

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT

# LOGBOOK

Year: 2002

Season: Easter

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

*Juan Corrin, January 2015*



# EASTER 2002

(1)

Day 1 Mustajo. 23/3/02.

Dave (Angus) Bell, Tony Littler, Miranda Sandys.

Just arrived so thought a warm up trip was in order, unfortunately Tony picked up a really 'creepy' rope which meant Angus & I could just about control our stops, but Tony couldn't! I rock a semi-classic & skill no stopping power! Consequently T.L. retired to sit in the sun and enjoy the view, Angus & I just explored the entrance area. Down round traverse and a gentle plod round the chambers.

This was my first cave in Matienzo and the formations were superb! (well I thought they were!)

24/3/02 Pete, Phil, Heskia, <sup>Heskia</sup> Juan, Jenny, Penny, Tom, <sup>M.N.R.C</sup> Miranda, Dave Bell up to the east of Hoyo de los Pulcos.

1704 2m climb down to a further 3m free climb and shake.

1704



1708 Return to Tiano's blow-hole. No draught - or very little - Heskia & Phil dig in 3rd "chamber". Now requires Hulti cap.

334 Revisited @ VN ~~5005~~ 5005(3) 9524(1) ↑

1716 New. Tony down to clove at 4m depth. VN 5001(2) 9521(0)

1715 Start ladder drop into a descending chamber (30-40m long) with good formations. Needs photos & survey. Pete & Tony.



1714 Hsiki down 9m blind pitch.

1717 New. A complex hole about 9m deep with hazel tree. 10m long rift enlarged a N end. A small hole to the east is a free climb down to the base of the main hole. It is also possible to free climb down in the rift at the back. Pete + Hsiki. VN5036(?) 9525(6)

"1001". Another one that Tien revealed at Xmas. Tony down about 90ft with another 40ft still to go. Broken by ledges. This is probably not "1001". See Ali description 15/4/95 Easter log.

1713 A roomy shaft up on the SW edge of a depression. Roomy shaft descended by Juan 16m to a ledge. Then funnels in to a 3 of chambers with dished floor. d=21m

1712 6 x 4m shaft with tree. One side is a grassy slope to a 6m vertical drop to a slope of boulders and a chute. Tony down

900 relocated



25/3/02

Hilary, Phil + ~~Estee~~ Eskie - 1391 (Volcano) + dig

Walk to 1391 - hole just above track at end of TV road - valley.

Near 1278 (10m below), description of 1278 in Malinza

Underground is fine but location on Map is odd - shown

twice one in correct position & once too far to the north

on PC only the wrong location is shown. We agreed up

this new dig (1719) 10m deep into old cave, looks big but

no draft - can't go back with ladder.

Volcano - dug at old bottom, looks OK but - needs

heavy engineering gear.

(On way back reformed 51 (top of hill) - looks very

interesting - will re look at it.

*[Handwritten signature]*



25-03-02 Tony L, Miranda, Dave Bell (MNEC)

Tourist trip and photos down Renada. Dave B wanted to play with his new digital camera. Olympus C4040. Down to snuffed mantle. While Dave took about 100 photos TL and Miranda wanted to have a look around.

Interesting results with the digital camera. Slave flashes work out the photos as does the built in flash. However Dave's diffuse cap lamp provides enough light to save very good photos. Red LED's give a very dodgy colour cast.

26/3/02 Phil + Eski to new cave Nr 1278

(1719) Grid Ref 51559 : 94424 Elev 538 (GPS)

3 ladders down hole - st down 17m to choked shaft - choked with floor stone, whole of shaft/split covered with white soft floor stone. Half way down traverse to east - into a parallel blind oven, small pool in floor drains via very small rift - NO go. On opposite wall small rift - drops some 1-8m - too tight, but plate will hit top off to give access to bigger shaft below - small out ward draught - [out side temp 14°C to 16°C] - station marked pp + Eski 26/3/02 st - O next to this Hilli dig.



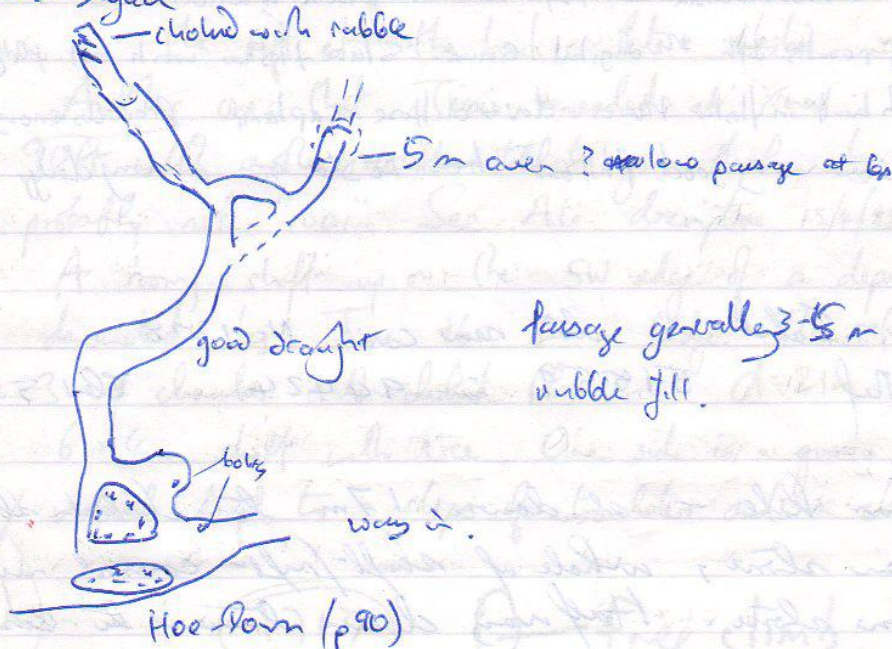
After this went to S1, needed more than 5 ladders put in two spits for SRT - will go back.



26-3-02 408 - Ansell, Peager.

Rough 2<sup>nd</sup> patch for SRT (ish)

Pushed inlet over top of Hoe-down (on right) - 82m running towards subject



passage generally 3-5m square best reach rubble fill.

26/3/02 Miranda, Dave Biggs, Dave Bell, Tony, Joan up to "Finish off" Seldents from 2 days ago.

First photoed and surveyed 1715 chamber with some large Formicoids and mud at -28° slope (roughly).

On the route down to 1722/1001 found phreatic rift going in. Dave and Miranda explored; to 171 to top entrance about 20m up the hill. (1718).

Then to "1001" (which needs renumbering when 900 and 388 are moved). 1722 Tony down to 110ft in 2 places to choke.

Then to 1709. 3m drop to & choke

Ask Joan what PTT is? (on radio)



25/3/02 Uzueka Dave O, Marcus E, David F.

Nice "tourist" trip to visit Lank leads!  
 The survey kit was taken just in case.  
 1st Site was inlet passage 3/4 up Gorilla walk (on the way in)  
 This had a very large draft + a small amount of water entering the gorilla walk.  
 It seemed this first section had not been investigated it was both narrow + awkward, hardly in the spirit of Spanish caving - more in keeping with the larger sections of Quaking. This short section developed into narrow walking passage with the rock climbed up.  
 After 15 minutes we were at the base of a 6m climb + at the top the rift narrowed but this draft was still present. However the <sup>narrow</sup> rift was blocked by boulders. Not disheartened a brief spell of perspiration with bar + hammer enlarged slot sufficiently to allow access. We were soon at the base of an over. The over proved difficult to climb even standing on shoulders, the top was tantalisingly out of reach! so discussion was the better part of valor + a hasty retreat was made - not bad for a tip-off, cheers Lank! Sumerizing could wait until we finished the quest!  
 Off to the second lead, a drafting tube not far from the start of Gorilla walk + park in the gutter. A few boulders were poked or prodded from the top of the tube but then the boulders became bigger than Dave, so this was left for someone more stupid!  
 Then Dave "the ferret" was despatched up a short 4m climb whilst Marcus + I waited



patiently for his return. Marcus + I were  
concerned where had he gone?

Well I had disappeared up a ~~new~~ climb (again)  
into caverns measured by small men. Walked  
up a rift before finding roof tube in slabby/  
shale type limestone with lots of gypsum. New  
passage to be had. Crawled for a distance  
and dug through a few blockages. Eventually  
reached a more serious bit of digging and  
decided to give up and get more earth moving  
equipment. Digging will be easy and passage  
can be seen <sup>to continue</sup> <sup>westwards</sup>. <sup>+ Fresh south wall</sup> We surveyed on way  
out (very keen) and then had a look at  
the next lead. Opposite my climb I could see  
a draughting passage in the roof. Decided  
(I was told that I was not allowed to try) not  
to climb it and get more gear. I will be  
back and off to the second new entrance  
(after the one we will find tomorrow).

DAY 2

26/2/02

Revisited new Swedish shelter I went  
back equipped with ~~my~~ manpoles,  
bolting kit etc. etc. with intention of  
scaling area at 1st lead. Managed to  
drag all the gear up to start of lead -  
got manpoles to within 20 metres  
of area - realised we hadn't actually  
considered that awkward bend when  
stood pondering over manpoles at  
camp site (the long one would not)



fit through). Never mind, there was  
a small notch in the opposite wall  
about 10 ft. up which which accepted  
base of pole ~~seemed~~ about adequate  
~~to send Dave O. up. . . .~~ & Dave O.  
seemed up for it. . . .

Dave now scared, not up for it at all, but  
better have a go. Climbed ladder, a few  
times just to do a stability check then made  
the moves over the top, failure not an option,  
no way down except rapidly via gravity. Got  
into large chamber base of pitch. Spent a  
long time climbing pitch with the aid of  
a few bolts and lots of doggy rock, past various  
points of no return to a decision. Decision  
made, I am scared, knackered, bitter (scared)  
and want to go home. Am I on your top  
and decided to quit while still alive.  
Draughting like mad, can see passage and  
will bolt to top and stroll out of new  
entrance.

It should be said Dave O. ~~did~~ has  
put in all the brave efforts so far.  
No it should not - he is expendable!

27/3/02

Dave B. Miranda, Penny, Jenny & Bill to Tres Niñas -  
didn't find it! [GPS must be broken]

Or operator 1 Q, too low ?!?



27-03-02 DAVES. Tony L MAD AXEWOMAN DIG.

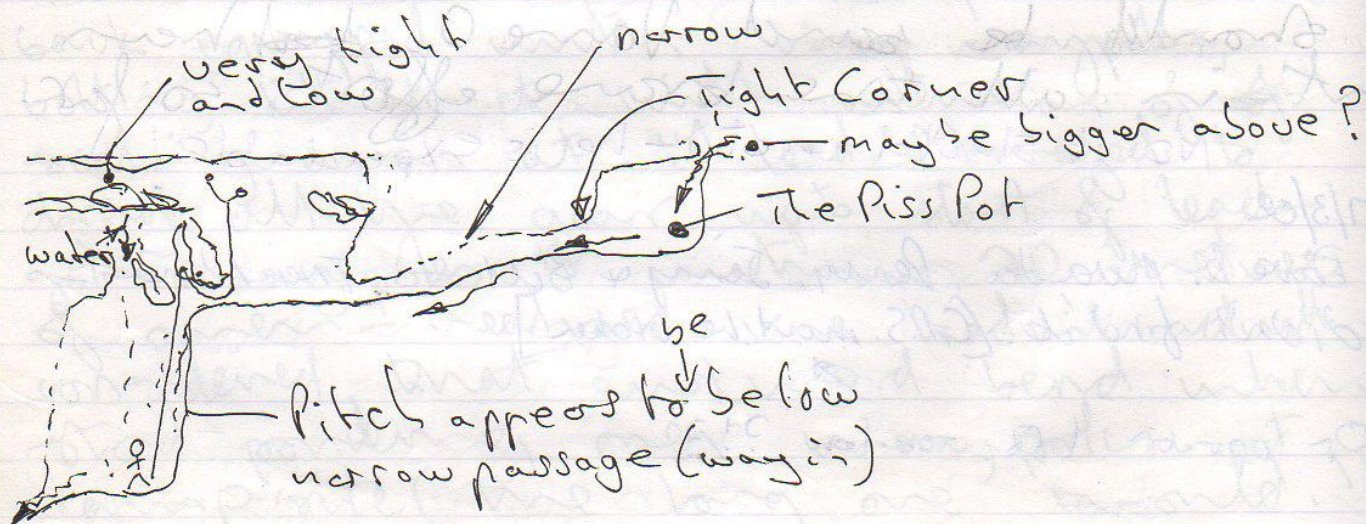
About 2 1/2 hours Digging. extended into a wood area. About 12' length found. Forward is harder calc that will need a bar and hammer to break, but progress can still be made. Very little draught - seems summer this week!

27/3/02 408 A Neil P.I. Eaga.

Rigged Hoe down and pushed through narrow awkward rift to top of undescended pitch. (Some digging required on way).

Pitch led to shelf with small passage entering, this was pushed and surveyed to bottom of small aven, with water dropping in entrance, to small, but may be bigger beyond.

From shelf pitch drops to a large flat area with web outlet, to small and narrow, which takes the water and appears to draught.





detailed out, surveyed all new stuff (85) left entrance traverse rigged (maybe worth detackling for blue water and hangers one day.)  
A poor finish to a good cave.

*[Signature]*

28/3/02 While the others were in Uvaca, Lank, Kenny, Joan Terry drove to the end of the track by Chestnut Hole with a view to delivering a dose of dye into a stream sink. Very little water around - some sinking below site 1673. Walked down past Chestnut Hole (photo). No water in the depressions to the SW of Chestnut. Then down into 1319 to see tiny (mille) sinking. Located 1723 @ W5248(7)9968(1) that Jim and Terry had seen last Easter. This is about 4m down a 2m wide shaft to what appears to be a choke - no water though. Walked back along road to a view metres of the car to where a small sink (site 1674) was seen below road. Put dye into trough leading to sink. On way back to Riario - SPS of Tulli Fritti (site 1724) a dig under sandstone.

28/3/02 Peyer Dave Ali

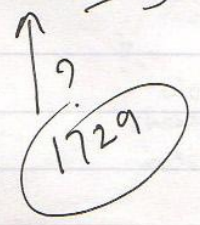
Area to right of Cueva de Concebo.

1726

One-sock pot-shaft, entrance approx 2m x 0.5 - marked by cairn  
? 0.5m deep - unexplod. GPS locatio - 54911 95152

Map location 5488 9518 (by bearings off buildings - reliable fix)

Slot into? passage - very tight - at foot of slabs at 9482 9526 (map location)



Ali



28/3/02 Uzekan Jenny, Bill  
Paul W. + David F.

Easy trip in that all the party were quickly at the sharp end. Paul seemed concerned with the quality of the rock on the "climb" up. However a good parcel of rock reached the top with minimum effort. Paul was very restrictive at the top of the pitch, patiently waiting for his team members.

All the party arrived & were soon off down the "new quick" by-pass to Gonilla walk. The 6m wide passage ended abruptly a mere 40m further. Despite Mr Windle's best efforts no further suitable passages could be developed. Oh well maybe next time.

28-03-02

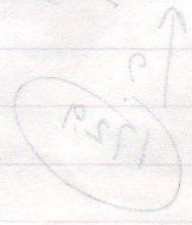
Tony L. Miranda, Angus

Survey trip to tie in the new climb toward the end of the Gonilla walk. AND A KNOWN STATION. 9 leg survey and throw out to collect Jenny + Bill and deliver home. Survey does not fit PC survey but does fit the drawn one.

28-03-02

Tony L, Miranda, Angus

VAILLINE. PART OF A 22 PERSON SHORPA PARTY FOR MARTIN ALROY. ASSORTED DIVE KIT TO UPSTREAM + DOWNSTREAM SUMPS. MARTIN FORMS LOTS DOWNSTREAM





Cobadal - site 1725 4881(8) 9815(6) (↑ 210) L = 80m

1672 5251(9) 9976(2)

soil @ Cobadal 4874(2) 9802(1) (↑ 201)

~~1730~~ 553

30/3/02 ; Jenny, Bill, Ali, Dave Biggs, Carol.

One Sock Pot. (1726) 0454911/4795152

A Small shaft descends 25 feet to a choked floor with one narrow wayon. A short drop down from open shaft leads to a decorated rift ending with a narrow, muddy drop at the end with a <sup>vague</sup> draught. At the bottom clearance is required to explore further, although some <sup>stalactites</sup> stalagmites are visible.

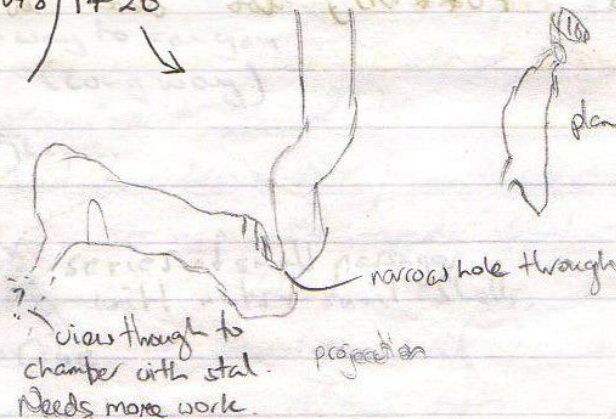
JCB Pot (1727) 0455087/4795065

A Small amount of digging showed a narrow rift and short drop. No draught e banging required to allow passage.

Probable Pot (1728) 0454905/4795135

A 14 foot shaft down to choked floor, with possible way one. Some brief digging revealed a large rock wedged blocking progress.

(Cuatribu (13) 0455122/4795078) 1726  
full of goats.





Arthur, Andy, Julie,  
Andy Pringle, Juan, 20. 2. 0 2,  
Pete, Benny

We went  
to a ~~car~~ ~~one~~.  
And then we

went to  
the bar and we  
had beer.

★ U Good.

~~Arthur Bridgeman Quiz~~  
~~arg 2006~~

Dug daylight hole  
up to left of entrance of Vallis  
1745. 1730

30-03-02.

TONY L. MIRANDA. ANGUS.

MUSTAJO. TONY'S LAST DAY SO ANCESTRY and pretty FOODSTUFF.  
DAVE TOOK SOME NICE PHOTOS (JIMM WOULDNT LIKE THEM), TURNED AROUND  
AT THE SQUEEZE AFTER THE ROPE CLIMB 'LOS TONY'S TO FAT. BACKWENT  
NICE TRIP TO FIND THE WEED.

(LANK'S BEER FREE DAY)

LANK spent all day in bed and did not even  
come out at night.

LANK is F\*\*\*ED, too old (to even drink beer)





Was it not 02, the time change  
is only one hour not one year.

(13)

30/3/03 REVISAS. PP, Jim, Eskei, Terry, William

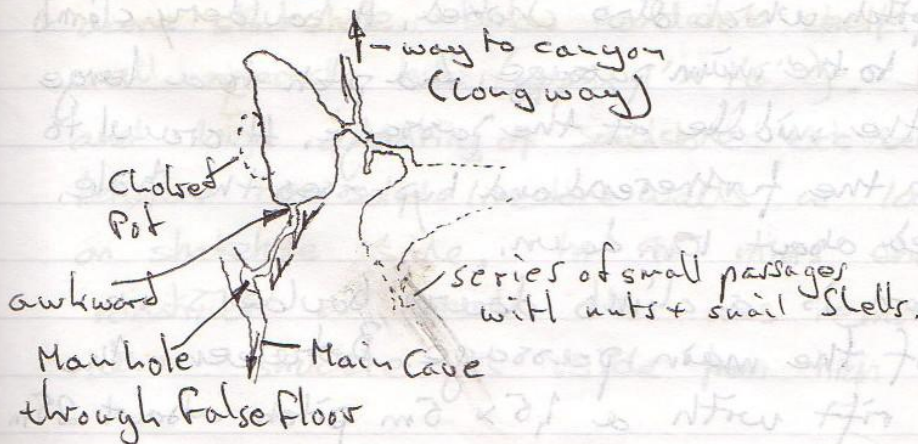
Normal work starts 2:00 pm ish - a little bit later  
as I had to go back to camp to get Terry's light!  
Easy trip to Ron's passage just past gird lake.  
Aven seems to be 10m+ high & is wet - best to look  
from top first (i.e. Cotovin). Looked at boulder chute near  
this point - all agreed it needs to be made safe before  
going into it (i.e. 90% safe).

