

Day Trip to the Peak, May 2012

5 of us went to Stanage Sunday 13/5/12, under the impression that the weather was going to be good. Well it was in MK, so with sun cream, midge repellent, sun hat, I set off in John's car with Ant, Dan and Joanne.

It was noticeably colder in Hook's car park for Popular End, and a bit breezy. We did wonder why there were so few cars and climbers in full down jackets. I think we found out as we walked towards the crag where we felt the full force of the wind pushing us towards the crag. It was relentless, with no shelter at the bottom of the crag and even small caves which looked promising turned into wind tunnels. At the top, if you stepped back 3-5m, then you found some calmer air, but at the top edge of the crag, it was howling.



was always shouting, lol.

I soon had all my layers on, wearing my climbing hat to keep my jacket hood in place, to keep me warmer, and to keep the wind out.

It was not a day for delicate moves as Ant found taking his first ever fall onto gear.

Belaying 2nders up the route, I couldn't hear a single word when they were trying to tell me instructions. I figured if I couldn't hear them, they couldn't hear me, so I was bellowing instructions down to them, all of which were very audible apparently. Dan wondered why I

It soon got colder, then warmed a little, then went colder again. Although veery windy, it wasn't too cold to climb.

We started at Verandah Buttress, moving back towards Hook car park stopping at Roundabout Buttress, Martello Buttress, Heaven Crack Area and finally Twin Chimney's Buttress.

A good day was had by all, and it proved a useful crag warm up for the coming season. We all seemed to be satisfied with what we climbed, although a fair bit of skin and blood was left for the wildlife.

