

2023

3 JULY 2023 PHILIP SAEWAN

(T)

Attempted to get network potato hut working. Joel had already done the wiring correctly.

Problem seems to be in the acer aspire netbook. Tried both routers (Netgear & tplink) & saw same problem.

4 JULY 2023 PHILIP S.

(T)

Everyone due to come down from plateau due to bad rain forecast. Much shopping for food being done.

[Netgear router seems to have got into an IP6 only state. RETIRED pending deeper investigation]

WiFi network still not working due to netbook problems.

Success. Internet now working in potato hut. Problems were due to non-working internet wifi on the netbook causing config problems even though it is not used.

4 July Wassil

(T)

Ash, Mungu, Anon ^{B.} com phil ^{and}, Soak and me went up the plateau in the morning. We carried our gear up, ~~got~~ helped with some top camp tasks (Tarp, electric system, carrying rope over) and came down the mountain.

2nd July Memorabe

(T)

12 people went to top camp. We hauled most stuff out of the storage cave (had to dig some out of snow) and set up one water collection tarp.

3rd July Memorabe

(T)

Me Radost, Mike, June, and Will went to top camp to set up main tarp and the second water collection tarp (which was a success).

3rd July 2023

Harry, Charlotte, Chi, Janis, Emma

Ⓣ BAZKOV - Rescuing Balcony Ropes

A crack team of expo's hardest covers was assembled to take rope out of Balcony that was left there last year. Harry rigged the entrance handline off two bunda. Then continued rigging the rest of the entrance series. Route finding was fine and we soon arrived at a very large quantity of rope. Chi, Janis, Emma headed out with bags. Charlotte derigged. Chi forgot to bring a bag so over 100m of rope had to be flaked at every ledge. Tried jumping on big boulder on second pitch of entrance series but it wouldn't budge. Derigging pair got out about 9.30 PM as fall lead to getting into the cave at about 5 PM. Charlotte and Harry were both very grumpy walking back with very heavy bags and returned to top camp about 11 PM.

4th July 2023

Harry, Charlotte, Alice, Chi, Will

Ⓣ HC - Rope carry to Homecoming + Trial walk to Garlic Cave to Car Park on painted track

After more fall from Chi, we set off about 10 AM to carry gear and check out the route to Homecoming. Fishface to Homecoming was well cairned and fairly straight forward to follow. Gear left at Homecoming entrance:

Ropes - 73m, 95m, 80m, 14m, 9m, 26m, 90m, 21m (handline only, old), ~70m, ~20m (~500m total!)

83 hangers, most with maillons

17 krabs

1 sling

Then tried the painted track back to car park from Garlic Cave. Track was very easy to find from Homecoming. About an hour and a half on plateau followed by treacherous cliff traversing - would be very unsafe with a heavy bag / in bad weather. Around halfway becomes quite pleasant. 3h30 in down from Homecoming with empty bags. Route very hilly. Heavy carry with bags from car park to Garlic likely to be at least 5 hours. Everyone agreed path unsuitable as route to Garlic cave - takes longer and more dangerous than going via top camp

3rd July 2023

Mealy, Jonty, Emily

Ⓣ FF - Digging the snow out of fishface entrance

After a carrying day on the 2nd we suspected FF would be snowed in. A fell morning of acquiring shovels. We got to FF with shovels discovering it did need digging. Jonty got particularly into this producing quite the snow mess.

4th July 2023

Buck, Joel, Mealy, Jonty, Janis, Ask

FF - Carrying rope to fishface & hauling to rig entrance

(T) After the complicated operation of hauling the solar panels out
of the storage cave, the six of us packed kit, rope, & a rescue
bag & set off for fishface. It was a hot but pleasant walk, &
the route was well-worked. We arrived & stashed bags under
a nearby overhang then ~~descended~~ entered through the ~~hole~~
day ~~through~~ the snow the previous day. Janis & Ask
did not go down the cave, instead heading back to top camp,
but were a great help hauling rope to the entrance.
We realised that, contrary to what we'd been informed, ~~the~~ hangers
were not in fact left in the cave. Plus, we hadn't realised it
was all bolted with spits so even if we had brought hangers,
we wouldn't have had the spits to rig it.

We decided to sit & sub for a while. Joel contemplated running
all the way back to top camp to get bolts + hangers, but given the
weather forecast of rain later, we didn't want to ~~take~~ end
up coming too late. After around 20 minutes we ~~left~~ left the
cave. Mealy kicked an icicle at Jonty on the way out.
We left the rope underground, by the head of the first pitch,
& left our carrying kit under the small overhang near the entrance,
then headed back to top camp.

5th July 2023

Sarah, Philip Banister, Lizzie, Joel,

topcamp -

Maddie Kirby.

(T) Joel, Lizzie & Philip fettled the tarp (where some water had
pooled overnight), whilst I had a go at attaching the big daron
drum filled with the solar panels (and cables) to my rucksack,
ready to carry from top camp to garlic cave.

After minimal ruff, we set off ~~for~~ west we reached fishface in
~40 mins and Joel dropped off some metal work ready for rigging.
We continued to Homecoming - and Joel and Lizzie put reflectors
down for the route from fishface to Homecoming.

We reached Homecoming, had a flapjack and water break, then I went
off in search of the Hunter's track whilst Joel et al went to
reflect the last part of the route and Phil had a siesta.

I found the Hunter's path by heading NE past Homecoming (ie skirting
past the entrance on a little path to the RHS), through a clearing in
the bundle, turn left, then climb down vlm onto some limestone slabs.
Turn left & follow the limestone along, past a snow plug. You hit the
Hunter's path just before a cliff - you'll see cairns & white + green painted
stripes.

Having successfully found the Hunter's path, I returned to Homecoming, and we decided we didn't have the time to scope out garlic cave. I left the solar panel stuff near the entrance and we began scoping out a route across the plateau towards the car park.

The route was a mixture of actually quite pleasant slabs to walk across and some grim bits (hopefully can be bypassed as the route gets pinched).

We found a few holes to return to with gear and rope on a later day. Including a particularly promising one (big ~~inter~~ entrance, goes briefly vertical, but then horizontal (I scrambled down as far as my comfort zone would allow to have a peak), with a big locking passage.

Excited to return. Overall, progress was a bit slow - it took ~ 3 hours to get back to the start of the plateau (ie. where people stash their walking poles), hopefully we can get it down.

Rest of the walk was atmospheric, with lots of gusts & rolling, ombrous clouds. We had just got back to the car when it started raining.

6th July 2023
Plateau - Janis & Maddie

(T) We set out to improve the direct route from the start of the plateau to Homecoming. The way down the wall just after the second pole was surprisingly nice. This was followed by an easy flat section until the bunda and tiny cliffs obscured all the alternative paths we tried. Most of the way was already kered, but we did find some nice fresh transitions through the bunda walls separating the ~~easy~~ easy-to-walk-on slabs. At Homecoming we met Harry, Christian, Alice, Merryn getting ready to rig the cave. Then we visited Garlic cave - a marriage above ground hole that leads to a bridge below which are the entrances to the cave itself. There was loads of snow - just as in every entrance - but there was a nice, campable but ~~plenty of~~ water dripping. I sensed some garlicky smell, remembering the story that this smell gave the name of the cave, but was still mysterious. Then Maddie realised we were surrounded by chives! Mystery solved. On the way back we met Jono, Evelyn, and Oarem who were on the way to Garlic. At Homecoming Honorata & Rookst told us they had found 3 intriguing holes while prospecting. We found a balloon with a ~~sweet~~ note on it and read it to them. Just after, we found a loose wellie which now acts as another kerp. The final path we made is quite nice except for one climb over a ravine that seems to be unavoidable without drastic changes to the route. It was a nice day. On the way back we saw the Dachstein ~~for~~ for the first time, complemented by all the numerous kinds of mountain flowers.

(F) 7 July 2023 (1300) Philip's. - peeps: Janis, Nadia, Janis
Janis's car: Janis/Nads/Janis up to Garlic & is
return this evening. 1 May New REFLECTORS made
this morning.

6th July 2023

Chi, Harry, Wassil, Merryn, Alice

HC - my job

This was a long day that started at Base Camp. The intent of rigging the entrance series of rope cones. After the planned 8:00 set off only slightly later. Some of the gear was not part of the team. Quite surprising, since will

The walk up to top camp took about two hours. Just as expected. They were also carrying drills & string of food and other top camp equipment.

~~The walk to~~ We followed the reflectors to fish base.

They were white on both sides, which could make it frustrating for someone who is lost to find their way to top camp. Instead, it should be that red leads to top camp, while white leads to cave and the car park.

From fish base it was only a short walk to home cone. Wassil rigged the first few ropes of the cave.

The first rope is a 14m ~~that~~ link on which we ~~descend~~ descend the entrance pitch. Then ~~we~~ Wassil used a ~70m rope which was used to rid the next few pitches. ~~The entrance~~ At the entrance pitch an air pit, some 2-3 small pitches it could be done without re-belays. Still ~~covered~~ full of snow. This makes it easier to climb on the way out. Wassil rigged everything up to ~~the~~ Rada gash.

Harry rigged "Definitely not the Dachstein" while Chi did Wallace and ~~commit~~ ~~up~~ including the outward traverse.

In the meantime Merry, Alice and Wassil were waiting in the group shelter practicing the fiddle.

6th July 2023 Tony, Joel, Buck

FF - my job

Fishfall rigging & pitch-measuring trip

An ambitious day which slowly went increasingly wrong. The group departed Base Camp at a stunning 8:20am, blitzed up the plateau and promptly became mired in several hours of sabb which soon descended into mere festering. The plan had been to rig the entrance series of

Fishfall down to the bottom of Blitzen past
Barberard (4th pitch), from where we
expected everything to be left rigged. How
Confusion about rope lengths and metalwork and
Some impressively long grice trips meant that
the two shallow fishing groups planning to
explore from Blitzen & Liquid Luck caught
is do at Top Camp. Uncle Mike was not
amused. We swiftly bombed down to FP in
25 mins & started rigging - Joel was left
to do everything as Jonny's light "brover".

The entrance pitch/spiral traverse thing was
completed on a 40m rope. Tasteful Woods
(2nd pitch) didn't quite go on a 27m
due to rejigging around the top rebelay to
avoid rub, so Joel initially reached the
bottom on a knot pass & Jonny rigged
at the bottom with a 32m. The traverse
and pitch 3 both had rope left from last
year ^(pendulum pitch) but not rigged - some of the knots
didn't line up & required rejigging but the
lengths were fine. pendulum pitch needs some
more bolts at the bottom, possibly as a traverse,
to make getting on and off the pitch less
uncle Mike rigged Blitzen for us as we got too
scared - he insisted the step over the huge
rift with no traverse was fine, so we
left him to it. There may or may not be
a bolt there now.

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past Blitzen, everything remained rigged in
Site from last year. We checked every thing
to the traverse at the bottom or liquid lock
(pitch 6) and apart from some loose bolts all
ropes were fine & hangers non-corroded. on
the way back we measured pitch lengths
using the USA Disto and Jonty drew up
a descriptive rigging topo that takes into
account the route changes last year. The
pitch lengths will be entered in the box
below when Jonty reappears at Base Camp:

Entrance pitch: 2 - Tasterful Woods: 3 - Pendulum
1 - 1st Relay -
2 - 2nd Relay

4 - Blitzen Boulevard 5

6 - Liquid Lock

(T)

Having decided we'd held everyone enough
we joyfully skinned back of the plateau to
bed.

SAT. 8 JULY 2023

base camp
Nerd Jaff P. Sanger, M. Green,

Another frustrating day with network.
WiFi router refused to allow connections - rebooted
at ~ 0830. ok.

~~Network~~ Rebooted netbook for a reason I can't
remember - failed to re-establish routing to router.
Muck Jaff standing on chair trying at netbook as
cables all duct taped to wall with it in final
operating position up by ceiling. Found the missing
wire, edited into ~~the~~ ~~network~~. ~~fixed~~

Re documented everything in handbook. By which time the
morning has gone & no progress achieved.

Looked at printing again. No clue why printer is not showing
up on network (ethernet cable) or wirelessly (NFC or wifi)

Can print from Ubuntu 22.04.2 on Martin's laptop or
22.04.3 on Philip's Bartica laptop & but only using USB cable.

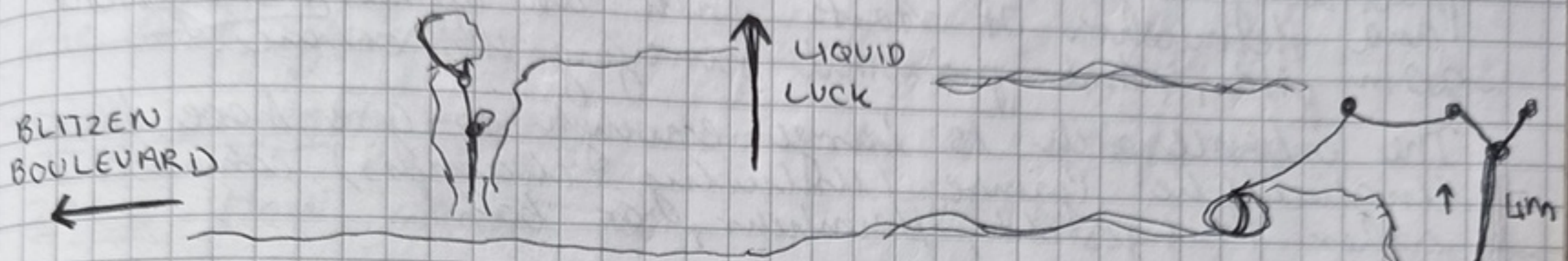
Afternoon: added lots of exports to folk.csv & adding
lots of mugsshots. Particularly good one of Meryn.

Thursday 6th July - Surveying ~~at~~ around Benign Bubble Baby
Bypass

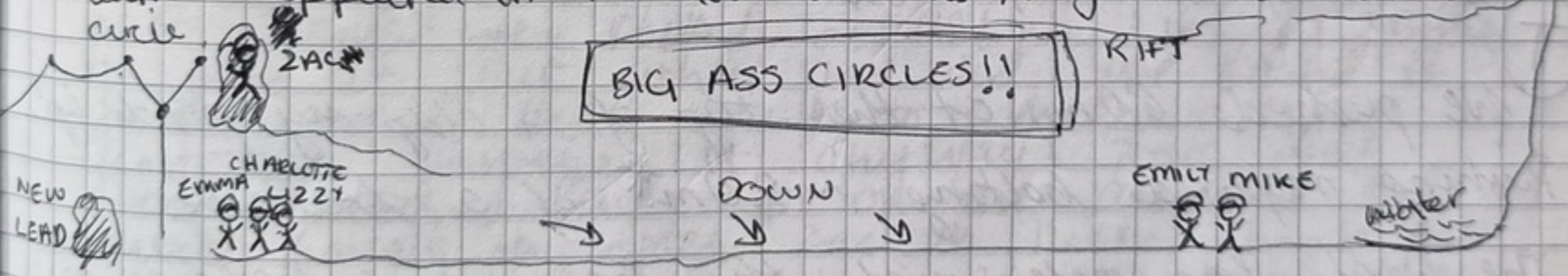
Emily M, Lizzy, Charlotte, Mike, Emma

(T) After hiking up the plateau ~~just~~ to arrive for midday, we
discovered the advanced rigging party still above ground... In order
to leave them time to start rigging the 4th pit ches of Fungie an
uniquely amount of jaff began. We finally arrived at the cave at
3 pm, thinking we'd left plenty of time for the riggers we quickly
changed and headed underground. Alas, our hopes were crushed
as we came to the bottom of the just pitch to discover
the other puering party of the second pitch was crushed
of the second pitch sat freezing their tits as they
below them. Needless to say it took some time to
descend to the bottom of the 4th pitch with Mike
talking over the rigging of Benign Bubble Baby Bypass
placing another bolt at the pitch head, One arrived at
Benign Bubble Baby Bypass we conducted a quick circle time
to rejoin our surveying technique before splitting into 2 groups.

me and Mike went ahead through the tube leading on from the bottom of the climb heading up towards the liquid luck whilst the other began surveying from small turnoff. As me and Mike arrived at the pitchhead I asked if I could begin my bolting lesson before a big scary hole. I was refused. Instead I was told to tie the rope around the small head sized bolder wedged in the rift, which were currently both stood on. I thought this was a silly idea but obliged. The actual bolting of the pitch went well (I think?), however comments about placing bolts higher were made which was somewhat impossible given my height. The final bolting and rigging became passable as I descended down the large (4m...) hole.



As we finished bolting the survey team emerged behind us. At the bottom of the pitch 3 leads emerged, a large passage with a traverse sloping down in front of us, a small drafty tube to the right and a hole heading into the ceiling behind. With the rigging team and pushing team 2 in the near vicinity of the cave around us me and Mike were a bit naughty and scooped the large passage in front of us, as we reached the end we could hear voices in the rift above us, thinking it was the other pushing team we called up. It was not. It was Buck from the rigging team stood near the base of Blitzen Boulevard essentially where we started. Discovering we'd done a large circle we returned to the base of the pitch where the survey team were. As we arrived Zach from the pushing team 2 appeared in the hole above us, they had also done a circle.



Once regrouped it was approaching 9.30 pm so we decided to leave the small drafty tube and started to make our way out of the cave eventually making it back to top camp just before midnight.

(written by Honorate)

Thursday 6th July - Prospecting Honorate + Radost

We prospected between Fischgesicht and Heimkehr entrances. We found 5 caves, which I will refer to here using the temporary numbers and names entered in Expo. Survex.com. ~~Major of the~~ Small drain (2023-hbrw-01) (Mittlerer Abfluss) and Medium Drain (2023-hbrw-02) were surveyed completely and they both stretch for about 20-30m, a small stream passing through each of them. →

We also found 3 new caves which seem to continue but we couldn't survey them since they all begin with large pitches:

- Amphitheater Höhle (2023-hbrw-03) is the most promising cave entrance we found. We estimate the pitch it begins with to be around 40 meters deep. The entrance is right above Watershed - a previously explored Heimkehr passage, ~~which connects~~ → presumably Amphitheater connects to Heimkehr.

- Unglückliche Gänse Höhle (2023-hbrw-04) lies practically right between the entrances to ~~Fischgesicht~~ and Heimkehr. It starts with an approx. Fischgesicht ~20m pitch, which prohibited surveying the entrance.

The entrance pitch is large enough to give hope that Unglückliche Gänse (Unlucky Ganses) connects to either Fischgesicht, Heimkehr, or both.

Ⓣ We found a dead carcass (of presumably a chamois) about 10m from the entrance, hence the name.

- Rose Blumen Höhle (2023-hbrw-05) lies within 30m from Unglückliche Gänse. A lush bush with pink flowers grows to the left of the entrance. The entrance pitch is at least 20m deep and partially filled with snow which prohibited us from assessing the depth accurately.

Friday 7th July - Pushing deep Fishgesicht (written by Memorata)

Ⓣ Memorata, Radost, Mike

We pushed 60m at the top of "clap my pitch up". Pushing required bolting ~20m* of a traverse.

The final few meters of the traverse go above a strable pitch (30m?). We named the bolted traverse "European federalists". At the end of

the traverse, we continued walling for another ~40m ~~at~~ until arriving at a top of a massive pitch - further pushing would require bolting. The distance from where we were standing to the

furthest point down the pitch measured with Disto was ~40m. We kicked rocks down the

pitch and the sound continued for 10s, giving rise to a presumption that the pitch might be very deep. If it connects to "clap my pitch up", it's at least 100m deep. IMPORTANT: the traverse passage and the walkable continuation to the big pitch are muddy and slippery; posing a hazard of falling down the pitch. Ash, Jonty, and Mealy ^(and Janis) went to push the lead further on Saturday 8th July.

Thursday 6th July - surveying at the top of Liquid Luck
Fish Face
Zac W, Emma, Mealy, Ash TV 9 hrs

Gave the rigging team ~3hr headstart but we still caught up with them at the bottom of first pitch. Emma and Zac then sat around while Ash and Mealy calibrated the disto. We were waiting so long that Uncle Mike's² surveying group caught up. We waited in a bothy for them to pass us before, slowly, one by one following on. We then caught up with them again at the top of blitzen pitch and had to ~~bothy~~ bothy again. After Mealy led us on too low in the pit. At the beginning of B B B B (Benign Bubble baby by pass) we talked with Mike's group pursuing our lead and as descending some small pitches to push ours. We patrolled around a while trying to find it, but when we did we found it just looped back round to Mike's group's lead. We surveyed it anyway. Zac and Mealy surveyed the top of the pit and the pitch (Mealy on notes, Zac on disto) while Ash and Emma bolted and rigged the pitch. Once surveyed and linked to Mike's group's stuff we packed up and headed out. Ash raced ahead while Mealy and Emma got stuck behind Zac who was very slow and tired and sweaty. Eventually they exited. Trip started at ~15:30 and ended at ~00:30. A very tiresome dark hike to top camp.

* 20m^{ish} of the traverse was new passage surveyed this year, but there was about another 30m of traverse bolted this year, which was naughtily pushed by me and Luke last year on the Red light (yells danger) trip. So the traverse is about 50ish metres long - Mike

Friday 7th of July 2023 - Riggung towards waterhead in
homecoming

Emily, Charlotte, Harry

We wandered down to the cave around 10am - making it to the entrance around 12pm. The entrance zone went pretty fast... at least it did for me as Harry and Charlotte were carrying the heavy bags. On the way we made a quick stop to ring a knot pass. As we reached the bottom of Wallace and Gromit where they had finished rigging the previous day both me and Harry experienced judding as we glazed the dry rope on the job at 55m. I did not enjoy this part. We then made our way up the climb and Harry began rigging the small pitches before the final long pitch zone. The most notable part of this was when Harry appeared the wrong side of a pitch head after following the description and getting lost. It was highly amusing. As Charlotte began rigging the final pitch I secured me and Harry huddled in a shelter and watched Mahla the musical. As it came to replacing a bolt Harry left to go help Charlotte and I was left alone. Until it was discovered the drill battery was dead and I had to come down with a back-up. As 8pm approached we made our way out leaving rope to finish the final part of rigging. On the way out we made a noodle stop at the top of Wallace and Gromit, but with no fork a knife had to suffice. The walk back was miserable as we started following new reflectors ~~in the~~ towards the col and had to turn around and start again. We finally made it back to top camp at 1am.

Saturday 8th July 2023 - pushing deep Fishgericht

Ash, Fouty, Mealy, Jonis

We went to where the group - Honorata, Radost, Mine - had left off the previous day. "European Federalists" was a very tough traverse that required the use of ascenders. We ~~rigged~~ bolted and rigged (my first bolt!) the pitch at the end of the muddy passage about 10m down to a choke of boulders.

At the bottom of it we saw that there is a large smooth crack continuing east leading to a large, deep chamber that seems to be the same one we saw on the right. If it is, it would be elongated roughly in a ~~to~~ NE to SW direction.

Ash and Mealy also explored some c-leads which did not go far.

10 July, MNV. backup - Beckmanns, Phys.

Beckmann or. Bahnhof 0941. left needles

①
TESTING...

Saturday 7th July - Following up on Radost & Honorata's prospecting leads (Vhlasty Gänse & Amphitretu)
 Will, Emma, Mike
 (47.6921957, 13.8083729) (47.6928350, 13.8062361)

Radost & Honorata had found a few promising entrances that they couldn't explore with just a handline on Thursday so we, Mike & Emma set out with carving kit, bolting kit and a few ropes to investigate further (ropes, even slightly out-of-date ones were very hard to come by at topcamp so we pinched 2 20m ropes from the stash at Fishface entrance). Having grabbed our kit from Fishface we looked at Radost's GPS coordinates & got a bearing towards them and headed in that direction. Plateau walking as always was challenging, we came across a couple of gorges in the plateau, none of which were great. Eventually, after ~1km of arduous wandering in the direction of our bearings we came across an entrance that matched the photos Mike had seen that looked like it went a decent distance. Having never looked before I knee kicked up & headed into the entrance. It's a snowplugged rift with a big ~2m boulder wedged in at the end with a significant drop after words. We rigged a handline off a natural near the entrance and I (with heavy instruction & a lot of jiff) put in a bolt in the ceiling ^{to} make a T-hay with the rope & headed down.

The pitch was a pre-hay for 3-4m before hitting a steep (~70°) snow ice slope, going down, our 23m rope missed the bottom by 2-3m so I traversed round the slope locked off on my stop to see a large, walkable rocky area to the right (looking down, left looking up). Bits of this were quite unstable & scary with a large car-sized boulder edged up on its long axis supported just by a few cm's of rock looming over me. This chunky thing had a wall I've fell on one side and no edge on at the bottom due to boulders. Mike came down and checked what there were no eyes on at the bottom. Halfway up the pitch above the car-sized boulder there was more ponny that continued for a while but Mike didn't reckon it went any further. Being quite cold at this point I passed up the ice pitch (with difficulty) while Mike did a quick survey of the cave (on paper with a laser). Mike then decided to we headed on.

The next lead was Radost & Honorata's Amphitretu cave which Nadia & some of the Gatie crew had also claimed as theirs. Deciding to travel lightly we freeclimbed down the large boulders in this very deep very wide cylindrical hole. Rigging a handline off the last boulder near the rift Mike climbed down ~3m into the rift above some snow & went on a bit before arriving at a 6m drop. We decided to leave further exploration for a day or 2 to let experienced people who found it here a go but it looked very promising. We heard a fair bit of water in there as well despite very little rain recently.

We then pulled back, attempting but failing to find Gatie cave. On our way back we did find a nice looking camp spot (flat, grassy, patches would be good for a tent) at 47.6925722, 13.8087777

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Saturday 8th July - beyond watershed in Homecoming - "Flowstone canyon".

Sarah, Charlotte, Harry

I carried ~~at~~ my caving and bivvy gear from Top camp to Homecoming whilst Harry and Charlotte carried Top Camp's second shovel and a camp bed (surprisingly heavy) ~~to them~~ to be picked up by the Garlic Cave people.

After a bit of fuff at the surface, we got underground and to the bottom of Wallace & Gromit without any problems. We headed up the little pitch to propane Nightmares, down a series of little pitches, past the "death" sump, reaching the top of the "strained by Gravity" pitch. We layered up & Harry set off to finish rigging it, ~~then~~ Charlotte and I came down. ~~as~~ I didn't enjoy the second deviation (it was quite rugby), although apparently I went down the "wrong side" of a boulder. I think a rebelay should be added here for people (like myself) who don't look down too much when abseiling.

The pitch drops into a drippy, boulder-y chamber, we found our way through into a rift with surprisingly nice stal, and snuggled along to the pushing front (a T-junction). Right was an undescended pitch. Left was where we started surveying.

We surveyed for ~100m, through sandy rifts, down a few climbs (that were much harder on the way up!) and past some pretty flowstone. The passage ended with an ~20m pitch that can also be traversed over to the left and right. Harry & Charlotte have dubbed this passage "Flowstone Canyon".

~~Next~~ Slow, tired progress out saw us leave the cave at ~1am. I stumbled to Garlic Cave to sleep on the slabs outside the camp, whilst Charlotte and Harry ~~stayed~~ bivvied in a ~~survival bag~~ group shelter at the entrance.

July 5th + am

Garlic Cave Set up + First Nights

Nadia, Dono, Phillip Ballister, Jana, Okiem



After doing a big bounce carry yesterday, we now had sufficient supplies to spend the night and begin the proper set up of the camp.

Philip set up the solar panels the day before (Hopefully he writes that up) and we started with bolting practice to prevent the solar panels from blowing away in the wind. We used 4 bolts and tied them on with blue string. Meanwhile Dono was digging steps in to the entrance of the bivvy.

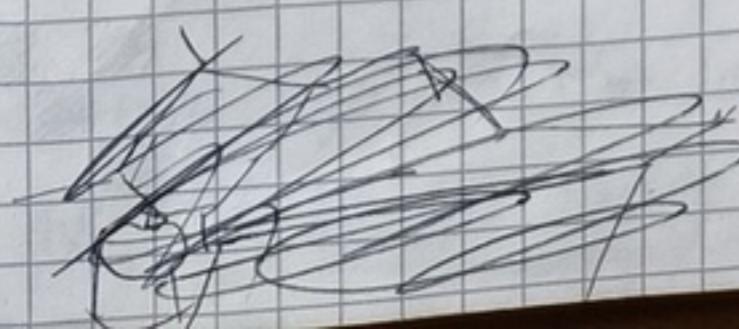
Our next priority was the water tarp. Sarah and Janis had previously filled our water tub with snow and left it out in the sun. This melt water was our source for the initial camp. We added 2 bolts to the back of the tarp cave for the back points. One bolt to the right side (looking in) and used a small thread for the 4th corner. We didn't get to test it in a storm but drips were collecting over night. The current plan is to just have the bucket under and scoop water out.

Ground was leveled for 5 bed spaces 'comfortably'. Sarah arrived at 2 am and slept on the platve. Good thing because we didn't have space for her. A few drips in the night but no problem in bivvy bags.

We did a little prospecting the next day (but I'll let someone else write about that) but not before leveling out the outdoor kitchen area, Dono improving the stairs, and contemplating a new way into the big hole. We worked on making the climb down on the far side less sketchy by filling in the floor under the climb and raising the level to make the climb shorter. Currently the way around the snow plug needs filling in before using it and crossing the swiftly depleating snow plug is easier. The way around the back include walking close to a 12m cliff which we feel will eventually cause an accident by a sleepy caver. Also the climb down the back is not ideal.

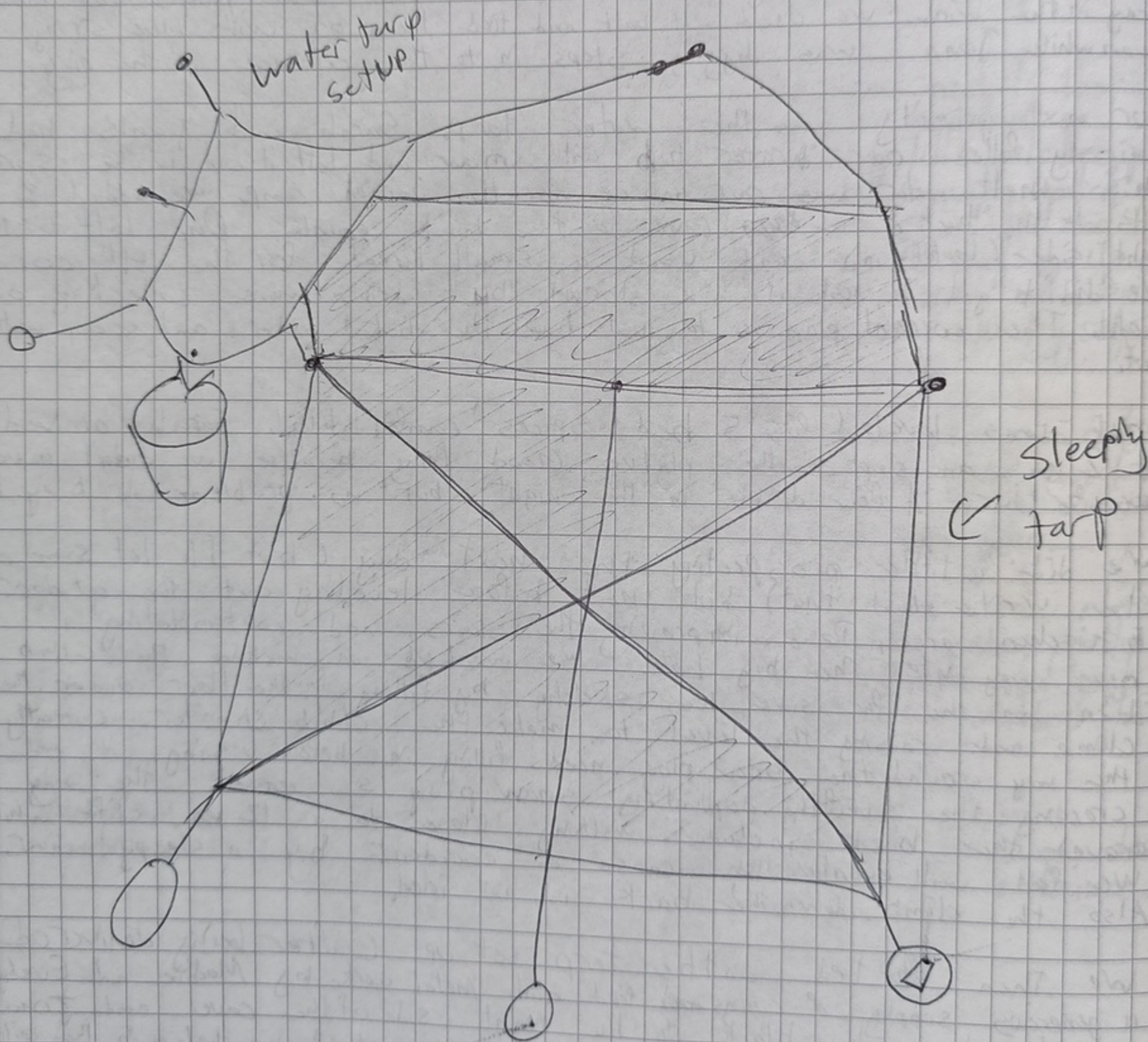
We then started on the tarp set up (after being delivered a generous supply of corgis and food and metal work by Maddie and Evelyn) we dragged a big block to the right side of the cave and Dono placed a bolt high in the right wall. We noticed big holes in the ceiling so we chose to do a ~~tent~~ tent sloping in 2 directions so that the majority of water does not drip into the sleeping area. We rigged a rope across from the tent water tarp bolt to the new bolt for the peak of the tent. We then inserted chock stone and a natural for the lower corners of the sleeping area. We tied the back to the right back onto the tarp bolt and put a new bolt low on the left wall under the water tarp. We added an X of rope under the tarp on the sleeping sides. We put a parallel rope down the middle tied to the top rope and then a block in the floor. Currently we are only using the tarp in a half folded position.

Sleeping was good but needs to be tested in a storm. felt damp from condensation. Much colder in the cave than outside.



Jana and Oaken worked hard on steps into the
outdoor kitchen area. The ground was grassy so the frequent
trips were making it muddy and slippery.

Still need to find a griter



10/07 Canyoning Strubklamm (written by Honorata)

Honorata, Radost, Harry, Chi, Ash

⊕ We went canyoning on a rest day. The „Strubklamm“ canyon is located near Salzburg, approximately 1h of driving from Bad Aussee. The canyon is graded V1a3 (vertical 1, aquatic 3). It's very aquatic, with many small jumps available and a 300m swimming passage. There are 2 bigger jumps ~8m and ~10m → both can be abseiled. The canyon is very easy to do without ropes if jumps up to 10m are acceptable. We did not use ropes and generally seemed over-prepared. There was another group in the canyon - a family of 5; dad, mom and 3 children aged below 10. They didn't have any equipment other than wetsuits and helmets, which seemed unreasonable in case the small children didn't want to do the big jumps. The canyon had pre-rigged pitches and handlines, all of which were quite dodgy. The entire trip took us 3 hours with a 15min snack break in the middle.

We did half of it on an inflatable unicorn (taking turns). The weather was good, sunny and hot → the canyon seemed quite dry, as though there was usually more water. The canyon has at least 2 escape routes.

11/07 Dropping Amphitheater Höhle (2023-16-12-03),

a cave me (Honorata) and Radost found on July 6th.

Honorata, Radost, Ash

⊕ The entrance to the Amphitheater Höhle looks like an amphitheater. There are a couple of meters of an easy climb from the very top to the boulder where rigging was started. The first bit we rigged is an approx. 5-6m down climb

where we put a handline. It's followed by a traverse (10m?) above the entrance to the first pitch. We rigged a Y-brang at the end of the traverse. The first pitch is at least 20m deep and ends on a wide ledge filled with snow. The pitch goes a bit sideways, resulting in us putting 2 deviations on the way down. Beyond the ledge, there is a short (3m?) traverse which leads to the second pitch. We surveyed the cave to the end of that traverse with a few splays directed at the pitch below. We bolted halfway down the second pitch (Ash did, while Radost and I were surveying). The second pitch is slab-by, drippy, has ice patches on the sides and a stony bridge underneath the traverse that leads to it. In total, we surveyed ~70m of amphitheatre on that trip.

plateau - walk in

Tue 11 Jul 2023
Philip Sargent

(1)

Will and Phil went up as part of the 2-car lift to the carpark. Others all going to topcamp. Cardiff contingent (Ely, James, Thomas) the previous day (at last)

Dep. carpark 10:06 we walked to the col but got spread out, 2 Cardiffians particularly heavily loaded so Ash dropped back to accompany them while James headed on with Radost and Honorata.

files on this date:

CUCC expo 2023		Full logbook	
plateau			
Mon 10 Jul 2023		Tue 11 Jul 2023	
Caver	T/U	Prev	Next
Philip Sargent		Mon 10 Jul 2023	
Thomas Phillips			
Ely Brookes			
Will Kay		Tue 04 Jul 2023	
Honorata Bogusz		Fri 07 Jul 2023	
James Waite			
Ashley Gregg		Thu 06 Jul 2023	
Radost Waszkiewicz		Fri 07 Jul 2023	

plateau - Garlic and reflectors

7

Tue 11 Jul 2023
Philip Sargent

CUCC expo 2023

plateau

Tue 11 Jul 2023

Caver	T/U
Philip Sargent	
Will Kay	

At the col, Will, Philip and ? followed Philip B's col-to-garlic GPS track. Somebody else was with us (memory hazy, is this true? *It was just the 2 of us* [correct later editorially]). All OK until we hit the hill in the middle where we followed cairns instead of the GPS track, and got in a bit of a mess leaving the hill and getting to HC. (Found an isolated reflector which seemed to just be confusing.) And getting away from HC towards Garlic, but once on the hunter's track it was easy to follow the green paint all the way to Garlic cave.

At Garlic, Will and I were disturbed to find a complete absence of teabags or instant coffee so we made a pot of instant custard which we shared with great enjoyment while we appreciated the marvellous ambience of the bivvy. Will's ankles were troubling him (he had carried a big pack up to (Garlic) whereas I was still a bit sprightly (but this would change later) having carried nothing at all.

Leaving Will to recover a bit before his return to TopCamp (see another logbook entry for the consequences of this); I returned back to HC, the col

and the carpark leaving garlic at ~16:00 and arriving col ~19:00 and carpark ~20:00 where Jana very kindly collected me in her car.

The trip back was meant to be a re-cairning and reflectoring trip, the main purpose of me going up there. But the late start, and general slowness and multiple failures at route-finding meant that time for re-cairning and building intermediate cairns was strictly limited. Following a GPS track is really very difficult, if not impossible. My GPS was OsmAnd running on a Pixel2 and this was totally inadequate: losing signal, stopping track recording, jumping and general uselessness. It seemed fine at base, but the cliffs and uncertain track-following effectively killed it. (Yes we had essentials.gpx too, and a Silva compass).

I put 2 or 3 reflectors on the HC-garlic section on the way back, but lost the way getting to HC itself in the last ~50m or so. Struggled to HC, then reflectored a bit until I lost the track again (following cairns not PB's GPS track) and found what I think is a 4th way across the hill which was not bad at all, parallel to the 3 ways already recorded (seen on PB's GPS). I did not put any more reflectors as this whole area needs some better decisions on which of the many routes we want to standardise on - and more to the point - I didn't know whether my route would work until I finished it.

