

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT

# LOGBOOK

Year: 1995  
Season: Easter

Logbook pages scanned to jpg then combined into a pdf file using <http://smallpdf.com/>

*Juan Corrin, January 2015*



Sunday 9th April 1995.

Pete Smith, Pete O'Neill, Bobby and Juan to San Miguel after notifying the Uhera plumber of our intentions.

Had a quick look in Birds Nest Cave (506), the plumber turning up as we emerged. Then to the main cave of the day, El Alendado, left with "an unexplored 15m drop" after Nigel's survey in the summer.

Pete x 2, Juan and the plumber, Santiago, slid down the narrow entrance and went to the drop - Bob wasn't chancing his back and came back to DIY.

Meanwhile Pete O'N. had free climbed down for about 12m and found that the rift closed in to the west. Back under the drop to the east, the passage continued, reasonable sized for 39m until it closed in. Surveyed this bit and out, where Pete O and Juan did Cobrantes to the top of the traverse.

All red back into Birds Nest Cave. Pete O down the only lead which turned out to be choked after 10m in both directions. Some scratchings, modern pottery and some writing in mud discovered. 54m surveyed + 20m down the short drop.

What a lot of writing! for such a small site.

11th April 1995.

• 2pm light up when?

Chris, Phil, Sam, Keith, Rob (A.D.C.C.C.)

### Cofresnedo

photo/grookle trip 2hrs running around and ferreting down every conceivable little passage there possible. Much enjoyment.

11-APR-95 P. Street, P. O'Neill, A. Neill

### (36) CABANIA

USUAL SWEAT STAMP OF HIG IN THE ERECTION OF AZPILICUETA - FOUND WITH LITTLE DIFFICULTY. WOOD TREES SURROUND ENT. AS SEES A FENCE. ENT. SHAFT RICKED FROM 2 TREES WITH A BRO BEING USED AS A DEVOTION. DESCENDING WITH JUST SHORTS + BASEBALL CAP IT WAS GENERALLY DECIDED THIS WAS CABANIA SO IT CARRIED UP WAS DENIED. (NB: SMALL RIFT ON RHS OF SHAFT TAKE-OFF WOULD MAKE EXCELLENT SRT ROUTE IF CABANIA IS USED MORE REGULARLY).

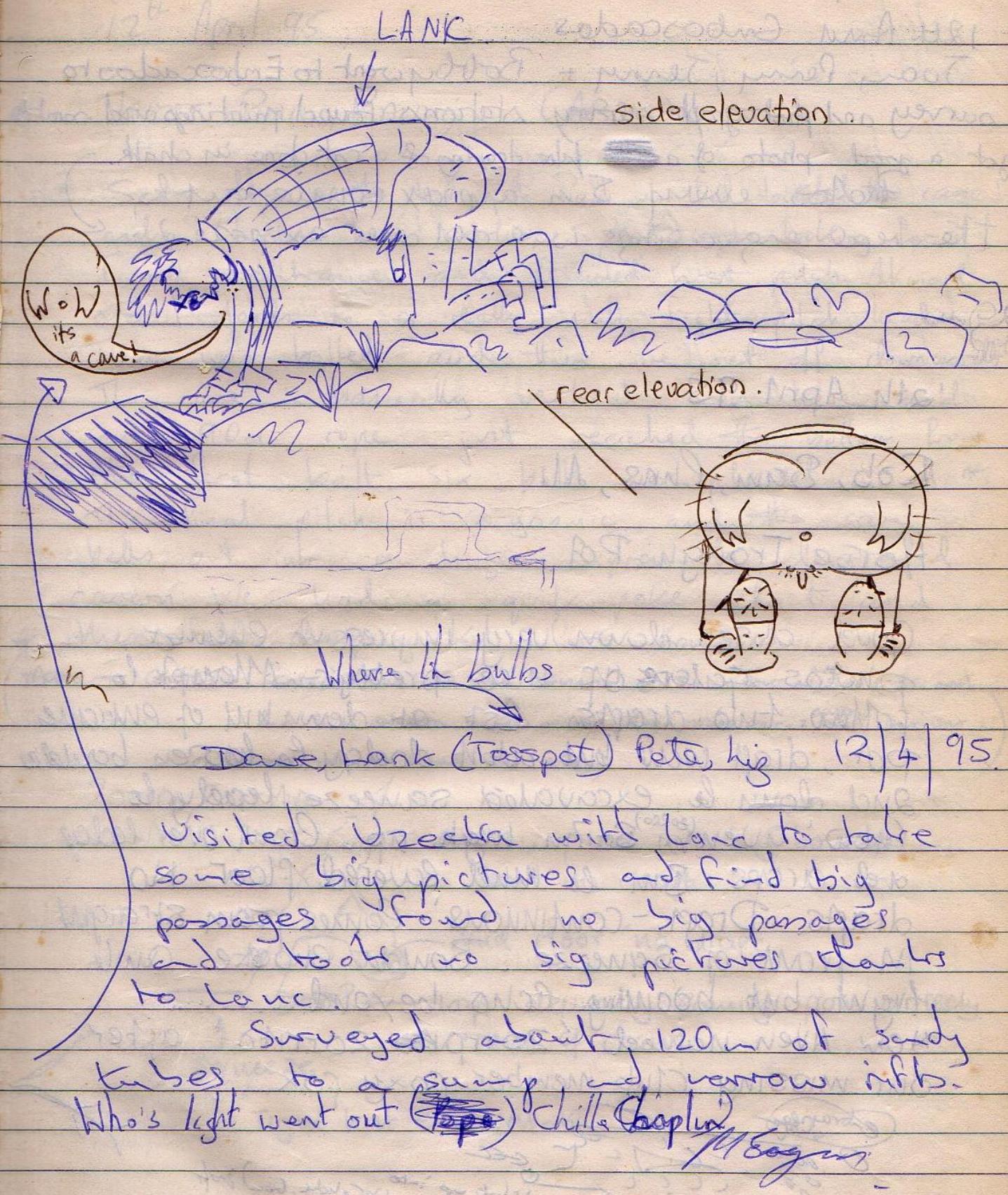
PROSPECT FROM SHAFT TOWARDS COTONER REVEALED LITTLE. SITE (50) AS LOCATED + A LARGE GROUP OF ATTRACTIVE (MUSICAL) SHEEP WHO GOT PANICKY AND JUMPED THE FENCE WHEN I ENTERED THE PADDOCK.

Dave, Hank, Liz, Peter

Walk around at the top of Vega Hig found new possible dig site small hole draughting in on the 360m contour. Hank spent most of the day walking around kinkers at one point was seen in the distance bending over looking down hole "What a sight".

Found small rising with hub to collect water strong outward draught tight way on.

(3)



Visited Uzecka with Lank to take  
some big pictures and find big  
passages found no big passages  
and took no big pictures thanks  
to Lank.

Surveyed about 120m of sandy  
tunnels to a sump and narrow rift.  
Who's light went out (~~too~~) Chil Chaplin  
Megan.

12th April Emboscados

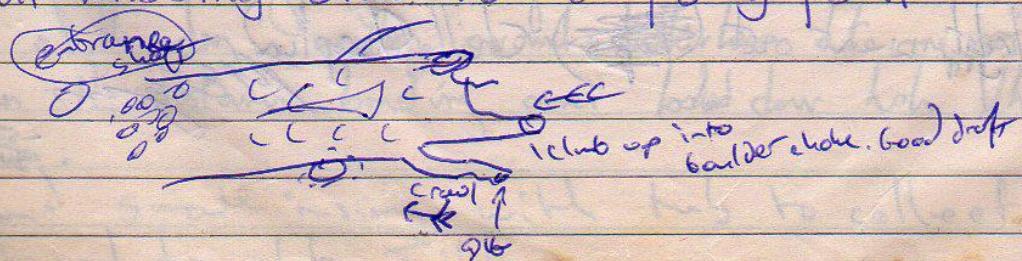
Juan, Penny, Jenny + Bobby went to Emboscados to survey and photograph survey stations. Found paintings and scratches got a good photo of a [redacted] false drawing of a cat done in chalk.  
Photos every 5 m approx coming out?  
The real engravings were all over exposed?

12th April 95

Rob, Sam, Chris, Ali.

Horse Trough Pot.

Good descent down very impressive chamber. photos galore of nice prettys. Attempt to follow two drafts. 1st at down hill of entrance pot, draft well but a bit dodgy to loosen boulders 2nd down to excavated squeeze leading to 'new' aven<sup>(Zorro)</sup> 3-7m high up. Crawl over ledge and drops 3m to mud covered floor. No drafts. Draft - continuous comes from straight in front of squeeze. Boulder choke quite light but booming echo beyond...  
New Aven named 'Zorro' after our missing club member foxy fox.



(5)

12<sup>th</sup> April 95

scratch, KURT, PHIL, PAUL, (ABANA)

Set off up the hill with Paul who had located the cave only twelve hours earlier. Spent ages looking for it! Found entrance and descended first pitch. Akward crawl leads to a really nasty tight pitch head. This was bolted and then we set off downwards. The cave is basically vertical from here and one 90m rope just reached the bottom from the first bolt. Six bolts were placed in all. The final pitch is organic and the cave bells out into a huge impressively decorated cavern. We had a quick look about and then left, leaving kit for tomorrow.

ROUTE TO BOTTOM: ENT. Y-MIN OFF TEE DEVIATION @ -3m + 20m <sup>NO</sup> SLOPE (~35m max)

2nd PITCH downwards: 90m ROPES, 100m THREAD, ENT X 2, ~~TEE~~ DEVIATION, BOLT, ENT, ~

~~TEE~~, TAPERING IN SIGHT, ENT, 20m )

Zorro Zorrito

Aven:

aven, filled with big boulders  
but no draft

mud floor 'no draft'

dot? ← draft definitely coming from directly  
in front of crawl.

Squeeze

Tight but excavatable.

13/4/95

Lark, Liz, Dave, Peter

When back to 873 opened up 1/2 entrance narrow rift 5m deep chasm at the bottom. Found a rock shelter going down to 6m 45° to a chamber 883 in chimney. Descended hole 3m deep to a chamber with sloping boulder floor which ends in a small room parallel to it. Cave entered on 32S contour incline with the 692 cave's 30m crossing in well decorated bedding small in all directions.

14.4.95 104

Charlie, Paula, Al

Dug out tight bats in Chocolate Slice - although not extreme they may put off some people from putting in the cave. First squeeze removed, second (20' long) opened up for about 6', and another trip to complete this. (cave drafting in. Good draft going into Beech Choke & fair draft into Chocolate Slice.)

14.4.95 388 Chris, Pedro.

Descended down to 3rd ladder pitch level and surveyed area below back to last ladder pitch. No drafting, no new passageways, one question mark with tricky ascend.

Looking for 388 panel entrance Shaft when we descended 7m to small opening with depth beyond. Big boom from falling rocks. Going back to locate entrance and maybe bolt on Sunday.

(900)

(7)

13/4/95 Cabana

Ali, Phil, Keef, Paul

Rehmed after rigging cave and had a ferret about in everything west of the bottom of the pitch. We had a fairly thorough look and surveyed a small passage for about 45m from bottom of pitch which ended in some small pitches which looked promising. At far end of collapse chamber a choked passage leads off and looks good. Also the phreatic maze which is unsurveyed is draughty and looks like it's been barely visited. Lots and lots of holes in the floor.

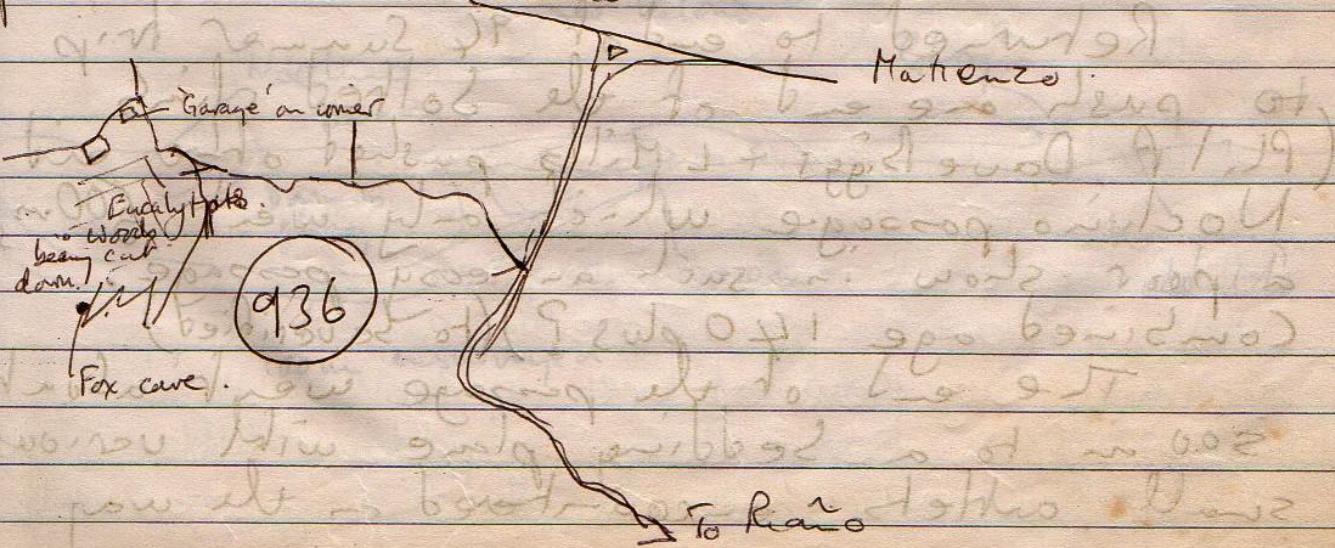
14/4/95 - P. Sauer

WALK FROM TERRACE CONTOURING ROOMS TO ARENTE. NOTHING MUCH BUT ARENTE FLOOR DRAUGHTY, WHICH PARTLY EXPLAINS FAILURE FINDING ANYTHING EXHAUSTIVE.

15/4/95 - Lank Jare B Pete E Liz

Visited site looked at the other year but not described before.

Solarzano



(F) Looked down from road into forested area being cut down. An 'entrance' could be seen from road in cleared area at bottom. Pete & I went down - draughting area of collapse. Eventually pinpointed possible best place a large piece of roof had dropped and left a tight slot down back. An hours work with chisel & hammer gave access just as Dave & Liz got in from different directions. Cave at other side of knoll explored in a maze with fox evidence and smell this joined after some work with cave above. About 70 m could be extracted from this but the draught appears to be caused by wind blowing in other entrances. Should be checked in summer with stronger draft draught. Below this site we met a stream coming down parallel valley. This goes over sandstone beds and eventually sinks ~ 15 m further on is a depression with an a 5 m climb to a choice - no draught.

15-4-95 Pena do S. N.

Peter E, Liz, Paul St

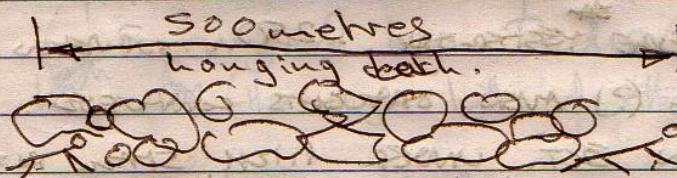
Returned to end of 94 summer trip to push one end of the bolted climb (PL, P, Dave Biggs + L Mill pushed other end). No climbing passage which only went 600m, a poor show in such an easy passage. (Combined age 140 plus?) (to be verified)

The end of the passage went about 500 m to a bedding plane with various small artlets encountered on the way

(9)

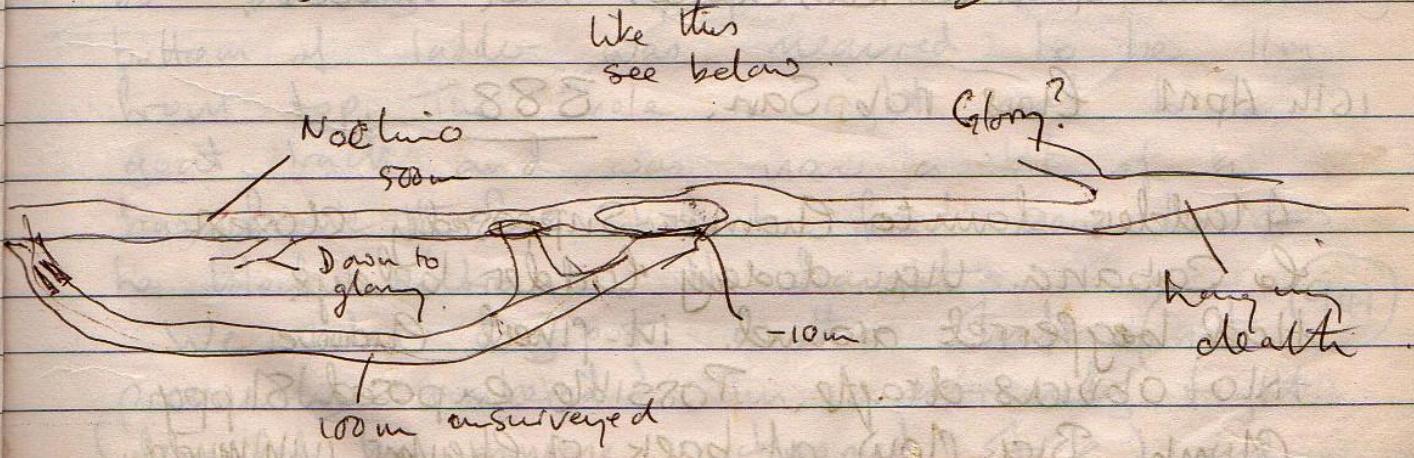
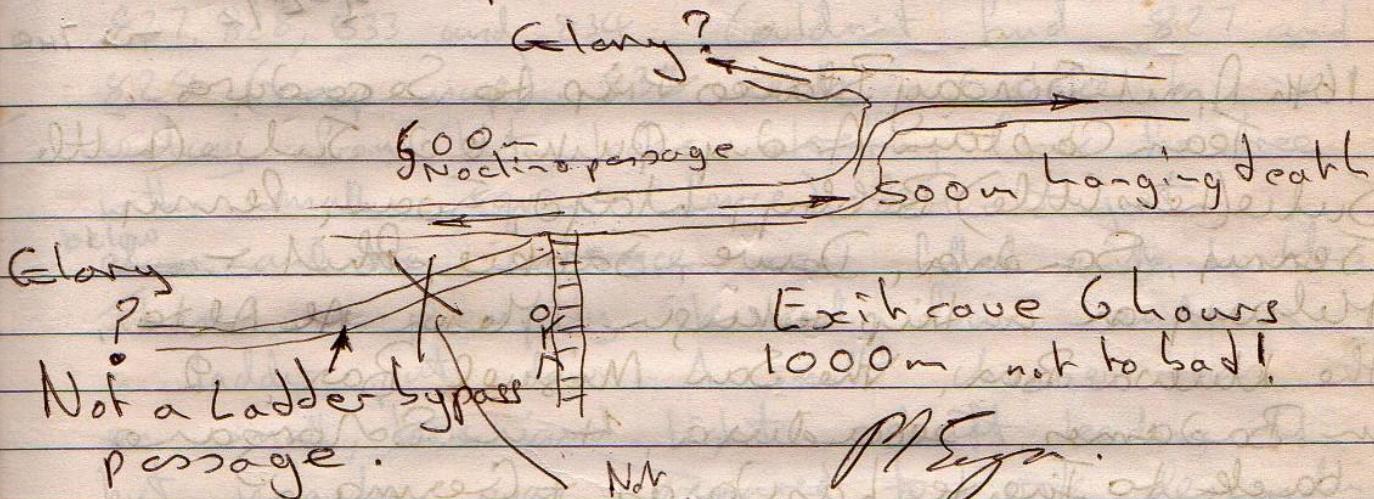
leard still need looking at.

