

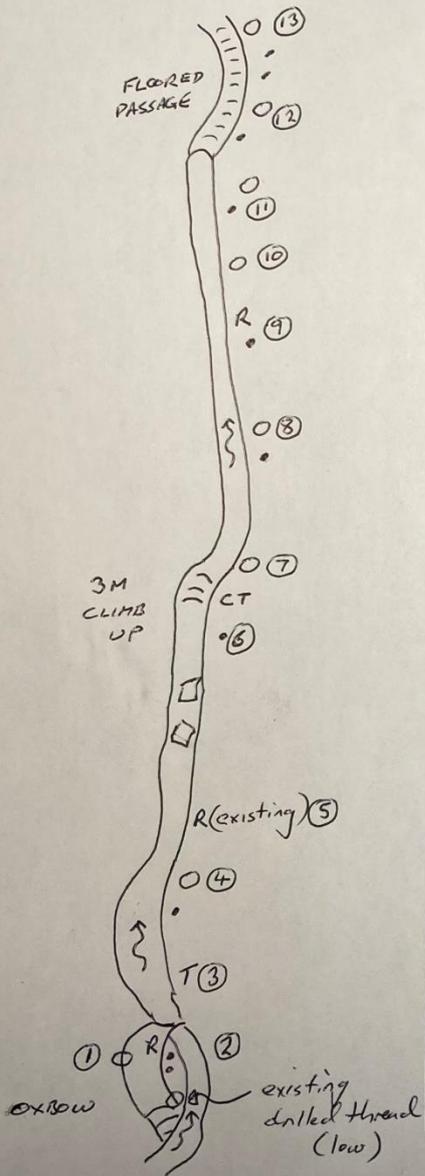
Giants Chert Hall and High-Level Traverses.

The site visit by Phil Baker and Steve Rudge on 28.02.21

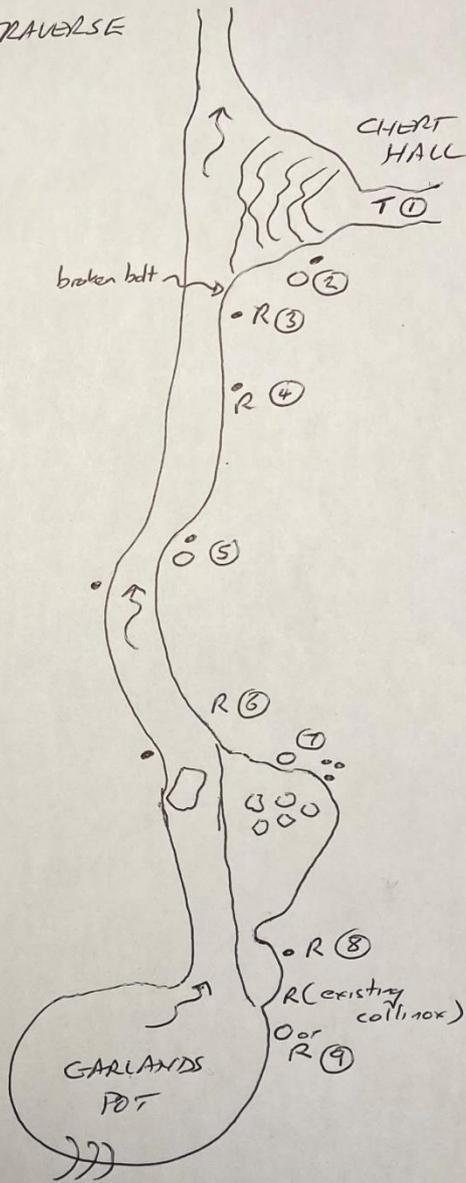
Follow up meeting on 9.03.2021 to agree a joint report to go to PICA membership

- Over the years these traverses have been used by many in the caving community including educational, voluntary, commercial and university groups.
- They have traditionally been protected by spits. which have been reportedly failing for several years now.
- This proposal is to replace the existing spits to prevent further failure, and prevent the proliferation of new spits to replace these by persons unknown.
- It includes placement of new resin bolts (and other options where feasible, practical, and appropriate such as drilled threads) with consideration to reduce the visual impact as much as possible without reducing functionality. In doing so we can create a much safer environment for everyone using this section of cave
- As they are generally used by novice's safety is paramount and at key points traverse lines need to be tight and at the appropriate height
- The spits in question are in an area of the cave away from the main caver thoroughfare.
- The spits are not in a conservation sensitive area (such as calcite features or sediments)
- The number of groups offering trips across these traverses has increased over the last 5 years. The appropriate re-equipping of both of these traverses will help distribute traffic across a wider area of this popular cave and spread the load from the busiest areas above Garlands Pot.
- All suggested placements subject to the hammer test, and bolts placed by DCA anchor installers. Whilst there is no specification for drilled threads these will be considered carefully beforehand (rock/size etc)
- All new anchors will be level with or above current spits any new placements will seek to extract the current sleeves and replace with new resin bolts where possible.

TRAVERSE BEYOND
CHERT HALL



CHERT HALL
TRAVERSE



○ = NEW DRILLED THREAD POSSIBLE CT = CALCITE THREAD
 T = NATURAL THREAD ● = EXISTING SPIT

Traverse above Crabwalk beyond Chert Hall

1. Drilled thread on left wall head height? (please note that this can be checked with a rope prior to drilling.)
2. New resin bolt to create mid passage shared high anchor to protect step across passage to....(if point 1 is not satisfactory then this can be double bolted)
3. Existing natural thread
4. New resin bolt here
5. Existing resin anchor
6. Calcite thread just beyond spit
7. Above the photo: Need a resin bolt at the start of the highest section.
8. Optional drilled thread in alcove, just beyond spit
9. New resin bolt to replace spit.
10. Intermediate drilled thread
11. New resin bolt
12. Drilled thread just after passage becomes floored. If this is good, then no more anchors required. If not, then resin to finish traverse.

Totals:

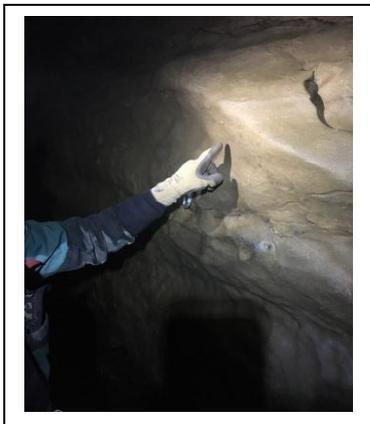
5 / 6 x new resin bolts

4 x new drilled threads

Traverse above Crabwalk beyond Chert Hall – Photos in line with descriptions above



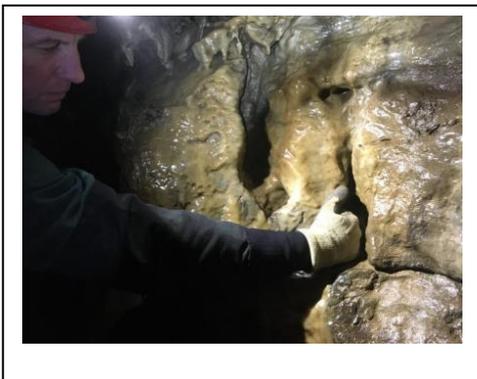
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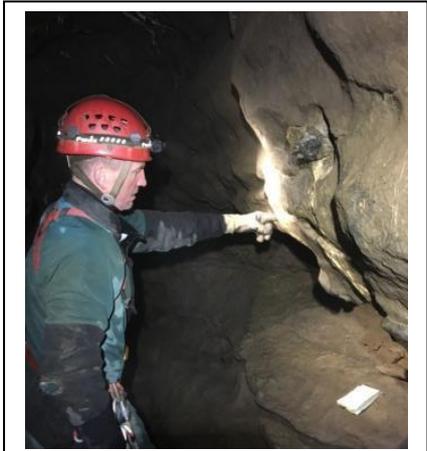
4.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



10.



11.

Chert Hall Traverse

1. Existing naturals threads
2. Drilled thread in fin next to spit
3. New resin bolt by spit, and repair broken bolt/fill hole
4. New resin bolt by spit
5. Drilled thread just beyond spit
6. New resin bolt on left wall head height (check rock)
7. Drilled thread just before three spits
8. New resin by spit
9. New resin to create lower point with existing resin (Collinox) for end of traverse back to Garlands (Pull test existing resin bolt – not a DCA bolt.

Totals:

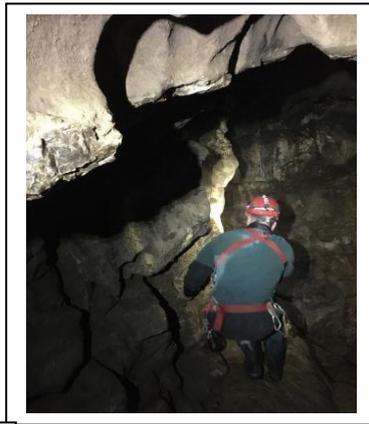
5 x new resin bolts

3 x new drilled threads

Chert Hall Traverse – Photos in line with descriptions above



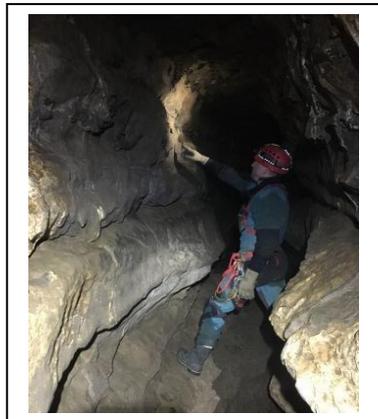
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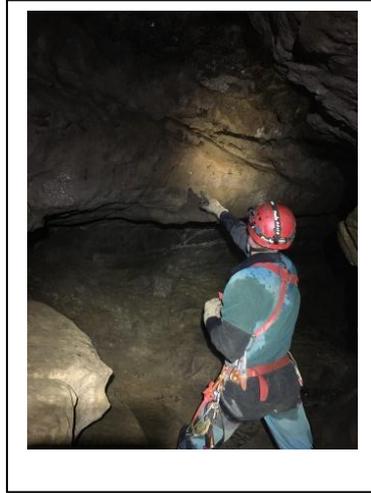
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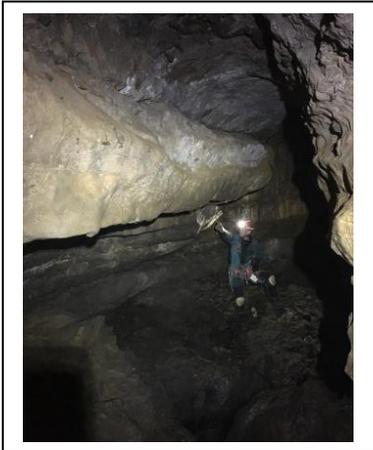
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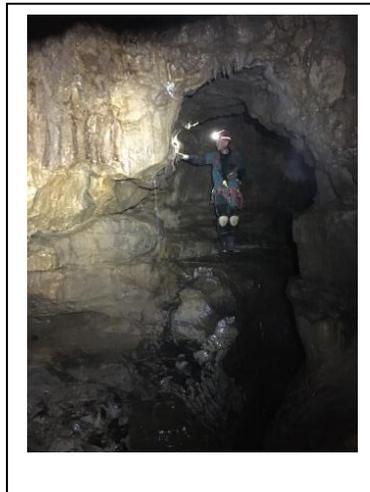
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7.



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