I was a bit hasty on the climb up the cliff (not the same place as the route to topcamp) and fuffed a bit there. Coming off the plateau towards that climb could do with a couple more cairns, esp. if there is low visibility. Knee a bit stiff but otherwise fine after 10 hours of walking.


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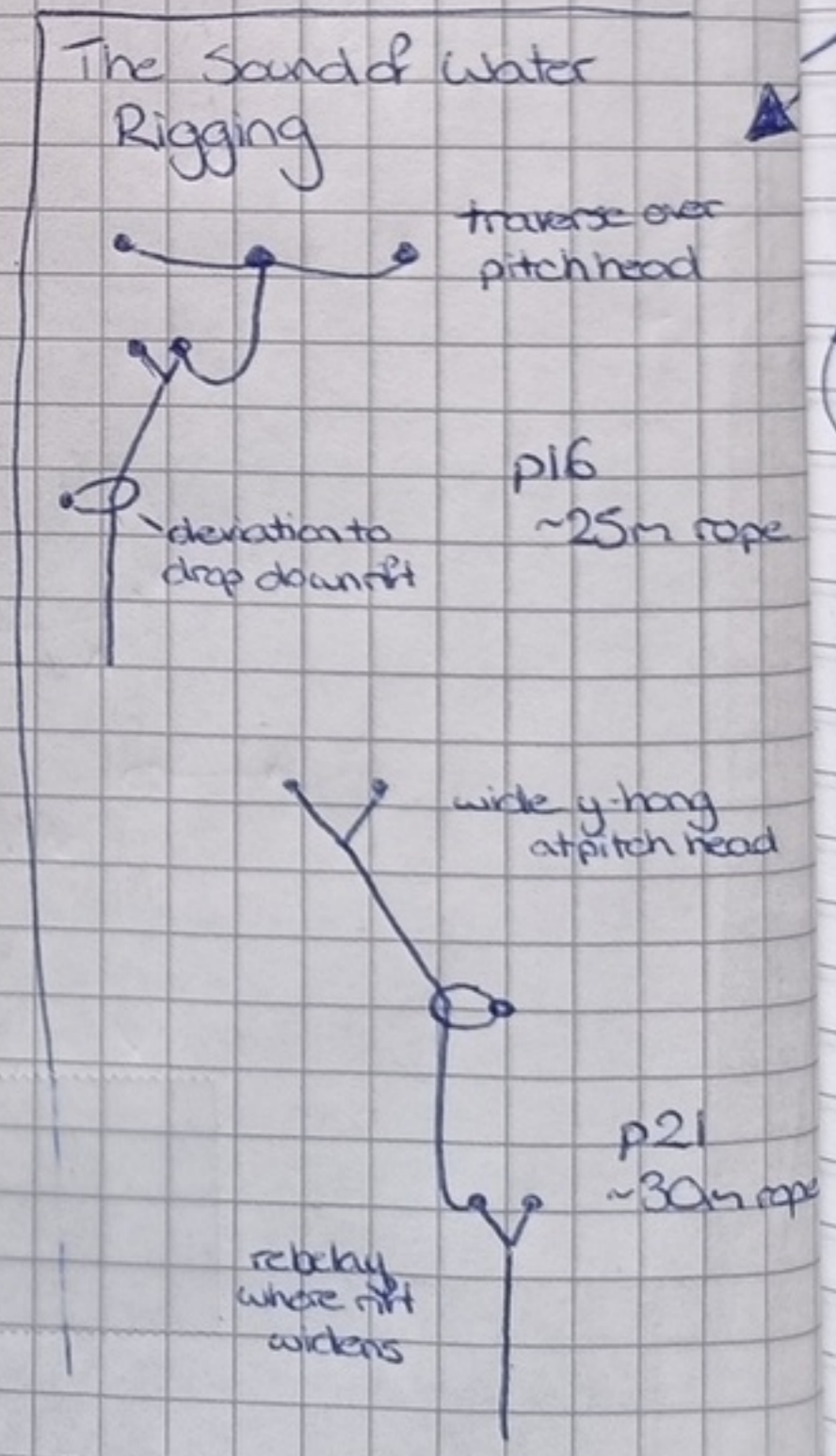
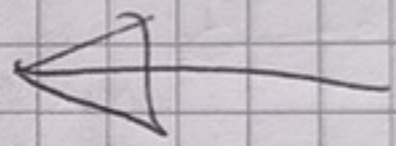
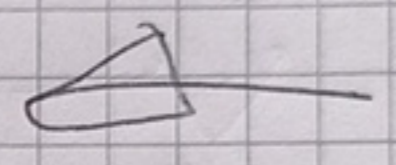
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Das **Hot** was:
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FERN
 AT
 HOT
 13/7/2023



11/7/23

Becka, Harry, Charlotte

Homecoming -
WaterShed

Slugged down from top camp to Homecoming + headed
 down the entrance series. Weasit had snagged the rope
 on the long pitch near the entrance (just after snow
 ends, beyond short crawl). It was so tight that
 Charlotte had to downrappel to free it. Steady progress
 to the putting front in ~2.5 hours. Charlotte rigged a
 side passage that quickly reached a pitch whilst
 Charlotte remained to finish rigging the pitch. We all
 descended the pitch to a 2 route. Right quickly led to
 a smaller pitch so Charlotte continued rigging to save
 rope down this pitch whilst Harry + I surveyed left
 to a drop down to a canyon with a stream in it.
 We all descended Charlotte's second pitch which
 dropped in a canyon streamway + we ~~the~~ surveyed a
 whole of legs each direction to check they went
 right, upstream, headed to short, splashy dubs up.
 Downstream was tightish canyon. We exited in ~4 hours
 with a disturbing find on ground (the 50m at the base of the
 entrance series) - I saw a lump of mud on the rope, tried to
 flick it off but, argh, it was the sheath had gone from a
 chunk of rope. I cautiously jammed above it. Iouted
 down to warn the others + tied it out in a butterfly. It was
 ~5m below the rebelay + many metres from any of the walls
 so ~~quite~~ hard to know what caused it - sharp jammers?
 Rock Fall - previous damage. Out 11pm + then a disappointingly
 long slog up to Gartic cave to enjoy the new facilities.
 T/U - 13 hours

13/07/23

Monorata (writing this entry), Radost, Harry,

Charlotte, Oakem, Janty | Via Ferrata "Panorama Uetlerstieg
 Sisi" (the one next to Loseralp parking lot, ~~the~~ ^{graded} D)

Car is best parked on the side of the road below
 the parking lot, next to a big pile of rocks.

Getting to the start of the via ferrate requires
 a short (200m?) hike up on steep terrain with many
 loose ^{small} boulders. The route goes up the mountain (it's
 vertical) and it is very exposed. It requires using upper body
 quite a lot and does not have many aids besides the
 metal wire. The route ends next to a metal cross at the top

of the peak. One hikes down to get to the car. The description
 says that the via ferrate takes between 1 and 2 hours
 but it took us 50 mins with a 5 min photo break in the middle.

see over
head

5m rope

hang
pitch head

p21
~30m rope

11/10/23 - Kresh connection exploring + Re-rigging

Emily, Joel, Lizzy, Merryn

The day started fairly quick and we arrived at the Foyface entrance at 10.30 am, making our way underground by 11. Joel and Lizzy went ahead to re-bolt the first pitch in the connection with me and Merryn following after to measure and record rigging diagrams. Due to an odd mixture of rope the first 9m pitch ended up ~~with~~ being rigged with a rope from 1999. As we went on Joel and Merryn rigged P4 and P5 with separate ropes to free up the 50m currently being used so we could bring the 50m down to where we were planning to push. During this time Joel rearranged the ropes and went back to remove the 1999 rope and replace it with an update rope. Essentially a good few hours were spent rearranging ropes. During which time me and Lizzy took a nap in ~~the~~ a shelter at the bottom of P5.

P1 - Foyface P1 pitch

P2 -

Total rope $\approx 20m$

P3 - Capt. Crunch

12m

Total $\approx 20m$

P4 -

Total $\approx 15m$

8m

P5 -

(Flying cottage)

Total $\approx 20m$

11m

P6 -

Kresh connection

$\approx 50m$ rope (?)

Bathroom
Series

TO
BE
DROPPED

For the rest of the trip we actually ended up dropping to the bottom of the second rebelay of the Uresh connection pitch (P6) and surveying a small night passage we called the bathroom series. We started with a 20m (wh) passage we called Electric Toothbrush after being woken up at 7am that morning by Beckas electric toothbrush. After a small climb up and down the passage furnished with a waterfall. We named the waterfall "Turok Rock Fall" after a suspicious looking rock at the bottom. ~~Finally~~ Finally stream-way below - This was the night which had a small very enjoyable trip with rope left in place for people looking for shallow pushing.

12/07/23 - Prospecting near Fishface

Emily, Mervyn, Joel, Lizzy and Tom

After consulting the weather forecast in the morning and seeing 50mm of rain forecast from 8pm onwards we decided the best use of our day would be to prospect. Our first port of call was a previously scooped hole of the path between Fishface and Homecoming. With no photo and only a rough location we looked in a few holes, climbing to the bottom of a couple that looked possible but to no avail. After marking the hole we decided to continue in a vaguely North direction following a night of passage in Homecoming below us. After some impressive Burdah walking we found another prospect which Joel eagerly descended only to find it also checked out - It was therefore nicknamed Joel's disappointment, which later changed to sunglasses disappointment after he figured out he lost his sunglasses somewhere into the hole.

Yet another Burdah battle later we emerged to 2 Rucknack on the plateau and realised we were at amphitheatre. It was here that Joel and Lizzy discovered that Radost's prized hole was in fact when they and Sarah had prospected the week before... they were not happy. Whilst here Joel and Tom dropped into some smaller surrounding holes and after a miscommunication for the lotus of sewage pipe, Grivel hole and Grivel pot were both.

From here we began to circle back towards Fishface. On the way we found a large flat expanse of limestone with one semi hopeful prospect but after a large amount of gardening and some dodgy free climbing from Joel it was decided it was just too chossy to look in any further. Finally we found our one true promising prospect - a hole temporarily named crucifix as it was buried in a burdah patch next to a cross. After putting one bolt in and preparing to start more bolting/lugging we looked up to see a large thunderstorm approaching. We left our bolt and rope we started to leg it up the hill. Tom did not enjoy this part. Finally we arrived, drenched in sweat and weezing for oxygen, but not burnt to the bone by lightning, we arrived at top camp as the storm hit. We spent the next part of the night covering in the one dry corner of the burdah as the forecast rain poured. 5 of us sheltered in the animal shelter and watched Matilda the Musical - a good storm pass time!

14/07/2023 Honorata, Radost, Chi, Oahem, Warril,
Merryn

Floating down the river to Bad Aussee.

Me and Radost are leaving today, so we wanted to do a fun rest day activity on ~~one of~~ ^(15/07) our last ~~full~~ full day. Chi, Warril, and Oahem agreed to go canyoning to Grabenbach (V4A4) ^(with us). We decided that we wanted to be in the canyon in the hottest moment of the day. ~~We~~ We were ready to leave at noon but Chi realized he'd lost his car keys. 2 hours of searching for them around the park but yielded no results.

Disappointed, we decided to float down the river to Bad Aussee where we later had ice cream. Floating down the river ~~is~~ has been definitely the most dangerous and stupid thing I've done on expo. Don't do it and if you have to - wear a helmet, gloves, and shoes unlike us. I started rolling on one waterfall and was really afraid I'd hurt my head. Then, I hit my hip really hard on a rock. I'm not gonna do it again. Ice cream was nice though.

10/07/2023 → 12/07/2023

Camp in Fish Face - pushing Redlight & Perseid Showers
Emma, Mike B., Mealy, Jonky

10-7-23

we wake up early-ish with the goal of leaving at 9/10 but quickly decide MUCH more jaff is needed. ~~A~~ A stop is eventually made at the shops to buy biodegradable bags & a magazine, very warm and we are worried about dehydration. We get walking, jaffing more by running into many groups coming off the plateau, and Mike catches up quickly. Once on the plateau the weather seems more pleasant - a cool breeze is present now - when I see the cause - a huge cloud of rain hanging over the Dachstein. "nah, that's just mist" says uncle Mike. We make our merry way, not forgetting to bow to the plateau monster (Mike doesn't bow) until we hear a rumble of thunder. "nah, just a plane" says uncle Mike. Soon, horizontal rains start, which we are not dressed nor prepared for, so we hide by crouching ~~to~~ against a wall in the plateau. Then, wind turns and we get very soaked so we huddle under Jonky's 1-man emergency bobby. Anyway, sun returns, much more jaff is had, I take a fall... we don't make it into Fishface until 20.45, carrying LUDICROUSLY large bags! Mealy and I lead the way in, made a little clumsy by our heavy loads - ~~even~~ though not as heavy as Jonky's, and not at all as bad as Mike's, whose "side bag" is a full-sized rucksack containing lots of rope. The first pitch was Not My Friend and I dropped a plastic bottle - after that I enjoyed myself - esp. impressed by TK Maxx, a super cool pitch! Mealy & I get down just after 23.00, followed soon by Jonky, and a little later by Mike who had stopped to get Even More Rope. Mealy goes off to jaff with Cavellink, Jonky & I head over to help, and we send the important message "camp crèche want more peanut" - it sends. Mealy & I share smark & noodles, Jonky & Mike eat curry, we ~~also~~ whip out the mini-jägermeister all take a lil sip and head to sleep. I apparently cause some disturbance by snoring (sorry) and we all sleep intermitently.

11-7-23

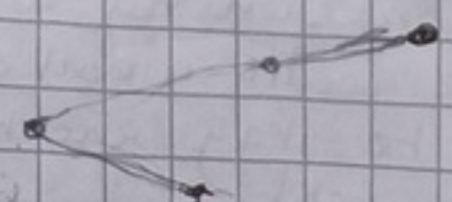
we make a late start (it's hard to leave warm sleeping bags) - no response on cavellink so we send several more messages saying "weather update pls?" etc. Mealy Mike & I eat porridge, Jonky eats noodles, then Mealy & Jonky head off to push Radost's lead and Mike starts rigging Perseid showers - I sit in a bobby in case Mike needs me. He does not, and I get quite bored. Eventually ~~he~~ he comes back, now a little damp. Quite displeased at the state & placement of some bolts. We go to find the others and run into them on their way back - Radost's lead was a loop & Fishface was connected to Fishface yet again. Back we go to camp - still nothing on the cavellink - a little concerning as rain was predicted for ± 24 hrs later and we really wanted a weather forecast. After More Jaff we decide to stay another night, so Mike went off to re-bolt & rig the rest

while Jonky Mealy & I went to look at the mysterious ABC - lead in Moths 2. I enjoyed doing the free climbs there! Then, we heard LOTS and LOTS of water that Mealy did not remember - we carried on to look down the pitch which was rigged quite weirdly - the rope into Moths was sort of dragged into Moths 2. We decided the vibes were simply off and left without pushing. ... pre - this, me and Mealy had some veg soup and also fancied non-freezing water so we heated up water which tasted SO Good. Jonky was sipping the warm water & it fogged up his glasses - upon which he proclaimed he couldn't see anything other than the BEAUTIFUL GOLDEN GLOW of our veg soup! And indeed, this beautiful glow felt like a divine presence! We each took turns fogging up our glasses and looking at what we decided must be the face of God himself and were thus lengthily entertained. Anyhow, back from Moths area, we decided to have a lil look for anything, practically, and stumbled upon what looked deeply unpromising - a tight little sandy rift Jonky had to crawl into, but was in fact some really nice passage that contained some pretty little formations! Thus we surveyed Get Riky - a fun detour. We popped out into a BIG rift that we briefly were hyped about but turned out to be familiar ground. Back at camp we were quite tired so headed to bed despite being a little worried about Uncle Mike who was still on Perseid Showers. Luckily he showed up not long after - a little damp and not too thrilled about the efforts - Perseid Showers still needs surveying and it was wetter than you would want to get even with rebocking.

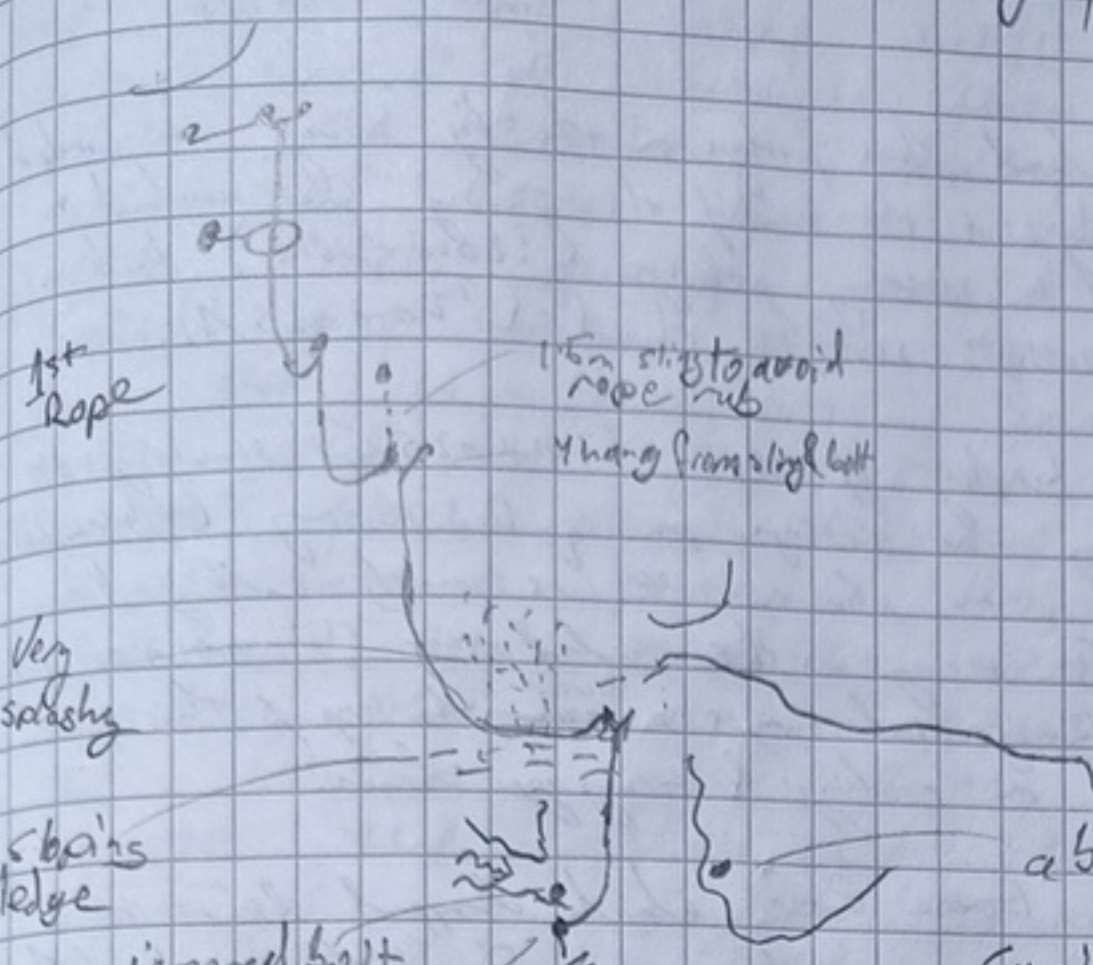
12/7/23 Mealy & I get up around 7 and pack (& jaff a lil) to start prussicking out & stay on the safe side of any rain. The bags were very awkward in the rifts but other than that it was quite a good time - Mealy left me sweet treats on the bels every now and then as motivation. At around BBBB time, ~~myself~~ I got horrible cramps that made the entire rest a bit of an ordeal though prussicking wasn't too bad. I had a little cry on the surface but mostly was just very pleased to be in the sun again. Soon followed by Jonky and Mike - conclusion: EFFORT ≠ SUCCESS!

Author's note: MB would like me to include that we discussed the most likely position to find Heivan A in in a sex shop - disguised as a salesman - and decided we would expect to find him

Handwritten scribbles and symbols on the left margin, including a large '4' and several vertical lines.



All on throughbolts, about 200m of rope, taken in 2 bags to much regret.



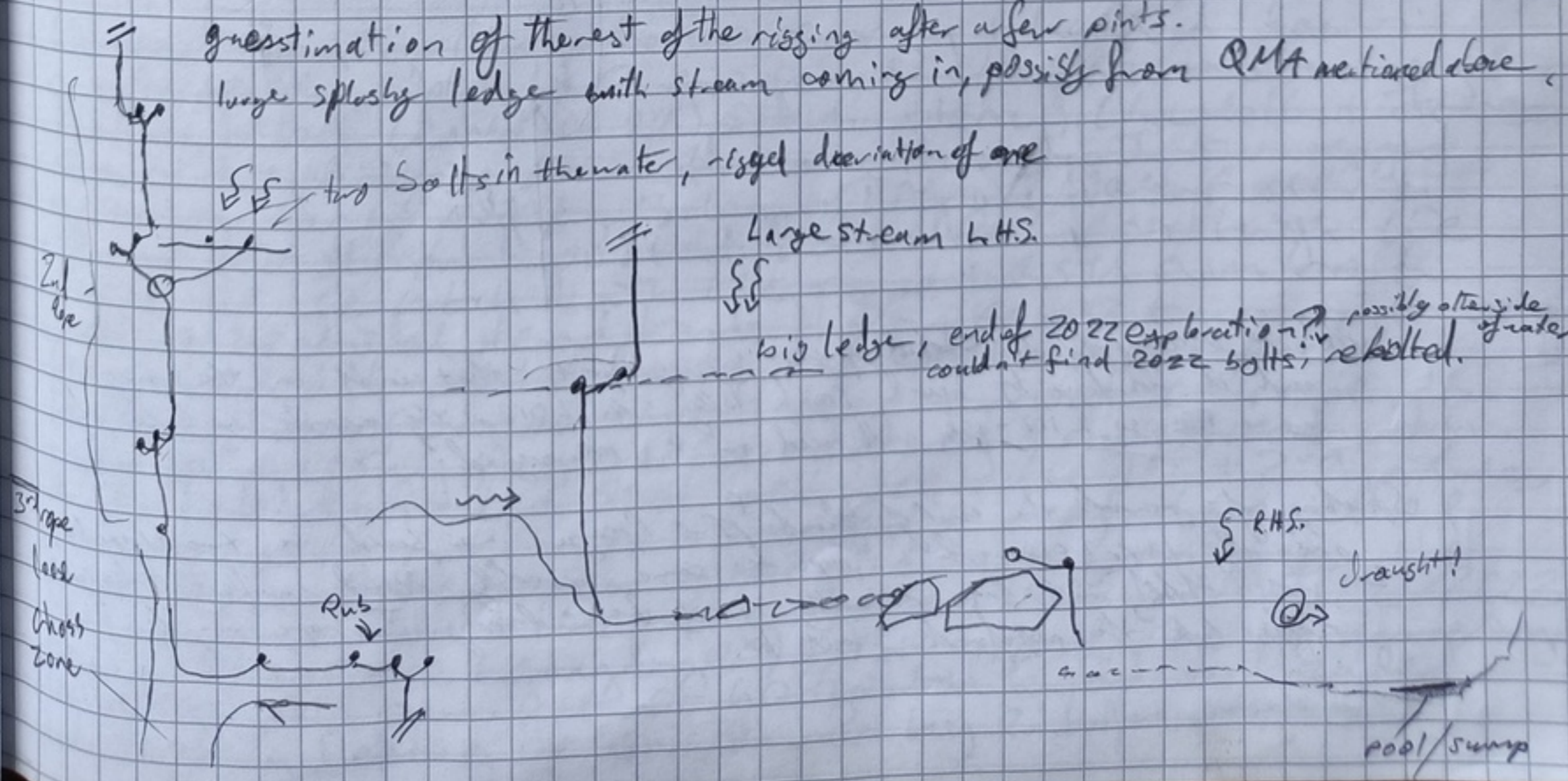
QMA walking on stage to another parallel pitch sounds damp, might connect in 'lower down'

abandoned bolt, swivelling, can't take longer off

Continues for about 200m of rope to a boulder size of a house sized boulder. At least five streams converge in this area. Below the 15m with the floor is choked by boulders with a pool/gravelly sump at the down stream end. Still a strong draft but no obvious way on. Could be many side passages on the way down.

As I was alone with no disto ~~the last bit wasn't~~ and with a thunderstorm forecast (rightly) for the next day, this was not surveyed so a return visit to survey, drop the parallel shaft, and devig. is required. I was wearing a new AV hallock over suit with which still had its water proofing, as well as a gimp Mac over the top. Just about able to stay dry enough but a PVC would be better.

This was a fantastic bit of cave, ~~that~~ really enjoyed the splashy Yorkshire nature, even though I was a little scared of flooded routes at times. Was rather sad that it didn't break into the next horizontal level. Might still be worth pushing the parallel shaft from the end of the first rope. - Mike



guesstimation of the rest of the rassing after a few pints. Large splashy ledge with stream coming in, possibly from QMA mentioned above.

ES too Salts in the water, - rigged deviation of one

Large stream L.H.S.

big ledge, end of 2022 exploration? couldn't find 2022 bolts; rebolted. possibly other side of water

R.H.S.

Draft!

pool/sump

Shallow Hibernating had pushing beyond Island Hibernating & Dead Flies Passage

14/07/23

Will, Nadia, Milie, Sarah

During our 2 A-looks at the end of dead flies passage on the big survey we headed down to investigate & push. Arriving at the end of the survey, we reached a small $\sim 3 \times 1.5$ m chamber with a streaming passage (?2018-20A) back to the left and a more rifty passage straight ahead (?2018-25A).

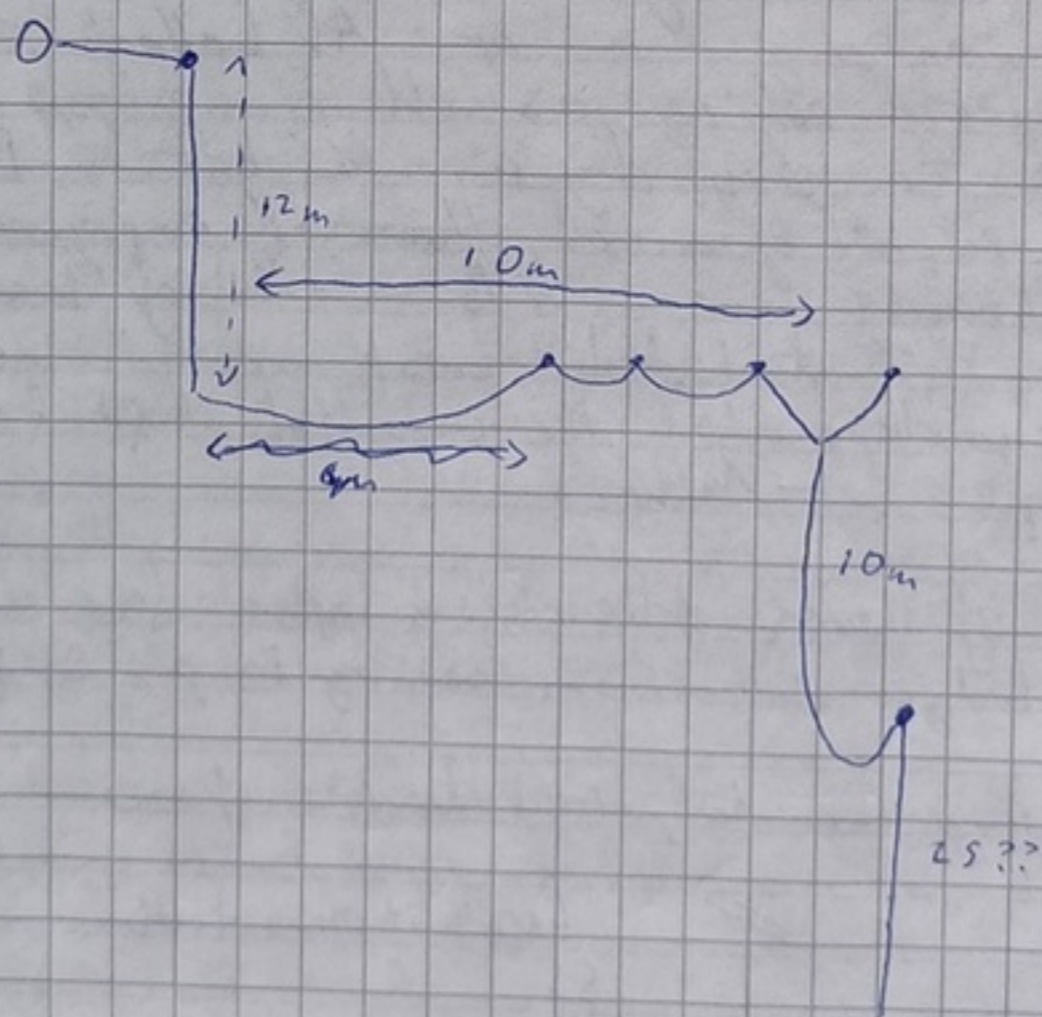
We were quite surprised to see survey marks heading off down ?2018-25A starting at 91 & ending at 133 continuing along the passage for quite a way (~ 40 m ²⁰¹⁸). This passage started out rifty then went more dramatic, it was mostly walking but a little stoop & contorted in places. The survey marks ended at 133 at a significant drop, it looked like there was some horizontal ways ^{over} the top of this pitch but we dropped the pitch and carried on pushing & surveying down.

(QMDCC)

Sarah bolted this ~ 12 m pitch dubbed "The Goose Box" which dropped down to a $\sim 6 \times 2$ m ledge. At the back of this area, a few m's from the pitch looked very clean-washed and had a small puddle at the bottom presumably from the rain a few days prior. At the other end of the ledge was a traverse & a drop that Sarah bolted but failed to reach the bottom ^{bottom} of with our $\sim 50-60$ m rope that was used for both pitches.

The second pitch consisted of a ~ 10 m traverse line, a ~ 10 m drop then a rebelay followed by a ~ 25 m drop into a streamway (QMA)

Goose Box rigging topo



Back at basecamp Nadia looked up the survey points that were on the survey and it was done by her & Frank Tuttle in 2018, the records we have of go to 112 so 112-133 will need to be resurveyed!

Speaking of, towards the end of Dead Flies Passage we found a trackway presumably from 2018 with a rope & some incredibly rusted anchors & hangers. It was slightly wet, but presumably mostly from dripping. The rope may be usable but the network won't be.

13/7/23 Zac, John, Sarah, Will Home coming

The day started out bleak with the plateau overcast and still soaked from the night before. Zac and Sarah set out from top camp while Will and John came from base. We all bumped into each other at homecoming which was excellent timing! We proceeded to garlic cave for some lunch where Zac and Sarah got very cold. Philip joined us there also. We waited for the rain to die away then hiked over to top homecoming. Sarah led followed by Zac then Will then John. The plan was to re-rig the small pitch and traverse after vadogast as well as investigate a phreatic tube 5m below the vadogast pitch head. Each of these were to be done in pairs but this plan was scattered when John headed the longer rope from Sarah (exploring vadogast) to re-rig the pitch and traverse. In the end Zac re-rigged it under John's supervision while the other 2 stood around. Sarah then ascended vadogast and rigged a new rope to swing over to the tube. Having been unsuccessful Zac then valiantly tried for half an hour until everyone got cold. Ascending, Zac saw a great spot for a deviation. We then all exited the cave to the dying light, Zac and Sarah hiked followed a while later by Will and John. On the way back to top, Zac slipped and pulled his arm / scraped his knee ~~part~~ meaning mine had to apply cream to it at top camp. A bit of a fatty trip but ~~an~~ an important step for making progress.

14/7/23 Becha, John, Harry, Charlotte, James 359 - Homecoming - Waterfled - Alpine Slows

Walked from Top Camp to Homecoming + headed down q. efficiently. Split to 2 groups at the previous survey limit, below Charlotte's 2nd pitch. Harry, Charlotte + James started surveying downstream. John + I surveyed upstream for a mighty 3 legs ("Alpine Waterfall?") to where the stream spouted down from on high. We went up the pitch with the rope + drill aiming to bolt a vertical lead but Harry caught us up to say they needed it so he took the drill + rope + they polked downstream until they ran out of rope. John leave a splashy A-lead connecting the 1st + 2nd pitches + I biked off the QMA between the 1st + 2nd pitches. It just was high in the same miff that Harry et al were m-confirmed with a vocal connection. Then we surveyed a minor loop + lead near the start of the 2023 find ("Flowers Canyon 2") + John did photogrammetry. ~~Then~~ Harry had run out of horizontal leads so headed out, luckily beating the jam caused by 2 trips ~~and~~.

ambly s'mboready at the bottom of Homecoming
entrance which meant that some people had a very late
night. T/U Becha + Jono 13 hours, T/U others 15 hours

15/7/23 Becha + Sarah prospecting N of baricave

We walked under the planks of the Kleine Wildkogel
to the ridge at the top (where you can see down to the
bivy hut in the bowl between that ridge + the next)
The gps track for Becha is downloaded + I logged
4 caves, named 2023-~~Becha~~ BL-Q1 to Q4. Two were
horizontal + are Kataweralde (Q2 and Q4) and the other
two (Q1 and Q3) are open shafts that would need to
be dropped to be checked out. ~~Becha also searched~~
~~for a passage~~ T/U 10 min

16/7/23 Becha, Sarah, Alice, Buck
Homecoming - Hobnob Hallway ^{→ Dead Tree passage →} Golden Goose

Alice + Buck came from Top Camp with a drill, batteries and
hammer... but sadly no drill bits. We hoped we
might meet the camping bivy extra + be able to take
that drill bits so we took all the kit down but
sadly we didn't see them so Sarah rigged as far as she
could without bolging but couldn't bottom the pit
Meanwhile Alice + I resurveyed "Golden Goose" to finish
~~lead~~ on A lead upstream from the previous existing
cave line (about 9'!) + we then resurveyed down to
Sarah's pitch (survey name "Goose Box") because
Bronk + Nadia's data for this had disappeared... while
then survey stations which we largely reused. The
survey is now nearly to the putting track. We looked at
other OMs on the way out + b'closed off / killed the
2018-20B one, it ends ~~at night~~. The newly replaced,
New red rope on Graphit is already worryingly fraying
not good after so few b'pts T/U 8 hours

Ends at an oven, OMX, about 20m beyond last survey
station after m'lon of tight rift

The Tempest Diaries

Part 1 of 3 47.59111 13.80984

16/7 Joel, Lizzie, Tom, Ely

Tempest
initial
explore

Having arrived @ Top Camp, we decided
to go and poke the hole we had found
~~at~~ at the end of the day on the 12th

Given the working title of Tomb of Christ
by Tom due to its situation under a large
metal cross, it was agreed that if the
cave went it would be renamed Tempest in
honour of Lizzie's Sewarite primary school
performance - The Tempest: The Musical. Emily
had begun bolting a traverse in before we were
saved by weather. So I continued this to
a Y-hang which dropped ~ 20m onto
a snowy slope with passage leading to both
left and right. Tom drilled in & started
bolting a relay while I dug through the
snow to look at the more promising RH lead-
this turned out to be a ~~scree~~ scree slope
~ 45° which continued for 15m. Sadly the
drill jammed up before Tom could finish the bolt,
and with more weather approaching we turned
around, vowing to return. Time underground ~ 2h

Part 2 of 3

17/7 Joel, Lizzie, Tom

Tempest
pushing

Planning to go and with many promising leads
to explore ^{and survey} we raled down to Tempest to
continue the work. We finished Tom's bolt,
which meant the scree slope was marginally
safer to descend. I descended down to a choke
above a short pitch with a ledge to LH
while Lizzie & Tom surveyed from the entrance.
Some serious genderning was required which
occupied me until the other two arrived.

Then we bolted a traverse into the slot with
I entered the chamber now known as Nornia,
due to the impressive frozen waterfalls & other
ice formations. We surveyed into this
chamber, noting again exciting leads to both
left and right of the pitch base, then headed
back to the surface. Time underground ~ 5.

Part 3 of 3

Tempest Pushing

18/7 Joel, Lizzie, Tom, Zac, Ash, Meryn

The huffe was growing, and not one but two
groups went to push Cor Kill, in Ash's case

this cave. Congregating at the base of
the ~~base~~ Nornia pitch after I had added
a rebelay on the entrance pitch, Ash and
Zac set off to survey the LH passage & scored
an impressive 100m before reaching a choke-

Fastchoke was born, ~~was~~ a lovely horizontal
& almost straight passage w/ sandy floor &
bobbing currents in ceiling. Meanwhile, the
remainder set off to continue down Nornia,
bolting another 13m pitch with much fuss
and surveying up to the top of Tomb Kender

At the bottom, which Tom reached first,
we were dismayed to find a cessation
of human-sized cave. Tom had landed
on a choke, with small holes to L and R
but nothing easily accessible. Upon seeing

This Lizzie turned around & left in disgust,
but driven mad with disappointment me and
Tom began heaving frantically at the
boulders on either side. Suddenly, with a cry
of joy, I heaved aside a mighty boulder
to find a nearly-Joel-size hole in the
floor with an excellent echo. After much
experimental squeezing we found that feet first
sans SRT kit worked best, & I had a
quick look to see a large & impressive
rift below. We had left Lizzie waiting long
enough so turned around and returned to
surface, planning to bring some heavy
demolition's kit the next day.

part 4 of 3

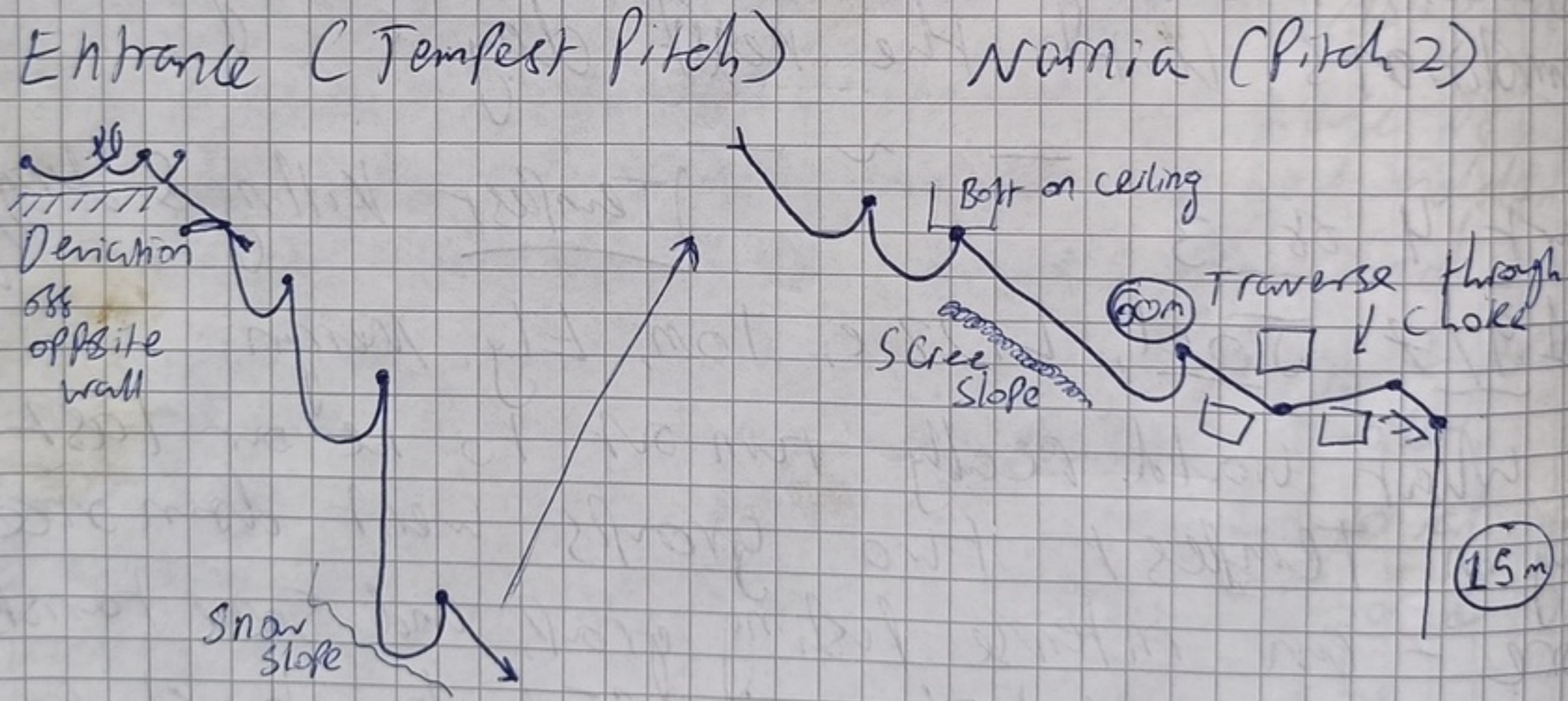
Temple Killing & Juggling

19/7 Joel, Lizzie, Tom, Ely, Meryn

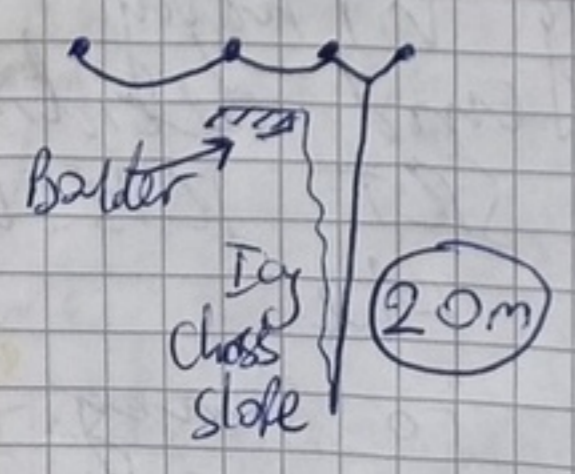
On what would really turn out to be our last
day in Templest, two groups went down once
more - an intense fishing group, and some tanks.
Me, Lizzie & Ely attempted to bash a
bigger hole to get into the rift at the
bottom of Tomb Raider, achieving virtually
nothing after an hour of work and deciding
one jagged to drop in without SRT kits.
We were joined by Meryn, and the
Skeleton Team ~~and~~ squeezed in to survey
the rift. This Scully crawled out in Choles
at both ends of the rift and along

a continuation to the right, but we didn't
 surveyed and got some good photos
 before returning out the hole to discover
 mildly hypothermic Tom waiting for us in low
 gimp poncho like some frozen wizard.
 Concluding that, despite our best efforts,
 this cave was going nowhere, we
 derigged the cave in stages & left
 all the rope at Fishale. Defeated but
 contented, we retreated to Top Camp.

Tempest rigging topo



Tomb Raider (Pitch 3)



20 July 2023 - Homecoming, Goose Box → Lassitude
Canyon
Sarah, Becku, Adam A.

Managed to get underground before noon (!) at about 11.40am, Becku had gone via fish face to pick up her caving kit and some drill batteries.

We got to the bottom of grommit without incidence and sorted through the drill & drill accessories that had been stashed there. They were in a holey ~~or~~ tackle bag with no dry bag, so drill was extremely dirty, we repurposed Adam's Sainsbury's bag to store the drill, divided up the drill gear, then continued on ~~to~~ through Hobnob Hallway, Dead Pies to the pushing front. We dropped to a large ledge near where I had run out of bolts on a previous trip. I drilled up whilst Becku and Adam layered up, I descended to my previous single bolt rebelay and turned it into a Y-hang, I abseiled around a further 5m and put in another rebelay. Here, the initial rift meets a perpendicular canyon with a small waterfall coming in from the side. I descended another ~10m and peeked around the corner, finally spotting the bottom of the pitch with my stop spot. I rigged a final rebelay and reached the bottom.

Calling up to Becku & Adam they began surveying down. I paced around to keep warm. When the others arrived, I layered up (Becku had brought my things). Becku surveyed the chamber we'd dropped into (waterfall on the right, a streamway in a cut-down canyon, a clamber up to the left). The left led to some phreas above the canyon - a promising lead, but would require a rope traverse.

Becku & I climbed down into the canyon to survey the streamway (Adam had hiking boots rather than wellies, so would have ~~not~~ gotten very wet feet).

0703 U
Blower a
in his
rod.

effort

est
but

2)

through
hole

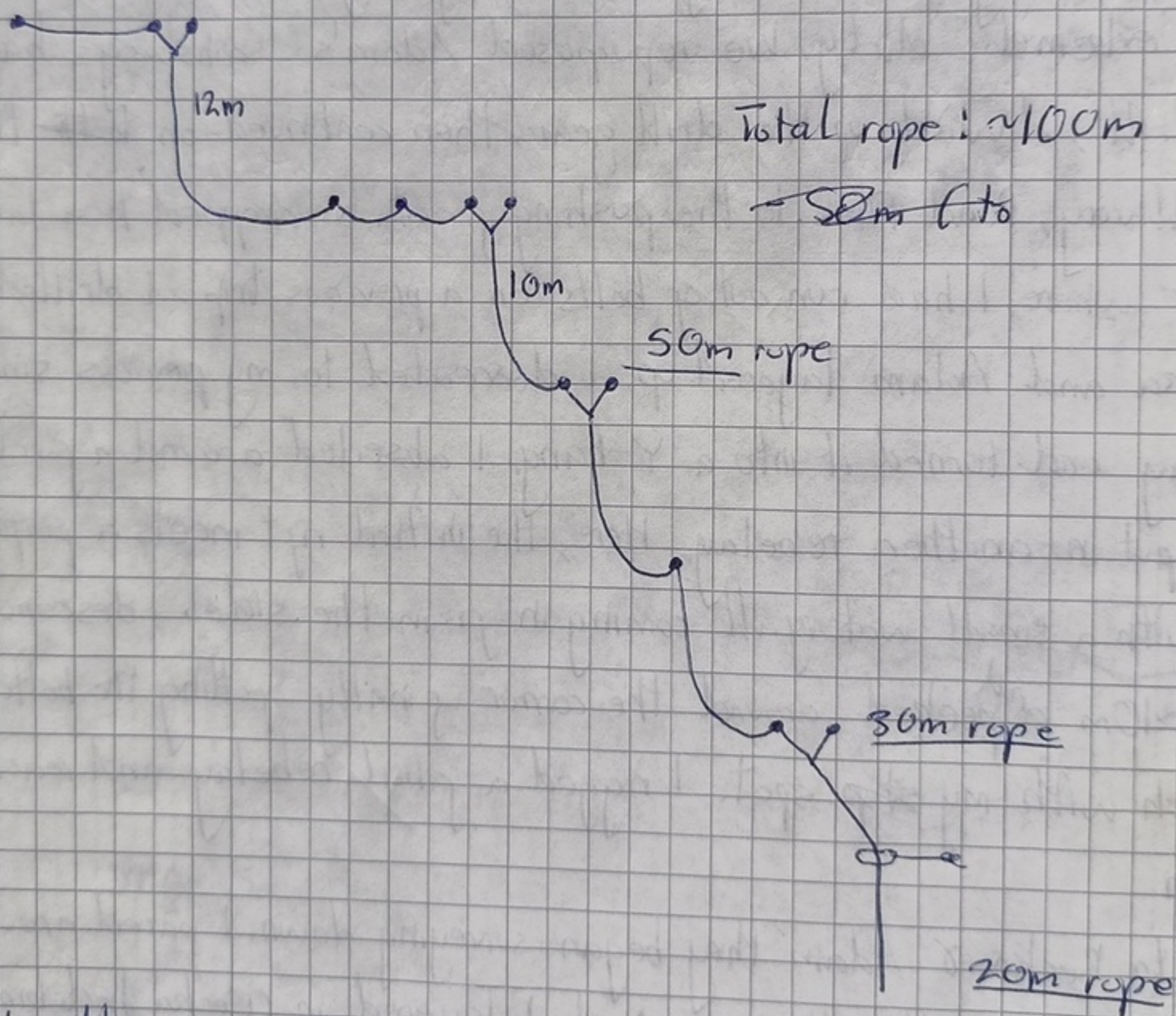
15m

We surveyed until we reached a ~8m small cascade (honestly not very wet, even your feet would be fine), which would require ~2 balls & ~10m rope. Left it as a lead.

Becka & I tweaked the rigging on the way out, then we headed out of the cave.

Time U/G - 12 hrs.

Goose Box rigging topo:



4 handlines from start of Hahnob to Goose Box. All rigged off naturals. Lengths (approx) 10m, 15m, 10m, 8m.

19/07/23 - We (Nadia, Max, Floana Rai) went prospecting near Fish Lake. We found a core with 2 entrances that linked together in several places. We dropped the first one and it didn't go anywhere so we dropped the second part which had loads of ice galleries which some of which had to be destroyed to stop them squashing people. The second part of the core went straight down then opened up slightly into a low slot chamber.

19/7/23 Bedra, Sarah, Adam Aldridge prospecting W of Garlic Cove

See Bedra's tracklog for route and 2023-BL-05 to 09 for 5 logged cores. Adam descended twice of them on naturals but sadly they all ended immediately, as did the two horizontal ones that we logged. He also failed to circumnavigate the Flesher Wildcave which made me both sad and cross. I checked out Paul Walker's ladder hole in the breccia which turned out to be a grassy bowl with no hole whatsoever.



THRU BOLTS 21/07/23

35 ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||

30 ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||

35 ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||

33 ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| ||||| |||||

133

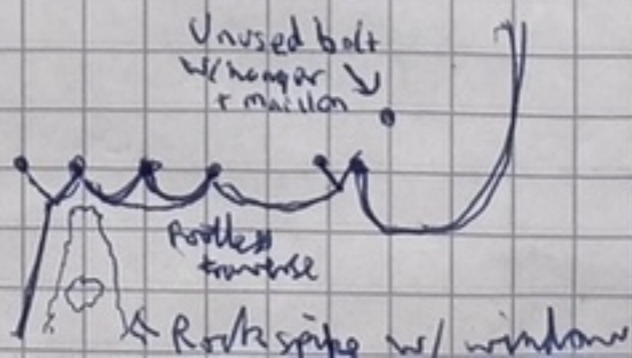
Missing amphitheater and prospecting



23/07/23 David Botcherby, Rob Watson - Fishface 4th Pitch Rerig

After storming up to Top Camp, we decided to make use of the rest of the day by re-rigging the 4th pitch in Fish Face. I enjoyed learning the route to FF and the progression of alpine flowers. We arrived around 1700 only to discover that Rob's drill was not in the above. After having a meltdown and shouting at no-one in particular, Rob decided to run back to Top Camp to get a drill while I chilled out in the sun. We actually got down around 1800, quickly smashing down to the offending pitch ^{around 1900}. While Rob got the drill set up I went down to identify which rope was the new one (Nadia had previously started the re-rig) and show Rob where to lead gear at the bottom. After saying about changing ropes I got down to the bottom then up the haulline to the new bottom of the pitch. As it would take some time, I decided to explore a bit. I ran down a few pitches, which was easy due to reflectors. I went wrong once when I popped through a little hole to a crumbling slope above a big drop. After a while I thought maybe I should return, but maybe just one more pitch... This was the massive TK Max. At the bottom it was really time to return (2015) so I quick stepped it back, returning to a (slightly worried) Rob at 2100th. He'd been done for 40 minutes and had had time to derig most of the old rope. To my disappointment he'd opted not to pass the rope through the little window. We got back to camp at around 2230 where the others were a bit surprised by our lateness. Ate a massive bowl of Tortelloni

Three bolts
used: 5



New
Rigging
FF 4th Pitch

24/7/23

Home coming - rigging fixing

Rob, Nadia

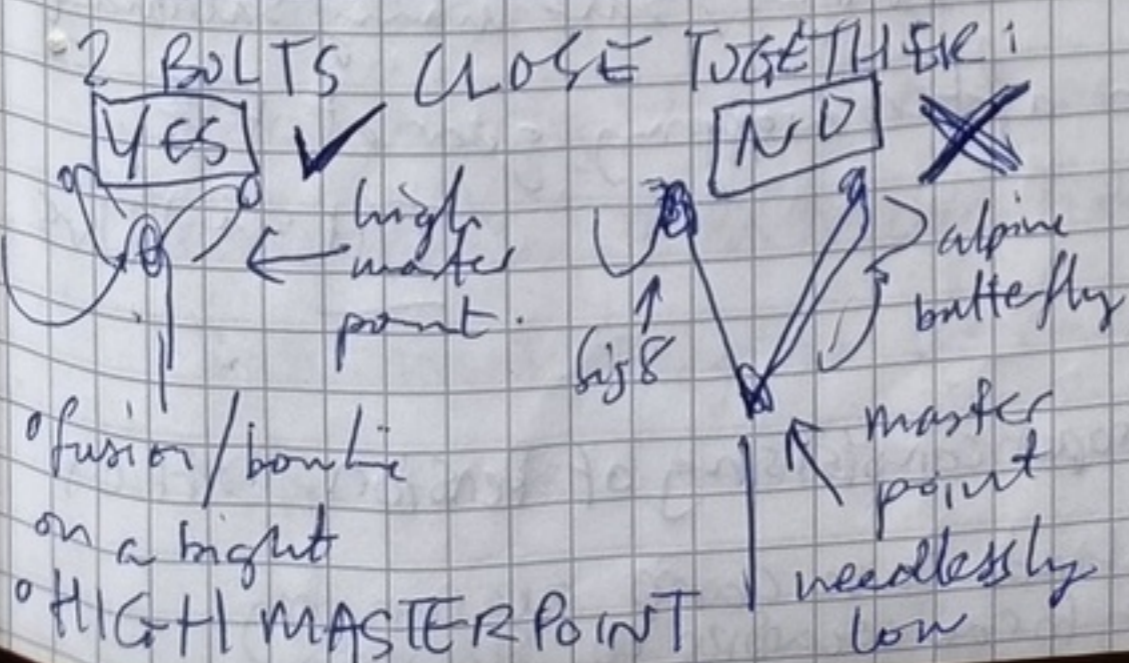
Various reports/complaints had made it clear that the rigging in Home coming left a lot to be desired, so ~~the~~ since the forecast for the afternoon precluded the possibility of ~~the~~ descending Big Bastard or making moves to push Clap my P. Dr. Up Nadia & I decided to go & fix this.

The walk ~~to~~ ^{between} this crag from Fish Face is one of the most irritating pieces of plateau bashing I have ever had to do. Lots of snaking up & down ^{through} rugged terrain through huge patches of ~~brake~~ dwarf willow, ~~with~~ ^{with little idea how close you are to your destination} ~~general~~ ~~idea~~ ~~of~~ ~~direction~~, so off to a good start.

Eventually arrived & kitted up. Headed down the first couple of pitches with ~~plenty~~ ^{banks} of snow before arriving at the pitches after the crag. Installed a new bolt at the pitch head ~~just after the~~ ^{just after the} ~~crag~~ to make a traverse line. Then installed another rebelay near the bottom of this to reduce rub.

Then headed onwards. Had to completely derig the next section then rerig because many of the Y hangs were needlessly low & also because the rope had been threaded around a natural through an alpine butterfly in a highly japysh fashion. At the head of the main hang on Radegast I decided to swap the rope because the Y hang had been so poorly equalised that the alpine butterfly had tightened solidly.

HOW TO TIE AN APPROPRIATE Y HANG:



- SRT rigging should be tight & high.
- Use appropriate knots for the configuration of bolts.
- add traverse lines to pitch heads to reduce rub.

After fixing this new rope in at the top I carried on re-rigging down Radagast. This long (30-40 m) hang had not been broken up at all, despite there already being a rebelay bolt halfway down! I added another bolt here then just below drilled a thread for a deviation. This pitch could do with one more rebelay before the traverse to avoid the big swing in the drops. Swapped out small rope at the bottom as the new orange can do it all. Then headed on through the amazing rift-traverse with the up rope ~~to the next~~ ^{to the next} traverse. Added another natural to the end of this to make getting off the end easier. Then derigged the ~~~10 m~~ ^{pitch} ~~up~~ ^{down} rope & following up rope which arrives at the head of Wallace. Replaced these with a new descending traverse which avoids the need to go down & up through an amazing rift. Then installed a small new traverse line to protect the exposed approach to the ~~start~~ ^{start} of this while Nadia added a new rebelay part way down Wallace & lengthened the deviation.

NB: while I was rigging the new descent to the head of Wallace at 17:00 - 18:00 we heard a huge flood pulse some where ahead of us in the cave, which came on really quickly and dissipated over ~ 2 hrs.

We turned around at ~ 20:30. On the way out I noticed that Radagast 3 formed along a really nice ^N normal Fault, a marker bed ^{~50m thick} between 2 shale bands shows it has ~ 10m displacement. Walk back was very damp & treacherous, saw many salamanders. Back at Top camp at ~ 1am after dropping gear at FF.

Then bolts used: 13

T/U's ~ 11 hrs

22/07/23 Pension Talk

After a long drive across Europe consisting of Pension, traffic, HS2, car talk, we turned up to find base camp as rain by all the noise + these threads prepping for an excursion to Slovenia

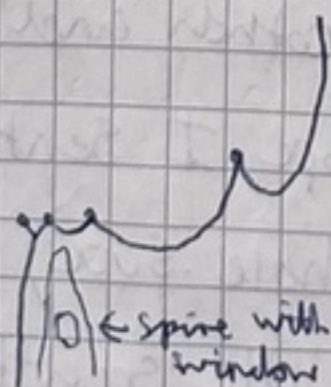
27/07/23

Botch, Nadia

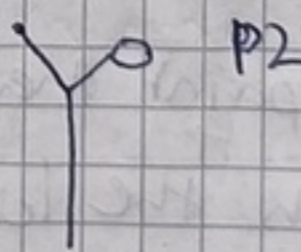
Fish Face rigging + Gerbil Hole attempt

After a freezing night in the cloud at Top Camp, the prospect of an ~~easy~~ underground camp wasn't seeming too bad. We got going slowly due to the chill, then walked over to FishFace. The camping team was myself, Nadia, Rob, and Kai plus a non-camping team of Luke and Becca. We were last so spent some time re-rigging the 4th pitch - removing the footless traverse in favour of two rebelay. I was a bit concerned it'd be too tight but we didn't want to put any bolts in so left it at that. We got to underground camp + had some noodles - no utensils so we ate with a pencil. We then went to bolt down the rift that Luke freeclimbed to the lead in the rift at the end of Gerbil Hole. Rigging took a while due to the confusing nature of the rift and shit rock. We'd used our two ropes to get to the lead so just surveyed out to complete a loop. By the time we got back to camp it was 2100 so we just made soupy yhoai/smash curry ~~and~~ and ate it with sporks.

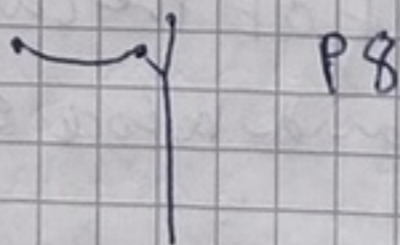
FF 4th pitch



GH rift 1st pitch



GH rift 2nd pitch



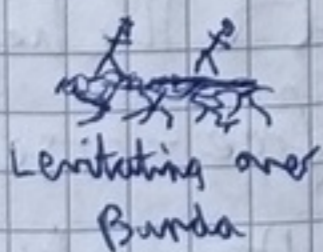
29/07/23

Botch, Rob

Garlic Cave area prospecting

We were both tired from 2 days in Fish Face so went to prospect around Garlic Cave. We took a couple of blue barrels over for GC storage. We stopped via Homesiding to have a look and took some extra stuff to take down the hill. We dabbled a bit looking at plants and arthropods and also got a bit lost. Once at GC we relocated the Tape Drum and removed the soup inside then had bread and cheese while looking at the view. We had limited time to prospect so set off quickly. At first we found little but then by levitating over some buda

we located a couple of decent prospects - one hole under a green Alder and another large slope to a small ^{square} hole with a 10m drop ^{in by area of buda, no pavement} below. We then headed back and got very lost on the 'well cairned' ~~route~~ route back. On the way we located a very good lead, drifting with a snow plug and a massive 'train tunnel' near the path that has lead in the back that could have been blocked by snow plug before. We were very late to meet our lift back, but so were they. Back down for a swim in the lake with lightning



Green Alder Cave

~~47.586, 13.970~~

47.699, 13.806

Path Cave

~~47.586, 13.970~~

Square Hole Cave

47.699, 13.805

Train Tunnel - 2004-03-16 23/270

47.683, 13.807

GPS point

broken
near
relocating

Camping without Utensils - 7 days in Fish Lake

27 - 28 Oct / 7/23 Rob, Nadia, Becka, Batch.

Did a bit of packing ~~them~~ night before but it was too chilly to want to really commit to the gear. So that had to be done the following morning, when it was equally cold. Which made us all a bit grumpy. Plan for day 7 was for Kai & I to visit the European Federalists area to see if we could work out what was going on there while Luke was also there rigging CMPU.

After an uneventful commute we arrived at the traverse above Red Light. This was very much the reverse of Balcony's Arse. Disgusting sticky mud everywhere and they had used the 8.5mm rope to rig it, thus making ^{the rope} really nasty. One part of the traverse was pretty strenuous & muddy, so one needs that, feel bad for whoever had to want while it got bolted. Anyway, got to the end & it was a total winger. Super chussy pitch combined with a mud festival. No thanks. Got a voice connection with Becka at the top of CMPU but couldn't see her light. Decided to fuck it off as it was almost certainly just the top of Arse's median. ~~So~~ left it rigged for now, a ^{visual} ~~visual~~ connection can be made later.

Then we headed back along the traverse to the head of CMPU to try and traverse across to the 'free-arse' that Luke & I had spotted the year previously. It quickly became apparent that traversing at the level of the 'free-arse' would be very difficult, so I decided instead to traverse above & then drop in from the top. Some very muddy & naughty traversing ensued with a handy dose of choss. But a short while later I was looking at a rather nice phreatic passage

with two junctions visible immediately. Very promising!

Kai came over & we began the survey. Not wanting to steal all the thunder I asked Kai if he would like to be on boot. He enthusiastically said YES. (When has Kai not been enthusiastic?) So we headed back across the traverse above the 270m drop surveying as we went.

[NB: after getting down the hill & going to put the data into the computer I realised I had forgotten that Kai is very dyslexic and had managed to write a lot of the numbers the ~~right~~ ^{wrong} way round i.e. a line reading of 07 rather than 70... And no record of the numbers was retained in the data. So it will have to be re-surveyed.]

Then back to camp where we discovered the lack of utensils. Ate some gnocchi / awny soup with a spamer. The fairy lights ~~made~~ ^{made} the situation far nicer though. Kai proceeded to throw Botch's spamer down the rift after I washed it & the bowl at the tap.

Next day struggled to find motivation to leave sleeping bags but eventually made it back towards CAMP & the 'Free Arse'. Nadia, Botch & Kai began surveying the nice horizontal passage across the traverse while I rigged Apis Medicus. Remembered how poorly / quickly I rigged the traverse last year, resolved to fix it later. Pitch rigged to bottom, I looked at water levels quickly, seemed the same as last year in the rift. Looked at what the others were up to at the top. Really nice horizontal passage ongoing. ~~On~~ ^{On} the way down earlier rocks were raised on me by the traverses above so I hid & in the process noticed a canyon passage just before the top of Apis Medicus. So stole Botch & went to survey this. A nice passage then

ended at a window onto Apr's Medicines then Botch headed out while I improved the ^{fixing} ~~work~~ of the traverse between CMFU & Apr's. Much better now. Headed out in a big train of lines, getting out just before 10 pm. T/U: 26 hrs.

Thin bolts used: ~ 12

28/07/2023

Fishface - Perseid shower to Flaque verte
LUKE & LEA

Descended to camp near Perseid showers. Left some of our gear there and continued down Perseid showers. At the bottom, found a green puddle. Does not look like a sump. It had been 2 days without rain so the pitch was wet, but nothing too much. Didn't see any leads other than a parallel shaft to Perseid showers at about 140m down. Surveyed from puddle to Perseid showers's survey (~60m vertical of surveying). Dressed (Luke) and met Nadia, Kai ~~Beck~~, Bob & Rob at the top of the pitch. Came out of fishface, left the rope from Perseid showers at the junction to the witches. What an amazing feeling to be at the bottom of fishface! Wow!

T/U = 11 hrs

29/07/2023

Mendips man - Surveying trip with ^{Kai Trussan} Becka Lawson and Luke Storrison

We headed out early in the morning and headed down to fish face gear store to send Becka almost ready comparing about the quality of Disto lasers in the day. Even tho she didn't get to bring hers. After some shore ground fixing we headed to the entrance where Becka roughly ran through prof's surveying techniques with me. We then prodded into the cave. While Luke was using the Disto. My axe kept getting in the way (Fais). We then eventually got to stonery passage after finding a bat skeleton in a comb. After finding the stonery passage prodded through a squeeze which we did not go through. We then went back to the 2nd tick which is just before the stonery passage. Could squeeze out of it however there needed to be more digging to get Luke and Becka out. Luke managed to climb out of the whole but the mules and Becka went back in. Luke then showed me a hole he found that works.

T/U 2 hours

28/7/23

Fishface - CHAW CRANE off Coronut Shy
Becka, Adam A & initially Ben + Adam EJ

Steady ascent down the entrance series. Ben + Adam EJ decided to head out from there so we had a quick tourist up Elizabeth line then they headed out. Adam A & I hauled the expo drill I'd brought in + rope to the north of the cave but failed to use any chamber in Coronut Shy turned up bumps - a brief gravel paged into another chamber with several ways on there was a 4m vertical climb to head upstream, a phreatic tube above the way we entered soon entered + a wallway

campers ended in a false floor with a ~15m pitch down to
a floor + possible ways on. From the loose false floor we
climbed up a bank of poorly sorted pebbles with giant
slabby boulders balanced delicately on top. This led to a
steep, larger pitch head with water entering from the far
side. On the return I got down the pebble bank but Adam
got trapped, braced severely at the top but his feet pausing
on loose boulders. Eventually he had to just go for it +
slithered down, phew. We met huke + Nadia back at the
camp kitchen + I exited in the midst of the camp pour +
left. For some reason Adam dawdled ~~at~~ at camp + ended
up exiting ~~at~~ last + was late back to top camp

TH Adam EK + Ben = ~7h, Becca ~10h, Adam ~12h

27/7/23 Fish Face - King Clap My Pitch Up + 4th Pitch
Becca + huke

Down Elizabethline + rigged the Red West Far Danger
traverse, 2 start pitches + Ben huke rigged Clap My
Pitch Up whilst Becca fiddled with switching ropes.
Rob + Kai went above us on European Federalist traverse -
this didn't seem to be above ~~the same pitch~~ Clap My Pitch
Up. We exited + huke rebolted the 4th pitch. Better back
giving a hang that avoided the traverse + the awkward
relay that had previously been tried - this is the 4th +
hopefully the final iteration of the 4th pitch this trip

TH ~10h.

28/07/23 Fish Face - Theophilus Gooch, above CMPU
Nadia, Botch, Kai

After Rob and Kai traversed over the top of CMPU the
day before, finding a phreatic window, Botch, Kai and I got
to reap the horizontal rewards. Starting at the window we took
the small phreatic tube on the left of the window.

We went through a small tight section after a few meters and Kai
exclaimed he had found Mammoth bones just like he had
dreamt he would. The bones turned out to be bat bones and
appeared to be most of a full skeleton. These bones sit beside
a rock pillar which has a junction. We choose the left passage
again and marked the station with a G even though we knew
in two legs we would be back for the other option.
We were wrong!

The passage opened up to walking height rift, with some
flow stone and crystals in the ceiling. Next we got to a mud floor
and a tight squeeze down a mud slope. We popped out into
an even bigger rift which appeared to be phreatic at the top.

traversing forward we found a ~~40cm~~ ^{x15cm diameter} stalagmite with crystal
like hairs of helictites growing out the side. passage continued with
a stream visible in the floor at times. I dropped the survey book

Theophilus Gooch Cont

Batch with longer arm removed his helmet and got stuck in and just managed to retrieve the book. Good, didn't want to reb the last 20 legs.

But we got cold and stopped at a junction. The main rift began to have a mud floor again and ascended upwards for 10m before turning a corner out of sight. on the right there was a small pneumatic tube about 0.5 m in diameter. At least 3m long unclear if it is promising.

Also there is another small rift on the left earlier on in the passage that I couldn't decide if it was too small to be a lead.

TUV (from underground camp) 20h

31/07/23

Mendip man & Silver Moth
Kai, Adam Baldoack

We set off to the fishface gear store on a fine sunny day. I was promised some proper mendip ESC horizontal passages, but exactly what I came to Expo for. Kai showed me up to Mendip man, past the dollap of snow on the rather impressive entrance and set off down boulder and rock rubble, floored crumby passage. At a junction we began to survey a descent lead to the right. I was on duty and Kai on book. The passage was low and very surveying was pretty tight. We surveyed on and the passage slowly gently descended with a few turns and low squeezes until a junction half way on the right. In the roof lowers and choked out after about metres. The ceiling is decorated with tiny cloud, and plume like blobs of tan calc. After the junction we pushed over and surveyed the junction to the right, this just led us round in a loop to earlier in the entrance passage. Before going left at the first junction, I attempted to dig out a slope while Kai went for a piss. The dig was spartan and we proceeded on through a rather wide and crumby low passage with some ~~opens~~ a sea of offensive rocks on the floor and pushed into a standing height chamber with boulders in the centre. There were 2 leads here. The first was a small crawling passage, not quite flat out, this undid a query and was filled with bat poo and some form of fungus growing upon it. The other lead was after a climb up through a squeeze, beyond the squeeze a km rift appeared to be still open lead but definitely a D lead and probably goes back to floor level. We surveyed to the right and called it a day in Mendip man. Without a good dig it doesn't appear to be going.

Before heading to top camp we checked out a hole like found, that needed digging that across from Mendip man. With more energy low but the draft excellent we had to pull head sized boulders from the entrance until we squeezed through into a sitting height junction. The rank straight on chills after 21 metres but for right a strong draft and craters great echo. The passage began as a small sharp calcat gravel and then dropped down in a series of greeclimable steps descending to fit to a 4 metre hole. We surveyed tired but excited up to this point and left it as an A lead. We decided to call the name Silver Moth as the passage had a lot of moths and took silver from the fact that Luke found the hole with a great draft out of the hole we planned to return with a handline and a lot of psych ops the rain in 2 days time.

30/7/23 Pushing The Bottom of Fish Face - Camp #2
↳ 1/8/23

Headed underground at ~ 10 pm on 30/07, arrived at camp around half 11. Good nights sleep, unlike the following night. Packed rope, bolts etc before fabricating a quick start. Fixed up the rigging on Apis Medicus on the way down, arrived at the first pitch which was left in the canyon by myself, Nathan & Max last year. Much better than last time so decided we needed an additional rebelay bolt way out to the left. Next drop rigged then we were into new territory. Scuttled along the top of the traverse after trying to force a lower route & deciding it was too shit. Reached a big pitch, decided the smutle needed to have a rope so began bolting along while Luke & Lea squeezed, Luke returning to the main hang to get additional rope in the meantime. Propped down the pitch toward a ledge, swung out to avoid the spray of the pitch with a styhook on a small lip. PING it was off & I hung across the shaft, stopped myself hitting the wall with my hand which then became unusable for the rest of the trip.

We then landed on a big ledge in a huge fault zone. Massive piles of choss were everywhere & the water fucked off down into a small gap between some large boulders. We wandered around the space for a bit deliberately the best way to progress. There was a big over drooping in again carrying water (over 5 active inlets had been passed by now) and the possibility of a big traverse into space between the choss. In the end I decided we should follow the water & I shuffled along some boulders above the noisy streamway & below the hanging death. Placed some traverse bolts feeling quite tired after adrenaline from the hard had worn off. Used an ARSE hanger (✓) then dropped down right into the flow of the water. Rigged a deviation ~~while~~ while being pised on then reached the

floor of the drop where the inlet from the oven dropped in. Walked across the chamber feeling very cold, saw that there was another ~~5~~ ~5m drop down to a flat floored streamway below. Much more noise from water behind us than in front which would imply that things got easier ahead, but I couldn't make the stress get that wet (even though Lea was well equipped in her movement ~~packet~~, looking like crew at a festival). We denigged back to camp (went from the short down pitches to get to the new traverse) and the next day did some surveying across the traverse (now named 'Delicate Steve' ~~1/2~~ / I did Naat' as Nadia assumed I had scooped when I would not interpret that I had). Later after inputting data saw we were well on course to connect, < 100m horizontal & < 10m vertical from Razzodance. Another year, hopefully drier.

Called it 'Dentelle de Caca' after Lea said that the flaky calcite precipitates on the wall looked like the lace on a wedding dress. T/U: 48 hrs. Thin bolts used: 16.

↳ Rob, Luke, Becka, Lea, Botch.

↳ 1/8/23 Luke, Rob, Becka

After a slowish start we ~~headed~~ ^{surveyed} across Delicate Steve Rob's traverse into a phreatic window opposite to Uag My Pitch Up a Tuh head, replacing the Rob + Kai survey that had been deemed inadequate. At the junction where Nadia + Botch + Kai went left (Pleophiles Green) we surveyed the larger branch to the right. This led fairly soon over canyons to an oven with possible continuations. We wrapped up the survey + Luke + I knibled the Uag My Pitch Up / Dip's ~~Medicus~~ denig whilst Rob improved the Delicate Steve traverse. Luke + I headed to the bold traverse on Elizabeth line + Luke bolted it as a path instead whilst Rob denigged ^{the} European Federalist traverse because there ~~was~~ it was decided there were no good leads here. Got all the rope back to camp + sorted it out to pruvik out (beasting bags) + some rope got washed at the spout whilst we waited for Lea + Botch to return ~~at~~ Out ~ 10pm

02/08/23

Cold Shallow Holes
- Prospecting N of Fish Face

Botch
+ Rob

After getting out of a 48h camp we were a bit knackered so wanted to do some prospecting. After some tactical fuff to avoid the rain we set off around 1230. ~~When~~ I wanted to look North of Fish Face as me + Becca had found an aren north of the coconut shy with water coming in from above. we passed the Silver Mth crew coming out to also prospect the aren as their tea cave had died. We first found a shaft with a ~~beat~~ deflated balloon ('Dead Balloon Hole') which connected through to a small surge rift and surveyed this. We then inspected a huge doline with not much in the way of cave and found a small cave and a blocked small shaft. We then headed towards the aren directly above where I'd been in FF and found a very promising hole - Mountain Aren. It has a ridiculous draught, blasting cold air 5m from the hole. Unfortunately despite a bit of clearing rocks we couldn't find the way on. However, it could be v. promising as when we exited our glasses fogged up! We then dropped pit at Homecoming and met Becca and Luke who'd been working on a new route to Homecoming. They showed us a promising potential birry site too.

Balloon Hole:
Location in Survey

Big Doline (cave 3m):
47.692200
13.814630

Big Doline choked hole:
47.692790
13.814660

Mountain Aren:
47.693100
13.813270

New Birry Spot?:
47.693590
13.809920

31/07/23

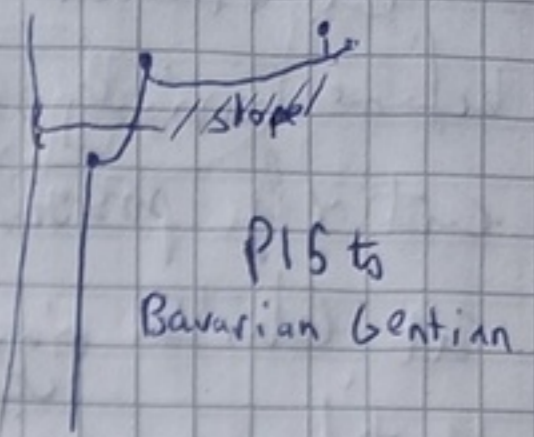
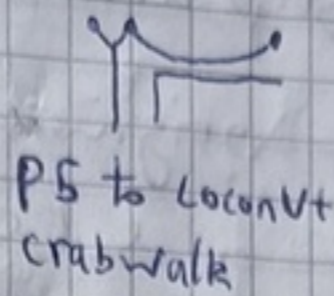
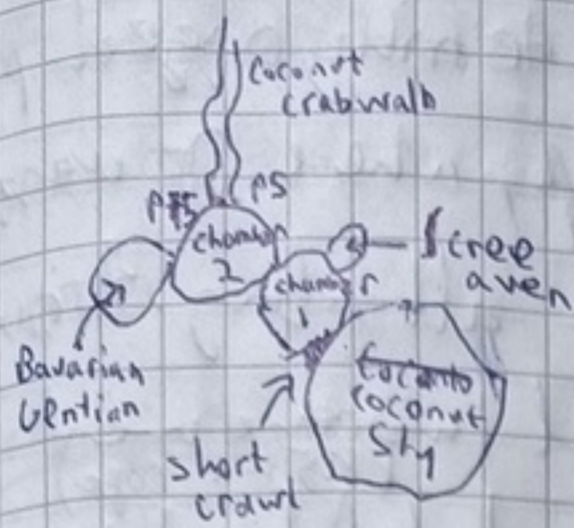
Fuck Keanu - U/G camp Day 1

Botch,
Becka

After getting underground late the night before, we got going relatively promptly at 0830. We were supposed to check Keanu Breeze, a wet lead that was supposed to be decent. Luke kindly showed us the way, though due to confusion almost left with my bag, leading me to chase him down for the snare. Becka then rigged the top of K B, immediately forgetting the survey and trying to go into CST. Some persuasion and a paper survey got us back en route to the bottom where the way to the lead was a single bolt climb down a waterspout. We sacked this off. After some noodles at camp we went to look at some leads in Coconit Shy that Becka and Adam Aldridge had found. Our first was a climb up to a steel slope aren. I coaxed Becka up this only for it to end immediately and be very loose. The next was a short pitch to a chamber with a few ways on - a right back onto to another (undropped) chamber, and a right heading due North. This went on a decent way, alternatingly muddy and very sharp. Eventually Becka's patience for this right ran out at a squeeze, at which point we agreed that I'd go on a little further. After another ~~10m~~ 10m I found a huge aren with water coming in on the right and the right continuing on. Becka still could not be convinced so we headed back to the chamber. The final lead was a drop into a big chamber with water coming in the surr side. We made the pebble bank safe and I rigged the pitch ready for tomorrow. We got back to camp around 2030 and made dinner.