Passage consists of easy going loose  
rift with sections of boulders.



Most of passage is easy but slow going.

Second objective was not entered after and a new rift passage was found deeper near ladder pit.



Cabaña. Easter day  16/4/95.  
P. H., Stacey, Keef, Phil, Pete - O'Neil,  
(combined ages - 120 years ?) - the young farts

RE-ENTERED PASSAGE SEEN <sup>DAY</sup> BEFORE YESTERDAY. ~250m SURVEYED  
TO TERMINATE BLOCKAGE INT. 70m (?) AVEN, DRAUGHTS CONFUSED.  
DROPPED LADDER DOWN HOLE IN EXT. UNDER FLOOR. SMALL RIFT  
CHAMBER ONT WITH NO WAY OUT. HOLE OVER NARROW RIFT CLOSING  
RE-ENTERED <sup>BUT</sup> NO VOICE CONTACT COULD BE MADE WITH MAIN  
PASSAGE! DE TACKLED HOLE.

(WEST WINDERS APPARENTLY HOLE ON RHS AT END STILL TO BE ENTERED  
EAST WINDERS TO BE EXAMINED IN SUMMER?)



TO 7TH

16th April Sunday Blanes Trip to Secadura.  
Team Captain Andy Quirk led Julie (little)  
Julie (her little) Bobby, May, Joan, Penny,  
Terry, Sandra, Dave, Jackie, Phil +  
Milany on a trip taking Mason Al Alto,  
the Nueva Bar, the San Miguel Bar, 2  
in Badames, Secadura, 4 in Solanizares  
+ back to Fuente las Jaras + Germain.

16th April Thus, rob, San. 388

4 ladders down to chamber supposedly closest  
to Cabana via dodgy ladder belays.  
Had bagperret around in final chamber  
No obvious draff. Possible exposed slippery  
Climb. Big flow at back of chamber with muddy  
hole below. Some echoing up some little  
holes and water can be heard dripping from within

Or bevel plan. No a totally lost cause yet.  
 Sam Star performer on first ladder trip even  
 since climber is fitter than previously  
 Surveyed by Pedro/Chris - Not surveyed  
 (He says he'll do the survey next year!)

### 15<sup>th</sup> April - Shaft Barking

Keef, Phil, Sam, Stump, Rob, Char, Paula

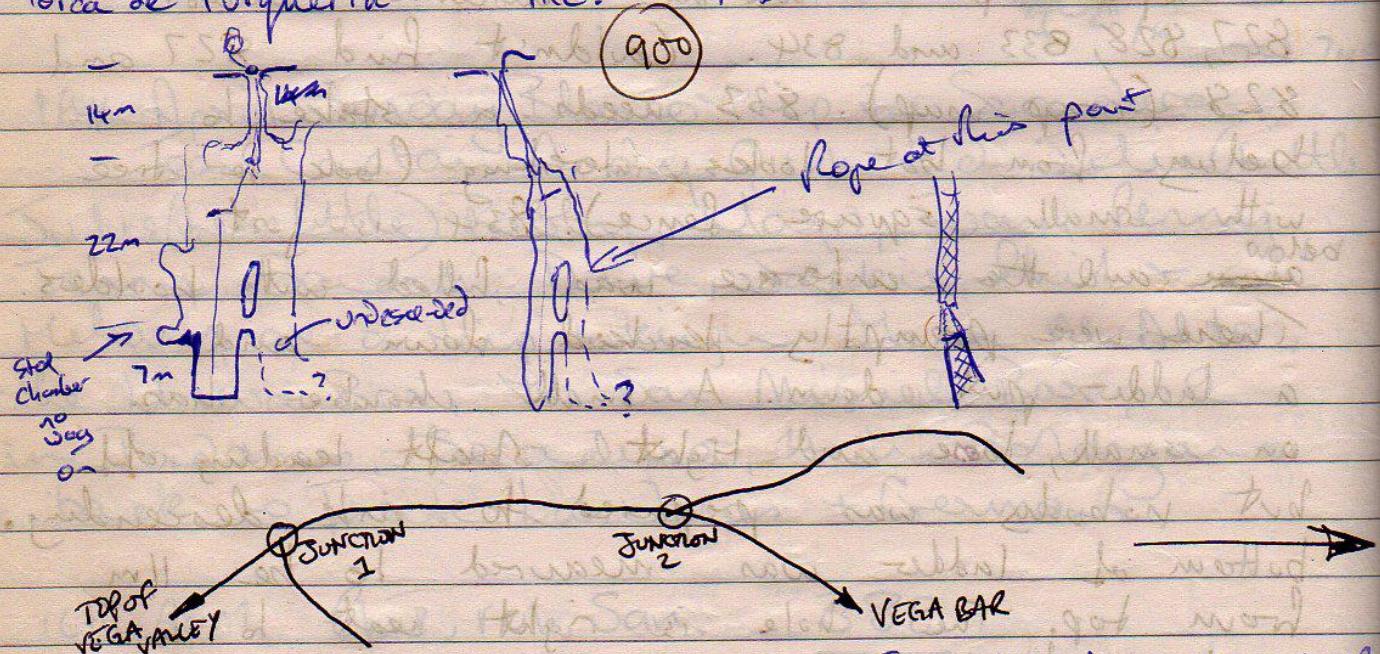
Stomped up to look at undescended shafts  
 827, 828, 833 and 834. Couldn't find 827 and  
 828 (crap map). 833 needs a stafe to  
 belay from but looks interesting (look for tree  
 with small square fence). 834 is just  
 above and the entrance was filled with boulders.  
 There were promptly kicked down and  
 a ladder put down. A small chamber has  
 on small, loose and tight shaft leading off  
 but nobody was prepared to risk descending.  
 bottom of ladder was measured to be 11m  
 from top. The hole is right next to a  
 goat track and was now a bit of a  
 hazard. We therefore had to find new boulders  
 to block entrance. No draughts.

We also dug out another shaft (not  
 previously numbered). This is extremely tight  
 (descended by someone nicknamed Sticks) and  
 after an initial 2m drop and a 3m climb  
 a pitch of about 10m was found. This

(11) was descended to about 2m from the bottom but no obvious way on was visible. Some draught was present mostly from a too tight slot halfway down the pitch (which incidentally is very loose and horrid). The cave is ~~at~~ about 100m up the valley from 834 at a altitude about 5-10m lower. It is just around a rocky outcrop near a ruin of a barn. It is in a depression which is overgrown and a 'V' was carved in a rock just above the entrance.

16.4.95

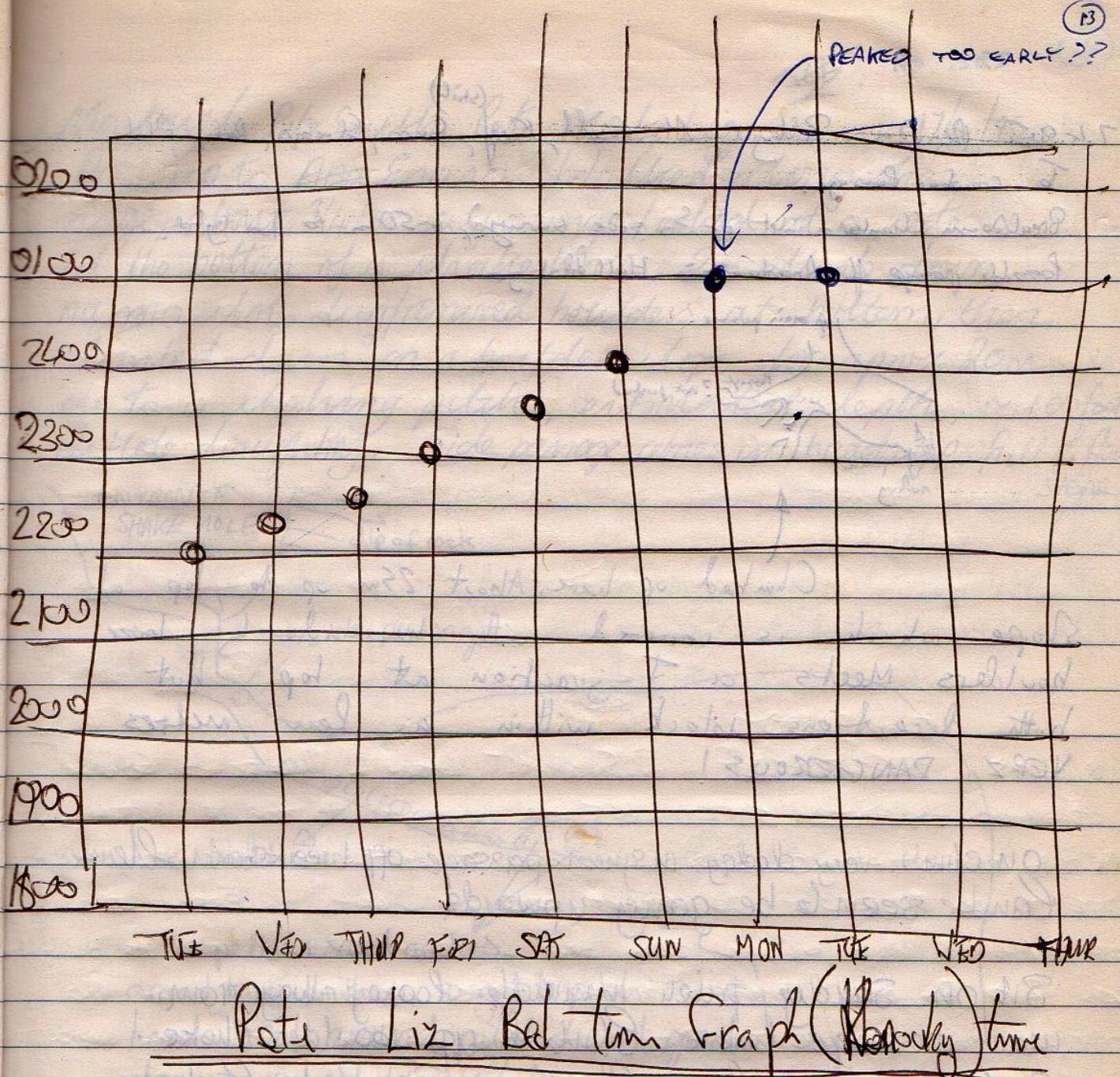
Torca de Porqueria AC. Near 388



16.4.95 Santander-Sevos - Vallina. Carlos, His, Juan, Alí, Pete S., Pete O'Neil. Terminal choke in main stream passage - reported belt climb overcome with combined tactics, didn't go. Pete found ~ 100m inlet passage on way out - with number above.

Afterwards went to Drafting ducked stream w. Archaeological Site ... moving 10m away.

Depression nr. Pimeroye top at. - a small stal chamber to right & a hole into 50m. stream passage - sometimes unexplored.



→ ALI'S SHAFT : BEARINGS JUNC 1  $342^\circ$  MAG, JUNC 2  $45^\circ$  MAG.

OTHER SHAFTS DOWNTILL:

SHAFT BY OAK TREE - 40' approx. JUNC 1- $342^\circ$ , JUNC 2- $51^\circ$ .

SHAFT BY OAK TREE - 20' approx. JUNC 1- $344^\circ$ , JUNC 2- $52^\circ$ .

EXPOSED SW/NE 60' RIFT - JUNC 1- $340^\circ$ , JUNC 2- $49^\circ$ .

NONE OF THESE 3 ENTERED DEPTH'S VERY APPROXIMATE, ALL LOCATED AROUND UPTILL SIDE OF LARGE STAKE HOLES.

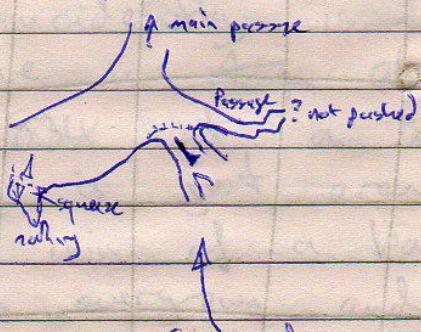
389 REDISCOVERED! BUT WITH BEARINGS OF JUNC 1- $330^\circ$ , JUNC 2- $41^\circ$  WHICH PUTS IT SLIGHTLY DOWNHILL FROM LOCATION ON MAP.

17.4.95 ~~Yester day~~ car contacts

17.4.95 Rendan. Bobby C, Al:Neill, Kee<sup>(stick)</sup>, Sam, Stamps, Rob, Phil  
To cowboy passage.

Breakdown Chamber - inlet or S. side surveyed, ~50m to top right.

Possible passage off Anastomosis Hall didn't go



Climbed up here. About 25m up to top of slope which is covered with horrendously loose boulders. Meets a T-junction at top but both directions block within a few metres  
VERY DANGEROUS!

On climb very dodgy in small passage off breakdown chamber.  
Can be seen to be going upwards

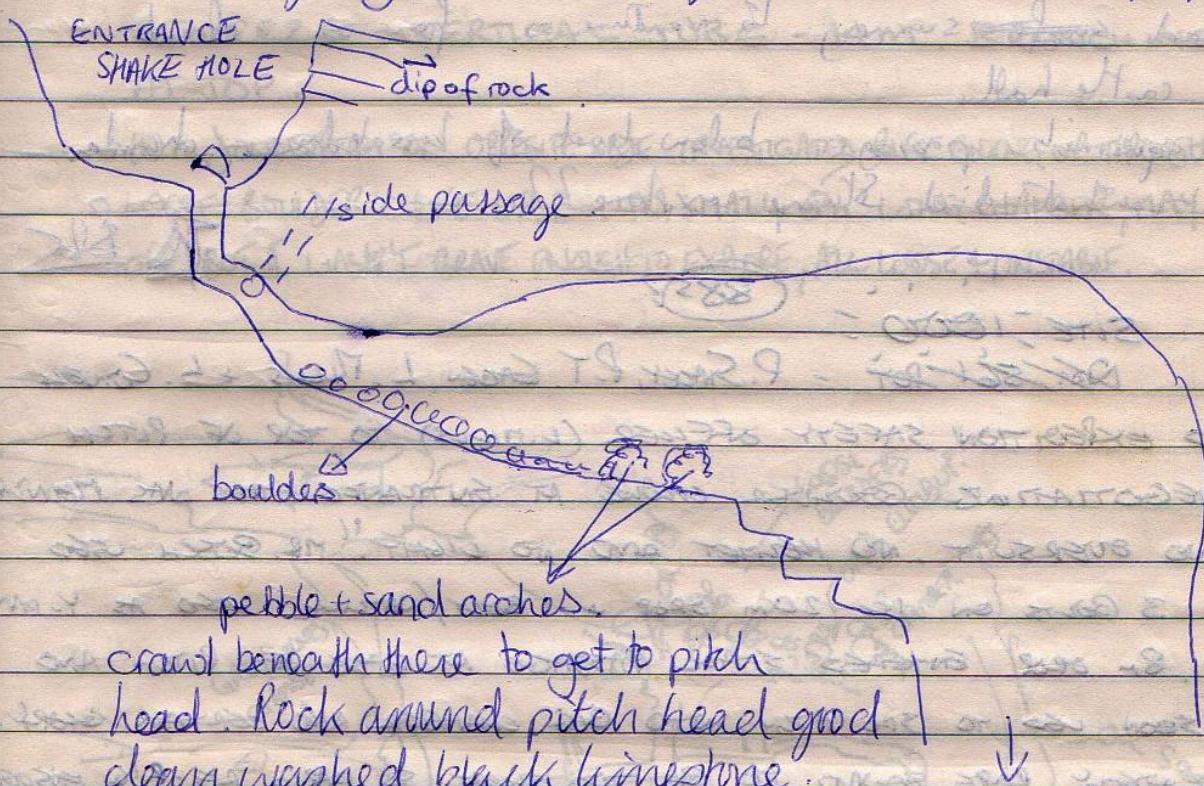
Sit on sandy patch in middle looking away from main passage back. Climbed up boulder choke 30/35m out into large chamber. Seen to be continuing up into passage left and right. Scared silly and bloody knackered cos I got lost trying to find my way down.

