

OCTOBER 2017

FRIDAY 13/10

We had the Freshers' trip this weekend in Frawley's in Doolin, I drove for us, and took Erin, Adam J., Laoise, and Patrick down, leaving at about 1830 pit-stopping in Athlone and arriving at about 2200 if I recall correctly. It was a very big trip and we borrowed gear from UCD for the occasion, thanks again to them.

SATURDAY 14/10

Myself and Adam (cavebot3000) took a group to Poll na gColm, consisting of Adam, Mark, Sinead, Laoise, Brian, Karen and of course me. It was a good trip we went upstream from Main Junction for about 10 minutes. No one got too scared or freaked out, well not enough to say anything anyway. We stopped by Signature Rock, and headed out through the streamway.

After getting changed, we headed back to Frawley's for lunch and a regrouping. As normal some people weren't up for a second cave, and Shane came up with a group of 3 freshers and just needed a secondary. I volunteered on condition that I could bring along another fresher who was keen for more punishment [Insert a Gaby Jones Machochism reference here]. So we that we headed back to Poll na gColm ... again. Since a separate group were already in there, the SRT harnesses for belaying lay at the bottom of the pitch. So I climbed down with the rope tied under my armpits, as this was happening the other group came out of Gunman's Entrance and were very puzzled, Junior could be quoted as saying "Who the f*ck is that on our rope?".

As earlier it was a straight forward trip, but this time we didn't go as far as Main Junction, because we wanted to get home for dinner, which was burritos. Oh we also deduced that Poll na gColm must be haunted, cause voices can be heard.

SUNDAY 15/10

Sunday consisted of several hangovers, and some people not being up for caving. I drove a group to Poll Dubh, but I took the callout and sat in the car, mainly cause I didn't fancy putting on my wet gear again. We got back to DCU around 1930-2000.

SATURDAY 28/10

Off to the SUICRO, aka the Symposium, with Matthieu, Erin, Orla, and Junior. We arrived up in the afternoon, too late to do proper caving if we wanted to go to the talks which I wanted to do since there were many mining related ones. So to do something we went to Coolarkin with a few cans, and a bluetooth speaker.

We then got a bit of dinner and headed to the talks. The talks are a bit of a blur, but I remember Jim giving an update on the [Considines dig](#), which seems to be quite the engineering project. There was also a few shots of a new hole that appeared in a farmer's field and was dug out to an extent.

SUNDAY 29/10

I woke with a wicked bloody hangover, so it took me a while to get the motor running. But we opted to go to Marble Arch today instead of Noone's Hole. We headed up Legnabrocky Way.

The highlight of the evening was Les' talk on the dye tracing between Piegong Pot II and Shannon Pot, with Cascades and Shannon Cave in between.

MONDAY 30/10

Despite drastically less alcohol consumption on Sunday compared to Saturday, I still started the day feeling poorly. Either way we headed to Piegong Pot II today with great enthusiasm on account of the lecture from Les the night before, we intended to get into the Indiana Jones series, but alas we were defeated by rope rub...blast 9mm rope is so nice with it's lightness but not so robust to chert.