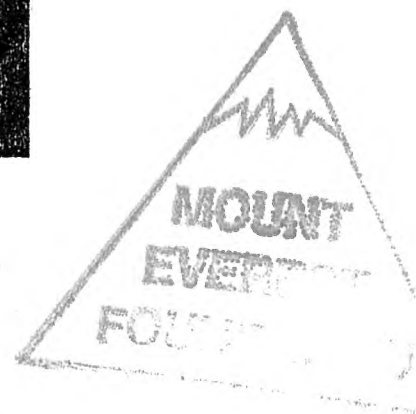


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06/23

Khumbu Double Trouble Expedition October 2006



Supported by British Mountaineering Council
Mount Everest Foundation
UK Sport

Assistance from DMM Mammut Leki
Scarpa Vasque Sprayway

Climbers Jon Bracey and Nick Bullock

Summary:

Nick Bullock and Jon Bracey visited the Khumbu region of Nepal during October 2006 with the intention of attempting new routes on the North faces of Machermo (Phari lapcha) and Khonde.

After approaching Gokyo village two days were spent acclimatising before an attempt of the North face of Phari Lapcha West 5977m. Over the next two days the team climbed 'Snotties Gully' a sustained new route mainly on ice directly to the summit. Descent was made by abseiling down the line.

After a brief rest during which the weather deteriorated an inspection was made of the North face of Khonde. With poor ice conditions on the face the decision was made to end the expedition early and return to Kathmandu.

Team members:

Jon Bracey - 29 years old, IFMGA Mountain Guide
Apartment 4, 251 Avenue Cachat le Geant, 74400 Chamonix,
France

Nick Bullock - 40 years old, unemployed
No fixed abode

Expedition Diary:**October 2006**

- 3 Fly London Heathrow to Kathmandu
- 4 Arrive Kathmandu 2pm
- 5 In Kathmandu – organising Climbing Permit, food and supplies
- 6 Fly Kathmandu to Lukla. Walk to Jorsale
- 7 To Namche Bazaar
- 8 To Dole.
- 9 To Machermo village
- 10 To Gokyo village
- 11 Approach Phari Lapcha and stash gear at base of face
- 12 Acclimatisation to 5600m on hill called 'Frostbitten Fingers'
- 13 To base of intended route and bivouac
- 14 Start climbing at first light. Bivied on face.
- 15 Summit 12:40. Abseil down route and descend to Gokyo village
- 16 To Namche Bazaar
- 17 Rest in Namche Bazaar
- 18 Rest in Namche Bazaar
- 19 Walk to Thame to check conditions on the north face of Khonde
- 20 To Lukla
- 21 Fly to Kathmandu
- 22 In Kathmandu
- 23 In Kathmandu
- 24 Fly Kathmandu to London Heathrow

Planning:

- **Travel-** flights to Kathmandu with Biman air. Booked directly with the Biman office in London
- **Logistics-** lobenexpeditions.com (We have both used Loben several times and I can whole heartedly recommend him)
- **Accommodation-** Thorong Peak guest house in Kathmandu. Tea lodges in the Khumbu.
- **Visa-** obtained on arrival in Kathmandu airport. \$30 / person
- **Food and supplies-** some specific items were bought in Kathmandu, but the majority of our food was bought in Namche Bazaar
- **Permit-** Loben arranged our climbing permit, and garbage deposit
- **Gas-** Loben supplied us with epigas cylinders (\$5 / 250g cylinder)
- **Insurance-** Snow card

Weather:

The weather during our expedition was in general fairly settled. Although we experienced several overcast days, with small amounts of rain/snow.

Equipment:

800g down sleeping bags
2 man bivi tent
2 x 60m, 8mm half ropes
DMM Rebel ice axes and gladiator crampons
7 ice screws
1 set wires
4 cams
3 pegs
Jet boil stove

Budget:

Expenses	£
Flights (UK to Kathmandu)	755
Insurance	432
Visa (\$30 each)	35
Permit (\$500)	295
Return flights to Lukla	224
Gas	28
Medical supplies	20
Agent fees	100
Hotels – Kathmnadu	70
National Park entrance fee	35
Airport taxes	30
Porters	80
Food/Supplies/Tea houses	420
Total	£2524

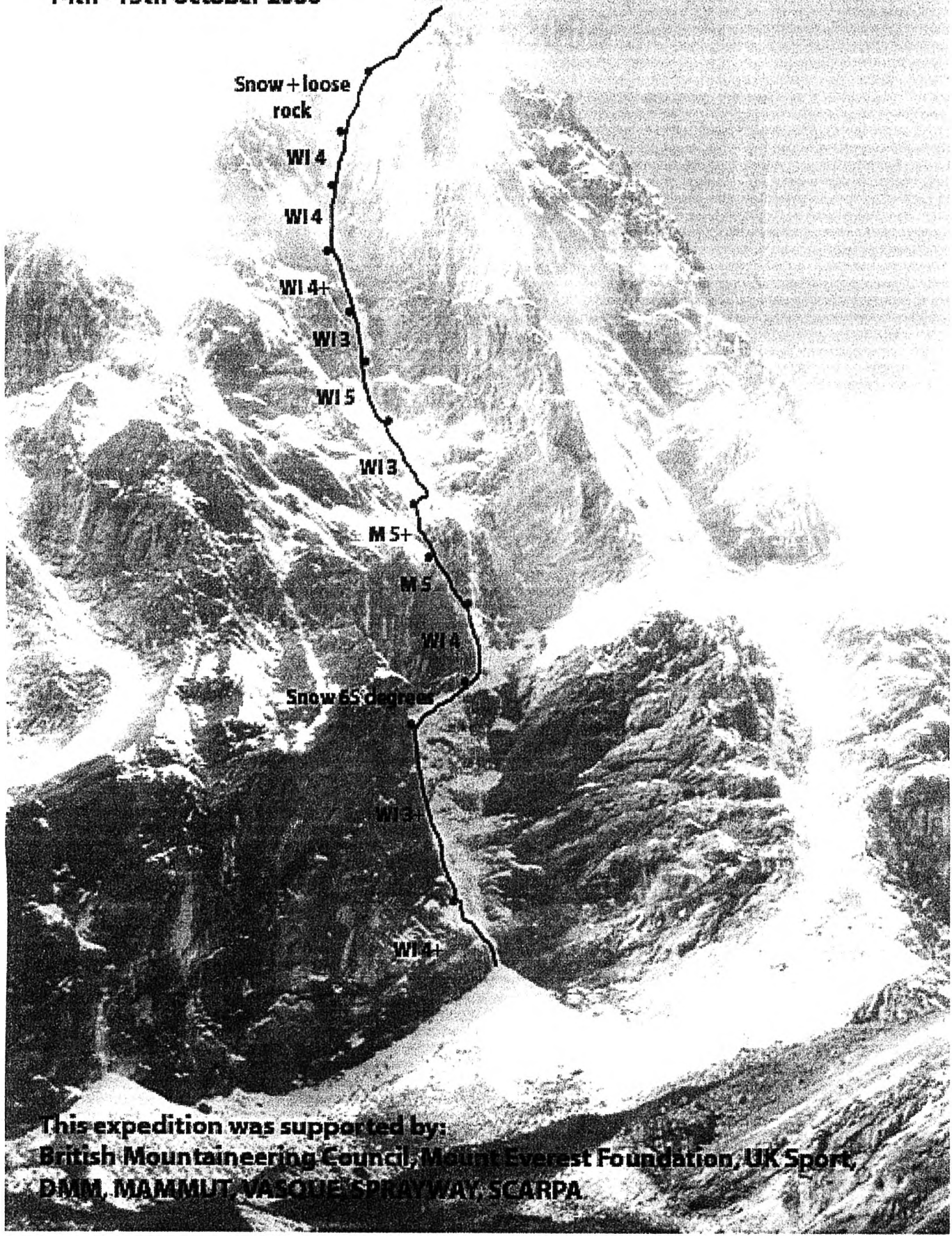
Income	£
BMC UK Sport Grant	750
Mount Everest Foundation Grant	550
Personal contributions	1224
Total	£2524

'Snotty's Gully' North face Pharilapche West, 5977m

ED WI5, M5+, 900m

First ascent: Jon Bracey and Nick Bullock

14th - 15th October 2006



**This expedition was supported by:
British Mountaineering Council, Mount Everest Foundation, UK Sport,
DMM, MAMMUT, VASQUE, SPRAY WAY, SCARPA**