



Western Torugart Too Expedition 2019

*Climbing Virgin Peaks of the Inner
Tien Shan Ranges, Kyrgyzstan*

24th August to 14th September 2019

Report written by Derek Billings

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Introduction

The Torugart Too range lies on the southern border of Kyrgyzstan, with the ridgeline roughly marking an international border with China. The Torugart pass is a main road linking these two countries. The mountains rise over 5000m and the range extends for 35km predominantly in a west to east direction. The idyllic lake of Chatyr Kol lies to the east and is a very prominent feature in the area.

Background

Some years previous, I (Derek) had made some initial inquiries about potential virgin peaks in the Altai, Pamir or Tien Shan ranges. The request was for any information or direction to finding virgin peaks, between 4000m and 5000m with non-technical ascents. One of these enquiries was to Pat Littlejohn, (of ISM fame among other things) who put us in contact with Vladimir Komissarov of ITMC (International Travel Mountain Centre). Pat and Vladimir had done an exploratory expedition into the Torugart Too Range in 2007, climbing a number of virgin peaks rising above 5000m. To Pat's knowledge, the western fringes of this range had yet to be climbed, which Vladimir also confirmed, to the best of his current knowledge. With some cross referencing between the Kyrgyzstan mountaineering guidebook, trip reports and google maps, I was able to locate the range and start planning in earnest.

Expedition Team

Derek Billings

I have climbed across the UK, Spain, Switzerland, France, New Zealand, Thailand and India and have a penchant for alpine rock climbing.

Living in Dorset I spend most of my time sport climbing on Portland, dreaming of big mountains and the big adventures they hold.

Fun Fact: I had my 40th birthday on arriving at base camp. No cake, but a great view!

Robin Ohlssen

The Swedish meatball is the youngest of the team at a mere 29 years old. However, Robin has the most mountaineering experience of anyone in the team. Early in his career he spent close to two years in Chamonix, climbing every day his wallet would allow, and cleaning toilets when it wouldn't.

Fun Fact: Robin is a qualified nurse, welder, rope access technician and dive master. A natural blend of vocations!



3



Dave (Crusher) Ryan

Dave works as an outdoor activity instructor in New Zealand and although he would admit white water kayaking is his main pursuit, it was the mountains that first drew him outdoors when being awarded with a mountaineering scholarship in his teenage years. Also known as 'crusher' for his impressive physique.

Fun Fact: Crusher's wife Meg was also supposed to be on the expedition, but a broken ankle whilst playing netball shortly before departure put an end to that. *note; this wasn't such a fun fact for either of them.



Rob Hughes-Games

Rob is the quintessential outdoor man. Having worked for the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) in various parts of the world, he can boast spending over 80 days at a time on expeditions and makes an incredible outdoor pizza. A keen hunter and a very strong climber.

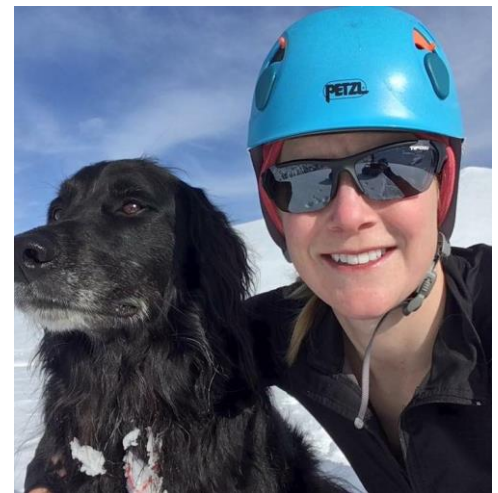
Fun Fact: Rob lives in New Zealand, was born in South Africa and has parents from Canada and the UK. Even he's confused of his nationality.



Jenna Hughes-Games

Hailing from the wilderness of Canada, Jenna is also an avid hunter, outdoor enthusiast and thus not surprisingly; married to Rob. Loving all things outdoors, Jenna took quickly to climbing and mountaineering assembling some impressive ascents in the Southern Alps when preparing for this expedition.

Fun Fact: Jenna is the ideal person to have on a trip; before we knew it, BC toilet was dug, a 'privacy' wall was built, and some snickers pancakes were on the stove.



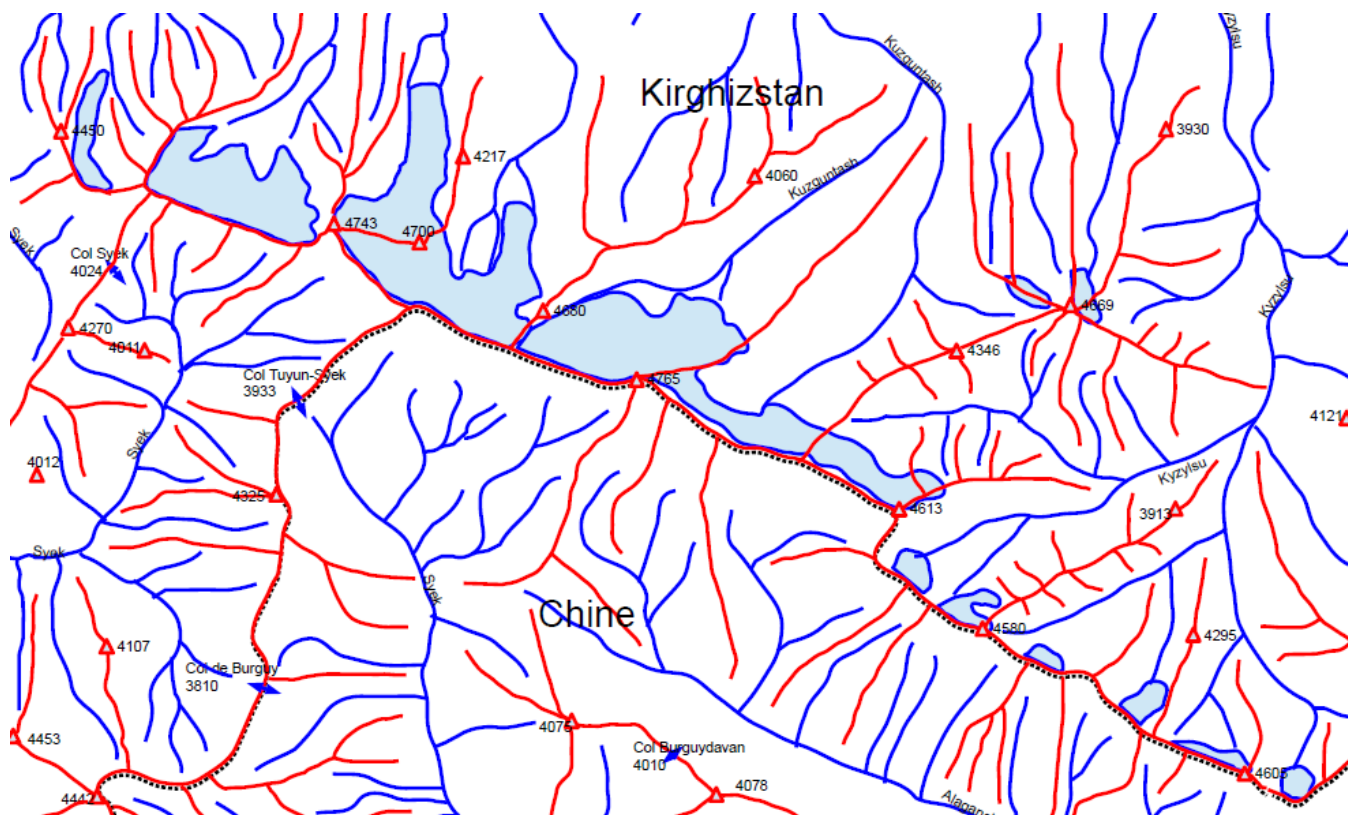
Preparation

Research and previous expeditions

As outlined above, the initial research came from an inquiry to Pat Littlejohn. Once we had identified a potential area i.e. the western flank of the Torugart Too range, the extensive search for past trip reports to the area began. Thankfully Vladimir had sent his guidebook (albeit 513 pages long) so we could cross reference the known peaks and identify the virgin ones.

As it happened, there had been a 2008 expedition and another two British expeditions to the area in 2010, all claiming first ascents and new routes, but it would appear that the western edges were still untouched.

The initial investigations showed that a number of prominent peaks (approximately six) would be suitable to make an attempt on, ranging from 4400m to just below 4800m



Western Torugart Too Range. Kyrgyz Alpine Club map (estimated spot heights shown). Map from ITMC docs

In a strange twist, a few months later, when checking weather patterns on a popular global forecasting site; windy.com, I was surprised to see that two of the peaks had associated names. These were Bar-Tau and Jumar-Tau. A quick google search with these words produced a very short, but concise account of two ascents in the American Alpine Journal from 2009. This was very frustrating as I thought I had researched thoroughly and now I had doubts in my mind about the other summits. Perhaps there had been other ascents and reports in foreign languages that had slipped under the radar....

For more information about previous trips, please see appendix A

Thus, unfortunately that was two potential peaks off our list, but we still had four others to concentrate on.

Logistics

Flights

With the team assembling from different parts of the world we flew in from various ports. Robin and myself flew from Stockholm and London respectively with Turkish airlines (via Istanbul) which proved to be very efficient and cost effective. What wasn't cost effective was turning up at Heathrow instead of Gatwick airport! Cue a very hasty and stressful sprint to the taxi rank!

As would be expected, it was a less direct route from New Zealand with Dave taking a monster long-haul flight of 17 hours (Auckland to Dubai) before transferring to Bishkek. Rob and Jenna flew via Sydney, Bangkok and Kazakhstan before landing. These extra stopovers did however enable them to fly not only directly over the Karakorum, seeing K2, but also over the Torugart pass for a first glimpse of our slightly humbler objectives.

Accommodation

In Bishkek we booked privately into Friends hostel for two nights. The primary reason was that it was located exactly half way between ITMC (our logistical support) and the Osh Bazaar, which would be our main source of food supplies. The place was excellent value, quirky and great to meet other travellers who were all on different adventures.

Accommodation in Naryn was organised by ITMC at different B&Bs.

Equipment (hired from ITMC)

- Mess tent – Marmot limestone 8 person
- 2 burner stove with 2 x 25kg compressed gas cylinders
- 7 x butane gas canisters compatible with screw-top outdoor stoves i.e. Jetboil
- 2 x collapsible tables
- 5 x collapsible chairs
- Various pieces of cutlery and crockery, cups, bowls, pans etc
- 2 x large thermos flasks
- 2 x teapots (large and small)
- 2 x LED tent torches + spare batteries
- Large plastic storage drum
- Thuraya Satellite phone
- Bits of timber, nails and tarp to make toilet shelter
- Hand washing facilities

Transport

There were some initial problems with transport as our primary vehicle (GAZ-66) was out of service and thus we were transferred to Naryn via minibus, and then picked up by a Kamaz the next day, which had returned from another location.

Of slight concern, was that our driver (and his son) seemed to be wholly confused by what we were doing and where we were going. Through translation by the Naryn guesthouse owner,

we were able to answer most questions. With the assurance that I would be in the cab with our driver, he was happy (for now) to proceed. Getting to the proposed basecamp after leaving the main highway proved much more of a heated debate. With little common language between us, our driver at one stage refused to go any further when we encountered a dry river bed with steep banks. We coaxed him into talking to the Nomads up the valley for a safe crossing, who fortunately, with the exchange of a few cigarettes we were escorted



down a very accessible slope. However, this didn't ease the tension and once we were over the other side our driver kept repeating "nyet nyet" when I was pointing and requesting him to go a little further. If we didn't find water we certainly weren't stopping.

Thankfully, to everyone's relief, about a kilometre up the valley, (but still away from our proposed BC) we found a trickle of water that would turn into a more substantial stream. Gear offloaded, a letter written for delivery to ITMC with our new basecamp location ...and with the palpable thought of our driver not returning to collect us, we gave him a bottle of Vodka and \$30 to smooth things over.

One other logistical point to mention was when booking the transport we had a miscommunication with ITMC about the costs. We had been quoted \$1500 Bishkek – BC – Bishkek. It turned out that this was in reference to the vehicle, and thus the cost for only one way, hence doubling the most expensive part of the trip. ITMC were very understanding and were able to give us a small discount in light of this miscommunication.

Maps

The overwhelming feedback from previous trip reports was that the Soviet era maps that had been produced were unreliable and patchy at best. Our area of interest actually overlapped between two different types of online Soviet map and were thus even less reliable. Therefore, we primarily used Google Earth and Google Maps with the terrain function to analyse contour lines, aspect and relief. This proved to be very reliable in general, and the imagery could identify potential rocky outcrops. Past reports had noted very poor rock quality so we were keen to avoid any gendarmes or extended and steep buttresses.

Using simple measurements on Google maps, it looked possible that each summit should be achievable by a day walk in to set up an ABC, and then make a summit bid the following day and walk back to BC.



Google Maps 2019



Lat Long co-ordinates

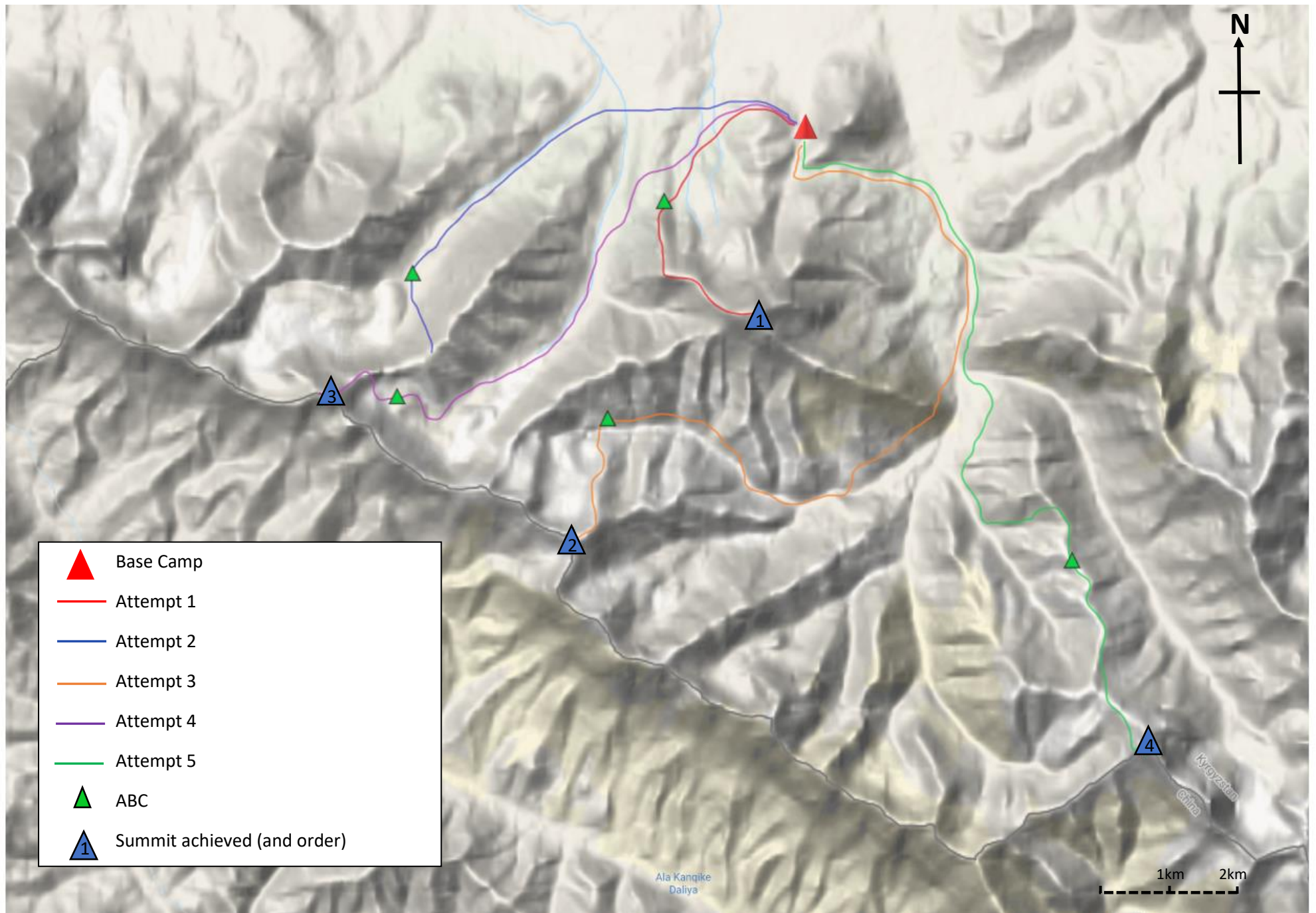
Base Camp: 40.5464/74.9602

Peak 1: 40.5205/74.9484

Peak 2: 40.4930/74.9215

Peak 3: 40.5114/74.8783

Peak 4: 40.4667/75.0180



Medical

Each team member brought a personal first aid kit containing basic supplies such as blister plasters, emergency blanket, bandages, scissors etc as well as personal medication such as paracetamol and ibuprofen. We also had a much more robust group first-aid kit which was held at basecamp. To complement this, Jenna was able to procure altitude sickness tablets and tramadol, and I had a supply of codeine as well as sumatriptan migraine tablets.

Each member had at least a basic level of first aid training, with the majority having experience in the outdoor industry, and thus outdoor and remote first aid qualifications. Robin was at the time, a dissertation away from gaining a nursing degree (since qualified with top marks).

Medical issues on the trip were mostly isolated to minor altitude sickness (headaches and nausea) or blisters. One major trauma injury occurred when Rob was paragliding from one of the ridges, and landed heavily onto a flat rocky area. The weight of his pack propelled him forward resulting in his head making contact with a protruding rock. This caused a 7cm wound just above his left eye and a less serious wound to the bridge of his nose (most likely from his sunglasses breaking). Thankfully Rob had swapped his Petzl Elios helmet with Dave's Mammut Wallrider, which gave much more side protection and very likely saved him from a more serious injury.

Jenna and Dave who were onsite attended the scene and were able to irrigate the wounds (much to Rob's displeasure) and steristrip the open gash together. A long hike out from the incident site meant the trio were late back to basecamp where Robin and I soon heard the story. Robin put his invaluable nursing skills to practice and was able to clean the wound even further and reapply more steristrips. Rob contacted ITMC about potential evacuation, but as he was showing no other signs of injury or concussion, and we only had another few days at basecamp, the decision was made to stay put and seek further medical attention when back in Bishkek.

On arrival in Bishkek, Rob's insurance – Global Rescue was able to set up a visit to an international clinic and a surgeon was able to assess his wounds. Needless to say he owes Dave a helmet, and didn't paraglide again until back in New Zealand.





Food

Most of our food was sourced from the Osh market in Bishkek, but we also bought fresh fruit and vegetables from the market in Naryn. Whether this was actually fresher was debatable. Other food sources came from dehydrated food from everyone's point of origin. These were primarily for summit days. I opted for a mixture of Summit To Eat packs and Firepot meals (the latter being sourced directly from my area in Dorset), Robin had Norwegian based Real Turmat, and Rob, Jenna and Dave feasted upon a New Zealand brand; Backcountry meals. Dave managed to secure some sponsorship with this company and received a number of free meals, although we do believe they felt sorry for him when he said his partner Meg had broken her ankle and was no longer going on the expedition.

We put together a comprehensive list of basic requirements for each meal per day, excluding the dehy food we had. This was led by Rob who had a vast experience of estimating calorific content and consumption when working with NOLS. Of course, when we got to the bazaar there was a lot of extra's added in as everything looked incredibly appetising.

Food was stored in our large drum, dug into the BC stream which kept everything cool for the duration of our time there.

Water

We located our basecamp beside a fast-flowing stream, but it was soon apparent to us how much livestock; cattle, sheep, yaks and horses were wandering through the valley. Thus, it was essential that water was boiled before use or filtered. Dave had borrowed a camelback UV filter which conveniently fits on to a Nalgene bottle. 60 seconds of purification and we were good. None of us got sick, in fact Dave (who was ill before the trip) made a stark improvement once getting to basecamp, so this is certainly a system I would recommend and use again.

Equipment

Although we could have hired some further personal equipment from ITMC such as tents, we decided that each person would be responsible for their own sleeping arrangements and thus we had four 2 person tents between the five of us, with Rob and Jenna sharing theirs.

Climbing equipment was initially split between three climbing teams of Robin & Derek, Rob & Jenna and Dave & Meg. However after Meg breaking her ankle, Dave joined Rob and Jenna's team to split gear. Between each group, we carried a rope, a number of ice screws and a small rack of slings, pitons, nuts and cams. Dave also brought a snow stake.

A full list of personal climbing equipment can be found in Appendix B

Communications

Aside from the satellite phone we hired from ITMC, Dave also brought an EPIRB and Rob brought his Garmin Inreach Mini. The Inreach proved to be an excellent means of communication to the outside world and we were able to get text message updates, Bluetooth linked to Rob's phone of weather forecasts. Rob also brought along a set of three short-wave radios. These were all kept powered by solar chargers.

Visas and Permits

Visas were very easy to acquire as all respective passports qualified for a free 30-day visa.

To climb in the Torugart range, which borders China to the south, a special climbing permit is required. This cost us a mere \$25 per person which ITMC pre-arranged for us, as this takes up to 6 weeks to procure. When collecting these, one of our ITMC contacts, Margarita, also gave us photocopies of the document. She informed us to give the copy when going through checkpoints and keep hold of the original. Apart from a few truck drivers jumping the queue, and Dave being told to delete the photos he took of the armed checkpoint, we encountered no problems.

Finances

The expedition was mainly funded by personal contributions from team members, however we were also very appreciative of receiving a generous MEF grant as well as being granted a NZAC (New Zealand Alpine Club) grant. The latter only being found out when we returned into phone reception. As stated previously, Dave also received free backcountry dehydrated meals.

Most costs were split evenly between the team although food shopping at the bazaar proved difficult to ensure this was shared evenly. Other miscellaneous costs such as extra baggage allowance, insurance, travel etc was obviously paid individually.

One point worth mentioning was how difficult it was to transfer funds to Kyrgyzstan. From my experience, definitely do not try to pay anything by Western Union as this caused untold stress. However, ITMC were very understanding and accommodating with troubles in paying the balance of our invoice. They were also able to adjust the costs very quickly when one of our team members were no longer able to come. The only money lost on this was the pre-paid climbing permit.



EXPENDITURE	GBP	NZD	SEK	KGS	USD
Flights					
Derek	445.44				
Robin			5380.35		
Rob & Jenna		5200			
Dave (including Meg cancellation)		5534			
Insurance					
Derek	178.46				
Robin			740		
Rob & Jenna		642			
Dave		640.89			
ITMC logistics					
Travel					3000
Basecamp equipment hire					600
SatPhone hire					150
Gas canisters (portable)					35
Permits (for original 6 pers)					150
Food					
Osh Bazaar				16513	
Naryn Market				2047	
Meals outside expedition time				8150	
Accommodation					
Friends Hostel (5 nights)				13970	
Naryn (2 nights) arranged by ITMC					200
Misc					
Airport transfers via taxi (Bishkek)				1740	
Extra baggage allowance (R & JHG)		530			
Taxi from Heathrow to Gatwick (DB)	168				
Phrasebook	5				
Totals:	£769.90	\$12546.89	K6120.35	C26710	US\$4135
Exchanged to GBP*	769.90	6273.45	495.57	298.04	3230.47
Total	£11,067.43				

INCOME	GBP
Personal Contributions	9267.43
MEF Grant	1200.00
NZAC Grant	600.00

*exchange rates to GBP at:

1.28 USD

2.00 NZD

12.35 SEK

89.62 KGS

Expedition

Expedition Diary

Aug 24	All depart from various ports.
Aug 25	All arrive in Bishkek at various times. RO & DB arrive earlier and visit Osh Bazaar. As this was the first time the team had been together we had our initial chats of any personal objectives.
Aug 26	Visit ITMC for kit check, pay balance. Food purchasing at Osh Bazaar.
Aug 27	Depart Bishkek for Naryn via minibus. Arrive Naryn late afternoon
Aug 28	Depart Naryn 08:30 for BC via Kamaz which arrived overnight. Arrive in BC approximately 15:00. Set up BC, begin to acclimatize with short walks up minor peaks.
Aug 29	Acclimatize by ascending a number of smaller peaks. Weather forecast predicting strong winds for the next 3 days. Decision made for RO & DB to hike to ABC 1 as were both feeling good. Arrive ABC approx. 17:00.
Aug 30	Summit bid #1 ; 04:30 start, ascend NW ridge. DB & RO Summit 09:00. Arrive back to BC 15:00. DR, RHG & JHG walk to ABC2.
Aug 31	Summit bid #2 ; 05:00 DR and JHG begin ascent. Halted by large rock buttress on main NE ridge. Return to ABC with RHG to return to BC by 14:00.
Sept 1	BC day. More acclimatisation. Looked at a different valley and made a plan for the next summit attempt.
Sept 2	Walk in to ABC 3. Approx 10km through initially a wide-open valley, but quickly turned into a tough river cut valley with steep scree on both sides. River level was low so still manageable when needing to cross.
Sept 3	Summit bid #3 ; 04:30 start. DB, RO, DR, RHG summit 09:30. Return to BC 16:30. R&R.
Sept 4	R&R at BC. JHG explores some minor peaks surrounding BC.
Sept 5	R&R and route planning at BC. Decided for another attempt on previous peak (summit bid #2).
Sept 6	DR, RHG, JHG, DB walk in to ABC 4. Approximately 8km. Set up ABC under NE ridge. DB returned to BC.
Sept 7	Summit bid #4 . JHG, RHG, DR start 6:30. Summit reached 10:30. DR descended to ABC. RHG paraglided from saddle landing heavily and injuring himself. JHG took RHG to ABC where DR treated the injury. Walked out to BC by 17:30.
Sept 8	RO and DB walk in to ABC 5 – approx. 9km. arrive at ABC 16:30.
Sept 9	Summit bid #5 . Start at 05:00. Reached summit at 10:30. Descended to ABC and returned to BC at 17:00.
Sept 10	Huge snowfall during night. Kamaz arrived early so decision was made to pack up BC and depart from Naryn a day early. Overnight in Naryn B&B.
Sept 11	Arrive back in Bishkek. Offload equipment. Debrief with ITMC. Rebook into Friends hostel. Explore Bishkek nightlife.
Sept 12	R&R and sightseeing in Bishkek.
Sept 13	R&R and sightseeing in Bishkek.
Sept 14	DR, DB, RO fly out from Bishkek. RHG & JHG stay in Kyrgyzstan for an extra week of sightseeing.

Summary of Ascents (see map [section 2.3] to reference attempts)

Marked routes can be seen in Appendix C

Route 1

Date: 30/08/19
Climbers DB, RO
Grade AD
Summit 4710m
Weather Fair conditions, light westerly breeze (<5 knots)

We ascended the northern slopes from ABC up a steady line of scree until reaching the rocky shoulder of the flat western ridge. From here we scrambled along a mostly fault ridge, avoiding many small gendarmes along the way. When the ridge rose up again, we scrambled around loose rock buttresses until gaining the snow line at approx. 4400m. with crampons and ice tools we zigzagged (un-roped) our way through 45°-50° snow slopes until we gained the more sympathetically angled higher ridge. Variations of front pointing and flat footing were used to gain one last snow gully which steepened significantly on snow and scree to gain the summit. Descent was via the same route to ABC at 3900m. Due to a rushed acclimatisation, descent was very slow and laboured.



Route 2

Date 31/08/19
Climbers DR, JHG (RHG at ABC)
Grade n/a
Summit n/a
Weather Fair conditions, light westerly breeze (<5 knots)

From ABC, a long scree slope was ascended finishing on the main NE ridge, at which point a large unstable rock buttress was encountered which was impassable safely on either side. The decision was quickly made to return to ABC as both climbers were suffering from mild altitude sickness. High point reached; approx. 4300m

Route 3

Date 03/09/19
Climbers DB, RO, DR, RHG
Grade F/PD-
Summit 4622m
Weather Fair conditions to summit ridge, mild south westerly breeze (< 10 knots). Cloud on tops



After the first successful summit, we had photographic evidence of the surrounding peaks from good angles. It was decided that we would attempt a peak close to the border that 'should' prove easy access and a fairly achievable summit. What turned out to be a tricky approach through a steep river-cut valley made the walk in more tiring than expected but we set up ABC at approx. 4200m.

We ascended the most northerly spur zig-zagging up fine scree until gaining the NE summit ridge. We encountered low angled firm snow which we climbed un-roped, until a final rocky summit steepened to 45° for approximately 10m, giving the route its only demanding section. All team members stood atop this summit. Descent was via the same route.

Route 4

Date 07/09/19
Climbers DR, RHG, JHG
Grade PD-
Summit 4766m
Weather Clear conditions, light variable breeze (<5 knots)

The second attempt, from a different approach. Starting from ABC (4250m) at 6:30am, the team ascended steep scree until joining the saddle underneath the main snow slope on the main NE ridge, and avoided the rock buttresses that had stopped their ascent previously (route2).

Once on the snow slope the team climbed the first three pitches roped up, using ice screws as protection for the less confident members of the team. After this the angle eased and the team simul climbed the remaining 150m to reach the summit at 10:30am. Descent was initially via the snow slope and then an abseil down to the scree provided a faster return to ABC.



Route 5

Date 09/09/19
Climbers DB, RO
Grade AD+
Summit 4737m
Weather Strong winds (20-30 knots),
partially cloudy, very cold

From ABC at 4150m we left in very blustery conditions up the northern-most ridge until it joined with another ridge coming from the west. We sidled around a rocky point on steep scree. The second rock buttress was avoided on the southern side fortunately as the alternative northern flank would have meant descending a lot of scree to regain the ridge.

We looked at the northern face as a snow gully looked promising, but not being able to see the top sections we avoided this, and when inspected closer the snow was quite thin. A second snow chute on the western face was again avoided when we encountered some hollow ice. Our last option was to take the rocky SW ridge which provided a tricky ascent due to very poor rock quality. However, the wind died down during our ascent and we were able to scramble (British grade 2+/3) for approx. 150m to the summit.

Descent was via a scree gully adjacent to the ridge and required one 20m abseil when we encountered steep, bouldery terrain.

.....
We were blessed with extremely favourable weather conditions for all but one night/morning at basecamp and in Bishkek. This obviously provided us with ample opportunity for a number of summit bids. Before the expedition began, we had hoped to get enough of a weather window to stand atop at least one virgin summit, with three being our best possible outcome. The fact we summited four virgin peaks exceeded everyone's expectations and we were then left with the satisfying task of naming them:

Peak 1: Ketiley (a combination of Derek's partner and children's names)

Peak 2: Nomad (named by Rob in tribute to the local people of the area)

Peak 3: Jaksi Adamdar (named by Dave which translates to 'good people' in Kyrgyz)

Peak 4: Búrkút Peak (named by Robin which translates to 'eagle' in Kyrgyz)



Future Potential

Other Virgin Peaks

There is still scope for virgin peaks in the Torugart Too range. The peak west of peak 3 (see map) is still unclimbed, however we avoided this as the ascent appeared to involve shattered rock buttresses and the prominence of the peak was not as inspiring as others. The eastern part of the range still has lesser summits unclimbed as far as we were aware, and being closer to the road this might prove easier to access. We did however find horse and yak tracks to a high altitude on our ascents, so it is a possibility that Nomads would have climbed these if they are below the snowline.

Glacial Retreat.

Of the peaks we encountered, there was only a small amount of glaciation present. Below is photographic evidence of this for future comparison.



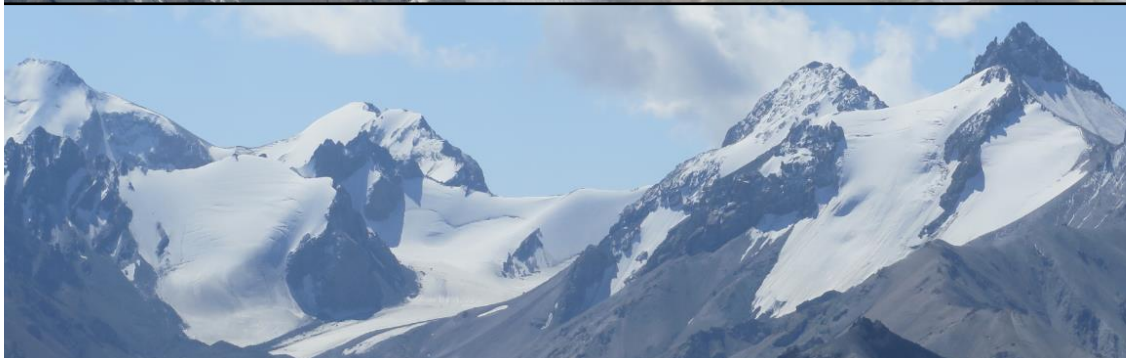
Peak 1 viewed from the North



Peak 2 viewed from the NNE



Peak 3 viewed from the ENE



Peak 4 (furthest right) viewed from NW, looking at the head of the valley of Kumay Pk



Acknowledgements

We have a huge amount of people to thank for this expedition being as successful as it was. Therefore, thank you to:

- The Mount Everest Foundation for providing us with an expedition grant and were excellent in corresponding to a first-time applier and also with changes to our expedition team.
- The New Zealand Alpine Club who also provided an unexpected expedition grant. We initially thought we missed out on the cut-off for this as the committee was meeting when our expedition had just departed so this was gratefully received and went towards recuperating personal costs.
- The staff at ITMC, especially Lilia and Margarita for answering my barrage of questions which grew exponentially as the date neared.
- Vladimir at ITMC for providing insight into where we, as a group of amateur alpinists, could explore and climb.
- Pat Littlejohn, who wouldn't know it, but his three sentence reply went a very long way to making this expedition happen.
- The lady in the Osh bazaar who spoke near perfect English and made what could have been a full day affair of finding and haggling for goods, into a very pleasant experience.
- Alistair Bell – a contact from UKClimbing.com who answered a request of mine for information about Kyrgyzstan conditions in September. He was able to give us valuable information about the area, climate and expectations, which all went towards the MEF and NZAC grant applications.
- Backcountry meals for providing Dave with a supply of dehy-food free of charge.
- Clancy Pamment being our person 'at home' providing us with weather updates.
- But mostly, thanks to all of our family and friends in England, New Zealand and Sweden who supported us and didn't freak out when we were out of contact for two weeks.

Contact

For any further information about this expedition, the Torugart Too range or Kyrgyzstan in general, please feel free to contact me.

Derek Billings

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Appendices

Appendix A

Previous trip reports

ISM trip 2007 <https://www.alpin-ism.com/news/tien-shan-expedition-2007-by-pat-littlejohn>

AAJ 2008 <http://publications.americanalpineclub.org/articles/12200830400/>

AAJ 2009 <http://publications.americanalpineclub.org/articles/12200924300/>

AAJ 2010 <http://publications.americanalpineclub.org/articles/12201124000/>

Edinburgh Uni 2010

https://www.mountaineering.scot/assets/contentfiles/pdf/2010_edinburgh_university_torugart-too_expedition.pdf

Appendix B

Personal climbing equipment list (not including group/shared kit)

Personal equipment (each)	Other miscellaneous items
Approach shoes	Bivi bags x 2
Mountain boots (B2 or B3)	Snow shovel x3
Crampons (C2 or C3)	Tarp tent
2 x ice tools	Jetboil stove x 2
Helmet	Rock shoes
Harness	Cameras & GoPro
Belay device	Snow stake
Assortment of slings	
Prussic loops	
Gloves (and inners)	
Sunglasses	
Beanie	
Sunhat	
Thermal underlayers	
Midlayer fleece or softshell	
Outer layer hardshell	
Down jacket	
Hardshell trousers	
Thermal socks and spare socks	

Appendix C

Marked routes of ascent

