

2009

22/7/09

Merry Fcking christmas, 204A

Becca, Kathryn, Emma, Jess S, Tony

Rigged down 204A from bottom of 1st pitch. Snow levels were high → large amounts snow play at the bottom of the first pitch & blocks usual rate than 2nd. Had to go down the high snow route through stitch this.

Through wolpertinger way to merry fcking christmas crowd. Crowd is about 30m and was ~~not~~ less enjoyable for some. Then rigged down no bits & hammer and thoy.

Becca managed to find rebelay bit so managed to rig better way than expected. Then through prony prone, ~~at night~~ down & doing some rebelay. Managed to rig a good floor level traverse line = ~~climb~~. Climbed down to previous years prony point → chis wasn't great & needs bolting & rigging as pitch. Put a cape of bolts at the top of undesanded pitch but had an cut of rope so no problem but came to new rigged down to there (the pitch to replace chis needs pits in) T/U 8 1/2 - 10 hrs.

- To rig a pitch need :
- 30-40 m rope to rig
 - 40ish m
 - ? log & short bits

all

22/7/09

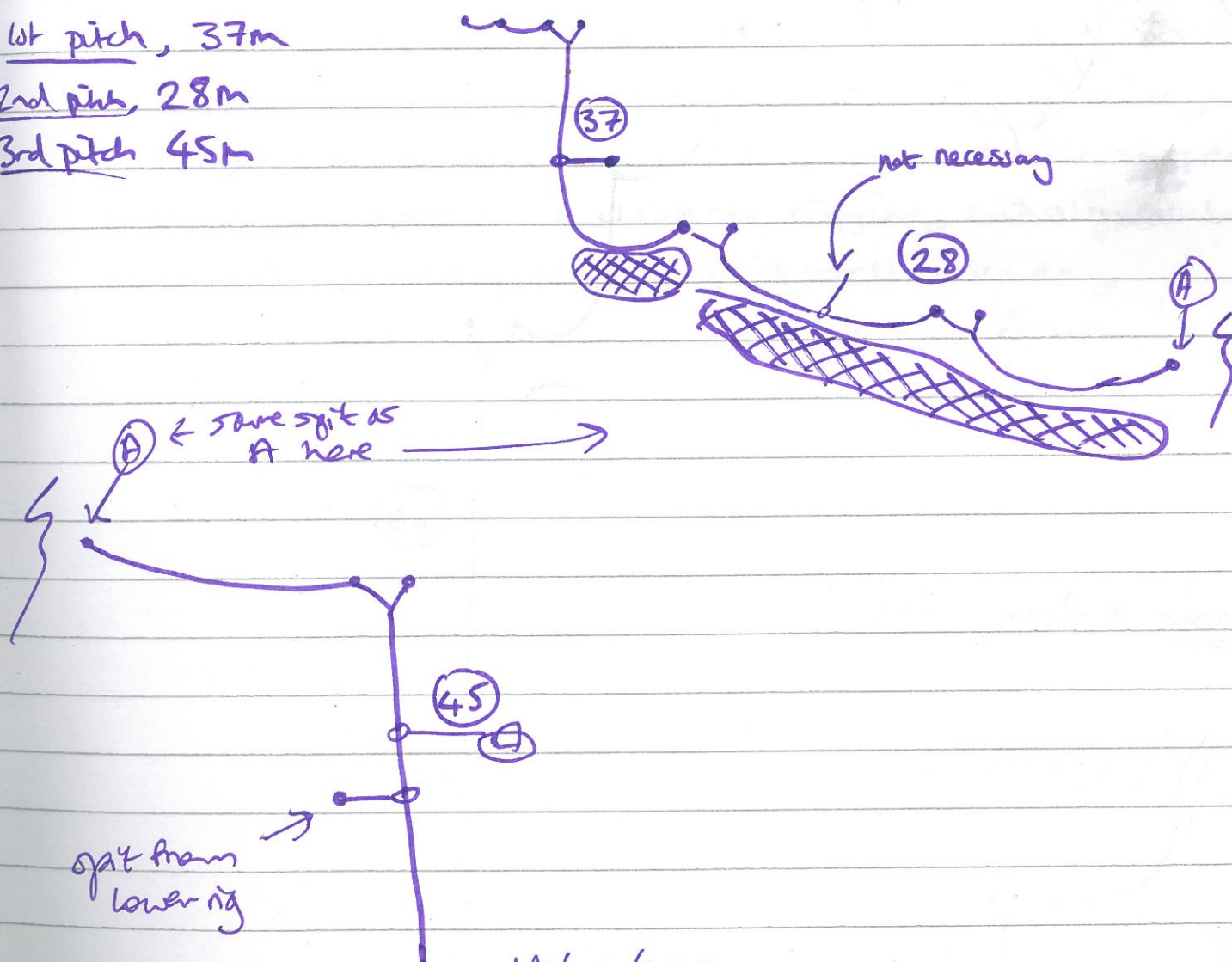
204A, Merry fcking christmas captured, nifty stuff.

Snow was very high so had to rig through stitch this, this is a guide of the best rig for our snow conditions - tho could change.

1st pitch, 37m

2nd pitch, 28m

3rd pitch 45m



← same split as A here →

split from lower rig

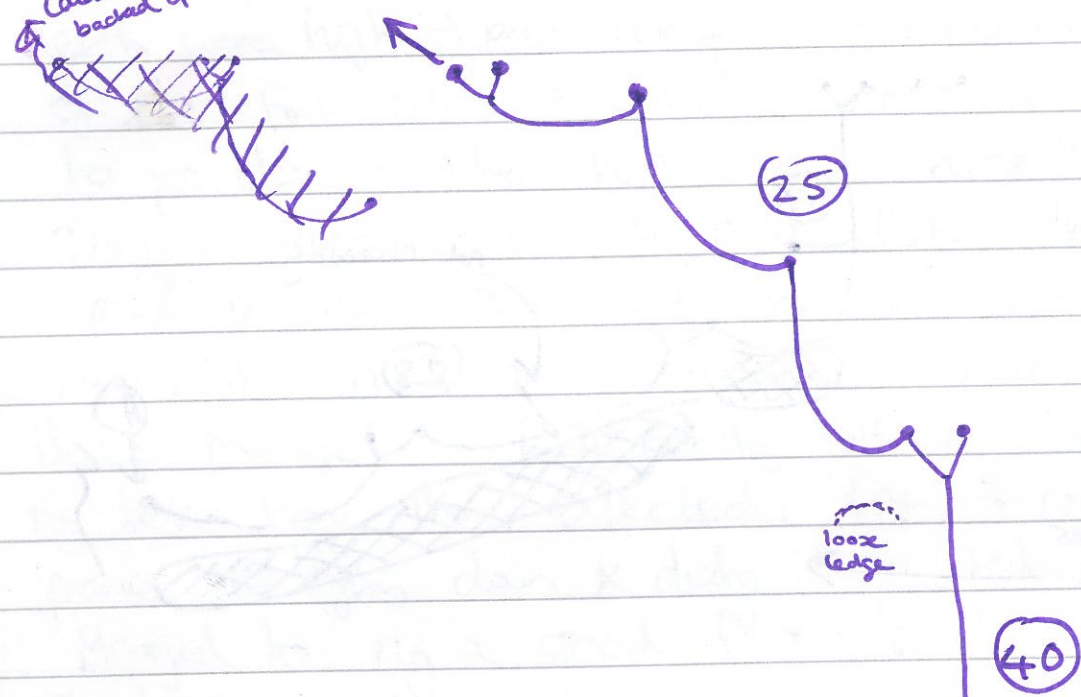
Wolpertinger Way.

22/7/09

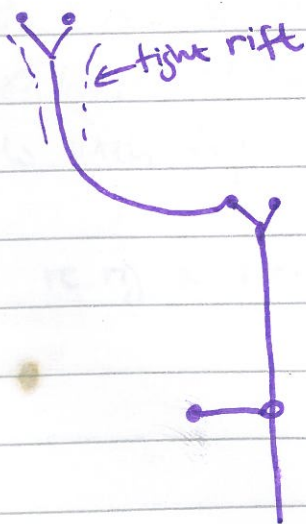
204 A very thick chub was not catrived

no bits: (60) or (25) and (40)

Could be backed up to normal if pipe by craft 25 would do.



Hammer X thong: (35)



204 A. Rigging in Entrance series.

21/07/09

Becca, ~~Becca~~, Emma, Jess, Tony.

Rigged the first pitch of the entrance series, while watched by Becca and Tony. Derivation difficult to find - on the wall back underneath the pitch ^{and a} bit to the left (!), quite a long way down. big gap to the snow slope, rope just long enough to reach spits. ~~couldn't~~ couldn't work out what was supposed to be happening from then, as didn't match rigging guide, (probably due to high snow levels), so went back to the surface. Emma went down to check the rigging, but also couldn't work out where to go next, so left it for the next day.

T/U Jess 1, Emma 1/2.

SQUASHED FLIES PAGE

2007-08-08



A G.I.T.

From:

Jane G.M.

Dunn



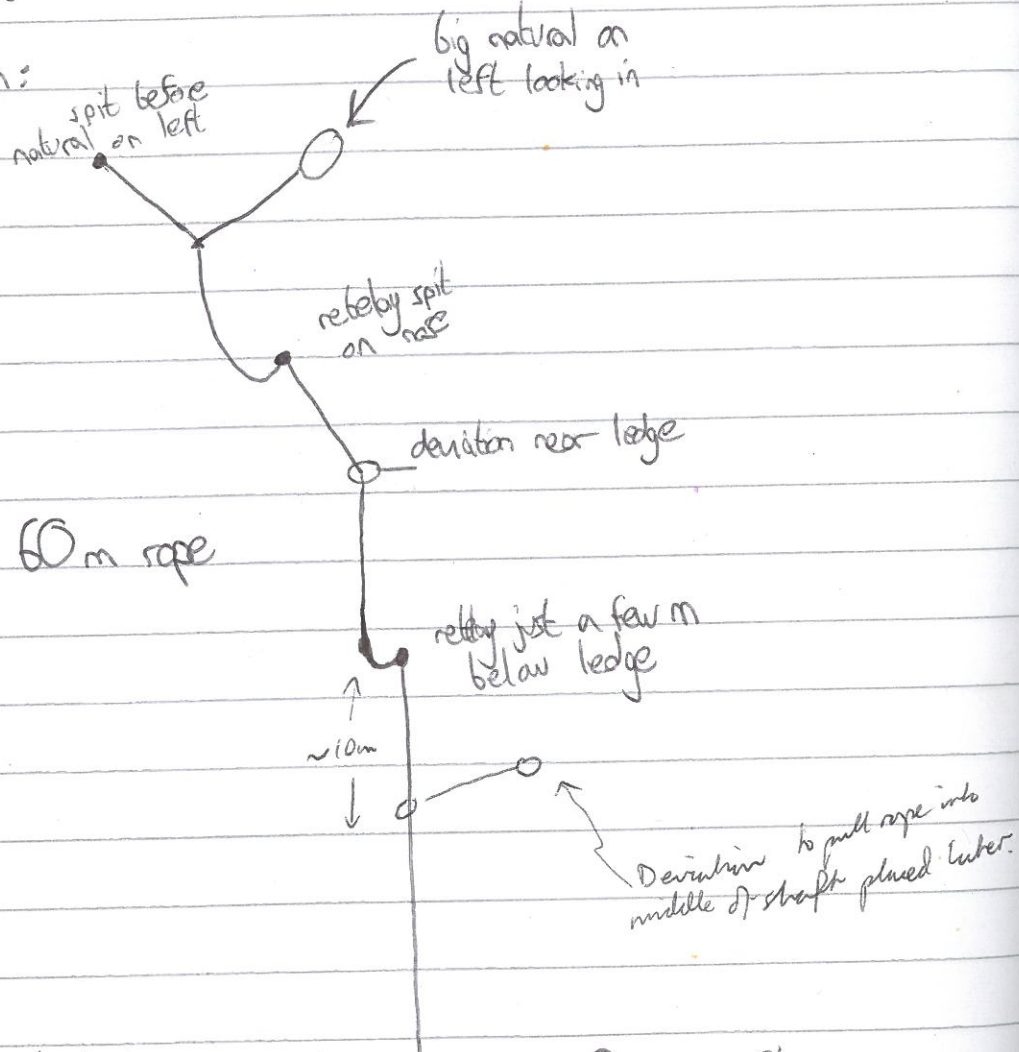
22/07/09 and 23/07/09

RIGGING 161 G

Edwin, Ian, Anthony on 22nd, Edwin + Anthony on 23rd

Two trips into G in which we managed to get a descent (25 mins) rate from the Bivy to entrance and rigged as far as the bottom of Knossos.

G entrance pitch:



Also re-rigged and rebolted permanent ropes on Banco Aft.

... on strange upfall so we avoided a detour via Vom pitch ☺. Then re-rigged Pipeless entrance pitch/climb and 3m pitch climb (black sling & white 11mm respectively). Got as far as The Bridge & returned to surface taking full tacklebags of crap on way. T/U 8hrs

WOWA

22/07/09 - Tourist trip Mammoth hole - Julian, Aaron (Julian's dad)

Note: This is the place to take parents to show them what it looks like underground. It's odd, but the loop they take you round has a lot of steps to warm you up a bit.

Get a tourist card from the office and get it cheaper.

The cable car leaves from above Obertraun - about 15km ~~east~~ cycle from Bad A. in forest. There's a rough track that cuts corner from where another show cave has its booth.

We didn't go to Eischohle, instead, caught the cable car up to top and walked around admiring the views at the 5-fingers and eating our sandwiches. On the way back there was a cat playing with a snake. The snake wasn't having fun.

T/U 50 minutes.

25/07/09 Rigging 161g

Ian W Edwin D Gareth P

3rd trip into 161 to continue rigging. Passed Knossos and rigged Yagate Traverse & Staircase 36 (both red 9mm) also Strange Downfall (red 9mm) and Strange Upfall (white 11mm to lip of pitch & 9mm red thereup). Edwin was foolish enough to trust the inviter rope

2009-07-24 Tunnocksschacht - Stone Monkey
Jess S.; Martin J.

Entered Stone Monkey via Boulder Scarps bypass. Snow plug in Aven was present but smaller than last year, as was the ice plug in the pitch below (might be worth looking at in a few years). Descended "The claw" and bolted a traverse across the pitch at the end of Sombrero Passage (2 spits, 1 natural up the ramp; $\approx 20m$ of rope needed). Then surveyed a sandy crawl, Ugly the Caveman, at the bottom of "The claw" that Jess had looked at in 2008. Low crawl soon widened into walking-light passage. Small Aven/Rift on left-hand side led to climb into rift (narrow; was not entered).^{RMC} Small trickle coming from rift and flows into the crawl. The floor is muddy/sandy with some nice cauliflower-calcite growing on top of mud in the middle of the passage. Further on, the passage slopes down and floor is covered in small boulders. Soon terminates in choke with modest draft. An arm's length of passage further on can be seen through the boulders (? D, possible dig).

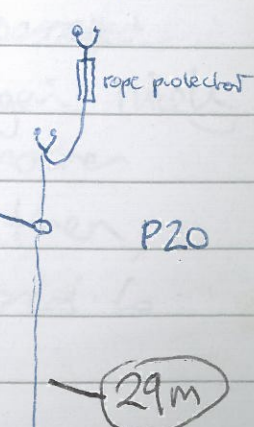
After surveying, we returned to pitch at end of Sombrero Passage. We crossed the traverse and surveyed the sloping passage above. Floor covered in masses of loose rock. Wide passage soon terminates in multiple avenus and small pitches (probably all dived). These avenus will be surveyed later.

Highlight: when setting the anchors for the traverse, the hammer head broke loose and flew behind Jess down the pitch. Next time we'll take a quality hammer. Hence the name for the slope, "Comedy of Errors". The next spit I had to set with a stone,

inspiring the name for the crawl, Ugly the Caveman. The survey of Stone Monkey indicates, that the last survey point of Comedy of Errors is at 1858 above sea level, 3m higher than the entrance of Tunnocks main shaft. Hence there are still hopes of finding a new entrance somewhere in Stone Monkey. Inspection of the avenus in Comedy of Errors will follow in addition to having a look at surface features above Stone Monkey. TU: 8h 9h

2009-07-25 Tunnocksschacht - Stone Monkey
Emma; Martin J.

Bolted pitch on end of Sombrero Passage, "The flaming sword of fire." 2 spits at start of traverse line, then $\approx 4m$ down (rope protector required), then another 2 spits in right-hand wall (relatively good rock). Crumbly rock below which forced me to set a spit for a deviation on the opposite wall (done by putting a sling over a boulder wedged between the two walls and pulling in - scary stuff). Descended to bottom with rope being 1.50m too short (29m required). Bottom of pitch covered with boulders and several drips coming down. At far side, small chamber was entered which terminated in tight meander ~~and~~ (water flowing in) with moderate draft and choked tight rift in 90° angle to it (too tight). In the small chamber, rift can be seen below - just about man-sized but window would have to be blasted. Yorkshire A-lead, Austria dead-end. Nice pitch, though.



Whilst going through Stone Monkey squeeze, I found a dead ^{ground} beetle (Carabidae) on one of the rocks. Another indication that we are somewhere close to the surface? There is also black soil (humous?) below many of the avars in Stone Monkey - we will see.

2009-08-02 Second thoughts on the bottom of this pitch:

It's a dig! Everybody interested would have to hammer his way through a bit of solid rock to get to "rift that can be seen below" to enter the tight meander ahead.

Maybe it goes.

24/7/09

204 A - posy prance, Caterwall
Becca, Kathryn, Emma

Went down 204A ~~down~~ down posy prance. Becca rebolted prenas climb down as pitch & rigged at flap pitch. Kathryn or I bolted pitch QM 08-4A - traverse road. Top of pitch then straight hang down (right guide will be drawn on subsequent pg). Pitch was ~20m & nicely shaped. At bottom way on to ~~left~~ ^{right} led straight to small chamber with no way on. Way on to left went for few meters then went steeply up - probably ~20m up with no way on. Back at foot of pitch there was also tight slot in the floor with two small windows. Tight slot led to ~~slot~~ small but less tight window rift, with widest part approximately half way up. This led to short drop of a few meters that needed rigging. Pitch was fairly ~~small~~ small. This was followed shortly by another pitch that was less than 10m ~~at~~. Bolted Y hang and dropped pitch, ~~passed~~ passage opened at at pitch & pitch was again nicely shaped. After pitch a few meters on was another ~~dropped~~ drop. Had an at of rope by then, pitch looked reasonably small but passage appeared to continue afterwards (QMB) 204-2009-01B

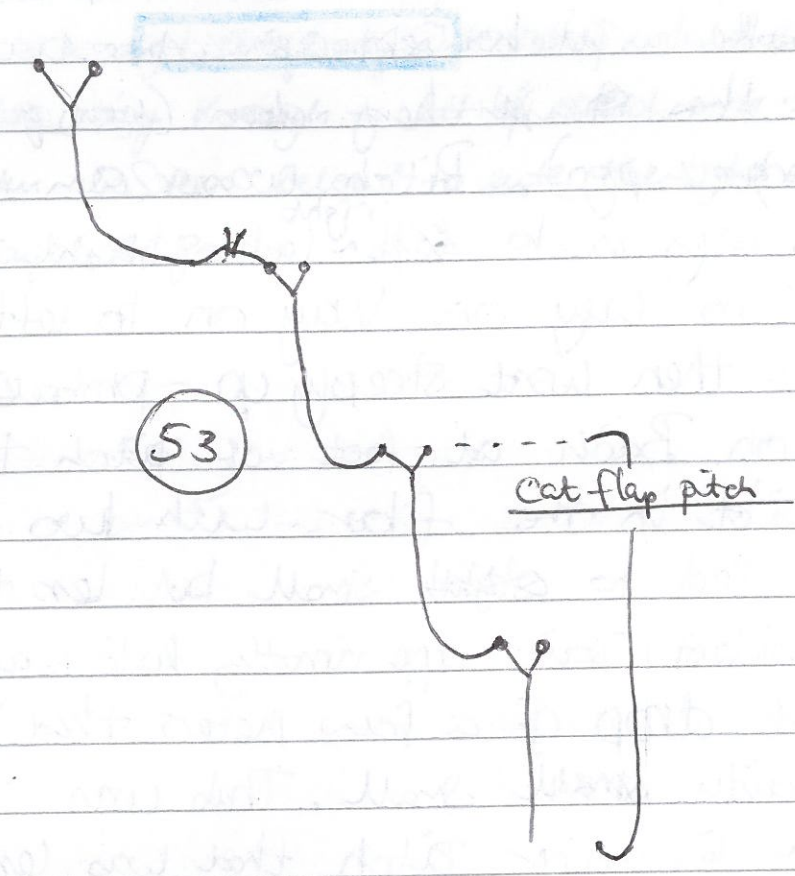
Time underground - 10hrs

24/7/09

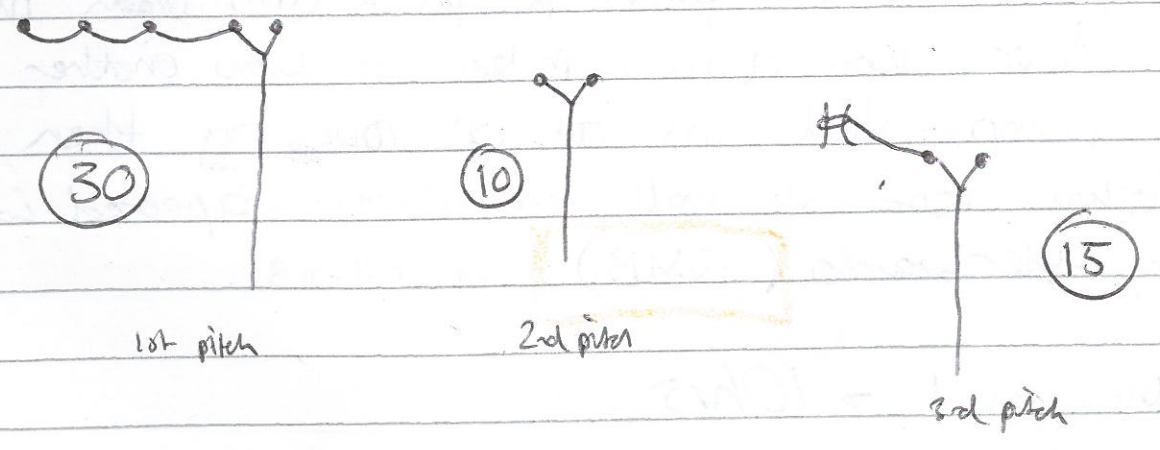
204 A - pussy prance rigging, Becca, Kathryn, ~~Grime~~

Ham Ben to Hammer & they give a prev pg.

Riggs guide from Hammer & they.



Caterwall



25/7/09

204 A - Pussy Prance, → Cat Flap → Cat Walk
Becca, Kathryn, JESS.

went down 204 A and Pussy Prance. Finished rigging pitch below Pussy prance - cat flap pitch - dropped into a small chamber with 3 ways on. swinging into ~~the~~ passage 2/3 way down pitch, back underneath ^{→ Start of Cat Walk} where we had come from - mud floored pneumatic passage which ended in a short ^{9M} rope protected climb ^{off a natural thread, large} to a junction. Left went to a pitch ^{(QMA) (QMX)} and large aren't, we went right, along smaller passage which ended in a window into another pitch ^(QMA) popcorn all over the walls and floor, with a lead bet ~~on~~ on the floor ~ 1/2 way along, a lead on the right joined up, with the passage continuing ^(QMA) ~~to~~ past a small waterfall on the left to another pitch. A lead on the right quickly split, with left becoming too small and right looping back into the same bit of passage, though ~~was~~ was also too small. ~~on this was all supposed to be one pitch~~ on later inspection, the pitch by the handline was thought to connect to the bottom of the wet pitch in the right hand chamber from pussy prance - this was ~~later~~ confirmed in later trip.

confirmed by surveyor 26/7/09

~~QMs ticked off~~
QMO8-1A
QMO1-70B

- Jess's dangly bag fell down it... its a blue trench.

204A - pussy prance

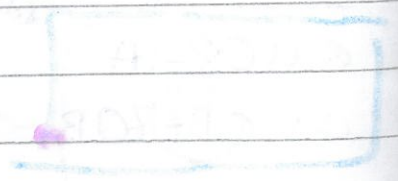
Becca, Kathryn, Jess

25/07/09

QMS Found.

- B - ^{licked like} on the right outg chamber at bottom of cat flap pitch.
- B - up a climb on the right outg chamber at bottom of cat flap. appears to be continuation of surveyed passage.
- B - ^{licked like} straight ahead outg ~~cat flap~~ chamber at bottom of cat flap.
- A - pitch to the left after hand line climb down - P30 (?).
- A - ^{licked off like} pitch at end of passage from the right hand line climb P16 (?).
- B - tube at same level as previous passage (continuation) across above ~~pitch~~ pitch. - mud-filled? ↓ feet?
- C - ~~glor~~ trench & stream in passage on from hand line climb - P4 (?).
- C - small tube in left wall of passage off from the R of previous passage - small waterfall enters passage from here.
- D - left branch of gival bit of passage.
- C - ~~pitch~~ pitch at end of R branch of gival passage - P10 (?).
- B - L hand branch of passage off to right of gival bit of passage.

* See Gareth & Jess H 26/7 report



26/07/09

204A ~ Pussy prance

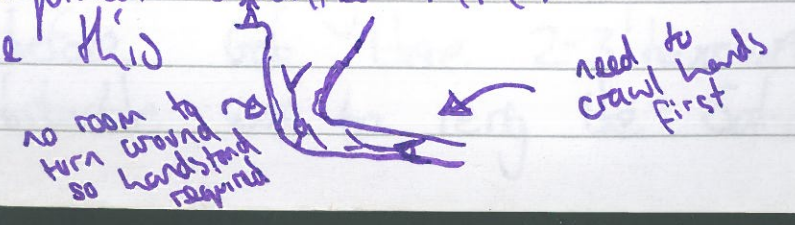
Emma, Becca, Kathryn, Jess S, Gareth, Jess H

My first trip to Steinbrückerhöhle. Went down the 3 entrance pitches including 1 pitch over a snowplug - need to skirt around this to the left. I was ~~initially~~ confused by the solid cliff of snow which initially freezes you. The final entrance pitch is a monster pitch, it's massive, very exciting to descend. A short walk after this is Merry Fucking Christmas, a miserable crawl which freaked me out quite a bit but is mercifully short.* Jess S and Gareth were kind and reassuring about it, and it's actually fine after the first time because you know what's coming.

Below Merry Fucking Christmas are several other pitches - ~~on~~ 204 is a fairly vertical cave, and we descended to approx. -290m overall. One of the pitches is a second massive monster pitch, free-hanging, really deep and awesome. Another is a much-hyped tricky squeeze which is not nearly as bad as I expected! (Either up or down. ~2 more pitches to pushing front, bored now, alcohol time, byebye x.

Time underground 9 1/2 - 12 hours.

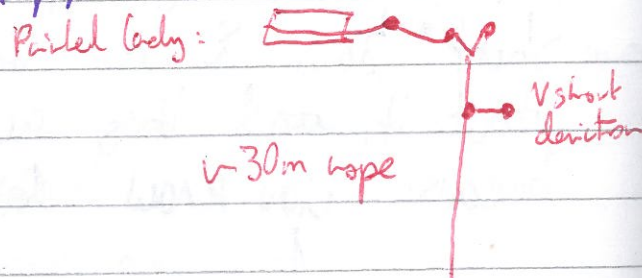
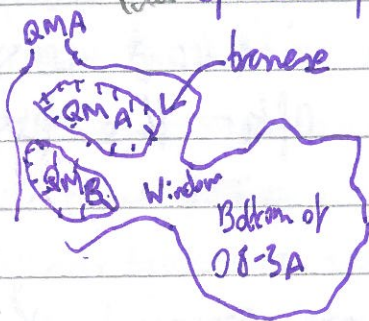
* Actual handstand required to enter MFC!
 Vertical sketch like this



Kathryn continues...

Emma, Becka and I started bolting **08-3A** while waiting for the others to descend. This pitch (now Painted Lady) descends for ~20m to a chamber with a window into another chamber (pitch on the left with 3 possible QMs:

- QMA Large deep pitch
 - QMB Possibly choked shallower pitch
 - QMA Possible continuation - on other side of pitch
- Licked wheel*
Crushed partially this trip)



Emma and I started bolting the traverse around the pitch to the possible continuation. Turned out to be more difficult than expected as much of the wall was covered in mud. We put in 3 bolts + 2 retreats pretty much straight up - next trip should be able to traverse sideways and put bolts into good rock. We could see Becka's light when she was surveying in chamber at bottom of catflap.

Gareth continues...

Rigged a traverse line across to the top of pitch with Jess H. Rigged off boulder and natural column across a ledge on the left (facing down the pitch). Started putting a bolt in at the end of the ledge with a view to bolting the pitch head just around the corner. Below the ledge the pitch drops steeply for a few metres before sloping down for about another ten. An alternative pitch ^{head} could be rigged on the opposite wall.

Becka continues...

Jess Stirrups + I surveyed chamber at bottom of Cat Flap. Saw Emma + Kathryn's lights indirectly via window towards Painted Lady - ~5m pitch between there, probably blind, **QMC**. Also **QMC** in roof tube there. Opposite pitch, a rift with steeply descending floor trench ends in a short pitch, again not too promising - **QMB?**

TU 8-12 hrs

26/07/09 15 | G Edin, Dou, Ian, Ollie.

Went to the far end. Ian + Ollie hung back to sort out some rigging on the way their led (more on that later*). Me and Dou headed straight to "The Bridge" - the previous stopping point from the day before. Got there 2-3 hours after going underground. First obstacle was to re-rig the Satan's Sitting

room traverse. This is a tensioned bopper with no floor, no roof, no walls and, initially, only a 190 year old rope to prevent plummeting. Hence wibble number 1.

We re-rigged this and proceeded to the bottom of the 3 wise men climb (via a completely unprotected step, which now has a rope on it - wibble number 2). Our goal was to drop Satan's Sitting room pitch. This was the cause of wibbles number 3 - 26 as we slowly drill batted our way down the seemingly bottomless abyss. Glad I packed my cast iron underpants.

Eventually, about ~50m down we established that there was a bottom; two large pits separated by a 10m high rock wall. Looking through a hole in the wall into the other pit, we could see a window into a continuation. The lead is still going!

The pitch was a bit less terrifying when we knew what was at the bottom so we headed back up and had footed it back to the entrance to prepare our excuses for jacking the next day.

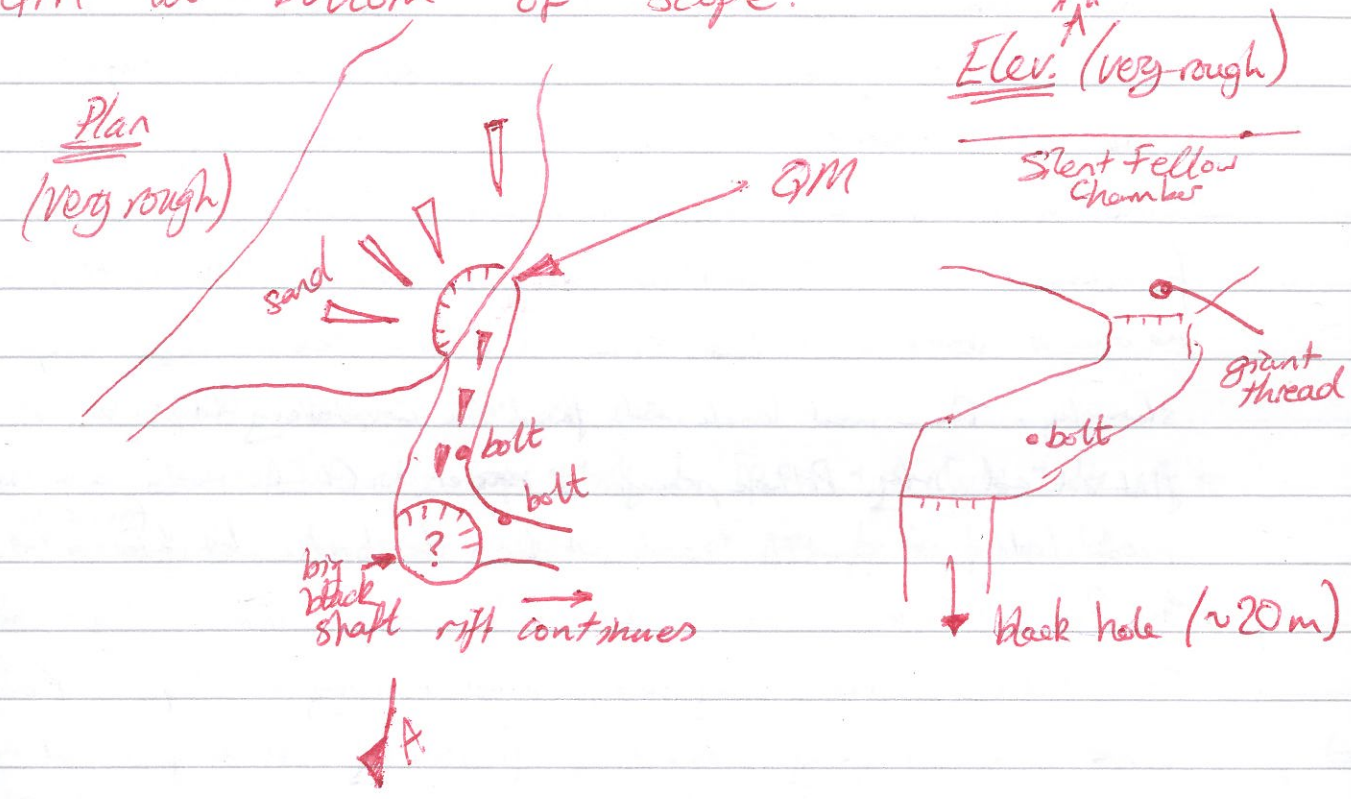
* Ian & Ollie: hung back to put a bolt deviation on Knossos pitch (purple string) and a second bolt on top hang of Strange Downfall (now a Y-hang). At The Bridge, we descended the pit which turned out to be rubble-blocked circa 10m down (bolt on nose, backup to Satan traverse bolts).

TU 10.5 hrs.

27/07/09.

~~29/7/09~~ 16/9 Ian W & Mike "T.A." R

Trip into Silent Fellow Chamber to investigate QM at bottom of slope.



Put in 2 spits to aid future exploits. Watch this place! TU 8hrs.

29/7/09 Nostalgia trip - 161G - Satan's Sitting Room.
Steve, Julian

After not getting woken up with a mug of tea in bed, Julian disobeyed orders and went to 161 to check out the veracity of surveys being transcribed into tunnel from original 1990's notes. Walk to G harder with a pack on. Pitch down easy. Crappy crawling to S-ways, then investigated multiple routes ~~to~~ to f-entrance that would avoid bounce rift. Loads of QMs on this route no one is interested in. Last 50m at entrance extremely crap and slungy. Then went back and found the completely loopy route too flat out and dirty. Pothole passage is easier. Climb with between the thighs needs looking at again to work out how the bridge bit ^{figures in} ~~fits with the~~ ~~downy~~ ~~the~~ Before Steve fell asleep, we moved on to Knossos, got lat in Tower Block, worked way through ancient history in Ypate (various rock shape triggering moments of familiarity with 20 year old memories when each point along here had been the pushing front). Did the Stages. Repton drawing not as bad as expected. Corrected some lines on the map (we need an ~~area~~ ^{area} even fill to represent flat out ground). Found a carbide pig in Pipeless (no one else seems surprised this has lasted for 15 years without any moisture ingress to gussify and blow off the snoopys loop seals) which Steve casted out. Met the others at the Bridge before Satan's sitting room, took photos, got behind Anthony's party, verified Lead Mine was still there, didn't find way in to endless, got out pretty slowly to sunset at F.

T/U 8hrs

26/7/9 STEVE, MIKETA, NOEL, HOLLY 161G - VARIOUS...

Took a while finding 'g'. Took longer finding way on...

So M+H headed to 'd' whilst N+S headed to the pitch just below the stone.

Put bolts in - she realises hanger were at top camp...

S Tomper across on surface for a bit, found Mike + Holly - post bundle...

Carried route from d - g ~ 30 mins - she headed back.

25/7/9 STEVE, NOEL, HOLLY - TUNNOCK'S

Skroled up hill, Warm. Got can later.

Head rumours of Tunnocks rope - took in 100m + re-rigger - this gets you easily to first snow slope; need ~ 20m of rope for first knot slope.

More fiddly than M+H huddled in boths while S rigger Carol Calais.

Home for tea + medals.

30
28/7/09 STEVE, BECCA - TUNNOCKS - PITCH NR FRANKLI FREEZING

Goeth + Becca had got halfway down + bolts this previously.

Headed down pitch to first Goeth's relay - failed - so knot pass again...

Becca found bolt so S clipped to a bolt whilst B hauled up the faggies + rigger relay. Then ^{she} ~~found~~ the relay, rubbed - so put the ^{knot pass} ~~knock~~ ^{knock} ~~in!~~

After 2hr dustpuff finally bottomed pitch (total ~ 100m, 70m free-hang to ledge then bolt relay, descent off crap natural ~ 5m from ledge). Loads in large chamber (~ 50 x 75m) with several horizontal leads.

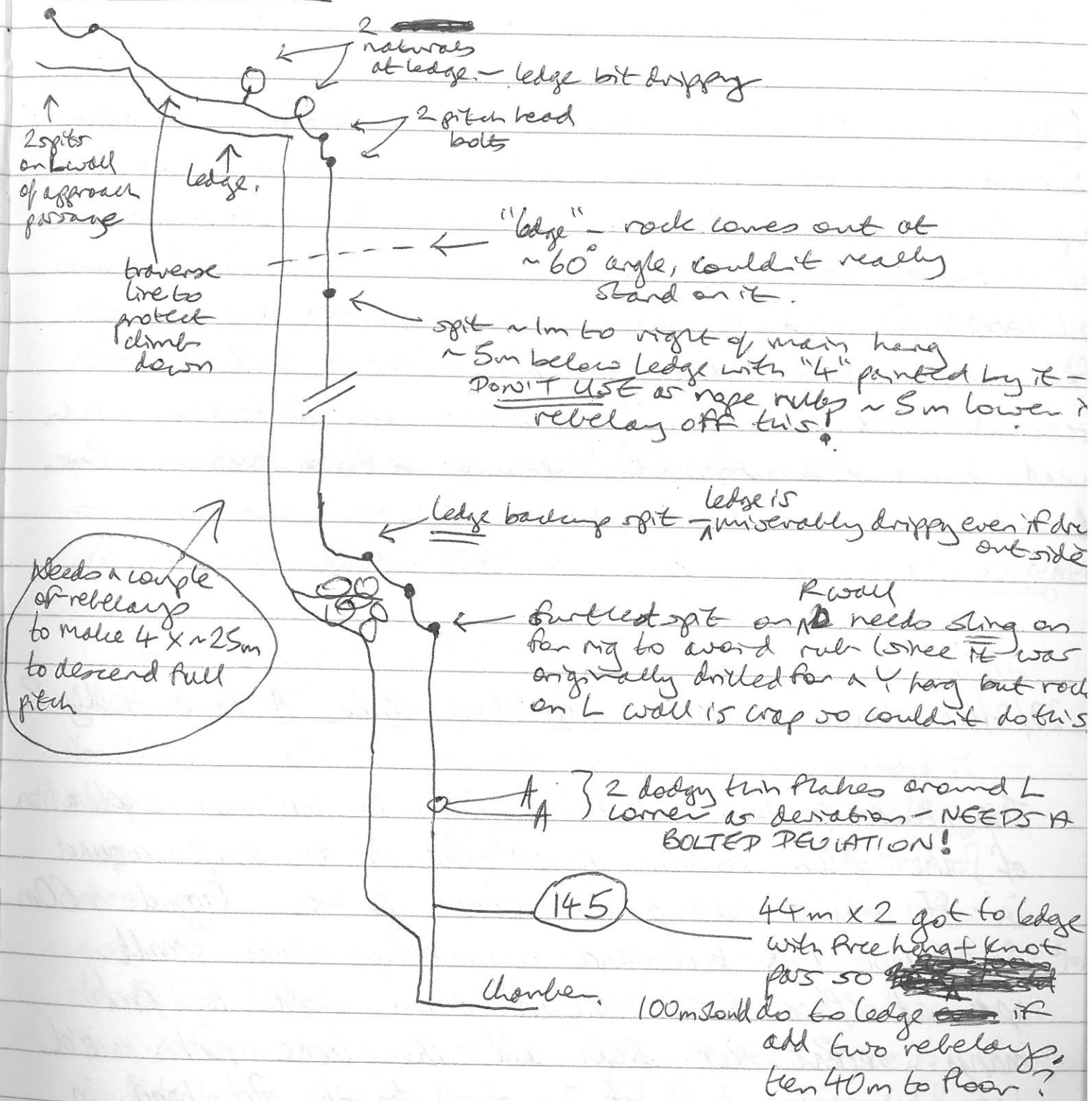
Pushed windiest lead (left at bottom of pitch to popcorn, ^{coepu} ~~coepu~~ climb up rift, 3m flat-out ~~and~~) to junction of many leads + 1 ^{freshly} ~~dead~~ ^{knock} ~~knock~~ knot. 3m climb up on L to 2 passages off - one unspiked, other step back over c3, walking passage goes back over other route + leads to large phacal chamber / passage. Loads of leads stashed out.

T/U 8 1/2 hours

29/07/09 Bedra + Gareth Tunnels - Usual Suspects

Despite an acute shortage of rope due to unusually high levels of casing thickness I managed to snaffle a ~~60m~~ 60m rope and a drill plus Tunnels hadn't yet fallen prey to ~~the~~ "we need to derig and 258 isn't on the mission statement" so I am-twisted Gareth into heading for the big pitch that we'd somehow avoided ~~being~~ ^{descending in} the past two years. Re-rigged entrance rigging (again) on the way down + then used ~~60m~~ 60m to rig lateral ladders which freed up two 44m ropes for pushing. Used Frank's two spits from 2008 to put in a traverse line down to the ledge which is droppy but spans over then 2 naturals then two pitchhead spits. It all looked deep + scary so I graniously allowed / forced Gareth to head down - and down. Surprisingly it hung free so he tied the two 44m together and, finally, got to a "ledge" of wedged boulders ~ 75m down. We were still 30m above the kick + out of rope but since we had the drill we put in a backup + 2 pitchhead spits for the next ^{down to the chamber} hang. Both the spits I set (on the left wall) cracked the rock which makes 4/5 I have drilled being duff, humpf. Probably a combination of soft rock + me not blowing enough but out of the holes. With only one 30m tape we couldn't survey the pitch but it was looking really good so we left it ^{partly} rigged + carefully propped out. We took out the lower 44m ~~the rope~~ and Gareth drilled a rebelay spit just below ledge, on exit to lovely sunset.

Usual suspects rigging as of ~~29/07/09~~ ^{29/07/09}



44m x 2 got to ledge with Prehang + knot pas so ~~if~~ if add two rebelay, then 40m to floor?

20/07/09 Bedia, Martin + Gareth

"20/07/09 Tunnocks - Stone Monkey.

Walked up the hill AM so a late start. Martin slowed us Stone Monkey exorcismers - up, up and up, surely we should see daylight? Pleasantly large & generally drafty passage. Over a traverse ^{at the end} to two plates. Martin had a quick look down the crease at the far end & Gareth checked the crease on the left, both seemed to continue so we surveyed to the pitch heads ~~from~~ and down a free climb before the traverse. I and left it rigged as not enough time or rope to rig the pitons properly.

29/7/09 Silent Fellow Ian W & Mike "T.A." R & Holly B

Trip back to the Silent Fellow QM to continue exploration of the pitch beneath. Mike ^{& Holly} went off to snoop around in SF whilst leaving the shaft to me. Rigged a 60m ^{rope} from last trip's bolt and a rebelay from small spike at floor level. Dropped down shaft to find many recent scars from all the loose rocks we'd been humping down. **The slope to the pitch head is composed of sand & boulders and isn't very stable. The subsequent hours dangling below these confidence-sapping bad boys lead to the naming of the shaft Solid Rock. A minor rub ^{~20m} necessitated a rebelay or deviation, found by the large window

into a parallel shaft at ~-15m (sling thread). Shaft bottom is rubble & blocks, with large perched (?) boulders overlooking a continuation of the shaft (further 10-15m drop?) just under one wall. Had enough of cacking my pants on my lonesome & returned to SF. Perigged the 60 and got Mike to measure with a tape: shaft is 32m lip-to-floor. NB: the parallel shaft wasn't as deep or as high, but was clean and had a small gully in the solid rock floor which lead away under the far wall.

Mike & Holly found something too... Ian TU 10.5 hrs.

Holly and Mike looked at the small passage underneath the climb to Mostly Mud. Took rope and tapes and bolting kit. Opened spits pot: wrong type of anchors: (Holly went back and Ian gave us one spit. Rigged rope via taped thread at end of passage at start of descent; Mike demo'd bolting, then demo'd what not to do by realising we had no hangers. Returned to Silent Fellow, and Holly went back to Satans Sitting Room to get some. Mike tested Steve's mobile bolting - excellent gear. Then decided that time was getting on to surveyed from carbide mark on R/W wall through to tape thread (last station is pendant just beyond the thread). Then back to Silent Fellow to meet Ian coming back up. Mike TA

30/7/09 Silent Fellow Ian W & Edwin D

Further trip to what is now Solid Rock, precipitated by availability of drill more than desire to cave. I myself was perilously close to bumbling the day away after yesterday's nerve-wracking dangling sesh.

Turns out we make a well matched ~~team~~ pair, and with only a lithium ion drill to hold us back ("Are you sure there's a drill in this bag?") we got to Silent Fellow in 1hr 45. Had a quick snack and tackle-sorting then got to work. Edwin went to put a spit in Satan's Sitting Room pitch (deviation to avoid mild rub point, about 4m below rebelay) and left me to face Solid Rock on my own. But this time with a drill...

Put in a Hilti anchor in SF (above pit at bottom of chamber) to double the belay which had been simply a thread round boulder in slope. Rigging the 60m rope over the 30m already there. I continued past the previous bolts and sling spike & thread. Reaching the large window, a small swing allows a stance on the sill. A rebelay bolt ^{was} put in just on far side for hang into parallel shaft (used a short AS hanger and a maillon to avoid rub, but twist & three maillons may

suffice in future). Shaft clean & ^{sound,} solid rock walls and floor, much unlike Solid Rock itself. Investigated the floor gully and met a couple of short drops (4 feet?) on right. Dry rift oxbow on left was rigged for Y-hang (Hilti sleeves in opposing walls). Short chamberet where ways meet is followed by second rift pitch. Didn't have any rope left so returned to SF to fetch Edwin and the 30m rope. Lone exploration until this point lead to the parallel shaft & subsequent rift acquiring the name Private Investigations, continuing the Dire Straits theme.

With Edwin in tow, rigged down two more shortish (~10m?) pitches* in a very tasty clean-washed, Yorkshire-esque streamway pitch series of small/medium chambers with gully/rift exits. After running out of rope & depleting the drill battery, we exited, surveying back to the tie-in in SF as we went.

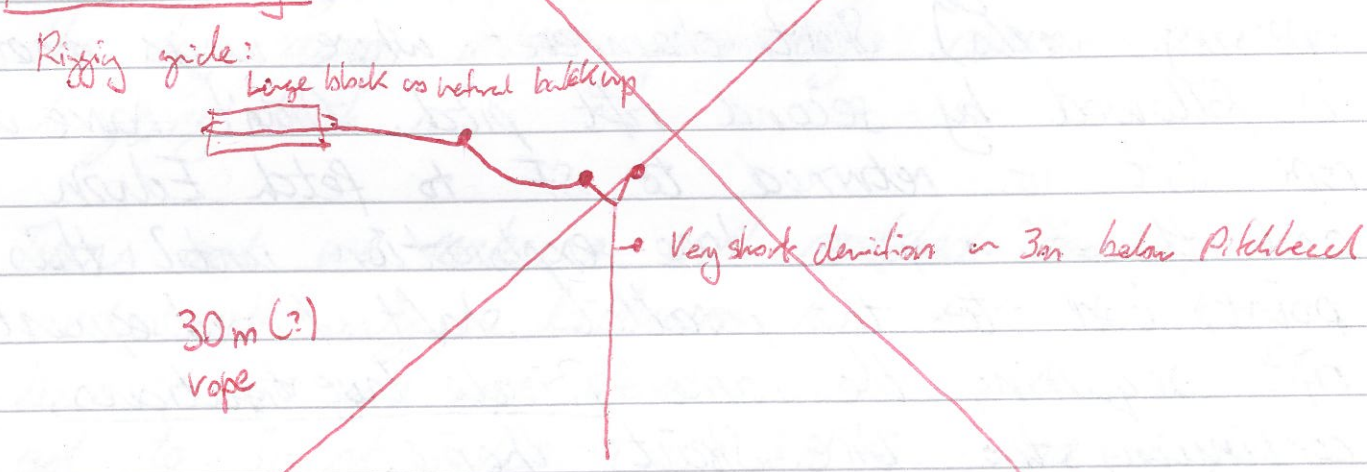
* Hilti sleeve in RH wall; Hilti sleeves in opposing walls.

Exited in a manner similar to the entry: swift & efficient. Had a jubilatory cup-a-soup each on Anthony's mother's stove in ~~the~~ Pipelers before ~~headed~~ heading out proper.

Two further pitches visible; a fantastic lead to end a fantastic day. TU ~10 hrs.

~~29/7/09 204 - Painted Lady + Pass in Bolts
 Kellryn, Emma and Becka (for first part)~~

~~Emma and Becka rigged 08-03 A (Pitch into large chamber south of Passy prance) which is low Painted Lady.~~



~~The pitch descends to a roomy chamber with a window in the left wall to a parallel, larger chamber~~

~~Actually, hang on, I've already written up that trip~~

29/7/09 204 - Pass in Bolts Kellryn and Emma

We thought we'd have a super-efficient trip, having packed all of our gear the previous evening. Unfortunately, I realised my bulley pack was almost completely discharged when I got to Wdperinger and so purchased back out to get another one... We eventually reached painted lady and our harness, our known as Pass in Bolts and continued to traverse around the side of a large chamber. We put in another 8 bolts and reached the possible

continuation on the South side - wasn't getting late by this point and it was clear that at least one the bolt was needed, so we surveyed what we had done and headed out. The traverse is ~30m long in total (although the second half is mainly walking on a sloping ledge and doesn't have many bolts). See later for rigging guide: we plan to leave at least the first part permanently rigged.

Time Underground: 13 1/2 hrs.

2009-08-30-2009-07-01 Work Paris to Expo Workday

Deconf 9 was immediately before expo so I got to travel all the way from Caracas in Extramadura to Expo. This would be a ~~long~~ 1.5 day train journey, except that only suitable train from Caracas leaves at dawn, so in fact it really is 2 work days. If it had gone to plan it would have been;

3009 Train Caracas	09:26
Madrid	19:00
Paris Austerlitz	08:26
1st Arr. Paris (L'Est)	09:09
Mannheim	12:14 12:31
Stuttgart	13:08 13:58
Steinach-Indling	20:21 20:50
Bad Aussee	21:25

but arriving at Paris A at 10:40 (15min later) bagged it all up. So spent all day picking random train in correct direction: 11:24 from Paris to Stuttgart, 15:12 (15min later) from Stuttgart to Mannheim, 18:47 Mannheim to Salzburg. At this point it became clear that getting to Bad Aussee that night was not possible by train, and advice to go to Schwarzach-Strubach as closest equivalent was bollocks. Fortunately

presence of mobile phones allowed me to discover that Attnang-Plattwang was closer place to expo on a main line, so I arrived there at 10:30, where Jens S + Martin J kindly picked me up (saving me from a very dull night lying on a platform). Unusually hot for Austria... but not for long... T/T: 37 hrs.

204 A, Snow leopard X pass on the prowl 31/7/09

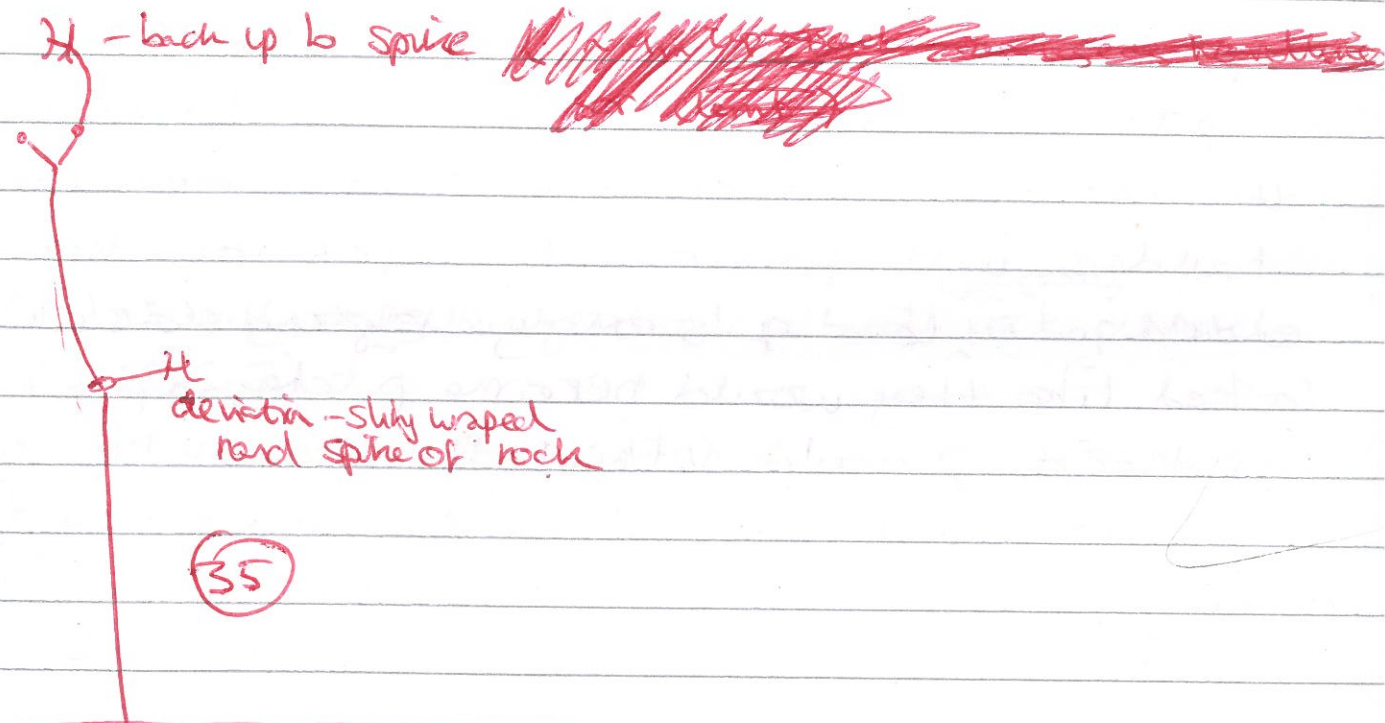
Emma, Kathryn, Jess S

Went to end of catwalk to pitch previously bolted by Tony & Jess but not dropped due to rope being too short. Jess rigged down pitch, now called Snow leopard. ^{QNB continuation of catwalk on opposite side of pitch} Jess had multiple signs of life at bottom of pitch, strange as pitch was blind. Signs of life included golden langes, pencil X footprints. Turned at where we had dropped into the bottom of Brian's Phot shaft. All descended pitch & a way up denigged pitch. Also denigged the bottom section of cat flap.

Took rope to on the prowl where ~~was~~ Kathryn put in extra Y long bolt & then descended to the ledge. I then put in rebelay bolt after ledge - rope (44m) didn't reach floor so X more rigging was going to be needed to get to the bottom without loss. We descended ~ 7m below ledge to get better look at what was happening. Pitch turned very very airy as looked like one was dropping into a giant chamber. 44m rope was only so short so when Tom fixed on end could reach floor. However, would need more rope for the extra rigging required so for plan to come back need time with more rope.

31/7/09

Snow leopard rigging diagram



204A Puss in Boltst on the prowl

30/7/09

Emma, Kathryn, JESS.

Finally got to see the traverse emma and Kathryn had bolted - they ought to be given medals - bolting over the top of a bottomless chasm with the floor sliding out from under their feet! got to the end of the traverse line to find that the possible continuation did go after all - wide passage to a large chamber on a traverse line all the time. Kathryn bolted the short, ~~8~~ 8m pitch to the chamber "gloor" (probably just a load of wedged boulders as there were holes in it all over the place all of

about the same depth). Scrambled up to the side of the chamber, where there were a relatively short pitches, then went along the continuation of the passage, which was mudboarded with rock pinnacles, got to another pitch, then noticed a squeeze through into a side passage, which looped back into the same pitch. While Kathryn put a bolt in the top of the pitch, me and Emma went back through the chamber and surveyed a passage under the boulders in the previous bit of passage - dead ended at a load of strongly dragging slots which looked like they would become pitches - a possible good lead if you're v. thin! By this time Kathryn had finished putting the bolt in, and we all went back out.

QMs found.

Passage between traverse and chamber.

- QMC - tight slot turning to pitches at end of passage in floor.
- QMC - possible steeply sloping small tube in R wall just before slope down to chamber.
- QMB - climb/steeply sloping narrow risty tube in left wall where traverse line goes over large boulder over part trench

chamber.

- QMB - hole in floor below rigged 8m pitch - ~ P10(?)
- QMA - large, wide risty pitch + possible horizontal continuation up boulder slope on opposite side of chamber to traverse line (Survey station 6), P10(?)

QMA - pitch in alcove in R wall of chamber further in from previous, floor trench leads into it. P10(?)

QMB - hole in floor between boulders at foot of R. side of rock pinnacle at end of bridge on which is S.S. 4. P10(?)

QMB - hole in floor between R. wall and S.S. 5 which is strongly dragging - just before stony floor turns to mud. P10(?)

Next bit of passage.

QMC - hole in floor by R. wall level with ^{last small} rock pinnacle (S.S. 7).

QMA - extensive (wide) pitch at end of passage, R hand passage loops back into it. Best descended from main passage, but down slot R of large pinnacle (S.S. 8)?

kicked
later
2008

2009-07-28 Tunnock's - Stone Monkey - Comedy of Errors & Sombr. Pass.
Becka, Gareth & Martin Jahnke (see also Becka's report previously)
TU & Sh

Back to Comedy of Errors, early in the morning after walking up to the Plateau, to find out more about the aens and pitches at it's end. Two passages, one crawl and a small phreatic tube (30x20cm), have are drafting in but are too small to enter. A small climb down on the left side appears to end blind but in fact, a short crawl would lead to a small chamber and a further crawl can be seen ahead - this chamber has not been entered yet (C-lead). Near the highest point of the passage, a small hole can be entered. I rigged the pitch head from a natural and descended through jammed boulders to the bottom of a roomy meander (P8). At the right hand end, a small meander was entered (climb down) which lead to a small tube in the floor with a stream in it. I took off my SRT kit and entered, to find a medium-sized pitch below, 1.5m of crawling away. The pitchhead was difficult to enter and to be bolted so it was deemed "too technical to rig." - We're coming back to this! (↑ 2009-07-28)

In the meantime, Gareth had rigged a large pitch behind a climb on the left hand side from naturals in the roof. He descended and found two leads at the bottom (↑ 2009-07-28). This pitch is called "Raccoon Festival".

We finally inspected the hole in the floor of Sombrero Passage that we normally traverse around (C3). Becka found a climb down and entered a chamber 5m below the passage which she surveyed with Gareth. The chamber has a drafting horizontal B lead in the far end. Not named yet.

TU: Sh

2009-07-29 Tunnock's Surface Features
" "
2009-07-29 Frank, Martin Jahnke
TU & Sh

Comedy of Errors appears to be above the level of the Tunnock's entrance shaft, giving continued rise to the hope that we will be able to find a new entrance to the cave. I got location data for the dissect aens in Stone Monkey ~~for~~ relative to the entrance from Surver and we tried to locate surface features with the help of GPS. It didn't work - very frustrating. Instead, we started to come across numerous untagged entrances northeast of Tunnocks and started cave hunting on a hot, sunny day. Frank entered a small passage at the side of the hill and climbed down 5m. After some digging he forced himself through mud and gravel into a small ^{new} drafting chamber - the ways on were crooked. Frank emerged covered in mud - but he wouldn't have fitted through with an overfruit.) The cave was surveyed and called Affenjagd-Höhle (# Hunting Monkeys Cave).

In a depression at the foldline northeast of Tunnocks, several snowfields can be found late in summer. In that area I spotted an entrance under between boulders that had just been freed by the thaw. We entered and found a pitchhead (covered in frost-shattered loose rock). Rigging from two ^{trusty} naturals (oh dear!) I could see a large chamber with ice plug below. This was called Schneehuhn-Höhle (Snow Partridge Cave) after a bird we saw nearby earlier that day, and as a reference to the snowfields. The cave was revisited later (↑ 2009-07-29).

We continued our investigations and came across a number of places that deserve further investigation. Finally, we entered a cave in the

slopes of the hill which was quite drafty and ended in a boulderslope. This cave might terminate somewhere close to Tunnock's but we will need a surface survey to determine its exact position. This cave has the skeleton of a medium-sized mammal in it but without its skull [evil laughter]... hence Kopflöse - Gemse - Höhle (Headless Gemse Cave). (↑ 2009-07-29)
 A very successful trip. Seeing Frank digging out caves made me think that some of the terminal chokes in Tunnock's might not be that terminal after all. Tu: 2h

2009-07-28/30 Tunnocks - Marconian Empire

Gareth, Frank, Noel, Martin Jahnke, TU 9 hrs

We've extended Tunnocks way off the current survey point - time for a new name ~~part~~ for the area past Sombrero Passage in Stone Monkey, the endpoint in 2008. It's Marconian Empire.

We returned to descend the pitches at the end of Comedy of Errors. Noel and I agreed that leaving a pitch undescended for technical reasons was against the ULSA spirit and were determined to bolt "Too Technical To Rig" pitch. Noel rigged and bolted the small pitch above (10m of rope just about do the job) and squeezed through to the pitch head when Gareth could see him from a side passage of Yorkshire Forward. So we went down that pitch instead. Gareth and Frank had started surveying Raccoon Festival and we bolted a continuation of the pitch down. At the bottom, a short horizontal passage lead to a pitch head that I started to bolt.

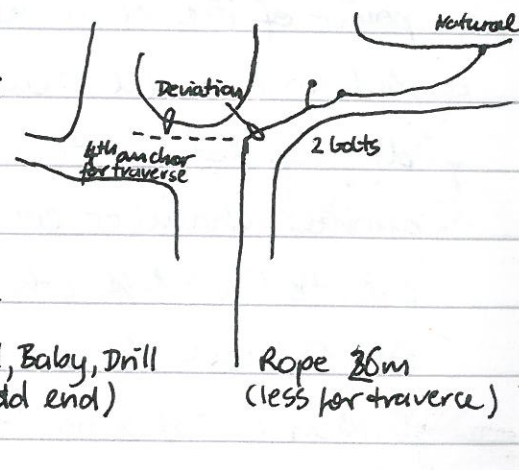
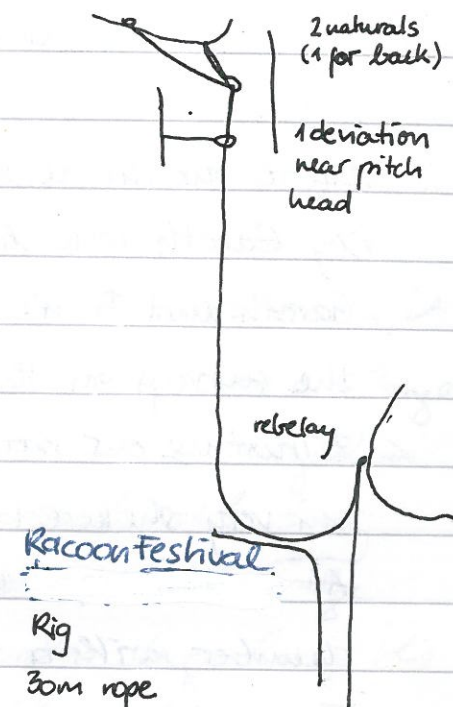
A large (not to say huge) boulder is hanging over the head of the pitch. During the bolting, I spotted a horizontal passage on the far side of the pitch and drilled a traverse as well.

We descended the pitch but the bottom is completely choked: "Drill, Baby, Drill (dead end)" is hopefully the last ^{time} thing we have to refer to Sarah Palin!

The horizontal passage yonder started as a mud-floored phreas that quickly deteriorated into a narrow crawl filled with shattered rock. I wedged myself without SRT lit

through a final squeeze and found the way on to be a choked rift on the righthand side; a small trickle also entered the passage from straight on but the way on is solidly blocked; this is called "Emperor Xenus" to continue the Marconian Empire - theme.

The start of that passage has calcite caulifloweres at very early stages of development (small crusts of yellow-brownish calcite on boulders and walls). Excellent trip! Too Technical To Rig was left undescended for a later trip.



2009-07-28 31 Schneehuhn-Höhle, Affenjagd-Höhle, Kopfloze-Gemse-Höhle
Gareth, Frank, Martin Jahnke Tu 3 hrs

Off to our usual early start (after fitting out the rain) we were joined by Gareth who had just returned from Kaninchenhöhle.

Gareth and Frank started to survey Kopfloze-Gemse and connect the surveys on the surface while I took Schneehuhnhöhle.

Trusting our natives, I set a deviation and a rebelay below in very sheltered rock, hoping that it lasts for our trip.

At the bottom, several small streams and trickles enter a very large chamber with a thin rock roof and an ice plug in the bottom.

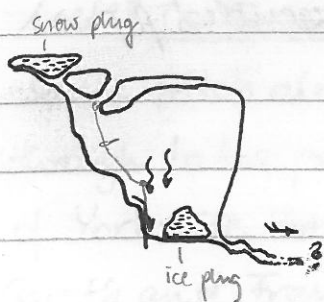
The only way on is at the end of a boulder slope at the lowest point of the chamber. A tiny 40x50 cm window down mud

led to a small chamber with no way on. My new enthusiasm for digging led me to excavate boulders at the far wall and quickly another chamber could be crawled into with two ways on:

one to the left which is a collapsed aren (dead end) and a what looks like a horizontal passage ahead (not entered).

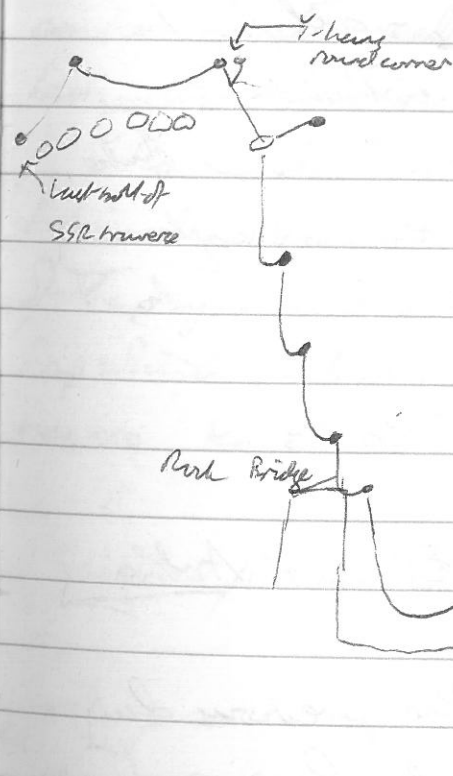
I then (5.30) remembered that we had a 6pm callout so Frank rushed off and cancelled just in time (5.57). Huh!

We'll be back to survey this. And the crawls below are drafting INWARDS! Maybe to Tennocks?



2009-07-29 Survey "Sabun's Sitter" (161) [Com 1992-161-12]
Edwin, Noel and Arthur

Since Edwin and I had built up a surveying bucklog after our previous trip to the pitch off Sabun's Sitting Room (2009-07-26), the plan was that we would survey the pitch which Noel bolted the day at the end. However, on arrival at Sabun's Sitting Room, it transpired that Noel had not hand bolted before, so there was a change of plan whereby Edwin went to bolt whilst Noel and I surveyed in. Surveying was slow and cold but otherwise not too bad with pony and disks. Meanwhile Edwin placed a bolt at the rock bridge



Pound last trip in order to go down the other side of it to the combination we had seen. Two bolts later Edwin was at the bottom of a further ~5m drop with an unimpaired right rift existing. Noel investigated and declared that it would be passable with a bit of hammering - one at best. Nobody panicked this, so we derged and left the rope at Sabun's Sitting Room before trundling out

Tu 8 hrs

2009-07-30 Push/survey pitch near Iceland chamber (161)
[Qm 1996-161-22] Mike + Antleum

In search of a slack trip, we went to look at the pitch near Iceland chamber (hit on a previous trip). This didn't look especially promising, but since we traverse over the top of it every time we go in 161g, it seemed sense not to take a look. Sure enough, the pitch leads into a rift which is impassable - so with the Qm duly ticked off we surveyed out.

Next stop was Frozen Turkey, a pitch that was partially descended in 1999. This was the scene of my first attempt at drill bolting, and all the anchors were atrocious - all far too deep (in my defense I believe I was using Hilti's without plunges to stop them going straight to the back of the hole, or so I would like to claim). When I got to the foot reeling bolt to find an exceptionally cored specimen that I had no chance of getting a hanger into, I decided I'd had enough and we pattered out.

Tu 3^{1/2} hrs.

2009-07-31 Push/survey "Dive Straits" (161) Edwin + Antleum

Went to the star lead left by Edwin and I on the previous day which was obviously going to carry on for miles down an endless pitch series. We were armed with a drill, two batteries, 100m of rope and plenty of anchors... at least we would have had if I had not left the pit of Hilti's in my rucksack on the surface. Hence we actually had only 5 Hilti anchors - but we had plenty of spits so we reasoned we should be able to make plenty of progress. Arrived at the front where two further drops were visible. I watched

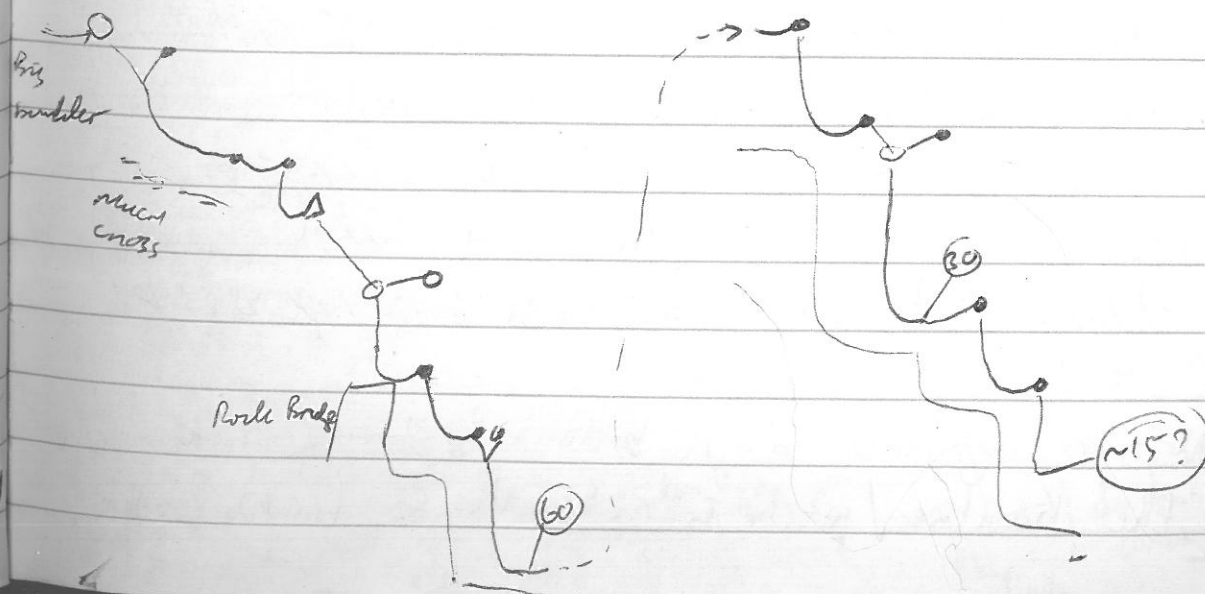
the drill to place a bolt for the next drop of ~5m. When I came to set it I discovered that the attachment point type on the hammer had snapped. Fortunately the hammer hadn't disengage down the pitch - it was sitting on the ledge next to me.

On arrival at the next drop, I ignored the lovely flat surfaces on either side of the rift at just the right height for a y-hang in favour of an ankle height reeling in rubber route, thus saving one Hilti for the continuing pitch series. Ultimately such Pragmatism proved unnecessary since at the bottom of the next 5m drop, a narrow rift was reached. We thumbed along for 20m to a small widening where the continuing rift needs hammering for further progress - Qm C at best, and there is no discernible draught.

Having ticked off our star lead, we surveyed out. Edwin heroically dragged up to Silent Fellow and we dumped most of the rope at Saban's Sitting Room. This was a moderately stiff trip which is obviously too much for my creaking back as my back has been knackered ever since.

Tu 10 hrs.

Schil Park/Private Investigations rigging



4/8/09

204A → Denigge entrance - Kathryn & Emma

Denigge entrance pitches, was reasonably wet.
Tu 1hr (if that)

204A → on the prowl & catwalk

3/8/09

Emma, Kathryn, Jess, Ian, Edin

Went back with another rope to attempt to get to the bottom of the pitch we had in. out of hope on the line, Kathryn & Jess went in ahead Jess added extra bolt on traverse while Kathryn finished rigging pitch. Edin, Ian and I followed down about an hr later, when we arrived most of the rigging was done which was good. Pitch called fat cat was narrow at top then opened at below first rebelay. Next rebelay was even more airy in, this dropped to one of the floors of a multi-level floored chamber. Across pitch looked like there was some horizontal belay going off but would probably need more rigging to be able to stick into this & otherwise failed us. Put in another rebelay from natural & walked down on rope to attic floor of chamber yet another rebelay led to final floor level with small slot down → B lead, would need more rope so not explored.

Headed at - on way at rigged bottom section of cat flap & the headline / pitch is catwalk so leads could

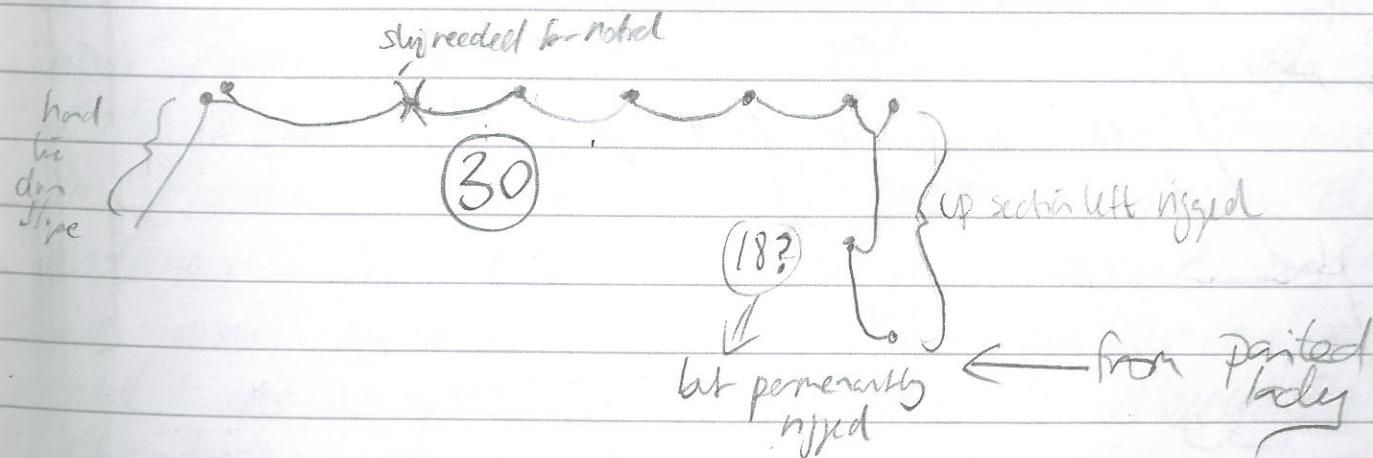
be explored if comb down Bias photo shaft. left up section of traverse rigged also. Denigge out to bottom of entrance series. Thankyou to non-zeroes Edin & Ian for coming out tackle socks.

QMs found:

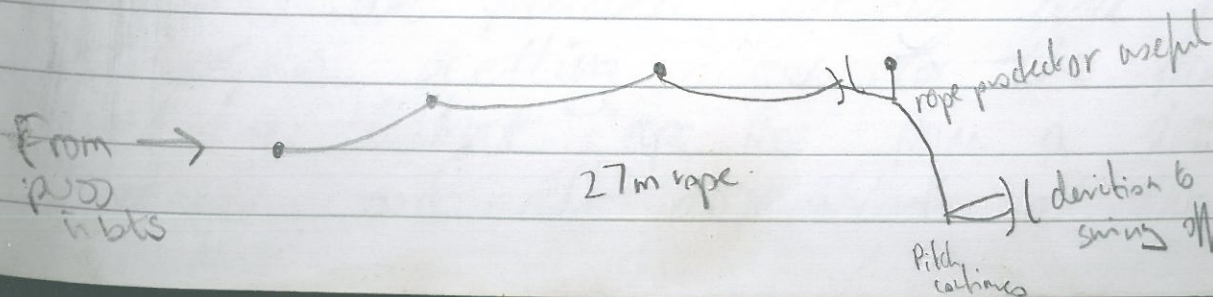
- QMC - window outg pitch level with top 1st wedged boulder above 1st rebelay.
- QMA - large pneumatic passage entering main pitch ~4m up from last rebelay.
- QMC - small passage off main pitch level with last rebelay, hole above it drops into it.
- QMX - large aken above lowest level of chamber.
- QMB - slot through floor in lowest level of chamber

Rigging diagrams

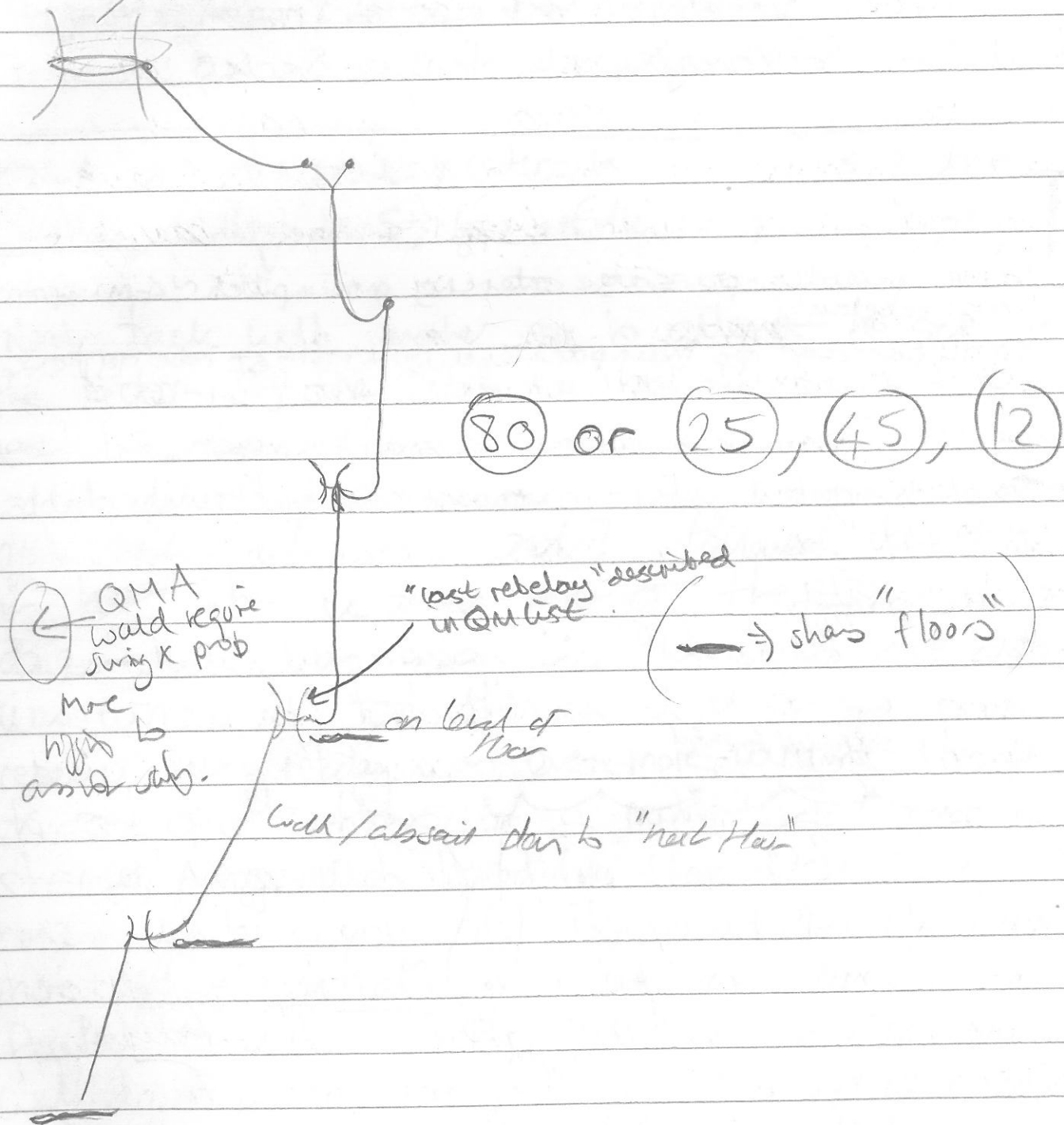
pass in bolts



On the prowl



fat cat
 base plan for retreat, needs 2.4m study



Ian writes:

Having reached the bivvy just after eleven on the morning of the rescue, I met a scene of immobility. Lots of sitting around drinking tea and porridge/noodles/potatoes et cetera. Only Edwin was willing to accompany me to KPA to retrieve gear - and that only because his caving kit was there too and he'd already committed to a 20A trip. My excuse was a handy three days off at base, and nine hours in bed (oblivious to any rescue dramas). Edwin had no such excuse, and our 17 minute trip to KPA (and 19 minutes return) was rather indecently speedy.

Back at the bivvy, the girls' zenses were still preparing to go underground and there was plenty time for noodles and tea et cetera. Kathryn and Jess having gone ahead, it was up to Emma to escort Edwin and I from the entrance. The trip was very pleasant, and we soon seemed to pass the entrance pitches and snow slopes and be through Merry Fucking Christmas crawl and the slot pitch. Things were going well. Catching up with Jess on the traverses, we paused briefly and took photographs. Getting closer to the front, we heard a distant "rope free" from a distant Kathryn, and all assembled at the head

of the new pitch (Fat Cat). Jess and Emma were to survey down, which would mean I and Edwin would descend first.

On a cursory - and alarming - inspection of the rigging, I opted to descend last, which placed me in the surveying pair.

A more shonky spit I have never seen. * Still, the descent went smoothly, if slowly, and soon we were all assembled at the bottom. Finally - chance to have a wee!

A plan was hatched whereby Jess and I would descend back to pussy prance, a task which I willingly undertook. Jess went ahead once a sack was filled, and I continued to steadily (read "safely") along across the traverse and up Painted Lady pitch. Interesting games were played involving big fist knots and pitch ropes piled out of reach on ledges...

From there on, things moved quickly. ** Edwin, Jess and I set off out, leaving Kathryn and Emma to descend. Progress through MFC crawl was rather efficient, with Jess and I meeting Edwin on the far side. I waited for the descenders whilst the other two continued out. A third passage through MFC, and the

girls zenses were met on the far side. Another (very) efficient passage through MFC was completed with minimal fuss (perhaps excepting Emma's "I don't care, I just want it finished! I don't care, I don't care!" et cetera). More pleasant passage lead to the bottom of the entrance pitches, and a short prussik out lead to the bivvy: no walk required. ☺

So that's it:- two men on a zens caving trip; new cave explored and surveyed; no big dramas; and an efficient and satisfying derg back to the entrance pitches. All in all: a fine trip in a fine cave. Well done the zenses!

=== 2 August 2009 | Going Now^{where} fast - Tunnocks | Becka, Steve, <u>Julian</u> ===

After many days of fruitless hacking on troggle, then losing my mp3 player sometime in the process of canoeing across Toplitzsee, and returning to hoards of very beery Austrians moving in on Base Camp like leiterhausen-clad apes with camper vans, I was seriously pissed off enough to go caving.

Team Tunnocks-string (Steve+Becka) had reportedly found some new horizontal levels at the depth of the 'Wheres in 204, causing Becka to bounce down to Base Camp in order to type in her notes, only to find that she had forgotten to pack them in her bag. She had returned to Top Camp and tried phoning them down to me so I could type them into the computer, run the calculations, and find out where they were going in relation to the rest of the cave.

All I could see on the screen was a little knot of loops at the bottom of a 100m pitch, because that's all she had surveyed. Steve complained later about how all they did was survey short loops around phreatic pillars and not actually go anywhere. The wide open leads that were left undone were not part of the numerical data.

Lacking sufficient toll road passes to justify driving up on my own, I was pissed off enough to cycle up the hill

** Due to stench of zens wee.
* Emma's rebelay bolt was fine.

(easy after a mental two week Alpine cycling holiday) and walk in to Top Camp without any mp3 audio entertainment to keep my mind from stewing in its own thoughts, just in time to cook for all the returning cavers.

In the morning, Mike TA also showed interest in team string's discoveries, so we were four.

"It's only a hundred metre pitch, same length as the entrance pitch, which you know you can do, and the knot pass is just like a rebelay," said Becka.

Accounting for Becka's legendary reverse bullshit about things she is keen on getting people into, it sounded absolutely horrendous, but as I was still so pissed off with the world in general that this was a moment to do something very scary owing to the terror of falling to one's death not being at the intensity what it normally should be.

At the entrance, Mike and I enjoyed the perfect weather and sunshine while Becka bashed around the bunda looking for the 30m rope that MartinH had secreted under a rock like someone hiding the nice cheese in an unexpected part of the fridge.

There were two knot passes in the entrance pitch, but they were on the snow slope, so were trivial. Steve left his bothy (a silly rolled-up orange plastic sheet that cost him all of five quid) at the bottom of the entrance for people to keep warm under while waiting for others to get out.

Becka launched herself down the 100m Usual Suspects pitch without any issues. Then Mike headed down and hit the knot linking the two bits of rope 25m down, 75m above the floor, and found he couldn't down-prussic with his new product-designed-to-look-more-attractive-in-the-shop-window-though-not-function-as-well-as-the-old-version Petzl chest jammer, freaked out, and came back up. He went off to join the Holly and Noel trip in the next door passage, until his lights failed, and then exited the cave on his own before anything else went wrong, thus breaking any naive design in troggle for relating caving trips to logbook entries with T/Us to what people actually did.

Meanwhile, down at the knot, I was having a hard time due to a total lack of experience with knot passes, my fear of heights inducing hyperventilation and tunnel vision, and Becka shouting up from a great distance below that she was getting mightily bored.

I miraculously reached the ledge 70m down, stepped across it, and descended down the last 30m into the main chamber. Then I had to find a secluded spot under a boulder to deal with the consequences of scaring the crap out of myself for the last 45 minutes.

And so we went forth into the new discoveries.

Becka and I left Steve to rig his traverse with the 30m rope along a wide and drafty passage where the floor was missing and surveyed some mud and bat bone encrusted phreas while squabbling the whole time about whether we should explore the straightest, largest, ongoing passages first, as opposed to painstakingly measuring around every single trivial visible loop to produce numerical data that, if phoned down excitedly to someone at Base Camp, merely renders a little knot of loops at the bottom of a big pitch that don't go anywhere.

Meanwhile, Steve at the traverse changed his direction of attack from the right hand wall to the left hand wall to get to a '4m diameter phreatic passage."

My arse.

He'd actually found one of those Kaninchenhohle-style quiet rifts where all the rock has rotted into rounded boulders coated with black skinned cheesecake slime. A narrow squeeze and climb down under a tall thin col reached a wide slippery pitch edge over a two second drop and ten second rumble. And that was that.

We returned. Becka derigged the traverse rope, and we all went back to our nice proper phreas to survey a couple more legs. I headed off for a slash, and, while I was waiting for the others to arrive, the sound of hidden waterfalls appeared like a radio turned on to loud static. It was exactly 6:30pm.

Uh oh.

I manifested another dump. These states of scaring the crap out of myself are inconvenient.

The pitch now had a foaming river running down it. Becka tried to prussick up it, changed over after about 15m of becoming clean washed, and came down.

Change of plan. We were not going to get out any time soon.

We didn't return to the nice sandy passages we had been exploring because they were too windy. We tried making a place to sit it out at the far end of the pitch chamber in a deep open pit of clean razor sharp rocks. Becka and Steve unwrapped their emergency bivvi bags (body-sized clear plastic bags) and pulled them over their heads cutting a hole in the top. I had nothing, of course. It was rubbish. After half an hour it was clear we had to do something else.

Opposite the waterfall there was a small patch of dirt under a perched rock with about 0.5m of clearance where it was not windy. We spread the rope out to sit on and cut apart the two plastic bags to form some kind of an outer wall to drape and hold over ourselves. Boy was it uncomfortable. Our backs were freezing from the gap under the boulder, our knees and feet were cold where they were poking out at the front, and our legs folded at funny angles were constantly getting pins and needles.

We stayed pretty silent the whole time and didn't waste energy with idle chit-chat. Time passed quickly. I wasn't bored at all. Although I hadn't brought useful stuff like my own emergency plastic bag or whistle, I did have a small thermometer which showed that the outside was at 2degC, while our improvised bivvi scored an amazing 10degC even in the most miserable spots such as in front of my knees.

It was very difficult to gauge whether the water flow was going up or down. We should have made a better effort to remember exactly what it looked like when Becka first attempted it. It never looked great. Our concerns were whether the water flow was due to a sudden thunderstorm and flood pulse (good), or one of those long Austrian drizzles that can go on for days (very bad). It turned out to be the former. The hailstones at Base Camp were impressive enough for someone to save in the freezer.

We also didn't know the state of the top half of pitch. A 30m prussick up through absolute misery followed by 70m of reasonably dry technical rope-work would be okay, while 100m of nearly freezing waterfall would ~~not~~ mean we weren't going to do it.

We missed our 11pm call-out.

The well-oiled CUCC rescue machine at Top Camp swung into action, supercharged by newly arrived old-lags, and at 2:30am a shout accompanied by a swinging beam of light (Noel's) appeared above ceiling level in line with the waterfall. This showed the top part of the pitch to be in a side-pocket in the chamber so you couldn't see all the way to the floor from the top. We yelled back.

Having verified that we were okay, and confirmed the reason why we had not come out on time, the rescue was called off, and everyone went home. We decided that the top half of the pitch was probably okay enough to send Becka up to check it out. Wookey, at the top, noticed her light and stayed behind with all the now abandoned rescue equipment to make us hot drinks and cheer us up. "Looks like you've lived through this one, Julian" he said to me as I got up, having fluffed up the knot-pass on the way up and became incoherent with rage at the psychopath who put it there.

Steve passed us, having tested out his plastic orange bothy thing with me and confirmed that it would have been bloody nice to have had it downstairs where we had been waiting. I was pretty slow getting out. Far behind me, Wookey heroically dragged almost everything out of the cave including the rescue stretcher and still caught me up at the surface. I walked back to Top Camp in daylight. Almost everyone was asleep. I did nothing the following day, while Becka went caving. The day after it rained continually. Becka went caving again. I cycled down the hill and achieved nothing.

I would like to put on record that I would like a proper canyoning holiday next year before doing any expos to put me in a good enough mood cope with this and keep on caving.

T/U 18 hrs, (Mike TA 3hrs)

01/08/09

Beckatlas BECKA, OLLIE, STEVE

TVNNOCK'S - USUAL SUSPECTS

S+B headed straight down. Surveyed several loops in complex phreas between chamber + main big passage; meanwhile Ollie "tame dangle-fairs" gave the pitch a few shiny re-kelays + new bolts.

O joined us; B the found much safer route to main drag (up climb as per 28/7 trip, though flat-out section the up rift to R)

Surveyed passage heading S/E from where large phreas is steep.

Traverse over 1 pitch ^{QMA} and across another ^{QMA} to 2 junctions on R. 2nd R leads to side black space, long fall (2s+) ^{QMA} - no draught - so carries on in main passage. Leads to pitch - could be traverse + has strong draught; ^{QMA}

* 1st R ~ 1m wide walkin passage, no draught. QMA

02/08/09

~~Beckatlas~~ BECKA, STEVE, JULIAN, MIKER T/W 17-18 hrs (Mike 3 hrs)

TVNNOCK'S - USUAL SUSPECTS - See also Julian's writing

After much fuff, got to top of VS to find Mike heading out owing to knee-pass not-in times. Julian proceeded to smoothly + cheerfully descend + we all met at the bottom. We headed to the S/E ^{QMA}; S stoner rigging traverse while J+B stoner up N/W phreas.

Traverse leads out into complex chamber area. Several possible lead of floor level need a proper proddle. Walkin passage on R at lower level also left as QMA

Draught comes from passage on L at lower level so headed out to this; stoner as large tunnel when climb down into rift; thence down at end passage by J+B leads to big pitch ^{QMA} + no flat continuation - brooo. Alternative thence is 8m climb to col - needs rope for return - QMA

MY FRIENDS

Traverse rigging goes away from V.S. : Thread on approach

High flake above ston

Spit halfway to 1st ridge

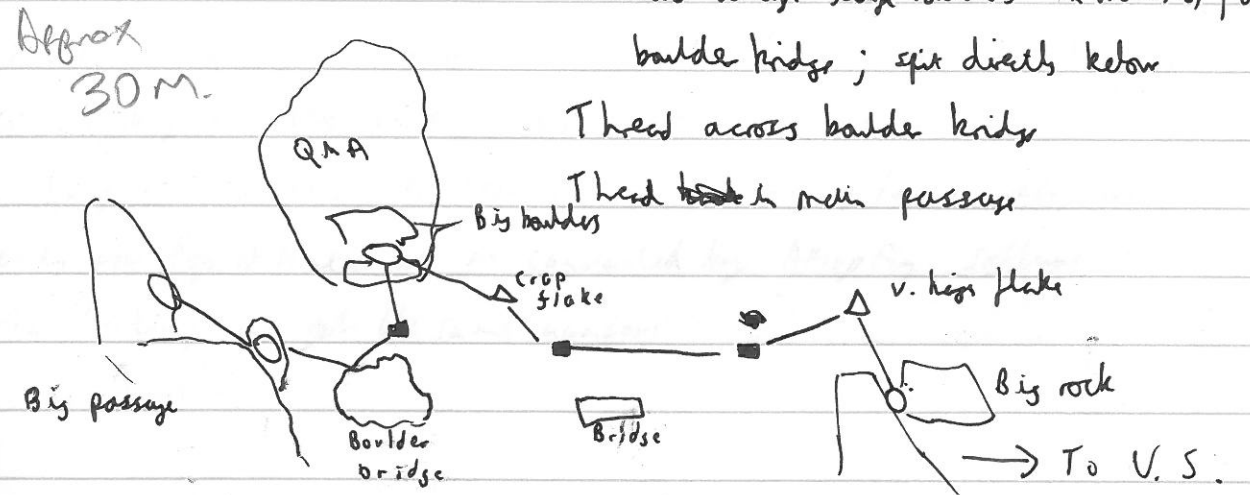
Spit just L of 1st ridge

Flake high + L of spit

Thread above large boulders in mouth of passage above boulder ridge; spit directly below

Thread across boulder ridge

Thread ~~to~~ in main passage



On way back to pitch, 'big sister' QMA noted on 30/07/09 was 'non' rather 'noisy'. Bummer. Remember that V.S. is nice, clean-washed, and drippy. Big hum.

B was for a look. Looked soggy so we hoped it was a chandlery, surveyed a few more legs up N/W passages. Nice, 3m diameter phreas.

Came back to pitch ~ 8 pm. Still soggy. Wait ~ 30 min in kin bag (S+B) or in col (J). B attempted pitch. Too soggy. Poo. So - make a tex/kin/hovel somewhat in center of pitch. Huddle. Periodically check sog factor. Repeat.

Miss call-out. Repeat more. Get knees. Repeat. Hear noise at top - voice? Loud yelling. Lights + voice disappear. Huddle more. Conclude that if someone has got away down, we can get up - so send B up to test ston. Pitch appears free of mist.

Meets Wook at pitchhead. With my booby which I had left at ston. Grr. Pliers with hot drink. Head to ston, when Andy A, Kath + E come ply mental more tes. Back to kin. Jesu S pliers mental tea on cam. Must get rescued more often...

2/8/9 - Main G, 5 km.
Tunnocks - 5 use for a Laugh

03/08/09 Noel, Mike & A
Tunnocks → Stomach Ulcer

Down Tunnocks to continue Holly & Noels push down the Stomach.
Took down 60m of rope plus drill, arrived at final bolt from previous trip, added a Y hang (1 bolt each) and dropped the pitch - some toying and fro-ing to get the wider parts of the rift. At the bottom of pitch used natural to descend three c2's (or thereabouts - bottom 2 are free climbable) Ript continues for a few metres until floor drops away again and will need rigging to carry on. Grade A lead.

TU 6 hours??

Happy ltr from Robert -

Google: GIS STAK (Steiermark) } MAPS
DORIS MAP (OO) (Ober-Ostereich)

Software: Amap Edge

Original BMN+M61 486655, 283309.
Next. GRT (Österreich) (offsets from BMN) 31 36655, 5283309
Now using UTM/WGS84. 33N E 411520, N 5282240

Top of Hinter.

Above all co-ord systems in use. Kataster is still done in BMN+M61.
People tend to find UTM/WGS84 easier with GPS. (Choppers use Lat/Long.
Main thing is to always be clear which co-ord system is being used.
Co-ords for top of Hinter are as converted by Amap Edge software.
Worth checking we get the same numbers.

03/08/09 Andrew, Wooker, Becha TUE 6 hrs.
Tunnocks → Alphabet Soap area

Surprising degree of enthusiasm for coming today given that almost everybody had stayed up until dawn on the rescue (heavily guys...). I focused something mellow so we headed off to cross off easy QMs in Tunnocks + improved the survey (took the full part out with us + scanned on it).
Started out a mess in Gernlmodel and surveyed 25m each in QM 30C and in QM 37B (QM 34B is a pitch).
Ran to Uval Suspects to remove the Rival bats from the rescue and I dragged the Strobler out as my penance.
Saw Andrew's disto-x / PDA combination in action underground for the first time - impressive though probably no faster than trad surveying.

04/08/09 Andrew, Holly, Becha Thu 9hs.
Tunnels - Goody Goody.

Dragged in a drill + rope to check out more QMs. Checked on the usual Suspects water level - similarly damp. (Still raining). Started with a QMB nearly opposite Naughty Naughty in Pulous Pleasure and hit the jackpot - it started as a crawly/stoopy passage and gradually got bigger + even had crusty tal formations. Traversed over a blind pit and then a larger, drier pitch on the right. At the next pitch the ledge looked too treacherous so Andrew put in a traverse line as naturals (needs ~20-25m). Then hit an even bigger pitch which Holly and I excitedly lobbed a couple of big rocks down before Andrew screamed stop at us. Sporty sport. "There's a rope". Oops. We'd managed to come in to the eyeholes inside level with the main hang ledge in Usual Suspects. Got around to the second eyehole and then hit a short but monster section of phreas - maybe 15m wide with a howling gale coming out. We buckered up a vast pile of rocks semi-stuck together to end up overlooking a great pitch. Unfortunately in the wet conditions we couldn't see down as it was filled with a fine mist and the disbo-x struggled too. Surveyped ~ 350m - a fine trip. The end section seemed to have way too much cave and too little rock holding it all up.

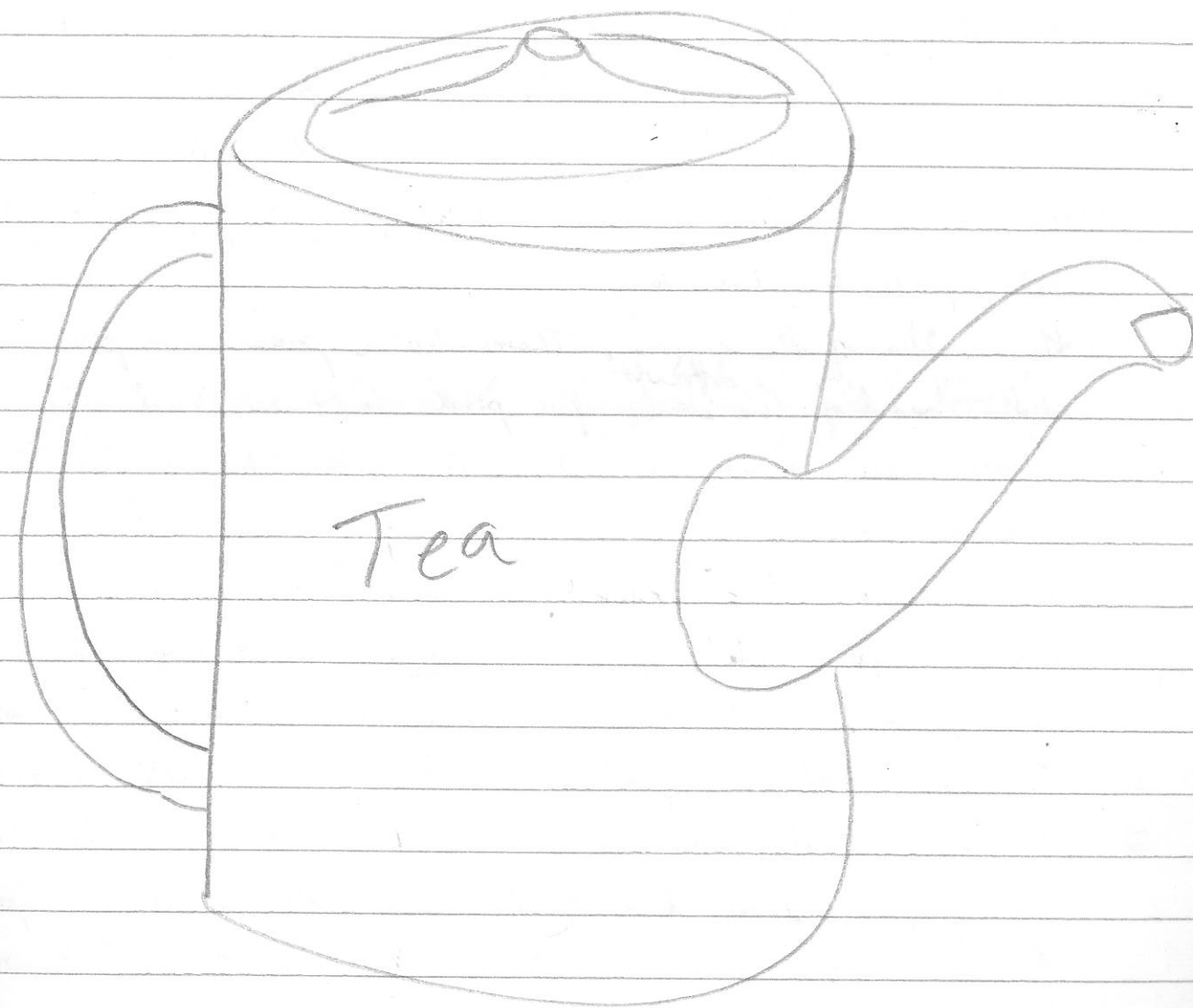
05/08/09 Andrew, Becha Thu 5hs
Tunnels - Frankly Freezing

(though we got an 8.30 underground start)
^{6x10} Dinner day so it had to be a Sherby. After hinking, heavily all morning I managed to persuade Andrew to deny Usual Suspects since we'd had ~ 4 hours of dry for the first time in ~~the~~ forever. He got wet but the rocks we'd lobbed down yesterday ~~did~~ had missed the rope. Then did a short survey in Frankly Freezing before it all got a bit chilly. I logged out with 150m in Big Bertha whilst Andrew skipped along with a more rope + the metalware.

5/8/09 Expo Dinner



6/8/09 After Expo Dinner



6/ Aug 2009 Noel, Steve, John

"Disaster boys in the canyon of doom"

Noel most keen on canyoning, Steve came too and got the best wetsuit leaving me ~~on~~ with the 7 piece homemade.

Gave lifts to Martin + Holly + 2 bikes to return via Esche - Bla Alm canyon (Holly went up Loser too).

Changed at midday. Martin walked to top with us and was able to translate the memorial to young digger driver on side of track. We found his wrecked digger far below in the middle of the canyon. There's also a prominent plaque at the head of the ^{difficult} double pot pitch to two dead canyoneers in 2004. The water was not high, but it was fast flowing. Nearly drowned trying to get off inappropriate rock while Noel improvised a constraint from a pull down cord and let the open tacklebag containing my SRT kit float over the waterfall and float round on the snowpool until the 2 plastic bottles slipped out and it sank without trace. We chanced the rope (Noel didn't know how) to help with carrying, and tossed it to the person ahead at groups until Steve missed his catch, and that too sank without trace. Fortunately we didn't ~~the~~ need it for rest of trip and got out after 3 1/2 hrs without our dignity. It was lucky Becca wasn't there.

3 1/2 hrs to lose a new tacklebag, 2 ropes and a set of prussicking gear!? good going! tas.

07/08/09 KH - Solid Rock

Ian & Becca (Team Vertical) [plus Wook & Andrew] see separate write-up

Lugged all my kit over to 161g for a fresh assault on KH. Enthusiasm was noticeably lacking this morning from just about everyone, but somehow no-one found an excuse big enough to jack. Hmm.

So anyway, after two-and-a-half hours of caving in which only I knew the way...

"there's a distinct change in colour here"

"the popcorn bit is handy on the way out"

"I went wrong twice here, where the dead bat is"

... we got to the traverse in Satan's Sitting Room. The old lags seemed to swallow all my youthful bullshit without complaint! From here, Becca and I descended to Silent Fellow with a 60m rope to see where the continuation of Solid Rock goes. Andrew & Wook began to re-rig SSR/BWM traverse.

Satan's Sitting Room / Three Wise Men

Having rigged Solid Rock, I realised we had only a few metres spare length on the 60m rope, so left Becca putting in a hand-bolt whilst I went back up to try persuade the others to let us have some rope. This was ^{an} embarrassing and energy-wasting mistake on my part. Team Traverse was most accommodating and allowed me to take the 100m rope, leaving

them with a 30m & 10m (not enough for the 30m traverse!). Having paid the rope tax, they decided they wouldn't have much use for the drill, so I descended Solid Rock for a second time a considerably heavier cave.

Having gone to all this effort, it turned out that: (a) the continuation of Solid Rock requires only a single bolt to descend (good sneaky thread for a sling back-up), and;

(b) this continuation closes down to impenetrable rift after 10 or 15 metres. Hmm!

We worked out that Becka wouldn't have to come down if we put a temporary station on my knee :- that way we could do one leg down the pitch and have a two-legged survey. Hurrah! So I duly shouted up some LRUD measurements and began to "memorise" the plan and elevation. On the prussic up, I was foolish enough to look closely into a cleft in one wall, and discovered that if I took all my extraneous drill, bags, dangles and shit off I could fit through. [This is Sorry Andrew rift]

I went a few metres and realised that we ought to survey it so I called Becka down. It continued on and separated at a small inlet

a few metres in. The continuation (right) quickly fell away into a deep hole, and a short, bold step would reach a window looking into a fine, clean streamway chamber. A chamber which looked familiar, as belonging to Private Investigations. Hmm.

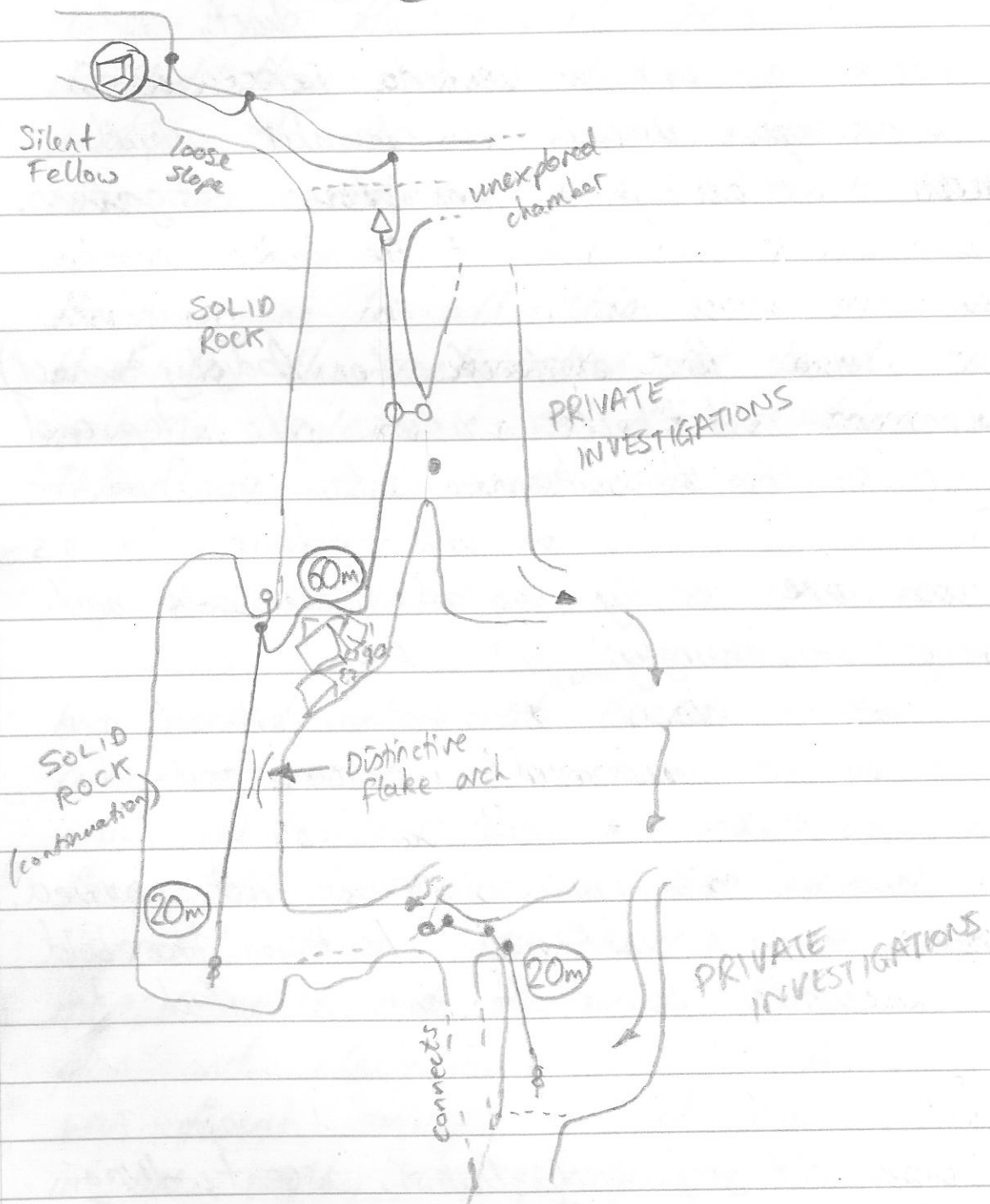
We decided to make the most of the (barely used) drill & 100m rope. I bolted across the step and rigged a descent into the chamber to confirm it as that reached on 30/7/09 with Edwin. Edwin's big, fat, red blob was easily located [station 1] and all was going swimmingly.

Becka then let out a yelp and a curse, and I looked up to see Andrew's borrowed DistoX come flying down the hole over which I had just traversed. A DistoX connection was confirmed between the bold step and the chamber below the one in which I stood. Hmm!

A quick rig, descent, pick-up DistoX, ascent, derig ensued. We then bugged off out, vowing that Solid Rock is shit and horrible and that we shouldn't have gone there in the first place.

TU 10hrs.

Solid Rock rigging guide



08/08/09 KH: Far Too Far

see separate write-up

Ian & Becca (Team Vertical - again) [again plus Wokey & Andrew]

Clearly not having been put off yesterday, Becca again joined me in a shaft-dropping trip in KH. That this trip happened at all is a conundrum, as we hadn't a plan until we all got to SSR! Wokey and Andrew were dead-set on going to the bitter end of East Anglia, and suggested that Becca and I drop the great black hole at the end of Far Too Far (a big, wet-sounding undescended pitch [C1992-151-19]).

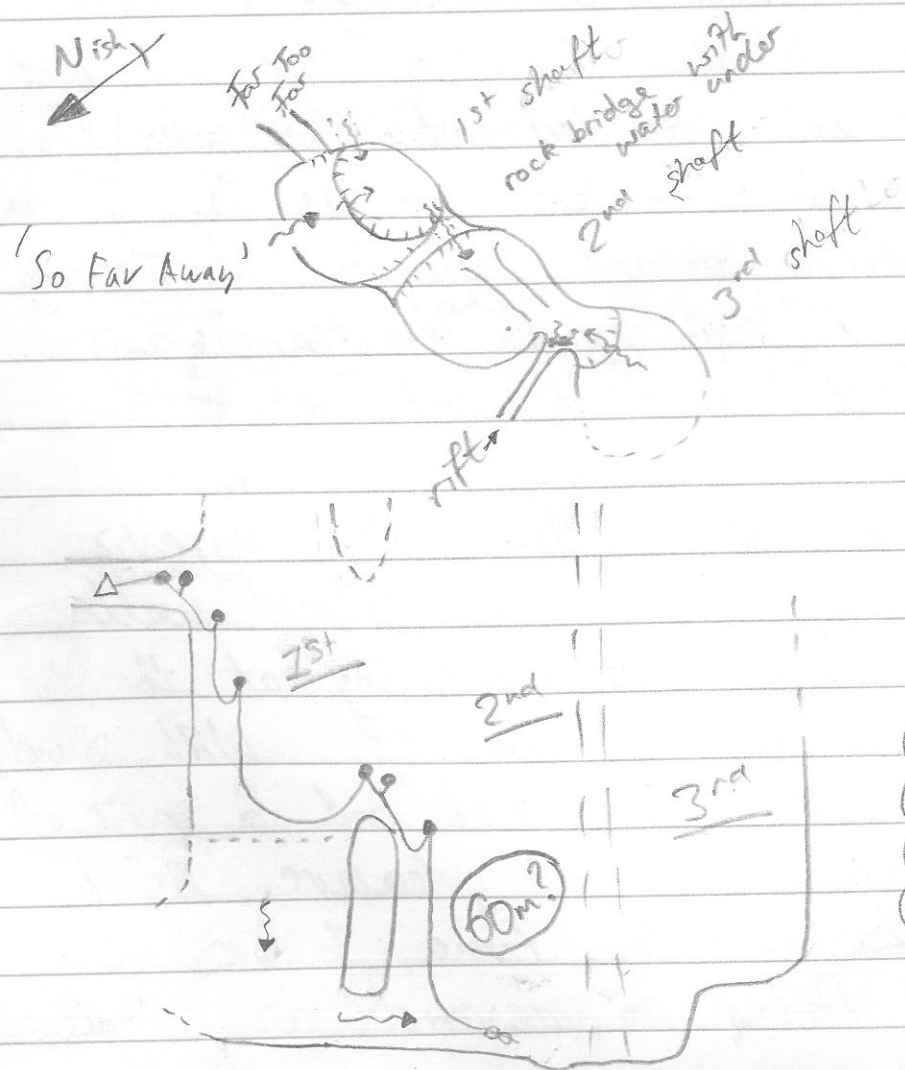
predrilled mite 90's

Several Hiltis were put in on the way, and it probably took us a hour to get through 3 wise men & tinkle rift! Wokey & Andrew pointed out our hole and we all marvelled at the echo before they buggered off and left us to it. By "us" I mean "me" as Becca doesn't seem to like dropping great big shafts. So I "took one for the team" and went about bolting the first descent.

What a dream it was too: a large, airy, majestic shaft; clean washed and with fine, sculpted walls. My lamp could just make out something at the bottom; a floor, a puddle, who knows? With sound, clean rock, a 100m rope in the sack and a pair of drill batteries, this was a real pleasure. As I pointed out to Becca at the time, I would happily drive to the Dales to descend a pothole

like this on a sport trip. Poor, tireless Becka. I got all enthused again and began ranting about the finery of it all.

Suffice to say, the pitch meets a bridge into a parallel shaft. Descending this, the water is met again. At the floor, a gully takes the water round a sharp (90°?) bend to the right and into a tall, tight rift. A third shaft drops in on the far side, the water of which also flows into the rift. The rift could be pushed but must be QMC at best. Hmm!



TU 10hrs

Note to Becka (or whoever types in the survey data):

The tie-in station we used is "anglia.4"

We weren't sure if the CM was in fact a true station. SVX notes are sparse but plan and especially the cross-sections in the '93 logbook confirm it is. [Red]

09/08/09 Tunnocks - Derig
Ian & Frank

A trip into Stone Monkey to recover the 30m rope at the far end, and to derig out from there. My first visit:- a very interesting place, glad I took the chance to see it! Packed all the derigged gear into tacklebags, except the entrance pitch (92m) which we "Paellared" out in one go.

- Impressed with: Caramel Cathartus traverse (textbook). 😊
- Not impressed with: entrance pitch knots (triple fisherman on pitches are a bad way to join ropes, and poorly dressed knots are difficult to untie). 😞

Carried all the shit back to the bivvy in one go, and derigged half the raim reflectors on the way.

A very enjoyable trip, TU 5hrs.

Meeting with ARGE - 12/08/09

THOMAS@THOMAS-HOLDER.DE - Chief ARGE Gock.

09/08/09 KH - East Anglia
Wookey, Andrew, Martin, Becka

The three of us were still keen for our third KH assault in three days then Martin piped up that he wanted to come along too since Jan had bailed out to help on the Turnmotes design. Under Ian's expert tuition we'd pretty much sussed the route finding by now (the walk to the entrance is at least as tricky). Martin mused his fingers struggling with the 2m pitch just before the bridge - I know it's all of 2 procs but, pretty please, can it get a proper rig if/when people return here? Martin wavered about heading straight back but there was a definite lack of enthusiastic volunteers to shepherd him out so he was coaxed onwards. "Are we nearly there yet?" And onwards. We finally got to the down pitch ^{EC1993-161-031} then up pitch that Wookey + Andrew had dropped then climbed yesterday. Wookey set off to descend the pitch beyond + dangled on rope for several hours, squealing excitedly that drills were excellent gear. He ran out of rope ~ 50m down then he + Martin derigged + surveyed out. Meanwhile Andrew + I started our survey from yesterday's down pitch + up to the head of Wookey's pitch + down a small horizontal passage which eventually mud-filled. The place is stuffed with pitches - the initial down pitch at EC1993-161-031

continues large + deep below the huge wedged boulder where we got off to climb up. There's also a pitch to the right of Wookey's, over a rock spur, though this might connect to Wookey's. However, spurning these obvious downs, Andrew spied a traverse/climb up the rock spur, ^{"The Natural Way"} made significantly trickier because he could only use the right side of the arête as the dries were directly below him. After quite some time he slouched he'd got to the top + then I was left babysitting the rope whilst he had a swift stoop to check it was worth me coming up: it was. The traverse tops out at a bridge with a pitch beyond that, again, likely connects to Wookey's pitch. However, far more interesting, a final step led into wide, walloping ^{stooping} passage. We whizzed a survey up until it was 7pm + time to go home. Back to driving Wookey + Martin out and to pack up the mounds of gear + doing what we could. Hard work until Repton where we dumped much of the gear ready for the 11/08/09 trip then poor Martin was flagging so a slow exit in the early hours and finally back to camp at 3am. Fortunately we'd already planned on taking the next day off.

TU 15 hours

Wookey Pitch Notes. '6 Mile Bottom'. Initial down pitch of 11m to (windy) shelf. Window into big rift ~ 10x5m. ^(Bolt in centre of rift) Above 12m down shelf on West wall has a couple of passages. Can be swung onto before lower shelves hit in. (Needs bolt to retain rope!). Reclimb 10m off the floor. Continues in fine form at the bottom - next bit is 14m, then more. Very reminiscent of Gifford series. ?A.

11/08/09 KH - East Anglia & Derig
Ian & Becka (Team Horizontal) [again plus Andrew & Wokey] ^{see separate write-up}

We had previously decided that our final pushing trip would occur on the Tuesday, and that we would attempt a full KH derig to leave Wednesday free for binny fettling and gear carrying.

Well today was the day.

After a relatively relaxed start (somehow fate seems to have a lot of inertia), we got underground at the KH standard time of 10:30.

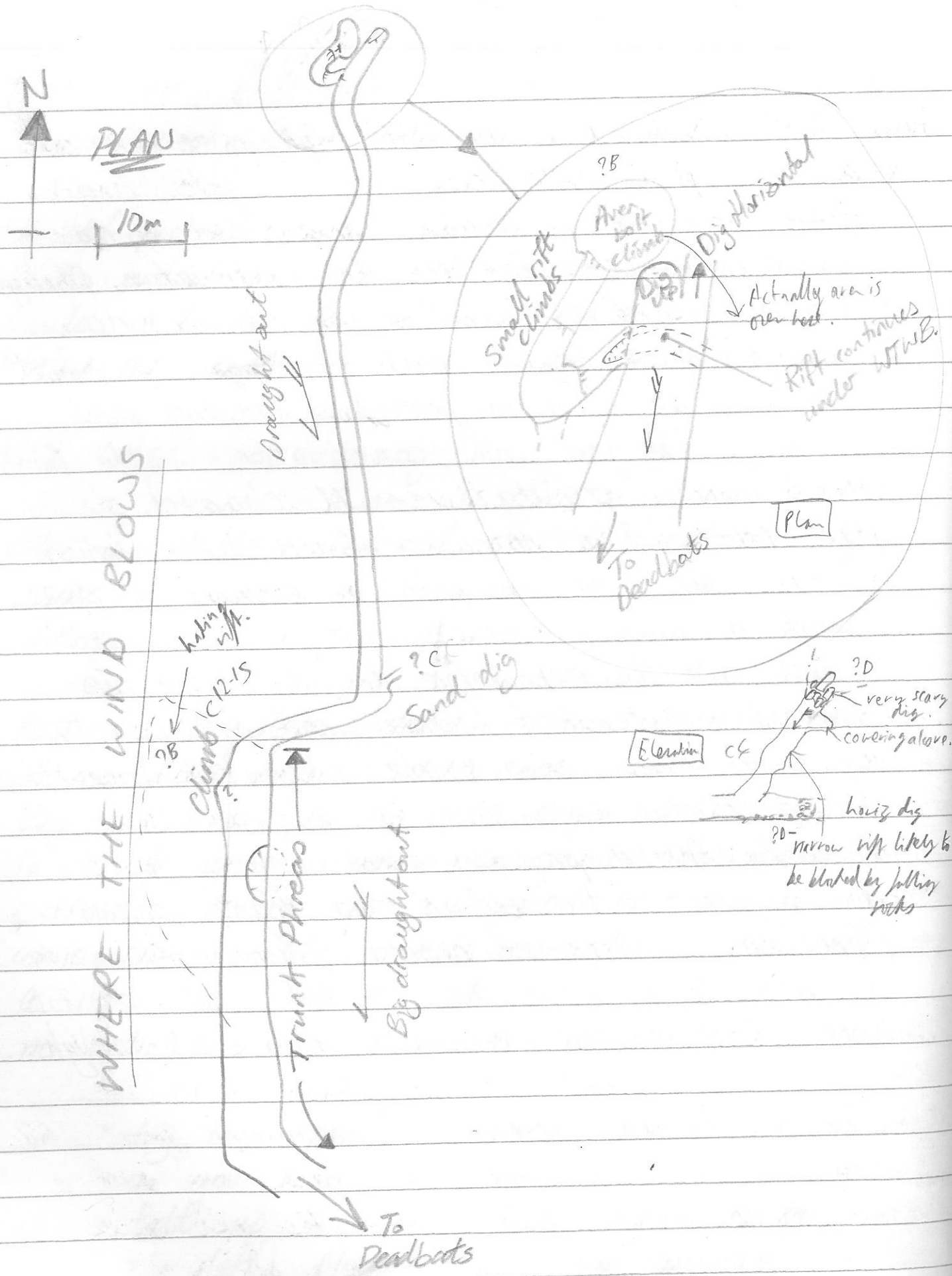
First on the agenda was a trip into 'where the Wind Blows' for a furtle about. This is a 300m long phreatic passage trending northish, terminating in a draughting boulder choke not far from the current pushing limit in East Anglia. A connection would make exploration of the Far North a much easier task, but alas we could see no obvious way through. Possible leads include:

- Dig the uphill terminal choke (and get a boulder on your head like Andrew). Scary.
- Bolt up the aren next door (10m back, on the left). Needs a couple of upward wriggles to get there (easy unless you're Andrew) and a 10-15m bolt climb. Vocal connection

to the choke. No way of identifying size of passage at the top though.

- Dig the horizontal boulder choke (next to the uphill choke) for a horizontal continuation. Draughts.
- Dig a sand (mud crumb?) bank in a side passage much further back. Passage is near the dog leg in main passage. Crawling sized, 4 inches air gap with continuation visible for 4-5 metres, possibly a small chamber. Dig length 1.5 metres. No discernible draught. Not heading in a helpful direction (NE) but worth a look?
- Climb into the roof before the dog leg. This area is quite large (Wokey did a 12m climb up to the roof, on the left). Reported back that he could see a continuation but would need a rope for further progress. Good lead, as the dog leg marks the end of the trunk phreas (sinks into floor; mud choked); from here on is a more 2x1.5m phreas (!). Note that the Far North limit is currently below this level though.

[See over for rough sketch of locations.]

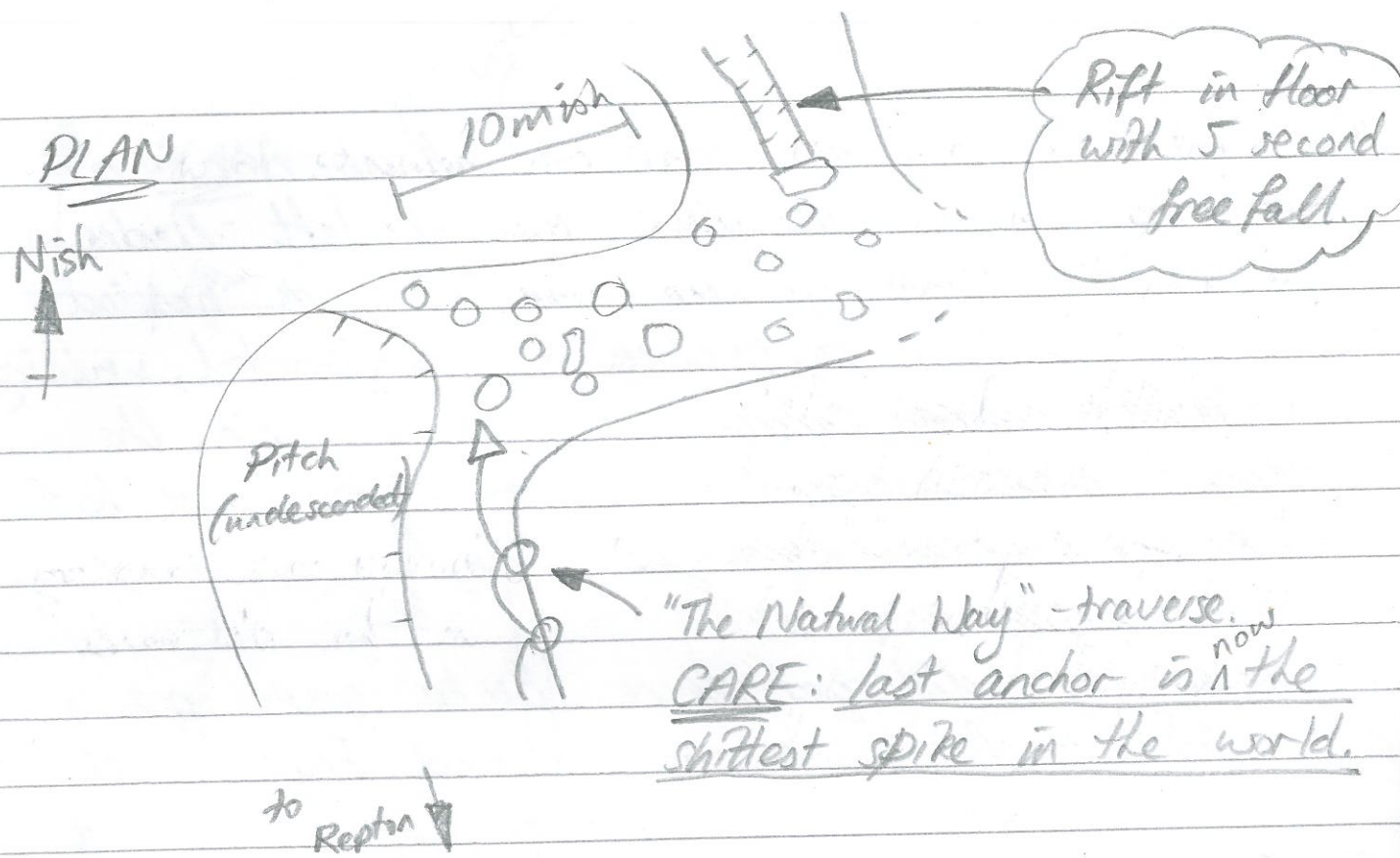


After this little detour, we got back on track and headed to Repton. Here Becka and I left Andrew & Wokey to play spiderman whilst we headed to last trips limit, to explore the 'horizontal, walking-sized phreas'. And because on the last trip the way had been derigged back to Repton, we had to take a tacklesack to get there!

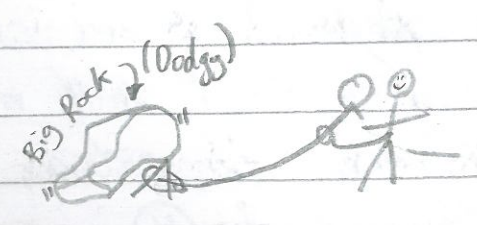
Nevertheless, we did get there. Becka gave me a guided tour of the passage beyond East Anglia, and we came to the limit of exploration at a junction. Here I took the notepad and pencil, and we made slow progress through a complex & multi-level & sloping & pocketed phreas. What a great place to first take notes! Seven legs later, it was time to head out, for we had said 6pm at Repton when arranging to meet the others. Grade A lead left at the limit; a pitch continuation at the bottom of a rift mud slope 😊

On the way back to Andrew's traverse ("The Natural Way"), a black rift in the floor gives a genuine 5 second free fall. I spent a good while timing the drops with my stopwatch: of half a dozen stones which didn't touch the rift sides, not a single one took less than 5 seconds! 😊

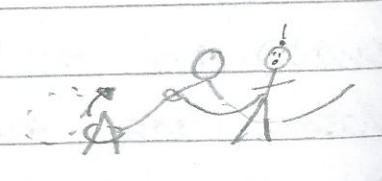
[See over for shady location plan.]



I was so preoccupied with the black rift that I completely forgot to have a wee. This duly done (down the black rift, naturally), we kitted up to return along the traverse. Becka pointed out that the last belay had a dodgy rock which ought to be gardenered. Doing this turned the solid thread into a poorly-positioned spike (i.e. the rope now pulls up on it). Big bang from the rock though...

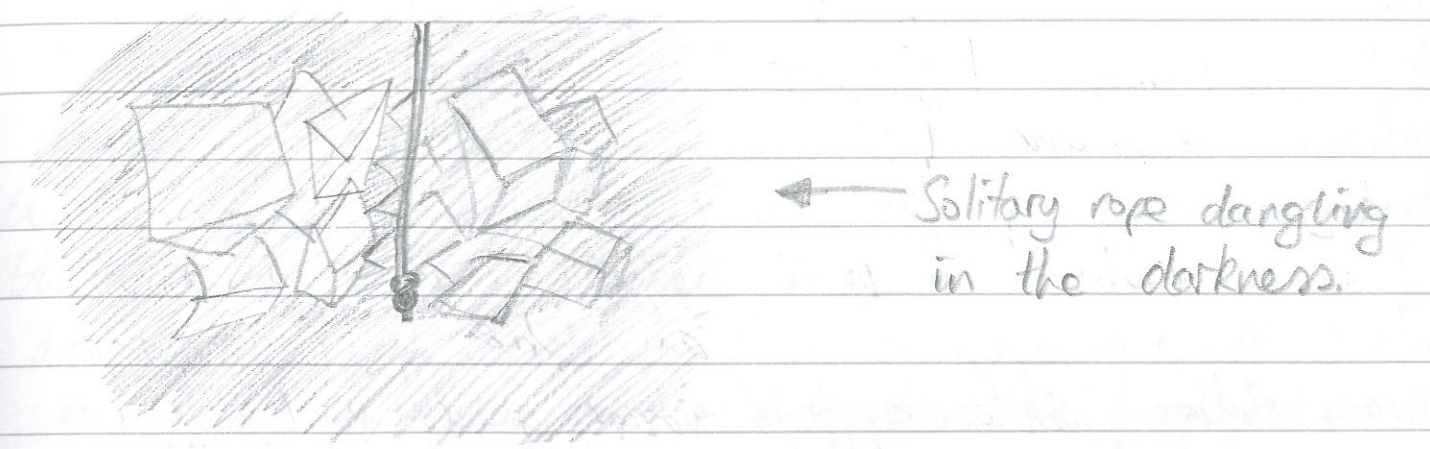


Before: solid thread



After: poorly-positioned spike

Getting back to Repton at one minute to six, we found no sign of the others but for a solitary rope dangling from on up high.



Becka went up the rope in search of the others, and I went up to the top of the boulder pile to make a cup of soup with Anthony's meths stove. Before I had finished my cup, I could hear the others returning and more soup was had until the meths ran out. We spent about an hour (!) drinking soup and packing all the assorted shit into bags.

At this point, Becka and I were given a tacklesack each and headed out, waiting at the top of Knossos to regroup. Andrew & Wokey performed the desig role between them, and we exited between 21:30 and whatever time Wokey got out. This must have been some time later, as Becka and I got back to the bivvy at 11:00 but the others didn't return until 01:00! TU 11 hrs +

Work FM: 13 hrs

A great finale to a great expo 😊

Damp Squib
Steve J, Martin G

4/18/09
TU 8 1/2 h

We descended Turnlocks with a Matika drill, with the aim of picking up some rope from the start of Stone Monkey. Not knowing the location of the new entrance to Stone Monkey, I went around a long loop for 20 minutes to find Steve, having already found the way. We continued on to 'Just for a laugh' to look at pitches. The first near station just for a laugh 12 looked a little wet, and appeared to have an audible connection to the pitch near just for a laugh 2.1, which was considerably drier. I rigged this pitch with a natural thread in the floor as backup, and a Yhangy across the rift. Additional passage may be reachable over the top of this pitch, or from a rift a metre or two down. At the bottom a narrow rift to a pitch went off as well as a small window to a parallel clean washed shaft, with a small stream coming in. I tried to rig out of this water with a wide Yhangy and a rebelay out from the water. But this was in vain due to an area further along the shaft making it drippy. I descended going down several ledges, that the original stream goes down. At the bottom a rift went off, which quickly became too tight, along with some small phreatic passages, which also closed down. I retreated now slightly damp, to survey out with Steve derigging, taking all the gear back

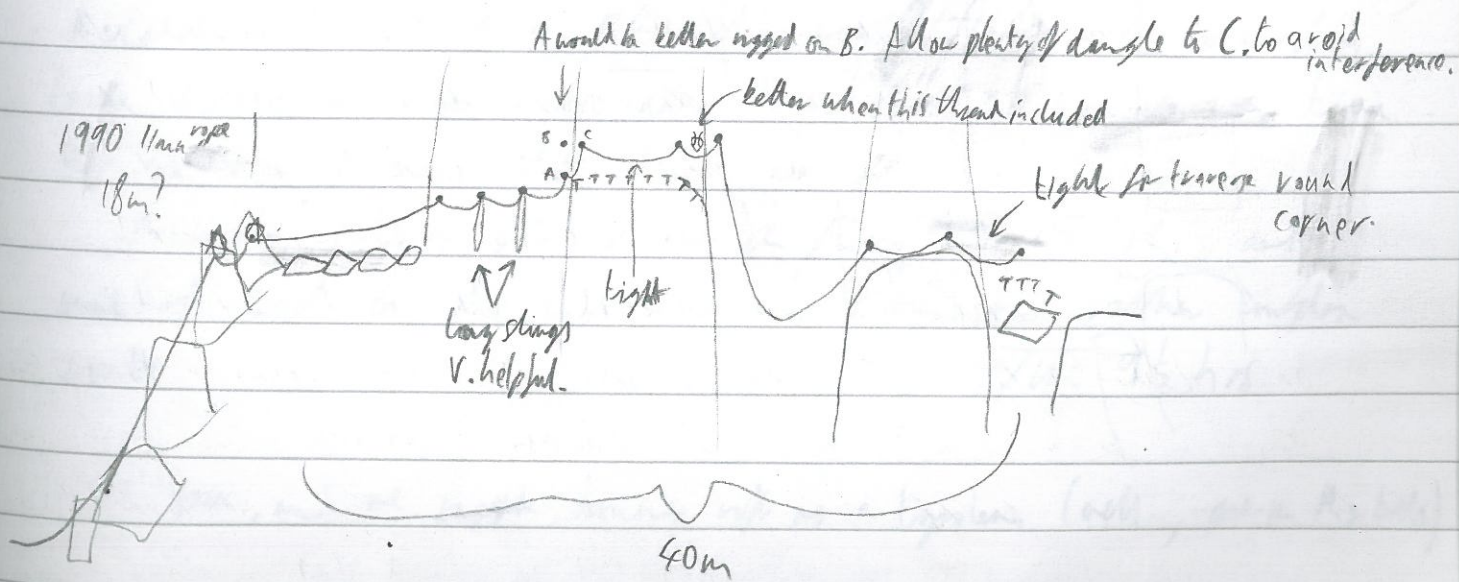
to the bivvy. (All new bolts were greased)

2009-08-07 KH - Swiss men verig & investigate legend.
Wodley & Andrea (with Becka & Ian)

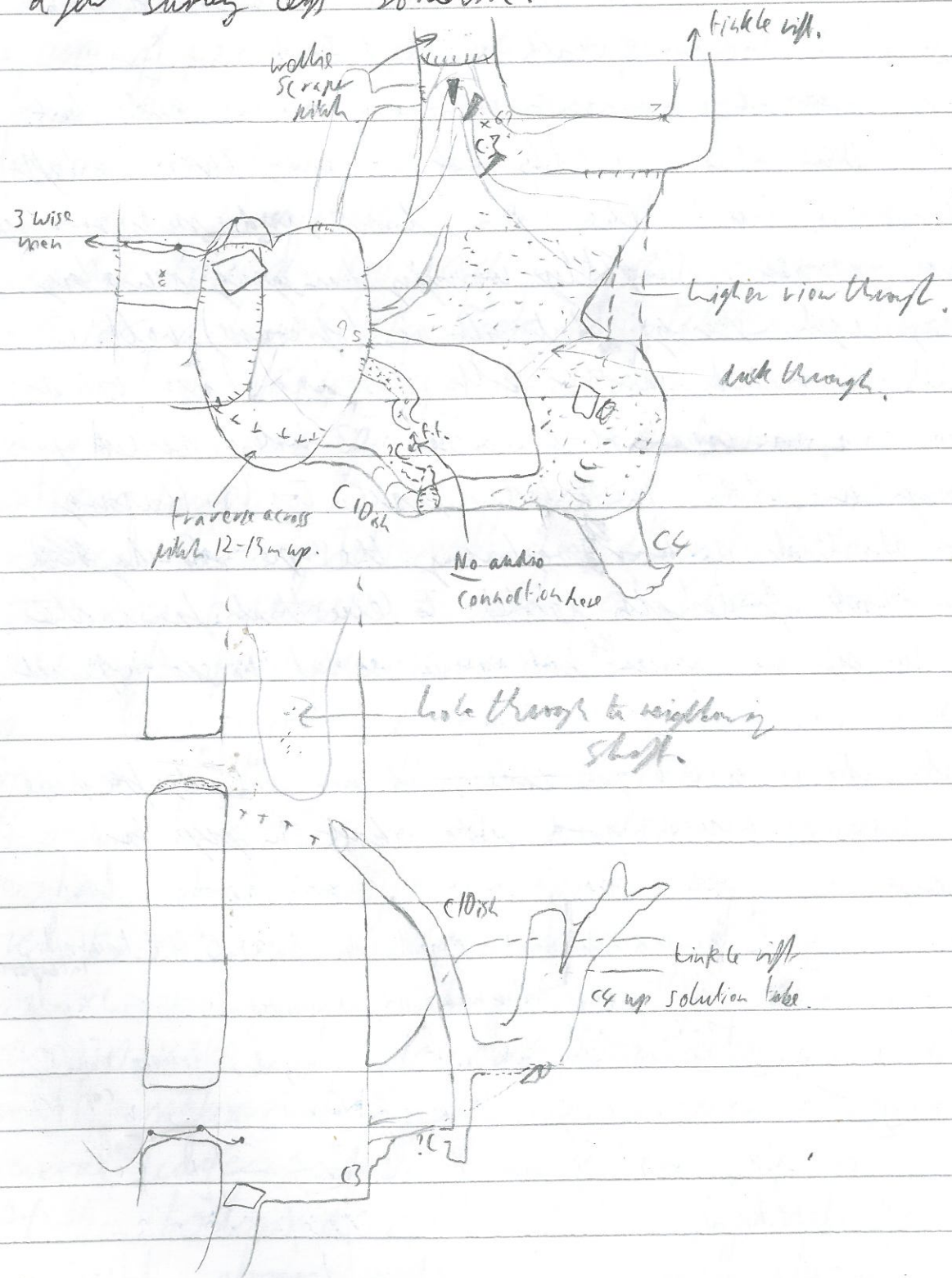
Ian has covered the kniss, so here's our specific bit. Given only 30m plus a liddly bit to verig 30m, we left the low old rope particular the 8m climb, and put re-rigged the traverser - proper. Slightly worrying hanging over a big drop on very aged string, but all was (of course) well.

Decided it needed another bolt to reduce huge rub at edge so put one in, then re-discovered 2 holes drilled for better rigging in 1993. In a better place too! Having fuffed for at least an hour replacing the rope already, and being short of length decided to leave that for another time. Had also by now given the drill away, so had no spits of cord eye.

Just about made it to the far side, but now entirely free of rope so decided to just have a good poke about in prep for tomorrow's trip.



We had a proper look round the area immediately beyond 3Wm. It's quite complex and really ought to have a few survey legs sometime.



Des: Climbing out of area at end of 3Wm (C3) there was a passage on the right partly filled with sediment. This goes for about 3m to a very tight zig-zag which is probably too tight. No doubt. Ahead is a solid slope up to the right which reaches a chamber. A climb ahead for 4-5m reveals just solution tubes. Part way up you can see across toward the timber with passage. Turning right in this chamber reveals a ~~climb~~ climb both up & down. Down goes 2-3m where a tight passage looks through into something larger. (?) This doesn't seem to connect back into main area.

(Climbing up is an easy climb up quite high (10m?) which comes back into main area at southern end. You can traverse across the shaft and climb into a hole. This goes about 3m to look out into the shaft which 3Wm 'system' across. At this level you can see into more space off the North side of the Area. (It seems to be mostly space and less)

Next we went all the way to the end of East Anglia, noting that timber with what had been left rigged (forgotten?) Decided that end of East Anglia looked like not interesting lead because we might be able to go across. Then it was time to go home & meet the others at SSR.

As steady return got us out in 2h ~~15~~ 15 ish, and walked back in the light, trying to remember rather complex route.

T/U: 9 1/2 hrs.

Oh yeah, and we rigged timber with as a system (well, part in the holes)

2009-08-08 KH-East Anglia → Guines Graves

Wook + Andrew (with Becha + Ian)

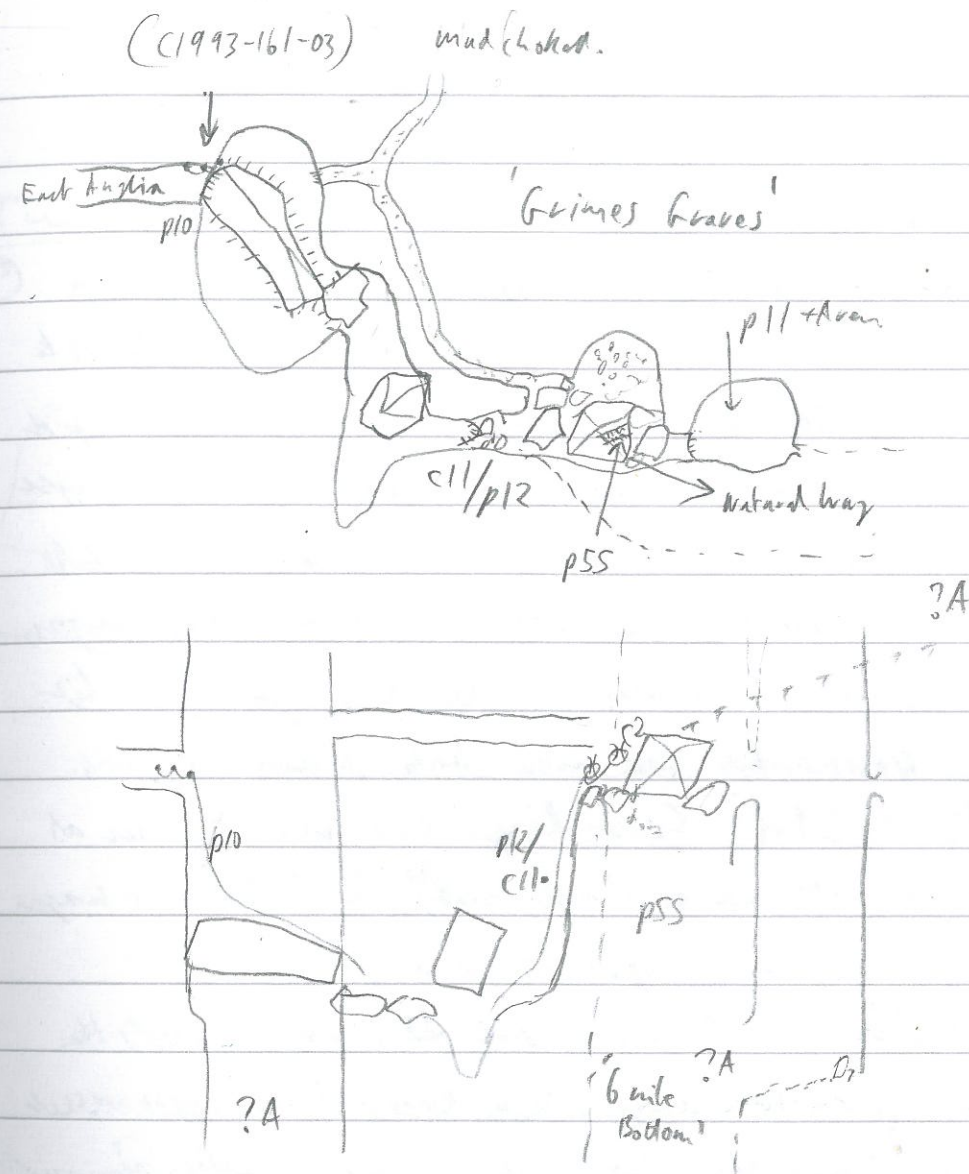
★ (Our part of trip written up by Ian)

After leaving Ian & Becha at impressive block space of what was to become 'So Far Away' we dragged ~~the~~ sanded rope ~~down~~ to the far end. Firm a couple of easy (hard!) bolts to get started. Despite not being able to remember when I last got in a Luddite (4 years ago?) I won the race :-)

Andrew set off and I went looking for survey stations & checking for QMs. At sooty junction passage goes 4m to look down hole. Draughting ^(out) & probably descendable so should be a QMC. Checked out streamer ^{just below} and decided too bright without capping. Impressive also for being slot, though.

Having got ~10m down pitch into ~~the~~ huge choked knollen ~~was~~ Andrew declared large pitch below 'wet-looking' with 2 incoming streamers, so he went across. ~~He~~ ~~back~~ ~~up~~ ~~the~~ ~~side~~ ~~but~~ ~~too~~ ~~to~~ Turned out no real passage across pitch, just climb up corner/slot which looked like it went somewhere. Andrew declared even more 'committing' so let me do it. I put in a bolt whilst Andrew went back to fetch 60m rope. Climb not as bad as it looked and dodgy rocks stayed put long enough to shim up. Ripped pitch off mediocre streamer, then had a look round. Exciting!

Found area was mostly big choked knollen over space. Long drop below ~~the~~ through narrow slot. Thru some rocks - p60 is? Another pitch beyond thru small window - no overhanging death led. Horizontal passage goes back to East Anglia pitch & continues. Also comes out above PSS but entrance blocked by slipped block.



Andrew took another pitch traversing over the top of all this to the right. And then it was time to go home already.

Put a second thread on the pitch & left to go out with Becha & Ian. Again back in daylight.

T/U: 104us.

Brought a couple of wings out to my home with bygone.

2009-08-11

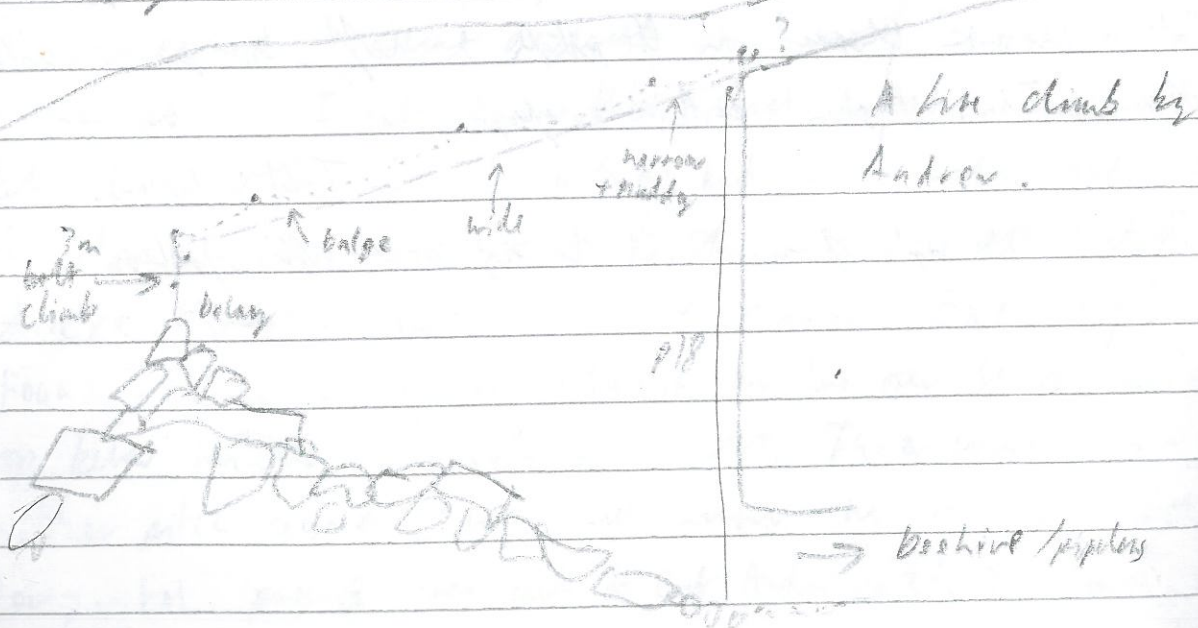
Wook + Andrew (Climbing in Pepton)

Other half of trip with Becka + Ian.

Andrew spotted interesting hole in roof of nylon, 15-18m off deck. Bedding it is in caused there to be a ledge (or) from the back to the highest point of the ~~rock~~ bulge side (with only about 3m up at that point). Andrew climbed whilst working belayed. First bit straight up wall proved unkind with knots now needed onto ledge. Ledge full of KH mud of course and generally about 30-60cm wide. Slow progress with a lot of muntering round an outward bulge the good side bit till nearly at passage. Narrow bit here with huge amount so I now both needed. 7 knots in total. Seconding was even scarier as all the pro was just before each lucky bit! Work had no major ~~wobbling~~ part way along, but made it.

Nice passage about 4m x 1.8m. We rigged down-rope lot the surveyed. Disto D2 was very troublesome - refusing to measure except one time in 10. Tedious. Surveyed about 100m. Nice descent, ponies continues, until beaker arrived to point out it was here.

Five things to come back to ...



A bit climb by Andrew.

2010

Tunnock Rigging

2nd Aug

Chris Denston, Martin Janke, Andy Chapman

35m, 29m, 58m

