

## Expedition Report



Tom Livingstone approaches Chiring (furthest left peak, partly hidden). Barnaj I and II are furthest right. Photo: Uisdean Hawthorn

### **British Kishtwar Expedition 2018**

**BMC Reference: 18/03**

#### **Expedition Members**

Tom Livingstone  
Will Sim  
Uisdean Hawthorn  
(all UK)

**Dates:** 13th September - 9th October 2018

**Location:** Zaskar valley, Jammu and Kashmir, India

#### **Summary:**

No climbing. Spent 3 weeks in base camp but bailed due to unseasonably early and heavy snow (approx. 1 metre in BC). Persistent mixed weather thereafter.

Attempt at Chiring (ca. 6300m) but got as far as the base.

Barnaj I/II looks like an amazing peak, with 'maybe' ice lines. It would be ace to go back for it one day.

#### **Approach**

in days:  
Flew to Leh.  
Drove to Kargil  
Drove to Aksho village  
Walked to Hagshu BC

## **Acclimatisation**

- 1) Will and Tom day hiked up the ridge above BC, to approx 4800m.
- 2) We all spent 2 nights camped at 5000m on the hillside above BC. We also walked to approx. 5500m. Heavy snow on the second day meant we bailed early.

On the 22nd Sept, it snowed approx 1 meter in BC...

## **Chiring approach**

We walked to Chiring (visible from BC) in good weather, about 7 days after the heavy snow. What would normally take around 7 hours took us two days. We ummed and ahhhed but then bailed. Too much fresh snow, and a mixed forecast.

We returned to BC, where the weather remained mixed and conditions in the mountains didn't really improve. We then called the local porters/yaks, and left BC on the 6th October.

## Finances

Expenditure	\$		
Agent - Above 14000ft	12000		
Tips for porters and BC staff	250		
International flights	430	Virgin (free 40 kg baggage allowance)	
Insurance	300	Global Rescue and Austrian Alpine	
Excess baggage fee (internal flight)	400		
Total:	13380		
		<b>Income</b>	£
		BMC	1250
		MEF	2900
		AC	1725
		Crux	1000
		Austrian AC	550
		Chris Walker	1000
		Total:	8425

## Notes

We had mixed thoughts about our agent (Above 14,000ft.)

Paul Ramsden and Mick Fowler's expedition report from their new route on Hagshu provides plenty of detail.

## Acknowledgements

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