

(31)
25/7/91

A CAVE SHANTY

Tony was a young man ~~who~~
who thought he'd done the rigging well -
Way haul away, we'll haul away, Tone!

But all the relays were tight
and everyone cried 'frigg'ing hell!'
Way haul away, in the dark on your own!

Way haul away, ~~with~~ our arms ~~and~~
feel bent & battered!
Way haul away, we'll haul away, Tone
Way haul away, till we're completely shattered!
Way haul away, in the dark, on your own!

I'm swinging for a relay,
The situation's comical -

Way haul away, we'll haul away, Tone!

Putting down with arms and teeth,
a force quite astronomical!

Way haul away, in the dark in your own

Way haul away, our muscles knarled & mangled!

Way haul away, we'll haul away Tone!

Way haul away, the hours were ~~so~~
cursed & daugled!

Way haul away, in the dark on your own!

25/7

Yellow Van Faults

Page B

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The tool box in the Yellow Van has for years carried spare parts. Spare Spark Plugs, HT leads, Distributor Caps, Coils, Pockets, Bulbs etc. Some of the spares were scrap - ie bulbs that were blown or the wrong type but most were usable second-hand parts - having been removed from the van previously before failure.

The reason for this was that spares are NOT available for Bedford Vans in Spain as Bedford Vans have never been sold in Spain.

This year when I turned over the Van to the Expedition Committee it contained the usual range of spares. These I assumed would remain in the van as nobody ever bothers checking through the box. Contained within were a brand new unused Distributor Cap and a used but serviceable Roto Arm.

'You can't bring those - they weigh too much' was the cry of the committee who without consultation removed the spares from the box in the back when tidying up. Leaving the 'essensial tools' (in their opinion), 1/2 litres of Brake fluid, but removing the oil and the spares.

We go to Spain.

Later in Spain, chugg chugg bong. The Van is bugged. Fault - cracked roto arm, damaged Distributor Cap, spokes weak and intermittent under load conditions.

Solution - replace Roto Arm with Spare, replace Distributor Cap with Spare.

Problem - spares removed from the van at Hoby Rd. No longer in van in Spain, location unknown.

Result - No Van.

Luckily as Steve Michelle Jan are going home on Sunday and Q is returning here next Wednesday there is just time to arrange a swap and supply new components from UK.

Had this not been the case we would be bugged.

(33)

25/7/01
VAN

CLEAN UP

We found all kinds of stuff including

- a mangled premer cardide (Tony's)
- a knashed tent
- a good tent
- several pens
- a levid pair of shorts (Tony's)
- a Bright red pair of Dalenear long jolins (Tony's?)
- groundsheet (sugared)
- Tent poles for about 3 tents
- a Dalenear jacket (Tony's)
- some nasty old clothes (Tony's?)
- Some tapes (Tony's)
- RUBBISH
- An ascender (Tony's)
- A spare tyre. - not mine, I carry it around with me...
- Bivvy bags
- Bags for bivvy bags
- Empty bottles
- DUST

All the stuff considered by an impartial Jerry to belong to ADS is in a Red Impet bag at the right back of the Chocomat Tent

S/

26 July 1991

Look, I don't want to labour the point, but the Kitty book is not being filled in adequately or accurately. Please write explicitly, IN THE KITTY BOOK the transaction,

- eg: ① "Shopping 24173"
 ② "Joan owes 27000 ptas for food bought with kitty money"
 ③ "Chris put in 14000 ptas to pay for food bought with kitty money".

My job is hard enough without having to struggle to decipher messages covered with crossings out and additions up. Try to make the entries in the book as clear and concise as possible. Please put the date on too.

Dave

I have done the personal Kitty accounts. The list of debtors is as follows:

Tony	6545
Pauline	500
Dave B	22128
Chris	1052
Joan	172
Steve	3389
Michelle	500
Paul	2500
Tim	2650
Jenny	12560
Dirk	500
William	4050
Richard	<u>3000</u>
	59546 ~ £340

Please pay up.

It now transpires that Dave Bell has paid 21000 ptas. ~~Since the Kitty accounts only showed a small deposit surplus of income or expenditure.~~ The accounts were only out of balance by a small amount, and I was happy, but they are now out of balance by 24000 ptas (~£130) and I am now NOT happy.

Rack your brains. Look through the Kitty book and ~~change~~ check that you have recorded all expenditure of Kitty money.

David said ~~more~~ about Dave L.

"Lets hold him down and do it".

is this ↑ professional jealousy?

David

27
28 July 1991

It is not.

Dave and Pauline have escaped from Los Lagos and are hitching back to Blighty. They were not as clean as they might have been, and I don't rate their chances of getting beyond Cangas de Onis as very high.

We, Dave B & Tony and I have been making chips and fried onion rings and things. It is very bad for us, but very nice.

David

27/7/91

@ 6.30 I was going to resolutely shake Gavi's hand and leave Ario. I had to greedily soak up another sight of the bowl. If I could see this every day of my life it would never fall. So @ 6.40 I shook Gavi's hand [someone I should have given a cuddle to instead - thanks for all the hard work Gavi] and dragged myself out onto the track on the Mirador. I waited for 10 mins to breathe in this vast expanse of beauty distorted only by the sad emotional tears welling up. Is this really goodbye for another year? Look at the slopes backing away into the hazy evening mists imping the weakness of memory. A slow plod down, four and short stops to watch Tortayo's great armchair back disappearing off into the misty blue of evening. A pastor was strolling along whistling slowly. Each tramping footstep passing the glorious tiny lilac crowns of sweet mountain thyme. The tiny mountain pink also lends scent. A flailing beetle caught hopelessly on its back is set to rights and goes about his way. Everything is as splendid as it can be. I've had 3 weeks of the most delightful company giving great happiness to me, I hope I gave a little back. After crossing the gentle little river to the melodic strains of yet another pastor, perhaps just of the same joy-de-vivre that I was, I enjoyed the trip past the beech tree. Met Dave Bell - what a happy face to meet, and plodded to Bobias. I am taking home 1 litre of that lovely fluid, and next week I shall toast your healths with it. So onward to Sod!

and after a bit the lake gently reflecting the silent white limestone and the gently green lush slopes, with only the traces left by the cobb. My feet hurt, but I don't care. *Joan!* to the Pastor. Smile to the gentle pink of the evening mist resting between the mountains. Feel the grass beneath my feet. My soul is full, I'm happy + deeply in friend with everyone. These are our heady days of wine + roses that fend off those distant winters of discontent.

Good luck all. My especial thanks again to El Jeffrey (do look after yourself Gavin, let yourself go + be pampered to!) and to the rest of the committee + expedition. So Adios + see you back in Oxford / England!

♡ Joan x → El Jeff
xxx → committee
xxxxx → exped.

There was a young girl of Asturias

Whose temper was frantic + furious -

she threw soft-boiled eggs

at her grandmother's legs -

a habit unpleasant, though curious.

C2H5OH
↓ speaks!

Dustbin Lacey - you ate my dinner you ~~BASTARD~~
Well sod you, I'd like to wipe the Joan
rest of the bloody mayonnaise

over your face + glasses with the
dead remnants after passing them lightly over carpets

I hope there's a dung beetle in your stew, you
hollow legged miserable bleeder.

You are the winter of my stomach's discontent.

I must stop now
for Swine

Embociano

(37)

SITUATION VACANT

There is a vacancy with a large financial organisation for a SKIVVY (Class 1).

Duties to include Making tea and porridge in the morning
Light laundry
Heavy rucksacks up and down the hill
other menial domestic chores.
Having piss taken

Previous experience essential.

Salary - Negotiable K, to include benefits commensurate with the post and large employer.

Our client aims to be an equal opportunity employer, but no [redacted] need apply.

Apply to D. Monaghan, Chief Executive, Expedition Employment Agency, The Big Tent, Los Lagos, Enclosing full curriculum vitae and the names of two referees.

Pantine "If I'm going to be tied up I want to be comfy" Righty

David to Pantine "Now just flip a leg round his and
kneel on the ground straight
away"

31st July 1991.

Tim is going away now, and is sad to leave you all (Cares and Carees).
I had a thoroughly nice, and pleasant. I say with care, Thanks for
that wonderful deviation we shared in route 06 (but, I still
think you should seriously consider getting the petbe safety tested...)
Sorry you lost optimistic. Joan, you're a star, but you'll be pleased
to learn that Tim still manages to eat as much and do as little
in your absence. Thanks to the "Depth-through-sitting-around-at-
-Camp" crew (They'll know who they are...) for keeping my morale up
by making me feel like a real Caree. Thanks to Richard G
for keeping us all amused (and cheering gamin up) by finding
2/10 again, and for generating such enthusiasm for "This is
the big one" and for ~~the~~ letting me join the ~~car~~ historic

trip that pushed where no person had ever been known to tread for at least two years. Steve, thanks for such an education - particularly in how to fight fires at underground level & (and not least for the graphic demonstration of how to put a ^{fire} ~~body~~ ^{intensity} ~~head~~ bodily into pyrethrum steamway or Denton's burning Denator. (Chris, for which, thanks - you really too). Dave, thanks for giving me confidence that I'm not the most inefficient DIY car owner on earth. Thanks to the yellow van for proving that something at least goes round slowly and with more difficulty than either 53/5 or 66/5. And thanks to Tony for being enthusiastic about the insignificant bits of care he spent most of my summer on, and against such odds, Tony, against such odds... Thanks to Jenny for proving that psychoproteogenesis is a heap of crock, unless, that is, you sleep with your head down hill. Do you really think 66/5 heard me crying? And to Sean, thanks for stopping me from mumbling up my tubo at 5am at the flying Rebels. Thanks also to Michelle for proving that 2/7 can be done without night and with one anti-~~ant~~ butler. And, of course, thanks to El Jefe for organizing it all, ^{for} telling me to shut up when I start talking about money, and for helping me develop my love of tight scrupulous gravel. And Egbert? Well, just you Egbert. I'll be back.

Ⓢ The Kebab
Round the next corner, to the terracial dog.

Unit XX

Two pieces of good advice from Jenny.

- ① Don't drink the Aris or Lago water without boiling/chlorine-ing it, unless you want to risk a horrid stomach upset. For the past 48 hours I have been weak from shitting + vomiting repeatedly, and the general consensus is that it is caused by a bacteria in the water.
- ② If you feel dirty, tired and in need of a change of scene and a wash, go down to

(2)

Cangas with a shopping trip and spend the pic evening exploring the town. Then find a cheap hotel room (3000 pts) with an en-suite BATH, SHOWER, SINK + TOILET and spend the night there.

Hitch back up to Lagos next morning in time to start the day (ie I arrived back by 10am).

Jenny.

2 Aug 91

Am now festering, having escaped from Ario ^{yesterday} after about 6 days' caving on the trot. The weather cleared up just about the time I arrived, enabling me to have a wash (!). The next job is laundry. Jenny has now deserted me for Ario. So I must wait for someone to come down or the Germans to come up. Pleasantly relaxed for the moment. I wonder how long before I get bored.

P.S. Went back in Amador's last night as the lower bar ^{William} was closed.

P.P.S. I can't pay my kitty debts until I can get some bank which means someone else has to be here.

Dirk,

I've put your washing in a labelled box in the yellow van.

~~Am now festering~~

Gerhard, Ewald + Beinhart turned up shortly before 10pm.

Holders of a ^{full} British ~~to~~ driving license are insured to drive my car (Renault Diesel ~~UWZ~~ 6859) if necessary. Car papers & Green Card are kept in a safe place, as are the keys - see Base Camp warden. William is instructed about how the controls work - see Bill. Be prepared to explain to a policeman why you're driving a German car ~~thru Spain~~...

-There should be about 200km in the tank still.

Gerhard

P.S. When you have used my car, take the little brown book from the shelflet below the steering wheel, open it where the pen is, and put on the left-hand pages (cf. previous pages for samples): the date, where to e.g. "⇒ Cango", who drove, and the kilometers reading. If you've been to a Diesel station, put amount & kilometer reading & date to, onto the right-hand page. If tank is really full, reset the trip metre.

Thanks ———— Uly.

3/8/91.

We had a visit from Juan Jose Gonzalez Suarez (He clearly thinks that we're the bees' knees) because of our continuity! He told us.

- 1). There will be a congress in October in Oriedo & he would like 2 of us to go & give a talk about Oxford's explorations (with Top Camp 2/7). There may be help with expenses.
- 2). Could we send him some pictures (see prints) + surveys c. A4 size of the more major caves so that he can mount these together for demo's at that congress
- 3). Could we send him at least a preliminary report of this year's expedition before asking permission for next year?
- 4). The congress is to commemorate 30 years of caving in the Picos & will include all types of Spanish French + Polish caves. Language will be Spanish or French or English. Note that the first exploration 30 years ago that they are commemorating was OUCE.
- 5). He is trying to assemble a complete liturgy of caves in the Picos & trying to make the Oriedo conference a regular event every 3-4 years.

PS: I think we should try to encourage Martin Lavelly to go Richard.

3 Aug

The Lower Bar is now open again. The man who runs it explained the tragic circumstances. One of the girls who works there (? part of the family) was run over & killed a couple of days ago. Richard expressed our sympathies. It's not the first accident on the Los Lagos road.

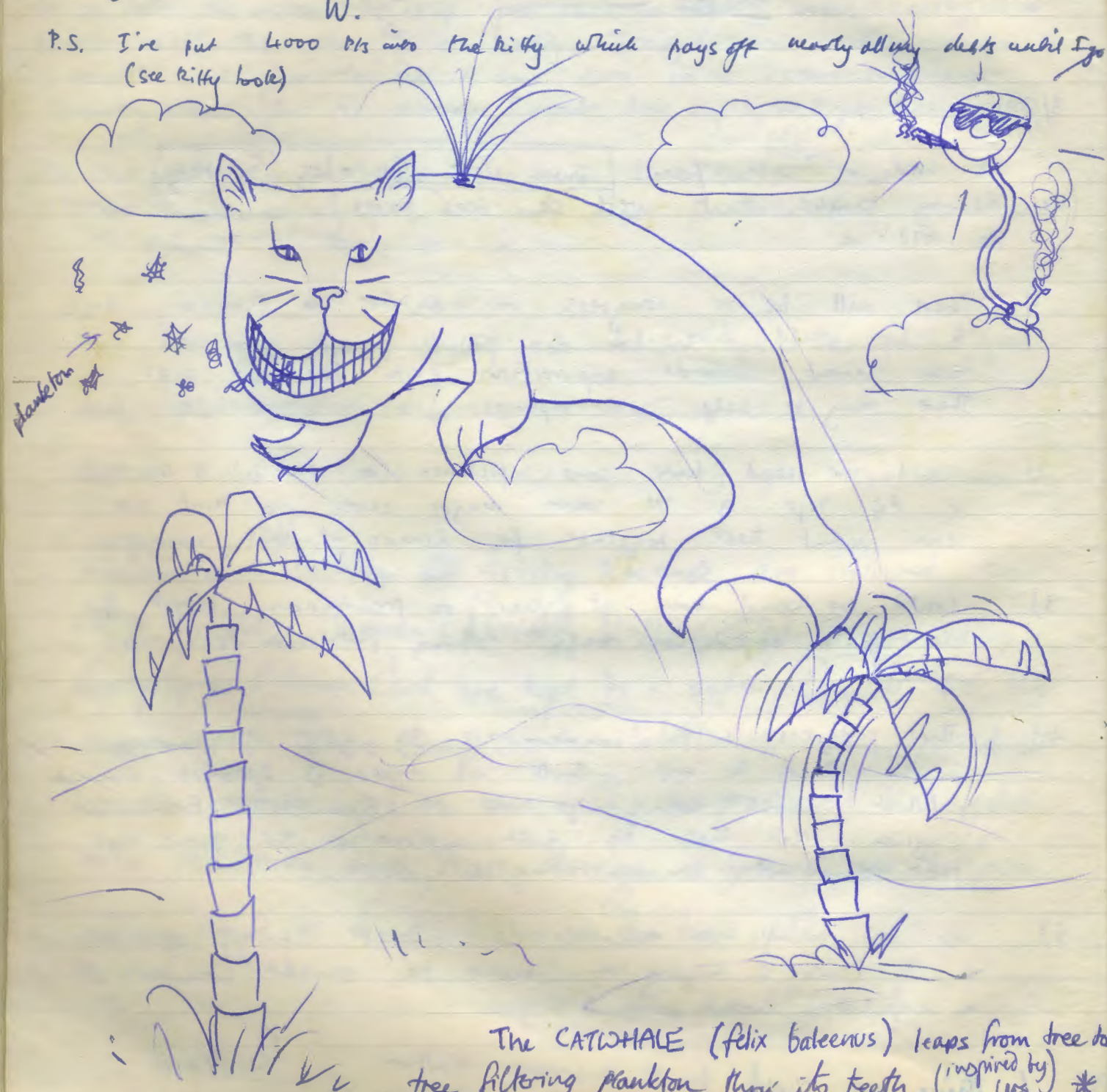
W.

4 Aug

Richard's farewell dinner last night at Amador's, then drove down in Gerhard's car to Coyas this morning for the bus to Oriedo. Did some shopping for bread & vegetables at Sebastian de la Fuente which is open on Sunday mornings.

W.

P.S. I've put 4000 Bs into the kitty which pays off nearly all my debts until I go (see Kitty book)



The CATWHALE (felix baleenus) leaps from tree to tree filtering plankton thru its teeth. (inspired by) W.S. *

There was a young chappie called Dave
Who knew impecably how to behave
But he was heard to swear
So you must beware
You'll find out he's not so naive

* Dirk: "Urs, why does your T-shirt say Feline
if it has whales on it?"
(Lifeline)

4.8.91


Urs, Mike, Sherry, Mark, Dave H. turn up to Lagos
unrecognisable in the day once again and get
motherless in the Hoveer Bar (once again).

All day hangover following day must be attributable
to either the tomato or the peanuts I had that day,
'cos I didn't have anything else apart from gin
and beer and Soly Sombre and Brotsch and a cup of
coffee with oil instead of milk.

Paul Mann's politics suck.

6.8.91.

Am going away again after my flying visit. Hope de-rigging
goes well & you all get back safely. Great to
see everyone & the prog B is wonderful... a thing of beauty...
a joy forever etc etc.

lots of love Sherry
(& Mark too) 

6/8

We have just collected a letter from the Post Office in
Corgas with the following address on it.

Jennifer G Vernon
The Oxford University Cave Club
c/o Mr. Listade Correous
Corgas De Onis
Asturias, Northern Spain

Needless to say its from an American, who lives at
34 1/2 Clarkson, Rifle, USA
Wierd !!

(13)

I can't find a kitty book on the dosh tin
so I suspect both have gone down to Cangas
with Gerhard. I have put 3000 ptas in the
postcards box. Someone sort it out.
love & kisses

Uno

11 Aug. 91.

I can't bear it at Lagos - hot, smelly
and noisey. I'll have a cup of tea and
then walk straight back up to Ario

Jenny

An admonition for all caves;

'Hige xéal þe heardra, hearte þe cénre
móð xéal þe máre þe úre nægen lýklað.'

[Maldon]

(Our ^{naves} ~~spirits~~ shall be the harder, hearts the sterner
spirit shall be the greater as our strength grows less)

David " I'll open wide and you shove it in " Monaghan

12 August 1991

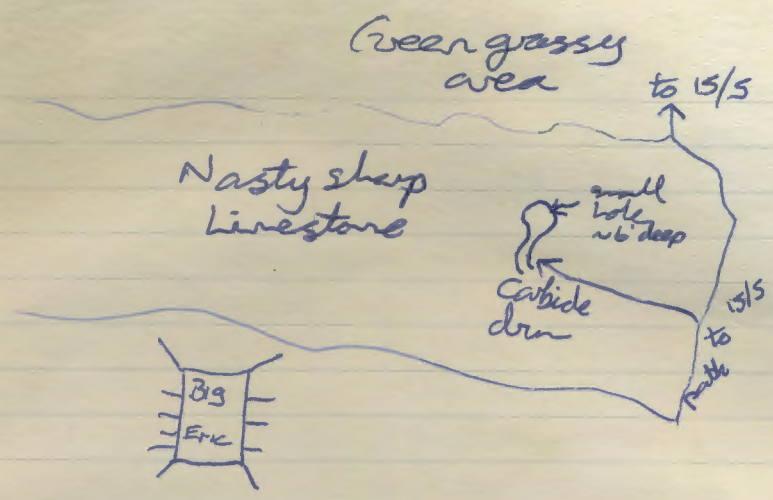
Nobody has written anything in the log book for a long time
We have all finished our carries, so Ario is now detacked.
Dave B, Jenny, AQB & Tony* have gone to Carma Meira to look at the
Sorge.

Grain, Dave L, Ewald and Me are sitting at Base amid the crowds
Pauline and Gerhard are missing, presumed in the quarry.

David

* Dirk has also gone to Camarneira but he doesn't count.

File
and



Here is a map to locate the carbide drum. It is probably inaccurate and incomprehensible, but then I will probably be here next year anyway so it doesn't matter.

Dave L.