CHECC Wales weekend 14/11/25 - 16/11/25

Rosa Clements, Tom Spriggs, Frances Pope, Lizzie Granville, Oli Butler, Timothy Randazzo, Charlie Tharas, Grace Joshy, Isaac Markovitz, Elina Csapo

CHECC was at the same location as last year, and David White was warning us not to set off on Friday due to reports of flooding in Wales. But we had to set off as the CHECC baked bins were filling Tom's car boot, and also we wanted to make use of our pirate costumes. We made an extra special risk assessment about driving in wet weather and set off. There was a little driving through water on the way, but when we got there, we were allowed to camp at the top of the hill this time, and the rain slackened off too. No tents flooded! Hooray!

Edwards Shortcut

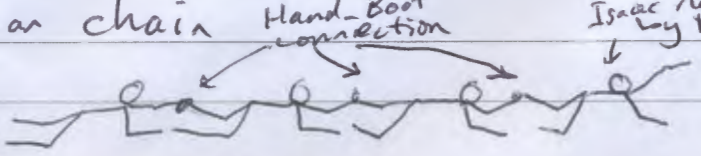
Rosa, Timothy, Charlie, Elina

We decided to do Edwards Shortcut since Timothy and Charlie had caved before and Elina had done some climbing. We enjoyed seeing the gnomes in Gnome passage, and got down the little climb with a variety of techniques. When we got to the traverse itself, Elina was pretty scared, but to her great credit, rose to the challenge and got accross. Then we had a chocolate break and went on to have a look at Frozen River. It was lovely, and we had fun making weird noises to see if they echoed. We continued on to Shatter Pillar, and met lots of other groups on the way out. I think people were happy to do a round trip and see some of the highlights of Top Entrance.

Cwm Dŵr Fun

Lizzie, Oli, Isaac, Grace

Lizzi and Isaac Co-led. Bombed through Dim Dŵr, had some fun in the Boulder choke and turned around. On the way out through Dim Dŵr we turned off our torches and made a human chain



Yorkshire weekend 28/11/25 - 30/11/25

Rosa Clements, Fiona Zhang, Viktor Verebelyi, Frances Pope, Lizzie Glanville, Oli Butler, Rocky Yu, James Young, Sam Crowe, Vlad Cabanea, Hannah Dold, Josh Selfe, Vera Neugebauer

Sellgill Holes

Rosa, Rocky, Hannah, James, Josh, Vera

Those who did a caving trip but no SRT practice, or SRT practice but no caving, went to Sellgill Holes for a first SRT trip. Luckily it was in walking distance of the hut (we were staying at Craven Pothole Club for a change), but it was quite a way along the Pennine Way. We were not the only group there, but by the time we'd got everyone's SRT kit on, the other group were mostly done with the entrance pitch. Everyone did well at their SRT. It was a fairly slow trip, but we had a good explore at the bottom. When we got out it was snowing a little bit and we went back in pairs. We were glad to see the hut! Well done on the SRT everyone.

Alum pot

This was my first time hopping down a ginormous hole in the ground. Exciting fun. Although it was acutely chilly. Fiona was there. She forgot what happened and then remembered. Also, it took 3 hours to find the small mammal pot/hole, however, we soon discovered how miserable being on the outside of a cave was. This discovery was accentuated by the peculiar warmth of merely popping one's buttocks down their hole (wind chill is omega cringe!).

SWCC (Not Bull Pot Farm! 😮)

5.5

New Year trip 30/12/25 - 02/01/26

Rosa Clements, Rocky Yu, Carlos Tapia, Jessica Ratcliffe

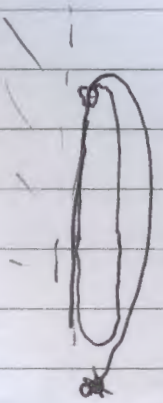
Full house! We have plans for all 3 days already! Rocky has been very organised. Carlos and Jessica have practiced knot tying and the tacklesack has already been packed for tomorrow. We have a big Oxbow trip on the cards, hopefully we can do that and be back in good time for the party.

Carlos T: We need 2 eggs person. Lets add this to next agm agenda. We somehow got to Marble shower via, P20 x P8 where the window is. Then we went upstream in the stream way. Boy it was cold & fun! My hands were burning from the freezing temperature on the walk back from Top to hut. Fun trip :)

Rocky's Perspective.

Definitely a successful trip. We carried on from P20 P8 and went through the Marble Shower Series. It does connect where the map was not very clear. We eventually got to the Marble Shower emergency exit point and climbed down the streamway. We got back through the streamway.

Now that the skyhook is being replaced by a real Skyhook, we can do this hard-core round trip as a pull-through. I'll need to figure out how to rig these in the future.



My brother gave me a giant firework to set off at midnight but we were not allowed 😞 New year at SWCC is different to New year at the farm.

(56)

New Years Columns trip

We went to the Columns pitch which was interesting. I've only been to the Colums once before and SRT was not involved. There were some nice formations on the way to the pitch. Unfortunately we took a couple of wrong turns and arrived at the same time as another group with lots of people. John from SWCC was stationed there checking that people were doing their SRT correctly. We spent a lot of time waiting at the pitchhead. Eventually we got down and went to see the Colums. They were fantastic! Someone told us that their growth had been accelerated by proximity to L ind kilns and they are softer than normal calcite formations and only a few hundred years old! They looked amazing. Rocky and Carlos went to retrieve the rope bag from yesterday while Jessica and I tried to find the lower gate. It was harder than I thought, we went in a couple of circles before an SWCC person showed us the way. The muddy crawl was really not necessary. Once through the gate we didn't have much trouble finding Cairn Chamber and the climb out. There was a rope on Awkward Corner which was helpful. A short trip, but quite a varied one with lots of nice stuff. It was good to do another round trip.

30 Jan - 1 Feb Peak district

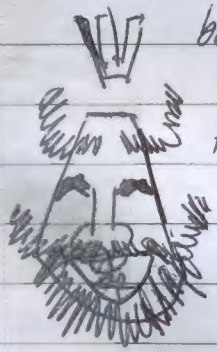
Orpheus Cave club.

Friday: Our late set off trip left Oxford at 9.45pm. arrived at 12.50am. found people still awake. Vlad drunk. lol
I painted Vlads finger nails (~~8~~ 7 of them, Lizzie did 3)
(5) bunch of people stayed up ~~at~~ till 5 am
"Frances physically draged ~~Vlad~~ me to bunk room Lol" — Vlad

We woke up at 10am. lol
My trip ~~is~~ has Carlos. Oli, Lizzie. Brandon.
~~20 min into~~ after 20min of driving to TSG. we found Lizzie fogot her Oversuit and I forgot my helmet. lol

"Children are in need of RUM" — Oliboli

Hiho, hi ho, and off a way we go, with a bottle of rum and some Titan fun, hi ho, hi ho.



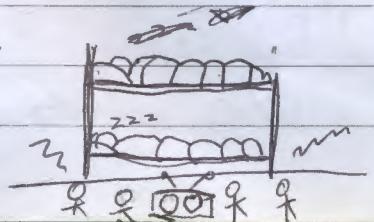
Hehehehe! さむいですね。雨 ピルー
あめ

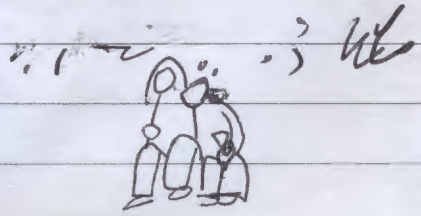
OUCC - thanks for having me. It has been a lovely weekend so far. The caves were cold and strenuous, just the way we like it. (Crucially) much rum was provided.
Thanks Vlad.
For future reference, keep Isaac away from axes. Cheers C

There were so many hugs and thus vastly increased the general happiness of the caving crew.

— "All because of Alcoho" — Fiona

Sleeping caver:





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Not caving

Vlad

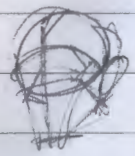
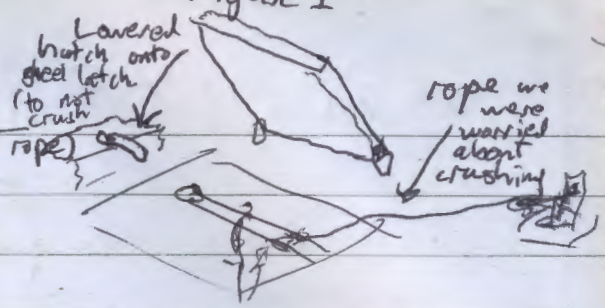
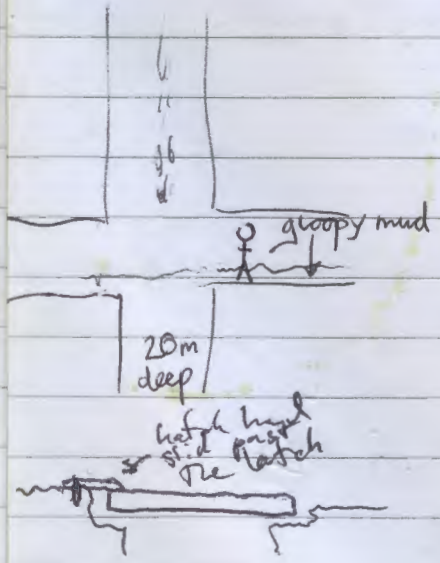


Figure 1



Hillocks Climbing ~~Adit~~	Hillocks Engine shaft	Water Icicle
Carlos	Viktor	
Lizzie	~~Kirstie~~	Isaac
Oli	Brandon	Timothy
~~Rosa~~	~~Rosie~~	Elina
Fiona	Rocky	Frances
	Rosa	Charlie

There was some confusion about which group of trees we were supposed to be heading for. In retrospect the fact that we were going downhill rather than uphill should have been a clue. The Hillocks Engine shaft team went down Knotlow Fourways shaft and the Hillocks Climbing shaft team went down Knotlow Climbing shaft. Everyone went down one pitch and got out safely at least. Through needless to say no-one completed an exchange. We found the bottom of a waterfall and they found the top of a waterfall, so maybe... but probably not. Also Vlad forgot his wellies and Frances fetched them for him. Causing the Water Icicle team to be back to the hut at 7pm on a Sunday.



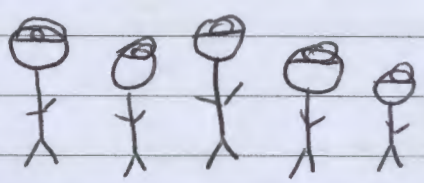
Water Icicle was big fun. Frances rigged and Isaac went down last, doing something silly with the hatch. (see Fig. 1). Pretty much fully explored the cave / mine. The way out was fun because I really needed a wee but when Frances reached the top of the shaft, the thing in Fig. 2 had happened, temporarily trapping us. Frances did a Big Strong (very good) so we got out. 10/10 amazing wee.

Wales Weekend 13/02/26 - 15/02/26

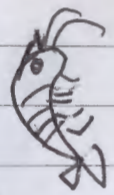
Rosa Clements, Frances Pope, Fiona Zhang, Jerome Oswald-Jones, Vlad Cabanea, Mabé Soos, Theo Adams, Jon Abrahams, Viktor Verebélyi, Carlos Tapia, Sam Crowe, Sophie Wallace, Elodie Silver, Cindy Yeung, Rose Xu

Skyhook	Beginner trip	Top Entrance unusual
Fiona	Sophie	Frances
Viktor	Elodie	Vlad
Mabe	Rose	Sam
Carlos	Rosa	Cindy
Jerome	Jon	Theo?

Beginner trip



Our highlights were the tunnel we slid through, the corkscrew, the traverse (did think we were going to die though), seeing a bat and a cave shrimp and ~~roman~~ eating chocolate with our lights turned off. Lowlights were Sophie slipping down the rock (luckily her ~~wife~~ was there to save her, Elodie having to crawl over the traverse, leaky wellies and falling over many times on the walk back. Overall we had an amazing first trip - thank you!!



Bedding chambers	Cwm Dwr	Short trip
Fiona	Rosa	Frances
~~Vlad~~	Viktor	Vlad
Jerome	Cindy	Jon
Mabe	Sophie	Sam
Carlos	Elodie	
Theo?	Rose	

(60) # MENDIP TRIP 27/2 - 1/3

Jerome Carlos Fiona —— Rhino Rift.
Jakub Pranav Hannah James —— Eastwater.

Rhino Rift is Hard. Not for beginners and people who doesn't like big swings. Also Hangers are hard to find so Keep an eye on your way down. The ~~first~~ last y-hang is very tricky. Jerome did a OK job of it. I think the Vloop ~~is too~~ he riged is two short. So when Carlos was on it I ~~ask~~ guided him to feed more rope into the loop so he could stand on it and take of short cows tail. Carlos didn't go very far unfortunately he got stuck on the deviation. couldn't pass it somehow so he did a mid-rope change and climbed back up. I didn't go down as we already spent a long time.

LIES! PEOPLE WHO ARE TOO WEAK DESERVE TO DIE. 9/5

FIONA SAID THERE WAS NOT ENOUGH ROPE SO USED MIN. RAL

CARLOS JUST DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO USE HIS FOOT LOOP !!! 7S

HE ALSO DIDN'T MAKE IT PASSED A DEVIATION --- SO CLEARLY NOT MY FAULT

~~we can't~~ so once Carlos is up, we turned back. Me and Jerome did de-rigging

~~when did the last de-rigging of~~ when we de-rigging the last deviation Jerome:

