

El Regallón 97

Base Camp Log

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JO WHISTLER, ALISON WATTS, FALL : ?  
ABBOY MUMFORD, OLLY MILTON, WILL JERRISON



② Nathaniel - El Arbol - Mumford  
 Oly " Daytime TV - Hotta  
 Jo " aka 'The Apenif Terrorist' " Whistler  
 Kih " Carry That Weight (not ...) " Hyams  
 Alison " Come and get it! FW " Waterfall  
 Ferella " ~~random~~ Cavity Search " Brown  
 Ferella " random cairn / 'Up, Up, Bony Bounce' " Brown  
 Will " ~~random~~ Dynamic Stomach " Jeremy  
 Gavin " Heavy load " Lowe  
 [Nick] " THE C\*\*T " Buchanan (but have promised not to be) such of one  
 Andy " King  
 Ian " Somewhat cautious " ie Med Benson  
 Huw " Jones  
 Rob " It's free climbable (and you don't need an over suit) " Garrett  
 Ali (( Rigger) what change over loop) " Aman  
 Lou (( Mad) not really) actually sensibly " Maurice missing  
 Ben " Lovett  
 Tim (I might be coming - possibly, maybe not sure yet) " Guilford  
 Jonathan " Carbine Bottom " Cooper  
 Rhys (Turd) " Williams  
 Fleur " Laveridge  
 Paul " Mann " Philistine  
 Rod " Mumford " Porridge Eater " WELCH  
 KEV " He's been ... " ('stupid ...')

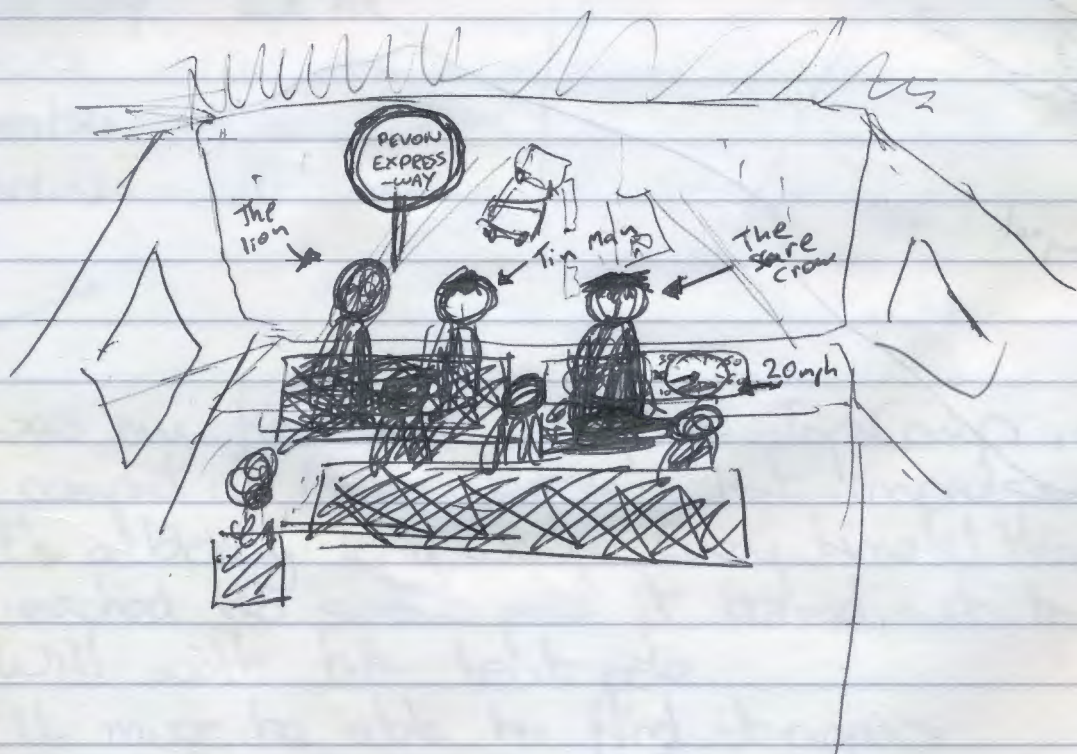


# OUCC El Regallón 1997 Expedition

'There are expeditions, and then there are expeditions. It rapidly became clear from the outset that ours belonged to neither of these categories ...'

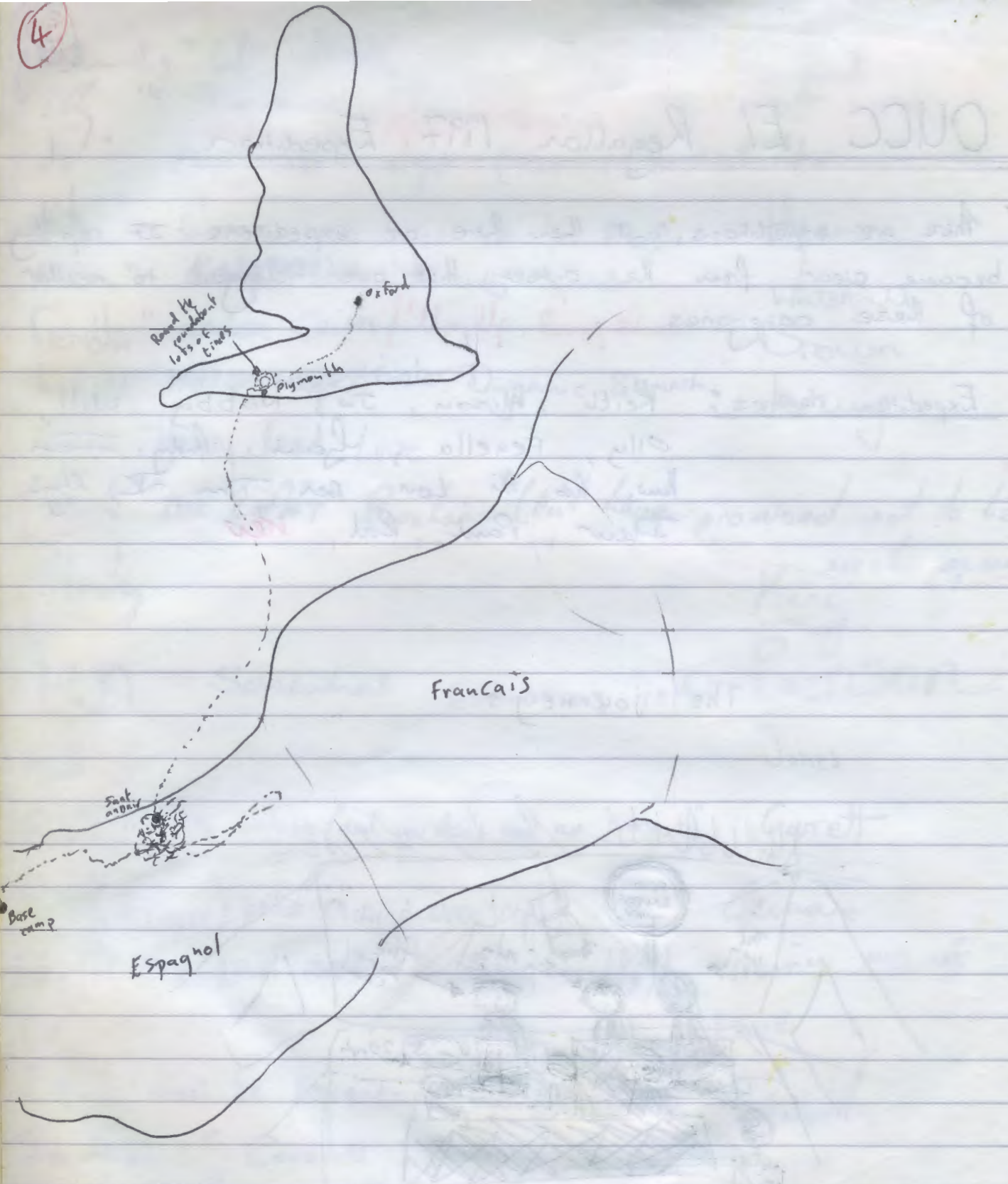
Expedition Members: Keith, Alison, Jo, Nobby, Will, Olly, Fenella, Gavin, Andy, Tom, Huw, Rob, Ali, Lou, Ben, Tim, JK, Rhys, Fleur, Paul, Rod, **Kev**

The journey:



We travelled in style - slept in the palatial pad of Olly's brother in Plymouth, survived the temptations of a 24hr ferry crossing (some better than others), fought off Fleur's rival expedition, won the bar quiz, escaped the clutches of Santanders golf/camping and roadworks, & arrived at Lagos in the day after 3hrs driving ...

4



Round the mountain  
lots of trees

oxford

Plymouth

Français

Sunk  
and Bay

Base  
camp

Espagnol



4/7/97

1<sup>st</sup> carry of expedition didn't start until 4pm because ~~we~~ Ferella, Olly, Keith & I went into Cargas fairly late. A horrid carry up in the cold, wet & wind was made worse by the utter pointlessness of most of my carry. Taken up by me were: one wet sleeping bag, one almost empty gas cylinder, 10 postcards.

Also taken up:

- 1 green tent + poles
- mornflakes
- vino tinto
- knigo force 10
- 1 10 metre rope
- 1 Krab
- top camp 1<sup>st</sup> aid kit
- pasta
- potatoes
- sardines

- sugar
- (crap) stone
- 1 small pan
- ⚡

Jo

This was my first ever trip to Top Camp, as I'd only camped at Aris before. 1st impressions:

- It's a bloody long way. Every time I thought we'd reached the snow pole it turned out to be Will with his tent pole.
- I'll never be able to find it again. Cairns? What cairns?

"Is that it?" (on seeing top camp for the 1st time)  
It's much better than Aris though. You can't really have a rock-hard caving expedition camped next to a pub with a load of tourists milling around.

Ferella



6

5 | 7 | 97

2<sup>nd</sup> carry left just after 1pm with Olly, Will, Nobby, Alison, Jo & Keith. ~~It~~ was a long walk up, but the weather was quite good (cool, not sunny) for walking so I quite enjoyed it. Olly "hantemaster" took us up the 'alternative' route for a spot of extra exercise & climbing practice but we arrived in the end. First impressions of top camp - pretty nice + Sun came out at top camp to give a good view. Got the stuff from the stash - some funny plates, pots & pans & other bits. Stuff we took up:

- Radio
- First aid kit
- Tyre inner
- Fudge
- Food
- 280m rope
- Reel of tape
- Box of ~~paracetamol~~ spits
- Shaft basting quills
- 2 epigon stones
- 3 " cylinders
- 1 half " "
- Big blue cooker
- Test pegs - metal
- groundsheet

Keith

"Err, Keith, what are you doing?  
There's people over there!"

7/7/97 - what happened to yesterday?

I'm marooned in the kitchen of Base whilst everyone else is caving / celebrating Will & Ollie's first results up the mountain so to while away the time...

First caving of expedition - Terella, Ollie & Keith have gone to rig into CA - nice to be making some # roads.

First radio calls of expedition - just makes the person at base feel lonely (!)

First wash of expedition (!) - we have to drive to Oviedo tomorrow morning to buy cordite and to meet Juan Jose, who ought to have something to tell us about the mysterious Picos 'situation'

Top Camp is almost totally up and running - we need just the Hilton, the sled & one or two bits to finish off

Most people carried up personal gear today - the only other stuff to go was a big water container, wires, Krabs & the rigging guide. Oh, & some Tunnocks bars.

All well so far, except for boring entries in the logbook.

NJM



(8)

8/6/97

1st underground trip of expedition yesterday. Unfortunately due to numerous cock ups we only managed to rig the 1st 3 pitches. A bit disappointing not to get any deeper, but C4 is definitely a nice cave & it was an enjoyable trip nevertheless.

Today Will, Alison & Jo have gone in to pick up where we left off - hopefully they'll have more success. Fenella, Gavin & Keith came down to base but the keys to the trailer with all the gear in were with Nobby & Ollie in Oviedo (having lunch & something else probably since it's now 8:12 pm & they're not back - I do hope it's not kinky!) so there wasn't much point in going back up with empty rucksacks. Gavin has gone back up with some food, to cook & callant for the queen.

"Maximum cock-ups for greater shallowness"

Keith



THE VIEW FROM BASE CAMP:



① On a sunny day:



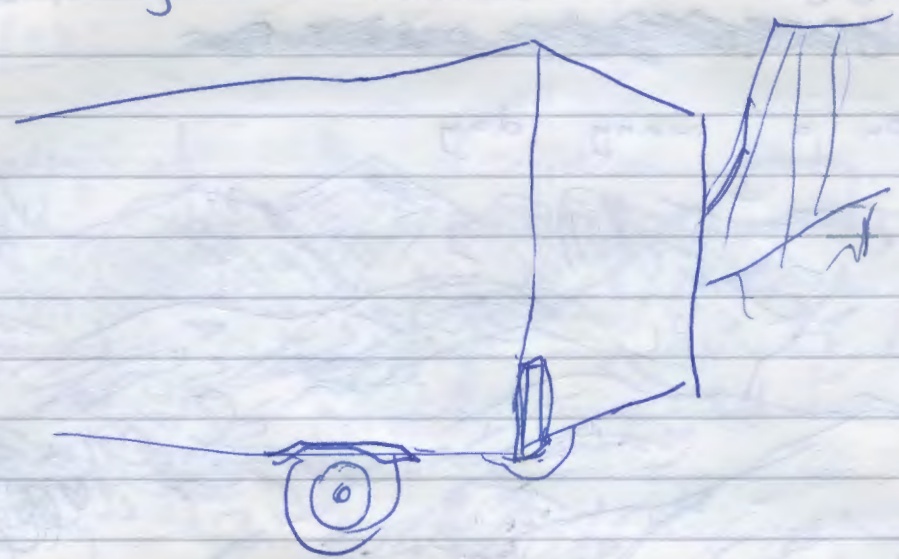
② On a cloudy day:



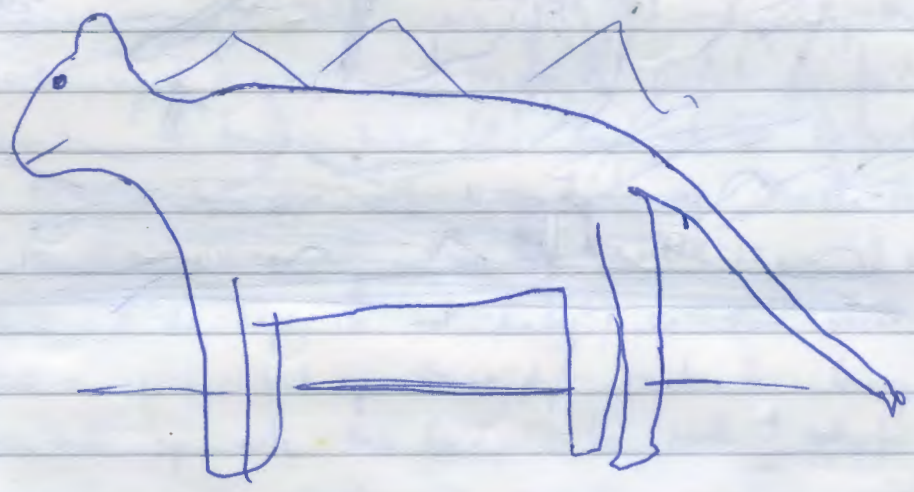


Standing behind the trailer

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5 Standing behind what was supposed to look like a cow but doesn't.

6 Standing behind a Spanish tourist.

