

Sunday 16th.
 Shaft back of area 9
 Confident of my route finding I plough off into the mist
 with the following. Knowing exactly where I wasn't
 I found the entrance to 22/15, great lets try a
 direction change to relocate the route. Tump Tump - ah!
 were on the route to top camp. With the still following
 we head back to arid taking photos of the mist
 as we go. The only benefit is we got back for
 lunch - yum! (11³⁰ - 1^{pm})

Chapter the 2nd. Set out again at 2^{pm} with the clouds even lower,
 this time trying to follow compass bearings. Martin proved an excellent navigator
 after 1/2 an hour we stumbled across 4/9 and soon after that saw the rope
 hanging down TLJ. Following Richard's 280° uphill & Martin located 9/9
 while I had a bit of sleep in the mist. The shaft looks very promising indeed
 but: there is an "SIE O" red point mark on it (to which we added "9/9"
 etc.) and there is no way on beyond the 2nd snow plug (why have the
 SIE not managed to bottom it??). Rigged the 60m rope ~~to~~ to naturals
 with 1 tector & 2 prusik-bags to avoid rubbing and Martin went down at
 4^{pm} to emerge an hour later, having pushed about every corner and got snowed
 under heavily. I followed it up with a 1/2 hr trip, very refreshing.

Couldn't do any reasonable
 surveying 'cos no mountain
 tops at all visible. Sorry, we
 also forgot to look at our
 compasses to find out which
 side of 9/9 is which. -
 Went back a long way round
 via 5/5 and 21/5 (the easy
 shortcut through Sou la Cistra),
 hit the Trea path just below it
 (with rucksacks in it) and
 were back in camp gon-ish.



Left the rope for someone to do a Grade 5 survey...

Sunday 14th July 3/5 Pozo de los Carabos Dave H. & William; Sean & Geoff

Two parties ^{of small caves} set off down 3/5, one to push each of the right rifts at the bottom, ~~of 3/1~~ Dave H. & William set off for Wingnut's rift, whereas Sean & Geoff went into Birthday rift. Watched by some Spaniards while changing a men set off. Rerigged 2nd pitch, putting a rope on the climb above it & then uneventful progress down to the Parting of the Ways, where the parties parted. Rigger the pitch down to Wingnut's rift on a ladder, sling & Dave's & my donkeys dicks owing to the lack of long wire belays. Dave & I went through the first rift & found two possible ways on: one was a scutshoulder running back under the original direction & the other was a rather tight rift emerging above a 30 foot drop. Dave failed to get through in a sit harness but I struggled through minus my sit harness & hiked on by my eyelids at one far end. A reasonably easy climb down to a sizeable chamber with a small dry streamway with suit-sliding flakes & a fragment of a park of planters. Wingnut was here. I'm impressed. Went back for the Humphreys & removed an awkward flake to see a nasty-looking route down & a small window, also full of flakes..... a large pitch with a 2 1/2 second drop & good limestone for bolting. "!!!"

Went back to Dave & then we decided to find the other & then either detail the Spectacle Series if nothing had gone or go out if it had. Went ~~back~~ so Dave hadn't expected to go down the climb again so soon & we met the others a bit by the pitches ~~daily~~ detailled the pitches & the Geoff & Sean went out while Dave & I rerigged the ladder pitch. Exited 9:15 pm. Must go back tomorrow to rig this pitch!

From 'Parting of the ways' team then man (Sean & Geoff) negotiated the several chossy climbs down to (at this point Geoff was distracted by breakfast and Sean takes over...) the nasty pitchheads. Eventually struggled to Birthday rift. I went in first and thought so-er. Faint hints of claustrophobia hit me. It looked too dark to make out much. Geoff went in next and got in a bit further and put a light in place. He could see no way on. I reluctantly went in for a look and agreed there was no way.

We were both very impressed with Sue's efforts - she probably got in further than we did. Anyway, we desigged this blind route on the way out, leaving plenty of tackle for further pushing in other direction.

Monday 15th July 3/5 Geoff & Sue

We went down to ng and push Winguat's rift after copious instructions from William and Dave over breakfast. Got through the rift OK except that Geoff insisted on going down the hole in the middle which we were told not to do! Found the 30ft climb and put a ladder on it because (like Dave) I didn't like the look of it - well, the top bit anyway. Emerged in a chamber, wriggled through a streamway with razor-sharp edges of rock all over the place then found ourselves over the 2 1/2 second ^{drop} pitch. Geoff rigged it on naturals and we struggled through the small hole, took a long time to clip onto the rope due to lack of space, but finally absided down a huge shaft - the character of the ~~shaft~~ ^{cave} changes completely. At the bottom there is a winding rift (not too tight but the bottom drops away - not easy to free climb. Geoff nearly hung himself by his helmet going down.) After about 10 ft the floor disappears and there is another big black hole with a 3 1/2 second drop! We go! We turned around at this point due to lack of rope and made our way out rather slowly (due to tiredness on my part) but uneventfully except for struggles at the top of the 30m pitch which is a very awkward take-off. A 12 1/2 hour trip, we emerged at about 1.25 am in thick mist and had fun finding our way back, finding and losing yellow spots and cairns all over the place. Finally found camp by seeing Fred's light approaching from the other direction, had lots to eat which we really needed and fell into bed, after a few problems finding enough spare sleeping space since Richard, Sara and Steve M had come up from Logos.

P.S. ~~Had~~ Two-thirds of the way down the 30m pitch is a big ledge from which there may be a way on but Geoff doesn't think so.

(24)

Sunday 16/7.

Think good for + James at F20
with pitches + water is plenty
But we haven't a hope
without a long rope -
it's already cien metros cinquate!

Detache TLH! Don F20 Ees se bas nees!

SN-

Monday 15th Tras la Jayada

Fred Sean Martin M.

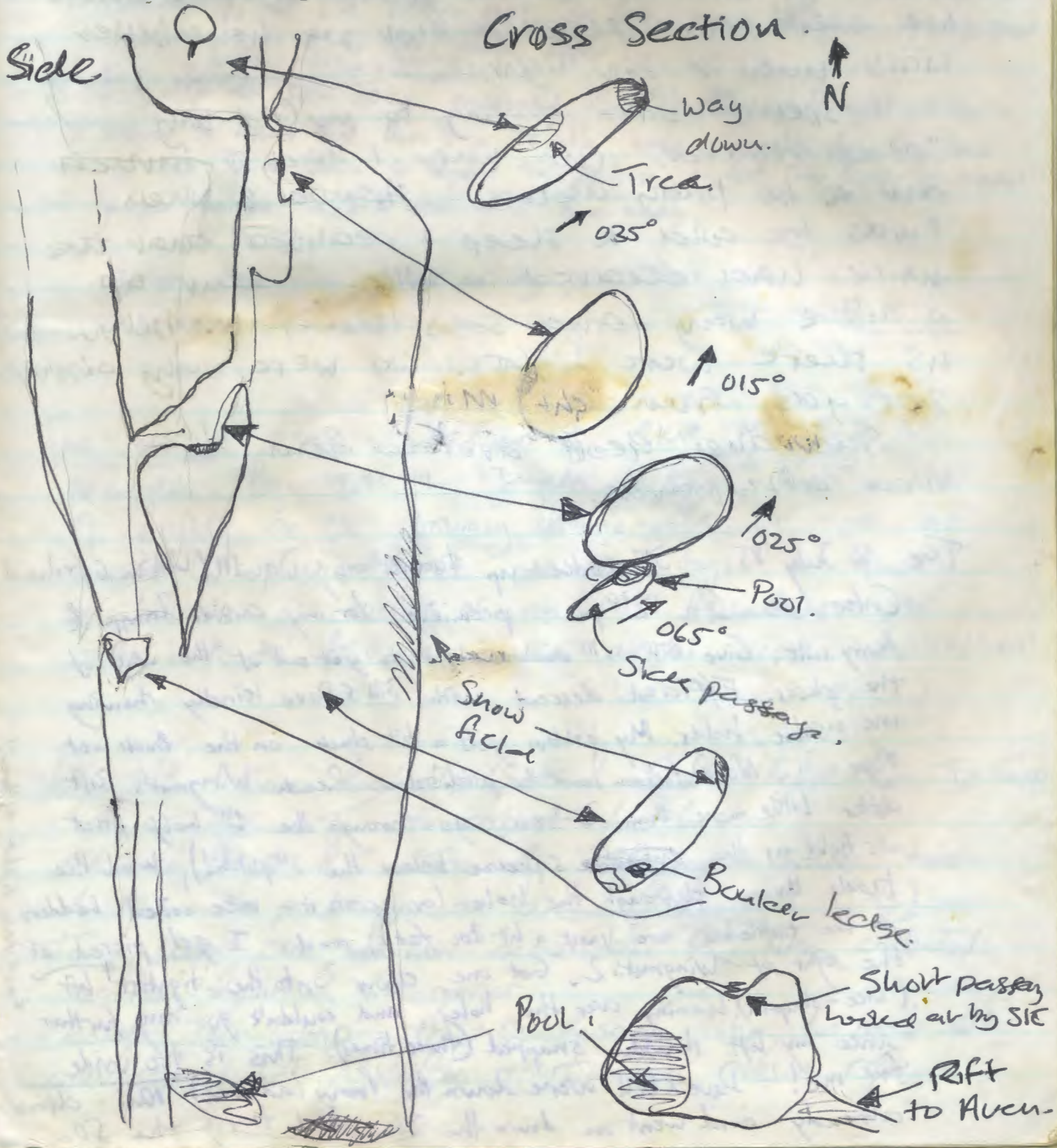
I got up from Lagos at ~1000
We set off in slight mist to the cave
and found it after a bit of scouting
around. We got toggled up and abbed
down to the bottom. Sean saw something
that might remotely be a way on. We
both tried to climb up to it, then I tried
standing on Sean's head, but no go.
We chucked a few stones up to it, and
decided that it was not worth bolting
up there.

I went up to the rift that I had found
on Saturday and rigged it so that
the others could get up too. We rigged
a traverse line and then stuck in
a couple of bolts as far along the rift
as we could. We knotted the 20m and
30m ropes together, and I went

down. I had a lot of hassle getting ~~my~~ passed the knot as I couldn't get my chest ascender at the rope.

Eventually I got to the bottom of the rope. Although I wasn't at the bottom of the pitch, it was obvious that we were in the same area as we had got to before.

Cross Section.



(60)

We hauled ourselves out to find the mist had come down, and you could see about 10 ft. We set off walking along a hearing ~~st~~ stumbling blindly through the damp mist over & slippy rocks, attempting to go in a straight line. Eventually we realised that we didn't have a clue where we were, and decided that we had better wait until it got light.

I spent hours trying to unbold my space blanket, and when I had it furled out to be pretty useless. Around 2 when I was too cold to sleep I realised that the mist had cleared a little. I went up a little way and saw that just below us there were lights. We were only about 200 yds from camp.

Sue and Geoff arrived from 3/5 soon afterwards.

The 16 July '85 - 3/5 coded up tourist trip; David H & William & Bernhard Enter/around 12²⁰ pm: premiere for my carbide lamp & funny suit. Give Bill 70 minutes start to get out of the way of the choss. Efficient descent, with Bill & Dave kindly showing me usable holds. My bobbin gets a bit stuck on the thick wet rope in Non Deficiency and the pitch below. Reach Wingnut's Raft after little more than 2 hours, go through the 2nd half (not as tight as the ~~one~~ squeeze below the 1st pitch!), haul the tackle down through the hole (or across it - nice coiled ladders in the tackle bag are just a bit too fat), and - I get pissed at the sight of Wingnut's 2. Got one elbow onto the tightest ^{bit} (vice-shaped) leaning over the holes and couldn't go any further since my left shoulder snapped (three times). This is too wide for me! - Dave & Bill were down the (snow laddered) 10m - climb already and went on down the 20m pitch to rig the 50m

*not very tight either!

Unfortunately the 5pts container supposed to contain the bolts contained ⁽²⁷⁾ carbide! So much for pushing on. 5 hrs after we had entered (and I having waited in the little chamber in the middle of Wignants) we started the way out. Again very efficient (with a calamares - & carbide-sort out break), I fell off only twice (into my coustail at the head of Non Deficiam and into my arms on one of the climbs - i.e. stopped myself each time) and we emerged into grey daylight about 8:20 pm. Left the 1st pitch with a self-liming rope.

Fine cave (what regards the architecture and the colours of the rock), but I'd rather not do this again ^{with} this rigging (not that one could do it very much safer).

P.S. ^{I (w.s.s.) - (a Dave inadvertently)} did some noisy gardening at Skittle Alley. - It might also be useful to know that there is a reliable voice connection from the head of the 1st pitch down to beyond the squeeze, so that entry / exit of several people can be timed & coordinated more easily.

Total abortion I feel sorry for Dave who's had to go down. The bottom pitches are great though. Willieain

Tue 16th. Sara w. Richard G Steve M Dave R
descended Poju Tras La Jayada. Sara had a bit of trouble on the bouncy change-overs but we all smoothly (!) pussicked out with the bags to find the hillside as murky as an M15 Press Release, so came back to Anio, where there are at least no telephones. Richard.

Wed. 17th Sara, Richard, Dave & Steve leave for Top Camp via Tras La J. to collect tackle. Steve & Dave R. return to 2nd camp - Steve back to Anio to pick-up a tent (Richard & Saras) so Top Camp can also now accommodate 6. Also collected coffee, stout & tin-opener. Plan for Top Camp - Rich. + Sara descend today, to sort out confused verbal & written reports with 50m rope.

(26)

Date + Steve - descend on Thur. with more tackle,

If 2 people come up on Thursday can they collect any remaining tackle from Tras la J. & bring up a selection of food.

Can somebody going down to Lagos & Thursday carry the extra bolt kit down so that La Haya de Madre can be 'pushed' at the weekend,

Thanks Steve.

P.S. I can't find the bolt kit - has it already gone to Los Lagos?

P.P.S. 9/9 has also been defogged and R.G. has confirmed that it is identical with his shaft.

Wed 17th July. Went up to the Refugio to fetch water at 10³⁰. There was a long queue and the spring ~~was~~ reduced to about 1L in 3 minutes so it took me ~~two~~ bloody hours to get one container full. Came back to find the camp vacated and taken over by sheep sticking their heads into the kitchen tent. They're getting a bit bold lately. Decided not to go down to Lagos until somebody else had arrived.
Moral: 1) Go to the spring at 6^{am} and/or 4^{pm} and/or 10^{pm} and you ~~get~~ ^{stand} a fair chance of finding a full bucket.
2) Obey Expedition Policy and keep And (woman) at all times.

G.W.

Wed 17th The trip to 'Finish Off' 3/5.
Fred, Phil R and Bill.

I woke up on Thursday with my heels strangely stiff my body feeling like it had been dragged through an maple bark road. The mystery to this credit in deepened when my and onesits were examined and had to be ripped sheds. There had been new ~~to~~ a week ago! What had happened the day to come all this stuffy. Gradually, ~~remained~~ revived by coffee

at manifest numerous of the trip returned.
 The first part had been OK, we had
 no trouble and I had been down to the putting
 of the ways before. Then came the first horror
 , Wingnut's rift. After its dramatic the day
 before this seemed quite easy and was more
 so soon down the ladder climb on the other side.

The squeeze onto the pitch head beyond
 saw a forecast of trouble to come. What
 would it be like on the way back? However
 the shift was fine and we were soon
 at the top of limit of exploration at a
 the top of a pitch in a wide rift.
 Xiku was certain to be at the bottom!

As Bill had pushed most of the case we
 felt he should have the honor of finishing
 the case and ^{he} was soon disappearing into the
 depths & accompanied by musical (!) vestibular
 by Me + Fred.

At the bottom (the pitch is a fine 45m
 free hang) Bill was captured "It's just like
 the Tonesa scene" Gunt Gunt "I'm sure I've been
 here before! But no, God, Hell I don't. You
 means it NOT Xiku "Gunt, Gunt" Its delicately not,
 Oh Hell this for rift took awful". Tired
 by Fred + I his sing Bill's original
 opinion about the rift was called, a real
 matter. However Fred was undated by
 Hules chess quite needs and the gradual
 red rock of the area of his oversights
 and accompanied by the change of humor
 on whole he gradually progressed inch
 by inch. Flat at in the stream, up into

a wider bit and then that out is
a semi-vertical of the cliffs in Brown
Hill port where the track is not wide
enough to trap a rattle bag. Then
Eureka! it indeed, there was a
climb and a pitch down.

We returned and with taller
bags (no easy heat, here the
with became Pichnich Rift). The pitch
was a very appalling to rig, the rock
was mostly unusable for both in
with a few off as soon as any
pressure was applied. Bill had to be
caught coming the climb when his foot
held decided to go for a walk. Eventually
a 5m port ladder pitch was rigged
down to a ledge with short climb below.

Further awkward strenuous leads to
another pitch (10m ladder - this time
easily rigged from ^{so} natural). This
again leads to ³ ~~two~~ ^{so} team of awkward
shown with another pitch, again about
10m and suitable for a ladder. We
only had a 30m rope so decided
to call it a day and make our
heavy way out (it was also some 4pm!).

My legs about the way out
were slightly allayed by a
very rocky smooth passage through
Pichnich Rift and the ~~rather~~ good
promising at up the long pitches.
However the take off finally put paid
to all this delusion of ease.