

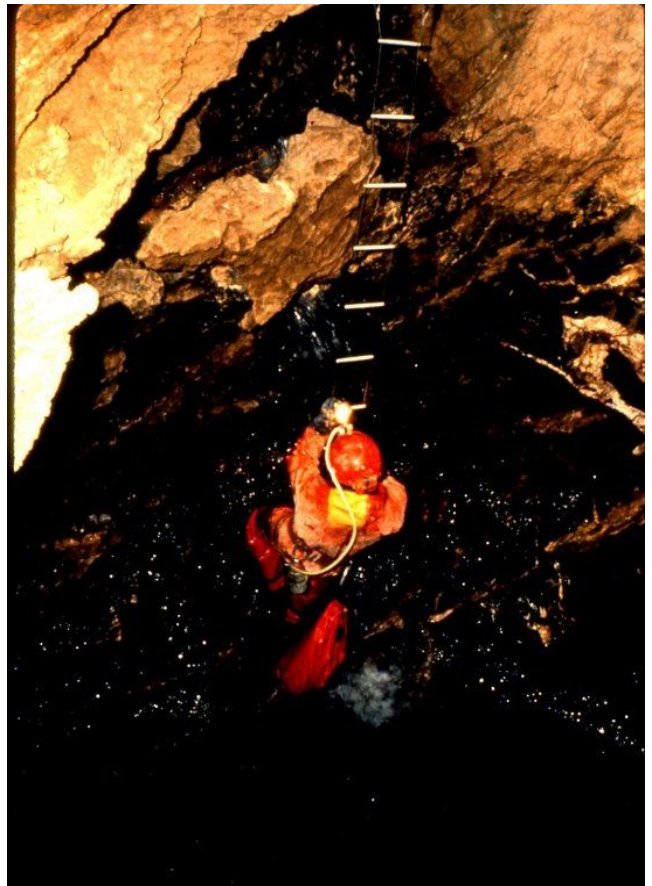


St Wilfrid Lodge NEWS

Edition No. 12

Beneath the Mountains

In the second of this season of talks, the brethren of St Wilfrid Lodge were fascinated to learn of the exploits of W.Bro Paddy Hostford caving in 1981. Whilst training in Oxford he joined up with the Oxford University Caving Club and was part of the scientific expedition which explored what was the deepest known cave system in the world at that time.



With unique and breathtaking slides, Paddy illustrated the amazing journey the group took to explore the deep cave system of Pozu del Xitu which lies under the Picos D'Europa in the Asturian mountains in northern Spain. The party descended a staggering 1139 metres along around 6km of the cave system in what remains one of the deepest systems ever explored by a British team.



Paddy's talk certainly inspired me, amongst others, to want to visit and explore this beautiful area, but I'm not quite sure about the caving part! Sadly that's maybe best left to the experts!