Area Notes



161. John Innerdale, *Machu Picchu, Peru*, chromacolour, 78 x 60cm, 2005.

Area Notes

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The Alps 2009	*Lindsay Griffin*
Greenland 2009	*Derek Fordham*
Scottish Winter 2009-2010	*Simon Richardson*
Kyrgyzstan 2008-10	*Paul Knott*
Pakistan 2008-2010	*Dick Isherwood*
India 2009	*Harish Kapadia*
Nepal 2009-10	*Dick Isherwood*
China and Tibet 2009-2010	*John Town*
New Zealand 2009-10	*Kester Brown*
Peru 2008-09	*Antonio Gómez Bohórquez*
Argentine Andes 2009-10	*Marcelo Scanu*
Antarctica 2009-10	*Phil Wickens*

LINDSAY GRIFFIN

The Alps 2009

These notes would not have been possible without the help of many of the climbers mentioned in the text, and the wisdom of Luca Signorelli.



162. Climbing through the upper rock buttress on *Le Reveil de L'Ours* (de Leo/Sanguineti, 2009). The snow and ice arêtes of the Brenva Spur are visible at the top of the picture. (*Marcello Sanguineti*)

Mont Blanc massif

Italians Sergio de Leo and Marcello Sanguineti climbed a new route along the right flank of the popular *Brenva Spur* of **Mont Blanc**. Another Italian team repeated it two days later. Both were ascending a line that had been followed before, but in the opposite direction.

In June Sebastien de Sainte Marie (Switzerland) and Pierre Tardivel (France) skied from the summit of Mont Blanc to the top of the *Brenva*



163. Day 2 on the first ascent of Punta Baretti's *South-west Ridge*. Duncan Tunstall on the grooved arête (Pitch 24) above the Gray Tower. (*Simon Richardson*)

Spur, weaved a difficult course through the séracs below, and then continued down the north flank of the spur, finishing via the *Güssfeldt Variant*. Tardivel named his line *Les Brenvitudes* and reported sustained slopes of 45-50°.

De Leo and Sanguineti later followed *Les Brenvitudes* in reverse but with a significant difference. In the upper section de Sainte Marie and Tardivel had skied quickly below threatening séracs and a rock buttress. The Italians found the safest route at this point was to climb through the rock buttress, sandwiched between the spur (on the left) and séracs to the right. This gave three pitches, with a crux section of F6b. Above, they made a long rightward traverse below the final séracs. Other than the rocky crux, the new route, named *Le Reveil de L'Ours*, is similar in difficulty to the Brenva Spur (AD+/D-).

Four Frenchmen made the third free ascent of *Divine Providence* on the **Grand Pilier d'Angle**, but like Slovenians Andrej Grmovsek and Marko Lukic, who made the second free ascent, they agreed that the original free grade felt somewhat overrated; more like F7b than F7c.

Although technically not the most difficult of the 4000m peaks in the Alps, **Punta Baretti** is certainly the most remote and inaccessible. On May Day 2006 Tardivel, Jeremy Janody and de Sainte Marie made the first ascent, and then ski descent, of the *South-west Couloir*. With a height of 1100m, this is one of the longest couloirs in the massif and Tardivel aptly named it *Couloir au bout du Monde*. It is largely straightforward 40° snow to a steeper and narrower upper section, where a short 70° rock step must be bypassed (Tardivel made a 10m rappel here during the ski descent). In 2009 Italians Mara Babolin, Francesco Rota Nodari and Roberto Rovelli made the second ascent. The main danger of this route is stonefall, but as the couloir lies in shade until after midday, climbing early on a cold day can minimise this. From the summit the three traversed north along the rotten rock ridge and over Mont Brouillard to Col Emile Rey, from where they

then descended west to the upper Mont Blanc glacier and an unguarded Quintino Sella hut.

AC member Simon Richardson had noted the unclimbed SW ridge to the left of the couloir in 1992 but was put off, as no doubt were other alpinists, by the access; a long approach followed by a tortuous climb up the lower, highly chaotic, Mont Blanc glacier. However, on examining photos published by the Italians he could see that global warming had turned the lower icefall into a smooth and benign ice slope. So, later in the season he climbed the South-west Ridge with Duncan Tunstall. The pair climbed 40 roped pitches to the summit, starting with three pitches up the South-west Couloir and then cutting left onto the crest via a steep gully. Several towers were negotiated and there was sustained V and V+, with a couple of sections of VI. The route was graded ED1, and felt comparable with, though rather more sustained than, the North-east Rib of the Finsteraarhorn in the Bernese Oberland. They also descended to Col Emile Rey but then continued east across the upper Brouillard glacier to the Eccles Bivouac, from where they eventually regained the Val Veni.

Spanish Basques Josune Bereziartu and husband Rikar Otegui made the first free ascent of the 1994 Motto-Piola route *La Leggenda* (320m: F7a+ and A0) on the SE face of the **Aiguille Croux,** near the Monzino hut. The route takes the full height of the face and probably features its best granite but Motto and Piola were only able to climb one pitch with aid/rest points. This pitch was on-sighted by Otegui and then flashed by Bereziartu. Due to the boulder-problem nature of the crux, the climbers are unsure of the grade – either F7c or F8a. Remaining pitches were confirmed as having maximum difficulties of F7a+, and the route as a whole relies on a mix of trad and bolt protection. Bereziartu was the first women to redpoint F9a and has also climbed V15 boulder problems.

Making what has become an almost annual pilgrimage to the 'quiet corners' on the Italian side of the range, AC member Tony Penning put up three new rock routes with partner Ali Taylor. He first inspected the lower NE face of **Mont Noir de Peuterey**, at the end of the long East Ridge of the Aiguille Noire, and came away with the unfinished *Zig Zag* (TD). This entire section of wall below the Brenva glacier had no previously recorded rock climbs but the reasons quickly became apparent when Penning discovered the loosest rock he has encountered on all his new lines this side of the range. Although there were several good pitches, the route is disappointingly forced along large vegetated ramps. In the 560m of climbing, there was bold British 5b and a section of E3 5c, pulling hard on a giant detached flake with a cam in the side the only protection. The route was terminated approximately halfway up the face. Better was *Sorgente Pepper*, a 200m ED1 further to the left, climbing the right wall of a giant Y-shaped chimney with several pitches of E3 and E4. *Sorgente*, a pun on Sergeant, is the Italian word for a spring or source.

The pair also added *The Aging Gunslinger* (560m of climbing: TD: E3 5b) on the SE face of the **Evêque** above La Vachey in the Val Ferret. This

proved a complex, three-day affair in wild terrain, the long approach up loose rock and precipitous grass slopes not recommended even to chamois, according to Penning. In 2004, with Nic Mullin and Robin Wilmhurst-Smith, he had explored this approach to a small snowfield below the face, and then climbed an 11-pitch E2 5b on the right side of the headwall. The meat of his new route involves climbing diagonally across the upper wall, right of the 2004 ascent, the psychological crux being a very poorly-protected, big undercling into a groove at a grade of around E3 5b. This rarely ascended face has an interesting history. In 1940 three soldiers and active mountaineers, part of a group of Italian military deployed in the valley during the Second World War, took time off to pioneer the desperate approach to the face, and then scrambled up immediately below it to reach the crest of the East Ridge on the right, which they followed to the summit of the Eveque. Their total time from valley to summit was just seven hours: no one since has been able to understand how they did it.

Talented Slovenian alpinists Andrej Grmovsek and Marko Lukic made the second free ascent of *No Siesta* on the N face of Pointe Croz, **Grandes Jorasses**. The pair took three days, from 17 to 19 March. They'd hoped to climb it faster but conditions were not perfect and they were surprised by the difficulties and time-consuming nature of the 'easier' (M5/M6, 70°) pitches. They found the hard pitches to be more technical than physical, rating the 1100m ascent M8, AI 5 and UIAA VI+. Grmovsek feels it may well be the hardest, long mixed route in the Alps when climbed all free.

Above the approach to the Triolet (Dalmazzi) hut, Philippe Batoux and Patrick Gabarrou completed an old project on the **Paroi de Titans,** a fine rock wall best known for the 1996 10-pitch Motto-Piola classic *Venus, ou bien Venice*. The pair first climbed a few pitches of their new line in November 1996 but then more or less forgot about it. Eventually, in October 2009, they completed all eight pitches to the top of the wall at F6c, 6b obl. The route has bolts but also needs natural gear, and the pair have named it *13 Ans de Réflexion*.

In late July Swiss Xavier Schacher and Nicolas Villet tried to repeat the *South-west Pillar* of the **Aiguille Sans Nom,** a route put up in 1998 by Doré Green and Simon Richardson (450m: ED1, F6c and A1). However, they went too far up the couloir leading to the Brêche Sans Nom and on discovering their mistake, decided not to descend but follow a slim hidden couloir rising up the left flank of the *South-west Pillar*. They climbed this at M6 to join the upper section of the *British Route*, where they were able to free climb the A1 corner, which was wet on the first ascent, at F6c/6c+. The route was named *Initiation 4000* and the climbers continued up the Sans Nom Arête to the summit of the Aiguille Verte.

Ecrins

In mid-June Hélias Millerioux and Robin Revest completed an interesting climb when they made only the second summer ascent of the *1964 Route* on the N face of Pointe Puiseux, the main summit of the **Pelvoux**. The line



164. Marko Lukic dry-tooling a difficult rock section on *No Siesta*. (*Andrej Grmovsek*)

was originally graded ED, VI and 65° but the two French, climbing in cold, snowy conditions, report 80° snow, ice and mixed, and sections of poorly protected F6a on equally poor rock. The face is more than 1000m in height and the two found only one in-situ piece of gear – an old peg. This wall has an awesome reputation for loose rock, as do many other big north faces in the Ecrins, and prior to 2009 had only received two more known ascents, both in winter.

After climbing seven pitches in 2001 and adding another six in 2003, stopping at the Glacier Carré, Christophe Moulin finally completed his long-standing project on the S face of the **Meije**, left of the classic *Allain Route*. In 2009, with Laurent Laboudigue, he added three pitches on the summit pillar at F6b/c, 7a and 7a, and then returned later with Paul Michas and Simon Rémy to add three more pitches (F7a maximum), to join the *Allain Route* on the final ridge. The 800m route, named *Mitchta* (F7a, 6b+ obl.), is steep throughout its length, and is considered one of the most serious rock routes to date in the massif. The lower section will be exposed to any rock or ice falling from the vicinity of the Glacier Carré (or from parties on this section of the *Normal Route*). The climb mostly uses trad protection.

Bernese Oberland

The main event on the North Face of the **Eiger** was Robert Jasper and Roger Schäli's first free ascent of the *Japanese Direttissima*, 40 years after it was first climbed. With technical difficulties of F8a and M5, some poorly protected pitches, ice and mixed climbing, plus the ever-present threat of stonefall, it is now arguably the most demanding route on the North Face. The technical crux is the Rote Fluh but above the Second Icefield it climbs an 800m headwall, which involves two successive pillars of steep, friable rock, the second – Sphinx Pillar – right of The Fly.

Earlier in the season Stefan Siegrist, no newcomer to hard climbing on the North Face, made the first redpoint ascent of *Magic Mushroom*. He climbed the 21-pitch route with Thomas Theurillat and Ralph Weber over two days, with a night in a portaledge. In 2007 first ascentionists Christoph Hainz and Roger Schäli made obligatory moves of F7b on the upper section of the overhanging wall leading to the 'mushroom', a characteristic rock formation on the West Ridge that Eiger BASE jumpers use as a launch site, but they were unable to complete the redpoint. Siegrist was more successful, completing this section at F7c+, and then using a parachute, that he had brought up the climb, to finish the day with a classic BASE jump.

On the nearby **Scheidegg Wetterhorn** Swiss climbers Denis Burdet and Nicolas Zambetti added another hard rock route, when they created *Into The Wild* up a compact 450m buttress on the N flank of the lower NE pillar. The 10-pitch route was completed in two and a half days and then later redpointed at F7b+, 7a. While the route is bolted, a selection of Friends is essential. Burdet and the Zambetti brothers are also responsible for *Baston Labaffe*, a 34-pitch route on the true North Face, eventually redpointed in 2005 at F7c, F7a obl. This is one of the most difficult big Alpine climbs on Swiss limestone and the ambience is serious: stone fall and verglas are not uncommon.

Valais Alps

In mid June French alpinists Martial Dumas and Jean-Yves Fredriksen, and the well-known Swiss guide Jean Troillet, climbed a new line on the North Face of the **Matterhorn**, though did not reach the summit. This completed an attempt in 2006 by Troillet and Sébastien Gay, which was defeated by stonefall. The two had planned to return when conditions improved but sadly, just a few weeks later, Gay was killed above Verbier while skiflying. The lower part of the route takes the vertical or sometimes overhanging terrain between the initial sections of the classic 1931 *Schmid Route* and the 1965 *Bonatti Direct*, joining the *Schmid* after c500m. At 600m, at the approximate level of the Shoulder and after three days on the wall with bivouacs in 'old school' hammocks, a storm forced a traverse to the Hörnli Ridge. Although new ground is less than half the face, the line has been given a name, *Voie Sébastien Gay*, and has difficulties reported as ED2/3, F5, A2 and 85°. The climbers appear to have been unaware of the

1972 *Czechoslovak Route*, which is the most direct line on the North Face, climbing the lower wall between the *Schmid* and *Bonatti*, then keeping almost equidistant between the two before joining the *Schmid* for the last 250m. The 2009 route takes a parallel line to the right, before crossing the *Czechoslovak Route* to join the *Schmid*. Curiously, the *Czechoslovak Route* has been omitted from definitive Swiss Alpine Club guides to the mountain and although their topo shows difficulties of V and 70°, the climbing is likely to have been predominantly mixed, and specific mixed grading wasn't around in those days. It remains unrepeated and most likely a climb somewhat ahead of its time.

Further east on the **Dent Blanche,** Simon Deniel and Patrick Gabarrou added another line to the NNE face, though failed to complete their original objective due to strong winds and extreme cold. *Merci* follows a parallel line right of the *Vaucher Direct* to the upper rock barrier, where they were forced to traverse left to join the *Vaucher*, and then finish via the *Winter Direct*. Gabarrou has given the route a conservative grade of TD+, commenting that there was great mixed climbing and some committing rock at F5 that was particularly trying as they had to keep gloves on the whole time.

In 2005 Gabarrou and Nicolas Zambetti climbed *Sulla Piaggia* on the East Spur of the SE face of the **Breithorn Central Summit.** The route is partially equipped. In 2009 Gabarrou returned with Michel Coranotte to add the seven-pitch *Le Sourire de Romain* up the wall and vague pillar left of the Spur. Three pitches of relatively easy ground lead to a superb section of F6a and F6b. Though the route is bolted, a few cams will prove useful.

The South-east Face, which receives plenty of sun, is a series of fine rocky pillars and broken mixed ground some 320m high. Apart from the original 1964 Italian route in the middle of the wall (AD, III on solid rock), there are several good routes of around AD+ (IV and IV+) put up in the early 1980s by local guide Marco Barmasse. All are easily accessible from the Kleine Matterhorn Téléphérique.

Bernina

Unclimbed faces are at a premium in the Alps, especially on well-known mountains, but on the first official day of spring Luca Maspes, Emanuel Panizza and Christian Turk made the first ascent of the ESE face of **Piz Morteratsch**, just to the north of Piz Bernina. The new route climbs the left flank of the upper NE ridge, or *Crest of Hope*, an established classic that has become rather less popular in recent years. As the 600m face has predominantly dreadful rock, it would be too dangerous to contemplate in anything less than cold, snowy conditions. On the day of the ascent the summit temperature was close to -25°C and while the route was certainly free from objective danger, the climbers struggled to keep hands and feet from becoming totally numb. They took 13 hours for the round trip from the Boval hut and named the route *Il Grande Freddo* (The Great Cold).

On the Main (South) Summit of the **Piz d'Arlas** Maspes and Panizza

climbed a short new line on the W face between the 1981 *West Couloir* and the 1993 *West Face*. The 300m route was completed in early April and while certainly not extreme, involved delicate climbing on snow-covered slabs. This face is easily accessible from the Diavolezza téléphérique station.

On the Italian side of the range, above the Scerscen glacier, guidebook author and local guru Giuseppe Miotti, with Moris Milivinti, opened a new eight-pitch variant start to the classic *Corti Route* on the SW pillar of **Pizzo Sella**. Fine climbing on sound rock follows the initial section of pillar that the original 1928 route avoids. The new direct start is VI but the route above no more than IV/IV+ and has a total height of 500m. The 1928 route is considered to be one of the finest rock climbs in the Bernina, and comparable in difficulty and quality to the *North Ridge* of Piz Badile.

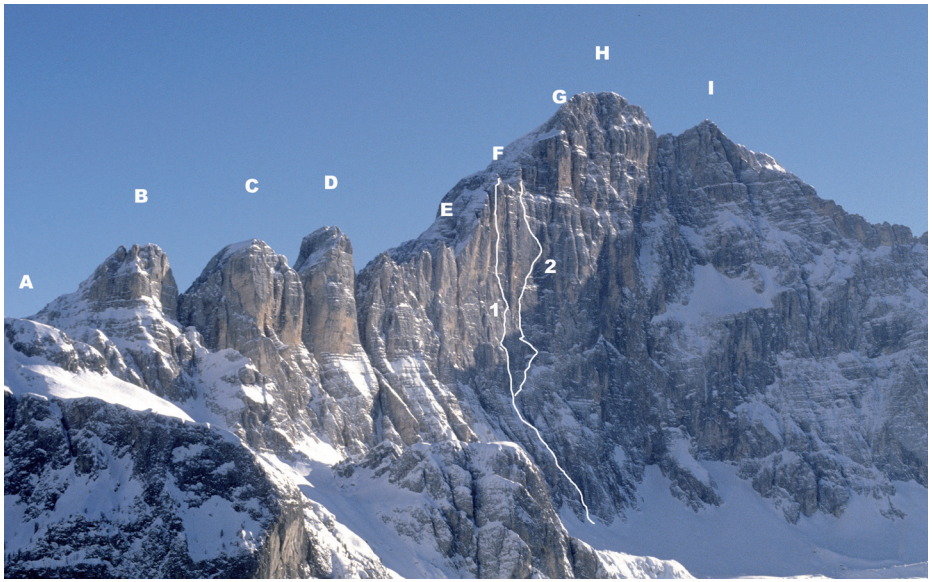
Dolomites

Confirming that the Dolomites are still far from worked out, Manuel Stuflesser and Norbert Weiss put up a fine new route on one of the region's most popular formations, the **Second Sella Tower**. Surprised to discover that apart from the ultra classic 1935 *Demetz-Gluck* start to the NW ridge, there were no recorded routes between this ridge and the standard 1930 *West Face Route*, the pair spent four days working their line on the left side of the W face, weaving through the prominent roofs at mid height. The result, the 10-pitch *Batajan* (the nickname of Franz Stuflesser, killed on the Third Sella Tower) has fine climbing on excellent rock. It is generally sustained at VI- to VI+ with one pitch of VII and one of VII+. Within three days of the ascent the route had received two repeats, both parties commenting on the excellent quality.

Prolific Dolomite activists Florian and Martin Riegler made the second ascent and first on sight of *Karies*. At the time of the first ascent in 2003 by Karl Unterkircher and Adam Holzknecht, the eight-pitch *Karies* (F7c) on the **Zahnkofel** of the **Sassolungo** was considered possibly the hardest route in the massif.

The most notable ascents on the south face of the Marmolada were the second and third free ascents of the magnificent *Via della Cattedrale* on **Marmolada di Roccia.** Originally climbed in two stages during 1983 and '85 at A4 and VI+ (no bolts), the route had a free ascent in 2004 from Pietro dal Pra, who rated the crux F8a+ and two other pitches F7c. In 2009 Florian Riegler climbed the route in 21 pitches with Rebecca Finch, Reigler echoing dal Pra's sentiments that it was the finest route he'd ever climbed in the Dolomites. Shortly after it was the turn of Hansjorg Auer and Much Mayr, who completed the route in just 10½ hours. Both climbers led the crux and pronounced it more like 8a, but agreed that the climb was 'superb, with reasonably good protection and perfect Marmolada limestone'.

On the **Pilastro del Serauta**, which lays towards the right side of the Marmolada's S face, Tizziano Buccella and Geremia Vergoni redpointed their 2008 route, *Opus Pocus* (200m), at F8a, 7b+ obl. Most of the route is climbed with natural protection, but the third pitch, where there is no possibility for natural gear, is completely bolted.



165. The North Face of the Civetta (3220m) in winter: (A) Col Coldai. (B) Torre di Coldai (2600m). (C) Torre d'Alleghe (2649m). (D) Torre di Valgrande (2715m). (E) Pan di Zucchero (2780m). (F) Punta Civetta (2920m). (G) Punta Tissi (2992m). (H) Monte Civetta (3220m). (I) Piccola Civetta (3207m). (1) *Chimera Verticale* (Beber/Bau/Geremia/Matteraglia, 2007-08: FFA Bau, 2009: 600m: IX). (2) *Captain Skyhook* (Crippa/Spreafico, 1987: c600m: VII+ and A2). The major crack systems on either side of *Chimera Verticale* are the *Andrich-Fae* (to the left) and *Aste-Sussatti*. (*Claudio Cima*)

On the E face of **Sass Maor** in the Pale Group, Rolando Larcher and Fabio Leoni made the first winter ascent of *Masada*, a 1250m route put up in 2001 by Marco Canteri, Davide Depaoli and Samuele Scarlet at F6c+ and A0/A1. The legendary Dolomite climber, Scarlet, who passed away in 2010, was 60 at the time. *Masada* cuts through the classic *Solleder Route* and features an exposed but completely bolted 35-45° overhang some 800m above the ground. During the summer Riccardo Scarian eventually managed to free this pitch, and hence the entire route, at F8b.

Over on the great **Monte Agner,** Renzo Corona and Ivo Ferrari climbed a new direttissima on the NW face, up the wall and black dièdre left of *Pilastro Bee*. Although no grade has been voiced for the 750m *Tango per Marinella*, the pair felt it was perhaps the most beautiful route on the Agner, and destined to become an absolute classic.

On the **Civetta** one of the most significant players currently playing the game of opening big, bold, new routes in the Dolomites, Alessandro Bau, finally completed a redpoint ascent of *Chimera Verticale* on the NW face of **Punta Civetta,** on the wall between the classic *Aste-Sussatti* and *Andrich-Fae* routes. Bau had worked on this route with various partners over the

previous two years but free-climbed the 15 independent pitches above the *Andrich/Aste* common start with his two brothers at IX, VIII obl. There is little in-situ protection.

A few days later Bau made only the third ascent, but first solo, of *Captain Skyhook*, a hard route up the steep compact wall between the *Aste* and 1931 *Comici* routes. First ascentionists Paulo Crippa and Dario Spreafico climbed the route in 1987 at VII+ and A2. On the second ascent in 1992, Roland Mittersteiner redpointed it at IX- (F7b+). After one failed attempt Bau completed the route at the original grade with just one bivouac (and liked it so much that he was back in March 2010 with Nicola Tondini to make the first winter ascent – in a 28-hour round trip from the hut).

On the **Torre Trieste** Andrej Grmovsek and Lukic Kranj made the third free ascent of the 750m *Donna Fugata* on the SW face. The Slovenian pair climbed this route, which takes a direct line though the friable yellow overhanging rock on the lower central section of the wall between the 1959 *Piussi/Redaelli Direttissima* and the classic 1934 *Carlesso/Sandri*, in one day on their first attempt. It has a hard crux pitch of F8a.

In the less frequented Feltrine Group, Jenny Lavarda and Marco Ronchi spent two months working on Maurizio 'Manolo' Zanolla's highly exposed 2006 route *Solo per Vecchi Guerrieri*, a four-pitch line above a very steep approach on the N face of **El Colaz**. The crux is the final pitch, a thin crimpy wall at F8c/8c+, a grade confirmed by the second and third ascentionists, Mario Prinoth and Riccardo Scarian. The route has obligatory climbing of F7c/7c+.

Finally, on the famous **Cima Scotini** in the Fanes Group, Florian and Martin Riegler made only the second redpoint ascent of *Zauberlehrling*, a 23-pitch route on the SW face put up as long ago as 1990 by Christoph Hainz and Oswald Celva at F7c. The brothers spent all day on this 550m route, finding some pitches psychologically demanding due to friable rock.

DEREK FORDHAM

Greenland 2009

In 2009 weather and snow conditions on the Inland Ice were particularly bad. Twenty-eight applications were made for permission to attempt the crossing between east and west coasts and of the 11 who started from the east eight had to return or be airlifted out, indicating either the severity of the conditions or a general lack of preparedness.

One of the first parties to cross from **east to west** was Ian Hall and Alistair Shawcross (UK) who started up the Hahn glacier on 7 April and reached point 660m (the normal point of arrival and departure for parties heading to or from Kangerlussuak on the west coast) on the 1 May after 25 days on the ice. The weather was a problem and poor visibility and large sastrugi slowed progress for much of the journey. The pair spent two days tent bound due to high winds and 'white-out' and both suffered from minor frostbite. The exit off the Russell glacier at Pt.660 was found to be relatively easy and gave good access to the waiting 4x4 taxi from Kangerlussuak Tourism! On 23 April a Swiss team of Moritz Hermann and Sonja Meier left Nagtivit heading for Ilulissat. They encountered strong easterly winds and experienced delays due to unusually warm temperatures which gave rise to poor snow and visibility. They altered their destination to Kangerlussuak but after discovering their Norwegian telemark boots were not warm enough they decided to abandon their trip and return to Tasiilaq. In early May a Tangent Expedition group crossed from east to west in 27 days but no further details are available and later in the season Norbert Pokorski and Rafal Krol (Poland) crossed from Nagtivit to Pt.660 in 27 days, starting on 17 August and finishing 12 September having experienced no delays or problems.

One of the first expeditions to start from the **west coast** was a six-person Finnish team led by Timo Stenros who left Pt.660 on 28 March. After four days one member had to be evacuated by helicopter and the remaining five continued in windy weather with temperatures down to -44°C. After leaving DYE2, the abandoned early warning station on the Inland Ice, on 14 April it was necessary to evacuate another member of the team and only four continued, enduring two days tent bound before breaking a ski some 100km from the east coast and repairing it with the aluminium frying pan – 'no pancakes any more' as their diary records. The weather and travelling conditions were much warmer as they neared the east coast towards the end of April. The west coast was not without its failures. Christophe Periard with a companion started from Kangerlussuak on 21 April but after one week his companion was taken ill and both men were airlifted out. Hvitserk, the Norwegian expedition group made a crossing between 8 May and 4