

Day 3: An extra day was granted to us by the prefect, 1) demoralised exit by the hot-bad diggers of Tim's Bit.

Continued Paul's climb where Tony & Alec had left off. Found they had done the hard vertical part, now needed only a few more bolts across ~~the~~ the wall and up to the left, to be able to step up a 45° mud sloped phreatic tube! John put in a bolt, and went for the climb, after spending a while summoning up the courage. But no, he peeled off & fell several metres onto his new bolt. He came down, & I had a go.

Looking across at the lip, I could see } } marks left by John's fingers as he fell off. } } I put in one more bolt, so I could now just get one foot over to his handhold found one more handhold round the corner & was up. More bolts, then

John came up to my new stance & cut mud step up the slope. He put in a Y-hang after c. 3.5m, then I went back to fetch some rope from Tantalus. Rigged climb properly, then I carried on up the slope to reach ... the top, or at least high up in,

a RIVER CANYON. Seemed like it could be the mainstreamway, but I thought we had been bolting our way away from that for the past few days. Confused, we came up with a few scenarios.

- 1) It is the mainstreamway, and we are stuped, or just confused.
- 2) It is an inlet to the main streamway, and joins up e.g. at Drucilla
- 3) It is a separate streamway, bypasses Egbert, and drops 500m in wet pitches.

Whatever, the result is sure to be a disappointment. Rigged, dinked over the opposite side of the new canyon, to no way on. Back to it was, back out.



27A 3 August - Beelia + Neil Tim 5 hrs.

Despite both of us being kids Expo Newbies + neither us having been to the cave, we found it within 10 minutes, thanks to the cairn + Huw's directions. Wandered on down to 5th where there was a just lowerly deviation for the main hang (30m+) on what looked like a thin, fractured mud bridge Neil took one look at it + thought sod that. He took it off + we put a rope tector on to protect the slight crev + down the dip. We mistakenly thought this was the bottom so we snuffled around the pretty ~~cooler~~ white chamber + the inlet climb the other side. Then I spotted the next rope, so we went down the 6th (but loose + chossy) + then climbed up the white to a gorgeous decorated chamber (stabs, decorated peels etc) but no real way on, bar a tightish vertical climb <sup>+ just before</sup> up from the upper white chamber. Then down to the rift + started squeezing alternated by hammering. Lost the chisel + my coat but didn't really get anywhere, despite headfirst, feetfirst, horizontal, vertical, welly-less, helmet-free etc. Out to lovely evening. I Challenge Lucey to push the rift!

217 CAMPING - FLEUR + HARVEY

A camping trip down 217 when you're 'well 'ard' is for woories. We decided that if you want real challenge you have to do it without any kind of hardness at all. Fortunately Fleur hasn't come to terms yet with the fact that she's become a hard caver. I have managed to steer well clear of becoming hard.

So David Mumaghan asked if I wanted to camp down 217 and I took the challenge. Did loads of portering trips through the rift, and then got a severe dose of the shits at the vital moment. It seemed I had missed my chance for ever. Then 6 years later, Jonathan Cooper asks if



I fancy going down 2/7, & I decided that nothing would stop me. It did concern me however that having done hardly any SRT for ages I stood little chance of getting back out. This during the (summer) months before expedition I got into some serious training - i.e. a trip down Brown Hill where Rob & I taught each other climbing songs.

Thus it was that I came to share Fleur's delightful company down 2/7

ITINERARY FRIDAY

- Day & rain at Ario => Good to get underground
- Met Rob "what squeeze?" (sart stuck in 7" between - squeeze (the kn))
- Met Lev "Choco-light-texture" Bishop
- Met Dave Lacey & Neil at ridiculous rebels or the hundred
- Met Paul & To on The Big ledge met a dead cave (Alek) at start of London Underground
- Met Tony in London Underground
- Met Chris & John at Primula Point

=> WHAT A WONDERFULLY SOCIABLE CAVE THAT IT.

Also Henry got all excited about 'Just Areson' as predictable + wonderful camp site etc.

SATURDAY

- Looked for climbs up from Havers in Zaredka way. One didn't turn into a climb at all really. One was a 'sporting' climb up, and then Havers decided he'd rather put in a bolt than either 'go over the top' or fall down unprotected. Fleur threw her bright light up the mud slope at the top which disappeared into a muddy tube which appeared to close off. This is the only climb off the Havers line, on the left as you exit the cave, about 2 1/2 bolts along the big line.
- Tourist trip to Choke Egbert, where Henry got all excited again & scampered all over it. (Bit of a pilgrimage really)

SUNDAY

- Surveyed 'Paul's climb' off Postman Pat, (see next page)
- This finishes at head (?) of a rift with sounds of large stream



- Decided that was down rift - needs some rigging to get down / traverse along etc ∴ left rope + rigging gear for next team
- It seemed that we hadn't crossed the main stream way, & hence the stream we could hear was that
- However, entry of survey into computer suggests that horizontal length puts the end point well over the S.E. side of the stream  
⇒ SOMEONE MUST GO DOWN RIFT & FIND OUT IF AN INLET ET CETERA!

MONDAY

- An experiment to see if Harvey could prossik as far as the surface
- COSTARD ON THE BIG LEDGE!! AMAZINGLY WONDERFUL.
- Got to top of Peninnis in under 9 hours - no stretchers required!
- Entertaining trip through rift with bonus satisfaction of each getting a tackle rack through paradise, & pleasant meet with 2 Irish chaps
- Out by 11pm!!
- Fast walk down hill with Fleur & Harvey mostly intact & only slightly damaged

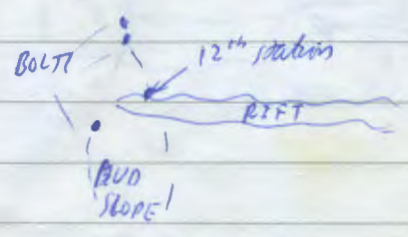
Many thanks to Fleur for being a marshing guide.

Harvey Smith

SURVEY OF PAUL'S CLIMB OFF POSTMAN PAT

Fleur Lovendge + Harvey Smith ∴ Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1

- 1<sup>st</sup> Station = small crevice by windows into Postman Pat (i.e. 1" time you see up into it as you ascend)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Station = 1" bolt on climb
- 5<sup>th</sup> " = Bolt at base of mud slope
- 12<sup>th</sup> " = bolt on other side of worst rift



P.T.O.

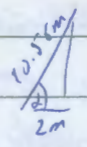
All survey legs = forward.



85

From least station

| Station         | L                        | R     | U   | D   | Distance | Bearing | Vert. Angle          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------|-----|-----|----------|---------|----------------------|
| 1               | 1/2                      | 2 1/2 | 1/2 | 0   | -        | -       | -                    |
| 2               | ∞                        | ∞     | ∞   | 2   | 8.24     | 205     | +19.5                |
| 3 <sup>B</sup>  | 15                       | 15    | -   | -   | 9.73     | 184     | +16.5                |
| 4 <sup>B</sup>  | 6                        | 5     | -   | -   | 10.56    | -       | $\cos^{-1}(2/10.56)$ |
| 5 <sup>B</sup>  | 8                        | 0     | 9   | 1   | 3.58     | 128     | +38                  |
| 6 <sup>B</sup>  | 3                        | 2 1/2 | 6   | 1   | 12.88    | 114     | +31                  |
| 7 <sup>B</sup>  | 5                        | 0     | 10  | 1/2 | 14.19    | 153.5   | +44                  |
| 8 <sup>B</sup>  | 5                        | 0     | 8   | 3   | 5.15     | 141     | +57.5                |
| 9               | 6                        | 4     | 11  | 0   | 4.40     | 167     | +49                  |
| 10              | 5                        | 0     | 7   | 1   | 6.10     | -       | +90                  |
| 11 <sup>B</sup> | 0                        | 3     | 2   | 1/2 | 25.28    | 124     | +42                  |
| 12 <sup>B</sup> | Facing side of cross vlt |       |     |     | 8.76     | 152     | +28                  |

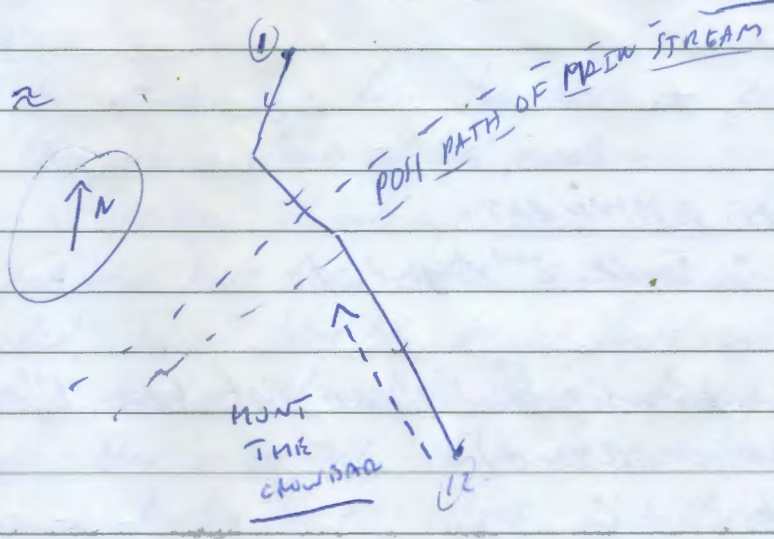


up slope

<sup>B</sup> = Bolt

Data entered into computer as PLSCLMB.SVS  
 Randomly tied into main, Q177 - but this is a guess!!

Plan view ≈



2



Survey of Pixie Footsteps  
 Notes CJD Inst. John Sherg

31/7/98

| Station | L | R | V | D | Dist  | Compass | Clina |
|---------|---|---|---|---|-------|---------|-------|
| 1       | 0 | 2 | 2 |   |       |         |       |
| 2       |   |   |   |   | 15/12 | 078     | -15   |
| 3       |   |   |   |   | 7/45  | 094     | +14   |
| 4       |   |   |   |   | 13/70 | 085     | -20   |
| 5       |   |   |   |   | 5/25  | 003/5   | -8    |
| 6       |   |   |   |   | 15/45 | 105     | +21   |
| 7       |   |   |   |   | 5/77  | 170     | +41   |
| 8       |   |   |   |   | 2/26  | 259     | +31   |
| 9       |   |   |   |   | 10/3  | 250     | +48   |
| 10      |   |   |   |   | 3/0   | 250     | 0     |
| 11      |   |   |   |   | 12/45 | 228     | +56   |
| 12      |   |   |   |   | 3/58  | 154     | +40   |

12 = 2nd from last below in final traverse of Pimpernell Streamway  
 Tied in to main, rd 14 as a guess





(87)

Neil + Becka

4/08/98

Shyft Basking Area 7 & 9

Walked up to 2/7 to drop off casing gear. From 2/7  
 Walked round and down to 3/7. Continued round on ~~2/7~~ to the  
 Top ridge and located 23/7, a 25m shyft on the north side  
 of the ridge. Becka & I found a shyft 10m W from 23/7  
 and 144° SE to Jultayu. The entrance is a small rift  
 parallel to 23/7 1m wide by 3m long. Stones dropped for 3 to  
 4 seconds, rattling. Estimated depth around 40m. ①

Continued walking and found 41/7 and 42/7 before heading  
 NW towards Gustutaru. In the valley west of the Top ridge  
 found two small entrances beneath the scree slopes, 192° South  
 of Cuicente. First entrance in a rift beneath large boulder.  
 Small chamber, checked solid, not worth re-visiting. The second entrance  
 was found round the back of the same boulder, a small hole  
 which needs excavating and a slight draft can be felt. ②

Walked West across several small parallel valleys. Difficult to  
 locate exactly where we were due to low cloud levels. One  
 valley had a path and a Cairn at the North end, ~~in~~ in the  
 lowest part under the left hand wall we found a small entrance ③  
 around a boulder floor. Gaps in the boulders looked down into a  
 passage, handline useful for the descent. Continued the <sup>walk</sup> back  
 up Gustutaru and 27/9.

I would say ① most promising (nice obscure entrance) then ③ then ②.

"I'm going through my female teenage years for the first time..."  
 "...up to now I've only had to deal with my male hormones" - Harvey

"A stegosaurus - that's not a velociraptor, is it?" - Chris

"That's the good thing about the human body - most of the important  
 things you have two of" - Lew

"That says something about the thing you've only got one of"



# Speliology's Best

~~Next 3 pages reserved~~

This page reserved for contributions to this 'song'

Chorus: = Speliologi best lads, speliologi, best  
(Shag your oversuit)

Verses: Dash your knees in a squeeze.  
Thrust your way through the crevices  
Slime your way up a climb.  
Smoke some dope on the rope  
Have a cluster ... in a duck  
Relieve your bladder on a ladder  
Have your bloke in a choke  
~~Get laid on a spade~~ (Qualities central)  
It's a bit of a pitch  
Have a dump in a nump  
Jam your rack in a crack

5/8/98 Becka + Pat 217 Thu 5/3/4

Warm-up for me, beer for Pat, my first trip in to 217, Pat had got to start of rifts before lots of imitating gear - filling out + off, but to + from rifts without really going off-route, to our surprise, suddenly end into fissures + space! We had lunch on the ledge 70m down, then I headed back up <sup>← u.k. rope down of space!</sup> (cos I thought I'd be going down again the next day on a camping trip although (Pat got delayed) + Pat went to Armageddon Ledge. Met Adam + Chris on flar way down. Out early to sun, nice bright forward trip

6/8/98 Becka Salt-basting all over.  
Raid 4/18, SE unworked cave <sup>2719</sup> 2715 + 2015 but nothing new + nothing brought by + bloody hot.



84

Master Plan Number To Next.

- A - Photo Trip      2 Nights at P.P. - 2 at Big ledge  
Derig from P.P. to B.L.  
Carry out 4 pit seats, karimats to some camp
- B - Post Upstream?      2 / 3 nights at Big Ledge  
Post Upstream  
Carry out any excess carrying gear.
- C - Derig Camp      2 Nights at Big Ledge  
Post upstream  
Start derigging J/A & lower shafts
- D - Deep Day Derig      Derig remaining shafts as far as possible
- E - Rift Packer      Derig any more shafts? Packer in 2  
stages to base of Seventh Heaven?  
Derig shafts to base of Flying Padelage\*
- F - Derig G.S.P.      Derig G.S.P. / Flying Padelage
- G - Derig Seventh Heaven / Packer Poles Up to Entrance

the

\* Packer further if people are keen to do.  
in third Packer, or if enough people  
to do it in two!

Packer - with 10 people, should be able to packer

- A) Top of pessimists → Black crystal pit (where you climb down then up  
again before G.T.P. & Gripper)
- B) Black crystal pit → Base of 7<sup>th</sup> Heaven

With 13 people, could manage

- A) Top of pessimists → Gripper
- B) Gripper → Entrance.



|           | Thu | Fri 7                           | Sat 8                           | Sun 9                           | Mon 10                          | Tue 11                          | Wed 12                          | Thu 13 | Fri 14 | Sat 15 | Sun 16 | Mon 17 | Tue 18 | Wed 19 | Thu 20 | Fri 21 | Sat 22   | Sun 23 |
|-----------|-----|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
| Paul      | /   | A <sup>pp</sup> A <sup>pp</sup> | A <sup>pp</sup> A <sup>pp</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | rest                            | /      | E      | /      | S      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ✓      | ✓        | ✓      |
| Jo        | /   | A <sup>pp</sup> A <sup>pp</sup> | A <sup>pp</sup> A <sup>pp</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | rest                            | /      | E      | /      | S      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ✓      | ✓        | ✓      |
| Becky     | /   | A <sup>pp</sup> A <sup>pp</sup> | A <sup>pp</sup> A <sup>pp</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | rest                            | /      | E      | /      | S      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ?      | coast    | coast  |
| Nathaniel | /   | A <sup>pp</sup> A <sup>pp</sup> | A <sup>pp</sup> A <sup>pp</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | A <sup>gl</sup> A <sup>gl</sup> | rest                            | /      | E      | /      | S      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ✓      | 4. check | ing.   |
| Dave      | /   | /                               | /                               | /                               | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | rest   | E      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /        | /      |
| Rob       | /   | /                               | /                               | /                               | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | rest   | E      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ✓      | ✓        | ✓      |
| Flew      | /   | /                               | /                               | /                               | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | rest   | E      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ✓      | ✓        | ✓      |
| Chris     | /   | /                               | /                               | /                               | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | C <sup>gl</sup> C <sup>gl</sup> | rest   | E      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ?      | coast    | coast  |
| Tim       | /   | ? B <sup>gl</sup>               | B <sup>gl</sup> B <sup>gl</sup> | B <sup>gl</sup> B <sup>gl</sup> | B <sup>gl</sup> B <sup>gl</sup> | B <sup>gl</sup> B <sup>gl</sup> | rest                            | /      | F?     | ?      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /        | /      |
| Lou       | /   | ? B <sup>gl</sup>               | B <sup>gl</sup> B <sup>gl</sup> | B <sup>gl</sup> B <sup>gl</sup> | B <sup>gl</sup> B <sup>gl</sup> | B <sup>gl</sup> B <sup>gl</sup> | rest                            | /      | F?     | ?      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /        | /      |
| Gavin     | ✓   | rest                            | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | D      | /      | E      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /        | /      |
| Debe      | ✓   | rest                            | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | D      | /      | E      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /        | /      |
| J.C.      | ✓   | rest                            | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | D      | /      | E      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ✓      | ✓        | ✓      |
| Huw       | ✓   | rest                            | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | D      | /      | E      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ✓      | ✓        | ✓      |
| Lev       | /   | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | /                               | D      | /      | E      | /      | /      | /      | /      | /      | ✓      | ✓        | ✓      |

4 6 6 8 4

S.S.P. to be pushed  
27/9 to be surveyed!  
(detached unless  
photo's needed)

4 Days to  
carry down  
Hill.  
(could be made  
5 if required)

Beet Party  
Drive to farm  
Drive to farm  
Party

What Tony, Pete + Anne did - Pixie Bi Steps up Colostoy  
→ Bolt BUSHY 4CHTS

What Dave + Neil did → Colostoy choke  
Tim-Bil Rig

What Lev + Rob did → Tim's Bil Rig