

Sean has gone off with the radio. We lost him on a corner of the chocolate staircase, got him back @ the top of Sod 1, barely on the rocks twist Bobias + the stream. Not Sod 2 but on top of Sod 3.....

[A small interlude: we have been visited by Dani, who is diving hereabouts but not Colimbras. We were also visited by a chap from Liverpool who knows Bill, + is somehow involved with the Asturian caves .. any one knows his name, if so please jot it down.....]

Top of Sod 4 and the mirador @ A Xitu are O.K.

Sunday 12/7

Pass up, Gavin down + back up with antenna.

1 AM TRYING TO PRETEND THAT WHAT IS HAPPENING HERE IS NOT REAL. The place is utterly packed. Its freezing cold + cloudy + yet they come in droves. The Arco pile has been almost driven over several times by a sudden influx + I can't even get to the gear to move it. Holy cow I hate this place when its like this. AND I AM SICK OF BEING GAWPED AT.

2 Spanish people are snogging in the quarry.

One lad has gone to eat his sandwich just below here + found a damp patch, not surprising given that someone pissed there about 5 mins ago.

I think that perhaps the 2 lovers forgot their picnic and are eating each other.

Now the kids are fighting. One socks the other. Now they are crying. This place is a psychological nightmare for someone like me with people-claustrophobia.

Oh HELL - Now its a bloody ghetto blaster. WHY DOESN'T IT RAIN?!? No answer from Arco on the radio - oh for a kindly word in this abyss.

People are trying to pour cider in the Asturian way + missing the glasses altogether - (that'll please the ants - they'll have serious hangovers tomorrow).

A 60/70 year old chap with bad legs is lurking into the quarry, his wife is waving good bye to him - she has more sense + is staying well clear of the slippery



grass. WHERE'S THE CLAG WHEN YOU NEED IT?

The cess is flowing in the stream again OR its yet another cheap Spanish cigar.

This camp-guard is a real short straw. I'm not doing next Sunday down here! Well not without a 'Behin Wall' and compulsory noise-exclusion-zone.

Things are moving on in the quarry. Both parties are now topless (its so cold, how cold they?).

There appears to be some attempt at the provisioning of fresh milk in the quarry.

Everywhere I look there's some form of passion going on. To my right its food galore + cider. Infront its the kissing quarry couple, to my left its football (using a car as 'goal') and behind me I have no sea since I do not have eyes in the back of my head and I fear to look. Sunday only lasts \*1 midnight thank god.

And the quarry couple are taking off another layer. With the passion bursting it must be a lot warmer down there. Its not ~~to~~ me being a voyeur, its just so, so, well, THERE! The family parked on top of the Ario kit are treating it like the cinema.

Hee Hee! - there's a big cloud coming.

3 children have worked out how to get to the passionate pair + are learning about the birds + bees at 1st hand from a discrete distance.

**PHEW!** The passionate pair have covered up with a blanket so we don't have to watch the final act of coition. The pair now engaged on my left are not so bothered. Whatever happened to Sunday being a day of abstinence? I suppose they could be abstaining from abstinence.

A Rangeover is reversing into the quarry. Why? Now it is stuck.

Now it is back out thanks to some energetic Spanish, much shouting etc.

Its 4.00 o'clock, dull, windy, lightly clagged. And they are still arriving. But wait! ~~at~~ 16.05 pm + 4 cars leave. 16.06 No. 5 car leaves. 16.07. The couple in the quarry have plaited themselves, you can see the thermals rising (take that how you like). 6 children are going to watch.



16.08 No answer from Ario  
16.09 10 cars leave. Its like being an indian and watching the cavalry pushing off back over the hill.

16.10 Beatles music from @, Astoria music from @, Heavy breathing from the quarry.

16.11 8 cars out, 2 in  
The weather closes in, then the sun comes out.  
In the quarry things are in + out as well.  
Here is life in all its rich pageant - and captured on a 1000 videos.

16.12 What's gone wrong? 4 cars out 12 in - NO! NO! WRONG WAY!

16.13 13 is an unlucky number, a coach just pulled in. Its still 7 hrs 47 minutes to the end of Sunday.

16.15 Time flies when you're enjoying yourself. This is a damn long Sunday. It'll go a lot faster for the quarry couple (q.c.s)

16.16 20 cars out, 1 in.

16.17 I am beginning to formulate the idea that everyone owes me a drink for this one. 5 cars out, 3 in.

16.18 Someone is entertaining themselves by throwing pebbles @ the q.c.s. The pigs have quite a fan club too - about 9 picnic scraps goodies are going their way.

16.19 Yes! The q.c.s. blanket comes adrift, the children watching cheer. The bloke to my left watching with a video smiles + walks off.

16.25 Shows over in the quarry. 6 bored children run off. The general direction of cars is downhill. But you're not Riddingre - there's still 7 hrs 35 mins left of Sunday.

16.26 Make a cup of coffee + get on with the dogs list. I wouldn't be able to hear Ario calling for the slowdown here anyway.

16.27 The kids 'next-door' have a Wendy house that keeps blowing away towards the lake - it nearly killed a pet cat on the way past. Funny sort of day.

16. something The football players are using our tents as goal. My Spanish is NOT UP to this. Its down to ADDINGTON BARR LOOKS.

There's an Egyptian Vulture wheeling around + if I get upset much more by that bloody football there'll be some carrion around soon. I want today to end. This is no joke.



- 17:00 Something ~~is~~ increasing fight to stop our tents being used as goalposts. I am completely fed-up.
- 18:00 Its quietening down - Still no Arjo
- 18:15 Start dinner
- 18:20 Dave B turns up and then Richard H. and all seems peaceful again. During the evening hours the dog rolls quietly in and all is once again serenity.
- 21:00 Here is the serenity there are only 3 hours left for Sunday. What a shame.

21:30 Inspector Gadget and Paul + Joan examine the electrical abilities of  
 1 onion  
 1 carrot  
 1 half and well rounded melon.

The melon has 11.8 million Ohms resistance, they are therefore extremely useful to hide under in an electrical storm. It has 0.35 volts and cannot light an LED (insufficient current @ less than 0.1 mA).

The carrot has 0.75 volts

The onion only 0.35 volts

In our next scientific experiment we will examine the carrot in series with the melon (method: jab the carrot into the rotting melon) and with an onion (method: jab a spoon into the onion + jab the other end of the spoon into the rotting melon at 2" from the carrot: Cry with laughter)

Total voltage 0.45 volts

Add in a <sup>plastic</sup> chair + the ground = no voltage. The carrot will not transmit the electricity through its skin.

Conclusion - we are drunk even before getting to the bar! grr

Monday 13/7

The radio is proving its use with news that the 1st camping trip had to leave the cave earlier than expected.

Tent repair notes: the gear tent (red zig zag patched green one) = Consolidate front + rear ~~ropes~~ corners where roof meets wall. Also top of 'fly' @ apex of tent.



Please could people think to proof the tents while we are here. ON tent moving day, when you can get to all the canvass this would be such a good idea, we really must keep this set of canvas in good nick!

Ta Joan.

FOR NEAR 4 HOURS TIME

Also could postcards go to Phil + Ditta <sup>70 Mentmore Rd</sup> <sup>Leighton Buzzard BEDS</sup> <sup>LU7 7N2</sup>

from The Expedition

- to Tom H % Phil + Ditta.
- to Paul Bremer % 16 Peel Place Oxford OX1 4UT
- to Steve + Miche 145 GODSTON RD WOLVERCOTE OXF
- to Mike - 36 Cumberland Rd OXF.
- To Urs 21 STRATFIELD RD N. OXFORD
- To the bar @ St. John's Coll.

Ta Joan.

Joan "We should have tried peeling the carrot" Arthur

13/7. Walked down by moonlight and ate some bread.  
 14/7. Got up before everyone else to eat more bread, and walked up before they find out.

14/7

David observes Sean eating bread.  
 Radio reception very good in the morning  
 David proofs green tent as high as he can reach (ie about a foot from the top)  
 Steve and Sam get ready to go to Cangas.

14/7

Sam said I had a pretty epical trip to Cangas. Our hitching wasn't too successful, we had to walk about 20 km - all the way from Covadonga to Cangas (!) and



halfway back from Covadonga to ~~Covadonga~~ (the people giving us a lift up didn't like driving through the thick clay and decided to turn back. Strange then that they overtook us about 2km later. Funny<sup>too</sup> that we then overtook them by Lago End standing beside the road peering into their engine. They were nice though). At least we saved expedition some money by buying loads of bread cheap at the large El Arbol in Cargas.

Bus times from Cargas to Covadonga:

- 8h30m
- 10h30m
- 11h30m
- 14h30m
- 16h30m
- 18h30m

} All these run every weekday. Some run at weekends, but the timetables in the bus company window appeared to contradict each other in this respect.

The bus that comes up to Los Lagos keeps the following schedule:

- Depart Covadonga 12h00m
- Depart Los Lagos 16h45m

} Driver has lunch at Bar Entelagos. We watched him today.

There is a Zoom with pile strap in the main tent at base camp. Apparently this is spare so I am claiming it - I lost my Zoom a week ago so it is presumably floating around somewhere. If someone wants it back, just collar me. Apologies if this inconveniences anyone.

Steve.

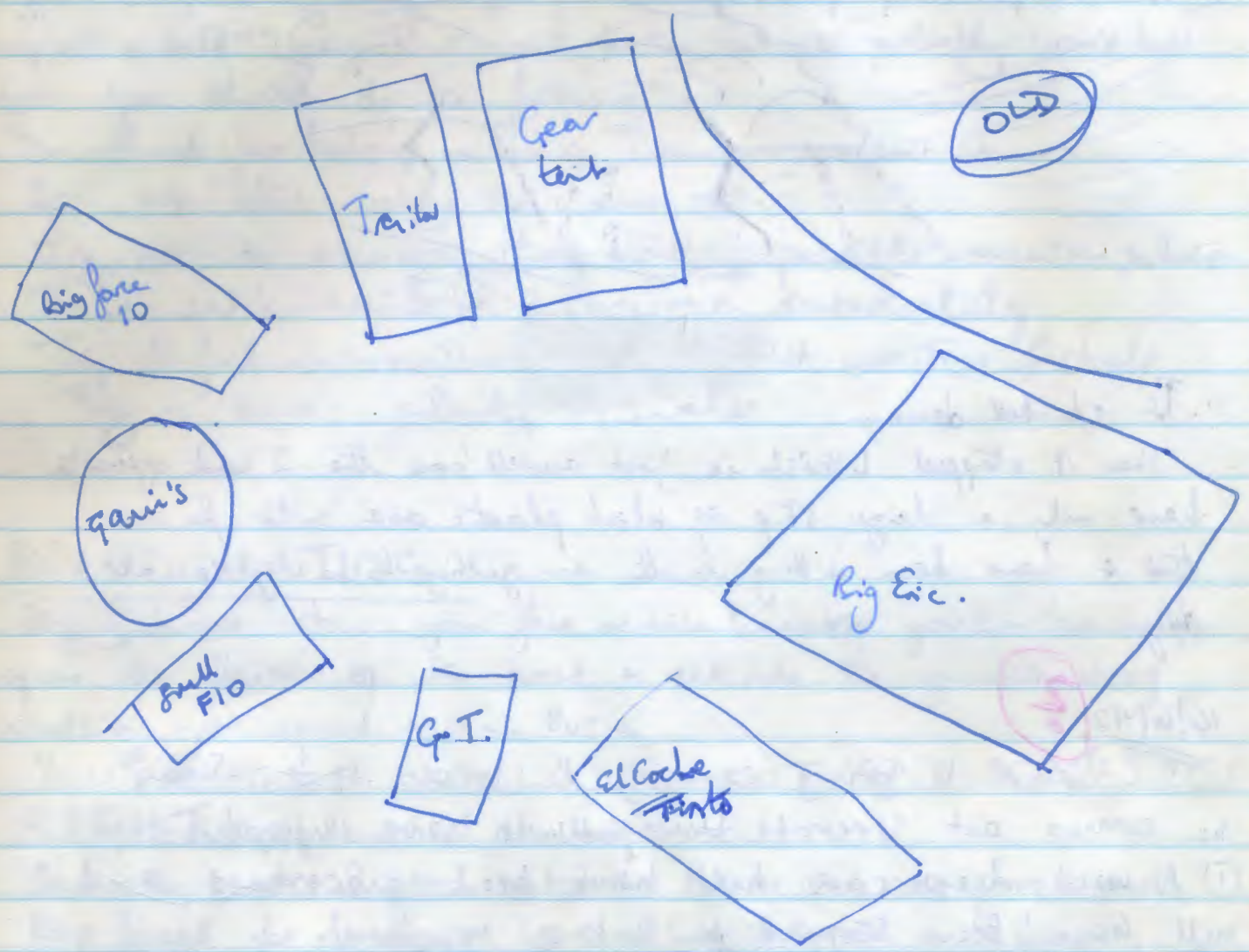
Weds 15/7

Sam got up dead early to stagger uphill to go down 2/7 on a 'recky' trip. Unfortunately there was no carbide. Oh Calamity! Dave B. makes pancakes before going but this allows a gentle

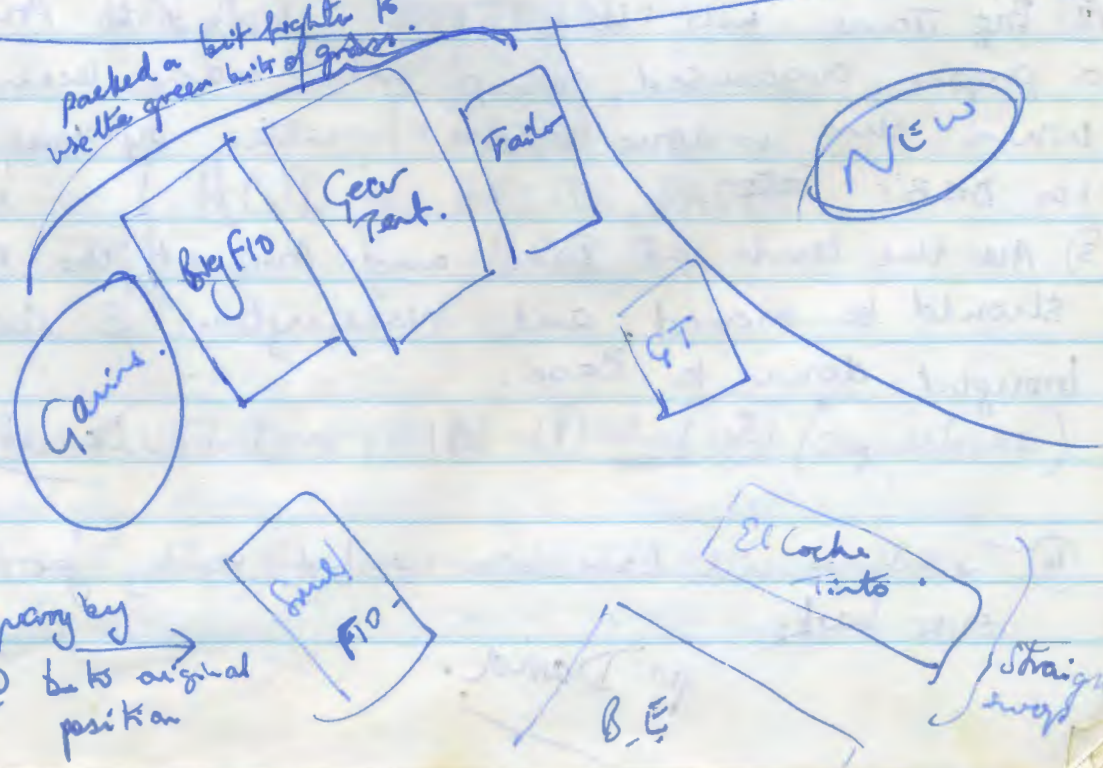


and most welcome breeze to start up, plus a few fluffy cloudlets to get to work. Not as hot as it could be.

Plan for moving tents



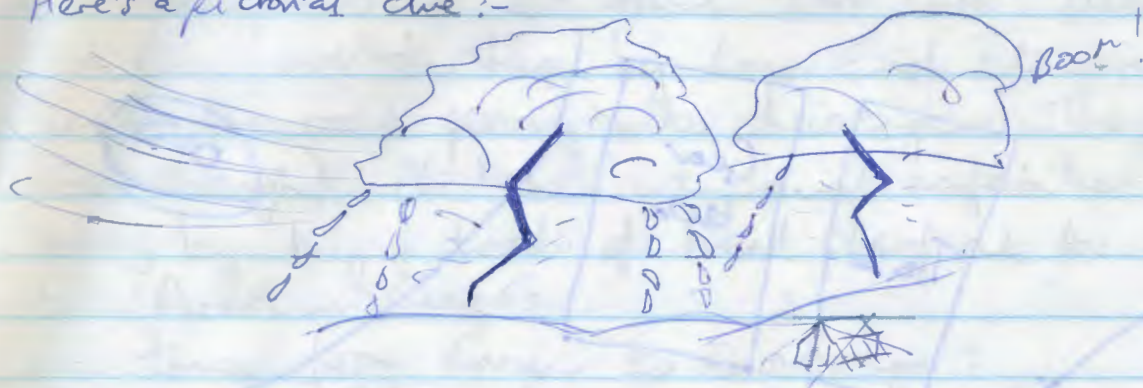
packed a bit tighter to use the green bits of gear.



Forward to quarry by F1 and @ but to original position



15) Weds :- Got hotter + hotter so Steve sat did his washing and I proofed the tents (all the Fabsil is gone and AFTER 5.40hrs the bettered pot of Mesowax ~~salas~~ ~~mesh~~ ~~seps~~). Both of these require a certain drying time. So guess what it did later today?  
Here's a pictorial clue :-



It chucked down.

Then it stopped. Which is just as well 'cos the 2 lads opposite have only a large strip of black plastic as a 'outer' for their tent + have been sitting in the sun getting to be very ROO all day.

16/6/92 (2)

David is going camping. He hopes that when he comes out several things will have happened.

- ① A new, deep cave will have been discovered and will have been stopped for lack of rope
- ② Big Jane will have been carried to Aird, and a proper, organised, camp will have been set up. Where this is done doesn't matter, by the refugio or in DRB's site.
- ③ All the tents at Base and Aird at the moment should be moved, and Wallington B should be brought down to Base.

David.

- ④ The whips will have been washed ready for me to walk over backs

David.



### MEDICAL SUGGESTION

If you are hiking around + by any long grass you may well end up meeting some adders. They will probably make every effort to run away. BUT if you end up stamping on it, it will get upset + bite you. This will hurt, but it probably won't kill you. You should do the following :-

Do head for help if no one is with you, but don't run.

Do not start sucking the venom out.

Try not to exercise that limb if possible when waiting for help.

Take antihistamines = 3 Phenergen immediately.

Try to find somewhere cool whilst waiting for help.

Try to drink plenty of water.

### BREAD EATING

Stuffing bread down your face is nice because you can basically ignore the flavour of the bread + get into the yumminess of whatever you spread on it → BUT →

**YOU'RE TEETH WILL DROP OUT AND SERVES YOU RIGHT!** if that is all that you eat.

Basically eat 2 good nutritious meals and some fruit and keep bread for lunch, or have a bit of bread with dinner.

**YOU MUST BALANCE PROTEIN :-**

- ① Chick peas
- Beans
- Nuts

AND

- ② OATS
- BREAD, PASTA
- RICE

**EACH MEAL MUST CONTAIN ① and ② (any selection)**

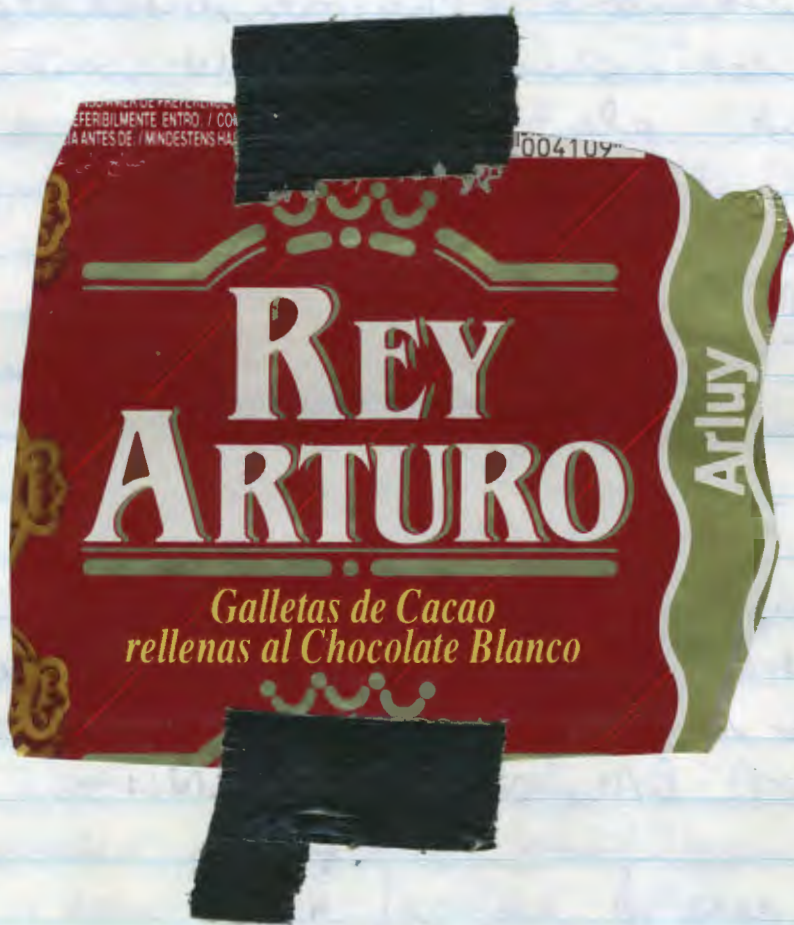


20)  
Thursday the something-like-15th/16th July 1992

Dr. Horsley arrives. To celebrate the fact that he survived the arrival + immediate departure - without -touching down of his flight to Oviedo + consequent night's stop @ Madrid (4 star hotel) he bought Joan + Gash a drink. The Irish generosity has driven him to buy drink.

Friday

The campers return to base. They buy biscuits for Joan:-



and didn't realize the significance of the name - they thought they sounded a little too Spanish!

Richard appeared a little battered + very bruised, so Dr. H + Joan got to work, fighting over the remains to stick him back together. Lots of gooey bits + big-time bruises. Very brave tho' despite lots of