

exploration, impressed deeply by all we saw ~~else~~ along the way. Some of the areas were quite superb; generally the cave is much more varied, in the And style, than the pots of Torrada Blanca. There must by now be at least 1 km of passage.

Sorry Phil. We have a better name for your second ladder pitch - the FISHING POND, so called because Sam dropped a bog into it + amazingly enough retrieved it with a rock or 2 joined-together cows' tails.

The 3rd pitch as described by Philip turned out to be about 25m, with a ledge 6m down. It is called CAMSHAFT. Beyond, a very pleasant, broad section of streamway, with bird warbling - reminiscent of Xitu below ~~the~~ ~~that~~ ~~place~~ ~~the~~ Pythons. It gets a bit narrower after 50m or so and soon leads to the next (25m) pitch - ~~Geellschaft~~ GESELLSCHAFT. This is a bloody

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nile loop. Below were 2 ~~very~~ tree  
climbs with dodgy rods, which  
we hauled. So, then, to the  
present terminus - the head of  
~~THE~~ THOMPSON'S GESELLSCHAFT,  
a superb looking pitch of at  
least 50m, quite possibly 55 or 60.  
What ho!

We came out and reached  
the surface to a beautiful sunny  
night at 1am, totally FUCKED.  
But a good time had been had  
by both.

SGR Addenda:

1) We thought some of the rock in the  
earlier part of the cave were TOTAL ABORTIONS.

It all needs tidying up. One in particular  
must be the worst ~~of~~ I've ever seen - the  
one after the slope with the lie down it (why?)

2) The <sup>new</sup> entrance pitch ~~was~~ which drops  
though ~~of~~ a fake floor has a beautiful jammer  
just like an owl - about 3 feet high!  
Name this wall's piece!

3) One harder pitch which needs



crowly though choss to get to it has an  
attitude being reachable at high level - Needs

re-rigging.

- 4) The scriptures don't in the xxx new  
bit\*\*\* I name ~~the~~ 'premature ejaculation  
climb' - they keep coming off 'in your hand'
- 5) wow! This is the big one!

2 AUGUST 1984

Phil arrived at 11:00, having been chased by a kangaroo  
all the way up the hill. [Nearly caught me on El Sod 2, but  
I didn't weaken] Arrived just in time for a large bean lunch.  
I bought some food + a couple of ladders

Don R, Phil B & Steve R go & pill age Top Camp.

Richard + Sarah time up.

Donett & <sup>SEAN</sup>Shawn + Mike B-L time up. we drink a  
lot + eat too much.

3 AUGUST '84

FOUL weather. Even the ducks are silent.

We prepare to go underground.

Don R, Steve R & Phil S. go pushing.

Richard + Sarah + Donett survey the entrance.

Sean + Mike go re-rigging.

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Sean and Mile reach 12/s entrance with all gear for re-rigging trip, no trouble finding cave, only to have Sean's diarrhoea cause him to jack. Mike goes on for a brief tourist/hammering trip, while Sean wanders back to camp feeling very guilty at balling up trip. Sean stops feeling quite so guilty with stomach ache, severe sluts, dehydration and nausea. Retires to bed.

sorry everyone but I wasn't feeling immensely heroic today. PH

Dave, Steve & Philip have one of the best trips of their line - rigging 5 pitches: Thompson's Gesellschaft, Eddie Shah (worn out a bit of a bastard) + 3 more, <sup>the last</sup> one of which is called ~~the~~ Palais because of the many great rock bands in it.

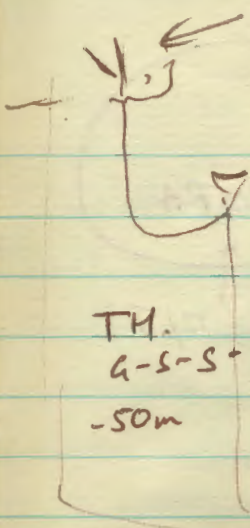
Coming back every single one of them was wet, as was Gesellschaft, Consluff and the 5 Layer Hedgehog and the Amadullo. We were wet. Very. It took us 5 hours to get out from the line of explanation, without carrying anything.

There is a PUB - cut to the cave at the rope protection on Gesellschaft.

Beyond Hammersmith Palais, the stream gets back into the limestone (horray!) and descends via a twisting canyon to the wall st. SHUFFLE to a 20m pitch, back in dolomite again.



excellent y-delay!



THE LAST BIT SO FAR

THOMPSON'S GESELLSCHAFT.

HIGH LEVELS

THE ROT

EDDIE SHAW 20m

CANALS

CLIMBS 11m

CLIMBS THAT NEED ROPE I.E. PITCHES (10m each)

FORGOTTEN THIS BIT

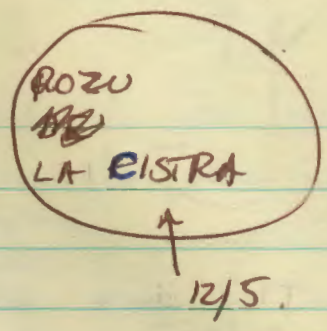
HARINDRASHITA PALAIS (10m)

TO THE NEXT PITCH (15-20m)

40m rope on this as if was all we had left.

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Series of pitches below Amastillo: =



ARMADILLO p60 (wet)

KUNG FU PASSAGE

SHAVEN HEDGEHOG p25 (wet)

BLOODY 'ELL-GOOD GOD AVEN

(PASSAGE + CLIMBS)

LADDER PITCH 1 (LOWER STREAMWAY) ~~by~~

LADDER PITCH 2 ( " ) FISHING POND

CANSHAFT p20 (wet)

~~couple~~ couple of climbs

GESELLSHAFT

passage + 2 climbs with one rope - top one is 'premature ejaculation' climb then

THOMPSON'S GESELLSHAFT p50 with "rebel" <sup>DEER RUN</sup>

THE RVT (high level ledge) This is a nice passage <sup>not</sup>

EDGE SHAFT p20 (wet)

free climb - 15m high. easy.

steady climb some rope + one toe loop 'pitches' one of which

EFFICIENCY PITCH - p10 rigged for a wire + a toe loop.

HAMMERSMITH PALAIS p15 (ROCK BANDS)

WALL STREET SHUFFLE - limestone crabwalk

→ dolomite at another pitch ??? p15?

Philp + Stan.



Tue

4/8/84

Walked up from base to Top, meeting Dave R., Richard and Sarah, who gave me 'the story so far'. On to top, where the weather closed in. Packed gear; met Steve G. who was surface surveying in the rain + mist with Hilary. Walked to Aro, meeting Martin Hinds. near Top Camp. Very cold walking ( $5^{\circ}\text{C}$  at top camp at 11:00 and decreasing). Nicola, Phil<sup>R</sup> and Dave were getting ready for a survey trip. Since only Phil could read the climb, Nicola was assigned the Capt's log, and I showed her as best I could how surveying was done. Richard's notes on the survey so far looked a little sparse. Unfortunately, it appears that no fixed points were used as stations, but that the stations were taken as standing or sitting at various points. I hope this doesn't cause too many problems. Martin arrived from top shortly after the others left. It rained. I decided not to re-rig today but to start tomorrow, so fell asleep for 2 hours. Was woken by John Hatch<sup>?</sup> who dived into the tent in heavy rain. Martin had left, having forgotten to bring his oversuit down from top. John waited for the rain to get really heavy, then left for the comfort of base. Unfortunately, I now have to get up and camp for we call in the rain. It would be nice to be in the Refugium.

Oh well. I'll just put on another layer of TERMINAL underwear.

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oops - Niccolò / man

Phil, Dave ~~xxx~~ 4<sup>th</sup> Aug Surveying Trip

Despite peoples misgivings about the diaro not being readable and then Wiley disappearing on a pushing trip with the instruments in her furry suit pocket (rescued in the end by Dave), the 2<sup>nd</sup> surveying trip of 12/15 finally got down el hole and without hassle reached the limit of surveying. Apart from nearly losing the one and only pencil (my fault I'm afraid) the surveying trip seemed to go OK - I can see why it takes so long though. How do the BCRA know you're telling the truth though?

Chocolate and sardines at the top of the Armadillo marked the final reaches of Phil's first trip down 12/15 (enthusiasm bounding everywhere for it) and Niccolò's first surveying trip (with hindsight, far more fun than writing the lot up at the end)

The following morning was spent cursing grotty pieces of sardine paper with scidulous diagrams all over them and trying to make some coherency out of them. Now at least I understand them - problems, does anyone else. Task not helped by having no rubber - a vital piece of surveying equipment (Also a spare pencil for underground?) Nice cave trip to end 3 weeks brilliant caving on though. Hope everyone else enjoys their stay as much as <sup>I've done</sup> See you all in October.

Niccolò

(Just think - caving without hiccups from now on - Bliss!)

PS Ian - Thanks for the loan of the Dornak. Its at the back of the big Vango

P.P.S Phil R - You've got my helmet! Yours

is in the entrance to the Vango tent minus battery box back

Mine I believe you read therefore have It has a red + yellow

sticker on the side PLEASE can you take it down to Base

Camp when you next go and put in the big orange - asbestos



VERY IMPORTANT

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Waste Bag in which I'm leaving all my cave gear. Doubtless I'll get swallowed up into OVEE chaos otherwise! Can you make sure the Asbestos bag is tied up again afterwards to stop everything being lost (It must be your generator - I have mine)

Please could you drop it <sup>the helmet!</sup> in my Asbestos bag (in the green store tent at Base Camp) as soon as possible to avoid loss as I won't be collecting the stuff till October. (Good what a <sup>is</sup> yesterday thought)

Hope the caving goes OK. See you in October

Nicky

P.P.S. All still around; all my gear is labelled red & yellow in case I've left any... Very likely I should think! Can it be bunged in the asbestos bag? Thank you.

See over for what really happened on this trip ↓ 5/8/57  
The pseudo-rescue. SGR

At 3am ~~the~~ I was woken (just) by Sean returning from a pushing trip with Uky & Mike. "Ah, I thought, 'Uky back soon'" at 6.30 I woke up again. Still not sure. So I got up for a look & tapped on Phil's tent to make sure I hadn't seen hallucinating Sean's return. Then I woke up Sean, who, though incoherent, said he'd last heard M+U snoring around

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the Amadillo. They kept around a lot  
& told us lots of stuff about people being  
overdue for <sup>the</sup> Dita which I didn't really  
want to know, but nonetheless put on his clothes.  
Dine also got up. Dine & I got into our  
humbly damp cold funny seats & we all  
walked over to the cave. The plan was that  
Dine & I would go down to the squeeze, see if  
anybody was there: if not, they would go  
back, round up food & another party, and we  
would go in, find them, and "take  
appropriate action".

All the problems as Mike & Uky see  
in the squeeze. Uky said would to present  
our my system and Mike's light kept going  
wrong. Back in the fire early evening light.

Uky can write up his trip now, & I  
can write up the photo trip.

Phil R Fried + Phil D surviving

5th ??

Good to surviving trip from the  
Amadillo down to before the oxbow  
below the shaman Hedgehog. Very  
experienced by the lower shearing