

LOGBOOK

Year: 2008

Season: Christmas : New Year

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

Juan Corrin, January 2015

CC has 3116 → 3128

(3116 way to Cuatro Entradas)
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CHRISTMAS LOG BOOK

28 December 2008 - 3116 Cueva de Cuatro Entradas - Big Steve; Pedro, Phil P

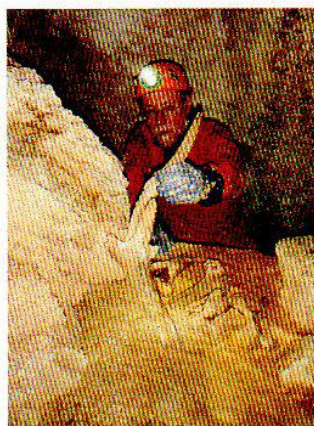


The aim was to look at possible avens in Covarona that Pedro thought might exist, but could not see as he only had a Premier lamp on previous trips. He thought he knew the way to the cave, but it soon became clear that the forest had developed whilst his memory had declined in the previous 14 years! By chance we reached a small clearing

and Pedro thinking this was the left turn off the track to reach Covarona, started up hill through the spiky jungle with Phil and Steve following. After some 100m or so a cliff face was reached and a cave, not Covarona but a "new" cave! This find enabled Pedro to escape physical harm at the hands of the cut and bleeding team.

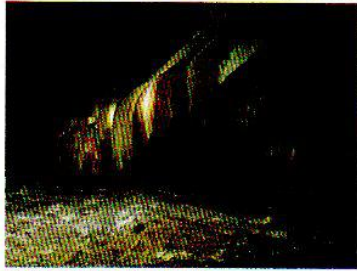
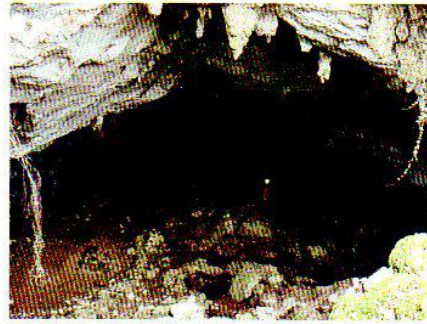


Cave proved to have four entrances, the other three being even more difficult to get to or from as Steve found out! Cave is a large fragment that has been dissected by the valley down cutting, there is some scope for extension - the best (although not good) being a high level passage in the upper chamber. The cave was surveyed to be some 174m in length with a small amount of water and draft disappearing down a very small hole at the bottom of a gour slope. Old bones were noted, some calcified, site may pay some archaeology work.



31 December 2008 - 112 Covarona - Big Steve; Pedro, Carolina, Phil P

After the previous attempt to find the cave three days before, Pete decided to ask his archaeology friends for the grid ref and for Carol to join the team as his "carer". This combination worked well, despite trying to follow the GPS to the grid ref through jungle with sharp hanging sarsaparilla and brambles making progress very slow and difficult. After half an hour of hell we found our way to a clearing and a track that Pedro had been to three days earlier,



but thought he was wrong! We just followed the track up hill to Covarona. Looked at the entire cave, no obvious digs or ways to extend as the way on seems to be below masses of calcite and in-fill! Also no avens found, most of



high areas of roof are collapse features. A number of photographs were taken using available light.

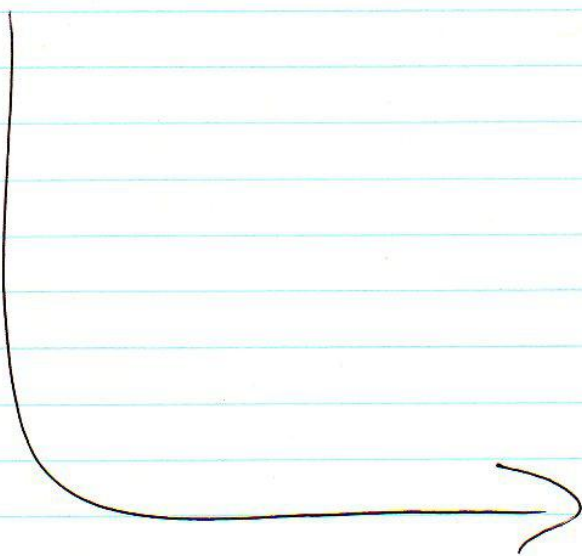
4-1-2009 Pete, Steve + Joan to Boil in the Bay (268)
Sunny start to trip unfortunately to cow shit stream entrance. 4 capped holes led to duck ~~was~~ under low arch to blocked way on. Much debris removed to ~~see~~ well entrance and way on found on LH wall. ~~Large~~ large block hiked into chamber with rift down 4 meters seems to take all the draught. Needs in next trip to back fill boulders to small chamber.

5/1/2009 Pete, Steve + Joan up to 3129 - a draughting bouldery hole that Pete videoed a week ago. A couple of hours spent removing boulders + slag until rain stopped play.
Hole is at 30T 0449778 4796915 alt 400, inbetween penages in Pica and Regaton at about 270 and 190 m altitude.
Excellent warm draught coming out when air temp was about 4C.

(3)

7/1/09 Pete, Penny, Joan to San Sebastian and
the Aranzadi Scientific Society building to meet
Dr Francisco Extebarria, Legal + Medical forensic
scientist @ the Univ. Pais Vasco. Bones handed over
from SITE 2741. A mini-tour of the facilities and
archive @ the S.S. was undertaken in a rushed manner -
Bones will be handed on to a specialist in children's bones.

11/1/09 Diana Mantari's report prison + sentence + fine for 2
men disturbing archaeological remains in Cueva Coibrantes (110).



Año y medio de cárcel para dos hombres por expoliar la cueva de Cobrantes

La Guardia Civil les sorprendió en abril de 2006 'in fraganti', tumbados en el suelo de la cavidad con 75 huesos y piedras talladas del paleolítico

09.01.09 - C. DE LA P. | SANTANDER

Dos hombres, de 36 y 42 años, han sido condenados a un año y medio de prisión y multa de 3.840 euros como autores de un delito contra el patrimonio histórico por expoliar en 2006 la cueva de Cobrantes, situada en el monte Mullir, en San Miguel de Aras, de la que sustrajeron 75 piezas, que incluían huesos y piedras talladas del paleolítico. Los condenados no tendrán que ingresar en prisión, al ser la pena impuesta inferior a los dos años.

Además, los condenados tendrán que pagar al Gobierno de Cantabria los gastos de reposición del solar arqueológico al estado original en el que se encontraba antes del expolio y, si ello no fuera posible, en la cuantía en que se fijen los daños causados en la fase de ejecución de la sentencia.

La sentencia, dictada por el Juzgado de lo Penal número 2, declara probado que los acusados Diego G-C. y Santiago B., conocedores de la importancia de los restos arqueológicos de la cueva, entraron en ella, al menos en dos ocasiones, entre los meses de enero y abril de 2006. Para acceder a su interior saltaron la verja de hierro que protege la entrada y se introdujeron en ella provistos de martillos de gemas, rastrillos, guantes y luces.

Pertrechados de estas herramientas realizaron diversas rebuscas y excavaciones, llegando incluso a reexcavar diversos sondeos realizados previamente por personal autorizado de la Consejería de Cultura. Con su actuación llegaron a desfigurar los perfiles estratigráficos.

El 9 de abril de 2006 los dos acusados fueron sorprendidos 'in fraganti' por miembros de la Guardia Civil en el interior de la cueva, tumbados en el suelo en el borde de la zona de cata, provistos de guantes y de instrumentos adecuados para la búsqueda y obtención de objetos.

En ese momento tenían dispuestas para su expolio un total de 75 piezas perfectamente clasificadas en dos bolsas, que fueron entregadas al Servicio de Patrimonio Arqueológico de Cantabria. Según subraya la sentencia, que acoge íntegramente la tesis sostenida por el Ministerio Fiscal, para la extracción de las piezas arqueológicas los ladrones rompieron zonas estratificadas y realizaron huecos, a modo de galerías, en la zonas más fértiles, de donde sacaron huesos y piedras talladas del paleolítico.

En la sentencia, el juez reduce la condena al aplicar la atenuante de dilaciones indebidas en la tramitación del procedimiento, que se prolongó durante dos años.

En sus conclusiones, el ministerio Fiscal solicitó una pena de un año y nueve meses de prisión y solicitó una indemnización de 90.300 euros. Por su parte, el abogado defensor calificó los hechos como una falta contra el patrimonio histórico, por la que pidió una pena de quince días de multa a razón de 6 euros al día. Según su versión, los condenados entraron a la cueva en busca de fósiles y la misma había sido alterada con anterioridad debido a las reiteradas visitas clandestinas por parte de desconocidos que había sufrido. Aseguró también que el cierre de la cueva estaba roto.



La entrada de la cueva se encuentra en una zona boscosa. / DM

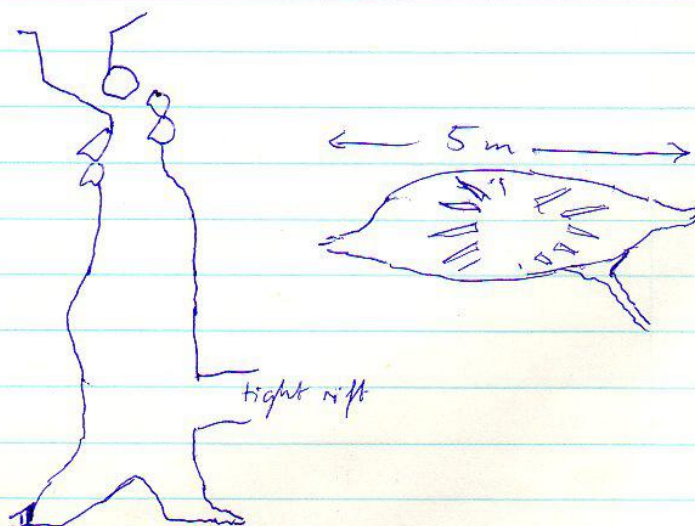
CUEVA DE COBRANTES

Situada en el barrio del Caburrao de San Miguel de Aras en Cantabria (España), es una cueva prehistórica, descubierta a en 1967 por Miguel Ángel García Guinea, que custodiaba un yacimiento con elementos del Magdaleniense, Mesolítico Postaziliense, Edad de Bronce y Edad de Hierro. También contiene diversas obras de arte rupestre del paleolítico. Se trata de una serie de grabados paleolíticos reunidos en dos grupos, que incluyen representaciones animales y un antropomorfo, así como varias muestras de arte esquemático abstracto: marcas negras, puntuaciones, líneas y ángulos. Los grabados se consideran realizados en el Solutrense y en el Magdaleniense Inferior. En 1985 fue declarada Bien de Interés Cultural.

3129 - Symmetry Pot (Cubija) 11/1/09
 Penny, Terry, Juan, Ian, Pete

Back to the dig with the warm draught out. First aim was to make it safe as it's in a field used by cows. So Terry built a beautiful dry-stone wall around the hole. Second aim - dig out the clark, then Juan broke up a boulder and opened up a hole. It just had to be made a little bigger and Juan used the new capping kit put together by Steve. Two ladders were ~~digged~~ and Pedro was 'volunteered' to go down. The shaft is about 10m deep, landing on a mound of clark. The rift is choked at each end, and the draught appears to come from a very narrow rift about 2m above floor level. Pedro re-climbed the ladder as far as the tight bit. Then Juan pulled him and he came out.

Third aim was to make the hole even safer so all the boulders were taken from the drystone and used to fill in the top of the shaft. Juan's quote when the hole was looking much as it had done on 5/1/09 = "A certain symmetry about this dig!"



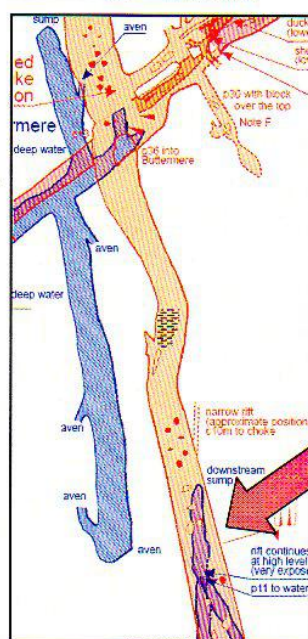
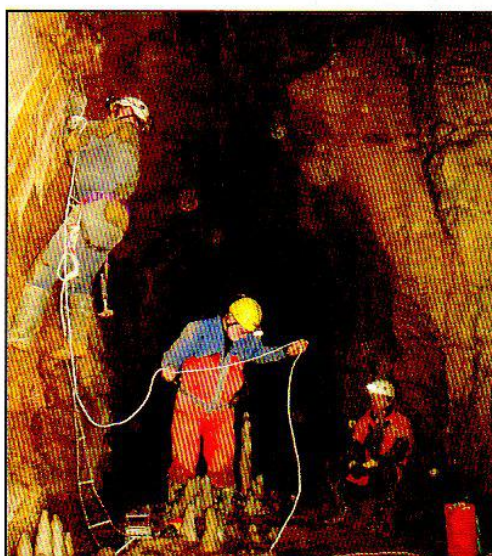
Saturday 17th January 2009



Pete, Ian (photographer), Terry and Juan spent the afternoon in **Cow Pot (2889)** reinstating the tall stal in *Penguin Passage* and bolting up the wall of the southern passage beyond *Red Pike Junction*.

Stal (167cm of it) transported in a couple of sewer pipes along with drill, araldite, etc. Glued the bottom

section in place and went off to the southern passage just beyond the narrow rift down, where water can



usually be heard.

A roof level passage was noted here in November. Terry put in a couple of bolts then free-climbed into "an alcove". However, it did have a narrow rift down to the level of the main passage and then a further narrow drop which was unexplored due to needing a ladder. This is likely to eventually drop to the water at the *Whitworth Series*.

Returned to the stal where Pete and Juan fixed on the top piece, supporting the top against the wall with a couple of pieces of polystyrene. It's now possible to crawl past at floor level, only touching the stump, but it would be better not to come this way at all. The traverse before *Penguin Passage* is tackled up and "bomb-proof". Terry returned this way (and has removed the hardware at the top of the pitch - so this needs replacing).

After leaving Hornedo, followed up the rumour / fact from Angeles, via Pete, that the Baker's had reopened after a being closed for a few months. It was open.



(7)

Chris Cerna November 2008 trip. - See Foster 09
log.

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT