

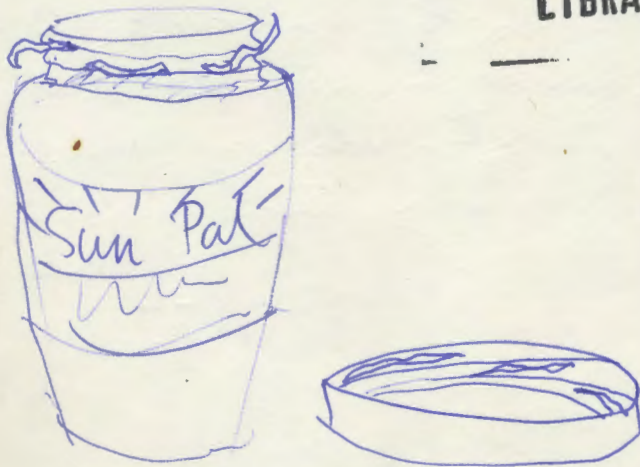
ARIO LOG BOOK.

1990

① NB

When you open a fine
of peanut butter or marmite
remember to wipe the threads of
the jar & lid screw top,
(Worms creep inside them)

OXFORD UNIVERSITY
CAVE CLUB
LIBRARY



30/6/90

(2)

Ano Camp - Loy

Ano Camp is here again. tonka-tonka-tonk
so are the vacas & the stupid sheep.
Said hi to Julia yesterday + collected Big
Eric which was a bit mouldy but mostly
O.K. Its dagggy so I'm missing the nice views
but at least its cooler for doing carries.
Dave M. has just arrived & insists on calling
me 'our glorious leader'. I dont know why,
all I insist on is absolute obedience &
singing the party song in the mornings (after
our exercises). Ah well - time to burn
another dissident...

Sherry

(2)
30/6/90

I can't understand why I'm so stupid. This morning I walked up to Arzo in the day. It took $2\frac{1}{4}$ hours to get to Xitu but there were no problems with navigation. The five minutes from Xitu to Arzo, however, took 45 minutes and involved two trips to the Refugio and a near miss with a huge shaft.

About an hour later, at camp alone, I decided to fetch some water. Determined not to get lost again I walked directly along the edge of the karst to the path, and thence to the spring. "The only place to go wrong", thought I cleverly to myself, "is not knowing when to leave the path on the way back." So when I reached the path I picked out an obvious landmark; two large rocks with big orange splodges on them. "I won't miss those." On the way back, I walked along, nervily whispering to myself, "oh look that's a pretty orange rock," I thought, and happily continued following the path all the way back to sod 4!!

;

~~1/7/90~~

This has been a good/bad day depending upon how you look at it. Sherry, Clare and Dave L. met, carrying ("see later"), I sat around, fetched water, patched my overalls and consequently cut my finger by using my penknife upside down and had to wait for Graham to come back to bandage it up for me. We ate, when we finished we went to drink some wine at the Refugio. We decided that if we had finished 1 litre of Viro before the cars returned, we would walk up the mountain and rescue them. Luckily, as we finished, our last glass of Viro Sherry and Clare appeared out of camp, so

we ordered more vino.

Result: Gawn and Dave B moderately merry
Paul Mann totally pissed out of his head
All over Dave, saying delirious things and
being weird...
So much for a hard drinking session,...

Dave B.

I thought I wasn't pissed, but I can't
even see the lines on the road in writing,
I can focus now, that's better. Better than
with better & that'll give you a laugh
In the morning (with a capital I,
A cargo day so far (that's 3)
& going to Passin's tomorrow.
(Probably with Langover). Not to
worry. At least I'm now fit enough to
get down - we have to go up in two, even
if everyone recovers in a piss heat
that started as everything.

Tave "Paul will look it all out for you later" Bell

The ICMA have put a sign at the top of the
Valle Extremere. From a distance, it looks like a
danger from falling rocks sign. It's only when you
get closer that you realise it's not a rock falling
down the mountainside: it's a person.

(5)

↙ auspicious date! *

2/7/90

The first rigging trip ^{11/11/90} starting...

- Sherry as Rigging person (not a hard caver)
- Clare as slightly stuck person (not a hard caver)
- Dave L as "a hard caver" ~~(who moans a lot)~~ (who moans a lot)

I went down & started rigging, the others followed when I'd done the top of the 2nd pitch & sat at the pitch head getting cold while I rigged the rest of it. The others followed me down ^{not it} ^{men} I tumbled off down 7th heaven with the same thoughts as I always have ~~study in~~ (surely those wires will fall off! oh... they don't.) The others sat at the top getting cold again & eventually followed me down. We went through paradise ^{squeeze} & Dave + Clare passed stuff through as I rigged it - a bit like an operation... 'TAPS'... 'tape'... 'MAILLON'... maillon etc. Me + Dave went to the ledge of Flying Rebell's & I bunged a ~~per~~ rope down it, Clare didn't bother coming down to the bottom of paradise but I struggled in the squeeze a little which gave Dave L some strange sense of glee! He got some hero points helping Clare thru' & asked if I was alright coming up the Paradise ^{ladder} ^{strawage} fortunately despite not being at all hard I managed to get my "weak & feeble body of a woman" back thru' paradise without any assistance at all! ~~up~~ Up we went, a slowish pousik. (Clare had fun and games in 7th heaven squeeze ~~with~~ gear getting stuck. Dave's light went out at the top of the 2nd pitch. I offered to send someone up ~~to~~ in tandem but he preferred to moan in the dark. It was sunny when we got out & Gav + co were worried about us so much that they had hit the bottle.

* his own words

... Sol. above + bringable = help a kindred spirit along life's lonely path.

Sherry

Possible future trips.

6
DV

	Sh	CL	DL	DM	DB	GL	PM	TS	
Flying K ₁	✓	✓	✓						
End of K ₁ 2					✓	✓	✓		
Pass? 1 or 2 3	✓			✓				✓	
Ranker 4		✓?	✓?				✓? or 4?		✓
If to 1st place 5			✓	✓	✓?	✓			
if not 5			✓	✓	✓?			✓	

Absolutely not true
→ done now off
I was jolly

Ideally 3 per trip.

Sherry "I've got a sore bum from sitting on my arse all day"
Mayo.

I wandered gently up to 2/1 with my Kit, amidst the clouds and mist. Mist is good for spotting animals - I came upon a small herd of rebeccas, and was buzzed by a vulture while I was having a breather. I got a bit lost as I left Ario, since I followed a line of very new yellow splodges that brought me to the metal sign via a precipitous and round-about route. At the cave I was surprised by the total absence of a snow plug.

I will now have a nag. Misinterpret my previous sentence.

(7)

and ignore my next paragraph at your peril.

All Petzl gear carries a large warning in its instructions that the gear should be kept away from UV light and preferably in the dark. At the cave entrance a lot of Petzl gear was lying out in the sun, being attacked by UV light (which is strong in the mountains {ever noticed how quickly you get sunburnt up here?})

MORAL: DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CAVING KIT OUT IN THE SUN. KEEP IT IN A BAG. IF YOU DO NOT, IT WILL GET INVISIBLY TRASHED.

I love paradise. Paul

(That's my contribution to the write up)

Paul "I just put in 18 inches" Mann (mann mann)

(Who's a big boy then?)
More to the point = who's the big girl?

The Second rigging trip 2/7/90

Gravin: Why are there no bolts on this pitch 'Lowe

Paul: I hate Paradise Mann

Dave: No, you carry the tackle bag 'Bell.

Very efficient start (10.15), got to entrance

(11.03), got changed, went in (11.25), went

down, rigged some pitches as far as

^{to pitch} Graham's Taper Pitch - losing the position of 4

bolts on Gripper in the process - ate fudge

and fruit, came out (18.00), got changed,

came back (18.40), ate stew, went to

Refugio, drank vino, came back, went to sleep.

Also found an undescended 5-10m pitch at the top of Seventh Heaven Heaven

The Third Rigging Trip 3/7/90

Sherry [Our Glorious Leader & Rigger], Tony, David

Well, what can I say, it was an extremely efficient trip, even though Tony hurt his ankle on the way up to the cave. The only interruption to our efficiency was some fool who had removed all the hangers from Pessimists. The choice words that Sherry uttered indicated that shee was quite keen on taking a bolt kit hammer to the perpetrator.

I tried rope walking - I rope walked the ^{Sing to the Devil} ~~Bells~~ and Pessimists and then frogged the rest of the way. 'Nuff Said.

ps we got to the traverse below the ~~Bells~~ ^{David} Sing to the Devil.

Dave "I'll ~~quad~~ keep quiet" Lacey.

Rope down cave

30m to be cut off Pessimists

25m bottom ~~StD~~ Sing to Devil

30m bottom Sing to Devil +tapes+twines

Going down today

~ 90m, 55m

+tapes+twines

Going down tomorrow 65m, drill, hangers, mailons, bolt kit.

Use 30 + ~~90~~ rig 25 to rig The Bells

+ 90 to rig The Bells + Armageddon

+ ~~65~~ to rig the Hundred

(9)

Shast Bashing

Gavin + Dave L

5/3/5 & Attacked the terminal squeeze with the drill. After 5 minutes, realised I had the bit going round the wrong way. Managed to hammer a bit off. Gave up when the batteries ran down, just before we died of hypothermia.

2/10 Went down to the previously undescended pitch. Rigged it off a loose boulder + a dodgy chockstone. At the bottom, a crawl down a loose boulder slope split into three. All choked. Also earlier in the cave I discovered a one inch diameter hole, which I enlarged to discover a 5m blind pitch. One bit of passage is absolutely covered with white snail shells. Not a pleasant cave.

GAVIN "Oh God, I hate Picos caves" LOVE

4.7.90

A message from our glorious leader, who returned in a shell shocked and ragged state from Onedo after a talking at from ICONA. The gist of what they said, as far as I can understand it from our gibbering and pale leader, is as follows:

1) They are not happy about litter, which they think is ours. This is partly because they obviously found the gear we stashed over the winter in the cheese cave. This means that **IF YOU FIND ANY LITTER ROUND THE CAMPSITE [EVEN IF IT IS NOT OURS] PUT IT IN THE LATE RUBBISH BAG AND CARRY IT TO LAGOS.**

2) They say that we should not move rocks around. Obviously if they are needed to hold a tent down that's fair enough, but make sure that when you leave you don't

leave an outline of your tent marked in rocks, and put the rocks back where you found them.

3) They are also not pleased about a wooden beam they found up here, but I don't think this is our fault.

~~Sherry~~ ^{no} The Mathienzo team (YUCPC?) had ~~their~~ their canning permission refused this year. Our glorious leader asked if we would be allowed back next year. She was told "BE CAREFUL"

You Have Been Warned

David

P.S. We are only allowed six (6) small tents up here, so don't go pitching any more..

I have cleaned the carbide area & started a new fettle bag - Keep the carbide area clean ICONA may send a guard to check out ~~so~~ how clean we are being so this is very ~~important~~ important!

Sherry

6-7-90 03:17.

Hello, it's me again. We (Gavin, Dave L & Me) have just returned from a rigging trip, where we got to the ledge above the first false floor. I have nothing further to add of note about the trip, save that Dave L seems to have changed his opinion of 2/7.

On the way out I was idly fiddling with a hanger at the bottom of Rezinists. The fiddling became less idle as I saw that the hanger came out as I pulled it. I got the whole thing out with no trouble at all.