Notes: "H" is short, "C" is long - so probably H is tall! (prob wrong)  
Hamilton's with know of Thuringia to start

~~588~~ NO 885 (15)

Monday / Pete Smith, Pete, Paul, Liz. 17/4/95.

Drove up to ~~AAA~~ Enaso. Walked along the ridge, about 3/4's way along. Looked at a site at the bottom of a shake hole. 2m climb down narrow slot, dug/removed boulders at bottom, then climbed down on a boulder slope for approx 20m, on to a shelving pitch, estimated depth, ~100 feet. Hole draughting. Side passage comes in, heads up, full of flow stone



Riño - Fat bastards trip - Lank, Dave, Phill, Charlie, Paula

Had trouble getting a team to start with people where connected by Lank again. (I'll eat my crackers if this doesn't go) Cave draughting in very warm interior. Arrived at bolting sight Lank decided a teaching session in bolting as PTO did the bolting up the wall. Four bolts were placed and Phill got into the passage. (PTO)

(2) 238 on 1

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Renada.

Bobby Ali Keith Rob Phil Sam Stumpy

To Breakdown chamber + Anastomosis Hall. Crossed  
of 1 question mark + 1 "not surveyed".

Stream inlet off Breakdown chamber goes 50m  
before becoming inhospitably tight / ~~dry~~ dry / no draft,  
1st ramp / climb on L.H. side Anastomosis  
leads to v. loose steep boulder pile.  
Then used ~~so far~~ survey to venture as far as climb  
before castle hall.

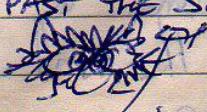
? Is squirrel passage below level of breakdown chamber  
if so what did Stumpy explore??



SITE - 1000 -

885?

18/4/95 Doc. SGT POT - P. Street, P.T. Eagen, L. Mills + L. Cowell  
ESCORTED EXPEDITION SAFETY OFFICER (L. MILLS) TO TOP OF PITCH  
AFTER NEGOTIATION GUARDER CROUCH AT ENTRANCE, THIS WAS MAINLY  
DUE TO NO OUTFIT, NO HELMET AND NO LIGHT!! MR. GOSCH USED  
TO PLACE 3 BELTS ON 1ST 20m DROP + 1 BELT / NATURAL LOG AS Y-HANG  
FOR 2ND 8m DROP. ENTERED STAIR PASSAGE AT BASE OF PITCH AND  
REACH SOON LED TO 3RD PITCH INTO BIG CHAMBER AND CERTAIN DEATH.  
UNFORTUNATELY ROPE FOUND TO BE TOO SHORT SO RAPID RE-RIG ENDED  
AND 2ND PITCH ROPES LEFT DANDING 1FT OFF FLOOR AS A RESULT. PETE  
THROWN ON + 3RD PITCH (10m?) DROPPED INTO BIG CHAMBER. QUICK  
SCREEP AROUND REVEALED FURTHER DROP IN RHS OF 20m x 22m CHAMBER  
TO OUTRIGHT GUARDER CROUCH WHICH NEEDS ANOTHER LOOK. SQUEEZED OUT  
L. MILLS HAD DIFFICULTY EXTRACTING HIMSELF FROM DEN, BUT  
ENSUALLY MANAGED IT AFTER REMOVING <sup>LAST</sup> ~~EXTRA~~ REMAINING CANIVEL  
KIT - DRESSED ONLY IN HIS EDIBLE CRACKERS + T-SHIRT HE ENTH  
CUT OUT AFTER LIZ MANOEUVRED HIS GUT TOOLS PAST THE SQUEEZE

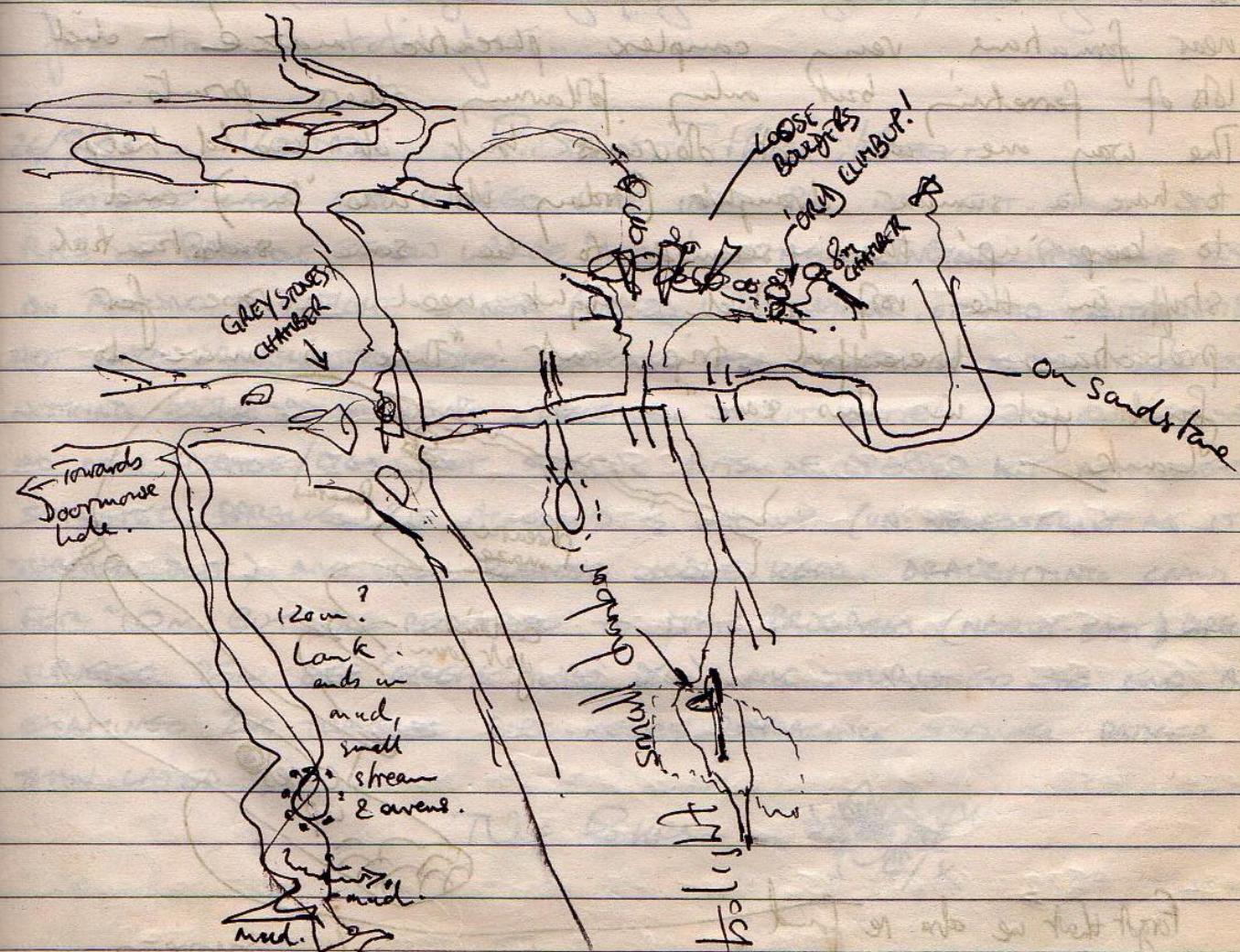


OT9

RUANO - FAT BASTARD'S TRIP CONTINUED. PHIL'S EPIC ADVANCE TO GLORY CAME TO AN END WHEN CHAS CLIMBED UP WHILE BEING BELAYED BY PHIL TO A 6" SLOT 15' ABOVE TOP BOLT, NO GLORY UP THERE! DERRIGGING WAS A FASCINATING PRACTICAL LESSON ON 'ESCAPE FROM TANGLED JAMMER' OR EPIC AT ONE FOOT!

DOWN STREAM GREY STONES CHAMBER ON SANDSTONE FLOOR - RIFT ABOVE - 1ST RIGHT - UP 3M. - SMALL SHORT PERSON REQD! i.e. PAULA. TIGHT RIGHT ANGLED SQUEEZE - VERTICAL TUBE - 14M. BRANCHING. MAY BE AT TOP.

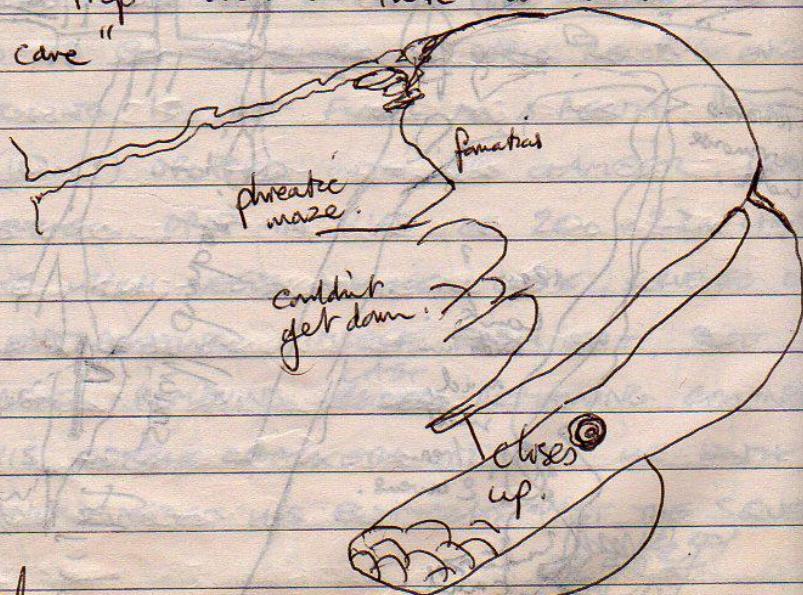
ON DOWNSTREAM ON OPPOSITE SIDE INVESTIGATED RIFT GOING UP THROUGH VERY LOOSE LOOSE BOULDER CHOKE UP 3M TO SMALL 8M LONG CHAMBER, MAY BE WAY'S OFF, BUT I WASN'T BRAVE ENOUGH TO EXPLORE, ALL LOOSE + UNSTABLE.



(11)

Toad

14/4/91 Lark, Phil P; Pete E,  
Went to up ladder, then first right towards  
big chamber descended spiral pitch belayed to  
bridge at top = it takes 3 ladders. Lads in  
sandy passage looking out into chamber 20'  
below, no ladder! Have we been told incorrect  
info, no there is an alternative way behind  
a boulder and down a slot to the ~~end~~  
chamber. Excellent formations to the right translucent  
straw flags helictites etc. We went to end,  
see map, and climbed up to no way on. Plane  
of fault or stray joint. Next way on down  
needs a ladder or rope, very slippery. Poor information  
as we didn't know so couldn't do. Next way on is  
near formations very complex phreatic maze - did  
lots of ferreting but only following others prints.  
The way one was not obvious but it would help  
to have a summer drought (today it was 'in') and  
to keep 'up' there seemed to be some substantial  
stuff in the roof which might need a rope for  
protection. Uneventful trip out. "There is more to  
find yet in this cave"

Lark

Forgot that we also re found  
this. The entrance is much smaller than on the survey

(19)  
①

19/4/95 - P. Street, L. Miles, P. Engen

WALK FROM 3 FAT LADIES TO NO. TRÉS N. NOR. GORSE BURNED  
OFF SO GOING EASIER THAN USUALLY. 4 m (?) SHAFT FOUND DIRECTLY  
FROM GORN AT EDGE OF RUSHBROOK FIELD (ON LOCATION MAP).  
SEVERAL OTHER SITES ALSO LOCATED ((SEE L. MILES) FOR DETAILS).

# **MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT**