

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT

LOGBOOK

Year: 1998

Season: summer

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

Juan Corrin, January 2015

25/7/98

Bob, Pete, Andy and Juan to Riños/Hoyuca area to look at
Lank's holes from Easter. Drove up to east side of long
depression and tried to find no ① (Site 1313) which
was supposed to be 8m deep - turned out to be 3m
free climb but it may have slumped. Ground which was
cleared of eucalyptus around Chitares now has 2m high trees
making hole finding more awkward. A few metres to
the SW dug out site 1314 a 4m drop to a choked floor.
Both of these are on the side of the 400m long depression, below
a sandstone band.

Climbing out of the western side, uncovered site 1315
of sandstone blocks and Juan descended 10m to a choked
floor with too tight rift descending. Couldn't find the
"undescended 8m shaft" 20m to the SW below the track.
Then walked down the track ~~down~~ towards the dry stream
bed where Andy dropped 3m down a tight entrance
to a choke (1316) Fifty metres back up the track a low entrance
under sandstone roof was dug out. To SW of low
passage which ended at a calcified choke with a
slight draught (1317)

Heading down valley, site 1318 was as described -
2 blocks over a small draughting hole - a major dig.
Site "8" in the path, was not found.

Walked back up to car and drove to end of ~~stone~~ sandstone
section beyond site 253. After looking at the blank area to
the SW of the road, Pete talked to a local and was
pointed towards 'La Cueva' site (1319). Pete looked down
the depression and came back for the others. The northern

end of the ^{7m wide} depression has 20m high cliffs just about ~~can~~
rooted, with a small reargame passage entering 7m up the
north-west wall. An impressive spot which may photo with overhead
sun. Eventually found Torcón (106) and the same

3A/R/20

local remembered the 1975 exploration - he could have seen the lenticular pronging around the head of the pit. Pete borrowed his stick to beat down the nettles and all went to confirm depth at > 90m. Then to FLV bar for a cool beer. ^{Only one?} ^{Woman?}

25/7/98 A. Neill P. Poppard - Took

Plugged just 3 pitches ~~two~~ into Easter extension - beyond Bass Choke. Pitch in second chamber is draughting out, no obvious draught at top of wet patches (no ground water either).

Enlarged ledge between second & third chambers.

Guided route up into Boulder chokes & filled fractures. Quartz rock in chokes - found clinkers seen by Paul at Easter - note under draught. ^{Whole area needs a w. good look at.}



Whole area a choke of w. large blocks & smaller stuff or floor. (Pebbles taken goes up). Many open holes need checking.

24.7.98 A. Neill - La Colina

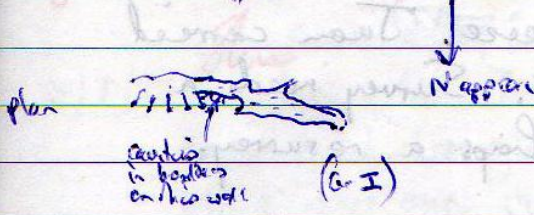
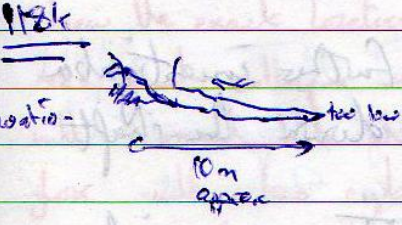
Shaft with tree at top. ? c 10m deep. Undersanded. Between sites 186 + 100P (5357967)

1320

26.7.98 A. Neill P. Smith

Shaft on W. side of depression by 1184 - 7m deep free-climbable, no way on.

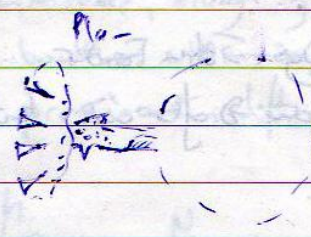
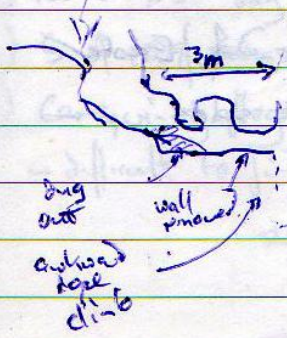
" N of above & E of 1183 (site on map is only approx.) - c 7m deep, overplaced.



1321

1322

652 c 1hr digging to get in.

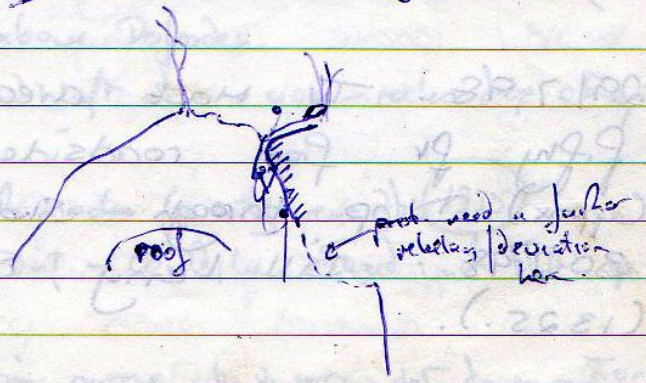
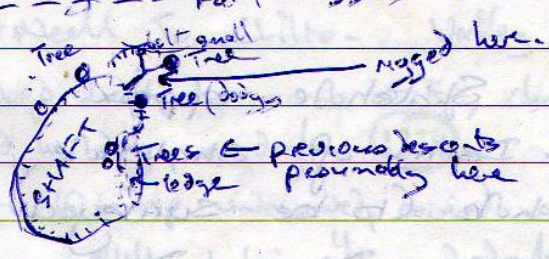


27/7/98 A Neill P. Plappard

2 New sites:

- (1) 6834 9474 - Small hole into shaft, free climbable down 3m to choke
- (2) 6835 9475 - 4m deep chokid shaft.

Since de Reguilon path - rigging top to try to avoid loose bits further down



1323

1324

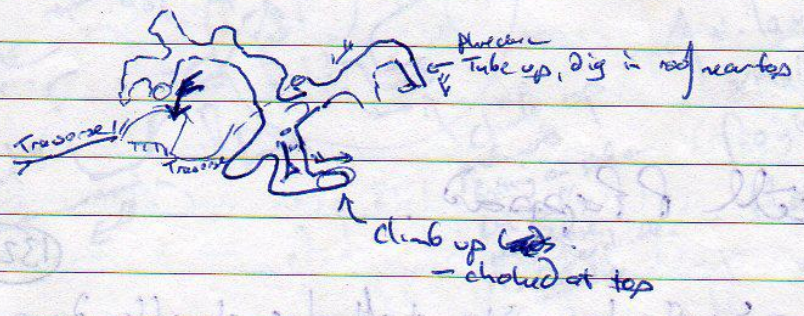
27/7/98. Juan, Penny, Joe + Lobby to find site 1289 - took a good half hour to find as it's in the trees and not above as shown on the map.

Takes come inside entrance needs further investigation - bones and rocks which have come down the shaft entrance.

Bob and Joe stopped at 1st squeeze, Juan carried on beyond 2nd to small pit. Survey needs a lot more detail putting on - perhaps a resurvey. No apparent drought.

Had a look in site below - past the collected newspapers and down a hanging fault to a choke. Seem to drought.

29.7.98 Toad - A Well Candy John Forder. (Choke at end: Baste extension - no way on. Choke drifts out, but drift splits up - remains clear.)



Dig at top of Bezz's chamber - drifting low level, sandy floor - partly collected. May need hammer & trowel.

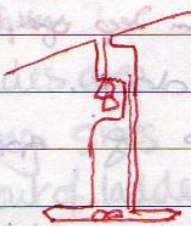
29/7.98. Ty Mast area. Shatehole approx fifty ft from roadside. Depth of shatehole 10ft approx. Drop through shatehole (to be surveyed)

30.7.98. Bill Terry, Steve & Dave DCC. (1325.). Francis

28.7.98 Steve Owens Phil Pappard Ansell Joe
1281 Torca Canada

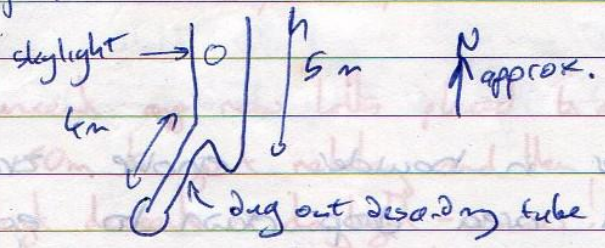
After much frustration at not being able to find the obscure hole that I knew the exact location of I almost fell down it (again) since Fel there has been much collapse and its about 3x the no. 4m pitch into wedged boulders with a small hole at the yr side. 23m free hanging pit leads to a boulder floor with two rights - no draught, no parallel way on.

Steve.



New sites:

- (A) E of 1238 - dug out entrance into shaft, needs enlarging (1326)
- (B) Further NE - dug out narrow rift 2m deep, draughting? Needs enlarging. (1327)
- (C) S. of 1239/1240 - shaft covered by boulders c10m deep (1328)
- (D) Cave in gully at W end of prominent cliff line just N of summit of Piluca - difficult to find. (1329)



30.7.98 Ansell - new sites near Requillo -

- 4860 9465 Shaft at back of depression next to field - c5m, unexplored. (1330)
- 4855 9465 ^{spontaneous} Rift line below path - contains several unexplored drops of c5-10m. (1331)

31.7.98 Ansell Jon Chitto - Valley above Defrades.

- A 5m deep shaft, 1m across at top, choked shaft at one side - rocks drop c5m, could be dug, no draft (1334)
- B Shaft c10m deep undescended, covered with rocks (partly removed) (1335)
- C Opening in cliff into big rift, good draft out - could be enlarged with Hilti, etc. (457) (? Hammered Hole)
- D Depression opening at bottom into meandering passage of v. narrow dirt down - strong (458)

②
Draft out (? Hidden Hole)

① Shaft c 3m x 1 1/2 m under small hard tree, 10 m broken descent to unexplored 10 m drop (1336)

393 - 10 m broken pitch

392 - 12 m deep, choked at bottom

② Fenced deep opening in back of depression, climb down to entrance, steep descent past boulders to low wide passage to unexplored drop - continues. Draft out.

③ Shaft at obvious tree c 10 m dia c 25 m deep unexplored = (37)

31-7-98 - Bill, Sheree, Lenny, Dave.

1325 - From Shakehole drop of approx 1 meter into large chamber.

Cross chamber over boulders through to another drop.



Drop into small chamber in boulder choke. Drop down boulders over calcified area drop down to eye hole on left hand-side. Through eyehole into right passage with draft coming in from the back. On left hand-side, passage area sumps. Right-hand side climb up, area drafting in.

Towards sump on right-hand side small hole in boulder choke. Drafting in, opened up to allow squeeze through. Drop on to ledge approx 3ft. Directly in front pitch down approx 10ft on to ledge. Then drop of 5-6ft on to another ledge drop again approx 5ft. Another ledge to a 10ft climb. climbed down passage bent towards right to a tight rift carrying on to righthand side. to

be continued.

Tone in Sunday 2nd of August for next instalment.

31/7/98. John Forbes, Joe + Joan into Blood Alley, Stuffed Vulture area.
John photographing.

31/7/98 See Previous entry for S. Vega
Jane + Ali. Tofrades area. Walked above Tofrades. Found
some good draughting sites + dropped several shafts, most
blind but one ran out of ladders after 70m. (Returned to +
found choked on 6/8/98. Good sites turned out to be known
(hammered hole + hidden hole) but not placed right on the map
A cave was entered (1332) Jane

30/7/98

Tona Rogulien. Steve O, Phil P, Ali and Joe eventually.

Continued descent off new bolts placed to avoid certain death. Brilliant
descent of ~ 50m to junk relay and then a gutter 30m to floor via two
descenders. Short descent in daylight - winner! Hole on other side of shaft
about 3m up from floor leads to head of 6-7m piled into boulders.
This is the chamber with ~~one~~ ^{two} underended holes of JP + Pens. 87. Second hole
not descended due to moving ladders and brown pants. Numerous other holes
in boulders entered but all go to a small space between - boulders - about 5ft
long. Draughting hole feels more like circulation rather than certain glory.
Beware of loose boulders below 2nd pit.

Steve O

2/8/98 Crack 3 "thin-man" team into 1289 to put detail on the survey from Easter. Pete Andy + Joan also photo + check out possible leads.

On the entrance talus cone, the remains of a medium sized pot is partly buried in the stone/bone mess. (Part of it is also broken).

Fluorescing draught suggests connection with road caves only. Out by 12:30.

2.8.98 A Well S. Vega

2 shafts - one at correct location of 458 - small fenced opening covered with rocks, probably a shaft, unexplored. (H) 1337

Fenced shaft - 2 openings with tree, possibly 20-30 m, unexplored (I) 1338

Checked locations of: Shaft G (almost certainly site 37)

A & B

C - is definitely Hammered Hole

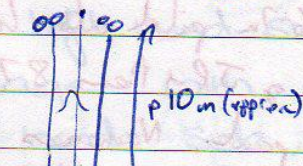
D - " " Hidden Hole

E - Debrales? top entrance - a 15 m high rift

descending to a? pitch

Reversed Shaft (B)

1335



too tight construction through stal. No noticeable draft (not a drafty day).
drop of about 4m.

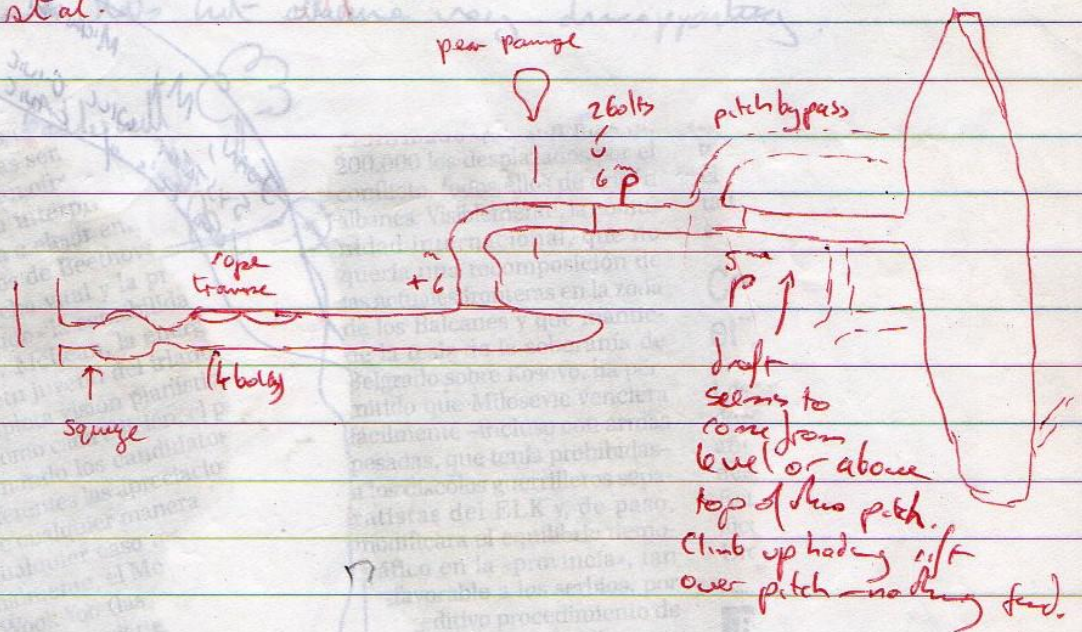
3/8/98 Ali, John Forder, Pedro, Jane Chiltem, Candy O'Keefe

Toad in the hole. Patrick's Billy Passage. Short climb done - immediate. Ali discovered climb unnecessary, so shot squeeze to traverse led to ~20m with a climb leading to a draughting, pear-shaped passage which was "left for another day" (~9 hr. trip)

4/5/98 Bill, Geoff, Sheree, Dave, Ivan to Torea Lammes (1325). Excellent Yorkshire type pit after bouldery start. Set off 6 Hilti bolts to remove corner of ~~hanging~~ T junction onto 12m pitch. A couple more bolts and bit of hammering should see the cave go again.

5/8/98 Ali, John Forder, Pedro, Dalek
Toad in the hole / Partick's Silly Passage.

Pear-shaped passage proved no problem, after 3m a 6m drop needed bolting; this was followed by a short section of passage to another 5m drop; as the continuing rift led to "cannon messunder" unfortunately, said passage choked in reverse direction with mud/stal.

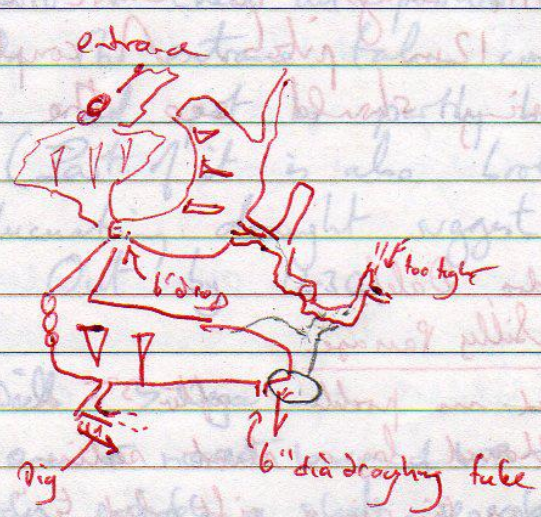


1.8.98 Coton - photo trips to Darwin's Menards. lots of water appeared during the trip - a France pitch very wet! Pedro John Forder Ali

2.8.98 Cave 1332 - Jan Chilton, Adam, Ali Neill.

Climb down boulders to low wide chamber down to drop into large chamber. A drop on the right leads to low sandy crowds, drying out but gets too tight. Under drop a small hole down into second chamber

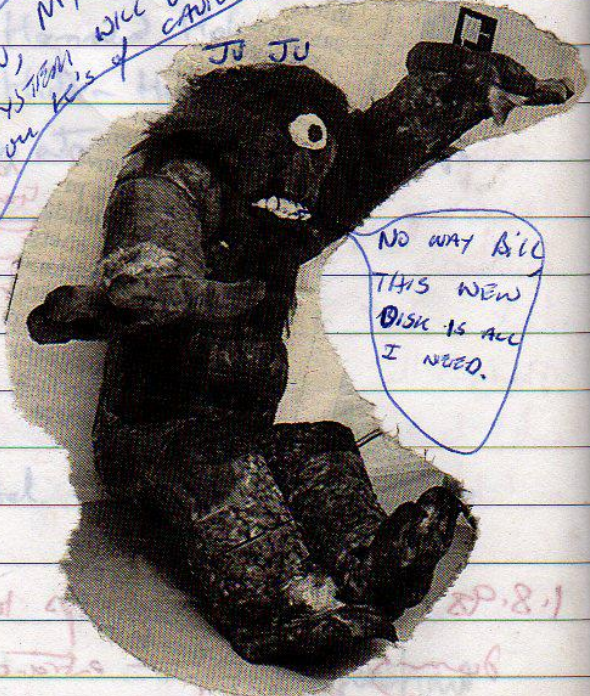
where Adam took a fall from climb up on right. At bottom
20. holes draught in, all too tight. Hammered a rift - needs
Miltung to get rough quality



Miltid Hammer hole didnt do enough. Need to return.
Hi



Juan, My Microsoft
System will give
you keys of CD/DVD

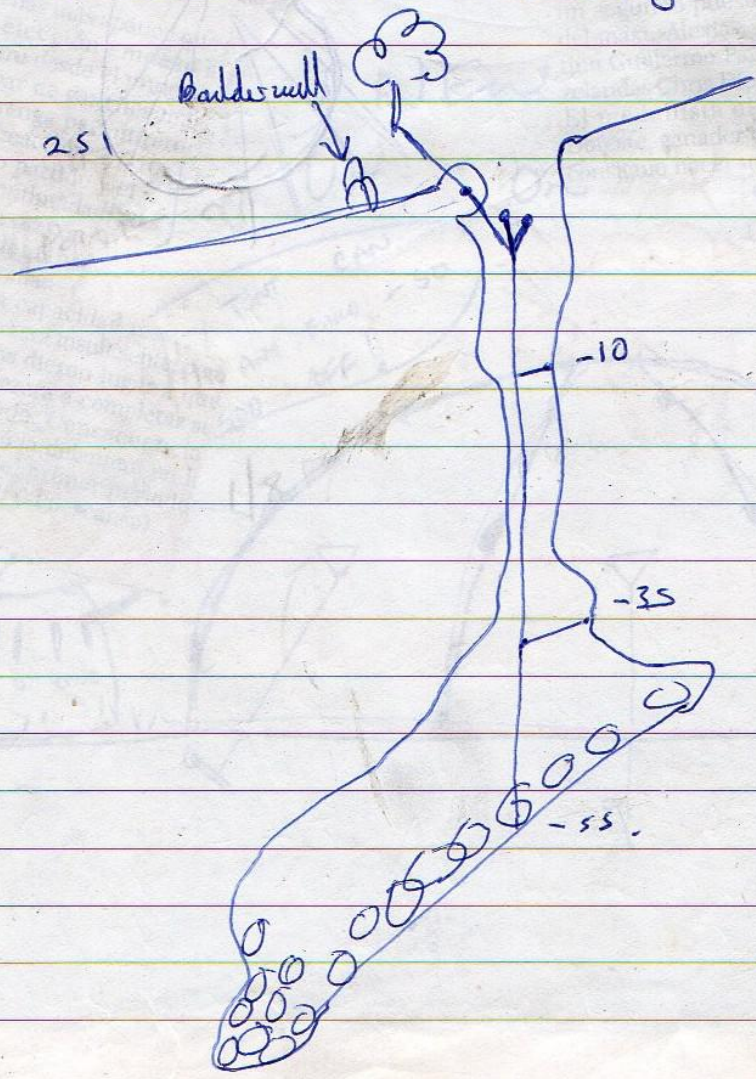


NO WAY BIG
THIS NEW
DISK IS ALL
I NEED.

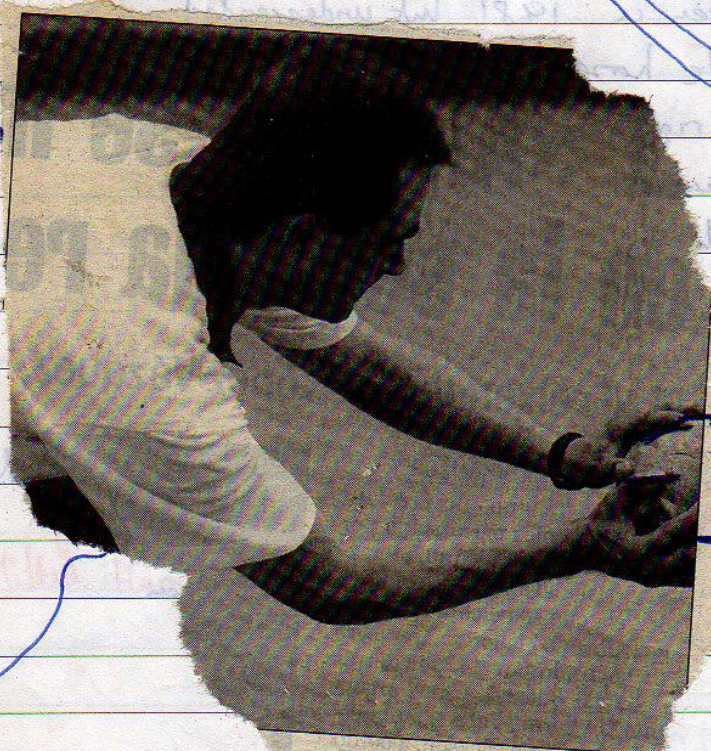
AN EVERY DAY TALK BETWEEN
THE WORLDS TWO TOP IT EXPERTS,

4a 5th August '98
Toza Candado. 251 X actually site 1822
Phil, Steve "Cheerney" O, Peter E.

Redescribed via log book. Hunt seen in 1981 but undescribed.
Drove up to catara and lashed the horses for two hours until we
"discovered" the entrance directly to the right of a really obvious path. The
following two hours were spent pulling the ladders from the entrance.
Belay off a tree and a flake immediately over the edge onto the line of a
right running to the left. The ledge is composed of delicately wedged ladders
which are very loose. New 'Y' lany placed bel up the rft to avoid the
ledge. Prith needed ... left for the day.
5th Redescribed and place denoted at ledge level. Easy drop to a second
denote at -35m and land on ladder floor. Slope flattened at 45°
to end of hanging rft with no way on. Up slope also no way on.
Nice helikites and slats but otherwise very disappointing.



Oh God!
Penalties again



JOSE RAMON GONZALEZ
penalties en el Gran Premio Peñacastillo

abrelo, con los m

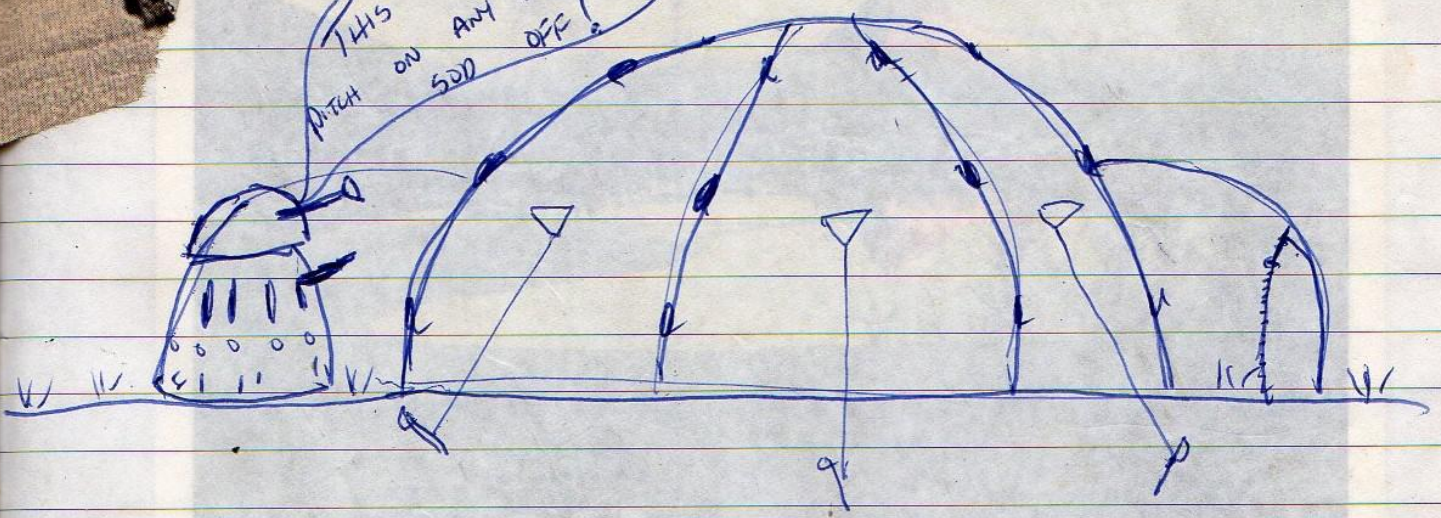


2.45am and the only people left in the bus are the

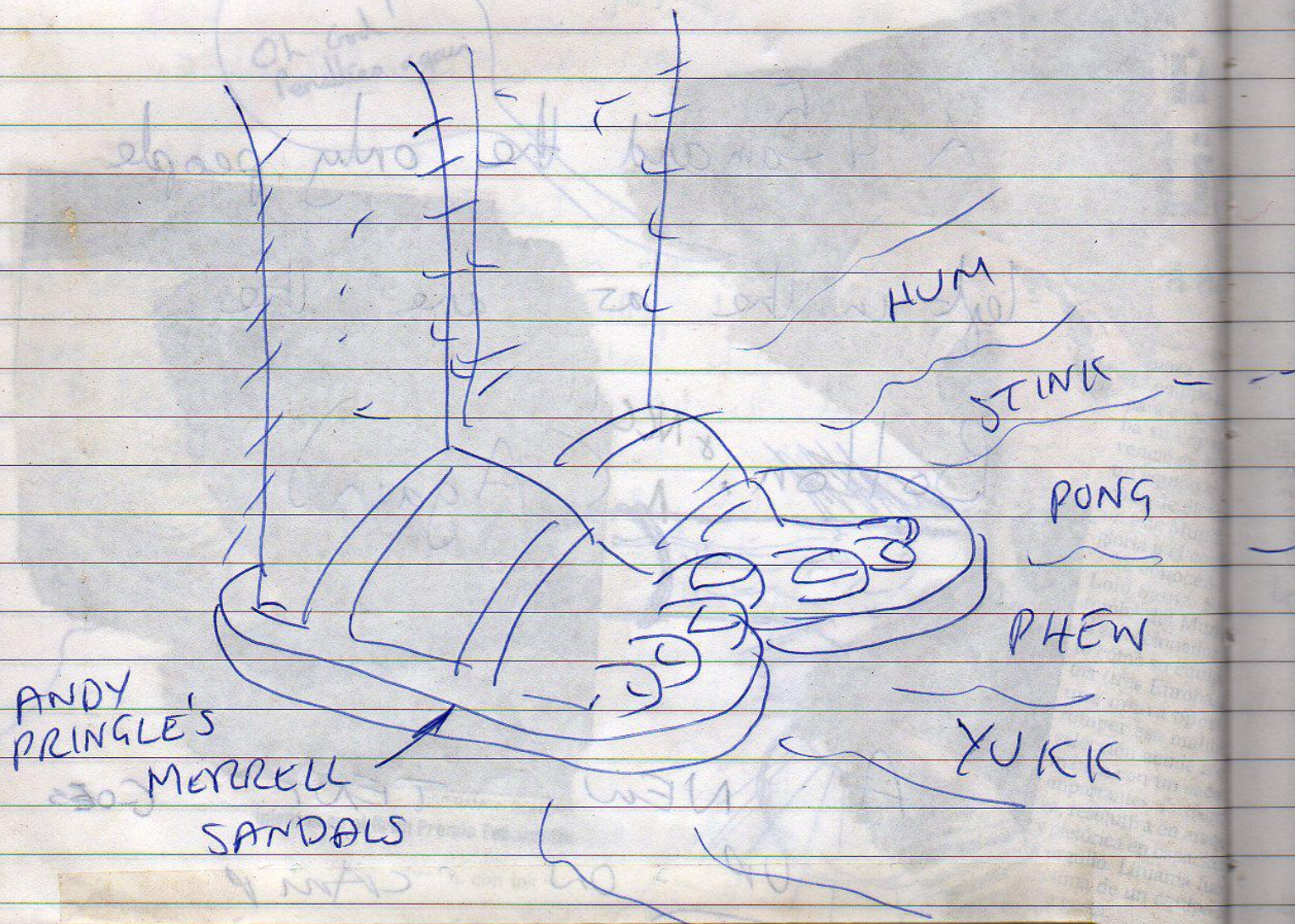
Bolton: ^{& NCC!!} 1 (Again).

A NEW TENT GOES UP ON CAMP

THIS TENT CAN BE PITCHED ON ANY FURROW - 50 OFF!



③ HUMAN PHEROMONES AT WORK - - - - -

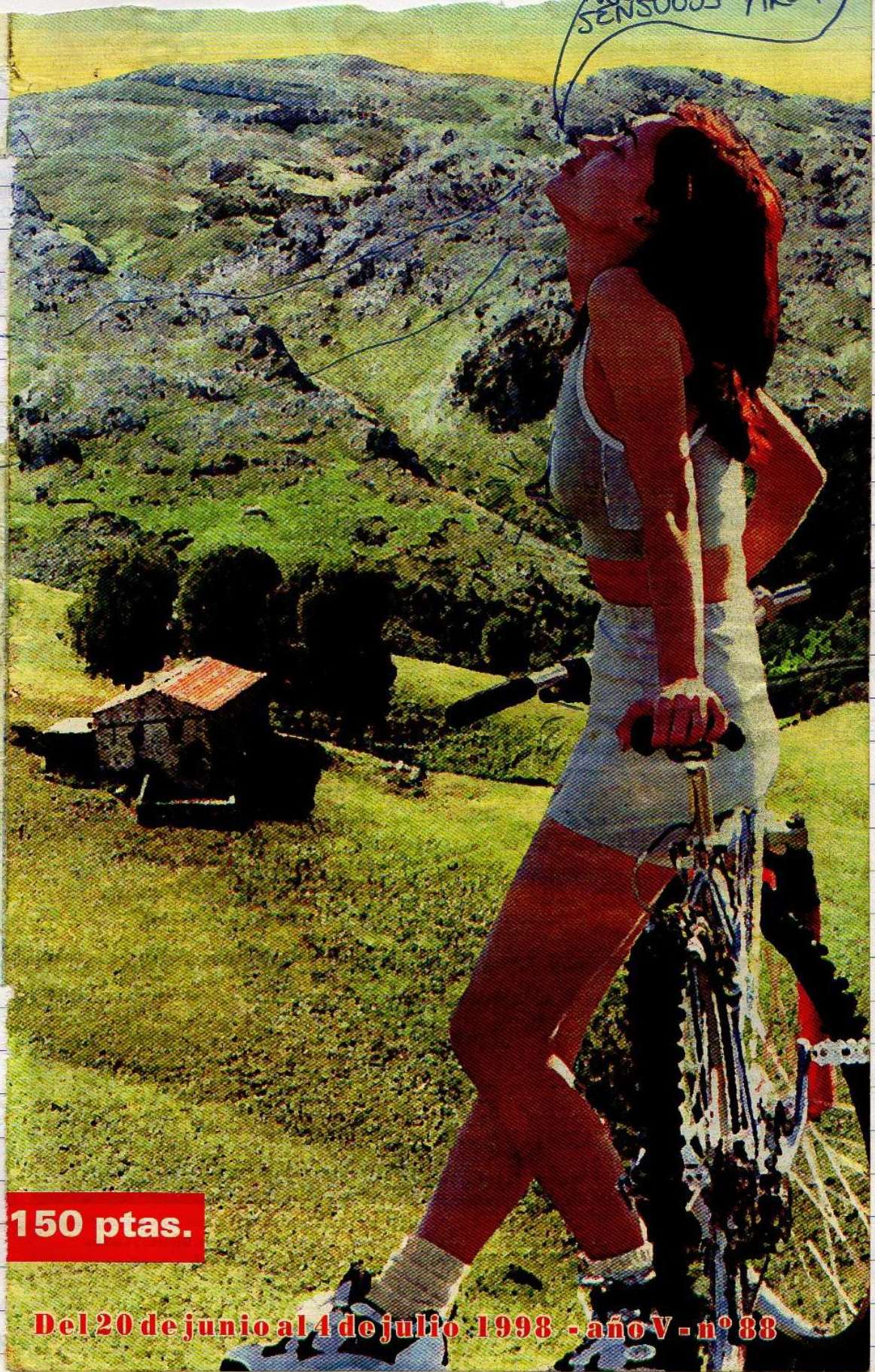


AUSTRALIA
 MOUNT GOULD AND LAKE ELYSIA,
 THE LABYRINTH, TASMANIA
 Photograph by Peter Dombrowskis
 We are here
 Published and Distributed by
 WEST WIND PRESS
 PO. Box 245 Sandy Bay Tasmania 7005 Australia
 Printed in Australia
 TO24
 USE POST
 AUSTRALIA

Hele Coños
 Thought I'd drop you a
 line from sunny Oz. It's pretty good
 over here for winter the weather
 is great, tons of stuff to do.
 Caving, motorbikes, walking, wine
 women and song etc. etc. However
 the beer is crap and I've not
 found any leads as good as that
 one at the end of Leñada II, which
 I trust you will leave for a couple
 of years for me. Would you??
 make up for the sorrow of not being with you in Spain
 we're off to N-Z. skiing. Have a great summer, find
 plenty leave some for me! but above all - GET PISSED.
 cheers to 5 Kevin

PETE SMITH, FAM. GERMAN
 BRITS & CATALANS
 @ BAR GERMAN
 MATTIENZO.
 GIBAJA-RUESCA
 CANTABRIA
 SPAIN

OH WHAT A WONDERFUL SENSUOUS AROMA



leos

Atlántico

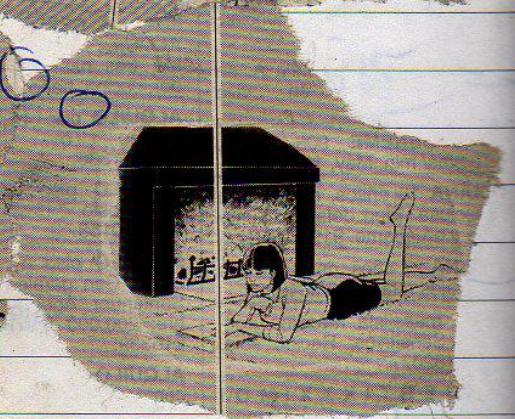
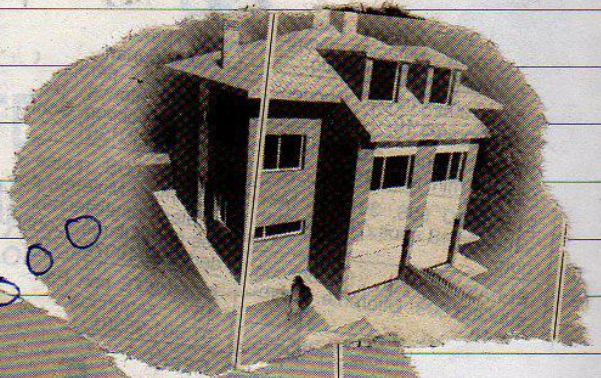


150 ptas.

Del 20 de junio al 4 de julio 1998 - año V - nº 88

LIZ GOES FOR A RIDE UP THE MOUNTAIN

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SEXES :-



STRES DIS... GIMNO TO ERES APOYANOS, CONTAMOS CON TIGO
 2300 000 0000 0000
 NO SOMOS OPRESORES OSEÑADOS TODA LA VIDA QUEREMOS TRABAJAR
O I D
 Delegación de Cantabria: Tlf. 942 89 06 92 - 21 44 12

Director: M. A. Aranda
 Redacción: M. A. Aranda
 A. Chacón, J. C. Martínez
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 Colaboradores:
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 Guzmán

Castro Urdiales, Gulezo y Laredo:
 F. S. Monasterio
 Asesores:
 J. G. García (Gastronomía)
 Colaboran:
 A. Izquierdo, Ángel Díaz Pariente

Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page, including 'LIS...', 'OP...', and 'A...'. Some text is written upside down.

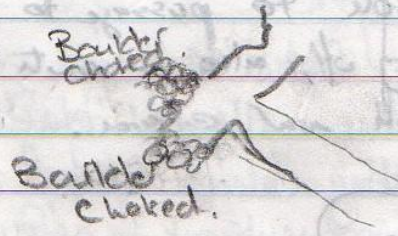
5/8/98 Adam, Liz Cowell, Candy, Jane :- El Bodegon.
 Went to look at various unsurveyed rifts & passages.
 Crossed a traverse at the end of the cave & got to
 a blind pit in the floor plus a climb which Adam
 climbed up for about 6m & said went about the
 same again. On the way out we looked at a
 small passage in the orbitolina bedding passage in
 the cave. This goes to a tight section which needs
 calcite digging out from the floor to let people
 get through. Jane

4.5.98 Ali + Joe
 Walk up behind Cobranes (recently gated) in search of Joe's
 Lost Cave.

Found overgrown small shaft - small hollow against
 tilted slabs below RH end of cliff - pulled out vegetation
 to reveal loose drop prob. 6m deep - needs a ladder.

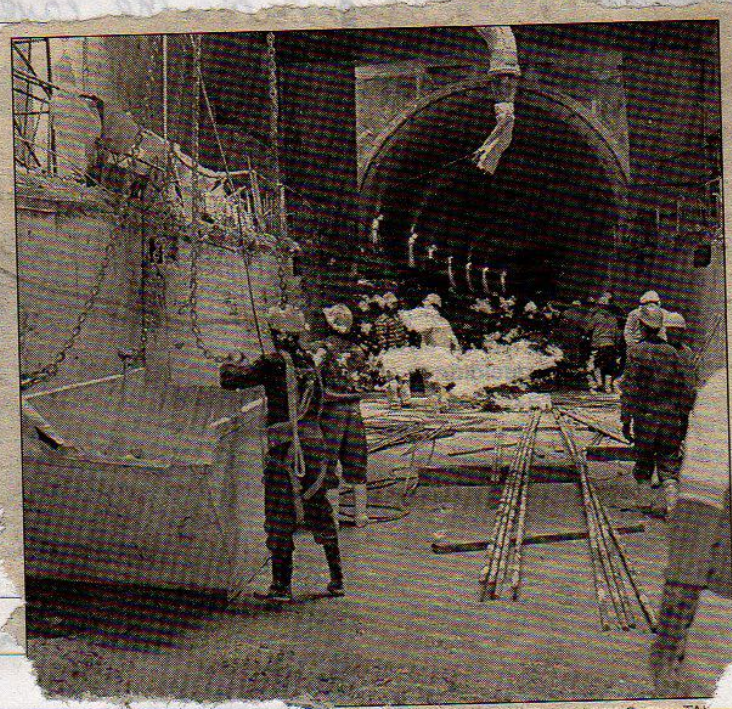
4.8.98 Bill, Sherie, Lenny, Juan, Dave

Rift to tight to pass through. Tried to
 blast through. Hole is slowly enlarging, but



Still too tight to get through, it drops straight
 on to a pitch of approximately 20-30ft. so
 needs to be larger to rig a ladder.
 More digging is needed to enlarge hole.

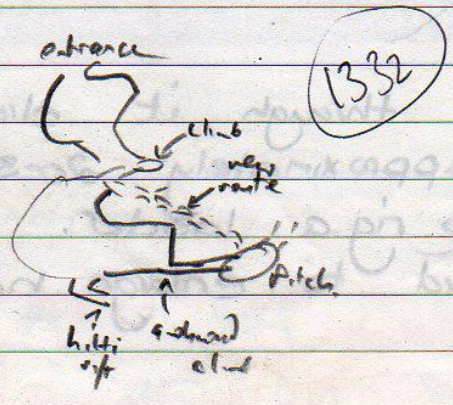
(11)
 6/8/98 (1325) TORCA LANNAS 8/12/12



This case
 of Hilti caps
 in 1998/1

DCC step the dig up a gear.

6.8.98 Pedro Pate engineer Ali Jane Clifton Phil + Hilary Joe P
 Hammered Hole Hiltid + Pate went down - 20m pitch, previous description
 confirmed. Only possible way on a belt route up far side of chisel.
 Site F of 31.8.98 - v. strong draft out. Hiltid slot at end - ran
 out of battery power, pite wanted to load the hole - unattractive prospect.
 Pedro climbed up to left of hole to passage to ~15m ~~the~~ pitch
 - draft, unobscured. Sandy crawl going off, also a route back into chamber
 & via entrance ~~to~~ square to back wall entrance.



8-8-98 Peyer A Newell

Very hot walk up in maximum Overdrive Hotness after the Tortilla Competition at the Bakers.

Cave 1185 - good inward draft, 3 m crawl in sandstone led to 2 m slot down choked with rocks & sand - could be dug.

A New 1220 - small hole in edge of wood, diggable, good draft.

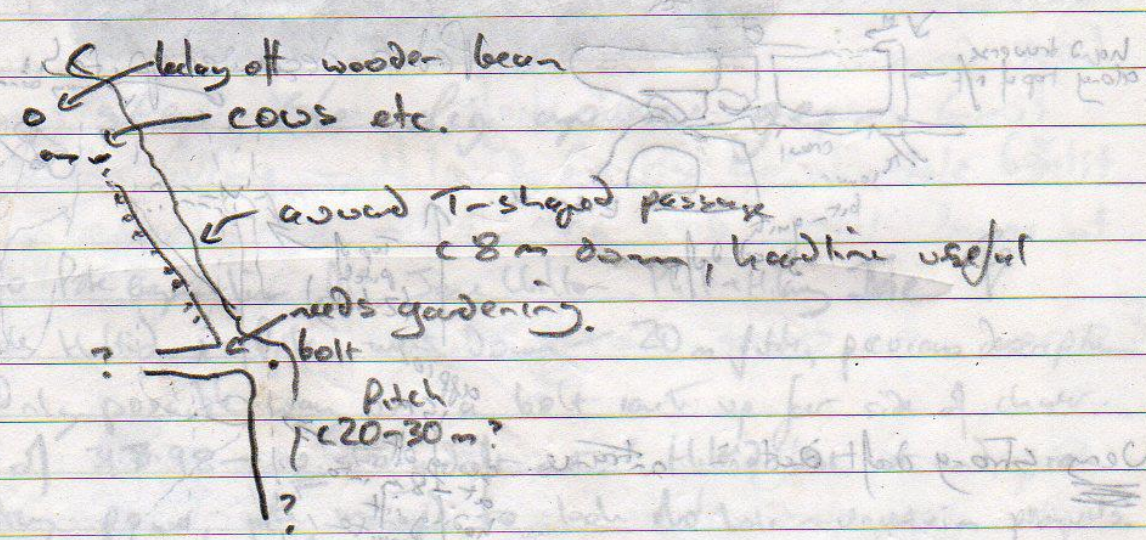
B - 5 m knied shaft, unexplored. Near several active stream suits.

Torrea Tortilla - gash in rocks, climb down into steeply descending rift passage, after steel plate a v. tight pitch descends to mud choke. Pitch on right ^{at foot of steel plate} - sound connection to first pitch. Good draft out in lost on way in.

1128 - Good inward draft, bolt placed at top of pitch but needs gardening for descent.

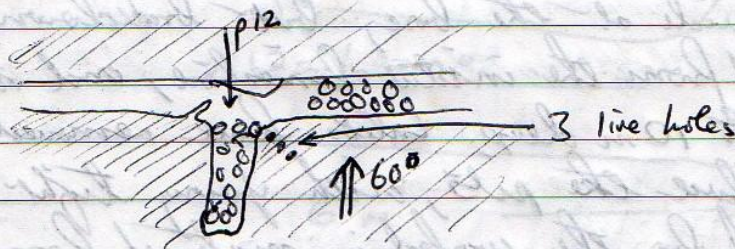
1340
1341

1333



8/8/98 Phil P., Liz C, Jane C; Cueva de Atono.
Went to investigate the alleged "blackness" in the cave. Saw this & a draughting calcite choke at floor level. Having used all our rope we went out to return later.
Jane

8/8/98 Cueva Lamma. DCC - Len, Bill, Sharon, Dave and Juan.
Good drought in. 3rd hole into same small ledge doesn't
fire. Needs a proper shot or another hilti try.



9/8/98 Liz C, Phil P, Pete E, Pete Smith, Jane C. Abono.
Having skirted the bulls in the field again, went down the cave.
Phil bolted up the climb whilst everyone else attacked
the ~~of~~ calcite choke. The bolting only lead to a calcited
boulder slope with a possible ^{Traverse} ~~exit~~ / bolt route back over the
main passage & possibly a ^{not clear where to start or go - NOT WORTH THE EFFORT} ~~possibly~~ a ^{avenue} going up. The boulder choke
yielded to hammering & lead into a nicely decorated,
false-floored phreatic passage leading into a large
breakdown chamber. Went out to return next day
with more tackle.

Yale
P.S. Hilti caps were required to get the
larger members of beam through the choke.

10/8/98 Liz C, Phil P, Peter E, Jane C. Abono.
Returned to finish pushing leads and photo
previous finds.

Liz + Peter photo in behind Phil + Jane
but main flash gun failed so only smaller
areas photographed.

Phil + Jane checked out pitches which
checked as did all the rest of shafts looked
ok. Surveyed remaining cave and shafts/Pitts
detected and left cave for another 20yrs

PTD

PLG

13
Cont from Above 10/7

This cave must be over 4m yr old. It consists of a high rift system developed from a level near 500m, but with a lower 3m p tube system @ \approx 470m. The rifts are up to 20-30m high and some 4-6m wide at the base, but breakdown, ~~and infill~~ from sediments derived from the in situ limestone, and still has produced infill up to 10m deep. Inlets have removed some of this infill to produce the pits, with young tight development below, mainly blocked by the worked in material from above. It is not clear where the passages should go, extensive pit & caliche hide the outlets.

There could be higher passages at the rift tops, this would need bolting, but lack of clue to where to start limits prospects. This site is of special interest to anyone interested in cave development in the area due to its age & extent.

Phil

11/8/98, Tuffey, Angus, Jane McC. (ANRC).

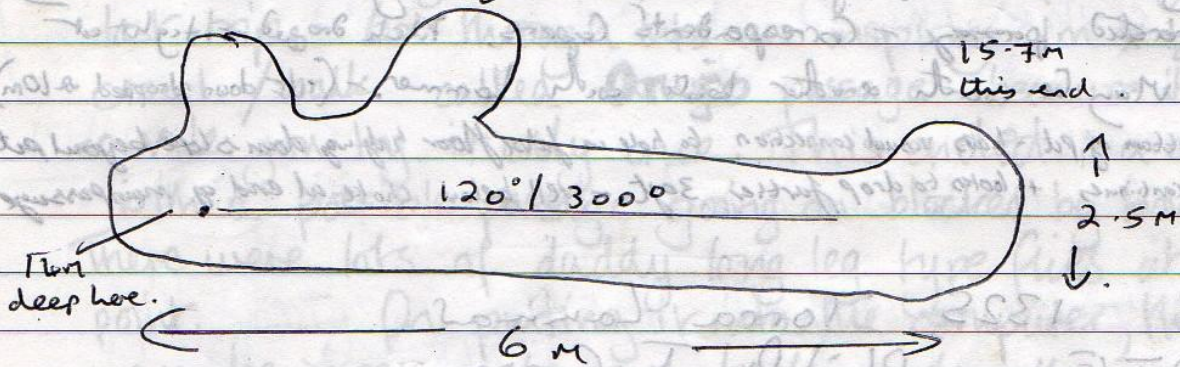
1272

V. Misty found 1217 we think, 5.8m shaft, soft sandy floor, slot at end smaller than head size could see right slot but would need lots of digging out to get through. No draught. Slot trending 280° - 100° . Widest point of shaft 0.8m. No bones.

Walked on through mist found 1219 but didn't bottom it as only used it to sort out our position

Found 1218 - bottomed it. 14m shaft at shallow end 15.70 m at lower end. nice shafts no obvious ways on or draughts. 3 alcoves in it

12/18/98 one v. nice white/creamy flowstone (v. soft). No bones, nice above.



Found hole in cliff above 1218 and to right (as marked on map with no number by it). Did not go down as grass v. trampled around it + orange peel on ground. Decided it had been visited previously.

Continued through mist at 1215,

8.7 m shaft approx 6.5 m in length ^{3m wide,} 2 alcoves several bones - one skeleton of dog(?) in one of the alcoves. others had a rock bridge no obvious routes or draughts.

Slot trending 340° / 160°.

Retired for day as mist thickening and persistent drizzle started.

9.8.98 Ali, Tuffy, Angus, Jane. Toad

Denigged 12m pitch + rigged wet pitch in Bezz's (has just a trickle of water). Pushed upstream passage at foot of wet ~~drizzle~~ pitch 5m by knocking off flakes - seems to be possible but very awkward beyond, at drafting.

Ali

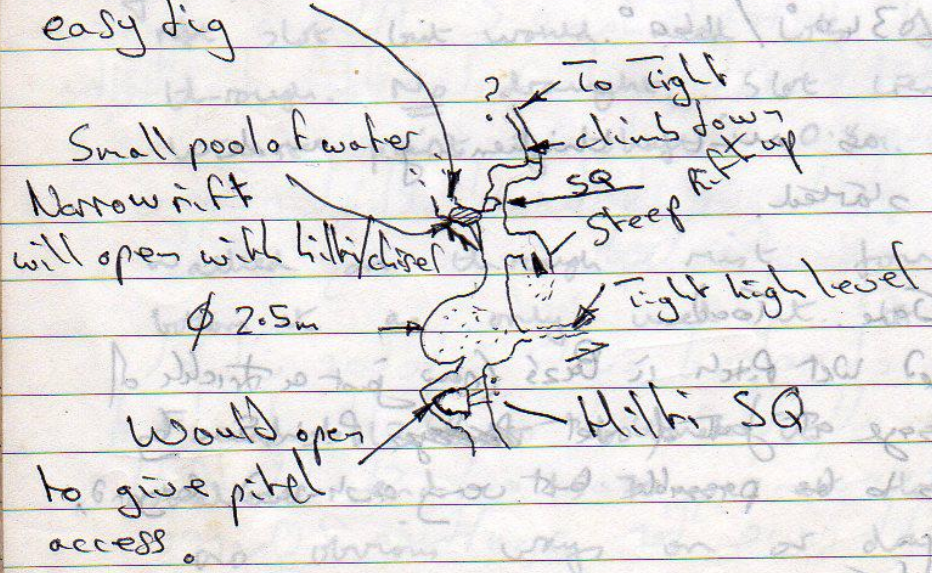
10.8.98 Todd. Ali + Beadie, PHall, Johnny Baker
 Dig ^{sand} sandy creel at top left in Ozzi to break through into short very
 well decorated passage - Correspondents Capers. Pitch dropped - tight at
 bottom. May be worth another look with hammer. - (rift down dropped 2.10m)
 Tight rift at bottom of pit - has visual connection to hole in false floor hanging down slope beyond pit.
 Tight rift continues + looks to drop further 30ft. - well below choke at end of main passage!

12-8-98 1325 Torca Lannar
 PT Eagan, Phil D, J Conna
 Trip to remove hillhi cap duds and
 open up Last Squeeze.

Past Squeeze to Pitel of 40ft bottom
 of pitel flat with one outlet easy
 shuffling rift to a divide. Short SQ
 to right becomes small after sharp climb
 left brance is a dig with draught and
 excellent Echo. A sharp section of
 passage at top of pitel is \$ small with
 slight draught. Also climb up leads
 back up to pitel head.

Removed Hillhi caps
 and more rocks from
 pitel head.

Blocks in floor
 easy dig



Would open
 to give pitel
 access.

PT Eagan

12/8/98 El Bodego: Liz C, Jane C

Went to dig out a squeeze in a small passage noted last trip. Got through into an inspiring 1m x 1/2 m crawl/walk called **Orujo** passage because it was so vile you try it only once. This ended in a choke with a possible passage going on blocked by boulders. There were lots of daddy long leg type flies at this point. On putting it into the computer, the passage can be seen to run back under the main passage at a lower level & probably ends very near the track at the bottom of the hill. Tim surveyed so the lads buy the drinks!

Jane.

12/8/98 Jane, Tuffy, Dave (MNRRC)

Went up track to TV Mast - found the following (we started a "new" numbering system because we didn't know what number to start at.)

M1 52069487 495m

1342

5m from North/South fence in field above track
5m x 1m slot. 3m deep Very slight draught Earth floor.

M2 52029486 490m

2m deep boulder flared depression. Undergrowth burnt away
(8/98) No draught. Possible continuation.

M3 52019485 490m

2m deep boulder flared depression. Undergrowth burnt away
(8/98) No draught

Needs a suicidal nidget

25
m4 52009483 490m

2m deep boulder floored depression. Undergrowth bank
away (8/98) No draught.

m5 51969482 480m

Earth floored broken covered slot. dyl? (1343)

m6 51929478 490m

1m high covered slot into hillside 3m in.
Triangular shaped chamber 3m x 3m Earth fill about
1m high. Lower left, damaged narrow slot 30-40cm
wide - choked at 2m. (1344)

m7 51799443 560m

Enlarged chert in rocks near clump of trees. (1345)
(mentioned in original description of 1278)
7.4m deep. 6m x 3m sloping earth floor No draught.

m8 51459442 557.5m

Shaft 20m SW of path/fence
6m deep Choked No draught. (1346)

m9 51699444 540m

Enlarged chert 5m deep. Mossy boulder floor.
No draught. (mentioned in original 1278 description). (1347)

m10 51949483 480m

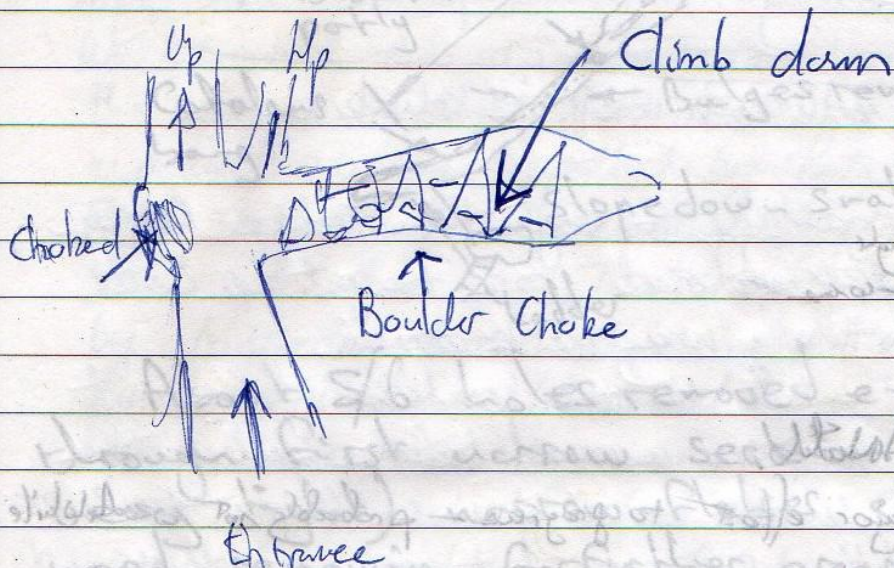
Earth floored broken covered depression 3m deep.
Choked.

1278

7.5m deep parallel sided shaft. Skeleton of
some sort of livestock at bottom. No draught.

Boulder floor - through which you can see more boulders!

1246



Climb down entrance slope to chamber. Various alternatives - only one seems viable.

Climb up choke to right. When nearly at top descend through 2 2m climbs through boulders to 45° descending tube.

Tube descends 8m at 45°. Bottom of tube has 2 small holes through which rocks can be thrown but is blocked with more rubble.

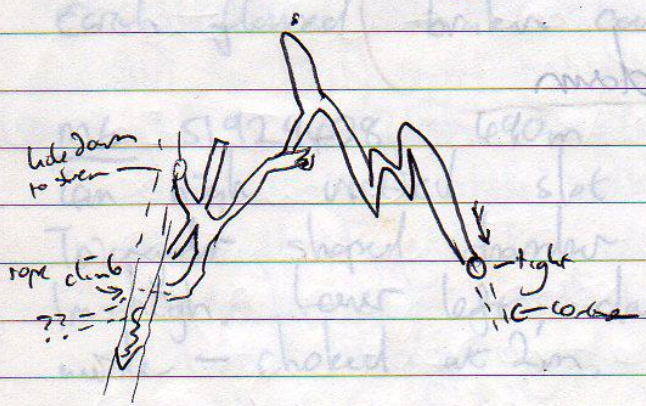
Bottom of tube to below middle of main chamber.

Could be dug?

Needs a suicidal midget!

11-8-98 Ali & Johnny Baker. Vallée

Rope climb series off Toc Gallery - series entered ? Easter '97. Surged c160 m. of rift passages, muddy, ends at drafting climb up (right) into continuation. Work returning to. Also possible continuation on other side of Toc Gallery - prob. need one bolt to reach.



12-8-98 1185 - P Hall Ardull.

1/2 hrs digging. Needs major effort to progress - probably not worth while.

13/8/98. Arno (151) in wrong place on map. Relocated.

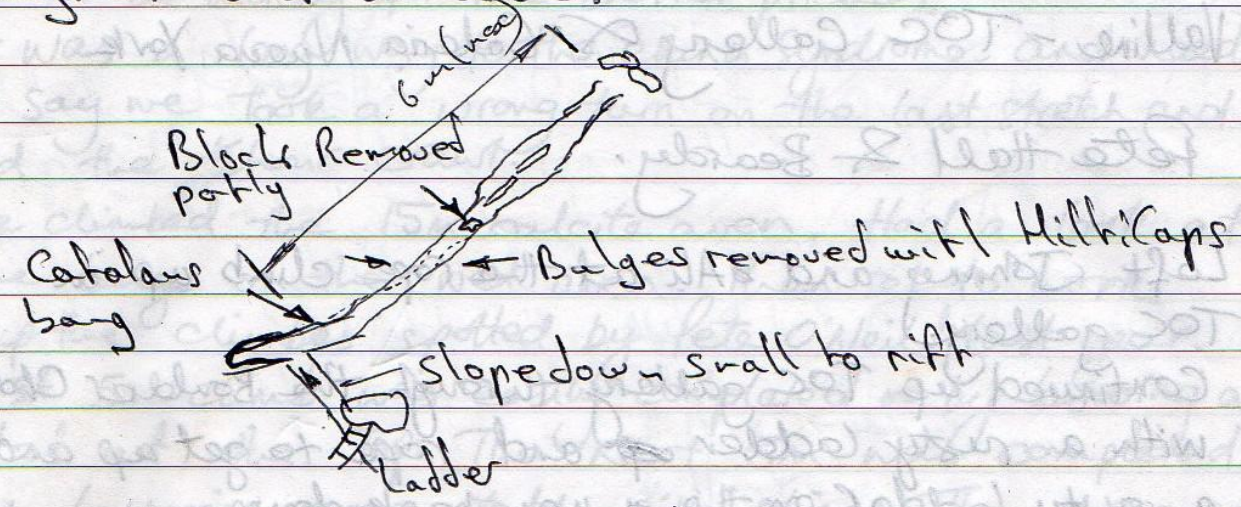
14/8/98 Aréval (35?) PT Eagan. Jane Clifton

Visited Aréval to see what had be done. Just beyond pool left branch with good draught is a muddy low crawl past small blocks to boulder clamber climbing up enters further boulder clamber with slopes and various ways on not all looked at.

One tube/crawl appears to draught in very weakly. The main draught is lost somewhere among the boulders.

To the right is main passage leads to tight rift after climbing up ladder.

Very strong draught from rift was blowing carrymat out of cave.



About 5/6 holes removed enough rock to get through first narrow section of rift (but still very tight) narrow flakes sticking out of floor need removing for further progress the rift continues but looks to enter more boulders 2/3 metres ahead.

Many other areas of cloche were looked at but a tube up beyond entrance pool with good draft looks a good prospect.

Peter

Saturday 15th August
 Thursday 18th August
 Harold 3 - Chris 2
 Peter Hall, Downing Barber & Beardsley
 Set off loaded down with tools, large batteries,
 climbing gear & ropes. Walked through Apollon area

(15)
11.8.98
Tuesday 11th August

Valline - TOC Gallery & Galeria Nueva York

Pete Hall & Beardsley.

Left Johnny and Ali at the rope climb up in TOC gallery.

Continued up TOC gallery through the Boulder Choke with a rusty ladder ~~up~~ and rope to get up and a rusty ladder on the way back down.

Continued up the inlet to the boulder choke at the end and had a poke around before finding the continuation of the inlet ending in a loose boulder choke with draughting squeezes between boulders and the R/A wall.

Next we ~~to~~ looked at the left hand branch up a climb near the waterfall.

Finally we looked at Galeria Nueva York. Draughting in, the draught was ^{mostly} lost near the end up a 10m aven where you cross a hole in the floor - interesting.

Made our way out after a 11 hour ~~the~~ trip.

Thursday 13th August

Renada 3 - China Syndrome

Pete Hall, Johnny Baker & Beardsley.

Set off loaded down with drills, huge batteries, climbing gear & rope. Pulled through Azpilacuesta

16/8/98 (1332) PTEagan Jane Chilbury

with a 107m rope - just long enough. A 25m rope would be handy for the shorter pitches.

It was a long way to the china syndrome and needless to say we took a wrong turn on the last stretch and did the 2 hour crawl.

We climbed the 15m calcite aven. Had a look at the ledge on the wet aven. Then set to work up the climbs spotted by Pete O'Neil last year.

First 5m climb was easily completed by lassoing a stal at the top. The next 5m was completed by lassoing more stals with slings. The apparent passage was blocked with stal and closed down from here, there was no obvious way on at the top and appeared to close down. Several other small passages blocked or lead back to the same ledge on the wet aven.

So the only way on is up the wet aven. Although there ~~is~~ may be some passages off the side. There is definitely more to go at on the falline side.

It took forever and a day to get out and the ~~late~~ tackle was too heavy.

Emerged at 4am after 15 hours.

Saturday 15th August.

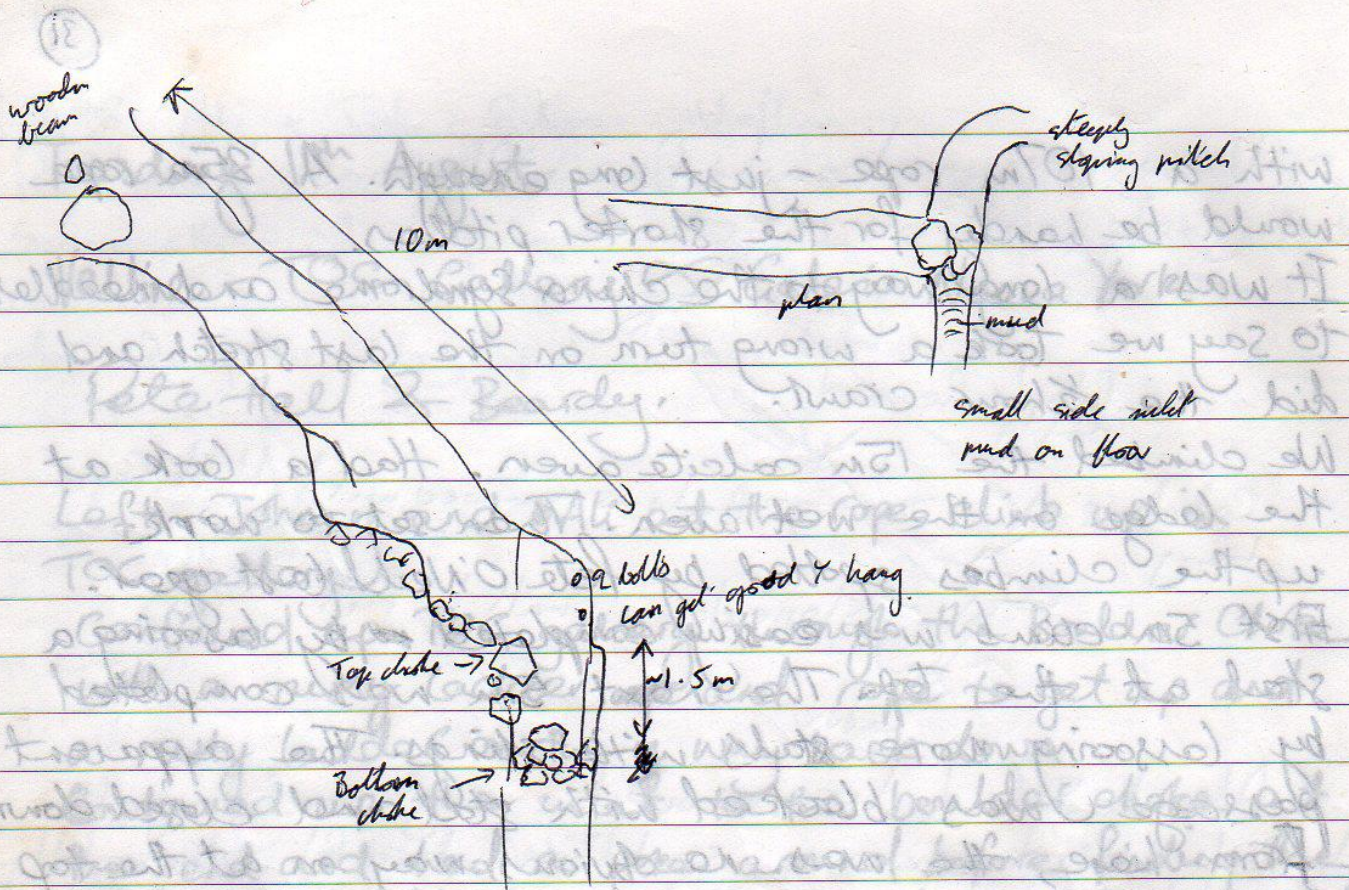
Tuffly, Angus, Jane M. C (MNRL)

Went to park 1128. Packed leashes at TV next & walked across. It

took approx 1 1/2 hrs walk.

Lots of boulders need to be removed but great care needed as the whole lot could be held up by only a few chock stones. Second bolt put in slightly higher & to left of Ali's.

We ~~was~~ measured rope from wooden beam at entrance to bolts ~ 10m.



Having started to abseil from γ hang it is possible to get over the loose boulders. From this position to the left it would be possible to dislodge the bottom chise of boulders. This might result in the loose boulders moving and trapping the person hanging on the rope. It would be safer to try to push down the bottom chise from above with a 2-3m long pole. Alternatively find some way of securing the top chise and jumping on the bottom chise. Stones dropped hit the walls a few times but were timed at 7 seconds before hitting the floor!! Pitch is $\sim \frac{1}{2}$ m wide & well under worn.

Thursday 13th August

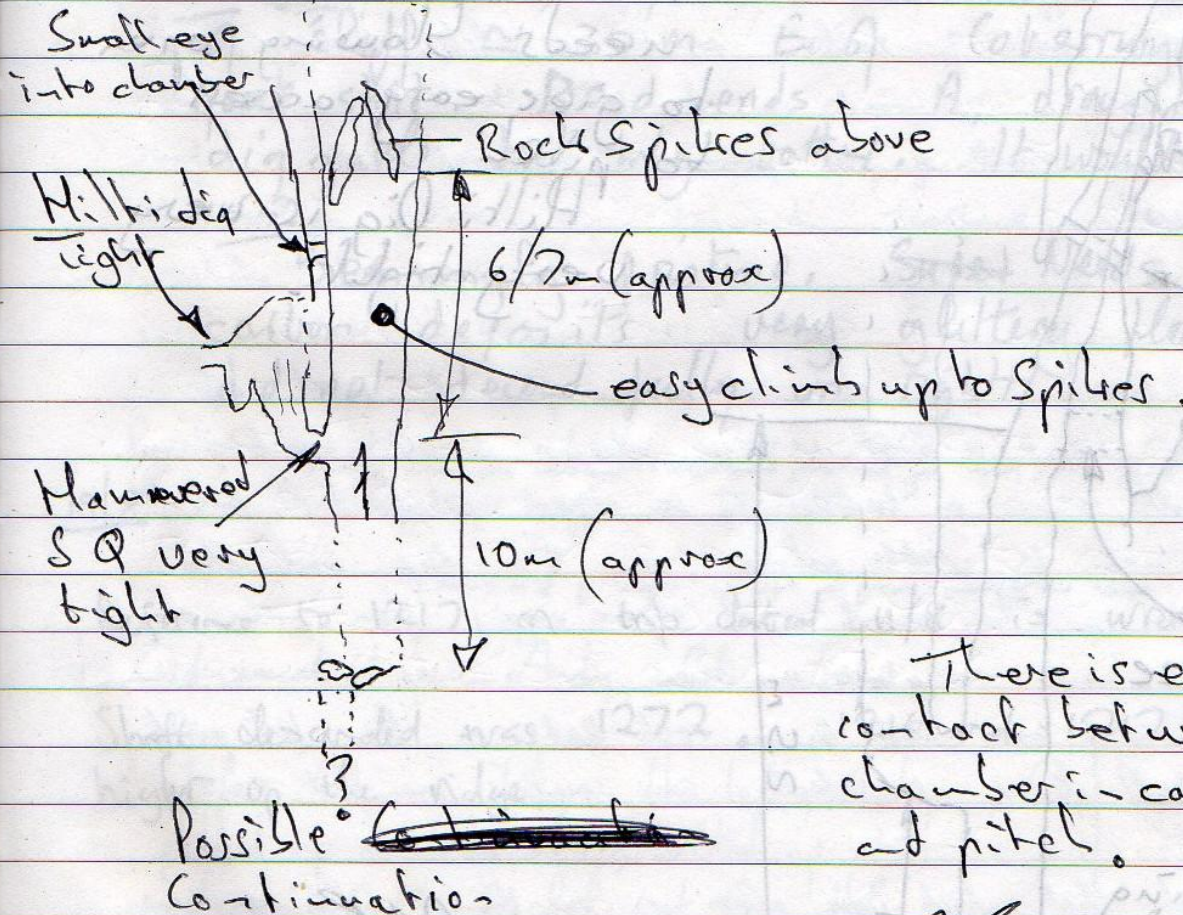
Rancho San Cristobal

Peter Hall, Johnny Baker & Bealby

Set of loaded down with shells, large butterflies, climbing gear & backpack - muddled through vegetation

16/8/98 (1332) P. Eagan - Jane Chilbas

Returned to Hilti dig. Opened out big enough to get into parallel shaft, which descends a further 10m (plus) and a possible continuation. It is also possible to climb up pitel to very near the top. It is possible that this pitel is a parallel shaft to that entered 7/8/98 or even the same one

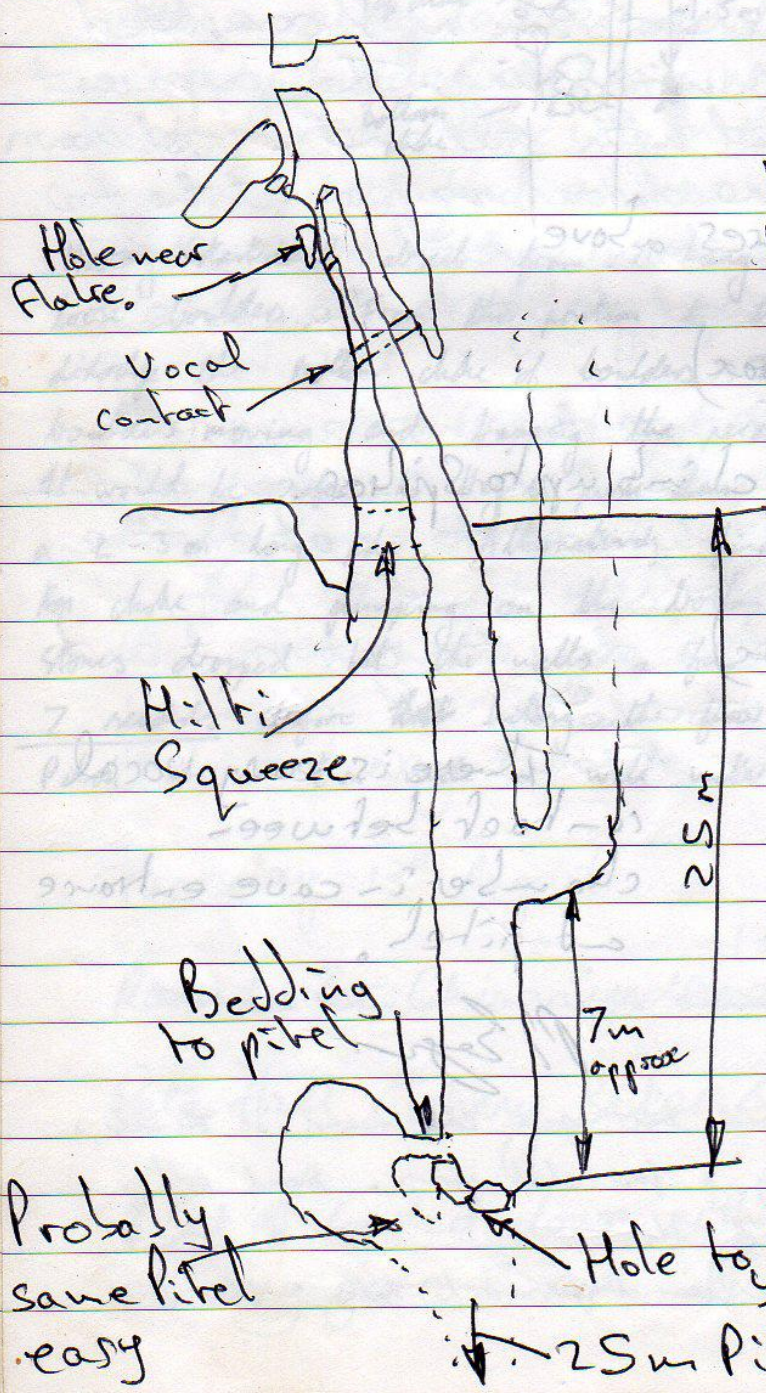


There is easy vocal contact between chamber - cave entrance and pitel.

P. Eagan

17/8/98 (1332) Pit Egan Jane Clithro, Liz Cowell
 Pedro, Lane Mills

Tried to find easy way on to top of pitel. Found 16/8/98! After climbing around pitel lead and trying various ways on - no ^{easy} connection was found an eye hole connects but will be difficult.



A hole near the Flare needs blowing open to give easy access to pitel.
 Hilti: Dig is very very tight.

M. G.

ell

1348

1349

35

19-8-98 Bob & Ted (and) Thomas

most easterly

Patatal → 1235 → Rascañeja → A + B
+ Coberruyo → 155 → Agua. 6m. 13m.

Patatal gate unlocked & open. Tried to make sense of the etchings. Cleared entrance of debris.

1235 Not such a tiny cave, it has everything except a pitch!

Rascañeja Elderly carvings launched down no shaft re-discovered way to lat end.

A & B two tiny caves 6 & 13 m at base of cliff ≈ 30 m E of Coberruyo full of goat shit. Boad ends A, draught & diggable but why bother. It would annoy the goat 155.

Seemingly pristine. Super Needs re-surveying? carbon deposits very glittery floor to left did not descend fully on right

19/8

Reference to 1217 on trip dated 11/8 is wrong.

Shaft descended was 1272. 1216 and 1217 are higher up the ridge.

22

PJCI

PJCI

16/8/98

1128

Went with 2 sections of magpie to assist in stabilizing entrance by hitting rocks from above.

18/6/98

Rigged first pitch with 4 hang from 2 bolts then 7 hang at a rebelay 3m below. Boulder floor with alcove beneath which is safest place to be clear of falling rocks.

Traverse line rigged down boulder slope to second pitch.

7 hang rigged from 2 bolts, ~15m pitch. Passage at bottom still going.

Care needed on ascent of 1st pitch as slight rub point.

Deviation needed.

19/6/98

Jane, Tuffy & Angus all descended & surveyed to point 16

which is a lip in a tight passage after a 4m climb down. lip drops = 2m to next part of floor no footholds/handholds - ladder required to exit!

This climb will require a ladder to be rigged for further drops.

Beyond this are 2 possible pitches, one 8m deep and the other 10-~~12~~ m. after wriggling along a rope to right of 8m pitch The second will require rigging from further back in the passage. Will need bolts as saw no suitable natural belays.

A deviation cord was tied to a rock flake on the first pitch which helped but it is not perfect. Care needed on first 2m of pushing.

It is essential that while one person is on the 1st pitch everyone else hides in the alcove (the "air raid shelter"). This is the main inlet of water & is boulder filled. Wait for the person above to get at least half way up the entrance rift as it is still possible for some rocks to fall. ~~For~~ Going up the entrance rift is a bitch. Avoid stepping on the loose boulders on the floor. Some may

easy
25m Pitch? needs dropping

skill move.

We also went down 1130 further up the valley. shaft ~ 12 m.

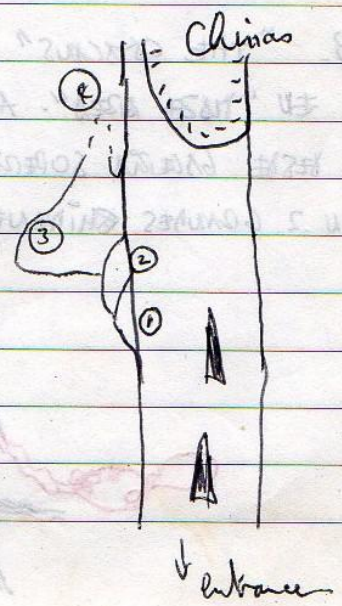
Towards uphill side of chamber go through eyehole between boulders to a pit about 4m deep, boulder floor could not descend as had no bet to get back out. Could not see obvious route on but could have been a way under the edge as slight shelf out with boulders disappearing under it also possible slot round other side of a crack on opposite wall. Would repay further investigation.

At lower end of 1st chamber i.e. bottom of shaft a crack which appeared to be free climbable back up toward surface although not breaking through to surface did not look like it was worth trying to dig.

Possibility that this goes into inlet leading to Air Raid Shelter in 1128?

15/8/98 Codrera bolting. Andy, Pete, Juan.

Just before Chinas pitch, on the left, Andy was pushed up on ledge at ①, bolted up at ② to reach an Orbitilera choke at ③. Holes through at ④ where seen from below.



1176 @ 93654879. = 10 at Arredant pages 97 vol 1.

22/8/98 Catalans in Mare area in Vallina looking at climb.

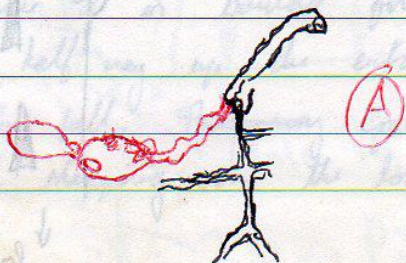
22/8/98 Pete, Andy, Ivan into Poco and Jesus into 1263, Cueva Diente where Andy drills hole for the elastic string. Poco falls 2m down the entrance with the rock below landing on his stomach. Handline now on better rock? Ivan finds half a juvenile lower jaw - about 4000 years old according to Jesus. Further excavations are due to occur this week.

22/8/98 According to the local farmer the area of "Dofrades" ~~should be~~ is called Los Cefrales. Dofrades Name changed.

23/8/98 Pete S + Catalans to 663 Cueva Contrabandistas. Good site for enclosing; echo and draught

24.08.98. "THE CISTERN" SANGREO / SERGI / CHAS / ADOLFO. (CUEVA VALINA) WH ESCALADA EN "PUZOS AREA". AFLUENTE EN ZONA POZO FOTOGRAFADO. SE INSTALAN DOS PASADIZOS ENTRE GALLERIA SUPERIOR. PUNTA INICIO TRESANDRO. 87M. TOPOGRAFIA DOS FINAL CON 2 GRANDES QUINIFERAS.

Peritane Gallery starts @ 713, 334



25/8/98 1123 (Cueva de la Vacuaterón)

Se explora toda la cavidad conocida hasta el C4 donde despues de unos intentos se abandona por su peligrosidad i dificultad. Dejamos el honor al bienaventurado que la encontró.

"THE CATALANS"

26/8/98. In cave 1263 Cueva del Trénte. Dig out another piece of juvenile jaw bone, a large human incisor and a ~~small~~ part of a small radius amongst many other bits.

- 26/8/98. Catalans in 663 Contra bandita. Enlarge at base of pitch into meanders. Still going.

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT