

Peak district trip 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> November 2015-

After the previous two damp trips, we were hoping for a break from the traditional rainy British weather, and we got it! Instead, however, we were treated to a weekend climbing in the cold and snow...

The drive there was without a hitch, however as we settled down for the night temperatures dropped. The morning was rife with complaints from a select few stoats who made a poor choice of rooms and so were treated to a cold, sleepless night. Despite this we set off cautiously on Saturday morning on icy roads to the crags.



Half the group went to Burbage north, and faced up to the wind and ice to get some climbing done. Setting a top rope on a HVS gave freshers a chance to test their climbing ability on rock, for the first time for some. Though a few struggled in places their determination didn't let them down and all reached the top.

The other group, when arriving at Popular crag made a hasty, albeit wise retreat after deciding they'd rather not put up with the wind and instead headed to Laurence field quarry and were treated to comparatively milder conditions.

Once back the main focus was warming up, which for most meant hot food and a warm shower and for El meant curling up in her sleeping bag on the floor... The evening had a relaxed atmosphere, one highlight being the appearance the farms cat, who quickly became fond of Alex... or perhaps more likely his pizza. After a power cut, some stoats made the best of it and started up a brilliant though disorderly game of blackout sardines, whilst others opted for a few cheery card games.



The next day the whole group set off as one to Laurence field quarry again for another day on the rocks. We were even treated to a few moments of climbing in sunlight, a great way to finish off the weekend.