03/06
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with a very wet Rob sprinting in about an hour later



Rough pos of leads

03/08/23 → Chin, Luke, Rob
Homecoming - Second Coming Shitshow

Chin had come up to top camp hoping to continue to push 2nd coming with some people who might help him carry the gear out after, unlike some. So we set off in the drizzle for Homecoming entrance, making use of part of the shortcut to The Snake that we scouted when dropping off our gear at the entrance the day before.

Down the vertiged entrance series, some of my rebolting still needs some work, especially the descending traverse below Wallace. Then onwards down Grouse & onward to the pushing front. Made quick time across some South West esque traverses, before arriving at one where 3 excellent naturals had been squared in favor of 3 shit bolts placed at ankle height. ~~At~~ ~~Common~~ ~~them~~ of the trip.

A bit more ropes then we arrived at Swiss Cheese where Chin ^{felt sorry for them} stayed & we stayed camped. Abroccano campsite, freezing & muddy. It was from here that the quality of equipment rapidly deteriorated & I became very cross. Moved along a traverse apparently rigged by top climber Dan Henis in 2019, really muddy & crumbly. Slight rage.

Heavily corroded litter rigging. 'Wilfully Endangering Lives' quite appropriate name. Then

Continued along the shutehau down a terribly rigged pitch before arriving at an insane step across a gap, where it was ^{entirely} possible to rig on the original side all along. Arrived at Chi's rigging which was a substantial improvement. Until we arrived at the pitch, where my baby ^(8.5m rope) had been desecrated. Then learnt that ~~Chi~~ Wassil had rigged some of the worst rigging I have ever seen. From a blank canvas of rock ~~Chi~~ ^{he} had created the most awful possible over an ~~the~~ unstable boulder jibe. ~~Truly~~ Truly abysmal & pathetic for ~~an~~ ^{an} expedition cover.

We continued to the main hang where Chi had tried his best in the circumstances, but had nonetheless suffered from a lack of supervision. A massive rock point followed by a 25m hang to a loose boulder climb to a one bolt wonder ~ 350m deep into a harsh alpine cave. At this point ~~I became~~ ^{became} very ~~upset~~ ^{upset}. No one should be in this position ^{on their 1st expo}.

We rigged Chi's 1 better to add another bolt then continued. At this point Luke & I had decided we needed to completely derig this lead to prevent future idiosyncrasy. Not only that but we had passed at least 5 A heads en route to the pushing front that Chi had guided us to. We carried on to the actual pushing front, ~~was~~ a pretty nasty traverse rigged by Chi to a massive drop into a huge space. We could see ~~no~~ a massive continuation, possibly a ~10m ~~placard~~ ^{placard} even bigger. But this project was not one for 4pm the day before leaving top camp. We derigged the ropes then Chi headed out with a full bag while Luke & I stopped

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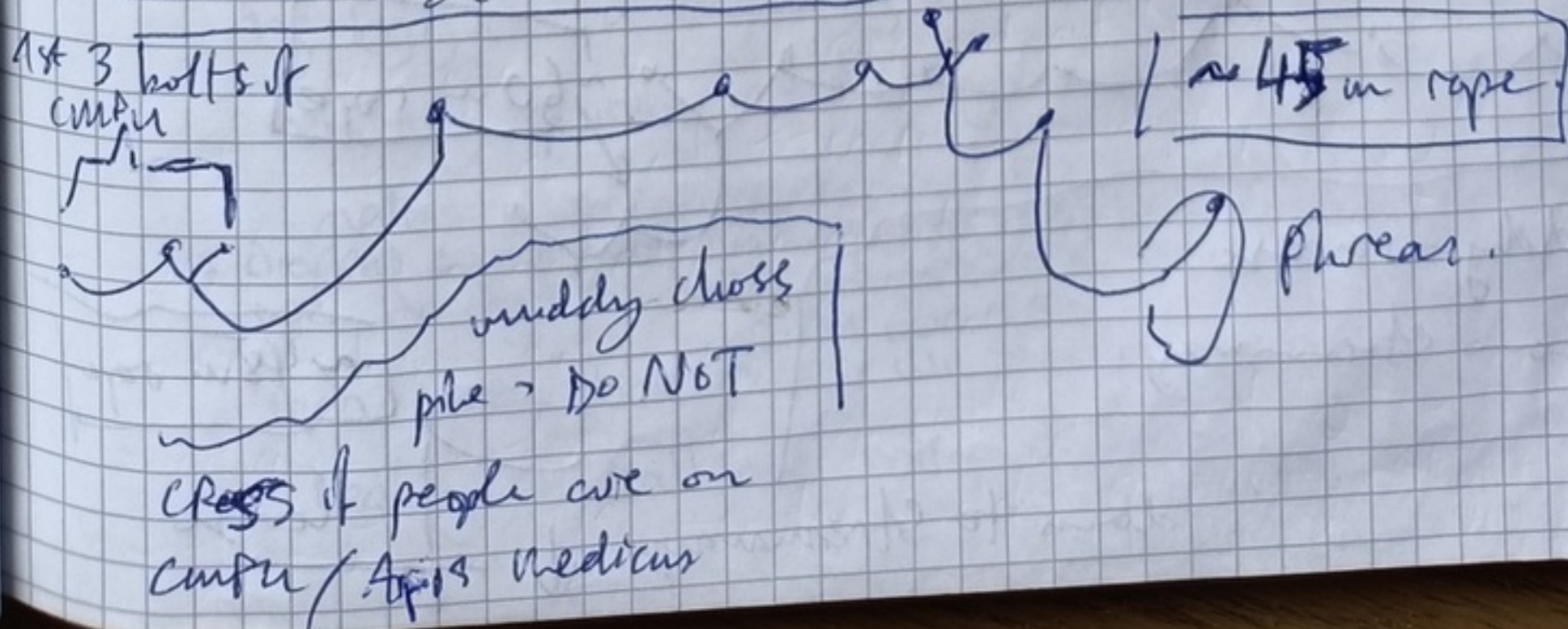
out all of the shit rigging up until the South Water style
 traverses, which we left because our bags were full.
 left full rope bags just before Gornit-traverse. Then I added
 a new Y hang rebelay to Gornit while Luke left. I exited
 the cave very dehydrated and still angry.

Learning points:

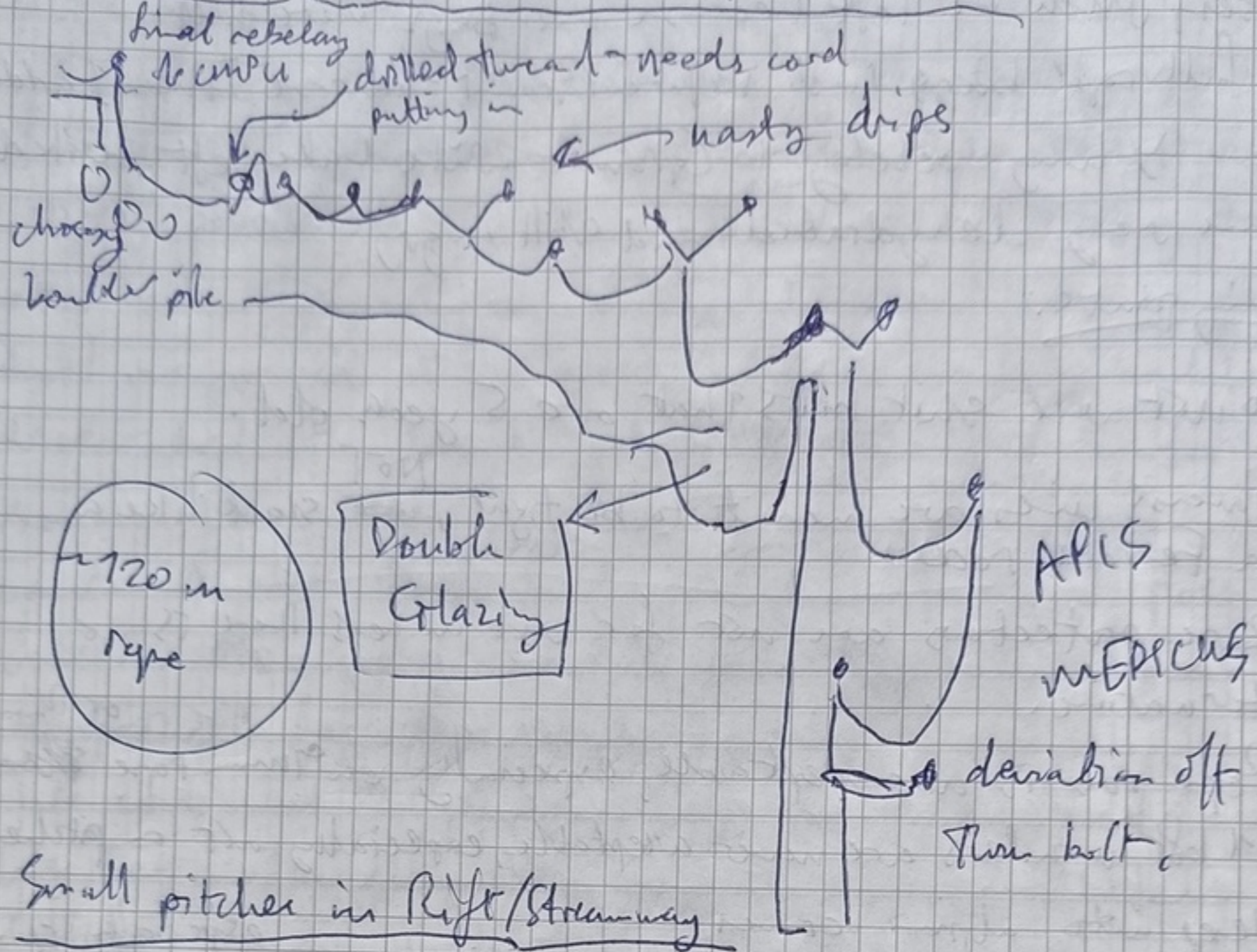
1. Do not use shit bolts that are 5 years old.
2. Traverse lines are meant to be tight, ~~not~~ ^{NOT} slack like a
 Via Ferrata rope.
3. Rope protectors are not for use unless there is no
 alternative.
4. Rope rub is unacceptable, especially on 9mm rope ~~thats~~ ^{or thinner}.
5. 1 bolt wonders are never acceptable, especially not on pitches
 deep into alpine caves.
6. New Expo caves need appropriate supervision, ~~especially if~~ ^{especially if} they
 claim they are experienced despite only having attended
 expo for 3 days in the past - (not ^{the} 1/4: 13 hrs)
7. Fuck Hayden Sanders. those bolts need 2.
8. Fuck Wessel Janssen.

Rigging Guide for deep fish face

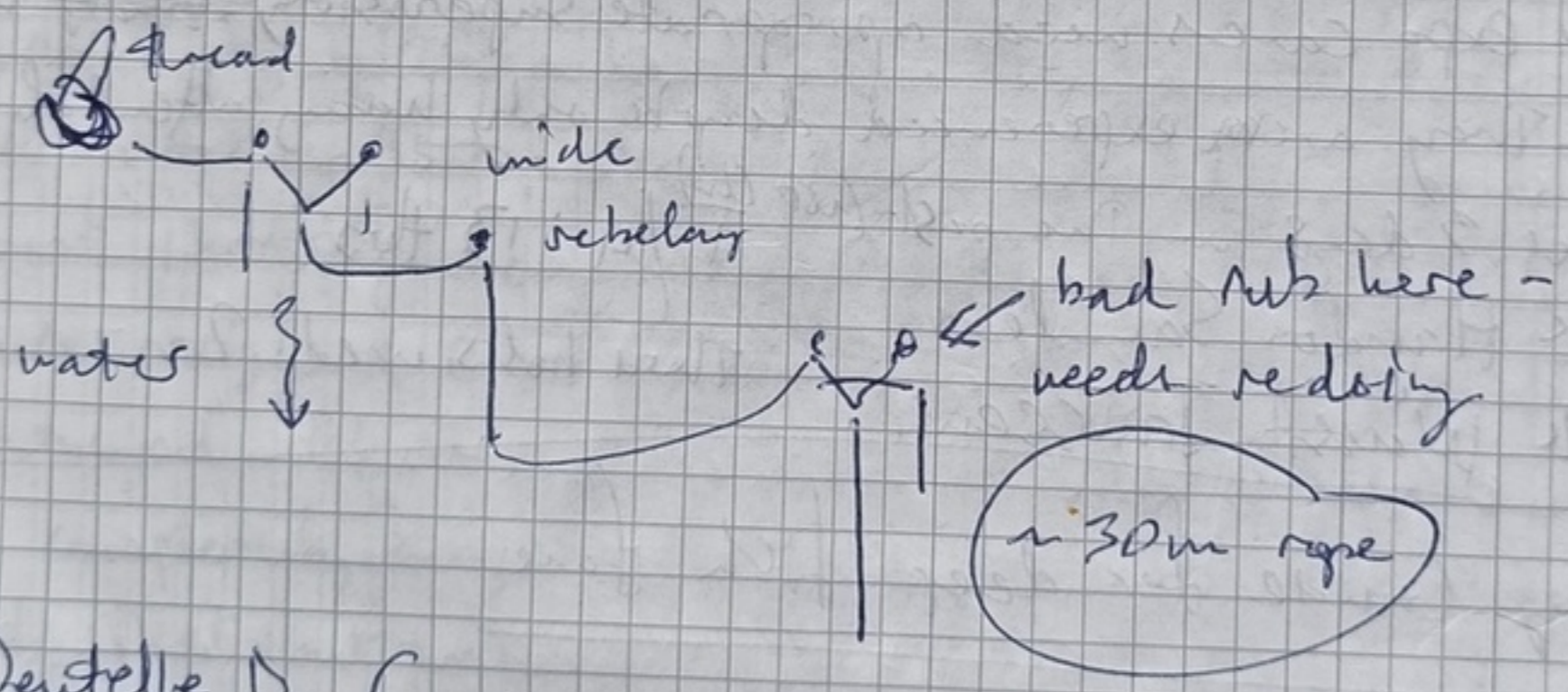
Delicate Stone - I did Naat.



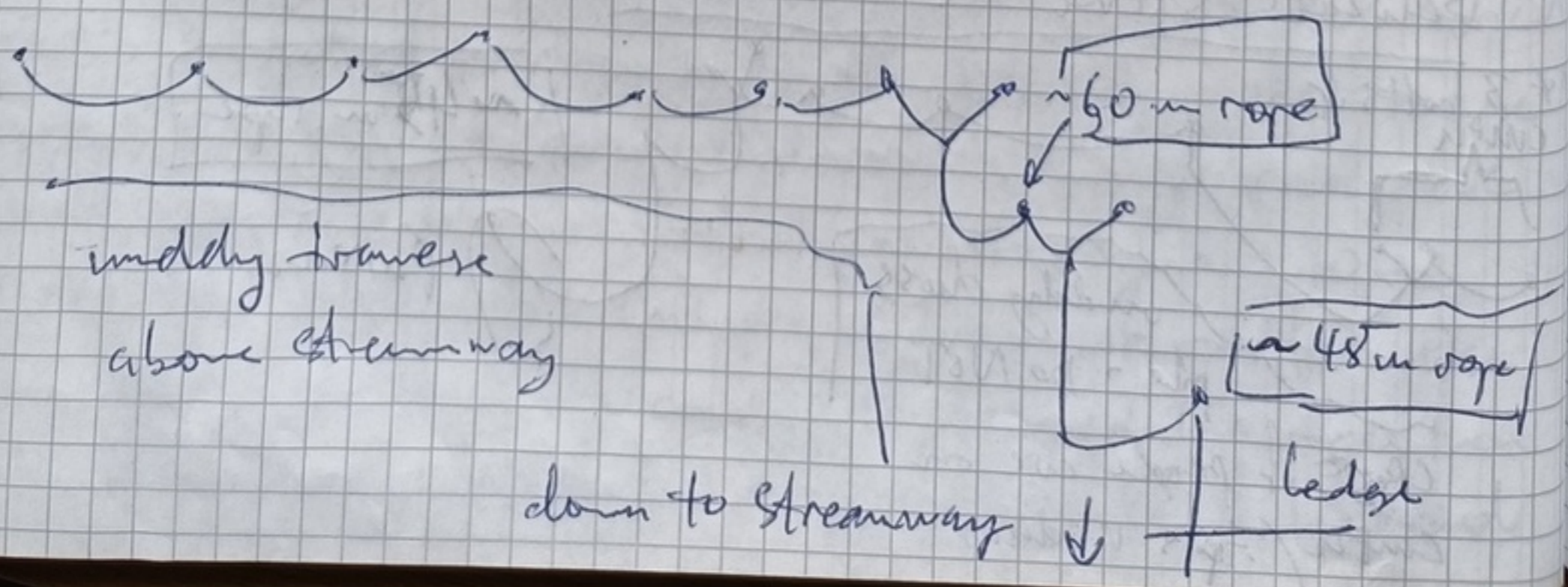
Traverse from CMPU to Apis Medicus



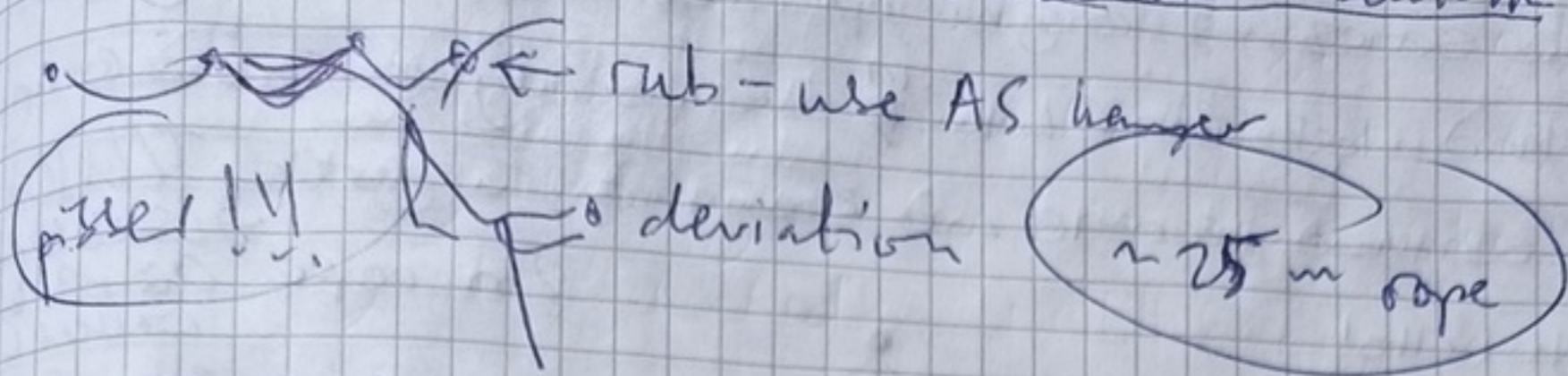
Small pitches in Rift/Streamway



Dentelle Du Casa



Shift wet pitch ' in streamway below Dentelle



3/8/2023

Pushing / derigging trip down Homecoming - Goose base

Nathan, Berra, Batch

Sticky trigger

Having no plans to cave ~~with~~ at Garlic camp & set off for homecoming with no plans, a bag full of gear and hope.

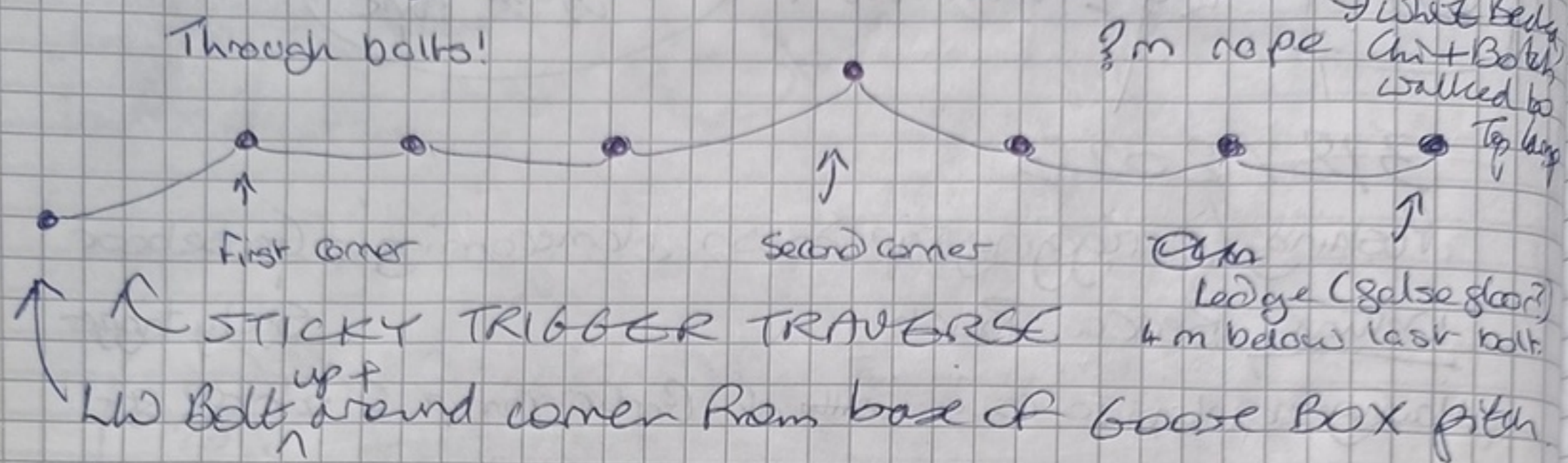
I met Berra & Batch with as they were descending the entrance and joined their pushing / derigging trip to their evident relief.

My first trip down proceeded smoothly, although the large red AV was annoying to maneuver through the crawls. The pitches down hobnob hallway were accompanied by an all pervading roar which signalled the presence of an unseen torrent of ^(horizontal canyon) great magnitude. The pushing front, that had been high was now a knee deep streamway and not an inviting prospect.

We chose to push a muddy Traverse along a phreatic passage at the top of the right. I was elected to bolt and shuggled along slowly, economically putting in a traverse line with the meagre allotment of through bolts allowed to me. The phreos dog legged a couple of times but we ran out of rope relatively quickly. The keyhole continued for another 10

meters before dog legging left again out of sight. I dropped him to a ledge in the right but this proved a dead end. we decided to derig and ~~return~~ I derigged the traverse and ^{on Goose Box} then Berra took over, ^{derigging all the handlines} we heaved our slowly ^{gaining} leaving a drill and bolting kit at the bottom of the

entrance series. I caught up with chi on the way out, who had left Rob & Luke ⁱⁿ the insanity of second coming. We surfaced near 10 and returned to gartic. T/U 10h



218123 Bedea, Luke, Lea, Adam EJ
prospecting around Rightface

A mellow, pleasant wander in the sunshine.
We reband + rechecked 2019-UCCL-RH-Ø1

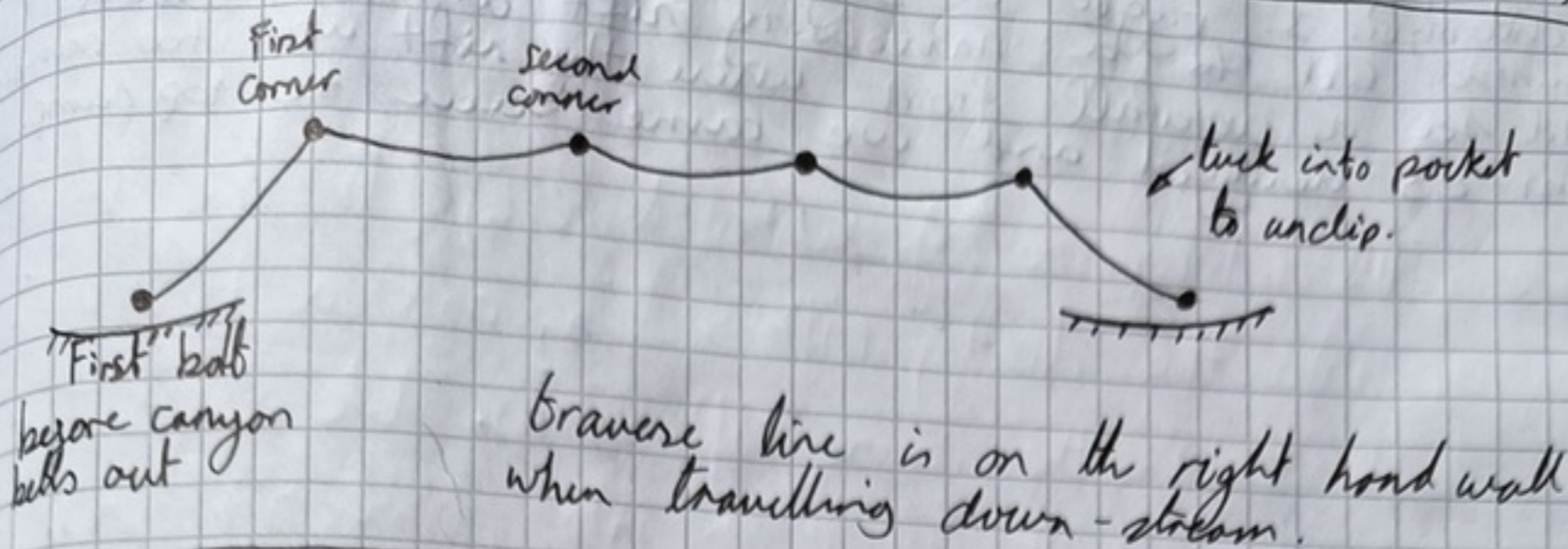
(GPS 47.69156 13.81210 RH 1695) - this was
(still) a p4 to a ramp down to a choke.

We then band 2023-BL-10 ~~Ø~~ Lea + Adam EK
dropped a p5 to a 5x5m loose chamber with a crawl
to the N to a 2x4m chamber 4m high with no way on.

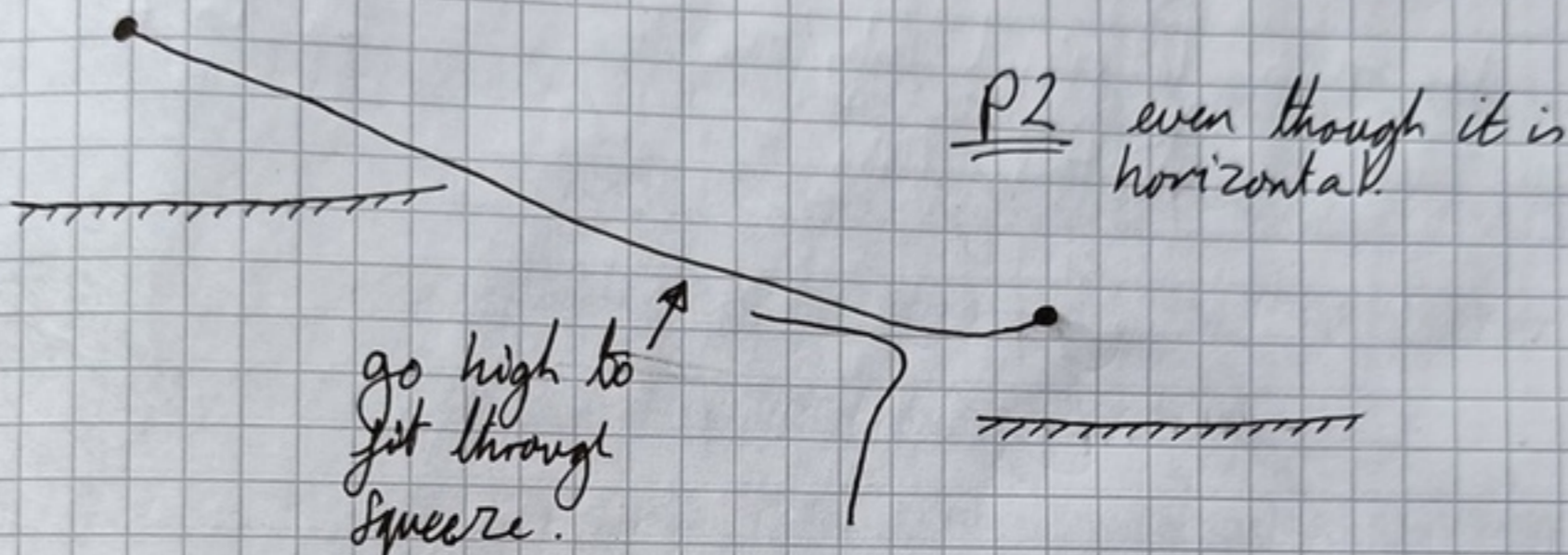
Finally Bedea explored 2023-BL-11 which was a
10m bouldery ramp to a cave with a continuing ramp
down with some snow & a skylight to a 2nd entrance.
Luke then forged a more direct, better route to
Homecoming as ~~he~~ he and I found our gear there

Cocoa Channel Rigging topo

(From 31/07/2023)



Cave write up is online



01/08/2023

Botch & Lea

Bavarian Grotto

Descended big pitch rigged by Botch and started surveying the chamber. It was a wet day and we heard the water at the base of the pitch start flowing with more energy. We surveyed a rift at water level. Didn't finish surveying it and left it as a QM. We surveyed the rift at the base of the chamber which led back to cocoa chamber? I remembered a hole the size of a toilet bowl on the false floor of the rift. It seemed to have a chamber with a waterfall. We decided to give it a shot and found a less tight place to bolt a pitch a meter away. Botch taught me to bolt and I was able to bolt my first Y-hang while singing "Like a virgin". We were limited in time and once in the chamber, ~~we~~ it was quite wet so we ~~des~~ sent a few legs/splays and derigged the whole thing. Very nice caving day. Went back to ~~top~~ camp after 2 nights in underground camp.

03/08/2023

Adam EJ, Ben C., Manfred Wits & Lea

Channel number 2 (continuing cocoa channel)

Descended fishface entrance series with tourist trip (Adam B, Sam Lee, Kai). Had a space in the kitchen and went to the end of cocoa channel. Ben bolted new traverse lines, Adam EJ was on new police duty, Manfred had Wexley's dosto and I was doing the notes (for the first time). The rift led to

Miraclemaze 1 after 2 legs ish. We then surveyed a short pneumatic tube leading also to miraclemaze 1. We came back to the start of the surveying part and decided to go down the rift into a small chamber. I rigged a single bolt pitch of about 4.5 m. The chamber led to a narrowing rift at water level. We could see a waterfall from where the rift was too narrow. ~~to~~ Adam ES derigged and we came back to top camp.



8/8/23 Homecoming Push Derig - Watershed
Becka, Hannah, Adam A, Sam

After a big (double noodle) breakfast we packed all three of our through-bolts... and headed down from Garlic to Homecoming. Our mission was simple, push a lead in Watershed, then derig Watershed and the top of the entrance Series. Our lack of through-bolts did not deter us. T/U 16 hours

After the uneventful entrance Series we gathered our kit, rope and morale before heading through 'propaganda nightmares'. Becka led the way only occasionally reminding us to "keep up", or that "Snails crawl faster" (that second one might just've been in my head..).

Turns out that beyond 'Strained by Gravity' is a moderately traumatic rift passage best left to those with reliable life insurance and grippy wellies (preferably both). This was not my favourite section and our progress through was perhaps sub-optimal.

Now slightly behind schedule we arrived at the lead.

Hannah Reports:

We didn't have high hopes for our pushing ventures with only 3 thru bolts but as we'd come this far, we felt we should at least try. The first y-hang on the existing rigging at end of Watershed had a spinning bolt but as we were limited on resources we overlooked this (so needs replacing next year if people go back). I added a deviation ~~of~~ on a splashy section as was keen to stay dry on this long trip - 1st bolt gone. I then reached the end of the traverse where Haney had previously run out of rope. I used our second bolt to finish the y-hang and dropped approx 15m to a ledge. The canyon dropped again off this ledge another ~5m and then disappeared round a corner but looked to be continuing. Our ~~take of~~ our 1 remaining bolt was not gonna get us far down here so we decided to save it for a deviation needed on strain by gravity and turned around. Becka derigged this section.

On our escape we discovered several spinning through-bolts on the lower sections of watershed as we de-rigged.

↳ below Flowstone Canyon, pitules rigged by Charlotte
We pulled all rope out of watershed except for one handline heading up into the denting rift series and a traverse line over a bold step in the same rift series. We stored these ropes near the base of the up-pitules into propane nightmares, just round the corner. - i.e. where Hobnob hallway splits from Second coming

We then de-rigged only the top 3 pitches in the entrance series and carried these ropes to Gullie.

We washed all the rope we had in the stream below strained by gravity but most of the rope left at the base of the up pitules (~600m) is unwashed as it came from the Second coming or ~~it~~ was strained by gravity + above.

SUMMARY OF ROPE IN HOMECOMING

- entrance pitules below Radagast to bottom of entrance series all left rigged
- 3 ropes above ~~at~~ in short passage above small pitch above Radagast, coiled,
- ~600m rope some will be old + need junking, most of it dirty, ALL needs checking
- NO ROPE on entrance pitules up to end of Radagast
- NO METALWARE on any de-rigged ropes

Garlic Camp Inventory at end of expo

Garlic camp kit packed away in garlic cave on RHS, in corner, at front of cave

Tarp/Bivvy kit

- 2 x large tarp
- 1 x smaller tarp
- 1 x tiny tarp
- Lots of bivvy rope (stored in orange survival bag) ← more cord/string would be useful
- 1 x large water butt (no tap)
- 1 x funnel + pipe
- 1.5 x shovels
- 1 x small crowbar
- 3 x camp beds
- 2 x surface first aid kits (1 checked, 1 larger with no contents used)
- 7 x roll mats
- 2 x underground roll mat
- Lots of reflectors (FF to garlic)

Cooking + Food

- 3 x spider stove (remote canister)
- 1 x sit on top burner
- 1 x huge burner (requires large gas)
- 5 x lighters
- 1 x hand sanitiser (half full)
- 1 x large kettle
- 1 x large pot (15cm diameter)
- 5 x small pots/bowls
- 2 x 230g gas canister (full)
- 1 x large white drum - half full needles + some curry
- 1 x medium blue barrel - $\frac{1}{4}$ full of cave snacks
 - ↳ 7 fruit + nut
 - ↳ 1 sweets
 - ↳ 1 choc bar
 - ↳ few cereal bars

• ~10 soups

Nerdery

- 3 x solar panel (flexi) + charging box
- 1 x long charging cable

Camping

- Surveying pencils + paper
- 4 x 4 person group shelter
- 1 x hand boiling kit + lots spits
- 3 x rope protectors
- Tackle sacks - 4 x AV bags
- 1 x small black
- 15 x slings
- ~ 8m cord
- 2 x petzl hammers

• Rope

- 2016 30m?
- Green 2018? - long length taken out homecoming entrance pitches
- Orange 2023 - " " "

- 64 x hanger + mailon + hilti
- 2 x rings + hilti
- 23 x rings
- 53 x hanger + mailon
- 38 x mailon
- 24 x screwgates
- 10 x snapgates
- 1 x clown

} Metalwork stored in 2 no. 5l
dosen drums

Expo suggestion - double sized bothy container bags
6no.
(current bags don't fit bothys in when
wet/muddy)

Fish Face Rope Inventory

- Rope left at bottom of 4th pitch
- Rope lengths are an estimate

Year	Length	Colours	Diameter
2022	23m	white (green + orange)	9mm
2022 2022	~15m?	blue + white	9mm
2019	~30m?	white + green	9mm
2022	~30m?	white (green + orange)	9mm
2022	~10m?	white (yellow)	9mm
2019	~5m?	white + green	9mm
2019	~20m?	white + green	9mm
2018	72m	white + green	9mm
2018	~30m?	green (black)	9mm
2022	~10m?	blue + white	9mm
2022	~10m?	blue + white	9mm
2019	~80m?	white + green	9mm
2018	~15m?	green (black)	9mm
2019	~20m?	white + green	9mm

THE THREE-DAY BOUNCE FOR THE FOUR-DAY WEEK-END.

2023/08/06 → 2023/08/08

ADAM BALDOCK, BEN CHADDOCK, CHARLIE CROSSNEY

It all begins in the fatigues, several glasses short of a brewery. "Let's go up in the weather window!" Charlie had not done enough caring, and wanted to camp on FF. "We'll call it the three-day bounce." "Then we'll have a four-day weekend!" "The three-day bounce for the four-day weekend!" "We go to find the four day weekend!"

Glossing over the ensuing hangover (and Adam's tent-sump experience) the Three Day Bounce was planned: Adam ES and Nathan Walker would join the camp, and we would combine the trip with camp-designing.

Sunday 6th August: In the mid after noon, the five of us set out to FF. Fueled by Curry arrancini and fresh bread, the vibes brewed as the day wet on. The walk up via Stonebridge was awful: wet, windy, with occasional hail. The stonebridge was a mess with the tarp full of water, we had our carries and continued to FF. As we walked, the weather window remained firmly shut.

A quick change and down we went. Time on: 2000 (after buff) We made camp by 2300 and straight to bed. Much pissing ensued; statistics:

Charlie: IIII	Ben Chadock: II
Adam B: III	Nathan Walker: III
Adam ES: III	Total Pisses: IIII IIII IIII

We woke before dawn: 10:00 An Alpine start.

Now to get to business. Our lead was a hole in the floor at the start of the Elizabeth Lane. Charlie bolted while Adam and Ben went to derrick.

Adam Brown recounts the derricking: After derricking we were joined by Nathan and EY. Me and Ben pressed along the Victoria line. Beautiful passage. We derricked 2 pitches ~~in an hour~~ very smooth, until... We reached a sketchy up traverse and up pitch. Nadia had clearly said to derrick the traverse upwards and leave the up pitch.

This of course me and Ben ignored and proceeded to rig an incredibly sketchy ~~4~~ bolt warden pull through, completely unnecessary, to derrick down up pitch. At the time we were rather happy with our selves. Nadia did not hold that same sentiment. Any way, we popped back to Charlie to find a pile of yellow group senter slumped on the floor and some green bolts on the wall.

Sandy Charlie derrick.

The potential 4 day weekend derricked. Charlie went first, the hole was nice and easy, the Shithead down and we followed.

The chamber consisted of an old meander and dry waterfall about 4m diameter. The four day weekend we exclaimed, with grins on our faces. However like all great weekends it ended far too soon with a Monday, the only real lead a tight stream canyon, which doubly connected into the stream way, was tight and slick as Charlie found it and as such was a lead named Monday. We surveyed out and waited to rendezvous with Adam EY and Nathan Walker. After hearing of their travels ~~for~~ in an old stream way pitch that became too wet we made our way back to camp: we arrived at 17:00.

After Seth an old way entry to the ~~system and trip~~ the actual ceiling was a load of bellows. And aside from Ben and Charlie cheating out some crabs we all headed to bed at about 19:00 after a ~~long~~ ~~night~~ 4 hours out of bed.

