stations were the same and we connected to two stations from last year, and hiked off 4 QMs!

We left the climb up rigged, leaving the end of the 2000 39m rope there. Then went to look at 04-40A, only put a couple of bolts in what looks like a lovely pitch  $\rightarrow$  NO CROSS, not anywhere. very easy, but sadly the rope didn't reach the bottom.

We went out casting the rope + drill + SRT kit through the test tubes. BNW is weird  $\rightarrow$  all the QMs seem to either choke or re-connect to known cave. What we have saved more cave, the maximum extent of BNW is utterly unchanged. There are still good leads there, but they are either small, or pitches.

T/U = 12 1/2

11/8/05

do rigging Keg Series

Jenny + Olly

went down Keg Series, leaving the drill at the Tap Room for tomorrow, and derigging up to the Tap Room. We cut off the end of the rope for the climb into Razor Adome, and cut off the top end to leave the pendulum rigged  $\Rightarrow$  the  $\sim$ 80ish m rope with no end markings left is the 2004 rope that was 101m or 103m or somesuch. I carried the big out and was hired.

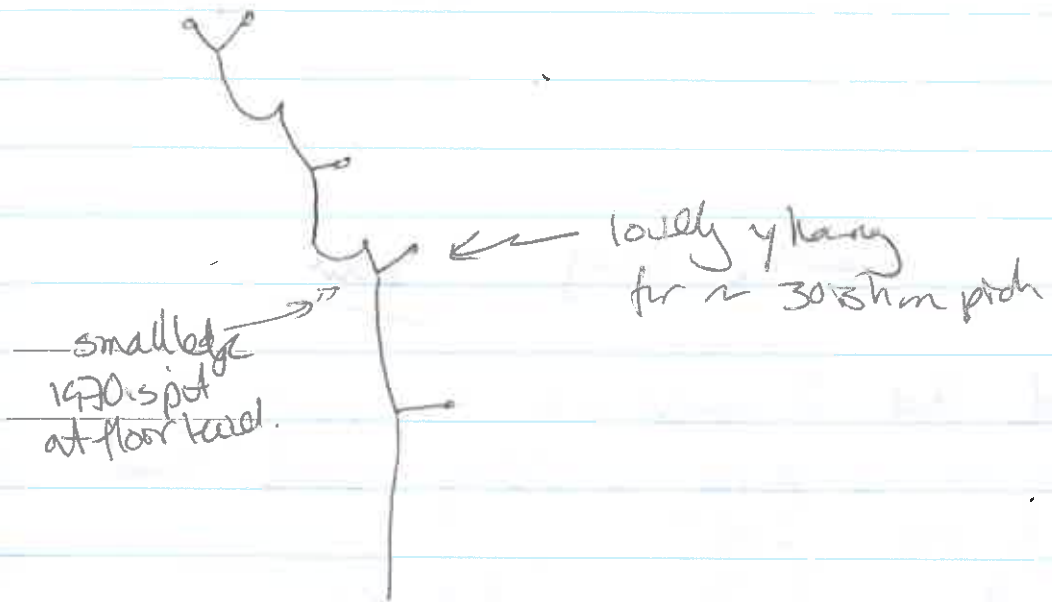
T/U = 6 1/2 hrs

12/8/05

1970's route and derigging

Olly + Jenny

went down to the Tap Room to push the 1970's route as far as possible, derigging + doing. Got to the ledge we got to last time ~~and~~ (which is now called "Spirit ledge" cos of all the carbide there and some reference to popular culture that Olly thought of that I don't get) Olly totted down ~~as~~ like this! -



to land on a ledge with a  $\sim$ 11m pitch below. we turned round here + saved back, derigged to the bottom of  $\rightarrow$  Saved Shaft getting the 4 bags there, 2 of which we took out.

T/U =  $\sim$ 10hrs

13/8/05

Final doing

Olly + Jenny

Derigging Saved + Pugged shaft didn't go badly + got 4 bags out the cave between us  $\rightarrow$  trip wasn't epic like I thought it might be. And we did a carry down in the morning before caving. The carries down were worse than the derigging!

T/U = 3<sup>h</sup> 34<sup>m</sup> 13<sup>s</sup>

~~ps~~ Thanks for coming to rescue us, sorry we didn't need rescuing. Actually, no, I am glad we didn't, but I am sorry you thought we did.

Sun 14/8/05

Hauchhöhle Photo Trip. Dave, Andrew

Went in. Took some photos from bottom of Pie Series to top of Monster Murch. Went out. Observed that it was raining. Cared loudly.

T/U 3 1/2 hrs

Mon 15/8/05

Hauchhöhle Dering Dave

I foolishly deserved that it would take one person less than twice as long as two people to dering Hauch. Found myself derigging it solo. Doh!

Pie Series: OK with use of Tension + Foot Janner rig.

Upper Horizontal stuff: extremely tedious! 3 return trips ~~than~~ than Taddersack Blues, much fun all round.

T/U 6 1/2 hrs.

Mon 05/08/15

2006 gaffered dering Andrew

Down to the relay above the eye hole pitch. 180m of rope does not fit, even in a big T-bag. Magic roundabout with 3 bags, lots of bits and rope hanging out, was I glad to see Phil, who help get them out.

T/U

2006

15/7/06 Dave travels out, absence-of-courtesy of Ryanair.

Up at 3.30am ~~last night~~ (ouch), night bus + coach to Stansted, flight to Salzburg, train to Bad Aussee, total travel time about 11 hrs. (3 1/2 getting to airport + waiting for flight; 2 flight; 1h waiting at Salzburg; rest trains + buses.)

Went quite smoothly modulo getting on the wrong train at Salzburg + ending up on an express that didn't stop at Attnang-Puchheim + having to get out at Linz + pay €8 for a train back again.

T/U: N/A

16/7/06

Carrying lots of stuff

Dave, Mark, Aaron, Tom

Walked up the hill to find lots of snow lying around - snow in 204a, snow at the foot of the bridge, all over the shop. Tediously shovelled snow for ages to clear a way into Traungold. Found a very pretty ice stal; less pretty was the vast quantity of ice freezing half the gear down.

On the way down, went slightly further downhill from usual route past 195, and found a new hole: not yet tagged but in the fulness of

time it will be 2006-01 GPS: ~~36283~~ 36283 E  
83223 N  
1773 alt.