

# DLB Pyrenees Fieldtrip 2008 Report

## A report by Daniel Hill (December 2008)

**Dates of Fieldtrip:** 08/11/08 – 12/11/08

**Total Participants:** 19 Students, 1 Lecturer

### **General Notes:**

The fieldtrip was led by Mr Seb Turner (PhD Student, ESE) and Dr Matt Genge (Senior Lecturer, ESE).

It was the first fieldtrip outside of the UK in recent years.

The fieldtrip was sponsored by Shell, further support came from both the RSMA and the Department of Earth Science & Engineering.

The itinerary below was followed.

### **Itinerary:**

#### DAY 1

Fly from London to Barcelona, travel onward by hire cars to Tremp (~3 hrs). Overnight stay in Tremp.

#### DAY 2

Sierra Marginales and Montsech Thrust

Cross-section of major thrust structures from the undeformed Ebro foreland basin to Tremp. Sierra Marginales triangle zone at Camarasa; Montsech Thrust near Ager. Overnight stay in Tremp.

#### DAY 3

Boixols Thrust and San Corneli Anticline

Short drive from Tremp to look at the San Corneli anticline. Drive up to Abella de la Concha for a close-up view of major thrust plane in the core of the anticline. Drive onward to Oliana (~2 hrs). Overnight stay in Oliana.

#### DAY 4

Oliana Anticline and Syntectonic Sedimentation

Hike up to viewpoint to look over Oliana anticline. Drive onward to Sant Llorenç de Morunys and up mountain to get spectacular view of growth strata (conglomerates). Overnight stay in Oliana.

#### DAY 5

Drive from Oliana to Barcelona (~2 hrs), fly from Barcelona to London

### **Success:**

The fieldtrip has already been classed as the best yet by students who have been on previous fieldtrips with the DLB. The department were very supportive and impressed at the students for organising the trip and spending 5 days in the field during their reading week.

Everyone on the fieldtrip enjoyed themselves and are keen to go on another fieldtrip next term.

Other activities outside the itinerary included a scenic tour through the mountains which ended in a snow fight, evening entertainment – bars and restaurants, and on the final night a traditional RSM dinner was held.

### **Negatives:**

Due to the cost of flights and accommodation we had to limit the total number down to 20 students. Originally we wanted to take 27 though this worked out far too expensive. We were well oversubscribed for this field trip with 30 + students wanting to go. Students were picked fairly by using a random selection method.