Went to climb just down from camp on North side  
(see section on survey) - put in 4 bolts & left rope  
on climb - should get up ~~with~~ with 4 more bolts -  
would have got further if I had taken a ladder!

29/3/02 PTEgan, T Wittler, Snabek, Snab  
(Part of carrying team)

Re-surveyed from Ali passage? various  
routes (Terry will expand).

On the way out we re-found the way  
into lower level small passages. This was  
explored to reveal a section of cave with  
various ways on all fairly small which  
have been visited before, possibly on original  
trip or by Spanish. Needs revisiting and surveying.





31/3/03	Hidden Hole	337m added	1048m total
	Uzueka	378m added	43329m total
	Heleholes 408	168m added	660m total
	Cobadal	80m -	80m total

Total surveyed = 1034m (in 5 days)

31/3/02 Cueva de los Cefalos (042)

Torbjörn Doj, Torben, Jonas, Kristine, Louise.

2 of party maypoled in upper entrance series. No luck, we were unable to reach the southern wall where there are some rifts that may go further (to Hidden Hole?).

Above the lower 5m pitch is a muddy slope up ending in a chiseled flowstone hole. Behind is a sandy passage with a slow draught (that day). We dug in the left wall and accessed a horizontal passage 1x0.8m going 6m to another dig. Looks good with another 5m of passage visible. Below, Jones & Torben blew 5 Multi caps in "the blowhole". Accessed another meter towards Hidden Hole.

Which?  
entrance?



T. Doj 75. New cave dug 25m west of Cefalos. L 13m D 4m. Small. Ends in choke DS

Protrude 170°-350°  
4m ↑ 5m →

30/3/02 Hidden Hole. Peter, Paul, Torbjörn

Checked two pitches in the "Grotto", 1st went 17m to a choke in floor. Via an eyehole we accessed another short pitch which also choked. A bouldery climb may lead back to the main passage. 2nd pitch is a large "round" hole in the middle of the passage. A crawl to the left leads to the further end and bypasses the pile. The hole choked about 10m down.

10m further on is a climb down boulders in the middle of the main passage. Between the boulders is a rift with a 1.5 x 5m pitch about 25m deep. Not descended. A



cont.

Above station B is a wide climb to a large passage (ca 4x4m) This was explored <sup>north</sup> ca 150m to a sudden change of direction (bent to E and got constricted) Surveyed out from there. Several pitches and holes not descended. (5-6 of them, a few promising) In the "bend" of the passage some pneumatic tubes are accessed via a hole up on the north wall. Followed for only 10m. Ascending. 236m survey T.D.

28/3/02 Andy Progle, Tim & Will Davis

Tasks

Went on to look at Pants (nearby). Dug out some more boulders. Dig was left as it was unsafe - the whole hillside resting on the floor of the cave! Needs to be shored up before dig can be continued.

Ores nr Riaño found a ~~new~~ hole just off the road up to Torcon. Obvious ~~born~~ old house on ~~left~~ right next to back.

map ref: 1672 A walled up hole can be seen from road, but new hole is nearer <sup>the</sup> road. Small hole just above shakehole below sandstone shelf. Small makeshift wall covered hole (approx 1' x 1'6"). Digging was commenced and large quantity of sandstone rock was removed from between two solid limestone walls w loose sandstone wall on shakehole side. In 45 mins enough rock to construct a small altar was removed! Nice & Easy. New structure is visible from high road from Matienzo.



29/3/02 Pringle, Jim & Will, Phil Pappard, Kev, Hesketh

Went to size up shoring for Pans (bring in the consultants)

Two alternatives: 1) Pull the whole lot out and clear up the mess!

2) Shore up the boulders so that digging can recommence.

Second option decided on - need steel/strong poles or similar.

Also found promising filled in shakehole, draughtly, w dead animal! (?)

1672 returned to "The Shrine" at Rioño for the consultants to have a look. Wooden palette <sup>(and Eucalyptus tree)</sup> was used to shore up loose sandstone wall (after it has been re-designed by Kev - "What the f\*ck have you brought me to Jim?!"). Carried on removing sandstone boulders between limestone walls.

Way into hillside narrowed down so way on was downwards.

After the altar had been increased in size to double its original, a small gap was reached 4m down from the entrance. Ladder used to get down a through (tight squeeze) to 7m pitch down to choked floor with eyehole into space below shakehole. Further digging required through stacking space is available in pitch (so no more altar building).

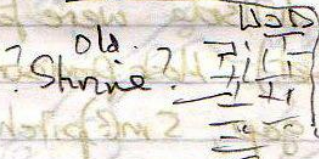
Interesting aside; a number of people came to "visit" the walled up hole further from the road but nearby "The Shrine". Today was Good Friday - maybe the other hole is a REAL shrine?! Hope not - Hesketh had left a little present for them!



Phil "The logger" attacking local plantations.  
 Little present!

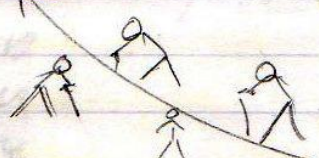
Scudston Bed Spring

Heske's



New Shrine under construction

grassy = shaka hole.



Path to Shrine.

for Granny's (Men in Bar).

small chisel dugged along & screaming



31/3/02 PP, Jun & Will, Kev, Hesketh, Pedro, Hilary.

Went to look at Cobadal. Well Kev & Hesketh did, we went to walk around the hillside. Large sink below fallen cliff which the farmer was very enthusiastic about. On hill behind another sink next to Eucalyptus plantation, other holes. Most promising was a bedding plane about 100m above the large sink, which had some animals (Badgers?) (traces in it!) Other holes on the same hillside were found, but no draught (neither did the Badger set). Most promising wall a rift in the same hill - small gap, 5m(?) pitch down. All holes on this hill can be located above the large sink by 3 dead trees in between humps of limestone.

31/4/02. Jenny, Carol, Miranda..., Penny, Dave Biggs, Swan, (where's my G.P.S) Corrin. (OL) Angus, Ali & Bill

All went shafts hunting on Muelia in a steadily thickening cloud. Fogo Miranda wanted to see the Jews, Juan wanted to find 10 unexplored but known shafts and explore them. This proved to be an unpractical idea as we found 10 new shafts, dug some out and explored them 2/3 were quite deep. (80/90ft +)

1731 small hole into cave goes 10m as a crawl to where the passage closes in. Photo

1732 8m choked shaft, 2m wide, covered with rocks photos

1733 openhole 8m deep to circular bottom

1734 photo. Small shaft at top bells out after 3m and into a chamber with white walls at the bottom. Depth 25m

1735 in corner at same level as 1734. 3m drop to chkd floor

1736 4m deep blind shaft surrounded by a semicircle of rocks at shaft top

1737 open shaft Y shaped. 6m deep photo

1738 on side on shakehole Photo. 2 spits at top of shaft. 16m down is a ledge and tip to a slot. At the bottom - a further 24.6m - is the base and a choke. 41m deep shaft.

1739 5m long and 2m wide slit. Marked with an M number. Spit in long wall. 24.5m shaft to a tiny 2m drop and choked floor.

1740 1m diameter hole at the top of a depression with 3 trees. White walls after the ledge to a choke 26.1m down

W 1731	30T	455863	4796307	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	11:23
W 1732	30T	455909	4795763	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	12:03
W 1733	30T	455875	4795765	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	12:35
W 1734	30T	455845	4795817	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	12:44
W 1735	30T	455841	4795854	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	13:02
W 1736	30T	455898	4795776	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	13:35
W 1737	30T	456054	4795557	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	14:26
W 1738	30T	455977	4795599	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	14:35
W 1739	30T	456016	4795572	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	14:45
W 1740	30T	456002	4795530	Waypoint	I E	01-APR-02	15:46



31/3/02 Valline. Ali, Dave Foster, Marcus,  
Rope Climb Series off Toc Gallery - slot at end would prob. take about 1  
Hilti trip to get through. Some draught.

Hide opposite top of Rope Climb ~~is~~ was reached - just on Ocbow.

Dave climbed up into obvious but unventd hole in right end of large  
chamber at start of Valline 2. ~~is~~ 60m passage ending at dig  
with good draught leading towards Valline I.



2/4/02 Dave, Miranda, Angus  
Uzeka

Back to wet crawling. Went to the  
new aven above gorilla walk. Huge draught  
passage he-rigged ropes. SHT kit needed.  
5m followed by 30m pitch. Safely rigged, just  
don't bounce about too much as ribs  
all over the place. Chamber above pitch  
contains huge draught through boulders, with  
some spiders web and snail shells. Needs  
radjo locating and digging from surface.  
will Create a short route into far end  
of gorilla walk, so knocks off 3 hours per  
round trip.

Good trip!



1/4/02 PANTS - PP; Eski + KEU (Jim + Will + Andy P)

Got free steel from BIG MAT & spent AM making frame to hold up roof etc. Put in in PM & bolted it to walls. PANTS is now 98% safe & can be dug. Big rock partly removed by Catalan's still needs to be removed - it needs "BANG" - then we will have room to dig etc. We will return in July 1 - Jim Will & Andy did surface survey to link 715 to PANTS entrance.

2/4/02 1390 (dig in woods S. Vega) Eski, PP + Helony  
Lot of fill brought in by streams over the mounds - spent 2 hrs removing this plus some more digging. Way on not clear due to amount of fill. Needs 3 or 4 people & is a major dig - still worth it due to location & amount of water it takes, but we will put work into Valeons (1341) first.

2/4/02 Jim & Andy P.  
The Sandstone Day - Put fence round The Shrine (1672) to stop cows dosing on the stone walling. Then visited 253 to assess for pheasants & feathers, but unsuitable. Noted (1672) as good outdoor cold draught and then went into Tutti Frutti but there was no draught. Avoided Rain Bar, had beer in the sun at the Smooths and then drove van up to the top of the Mushroom field.

Found 250 shaft up in woods and located (9) phreatic tube segment (11 m piece) previously found (Eski 2001).

2/4/02 Marcus E + David F. - 253 hole over Gaults well?  
After a previous observation & a consultation with a resident expert, we were left to our own devices. Soon "we" ~~was~~ had reduced our supply of quality new 8mm drills to two & our capping project, a hole above Gaults



Walk, seemed a less likely entrance. However a hard spell of "chisel" + "capping" resulted in a hands + knees crawl, then we could see down an 8ft drop to a cobbly floor. This looked much better than when started - a mere 8mft 5" mud slope to a hole, however the strong draft was every present. ~~4~~

The end is clearly in sight + another 2 hours capping will see us down to the bottom + then we will see!  
 Unfortunately this will be another delf!



29/3/02 (Retrospective Reports -)

### Valline

Angus, Miranda, Tony, Snab, Snablet, Vince, Tim, Mike, Gregg, B, Pete Kagen, Ali, Dave O, Terry, Paul, Brendan, Martin, Torben, Jonas, Torbyern, Louise, Kristhine.

Alex Ferguson described the winning formula for his team as squad rotation, with such a team all gear for both upstream and downstream projects were taken, this gave ten loads for 22 people even Sir Alex doesn't have this surplus to rest.

An efficient trip with no one lost is ever more surprising with these numbers and Valline's history. The Danes filmed, Pete, Snabs + Terry unloaded off on a round trip. Dave O re bolted Double Ditch.

Mike, Ali, Martin took gear for downstream sump and others took the remainder to upstream sump.

Away from the crowd I was able to focus on the choice of dives and chose the downstream as this was the easier option. Limited details of where it

started led to some grovelling in the end (choke) until the Catalans squelch by pass crawl was followed instead of the shimmering blue pool at the choke.

Oh well! A canal was followed and the remains of Phil Palford's original line was found.

A high pressure O ring failed to add to the fun and following a repair carried on. New line and Phil's line were combined to pass the first sump into a fine passage with a choke running in on the right. The next inviting sump soon followed, An easy swim to surface at a spine and the remains of Phil's line. Some time was spent galling in the



loose green line before the next sump could be solely entered. This was new territory and the staff divers love, big blue sump gently dipping down a gravel slope before gently rising to surface. Ahead, another delightful sump which was passed similar to the last. Surfacing the silent black passage beckoned, only the sound of cascading streamway for company the sign were good for some open passage, ditching the cylinders on a gravel bank then set off in search. A wonderful stream passage up to 15m high was followed, 2 inlets and a possible mud climb were passed. Finally turning a sharp corner another large sump was reached, the end of today's adventure.

On the way out the small inlet after the second sump (Phil's limit) was pushed for 10m into a body size passage full of mud, an anti climax after the streamway. Surfacing at base it was a welcome sight to see Ali and Mike still waiting.

Desperate to avoid the labalans crawl I offered to try and find an underwater way land. A canal was followed to a sump. Again a clear blue passage was followed, surfacing as the last of the line ran out, but this was not the hoped for air space land at the choke, quickly I tied the line off hoping to return before Mike and Ali had left the dive base, as the mud crawl did not appear fully kitted up.

On the dive base a passage was seen on the left, tying on the emergency reel this was followed again surfacing as the line ran out, but this time I was where I wanted to be. With a return planned most kit was abandoned and an easy trip out followed.



15  
on route we found Dave, lost and lonely  
blundering around the Stream Passage, still at least  
he had the bread kit with him. All four exited  
in time for dinner at Bar Tomas.

Thankyou to everyone who carried.  
Those who never carried will be picked later  
this season as heavy carriers will be needed for  
the Big Carry (Big cylinders perhaps).

## Valline

31/3/04.

Ali, Mike, Dave Foster, Marcus, Markin,  
Mike had been keen to Dive and assist in the  
Survey so gear was begged, borrowed, cobbled and  
bodged together, cylinders were collected from upstream  
Sump before heading downstream. After dropping our gear  
off Ali, Dave, Marcus went prospecting elsewhere.

The survey was started at the previous trips original  
dive base although Mike and I started at the choke,  
An uneventful trip surveying followed although we were  
handicapped with diving loads for the terminal sump.  
When this was reached Mike examined some ledges/  
climbs that we had passed whilst I was hoping for  
another flat sump. The S Sump was deeper and had  
poor vis until 60m where the layering of clear water  
above and Silty below gave the impression of air  
space, the computer read -10m so no there was no air.  
The passage began to enlarge and drop off below.  
hugging the roof a large junction was reached.  
Down to the right a huge tunnel dropped off



Steady whilst left a steep ramp rose up. This was followed to air space giving a surf of 110m. To exit the crevasse required a difficult climb up a mud slope, above which the gear was abandoned. A large very muddy inlet was followed upstream through massive mud ~~and~~ banks. evidence of massive backing up. The inlet becomes smaller with awkward climbs up mud slopes. As I started to crawling or squeezing I decided enough is enough and after a junction with both inlets ever smaller I gave up. It was noted that the left branch was draughting mud stronger. Back in the scarp the first few minutes were used to scrape and wash the slick clay off all the gear, (not what I go diving for). A freezer but happy Mike was waiting at the scarp and we made a ~~successful~~ uneventful exit was made. Back in the chamber as the last bag was packed our trio of helpers turned up. ~~up.~~ All gear was brought to the double inlet inlet.

### Valline

2/4/02.

Carol, Jenny, Bill, Pete S. Will, Pete E, Tim, Mike, Helen, Paul, Ali, Martin,

Air trip to Double Dutch. Ali persuaded me to look at something at the Tne with the Rio Rido, It was an inlet that was grim. Small people only need go.

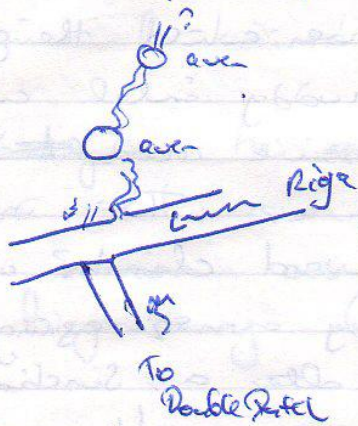
All gear was swiftly removed, Pete E, Pete S, Will enjoyed some exploration in the ahrace.

Many Many thanks to all who helped.  
M. Holroyd.



2-4-02 Vallée M Hologid Aci

Inlet spotted on 3-3-02 approx 4m upstream from Double Ritz/Rige  
gully. 20 m to climb over (10m+?) then narrow canyon  
to further over, MH parked c-20m beyond - narrow but passable  
Fair drought noted.



Nice Caves pity about the unnecessary 'carbide dumping'  
NB. Leave nothing but foot prints (if at all) and  
take note but pictures.

2/4/02 Vallée Pt Eoga. Pedro, William Davis  
follow up of the 29/3/02.

After first chamber in old series of small  
passages the junction was followed to the  
right, this lead to a climb up also on  
the right back into chamber, but left led  
to further crawling which enters corner  
of low chamber. Straight across the  
chamber a series of small passages are  
yet to be pushed. left as you enter  
the chamber a crawling/walking size  
pass leads past various junctions to a chamber  
which may have been entered 1989



a clove left as you enter chamber had a good draught, a climb down at the end of the chamber looks small but possible and a climb in the rock with water entering also looks pass.

The whole area needs a good push and survey to check if it is part of the HCC series found in 1989. 2.5m surveyed

Note New point out of survey appears to have a 3° error on the grid SQ.

1/4/02 Reñada (Castle Hall - Ramp) Andy Q + Pete S.

Main objective to check out possible high level passage out of Castle Hall. It would be about a 30' climb, above it can be seen to slope up, with a rift going off.

Near the top of the ramp, on the way to ~~Great~~ Lake, Andy "walked" into a short side passage, which has apparently never been entered before (or perhaps it was a caver who didn't even leave footprints, see previous page).

On the way back we dropped down between boulders in Castle Hall to meet a section of stream passage. Andy went upstream to a sump, while downstream the water also got deep. This can be by-passed to an inlet on the left, which was followed upstream until we went round a boulder and popped out in Castle Hall again. This wasn't surveyed (but we will do it in the summer).



3/4-02 Cueva de los Cefrales (042)

Torben, Louise, Ali

Went back to the dig described by Thorbjorn (31/3/02). Got through to a 4 m. long small (1x0.8) passage. Possible dig, but no draft.

3/4/02 Will & Jim Davis - Cueva de los Tres Niños.

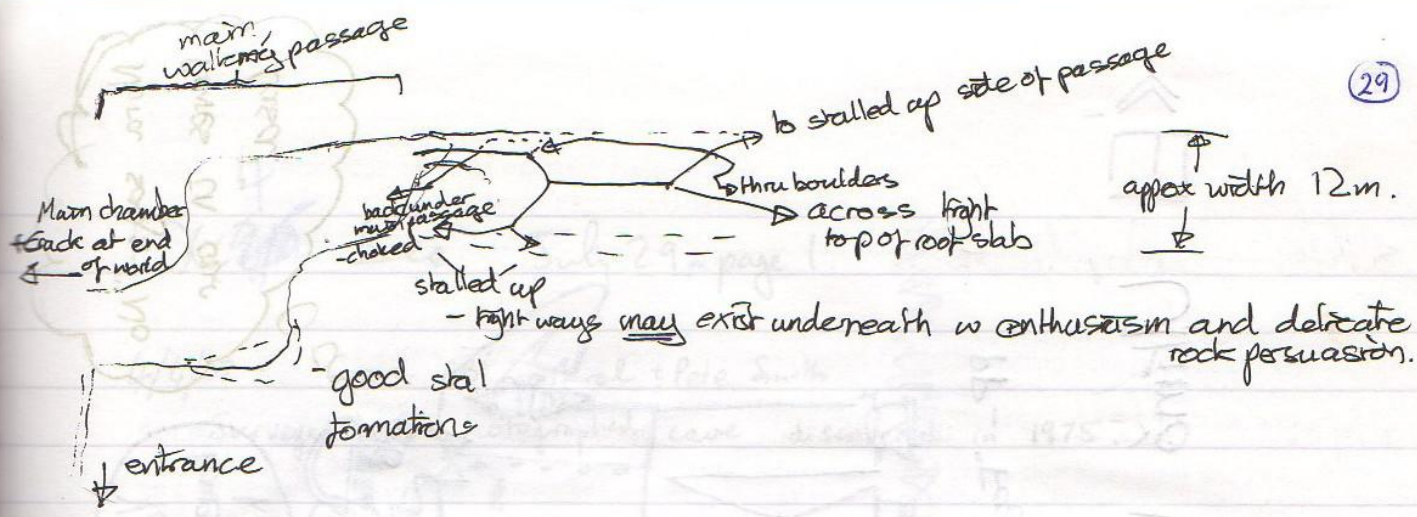
Trip to check possible leads in south<sup>east</sup> arm of main large passageway (right-side on entry from sandy slope).

Main passageway ends in slope down to nice stal area and continues through crawls to roof of collapsed passageway. Ways on are possible but require enthusiastic push. These are across top of large slab below roof - very narrow, needs thin person!!! Possible ways may exist through the middle of the fallen boulders but those that were found have all ended in tight messy nastiness.

Passageway in total seems to be ~~at~~ 12m wide with muddy stal on both sides, and approximately 20m-25m<sup>length</sup> of the passage can be got into and be seen to continue. The further areas of the passage appears ~~to~~ have fallen more recently, and be more unstable, as the nearer end has more stal formations. However, evidence of shifting can be seen throughout.

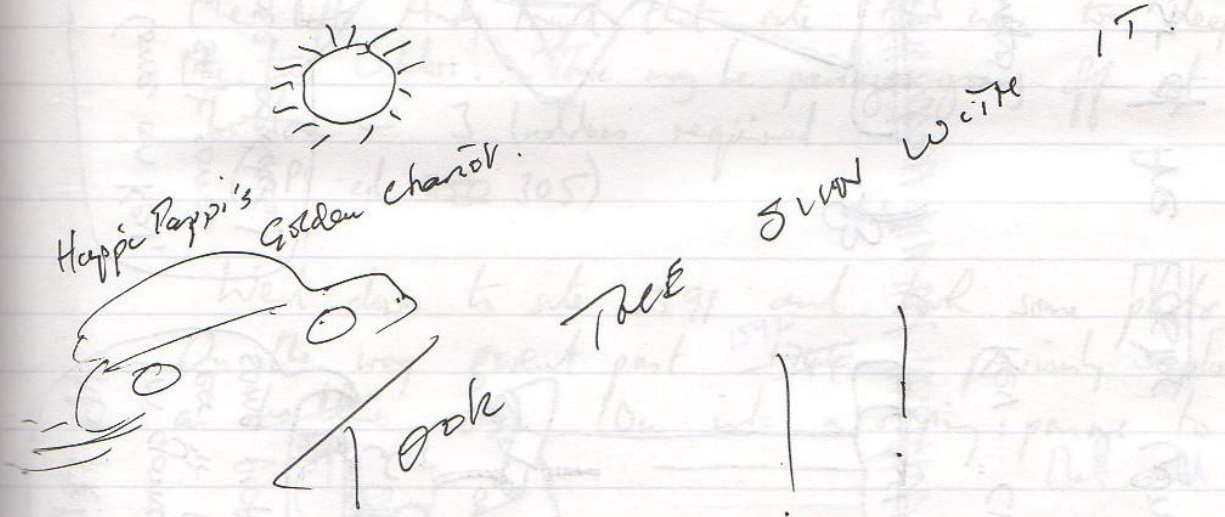
A survey of this area back to the main passageway was made, although surveys had already been made in '91 and '93.





Basically, a great big passageway must exist underneath it all, if only a way into it can be found.  
 Made a short trip through the nastiness to the north-west to look at rest of passages and main chamber.

On the wildlife side, the cave appears to have turned into a roost for a very large number of bats since it was opened up in '91. Large amounts of bat droppings can be seen throughout the entrance series to the top of the sandy slope. There also seemed to be more bones in the entrance passage - more archaeology to be done?



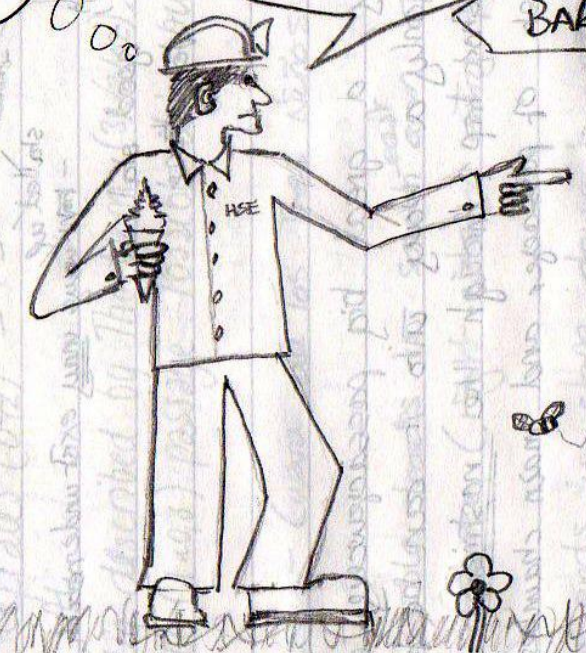


Nora says "No Raves in our Casa!"

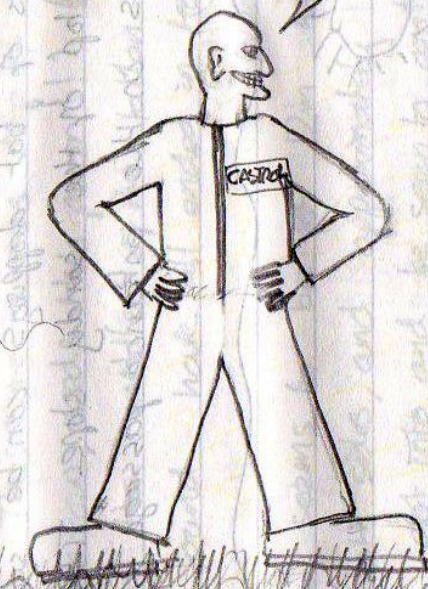
You two go and have a look at that hole over there.

Yeah! Come on Kev, let's go shift some of those bouldas!

No f\*cking way! I'm going no where near it till it's got some proper shoring.



PP - "Foggy"



Hesketh - "Compo"



Kev - "Cleg"

«El Últimó VIno de la Pascua» - "Last of the Easter Wine"

to be continued.....



Subj: Matienzo madness  
Date: 4/30/02 15:01:05 PM GMT Daylight Time  
From: [redacted]

1742 See July 29 on page 1.

4/4/02 - Cueva ABI, Carol + Pete Smith.

Surveyed and photographed cave discovered in 1975.

5/4/02

We came, we saw, we died, we left.  
What's next?

Page B

5/4/02. Pete, Carol, Andy P, Juan, Jen + Penny walked along side of Mulla track, past farmhouses, down towards San Miguel. See email dated 4/3/2002

Just beyond farmhouses at top of hill is site 1742, an oval to a dig. About 300m further down the track, up on the left Andy found that site 1743 was too deep for the two ladders. There may be passage going off at the bottom - 3 ladders required. (GPS-ed ~~350~~ 305).

Went down to site 1591 and took some photos. On the way went past <sup>1592</sup> ~~1744~~ - previously explored as a handline rope down 10m into a sloping passage to clove. (Not could be dug.)

SP11km west!



5/4/02 Azpilicueta?

5/4/02 Vallée Jim + William: Surveyed passage Saturday  
Secret keys.

6/4/02 Resneda?

Subj: **RE: Matienzo Renada**  
Date: 08/04/2002 14:09:33 PM GMT Daylight Time  
From: MSmith@atlasg.com (Mark Smith)  
To: Uzuoka@aol.com

Hi Juan,

Hope you had a pleasant trip back to England. We went down Renada in the end to look past the Rub-a-Dub-Dubs sump. One thing seemed fairly certain was that the water flowing out of the main sump is a lot more than the water seen later in the cave which makes diving it quite interesting. Also the extension into Renada 3 1/2 that was the canal in one description and a sump in another was sumped so I guess it depends on water levels.



Subj: **Matienzo madness**  
Date: 19/04/2002 15:01:05 PM GMT Daylight Time  
From: mail@tobychilton.freemove.co.uk (Jonathan Chilton)  
To: Uzuoka@aol.com (Juan Corrin)

Hi Juan, I'm hearing exciting gossip about a major cockup that I've performed in the Knotted Rope series of Fresno and/or the survey and/or the log book (all without trying, I must be getting quite good at it!). So far I am told that I've mistaken a 140' pitch for a boulder choke, mistaken a boulder choke for a 140' pitch, missed a passage, missed a passage off the survey, crossed out a good description in the log book and/or just been a wanker. Any of these seem possible but ALL of them?

From what I can gather a passage has been pushed that has connected to the stuff that Pedro and I found on our first visit to this area, if we missed something then shame on us but good effort to those who got it right. Unfortunately the talk of this pitch sounds to me like one I've dropped and put on the survey. This whole area is confusing with passages at 4 different levels, some on top of each other. Jane and I are hoping to be out for the 1st 2 weeks of August and I will look at things then. I strongly suggest that no changes are made to the survey yet but apologise for any errors that have led to confusion.

I am certain that Known Passage and the 'main drag' of Knotted Rope are parts of the same passage that drained out of the Blackness area in the past. This may have come from the direction of the big stuff or may be associated with the Tile Passage area. If this is correct it means that other passages in the K.R. series are oxbows or inlets. However it also means that the continuation of this passage to its old resurgence is still to be found. It is this that I have hoped Pringle etc. would find as it could be an easy K. of decorated, walking sized stuff.

The description of Fresno needs a serious sorting and Pringle and I must sit down (preferably well away from the Bar) and get it in order. He has suggested this frequently and I, to my shame, have not got around to doing it. I still believe that we need to get some new blood to the Munster Waltz area and to continue the bolting John started. Jane and I are willing to help support a team doing these projects by guiding and helping tackle up the entrance series. Neither of us is now up to going to the end but I still have a dig I wish to push just before the big stuff (another ox bow? just what we need in there!).

On a happier note, we went out to Tasmania for Easter to see Big Nose and Germ. They are well and happy and send their regards and best wishes to all. John is still keen to push the Villine/Renada area but a fly/drink visit is the most likely scenario in the foreseeable future. Our Jane saw Big Jane out shopping last week and says that she is looking and sounding quite well and positive. Puts my trials and tribulations into perspective somewhat!



12

Subj: **Re: GR75 caves.**  
Date: 10/04/2002 21:44:41 PM GMT Daylight Time  
From: sam@ermintrude.freeuk.com (Sam Lieberman)  
Reply-to: sam@ermintrude.freeuk.com  
To: Uzueka@aol.com (Juan & Penny Corin)

Juan,

- > ... which Andy Pringle said you had recently surveyed.
- > Its more or less on the track GR75 between San Miguel
- > and the farms above Llueva. The cave has a couple of
- > excavated holes that may be for goats to drink from.
- >
- > Is the data available for putting in the computer?

Data is as follows: -

Sunday 17th February 2002  
Abandoned remnant off GR75 from San Miguel

Joe Turner - Pleasant company  
Andy Pringle - Tape (Tape readings were from zero, no correction required)  
Sam Lieberman - Instruments, Notes and Drawings.

(following is tab separated)

From	To	Tape	Comp	Clino
1	2	22.2	319	+03
3	2	14.2	216	-09

Stn.	L	R	U	D	Description
1	8.0	1.5	1.0	0.2	Stone flake above floor on roof pendant
2	9.0	9.0	6.0	0.8	Top of large stal boss in centre of chamber
3	2.0	0.7	1.5	0.5	Top point of the large boulder in the main entrance

Apathy and failing light prevented us surveying to the paint mark nearby on the path. Sorry.  
Arrrrggghhh! I never wrote down the instrument set - It was the set left hanging in an obvious place in Pedro's garage when we left.

The drawings have just recirculated to the top of a pile so I will copy them (for safety) and then post the originals to you.

- > And what exactly happened down the hole further up the track,
- > by the large rock? I heard it went to a choke.
- > Length? Depth? Diggable?

The hole was a major bramble epic to get near. A ladder would have been MUCH easier, but we didn't have one.

The thing appears to be a steeply inclined (70+ degrees?), possibly phreatic, tube about 3m by 7m odd in cross section.

The bottom, about 15m below path level, is completely choked with a variety of boulders. You could try to engineer a shaft down through the boulders but there was no noticeable draught and might require more work / scaffolding than is worth while.

Looking up, underneath the path, there is a large alcove (passage?) which was inaccessible given the gear we had. However a ladder hung from the path side above would probably allow you to reach it and have a look.

Hope the above is helpful.

Sam.

1591

1592.







# **MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT**