

LOGBOOK

Year: 2002

Season: summer

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

Juan Corrin, January 2015

Subj: **More about Portillejo**
Date: 10/05/2002 19:39:43 PM GMT Daylight Time
From: P.smith@ono.com (Peter Smith)
To: juan.corrin@matienzo.org.uk (Juan Corrin)

1745

Translation programmes always give some funny results - in this case there seem to be a lot of "clogged" caves. But at least you get the idea.

I've spoken to Enrique Valero. He says they did traverse round to a passage, and it's equipped with those big bolts (is it "parabolts"?). The passage went to a short climb up, 3 or 4 m, and then another one, so it was generally going back up to the surface. It seemed pointless asking if he minded us going to have a look. If you really are keen it's probably best to just do it. And in fact thinking about the camera you mentioned, he said they'd tried to take photos of the shaft but they hadn't come out, it was so big. So that's a challenge for you.

I'll let you know if we're able to do the new shaft this weekend. The weather's brightening up!
Pete

Subj: **Last weekend**
Date: 13/05/2002 20:56:55 PM GMT Daylight Time
From: P.smith@ono.com (Peter Smith)
To: juan.corrin@matienzo.org.uk (Juan Corrin)
File: **streamway2.zip** (526234 bytes) DL Time (32000 bps): < 5 minutes

Hello there,

As you were probably imagining, the new shaft at Sel de Suto was another flop. It's a good thing I'm used to them. Steve went down and it was 35 ft deep and too tight at the bottom. It's:

50229478 Alt 463m Draughting shaft with an impossibly tight meander leading off at the bottom.

That was on the Saturday, so yesterday we had a tourist trip into Oñite, and had a great time. We were impressed with Mavrino Inlet, that I hadn't seen before. I took some photos but it's something you should think about doing properly. There are some large passages that I had no chance of lighting up. That's all for now, Pete

24/6/02

There isn't much happening here, at least as far as caving goes (but we have had a general strike and a car bomb).

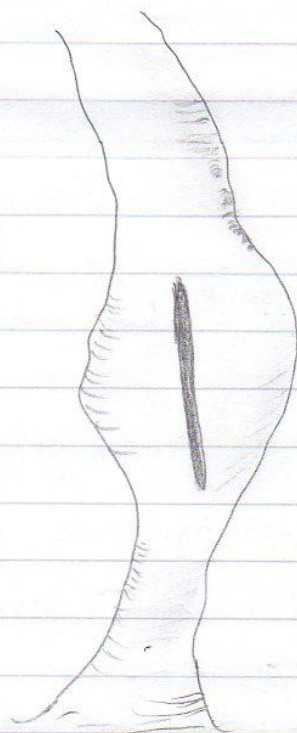
I've tried to check the Collusa coordinates, and they do seem to put it in a strange place. But they were taken with a GPS so I suppose they must be right, unless the numbers have been copied down wrongly at some point. I'll ask them again.

Because of the strike Adolfo had some time to write an email. He says they'll be coming 9 - 18 August, and talks having a lot of novices in their group.

I was with Chuchi and Emilio in 880 on Saturday. They think it's prehistoric, although they haven't found a single flint.

The car bomb was also on Saturday, outside the building with the "official" map shop. There was an advance warning so there were only a few minor injuries - but lots of broken windows.

The weather continues grotty. There has probably only been about three sunny days in June.



5/10/05

26/7/02

CTaring in Benham
V Safe

Heskey Pete S Andy I Ian (artist) Bobby & Lloyd.

Returned to site 1743. The hole on the ~~left~~^{right} hand side of track which was used to locate where to head off into the woods is now almost covered over with undergrowth. Hence it was missed. However new sign post on the left of the track was noted. This FANNY TREE should be unmissable to shady old perverts. Got to the hole with three ladders (plus one just in case). These were soon rigged. Andy set off down only to find second ladder was only connected by one C link. As the ladder was stuck in cracks in the wall and head was pumping Zoro he returned to the surface. The ladders were then rigged & Heskey went down. Pete & Andy followed. Alas there was no wide open stomping passage. There is however a chamber with fine formations & cave pearls. A return is planned to photo/video & survey.

Retraced our tracks to the disused farm. Pete had a look in the draughting hole under the farm buildings. It's a man-made tunnel, going from near the front door of the barn, and carrying on after the gap under a bench for another 6-7m to a choke. The roof is made of large slabs.

Bobby found an underweaving hole in the field by the farm. Then the farmer arrived. We asked him if there were any other entrances in the area. He took Pete & Andy to a shaft. However this had a bolt at the top. It is thought that Steve O & Phil had done this. The farmer also spoke of a short cave with a large entrance approx 300m further into the wood/jungle.

This was not found.

1786

Meanwhile back at the farm Heskoy had found another cave. This has a steep entrance. The passage soon closes down. On the left of this there is a 30ish foot pitch. This was descended & found to be an arms dump. It contained 2 bolt action rifles, magazines & many rounds of ammo. To avoid confusion with a shaft on Muela it has not been named 303. Tora Bora is a much more fitting name. Further more it is recommended that Bin Laden pays it a visit & take some more stunning & video footage.

All in all a fun day out

Andy P.

27/7/02

(Terry still in Bankham)
V Safe

1655

Phil P, Kew M, Heskoy, Andy P, Joan
Pants' Draught as good as ever. A pleasant afternoon
was spent capping boulders at end. Will return.
Andy P.

20/7/02 Bobby + Lloyd

Walk to Terry's Cave ¹⁵¹⁴ near TV mast. Found 34 below
and potential cave (dig 20m west, just over fence.
Saw 1 G. Horseshoe bat.

23/7/02 Bobby, Lloyd + Ian

No crayfish in Tivers II? Pollution - but a number
seen in Tivers III.

28/7/02 Bob, Joan + Terry into Cardiant to trial video lights + camera.

28/7/02

(Terry departing Hull)

✓ Safe

Phil P, Kevin, Hester, Andy P

Spent a few hours capping. More shoring is required. A committee meeting at the end considered two ways on. The first was straight on but this is through many boulders & down. The second is to the left. Then back can be seen through a small hole which issues a good draft. There is also a solid roof. Therefore the second option was selected. Measurements were taken for the shoring.

Andy P.

29/7/02

(Terry on mainland Europe)

Low Risk

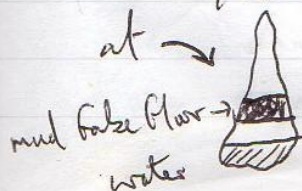
Trip to Romalee to buy shoring material, which was drilled & cut to measurements taken yesterday

Andy P. Later some dry shoring installed, not quite to drawings due to quality of rock. Few wedges & form required to chop ring pieces twitching like rabbits noses.

Swedes discovered high level passage off Swirl Chamber. Requires pushing + surveying + photo etc.

29/7/02 Harry, Ivan + Jenny to caves in Kuro to do some old-fashioned, proper caving / digging / surveying. Spent 3 hours in resurgence 1617 digging boulders out of the floor. Eventually Harry squeezed through into "chamber" to see another dig ahead in calcite / boulders. Good outward draught for the conditions.

Then to other "resurgence" ¹⁶⁶⁶ into depression. Stopped exploration



where the passage continues for least 12m. Needs decent oversuits. Surveyed about 50m

back to entrance though water, mud and more false flows + roots.

(Some video in 1617.)

Then to site 1674 where the sink was draughting out well and would seem to be a good dig (above the Goutla Wall). Had a quick look at the dig 253 which was draughting well.

30/7/02

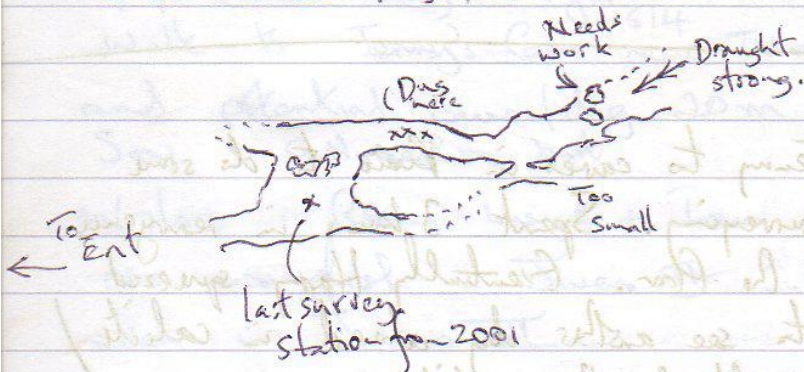
Terr risk HIGH!

Early (09:30 hrs) reports of Dr Whitaker being in Ramak caused much alarm, but were later proved to have been sparked by a talking book promotion.

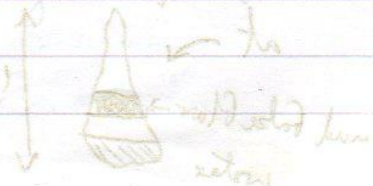
14:30 hrs Dr Whitaker in Bar Gormann. Pubo selling ear plugs @ €1 each.

See Andy! Foam & wedges used to further stabilize boulders in points. Boulder at end removed by hand/crow bar. Can now see 15' ish past easy to move boulder to solid roof & wall.

29/7/02 Juan, Jenny + Harry - digging in 1617 at Riano. Got thro' to "chamber" and next piece needs hammer + chisel. Looks like this:-



Juan found how squelid 1666 really is - well, he found it!!



30.7.02 Deprades - Ali, Torbie, Lann, J. - Ladan.

Put rope on climb up to 1/2 down at Easter.

Dug out floor for ~2 hr, after which air seemed to be getting bad. Will leave it to clear. Seems to be just mud under stal flow at end.

"Blow Hole" - no draught in area so sound could be water.

Dug hole in wall of second chamber from bottom entrance - ~2m progress towards large chamber off pitch (if you want)!!

31/7/02 Harry: Solo wander round Riano after the wet spell.

Found a good size stream coming down main valley but couldn't reach

(1787) where it was sinking. Got to within 15ft of spot from upstream + downstream but couldn't see what it was going into! Up on bank to the north (nearer the knoll with the rock outcrop)

(1788) was another stream dropping 4 metres into a shakehole down a rock face - well overgrown round rest of it. These 2 streams could be a good bet for flowing to 1666 (+possibly 1617). Down near road below junct. of valleys was a very

(1789) large flow going into sink just up from 1670. Too wet to get to see what was happening.

1/8/02 Pete, Tran, Harry + Ian.

① To shafts shown to Pete near the road down from FLCV.

Below road is 1790 @ 5327(0) 9975(6) in corner of field in trees above ruined building. 5m spacious shaft full of decaying bags. A 1m drop is too small - Pete descended.

② Next one was above the road. Shaft covered with boulders

@ 5339(9) 9975(8) below ~~the road~~ a pylon. A 5m roomy drop to a choke. See mpeg.

(1791)

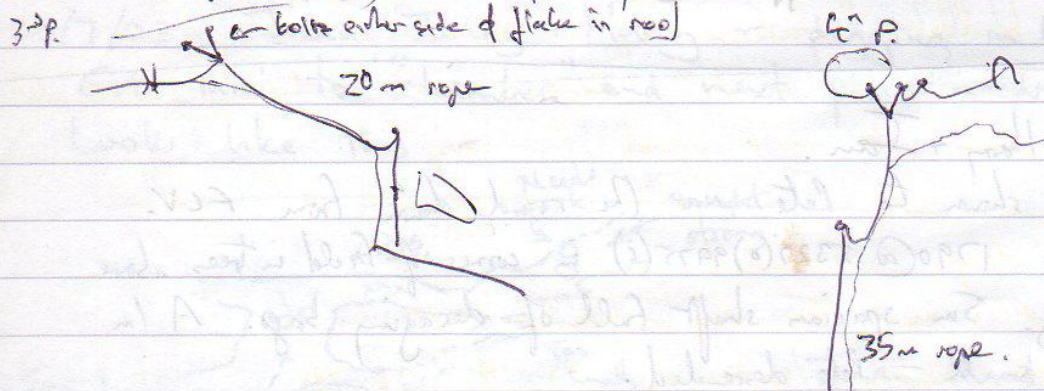
Then down to Riano and normal spot parking above Chestnut Hole depression. Had a look at sink 1674 but didn't dig because

There was no draught. Then walked round to look at \$ sink from yesterday (1789). There was no draught here nor from last years draughting digs at site 1667 and 1670. So walked down to the Liverpool dig (site 253) to find that this wasn't draughting either. [Fairly warm day but perhaps sections in Urecha were sumped off from yesterday's rain or pressure for a draught hadn't built up]. Joan + Pete dig in 1674 for half an hour but the wall appeared to meet the floor a couple of metres down. The draughts from a couple of days ago are needed to continue digging. Harry found site (1792) - an unexplored low bedding in the wood panes a second entrance. Very low - the passage may continue beyond. Then to another find, directly below 1674 against the limestone outcrop. A covered shaft seems to be about 5m deep. In descended (1793).

The "cheese store" (with cutlery and bottles cemented in) was draughting (slightly). Chestnut Hole was draughting.

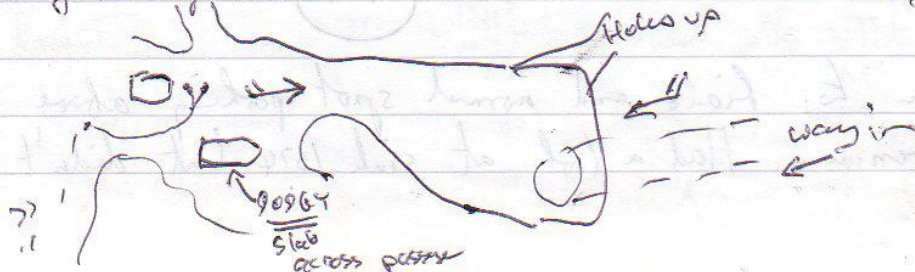
31-7-02 Ali, Torken, Louisa, Ben Lader. Toad.

Bolts 3rd pitch (slope) + 4m pitch for SRT



1-8-02 Ali, Torken, Louisa, Ben Lader. Toad.

6th pitch (+5m) needs re-roping - maybe traverse or climb on opposite wall. Loaded at first drop in last extension in first return - needs long rope.



2/8/02 Penny, Juan, Ian, Ali, Torken, Louise + Jones - circular tour of the Hoya de Yusa, trying to locate various SGAD holes.

1762 has the same GR as 1763 and there was nothing at the grid ref.

However 30m south ~~east~~ west is a small shaft labelled CM.

~~1779~~ 1779 Was not at the stated grid ref.

1764 - There was a "CM" label in the vague vicinity of the grid ref.

1765 CM5 was located (with green paint label) at 5528(8)9616(3) nearly 200m away from where the grid ref said. (See MPE9)

Pincer movement around the depression brought us all to site 1776 which is 135. Located 1775 at side of col in correct

Spanish position - This must be 116 - Tona de Yusa.

Wandered back to walled field behind La Colina finding a number of holes on the way.

1794 Just west of the col. An undescended 5m deep hole covered with rocks.

1795 Well below single tree in cliff. A small shaft covered with a single boulder. Undescended; 8m deep.

1796 Just N of v. shallow depression with 2 trees. Undescended hole covered with rocks about 5m deep.

1797 On the edge of the cliff. Covered with rocks; about 10m deep, undescended

1798 (See Ali's map) 10m deep undescended shaft.

Ali checked out depression containing 703, 793, 794, 795.

Only found 794. (793 is Cubis Richards; 703 is at Aredondo).

Removed 793 + 703 from map

2/8/02 Harry - further solo wandering around Riaño. Had a look at 644 which, unlike description in book, was draughting out strongly and looks diggable. Very near corner, and just above wire fence was a small hole approx. 2m deep with possible way on under right wall. Didn't descend as overhanging crap at top.

3/8/2002 Louise, Peter S., Jones, Torben
Hidden hole has been visited a couple of times
during the last week. Surveys done at 3/8 2002.
Surveys done at the northern end of Step Sliding
Away.

"Tube going?" has been ~~more~~ surveyed. Some passages
in the roof needs checking.

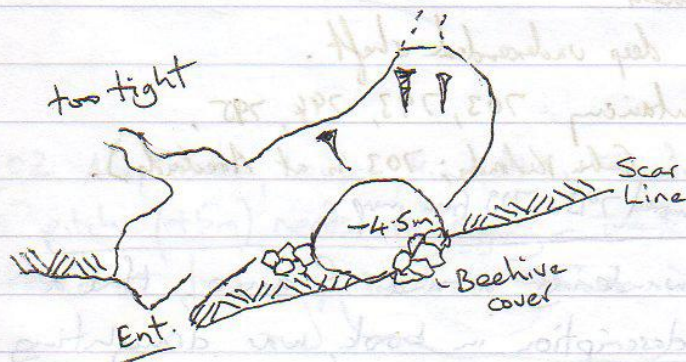
A few more bits have been added and some questions
noted have been checked and surveyed. (Peter S.
makes drawing of survey)

Survey station BS gets ~~very~~ very close to ceiling
(10m) and is legible.

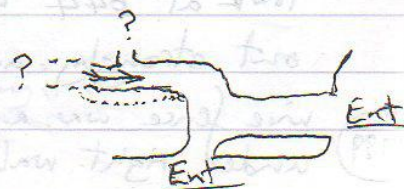
Hole visible ~~at~~ west of marked rd 3 (115 in program)
needs checking, climbing required.

Torben

4/8/02 Juan, Ali, Gavin + Harry. Riano + a return to 1793.
Some ingenious "knitting" and a handy tree saw the rock
removed from the "beehive" cover over what turned out to be
a 4.5m deep (3m dia) choked pit. The bedding entrance
5 metres to the left opened by Harry the day before leads
into a choked upper level - as per sketch.



After re-covering top we dug
at 1792. Eventually gave
up digging about 4 metres in
slight outward draught. Need
more digging to see what is
next



3/8/02. Video in Jivero 2. 12cm crayfish ~~disturbed~~ disturbed.

3-8-02 Ali, Jan Chander. Poltrudes.

Pug is ~~first~~ ^{second} chamber from bottom entrance concluded - blind, 2m long.

Attempted to establish communication with Torken & Jones in Hidden Hole - no contact made. ~~It~~ It turns out they forgot to go to the right place at the agreed time!!

Pug for 1 hr in tube - draughting slightly so no problem with ventilation. Low passage on right after stall boss also draughts.

5.8.02 Top end of Vega. P. Smith, A Neeth, Jan Chander.

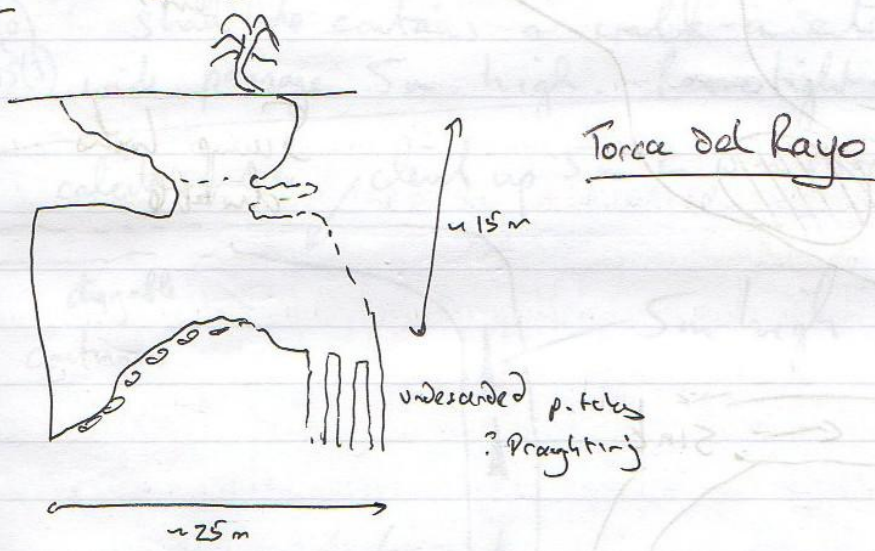
Slot is depression by path near 371? - seems to be a skylight draught.

~~4889~~ 4889 9446

1312 - location wrong should be 4844 9436

Blocked by very SMALL dead animal.

1305



7/8/02. Hank, Harry, Juan (combined ages 170) to Riño.
GPS of static pool above resurgence 5207(2)9443(7)
or VPS 136(6) 0092(9)

Actual resurgence @ VPS 130(0) 0089(6).

Then drove to ^{top entrance} Cueva Espada¹⁰³ to do some videos. In
the top entrance to streamway. Upstream to boulder
chute.

Juan beyond to upstream
swamp (different stream)

15m to too small
drought.

Swamp

boulder
run in.

3222
site?

chute

Survey?
ends

Swamp looks
disable.

Harry

upstream
pool

sink.

dry entrance

4m

wrong - too much reg.

~~GPS @ VPS 136(3) 0098(3)~~

Then walked up and looked at various holes along the limestone faces above Espader. Had lunch @ 3pm then dug out 1800 @ VP 5126(0)0099(8)

By tree in small depression. Hole brought in. Dug out to top of roomy 5m pitch requiring a ladder. Looks choked at base.

1801 @ 5125(4)0098(3) ← on track - hole is 12m in from wall. Dug out under limestone face. Length 3m choked.

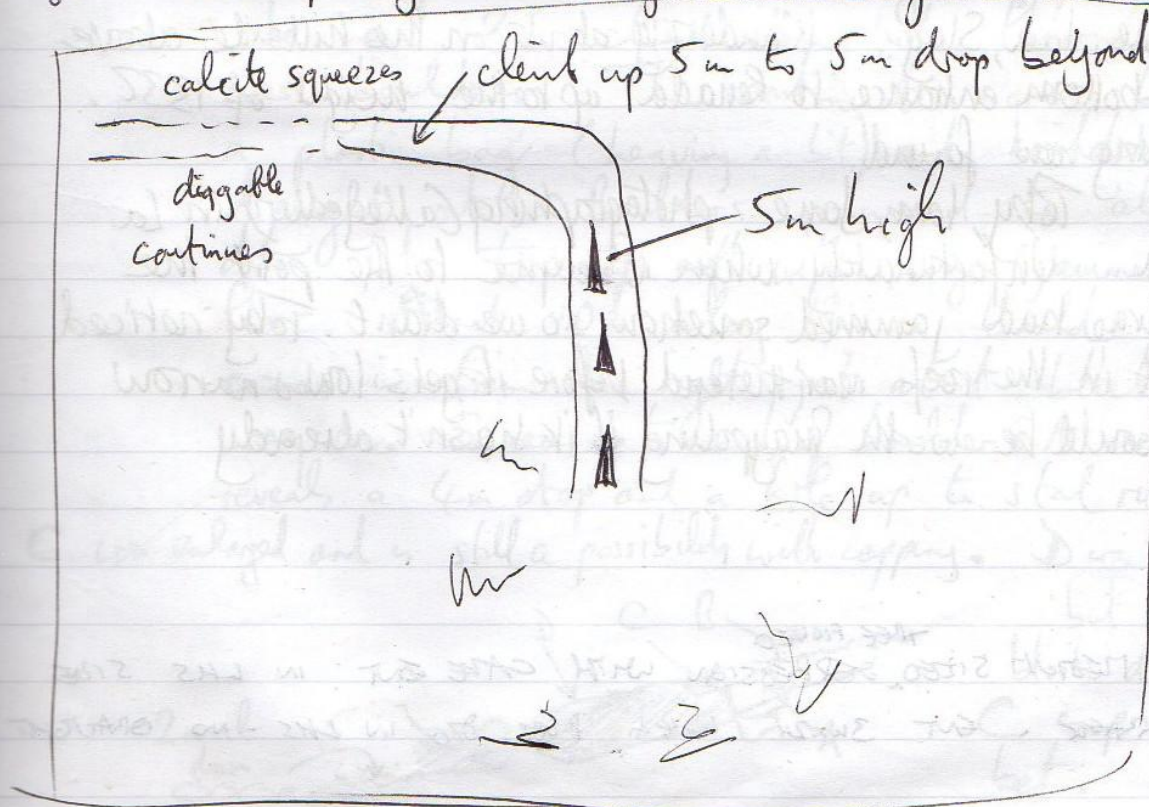
1802. On slope down from main road to Pinar. Top edge of deep depression - jungle bush - not explored

@ 5162(9)0088(1)

1803 In field with 2 goats. Found after directions from locals. 1m high entrance with 3m deep slot in floor. Over the top looks. Total length 6m. 2 bats disturbed. @ VP 5153(7)0089(4)

1804. Below chicle coop & build of breeze blocks. Jungled shakehole contains a walk-in entrance. Into 1.5m wide passage 5m high. Becomes light with calcite. Diggable.

VP 5159(0)
0075(3)

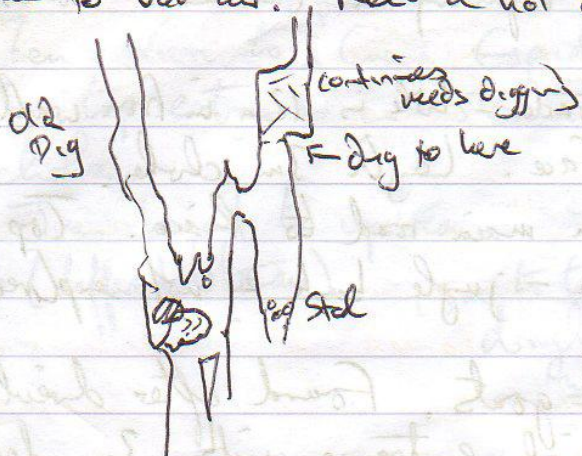


Further down the valley, over the wall, is an unexplored jungled shaft
↑
1805

7.8.02 Pofrades A Neil P. (Pelemo to squeeze)

Dug out bedding on right in start of upper dig - 3m to where a small hole seen on R.H. wall. This opened up into parallel passage.

Way on opened up with difficulty due to very sticky mud, given up due to bad air. Need a hot day to possibly improve draught



not numbered

* 6/08/02 Paul + Patricia SHAG (WITH ASSE COBRANTES)

NOT MUCH FOUND - SAME ONE ENT. MARKED ON MAP, PLAN TO RETURN TO SAME AREA BUT HIGHER UP (WITH GPS IF POSS.) WHEN WEATHER IS BETTER HAHAHA...

7/8/02 Jane, Ian, Slug. Wandering about on the hillside above the bottom entrance to Peñaña up to the height of 1332. Nothing new found.

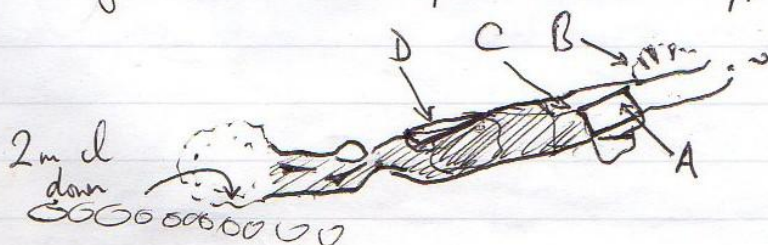
8/8/02 Toby, Ian, Jane photographing (allegedly) in La Cueva. Unfortunately when it came to the point the camera had jammed somehow so we didn't. Toby noticed a rift in the roof near the end before it gets low & narrow which could be worth mapping if it hasn't already.

* SEE MAP - TREE FILLED MEDIUM SIZED DEPRESSION WITH CAVE ENT. IN LHS SIDE WITH OFF TRACK. ENT 3Wx2H 1.4m PASS. DIG IN LHS - NO DRAUGHT

8/8/02 Harry, Pete + Juan out in the rain to Riño.
 Parked at yesterday's spot for 40 minutes while it rained
 then decided to drive a bit closer to first hole to
 get changed.

1804 was vigorously hammered by Harry + Pete in 2 places
 to get into 4-5m of enlargement on the rift
 beyond. Passage is once again constricted by bits of
 caliche. Easiest digging would be to use the
 generator and hammer drill. (1st 2 squeezes &
 could also quickly be enlarged for larger persons)
 Surveyed out 22m length. Bottom of passage
 is about 15m above projected downstream
 passages beyond Riño's 1 swamp. (The high level
 routes before and after the squeezes meet but choke with
~~them~~ caliche "downstream".)

1805. "Shaft" over well found yesterday turned out to
 be a 2m climb down into floor and slope down
 over boulders. The continuation was blocked with
 a plastic bag (heaving a bit) and boulders. Good
 draught at. Boulders removed to allow slide
 down into top of rift with large jammed blocks in
 floor. About 10m along this a boulder choke
 comes in from the right just about blocking the
 way on. Squeeze up to end of boulder @ A under large block
 reveals a 4m drop and a hole up to stal over in on the left
 C was enlarged and is still a possibility with capping. D was dug



but a large flake
 blocks downward progress
 C is probably best
 bet.



Then walked down to 1800, dug out by Cault yesterday
Pete descended to static water about 10m down.

Rerada II, 7/8/02 Gavin McPherson, Mark Smith,
Dan Foxton, Marcus Evans

Gavin & Mark aiming to push the Rub a Dub upstream sump,
Dan & Marcus to explore around the twilight zone. Don't know
how the other 2 got on, but Mark & I laid about 160m of
line, ~100m of which was useful. 2x7.5l cylinders from Phil
(cheers) @ 250 bar was more than enough (could've used more line though).
First dive: Mark followed left wall up and round, eventually
rising to ~ -2m before falling out a hole in the rock above
his original line: bollocks. Tied off & came back to snap with me.
I ~~went to the~~ followed the right wall round and up a tube
(silted) to surface in an oxbow already marked out the ^{started}
main passage just before the sump. Tied off and returned: ~~top~~
another line because I thought I saw another way on, but
I was mistaken. Found myself back at 'spaghetti junction' where
I tied off (again) & returned to give Dr Smith another go -

continuing due west approximately along the same line as the belline
Series the passageway rose slightly to ~ -4m and continued on an impressive
oval 3m (high) x 5m (wide) with sandy floor. Continued until end of reel
i.e. ~100m in (after we used the rest on previous passageway). Still going
in exactly the same shape and compass bearing. Penultimate pitch
could do with a bolt in opposite wall to avoid rope rubbing

(Aspilaukta)
Notes

(1106)

Mark Smith
Cavin
Metherson

9/8/02

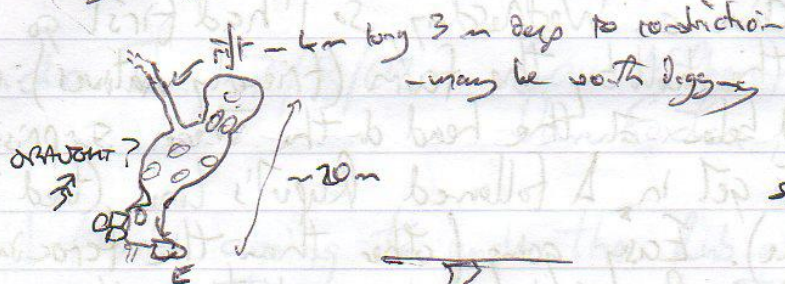
Nacimiento de Campiazo

Dive in a stream resurgence surveyed by Rupert in '98.
Mark got the nice dive on Wednesday, so I had first go at this one. Left the car up the hill by the farm (friendly natives): entrance diagonally across the field below at the head of the stream. Surprisingly, shifted some rocks to get in. I followed Rupert's line (tied to the pipe just below the surface). Easy going (other than the ferocious eel guardian) to the end of Rupert's line, where I tied off my ambitious 200m line reel and set off up through an awkward gap into a larger chamber above. This looked promising from below but soon tightened up, more than I'd like to try with 2 fully rigged 25l cylinders. Abortively attempted to tie off but failed, almost losing the line in the silt I'd kicked up in the process. Eventually negotiated by way back to Rupert's line through the gap and headed home, but LEFT ~~the~~ ~2m of LINE TRAILING in an advanced piece of fuckmuttery: feel free to correct my mistake if you ever get down there. Can't see any great reason to go back though: the passage ahead might well be negotiable, but I wouldn't fancy it and there are better places to spend your time in Matenozo. Summary: getting awkward, no obvious way through. Fear the eel (he certainly won't fear you).

P.S. Many thanks to Dr Smith for carrying: he was intending to follow, but I'd fucked his visibility & the word "tight" was enough to put him off. Still, he'd make an excellent yate.

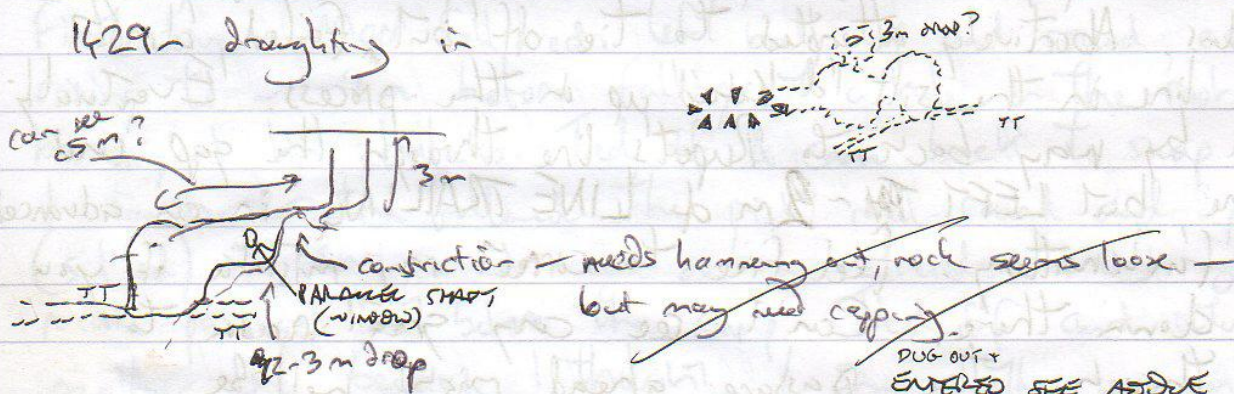
10.8.02
 9.8.02 Las Cerdillas - Ali, & Harry, Felipe, Santi!

Cool windy day
 1209 - draughting out



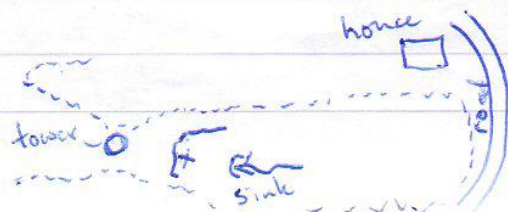
SEE SURVEY NOTES

1429 - draughting in



DUG OUT + ENTERED SEE ABOVE

10/8/02. More solo wandering by Harry at Riano. Had a look up the valley between 1804 and the road. Just up-valley from tower is scar with entrance down back of massive slipped block. The wet weather stream was sinking in a silted hole a few metres away. 2 metre climb down leads to undercut and a silt bank with diggable small hole into standing size bit. Down to right was a choked way into a small chamber which I cleared. From chamber 2 ways on - both of which need enlarging. Both draughting, + noise of stream audible. Most likely joins downstream section of Riano.



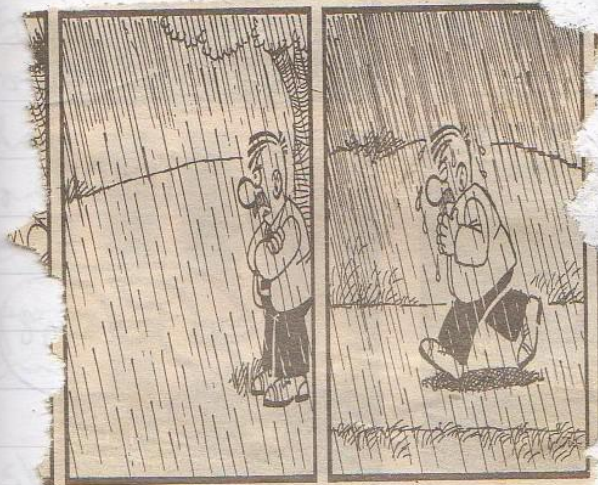
1810

After this drove to park near 253 and walked up stream past 1673. Half of the wet weather stream was resurging from a very low bedding immediately below the track with other $\frac{1}{2}$ coming down over scars from higher up spread out over several metres.

1807

5 metres to the right (looking uphill) and 4 metres above the track is a 3 metre overhanging climb down with possible ways on - undercended as on my own. Possible draught.

Further on road near the rocky knoll is a 3 metre low rock shelter right by the wall and approx. 25 metres from corner of the barn.



1725?

Cabadul - Sink dig below farm - PP, SCUB + ESKI

Very wet - but - dry dry easy crawl to end + dig - took long look, hammer, BAR etc. No problem apart from 100kgm rocks falling on head, but - being hard this was no problem. Needs more work with

means of pulling rocks out - if which etc. Come back to Matengo to work in SUN.

8-8-02 TOAD. A wild PStewy Sait: Slug Rugged 6' (+5m) pink with blue water.

Surveyed main route in last series just beyond this patch.

Surveyed link from First Return through tight section to steel grill ~~connection~~ connection to route before Fossil Chamber - needs hammering open to get through.

Slug descended pitch in ~~last 5m~~ First descent in big chamber - descent
20 m through plastic windows into leading rift (-70-80°) to mud choke
at -60 m. Mud slopes back up.

PS climbed up over top of pitch into cross rift in possible way on
leading fracture line to go in.

WAY ON INTO CASE APPEARS TO BE 5m UP ~4m" QRO UP!! REPAIRMENT
NEEDED

10/8/02 Jan, Penny, Ian, Pete, Jane. Vides in Cofremedo.

6/8/02 Renada - Castle Hall Andy Q., Ali, Slug, Pete S.

Trip to survey wet passage found at Easter - now known as
"Moat of Doom". Andy found a way across deep water to
a short passage leading to a sump. Slug found dry passage
on left of first part of deep water. Not surveyed, but
probably just below Crowbar passage (about 50 m long).

9/8/02 Cueva de la Casa Blanca, Jane, Toby, Slug, Pete S. 1808

Went to dig on El Mazo knoll. Slug put a bolt in large
boulder and pulled it out singlehandedly, with the aid of a pulley.

He then quickly cleared out top of pitch and Jane went back
to car for a ladder. Pitch is about 10m, can be belayed
from stud at pitch head with a spreader, and two ladders.

Hole in middle of chamber floor slopes into stream passage.
It has two small inlets but is blocked by run-in.

A return trip is needed to dig this out, survey and photograph.

Slug retrieved crowbar that had been dropped down pitch
in "Cueva de la Casa Blanca II", so that connection has been
proved.

19 July / 12 August.

Jan & Miss Chandler.

Camped on the site for the whole period - got soaked - infested with fleas from Cuatibu - used no sunscreen - used two cans of insect killer to get rid of fleas. Walked the hills, did some carving, supported some teams. Wrote a lot - will develop into poems/prose. Staking underground and overground. Developed some paintings of Cephalopods, Big O, Juero, Agua. Expect to do more plus some sculpture. Also did digital recordings underground and above ground activities.

4/08/02 - Marans, Dave F., Killer - Went to "Pirates Cave" to survey from entrance to ship (Killer had emerged ^{as been in} previously but needed vest doing to "tie things in". Had a wander about on the hillside above afterwards to see if anything looked like it might drop into the same passage further upstream but could not find anything.

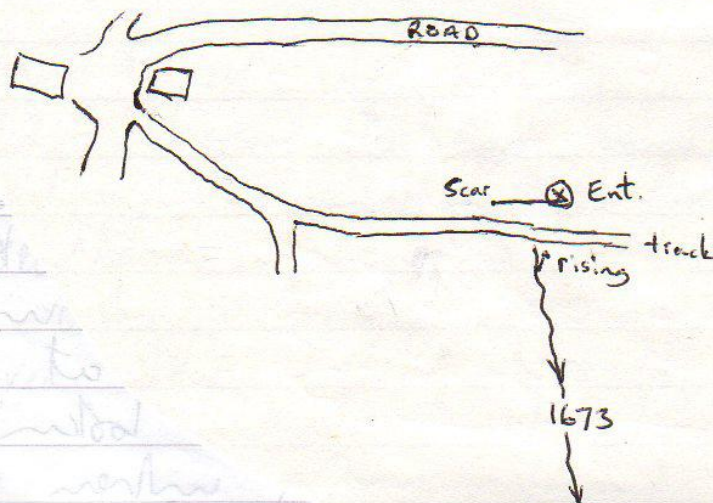
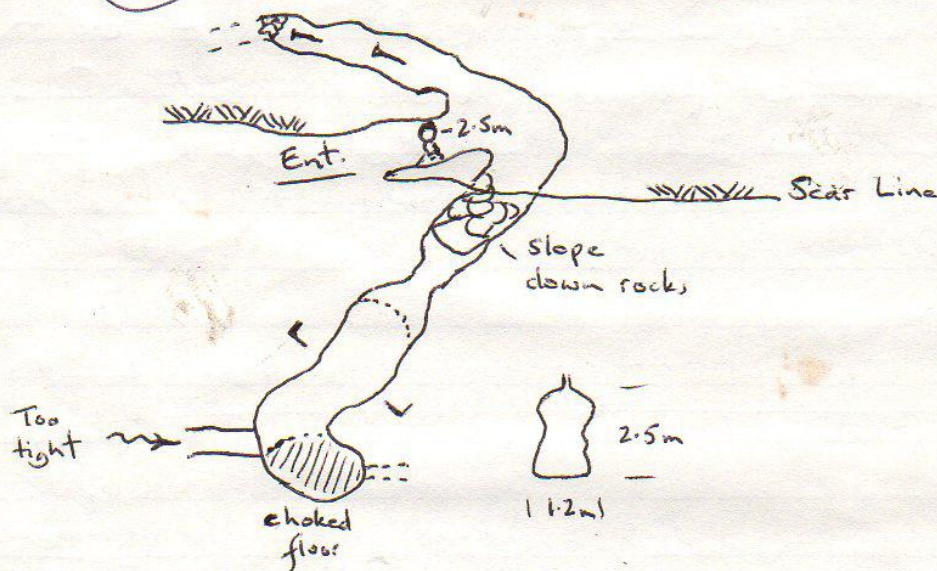
5/08/02 - Marans, Dave F., Killer - Went back to 253 to carry on capping rift out. Shifted a bit more rock but couldn't get through yet - thought let's go back to morrow.

6/08/02 - Marans, Dave F., Killer, Gav. - Went back to 253. Started capping, managed to melt 2 (the only 2) drill bits without getting anywhere and decided to just try kangarooing until Killer got back with the car. Got on quite well, shifted quite a bit of rock & the fist at the end of the rift just about started looking large enough to fit through when we ran out of petrol (for the generator).
(Continued 2 pages forwards)

11/8/02 Harry + Helen returned to the hole in the scar near the stream containing 1673, found yesterday. A ladder overcame the overhanging 2.5 metre entrance drop and landed at a junction. Upstream went 4 metres up a steep slope to where it got too tight. The opposite direction dropped down a steep slope and through a squeeze. Beyond, a step down lead to walking size passage which ended about 4 metres on at a pool + no way out. A small inlet up in right wall discharged a dribble.

1810 GR needs looking

Total length c 12 metres
" depth c 7 metres



10.8.02 Las Cazadillas 1209 + 1429.

See additions to 9.8.02 entry.

(Continued from 2 pages back words)
 Tried hitting things with a lump hammer for a while & didn't get anywhere, then just decided to shade down carefully anyway. Got in ~~between~~ the slot/raft and realised in wasn't actually that bad. Got to the bottom easily but the going passage that looked quite big at the top wasn't that big & had been almost filled in by ~~us~~ us kicking all the cap debris down. cleaned in out, ~~etc~~ and crawled through. The new passage was as follows - wet crawl which ~~was~~ underlined out to sandy slightly broken down passage (several chunks up while Gav ~~exp~~ tried but didn't go) leading to T-junction with climb down into stream way.

Down stream - drafted slightly. Short awkward sideways crawl leads to 2nd T-junction. Left - ~~that~~ as draft gets too silted up to continue.

Right - follow stream way to 50cm x 20cm slot - drafts slightly.

Up stream - andwards going that quickly becomes too narrow. This way takes the main traffic.

Total length of passage ≈ 100 m.

130 August 2002

Juan + Penny walking on Cnaso.

527@VN5099(3)9725(6)

528@VN5097(6)9725(6)

Refound site 527 + 528. GPS. Photo.

1811 Rocks needs removing to descent small shaft. Appears closed all round at base - 4m deep. About 10m downhill of 2 prominent rocks.

1812 Steep sided depression with interesting bouldery dip at base. Shaft on N side of depression enters a section beyond the dip.

1813 In 3m high face. One hole above another. At the back is a tiny rift bending right that may enlarge below. Extended capping required. About 10m N is 1m deep closed opening.

1814 Situated on uphill side of depression with track. Sloping roof leads down to wall-due rift sloping down to the north. Unexplored.

14th August 2002

Pete Gagon + Helen, Ali, Jane + Juan to Alisas to explore caverns measureless - wide entrance noted by various drivers where the road workings below Las Calandillas have broken into a 4m wide + high cavern. Unfortunately cave turned out to closed almost immediately, the draught coming from at least 2 widely separated places. Some short passages near the end but no hopes. About 80m long. (1815 VN4753(6)9750(1))

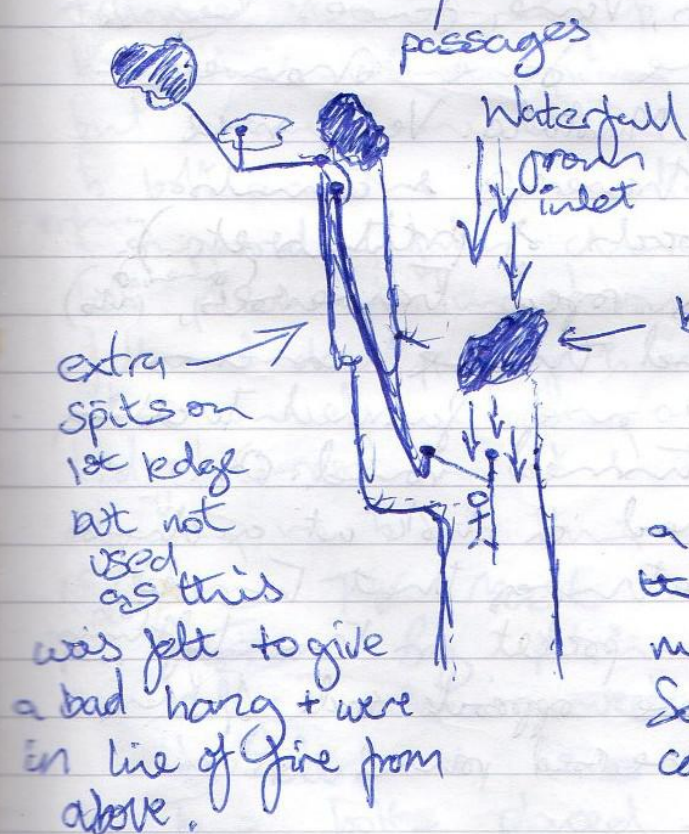
"Shaft" above found by Ali and explored down and down for ~ 30m by Pete to level out and rip in. (1816 VN4764(4)9751(4))

9/8/02 TV Mast Marus David F.



Toby skillfully wet our appetites the previous night, after one or five beers! He described a lovely cave with a pitch undescending, waiting "just begging" to be explored. In the cold light of day it appeared one or two difficulties would have to be overcome. The main pitch being "horrendous" loose death trap & the lack of bolts. The pitch is not all that bad if care is taken & bolts were placed to aid self descent. Whilst placing one of the bolts for the next section of shaft the steady drip increased "quite" quickly to a large jet wash! A quick calculation & retreat was made. The entrance took a lot of water & several

small inlets were passed including the over which was passing water out. Once out it was decided



a good decision had been made the rain being torrential. This made a lovely walk back. So much for a "nice" dry cave as Toby promised!

Derig

10/8/02 Azpilweta Marws + David

Whilst the "glory boys" are off down another sump the "workers" are left to derig. After yesterday's rain water levels were high & this was further increased on the walk with extra heavy showers. However how bad could it be?

Once down the 2nd pitch we were having our doubts! Then on arrival at the head of the big pitch it was quite apparent that we may need some "glory boy" air to tackle this pitch - so we bugged off out. On the walk back to the campsite the sun came out.

12/08/02 - MUSTAKO - Marws, Dave, Jane.

Hard steady day where Jane showed us round upper level of Mustako. Very nice coming after quite long traverse & cranks (big stomping passage, loads of pethies etc.). Gt to the 2 supposedly roped traverses (one of them). Dave went 1st but found there was no rope on the 2nd. No one found tackling this unaided so we turned round. On the way back we had a look at a climb up to look at ~~some~~ something that turned out to be a sort of solution pocket on the left ^(on map) just past Golden Void on the opposite side of the passage to a small pit traversed round on a catwalk ledge.

13/08/02 - Azpilometer Marcus + Dave.

Went back & got the ropes out this time. The water levels had dropped substantially ($\approx 3^{\text{rd}}$ of volume present 3 days before). Dipped some of the tackle at T.V. Mast in preparation for a 2nd assault & brought the rest back.

MARCUS + DAVID

14/08/02 - Went back to T.V. Mast. Water all most back to what I assume is "normal" levels. Dave

successfully roped big loose pitch & shouted to come down. The rest bit was quite confusing.

We traversed ~~to~~ out to the left out of the shaft into broken down section, up 2 rubble slopes into a up a rift. Hit a T-junction, followed draft right into chamber & pitch. ^(with small bolt) Down pitch into nice streamway. Followed streamway to short pitch roped off natural to another v. short pitch (done previously in free climb. By David?) but more unwilling to climb down & unable to bolt as the remarkably large, heavy impression ~~was~~ supposedly fully charged battery ran out after 2 bolt placements. Turned round & maybe 20m upstream followed dry passage to right for 10m & found ourselves at a window looking out at our rope very ^{at relatively narrow} Marble ledge! Climbed on at & decided to re-rope next time, allowing us to use this bypass route.

15/8/02 TV Mast Marcus + David

~~test~~ Big pitch re-rig ^{so as to follow} Rhs of Marble ledge below overhang to allow access to jammed boulders + thus cut out 3 pitches.

Two bolts placed + we are back at "disks" then bolted next pitch from a dry overhang in roof - away from water & a nice hang in a bushy shaft.

At bottom narrow rift leads off which
 takes water - this not explored as
 sandy crawl runs parallel then leads
 around to a ledge in the shaft we
 had just descended. Up a climb then
 into rift passage + old fossil stuff.
 Nice pretty grotto with good cave pearls
 + continue to head of large drop with
 falling water heard. People had been
 here before but no bolts were in
 evidence - maybe JD on another short
 climb? 30m ish pitch from stone fall. Battery
 power nonexistent + no hand bolting kit
 so more for next time! Still not found
 Toby's pitch after a duck, so lots to do it
 will need to wait. Uneventful journey out
 with two buys each resulted in two tired boys
 so tired fell asleep in bar! ~~The ~~rest of the~~ ~~trip~~~~
~~the ~~call~~ ~~for~~~~

15/8/02 Vallia Ali, Leher.

Returned to lower series to explore
 at resurvey. pushed west if not all remains
 left. near two chambers



most ways proved to be useless. all surveyed and pursued. Old way into chamber near who knows where chamber re-found.

PL

11/8/02 Ali, Peter, Helen, Sati, Marcus.

Vallie

Tried to enter old small shaft near entrance but Sati to beg. Went to who knows where chamber and found way through via Williams and Jim's Easter dig in clove. Surveyed connection and some side passage ~~at~~ a return will hopefully sort out leads.

PL

16.8.02 Digged road - Ali, Haskie.

18/8/02 Ali, Ivan, Penny, Jenny, Angus, ~~to~~ Haskie to Alisa.

Haskie went down into the trees and was not seen in Matienzo.

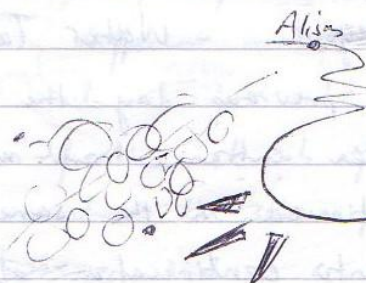
The rest of team went into the trees slightly higher up the valley and immediately came across 1817 @ VN4779(8)9472(5) - a 20m

deep draughting hole. Then became

bewildered in the woods in amongst limestone and vegetation. Eventually reached fresh air

near site 539 ~~of~~ and 1312 (VN4844(7)9438(1)). Reached site 1305 (VN4862(2)9438(9)) for Ali + Jenny to descend. Ali went down beyond previous limit (16m down) to tighter pitch 16m. On way back followed track towards Alisa - much easier. Site

539 @ VN4821(2)9438(4)



1818 @ VN4827(0)9454(8) - an open 10m undecorated shaft up from the track.

1819 - just out the woods with a hazel tree in the entrance.

A 20m long chamber with formations. Needs a proper look for archaeology. VN4794(2)9472(5)

12th August - Valline top entrance - Adolfo, Alex, Peter Eagan, Pete S. + Catalans -

Different drops - One team of Catalans went to the dig Phil had found near parking space. Apparently it wasn't looking promising.

We went to draughting hole near top entrance, dug at Easter. Chemical persuasion soon opened it so that Peter and a Catalan could get in, but draught was coming from narrow rift, too tight as far as could be seen. Possibly jack hammer could be used to take calcite off the left hand wall.

Then we moved on to the "Water Tank Dig" at barn to the west of Valline. The entrance was opened up and Peter was able to squeeze in, about 3m to next restriction.

14th August - Water Tank Dig. Adolfo, Pete S.

The previous day the Catalans had used three "sticks" to widen entrance and make it easier to work further in. We continued in the same way, until I could squeeze past stal into continuation of passage, but was stopped after another 3m where the roof comes down. The passage can be seen to continue in the same way beyond, ~~with~~ with good draught. Possibly floor could be dug out.

15th August - Molino (Bustabladu) Steve, Phil, Andy, Heskey, Pete S.

Climb in the chamber about half way along the cave.

Bolts already in could not be used, so the climb was

(placed by unknown persons)

re-done (using drill and battery borrowed from Catalans), by Steve, Andy and Phil in turn. Phil reached top to announce

it continued as a roof tube leading to a drop down.

The passage turned out to be 3 m. long, and the drop down choked. As Steve said, the best feature was a dead bat.

17th August Valline Albert's Grand Passage - Phil, Heskey, Peter Egan, Pete S.

Met up with Catalans at top of big pitch. Peter was given the task of swinging into a chamber part way down the shaft, with a sky hook for the purpose. He promptly climbed back up at the back of the chamber and reappeared in a passage on the opposite side of the shaft top. (Meanwhile Catalans at the bottom of the shaft had found a connection with the big sandy passage in the "old" cave).

Peter rigged a traverse line across the shaft, and Pete S. and Phil crossed, not without incident. The top of the chamber is very pretty with helictites, stal going in different directions, and a "fuck off" stalagmite. A climb up over stal at far side of chamber leads to a climb down, and a further climb up which would be safer with a handline. This reaches the same phreatic level as in the first part of Albert's Passage, and is comfortable walking for 100 m to a large shaft about 15 m + in diameter and 20 m + deep, with a high aven above. The passage seems to continue on the other side of the shaft, at the same height.

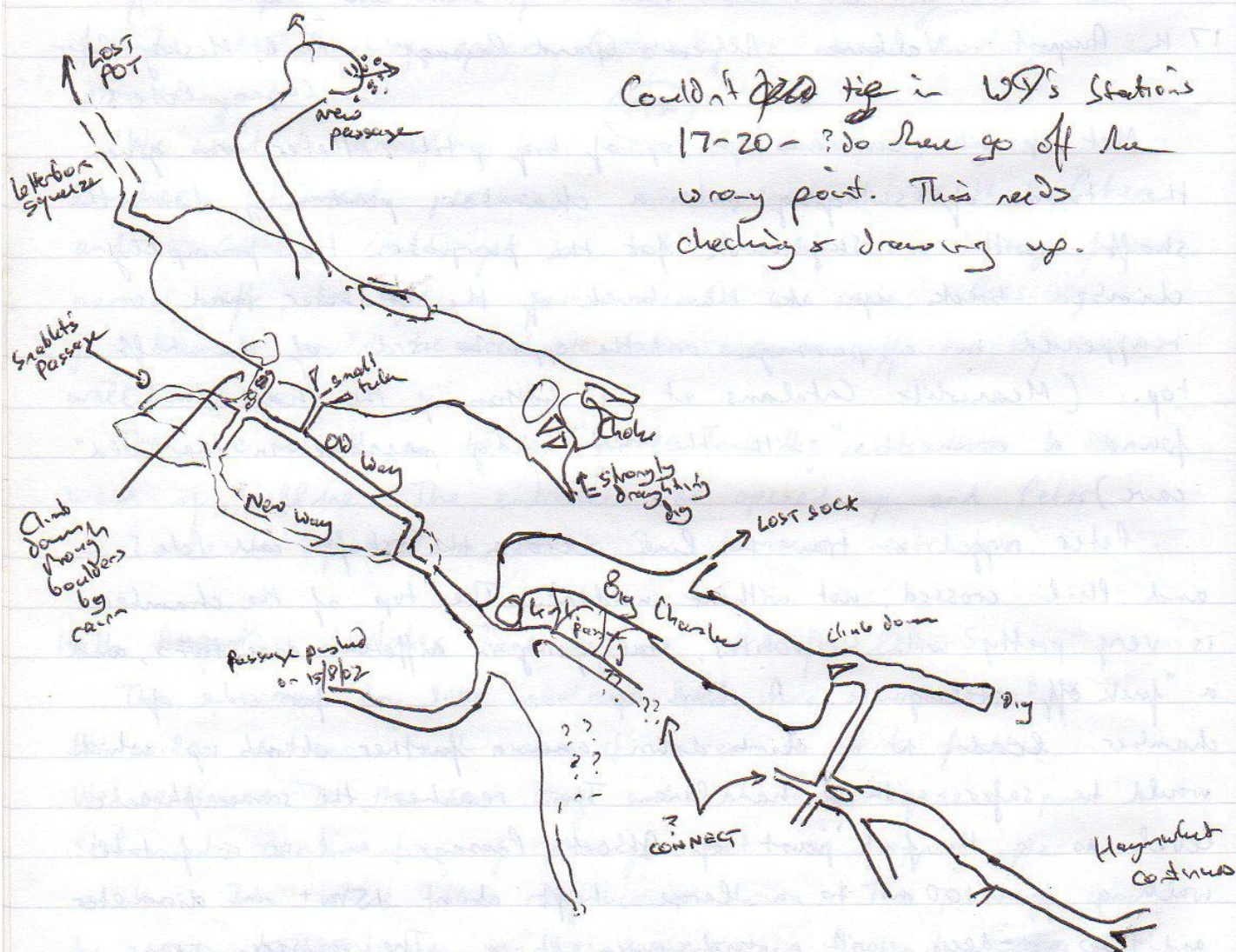
19th Aug. Vallure, Dobb

Hammerhead / Secret Series

Checked survey data from 1989 in second chamber to confirm ~~was~~ that all 2002 survey in this area is off wrong point.

Passage in second chamber surveyed - strong draught - into small chamber where draught disappears in a forest of stal - large hammer could enable it to be followed, by a candle!

Willan Dour's survey data seem v. confusing - out of sync with stations in survey data.



Couldn't find tip in WP's Stations 17-20 - ? do here go off the wrong point. This needs checking & drawing up.

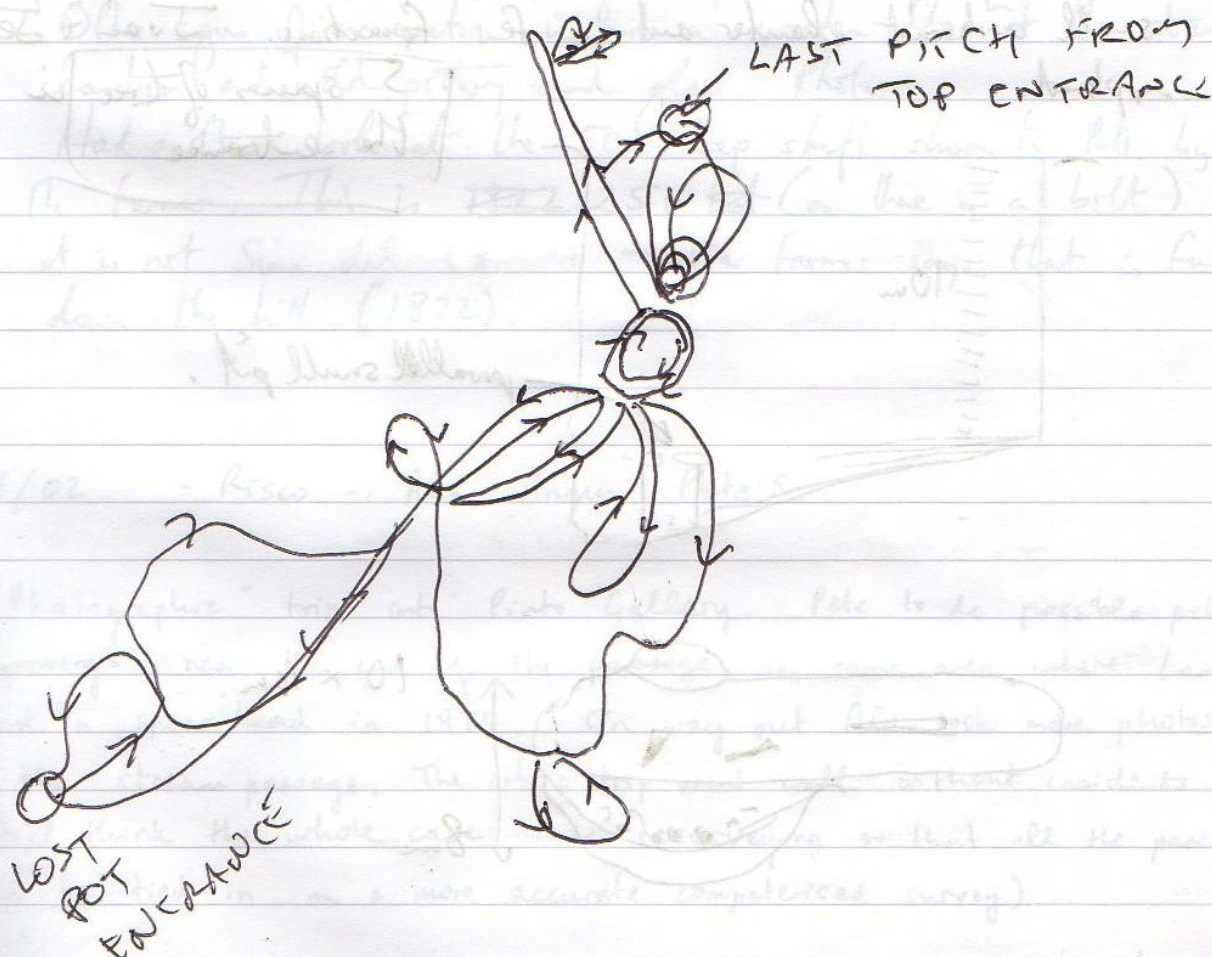
Exited through Lost Sock making a nice round trip.

19/8/02 Toca de Casa Blanca (1808 VN 5239(5) 95 76(5).

Pete, Jon, Jenny. Pushed, surveyed, vides in the 100 or so metres of Casa Blanca. A cave "may tipica" of the him.

Closes in up the inlet and is too tight flat out where the water disappears. Downstream end closes at a high level and a possible dig seems to lead to more flat out.

21/8/02 Vallin - spent 4 hrs no more than 20 mins from entrance - A Nail, P Eagen, A Bell.
This is where we went



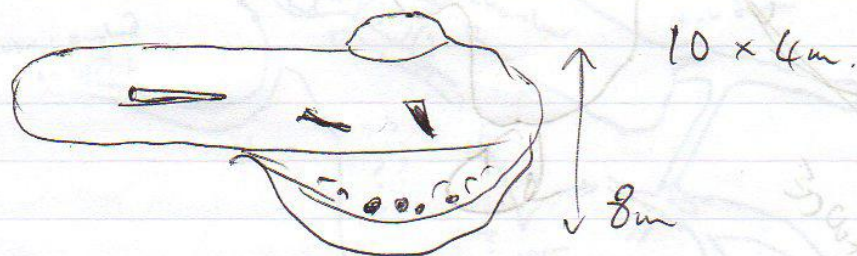
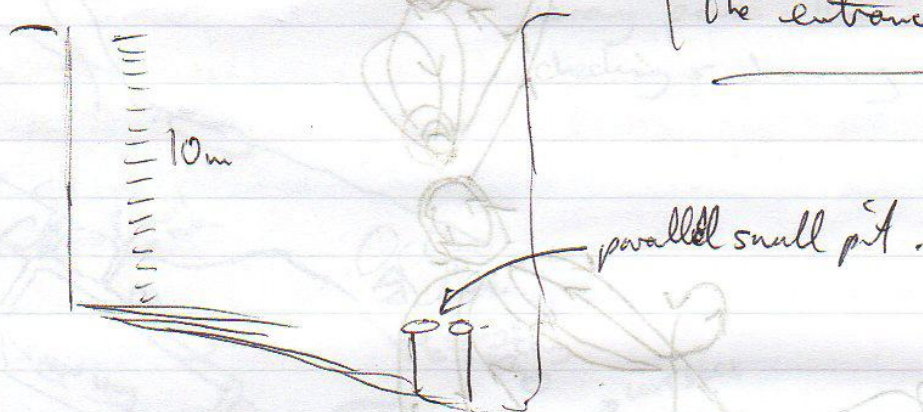
About 330 m survey.

22/8/02 Pete, Dave Bell, Jerry, Ben to Aliso to follow up the leads from 18th August.

First to 1817 where Pete was not impressed by the lack of lump hammer to open up the high level squeeze. Rock was soon removed however with the small bar and Pete free-climbed down to the first ledge where he pushed boulders down a tighter section providing a skidding boom from 15m below. Needs chemical persuasion. Maillon, sling and spreader required for belaying ladder to boulders above 1st drop.

Then to 1819 for a closer look and video. Then to shaft 1818 - a very nice, clean 10m shaft to a small unbranched chamber and a few formations. Joan + Jerry explored.

5 species of tree in the entrance



Home for tea as it started to rain.

26/8/02 After waiting for the rain to clear (2 days), Pete, Juan + Jenny set off to "finalise" shaft 1743 near the Chura farm houses, and Tona Bora. (1786)

Juan + Jenny down 1743 to photo and survey + a bit of video. Pete gallantly waited on the surface and as he was bored went to find another hole and did 20m above this one.

He went down this (1821) to find a closed floor 10m down. The shaft is 4×3 m and has a fine half roof of slabs in an arch.

Then to Tona Bora where Juan + Pete descended (one after the other at a time) to see 3 rifles + bullets on the floor.

Other signs of occupation include a wooden floor ⁱⁿ the entrance chamber and old pottery and glass. Photos.

Had another look at the 50m deep shaft shown to Pete by the farmer. This is ~~1822~~ 251 ~~but~~ (as there is a bolt) but it is not Sima del Canado - the farmer says that is further down the hill. (1822).

20/8/02 - Risco - Ali, Angus, Pete S.

"Photographer" trip into Pinto Gallery. Pete to do possible prehistoric engravings near the end of the passage, in same area where Lank found a spear head in 1975. On way out Ali took more photos of the stream passage. The whole trip went well without incidents. (I still think the whole cave needs resurveying so that all the passages could be tied in, on a more accurate computerised survey).

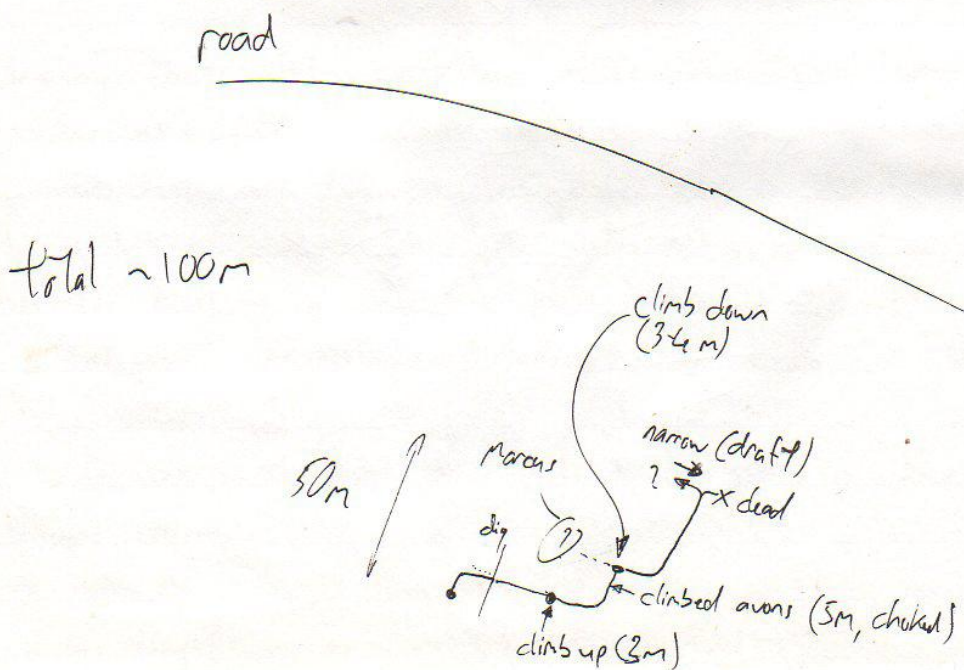
Sometime at beginning of August - Heskey, Phil, Terry, Max, Pete S. - Valline.

On a trip looking for the Swede's Passage, in the chambers beyond Swirl Chamber Heskey found a hole down, which went past a couple of avents to connect with known passage - probably below the Tuesday Pitch - i.e. a by-pass out of Rio Rija avoiding all pitches.

On the same trip the climb was started that eventually led to Albert's Passage.

27/8/02 Pete into site 1289 to excavate pot from "balis cone".
 Pot appears quite modern. Some older pottery found lower
 down towards slope into cave.
 Pete says it's probably not worth excavating any more.

Needs Survey: 253



MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT