

LOGBOOK

Year: 2012

Season: summer

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

Juan Corrin, January 2015

00 SUMMER 2012

14/7/12 Juan into Comediantes with quadcopter. Practice.
Entrance hall has been cleared. Route up to entrance has a ~~pat~~ rubble path and inside the cave, the passage to the pump has been walled off as has the narrow route into the main passage. More pottery found on right hand wall.

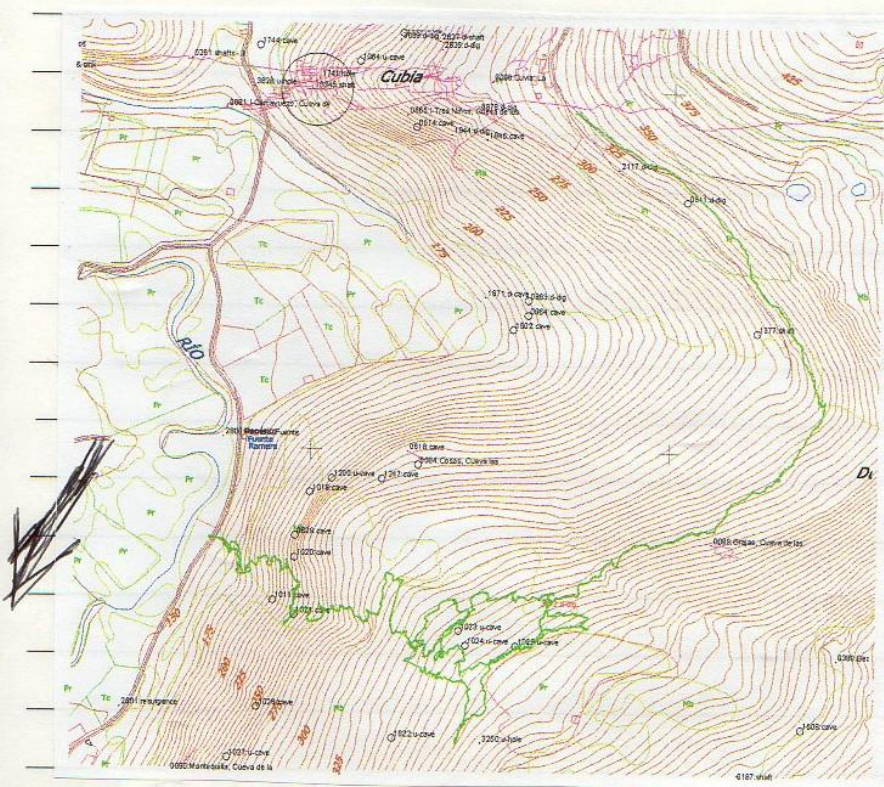
19/7/12 Juan into Porton (76) with quadcopter. Practice.

21/7/12 " " Agua (59) " " " "

23/7/12 3pm start: Penny, Phil & Juan drove up to "White House" to search for Jim Davis's holes on the side of La Colina: 1022, 1023, 1024 & 1025. J + Penny walked on the track below Grajas (89) while Phil took a higher less obvious route through the trees. Emerged into an open rough area of sandstone where 1023-1025 were marked. No sign of any cave development in the area except for a small hole in a clump of trees which Phil excavated to reveal something bigger below. Site 3712 needs excavating. Came down on the right hand side of the valley. Overgrown & steep - not recommended. Nearly lost Penny down a hole. Gorse, brambles and hot sun kept everyone on their toes.

24/7/12 MUSC: Lloyd, Adam, Jez, Xander, Francesca, Roxey, Mike, Bill

Went in Retrada for a 2:40 pm start. Wandered in the direction of Comediantes to try to find a place to test a void connection ~~with~~ between the two caves. A climb showing travel led to the top of a calcite flow. We ~~the~~ climbed over, onto this. A few ways all closed down but one had a tight opening followed by a too-tight squeeze with 4-5m visible passage beyond. We vowed to return and went for a bimsle round the cave, just past Ghost Lake. Out at 10:10.



24/7/2012 Llogd & Adam Sharples

Maella area, looking at potential shafts

3504 - Small entrance quickly leads to medium chamber with stalls. Slopes down to the left lead to more passage probably needs handline or ladder.

730 - 10-15m from track. Few boulders covering a triangular hole marked with "AA 52".

Dropped down first pit to a decked ledge (5m) another pit going 15-20m to explore (Surveyed first leg + photo)
 Colquhoun

745 - Circular shaft drops 4-5m leading to a rubble floor. Small hole at floor level needs another ladder, drops ~2m to another floor. may continue. Two entrances, one of which blocked by "AA54", the other "AA53", AA53 was accessible.

811 - Large circular shaft / eelwees dead.

Two passages, unfortunately ladder was too short to explore further. This one looks like it has a lot of potential.

32

~~96~~ 96? Not in correct GPS position. ~~Blind~~ Blind pit 3-4m deep. 3m x 1m entrance.

(3713 ; 307 ; 0455261 ; 4796467)

1397, attempted to find this cave.

Could not find it or any of the clues given in the description.

Tuesday 24th July @ Mike, Xander, Roxy, Fran

We went down picon to the music box, Mike found a high traverse but we didn't push it as it is very precarious and probably needed bolting for a horizontal line. Just before the long sandy slope down music box to the traverse we went over a calcite wall to the right and ~~followed~~ it turned left to a parallel corridor which after a ~10m pitch down a sandy slope & pushed through a jaggy rock crawl & found station O by Steacy & Simon but couldn't move on as it became deep & vertical. In music box there were multiple routes at the bottom but definitely required rope. There were no spits or naturals to rig off so at the moment we are assuming it is unexplored. There some awesome bruises, Mike is called baldy & Fran is a sweaty bugger.

Xander 

24/7/12 Phil, Jez, Bill

Found entrance of Picon at ~3pm. Headed over to Mandy's Dig at the bottom of the 2 pitches. An 18M rope was only just sufficient for the first pitch. 3 Snappers were placed to remove a 2x1ft section of wall. This allowed entry for another meter or so. A flake of 1x0.2m size blocks any more progress. Rocks were rolled down. Seems highly unlikely that a pitch is near from the sands; instead a course of small (~1m) drops should follow the squeeze.

25/07/12 Lloyd, Adam, Jez, Bill - Mostajo

After looking at the survey the night before, there seemed to be a few promising leads at high level heading towards 415 80 we decided to investigate.

We found the cave without too much drama. Dropping down the entrance pitch we were immediately in stony passage.

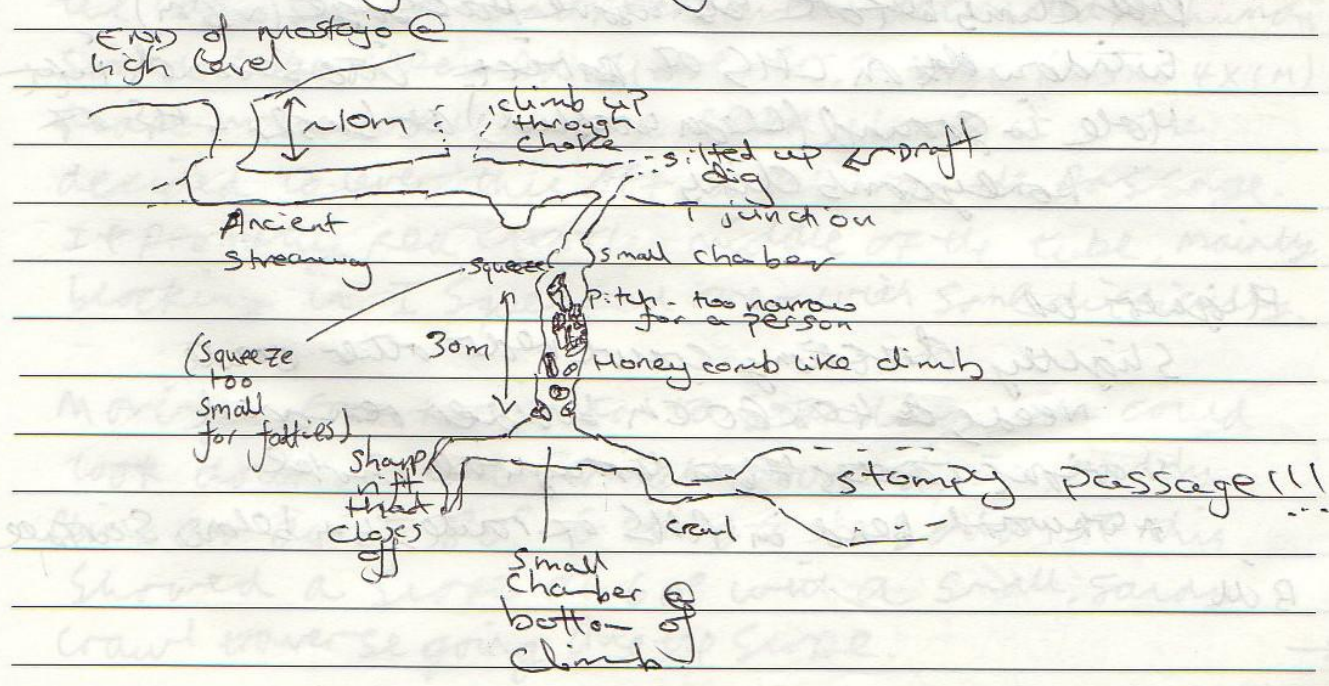
We passed the first traverse without incident and followed the high level route past the flat out crawl and traversing the two pits until we reached the far reaches of Mostajo at high level.

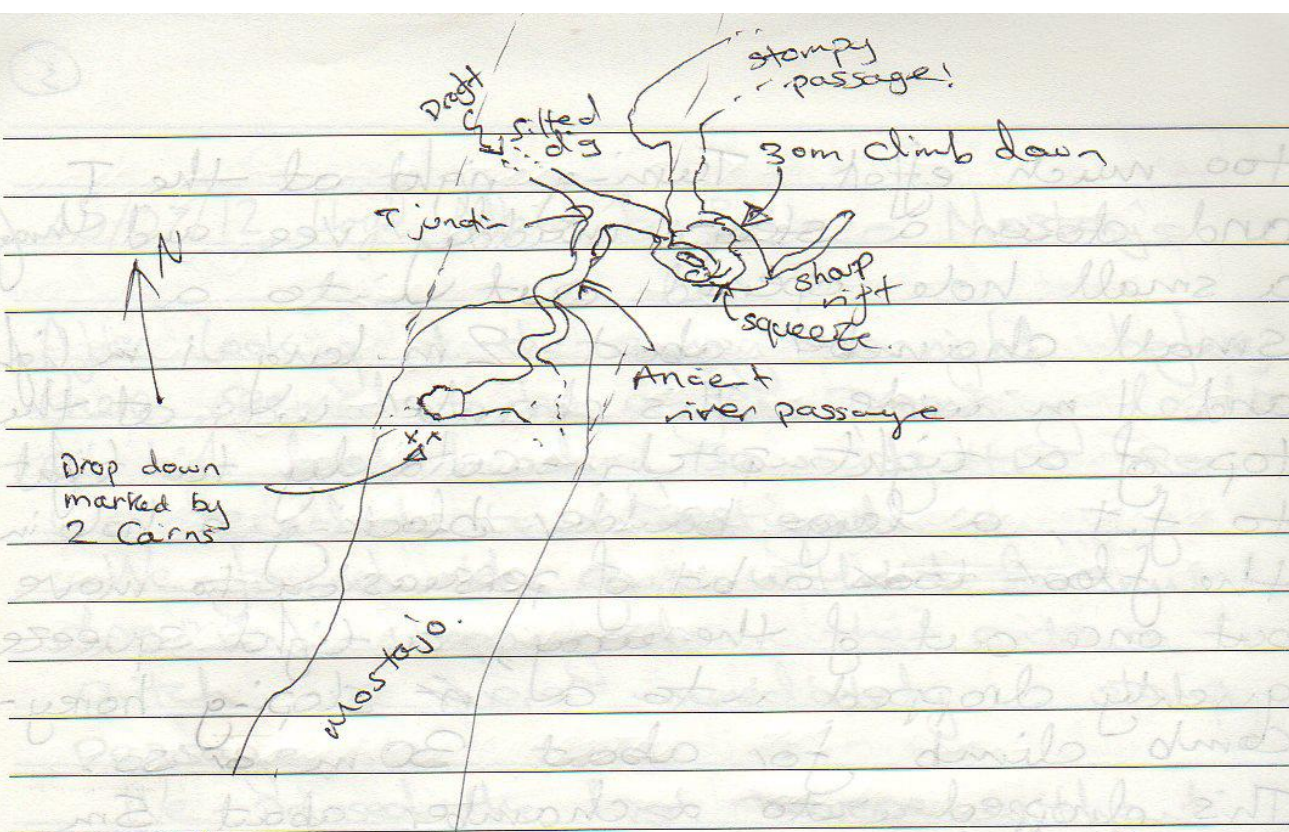
This large boulder strewn chamber had various promising leads, investigated towards the end of the chamber before the roof closed down a way on was found down through the boulders which dropped into an ancient streamway.

There were various ways on which were unexplored, but following the streamway we soon reached a T junction. This streamway did not appear in any surveys or descriptions though it did seem that people had been down this way.

The way to the left ended in a drafting crawl half silted with mud and rocks, certainly diggable without

too much effort. Turning right at the T and down a steep middy vee and through a small hole opened out into a small chamber about 2m long 1m high and 1m wide. This chamber was at the top of a tight pitch - certainly too tight to fit, a large boulder blocking a hole in the floor took a bit of persuasion to move but once out of the way, a tight squeeze quickly dropped into a sloping honey-comb climb for about 30m or so. This dropped into a chamber about 5m wide, 2m tall and 15-20m long. A horrible sharp rift climb at one end quickly closed off whilst at the other end of the chamber down into a short crawl quickly opened out into stumpy passage - Woop! A new discovery it seems, and heading vaguely NE, but will require a revisit to survey to confirm.





Entering the Second Chamber along the ~5m crawl there is a short climb and then a passage. We went 40m along the passage and turned back from time constraints. The steel archway was the limit

Possible leads along here:

- Stompy passage
- But climb before ~~the~~ above passage (~8m)
- Window ~~at~~ on LHS of passage into second right
- Hole in ground (clean washed) at base, LHS of honeycomb climb

Higher up

- Slightly fracturing crawl via other route
- Needs a 40x60cm boulder removed
- various routes ~~from~~ through all dike
- Awkward bend in RHS of route, 5m below surface

Bu

OT9

25/07/12 Picon Mike Topson, Francesca McDonald, Roxy Ramsey, Xander Davis

We went down to station O from 8 Aug 1993, we put a rope down the preceding leading rift and I descended ~5m into a chamber. Using a dial a hole in the floor was measured at ~50m depth. This should certainly be part of a passage in region. A flake or boulder blocks the hole enough for a person not to pass through. There is a very strong draught in the passage, enough to make Fran cold while waiting a little while.

Mike

26/07/12 Picon, w. Phil and Bill

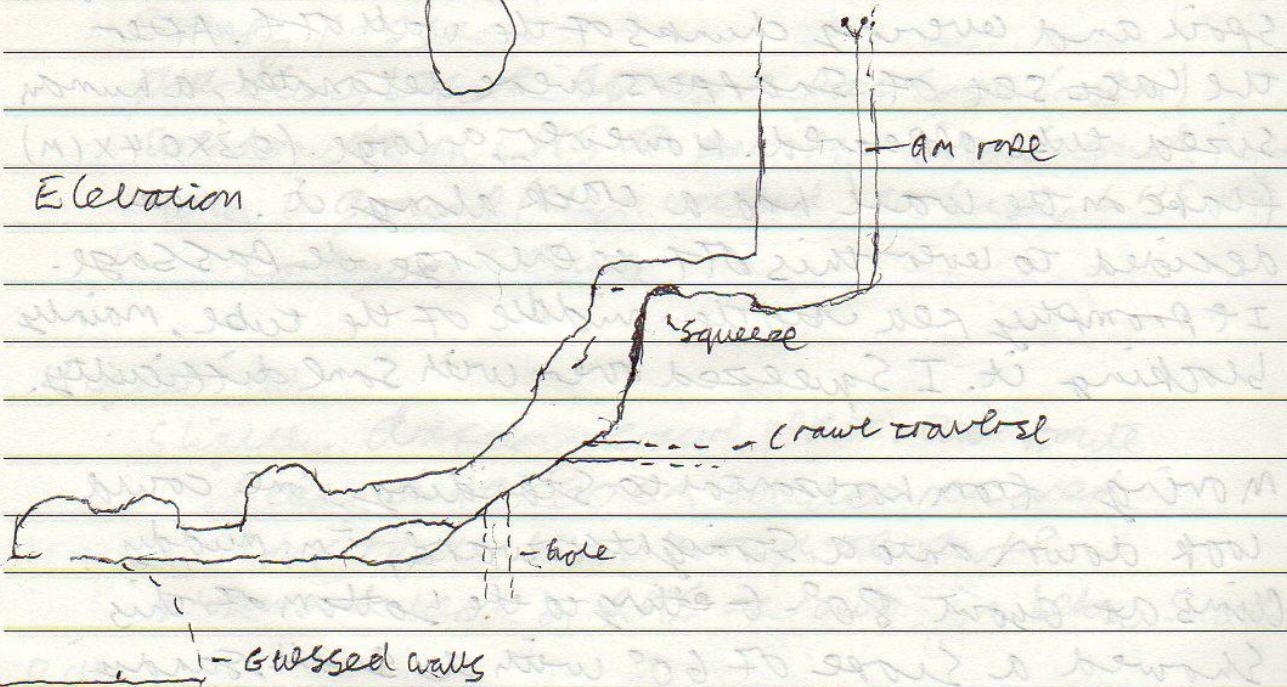
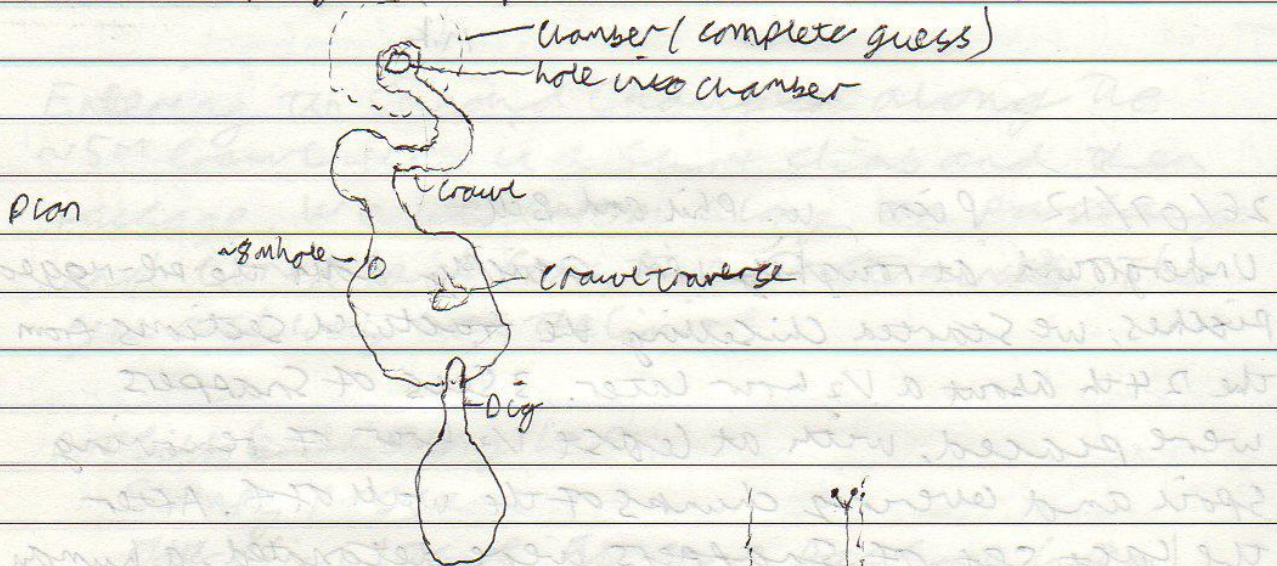
Underground at roughly 1 PM. Quickly down the pre-rigged pitches, we started chiselling the fractured sections from the 24th about a 1/2 hour later. 3 sets of Snappers were placed, with at least 1/2 hour of removing spoil and covering chunks of the wall off. After the last set of Snappers were detonated, a human sized tube appeared. However, a large (0.3x0.4x1m) flake on the wall had a crack along it. We decided to lever this off to enlarge the passage. It promptly fell into the middle of the tube, mainly blocking it. I squeezed over with some difficulty.

Moving from horizontal to standing, one could look down onto a straightforward, 5m, muddy climb at about 80°. Getting to the bottom of this showed a slope of 60° with a small, sandy crawl traverse going onto the slope.



Passing over a ridge (0.5x4m) with a 2m drop
 either side led to a 3m diameter chamber. A
 crawl in the RHS of this went, after ~5m to a
 window. This was 0.8m diameter hole into the ceiling
 of a chamber. The height of this chamber was about
 5m. The walls couldn't be seen, but would be
 at least 8m apart. Needs rope, but easily rigged
 off natural columns. One other lead in floor of
 8m depth and 0.5m diameter.

Return through the squeeze was arduous.



Bill

26-7-12 AM: MOUND

Juan, Steve, Laura, Chris, Xander, Francesca, Roxy, Mike

After hoisting the bags and many cylinders up the bank from the road side, took a journey to the bottom of the sloping ladder ready for the finely oiled human machine of equipment passing to the top.

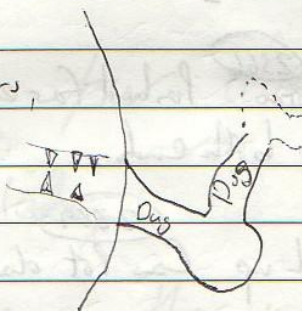
After not too much hassle all the necessary cave diving equipment was in place ready for Chris & Laura to put into action later. (Tomorrow)

PM: Reñada & Comelliantes - possible connection!?

Mike, Roxy, Adam

→ Lloyd & Francesca (+ a deer)

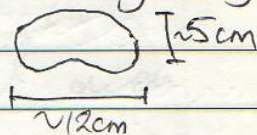
We went to a mud/calcite slope known to be close to Comelliantes and radioed the others, we also heard them when they banged rocks.



Roxy went into the hole first and then we all dug through to a small chamber and on to easy removal of mud to go further. Much draught was in there heading towards the others. Further digging is needed to connect the caves fully.

We left the others heading to Reñada & head to the 2 side passages with ? on the Comelliantes survey which both had potential for leading to Reñada. The second 'drafty tube' proved to be the positive lead as we could hear through to the others.

Digging ensued with the aid of a trusty crow bar through thick "fudgy" calcitic mud. The tube was originally only very small



After much effort it was enlarged to ~20cm x ~40cm, however, solid rock limits the initial entrance by blocking digging of the floor. It sounds as if we get very close to the others but smaller tools will be needed to progress with some 'squeezing' digging. We did stealthily stalk a deer on the way back.

26/7/12 L. Caution & A. Shingles

Jivao II

Went in to follow up a potential oven
found in #6.

Saw a crayfish.

Got to the oven was able to climb the
oven & found there were no leads, apart
from another oven on the opposite wall
that we could not get to.

~~Two~~ Cave bear scalds were found in this
region. We swept out & will return to
survey the entire cave.

26/7/12 Barni + Grave D, Into ⁽²³⁶⁶⁾ Torno, pushed far end near Kiano
but no go. Needs people @ both ends.

27/7/12 Barni + Grave D, Tackled up ⁽²⁸⁸⁹⁾ Cas Pot down to the lake.

27/7/12 B. Smith, F. McDonald, A. Shingles, ⁽¹¹⁾

R. Nausey, B. Topsom, L. Cautlone,

J. Woy (in spirit).

Prón,

Went down to Megabast, after hours of
hard work removed the boulder & opened
up the passage enough so average sized people

can fit through. Down to a muddy/crissy
^{handline} slope/pitch. At the end of which there

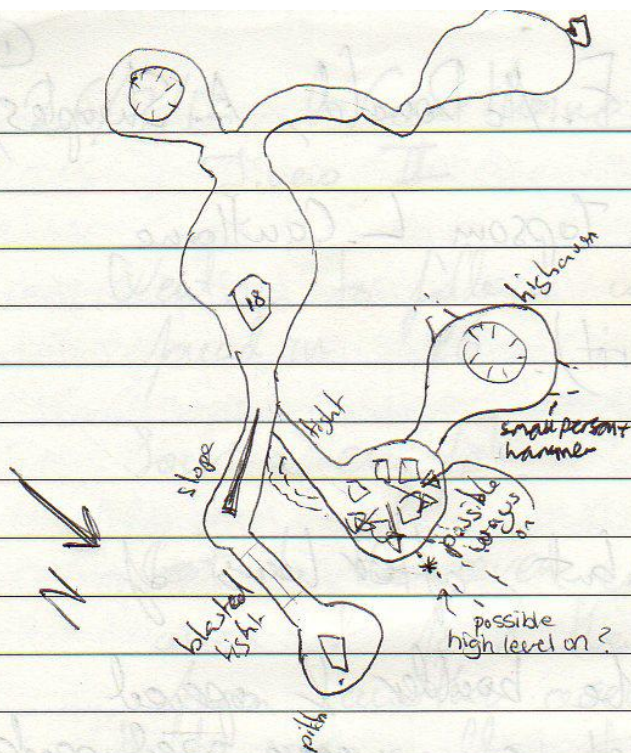
are a few chambers, one of which with
a room over them, the rest have no
obvious leads.

Following down the muddy slope there is

a drafty rift leading to a large
chamber with another potential area.

Need to explore more. (The area used to be)

Not far the big room!

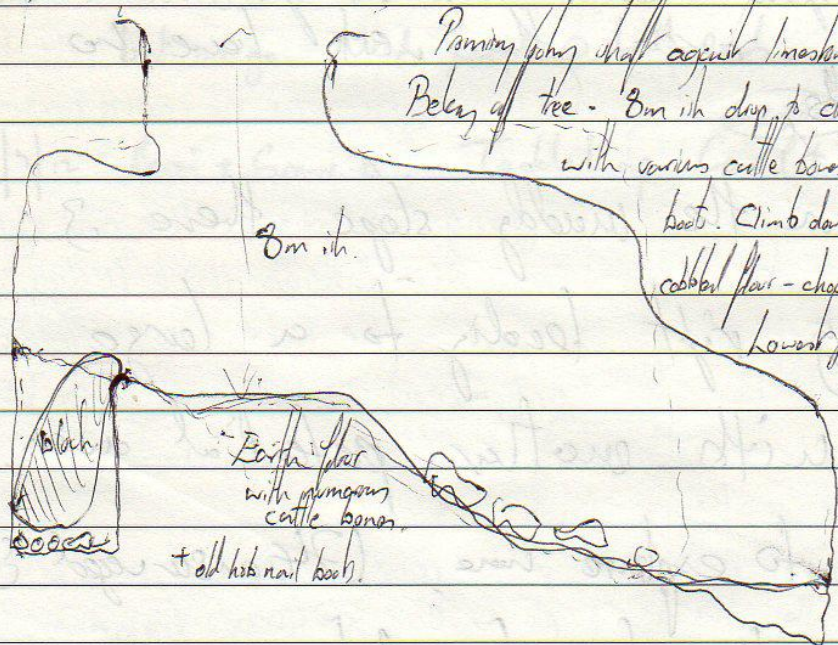


Station 18 has a coin
with paper note in it.
The slope is loose, and
both the blasted passage
and way on (possibly) are
tight other chambers seem
like dead ends, close
to picon pie though.

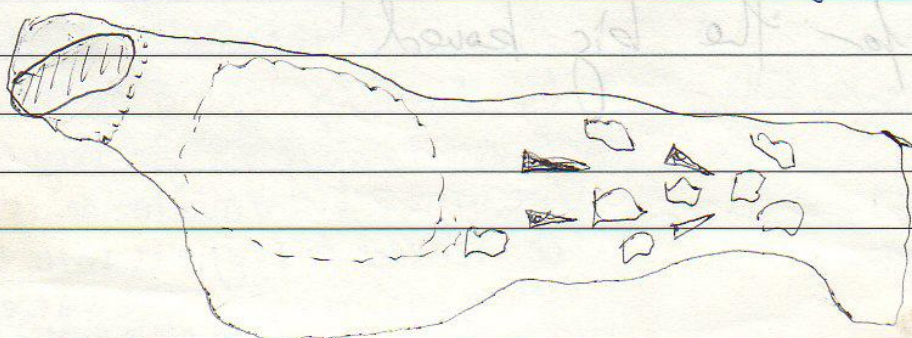
Baldy
Mike T
+ L (aged C)

28th July '12 Rainy + Grave D. (3714)
Prof shaft found yesterday whilst prospecting in wooded area around La Gatena.

Other photos in folder are small
sites to NW, + SE under s/stone.

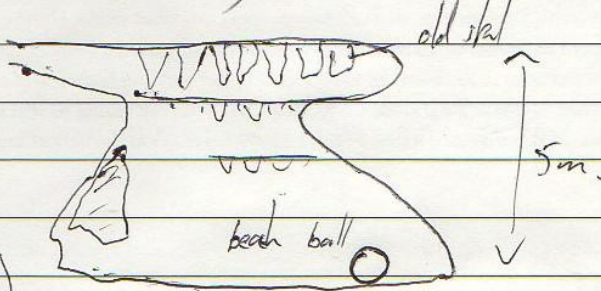


Passing along shaft against limestone outcrop with small stone camp.
Below of tree - 3m ish drop to clay/silt floor liberally decorated
with various cattle bones + roles from a pair of hob-nail
boots. Climb down side of block (2m) trail.
cobbled floor - checked - no chert in masonry dump.
lowest point at base of clay/silt
slope also closed down with
no sign of way on. Plus ex dump.



23/7/12 (Sun 27/7/12) Borg + Doreg. (13)
3715 "small pit sized hole" (Borg). "Stich goes in a long way"

" 3716 ^{above} - very small entrance, enlarged to gain squeeze through into top of chamber with drop of 5m to choked floor. All walls + roof covered in old friable concretions. Now has a yellow 'once' beach ball at the bottom - don't work. Initially good draught in on hot day. Once descended, no draught at all and no possible way on.



23/7/12 (Sun 27/7/12)
" 3717 - Bedding between shag limestone and sandstone cap. Possible to enter and tortuous way on can be negotiated - but pinches + drops.

" ^{as above} 3718. Passage going horizontally into shag limestone directly beneath sandstone cap. Around 8m in then drops down. Entire gap between sandstone cap and limestone which has noticeably draught - but this is likely to be circulating from surface about 1m above. No real time project here - but looked good.

CUEVA MOLINO, Arredondo, Cantabria

23-08-11

Support: C Jewell, A Kozlowski, Cornhill, D Arthurs, S Martin

With assistance from the sherpas all kit arrived at dive base very efficiently and the divers assembled their gear near the water in order to make kitting up the next day as easy as possible. Everyone was aware of the issues Ruper Skorupka previous faced when the cave flooded so kit was tied together and kept 2-3m above the water line.

24-08-11

DIVERS: C JEWELL, A KOZLOWSKI,

Overnight the drizzle was persistent and when the divers entered the cave the following day there was noticeable more water around. Approaching the sump the usual stream could not be heard and instead it was eerily silent. Descending the slope to the sump pool straight away CJ could see his kit just below the surface of the water with rebreather hoses floating on the surface. AK's kit was slightly deeper but everything was in exactly the same place as the divers had left it and there was hardly any visible flow in the now partly submerged chamber. AK donned his drysuit to retrieve the kit whilst CJ stashed it further up the slope. Despite the flooding the visibility still looked good and the water level was marked. AK needed to remove his rebreather as the sofno was wet so the divers made a quick trip back to Matienzo for another fill and some lunch. Several hours later back at the sump the decision to dive was made as the water level was dropping slowly.

+ Jim dove up ...
Bell 52m ...

Oxygen bailout (Ali80) and underwater mp3 player were dropped at 9m incase this was only 6m on the way back and an Ali80 of EANx 50 was also staged for deco bailout. Both divers were using their usual rebreathers plus CJ dived with one 12ltr of EANx32 and one 12Ltr of TMx 12/50 whilst AK had two Ali80's of TMx for bailout. All these bailout cylinders were regarded as communal should the worst case scenario happen.

On route to the end of the line at approximately -60m CJ retrieved a survey slate and after establishing that AK had not just dropped it presumed it was R. Skorupkas from 2007 (or earlier). Taking a few survey notes on the way it was only after the first new belay that the diver realised AK was laying line – having picked up RS's old reel from under a rock he'd simply carried on swimming. Now down at -85m and after about 80m more diving this ran out and AK tied on his own reel. The depth increased steadily with an elbow in the sump being reached at -96m. After a slight ascent to -93m CJ grabbed AK's fin and indicated that they ought to be heading back as his dive computer was already showing 2hours of decompression – and they still needed to go back through the deep section. The line was tied off and an uneventful exit made. During the deco stops the visibility was average as the divers could not avoid disturbing the gravel silt mixture on the floor of the steeply ascending passage heading up to surface. The water temperature was an acceptable 11 degrees and heated vest and mp3 player were put to good use. After a total dive time of 3 hours a jealous CJ watched AK head out whilst he had another 30mins to go. In total 125m of new line was laid on this dive and a pair of tired divers made it too the bakers bar just in time for a midnight snack with waiting friends.

26-08-11

DIVERS: C JEWELL, A KOZLOWSKI,

After using their 'rest' day to swap kit and carry in two more bailout cylinders the divers were back at the sump and ready to go again. An extra Ali80 of TMx and some EANx60 were taken underwater along with the other bailout cylinders – all of which had been brought back from the previous dive as leaving them insitu risked not being able to get them back if the weather turned. CJ had decided to limit his dive to a small extension into new territory in case the sump started to rise sharply and concentrate on getting some good survey data. AK on the other hand grabbed all the spare line he could find (400m) and headed for the end of the line. Despite CJ doing a quick survey job on the way down the divers ended up at their previous limit at the same time, where the extra Ali80 of TMx was staged. Water levels were slightly lower making the elbow of the sump -93m. After 30m of new line was laid CJ felt he'd stayed long enough and the depth was still -85m with no sign of rising. AK carried on and the cave did begin to rise steadily. After about another 100m he was at -60m and reached what appeared to be a blank wall. After a brief look around the only way was up! A fine shaft was ascended for close to 30m where the roof was encountered before the diver found the side passage heading off horizontally. Using up his remaining line he followed this until the depth reached -12m. Having laid 400m of new line AK turned back and surveyed out until the TMx bailout cylinder was reached.

CJ was at -6m when AK arrived at -9m and after clearing his decompression obligations he went to retrieve the unwanted TMx cylinders and carry them out. Total dives were 4hrs 15 and 6 hours 15 respectively.

Although survey data was captured on two dives many of the old tags on the older line were illegible and new sections of line had been started frequently. Combined with depth changes due to water levels compared to older data it was very difficult to tie the new survey in with the older one. Whilst the overall accuracy of the final survey is in doubt the data does however provide a reliable general trend which shows the cave is heading towards the Orcones system. This cave is being explored by a French team who have been diving several sumps there.

27-08-11

Support: C Jewell, A Kozlowski, J Corrin, I Chandler, J Davis, J Dickinson, A Quin, P Smith

A veteran team of Matienzo cavers was assembled by JC for the carry out which the divers greatly appreciated. Kit was moved quickly and efficiently out of the cave before the team retired to the local bar so CJ could buy some drinks to say thank you.

29/07/12 Francesca, Adam, Lloyd, Bill
Mostajo

(15)

went underground at ~4 PM and reached the new section of cave about 1 1/2 hours later. We split into 2 groups; Francesca and Lloyd went to survey, using a station at the end of the boulder floored passage as a starting position. (Station 24 from 1983). Adam and I tried to enlarge the breakthrough Squeeze with caps. The flake ignored our attempts, so we looked to the bottom of the Squeeze instead of the top and took a lead sized rock to its fractured end. All the group was back by then and, as Adam deemed the Squeeze 'easy' we all went through.

Adam and I looked at possible leads near the base of the ~20m long slope/climb/pitch. There were a couple of grim, vertical, holdless leads that we didn't push far. One hole on the left leads to a clean washed climb with potential.

As we finished this, Francesca ^{accidentally} ~~attempted to~~ shortcircuited the climb with mixed success. ~~Waggs~~ It's safe to assume that this slope should be treated as a pitch. Lloyd and Francesca surveyed to the next drop, then ~~the~~ Lloyd continued with Adam to a second chamber while Francesca and I began to head out.

A 1/2 hour later Lloyd was getting stuck in the Squeeze. He tried to chisel a section off, giving an impression of insanity. 2 hours later we left the cave and were in the cars just before 03:00. Call-out @ 2am - so Phil + Joan drove up to see a light emerging from the hole.
Bill 52m new passage surveyed.

30/07/12. Sir Bob Toopood, Eddie M. Barry + Dave Gleds.

Site 3719, etc. Hornedls. * long version.

Found yesterday afternoon - the best draught in the area was not for a good reason to. Read on....

Slide on back - fall out under large boulder in base of large shale rock - with one side a 6m vertical natural wall - the other consisting of branches from the nearby house. Hummy did several lengths body lengths under the rock - one finds oneself perched atop a ledge overlooking a very steeply sloping edge of approx 12m. Basically consists of a 2m wide rift, negotiated by bridging down to a fallen slab, whereupon a slide down to a rock ledge leaves off a simple climb down into the chamber.

Three ways on from the entrance chamber: to the left - a short climb up was dug out for a crawl into a low chamber (3m diameter) with no way on. An extremely cold draught was sucking out of the sandstone choke at the end of the chamber. Unfortunately there is little chance of 'poke and run' for a short pair of eyes may see otherwise? Back in the entrance chamber, a rift beneath the overhang leads to another view of the choke seen in the chamber to the left (no draught). Turning right from the chamber leads to a hands and knees crawl over a series of holes in the floor. The first hole is choked with no sign of way down. An eye (non?) was on the left hand ledge - (why? how? who? how much? etc.). Further on an excavation beneath a large block found a small chamber - no draught. A further crawl through a tight section with anomalous features in the roof arrives at end of the cave. To the left - a plastic tube headed down got to the left - but closed down after a few meters - found it a large damp sandstone choke with very little (if any) promise. A rapid exhibition of aerobic digging by persons who shall remain nameless, gained entry into a chamber below to the right. Clean vertical wall - rather sharp - to a depth of 5m by 2m diameter, had boulder floor with a rift obviously to the side. Evening + morning was the accompaniment to moving a large boulder out of the rift, to enable a squeeze down into a continuation - which didn't. Ended in cross-rift of 30cm wide - choked at both ends but closing down to 15cm after turning sharp left to the right. Slight draught at - no way on. If quite passing - go and experience the draught - very impressive.

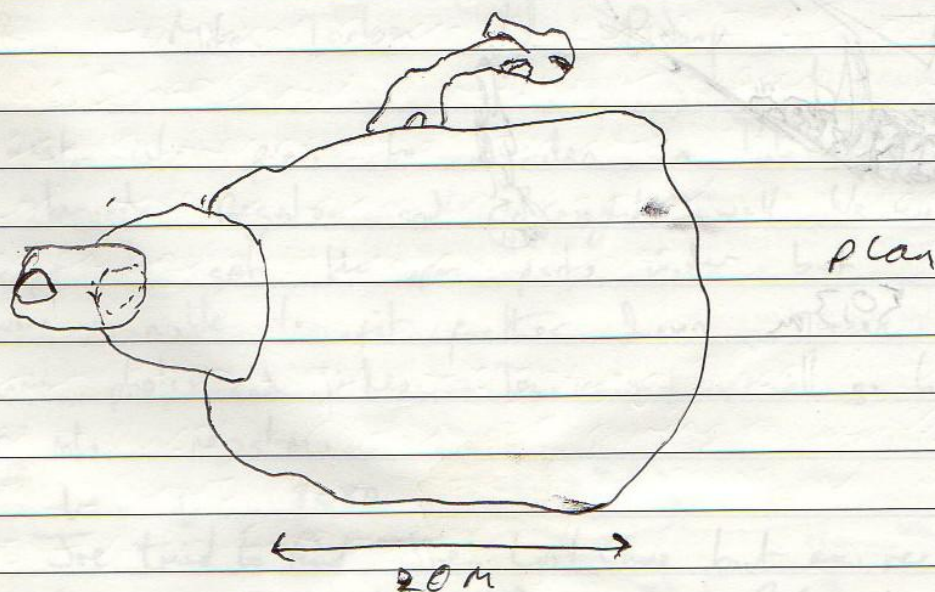
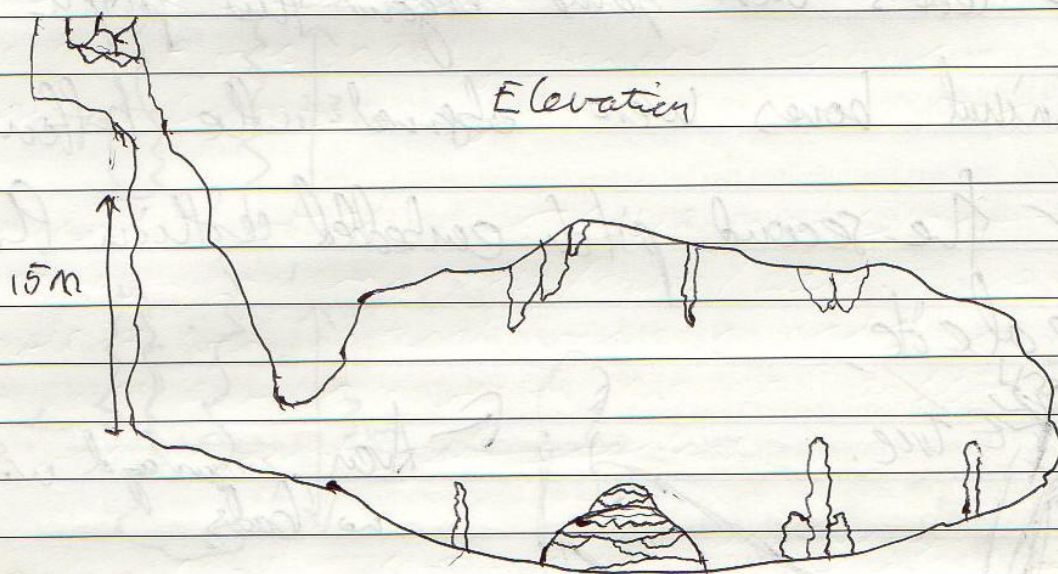
* Short version - ~~we went~~ - it didn't. "or" we came, it draughted, it crawled out.

30/07/12 MUSC minus Baddy plus Cave

(17)

Previously Lloyd had been down 10m at cave 730 and claimed that it had potential.

A 3m climb goes into small chamber. A 216m pitch down a vertical face enters one side of a large (~30m diameter) circular chamber. Ceiling height was at 10m maximum. One crawl on the LHS was entered to go to a small grotto. No possible leads or draughts were observed. However, the main chamber was extremely well decorated.



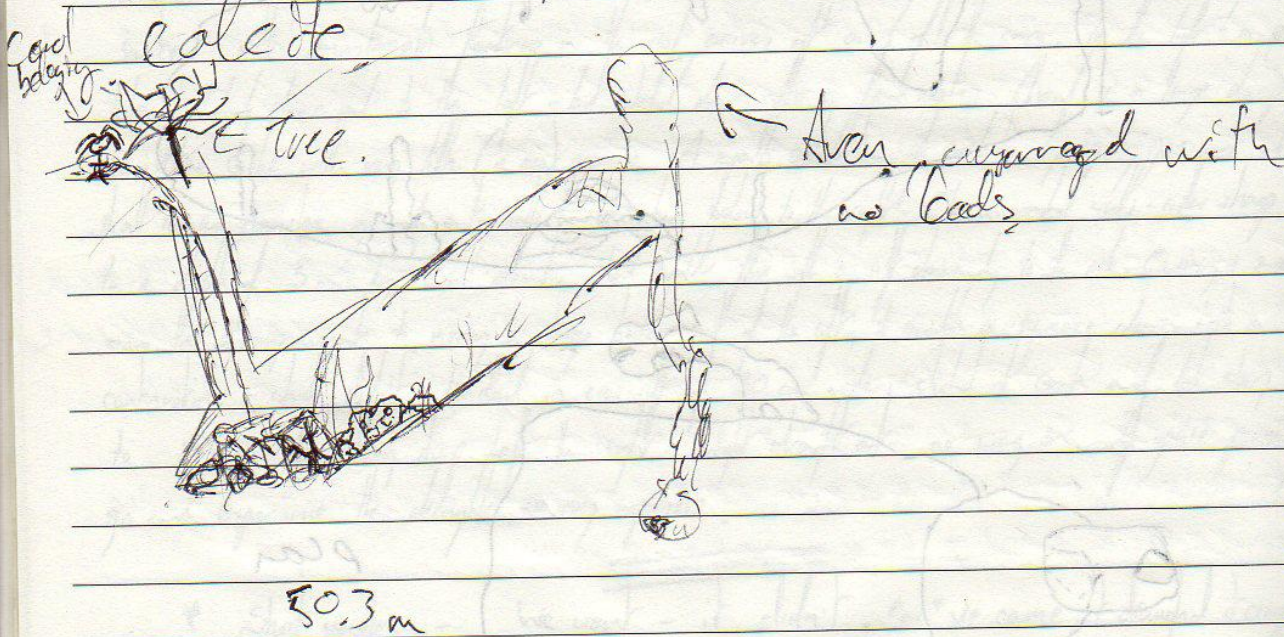
Bu

30/7/12

JH From a previous trip followed up
JH with two ladders.

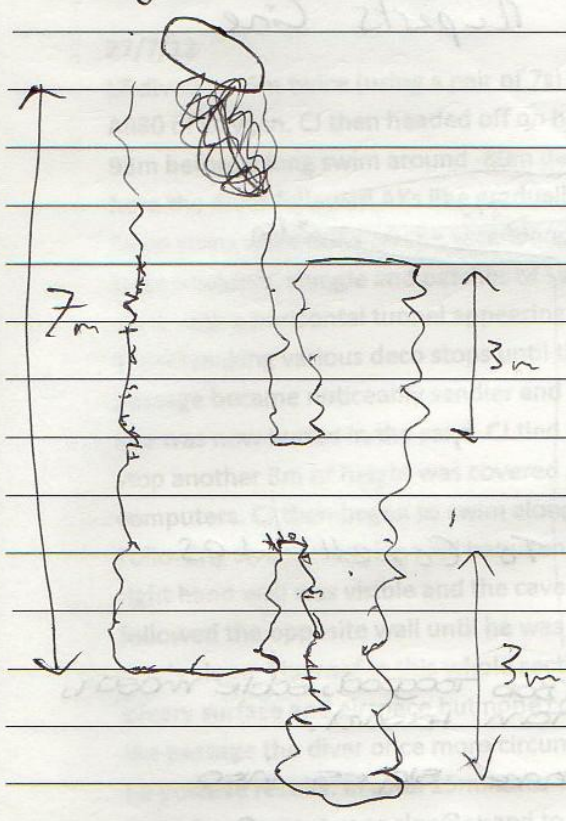
Were able to bottom the pitch into a
large clamber sloping up into the hill and
another pitch we also bottomed. Unfortunately
no leads were found beyond this pitch.

Animal bones were observed in the bottom
of the second pitch embedded within the
caliche



745 - Adam Sharples 30/07/12

Dropped 3m diameter shaft with vegetation restricting opening. Sharp rocky shaft leads to boulder floor. Small hole in floor level leads to parallel shaft. From hole, parallel shaft goes 2-3m down; 3-4m up ending in another choked floor.



30/7/12

Mike Torben

Picon

We went into picon to widen a hole that leads towards Regaton and draughts well. We used many caps to get the upper parts wider but were unable to fit further down. Torben took some photos and videos. Tomorrow we will go back to get into regaton.

29/7/12 ↓ ↓ 3280

30/7/12 Joe tried to find Joe's Lost Cave but now reckons it may be on another track, perhaps above Cobranter.

Molino

This site was last dived by CJ and AK in the summer of 2011 when on the final dive AK had gone on alone and laid 440m of line reaching -12m at 885m from base. This year CJ was diving a back mounted rebreather and sidemounted rebreather, 7ltr of EANx33, 12ltr TMx 12/50 and a 3ltr of 13/50 were carried as diluent for both rebreathers along with 2 x 3ltrs of oxygen.

A team of 8 was recruited for an efficient carry on 26/7/12 in which saw a large mountain of diving kit transported to the sump. CJ and LT then spent a couple of hours unpacking, assembling and preparing kit for the following day.

27/7/12

LT dived to -6m twice (using a pair of 7s) to deposit heated battery pack and MP3 player and then Ali80 of Oxygen. CJ then headed off on his long dive. The passage was followed down to -80m, then -93m before a long swim around -80m depth to the furthest point CJ had previously reached. From here the diver followed AKs line gradually up with decompression obligations still mounting rapidly. Deep stops were done on the ascent and the cave passage slowly rose. The floor was a mixture of large boulders, shingle and patches of sand. One land mark the diver was waiting for was a sloping shaft with a horizontal tunnel appearing abruptly at -28m. Gradually an ascent was made along this tunnel making various deco stops until the end of AKs line at -12m was found. Around this point the passage became noticeably sandier and more silty. Infact AKs last two belays were silt screws and his line was now buried in the sand. CJ tied on his line reel and reeled out until -9m was reached. After a stop another 3m of height was covered and 60minutes of deco till surfacing showed on the diver's computers. CJ then began to swim along at -6m laying line and seeing where the passage went. Following an overhanging wall between -6 and -7m the roof could just be seen above and shortly the right hand wall was visible and the cave pinched in to end. Reeling back in as he went the diver followed the opposite wall until he was back to a point inline with his last belay 3m lower down the sandy slope. The roof in this whole section as about 4-5m above and CJ swam around searching for a silvery surface and airspace but none could be found. After depositing his line reel in the middle of the passage the diver once more circumnavigated the long thin chamber searching for a way on with no positive results. In total 15minutes were spent at -6m searching. One option which did appear was a low descent over sloping sand to a large 'mouse hole'. However by the time CJ had returned to his line reel the visibility in this whole area was now very poor and the diver concluded that it was more likely the main way on had been missed further back. The diver turned for home planning on searching the walls during his dive back. However poor visibility and sand stirred up during his deco stops made this difficult. Once deeper one lead was spotted at -50m on the right hand wall where a steeply sloping canyon appeared to come in. However as it was already going to be a very long dive this was not examined. Back past the elbow of the sump at -93m CJ started to pick up deep stops with the first at -63m. Three hours of deco were required in total with two hours a -6m. LT came to retrieve the 12ltr of TMx and line reel and then dived several more times to check on CJ who was plugged into heated vest and mp3 player. In total CJ laid just 40m of line so he end of the line is now 925 from base. Total dive time was 6 hours 40minutes.

Comellantes

25/7/12

Chris Jewell dived with sidemounted rebreather and 2x 7ltrs bailout/diluent, although the passage is large enough to accommodate any gear configuration including back mounted kit. The objective of the dive was to search all walls and the ceiling to find the missing way on. The diver progressed very slowly down the passage, scouring both walls with a high powered torch and investigating many minor side passages. The visibility was 7-8m and CJ was able to dive off the line a short distance into several of these and although some continued none look promising as the source of the large underground river. However shortly before the end of the known cave at -20m the diver was 2-3m above the line and noticed a dark space off the left. A short swim off the line confirmed there was going passage so a line junction was installed and CJ began to lay out new line. Belays were sparse in the clean washed passage and the diver lacked silt screws for the occasional patches of sand. After 120m of new line was reeled out in a Southerly direction at -20m a right hand corner was encountered. Straight ahead looked like a blank wall so the diver turned right and began to slowly ascend a sloping rift from -16m till -11.5m where the only way was straight up. Surface appeared above but the diver surfaced in a long air bell with no above water continuation. After tying off the line CJ swam back along the surface of the air bell looking down into the rift then descended until he landed back on his line – in effect completing a vertical circle and not finding a way on. The survey was completed on the way out and after reflection in the bar the likely way on must be at the right hand corner at -16m.

30/7/12

CJ and Laura Trowbridge used chestmounted rebreathers and dived to take photos and see if the way on could be located. LT stayed at -16m at the right hand corner whilst CJ ascended but found himself back in the airbell he'd previously found. However today the perspective looked different and CJ could see that the airbell didn't pinch in at the end but continued into a canal. With LT waiting below CJ swam over the surface back to his previous line and dropped down to beckon to LT. Together they ascended where CJ de-kitted so that he could explore the canal whilst LT waited on the surface. 50m later CJ found sump 2 and returned to his waiting dive partner where the pair turned for surface and their dinner appointment.

31/7/12

CJ dived first and ran a tape measure across the surface of the airbell then belly flopped along the canal to sump 2. Here the line reel was tied on and CJ dived. Sump 2 proved very short and although the passage was deep it was possible to stay high in the roof at only a few metres depth. A larger canal followed where it was easiest to lay line along at 1m depth. After 20-30m the roof started to come down but as CJ descended a line was visible below running across the passage. As it approached a reel was also visible and the diver knew he'd connected to the sump RS had been diving in Squirrels passage in Renada. CJ followed RS's line for a short distance then went back to the junction and picked up RS's reel and carried on in a Southerly direction to see if any inlets or other passages went off. However the passage closed down only a short distance later. The diver turned and surveyed back to the start of sump 2 where he met LT coming in. LT dived to see the historic connection before the pair exited taking some underwater photos on the way out.

—Original Message—

From: RUPERT SKORUPKA <r.skorupka@btinternet.com>

To: Juan Corrin <uzueka@aol.com>

Sent: Wed, 1 Aug 2012 11:24

Subject: Re: Comediante

Hhi Juan

Thankyou for the info. I cannot open a ZIP file on my computer. Is there any way you could send the reports as DOC files ?

The Squirrels water CANNOT be the only feeder as it is a piddling stream compared to Comediante. Where does the main Renada water go if that is the case ?

Rupe

From: RUPERT SKORUPKA <r.skorupka@btinternet.com>

To: Juan Corrin <uzueka@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Comediante

Date: Wed, 1 Aug 2012 13:53

Thanks for the reports- v. interesting reading. I didnt get the sketch as it was tied in with the zip file I couldnt open. We hope to come across (from Picos) to do some more diving here on or around the 16th august for a few days. I take it you will be about.

Some thoughts :

Squirrels Passage is smallish, it cant flood too badly or my thin line would have been torn to shreds.

Add the flow in Renada 2 to that in Squirrels, and you are somewhere close to the Comellantes flow.

As expected, the sump x-section in Squirrels is somewhat smaller than the very big tunnel of Comediante.

thanks once again for keeping in touch,

see you , Rupe

[Faint handwritten notes in blue ink, mostly illegible]

3722

01 aug. 2012 Louise, Marie, Karen, Marie, Torben
UTM EURO8. 1979 30T

E 0450295 N 4796852

Drainage hole in
northern end of lay log
Depth about 10m. Needs
digging.

PK 5679, 5684

E 0450295 N 4796846

Horizontal gravel dig in
southern end of lay log

PK 5683

3723

01 august 2012

Torben Redder

#3722 Dig out boulder. Need 1-2 caps/snapper.

2 movie-files: 5685-5691

Torben Redder

01/08/12 - Adam Sharples, Bill Smith, Chris Jewel
Lawa Troubridge Mostajo (71)

Four of us went into Mostajo to retrieve all gear ~~down~~ left down from our previous visits and to survey ~~with~~ the new stuff. The route being now well known to us meant we made good time and were quickly down the tight section we blasted previously. No problems on the climb down after the tight section and we were at the chamber previously surveyed to. To the right, passage lead to a climb up into white passage continuing to right passage with very sharp rock sides. Mixed walking and traversing in the rift eventually leads to more small chambers with sharp sides. In the second or third of these a climb up on the left hand side, not obvious but leads up through some climbs to a large chamber, around 20-30m across and up. The character of the cave changes here to smooth walls and large boulders.

Stomping passage leads on for a number of meters to more climbing over and around boulders. Many leads can be found off this section and will need better exploring. A climb down into and back out of a large trench has a very high aren leading up. ~~Passage~~ Passage gets smaller but continues through into a chamber, maybe 7m diameter. Running out of time we left a survey station with a note and surveyed out.

Many leads still to check and a little tackle needed, it would be better if certain sections were rigged for SRT or laddered.

Basic Summary of new passage

Squeeze in a 2m tube

Vertical climb for 4m

Climb / Slope ~~(at 70°)~~ at 70° for 12m

3m drop into chamber of 5x10m

Chamber has 3 obvious exits

Back/Left: Sharp clean rocks

Back/Right: Crawls

Forwards: 3m muddy tube

First 2 exits go for 10-20m then close

Tube leads to a 4x7m chamber

Obvious exit is through Seal decorated passage

3 ways on:

Climb up on left (not explored)

Crawl on right (not explored)

Forwards into rocky section

Following the 0.3-1.5m wide passage for 30m

leads to a chamber of 10x5x10m

A dubious 4m climb enters the chamber and the exit is
up the slope/climb on the opposite side of the chamber.

This leads into a second, chamber of 15x10x15,

Possible passages in front. On R.H.S there is
sandy floored, small, descending passage.

On

1.8.12 Vallna - Ali, Mike, Roxy, Carol, Lloyd, Fran, Xander.

Tourist trip to Swirl chamber, or to choice of big passage
~~the~~ money is. before Swirl Chamber,
? Undersized pitch in RH side before choice needs checking.

31.7.12 Picon - Ali & Roxy

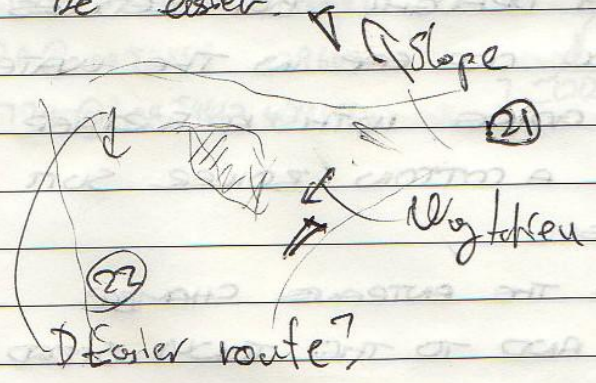
Resurveyed just part of old route from entrance, left marker on last station in main passage.

1/8/12 Picon - Lloyd, Carol, Bill, Fran

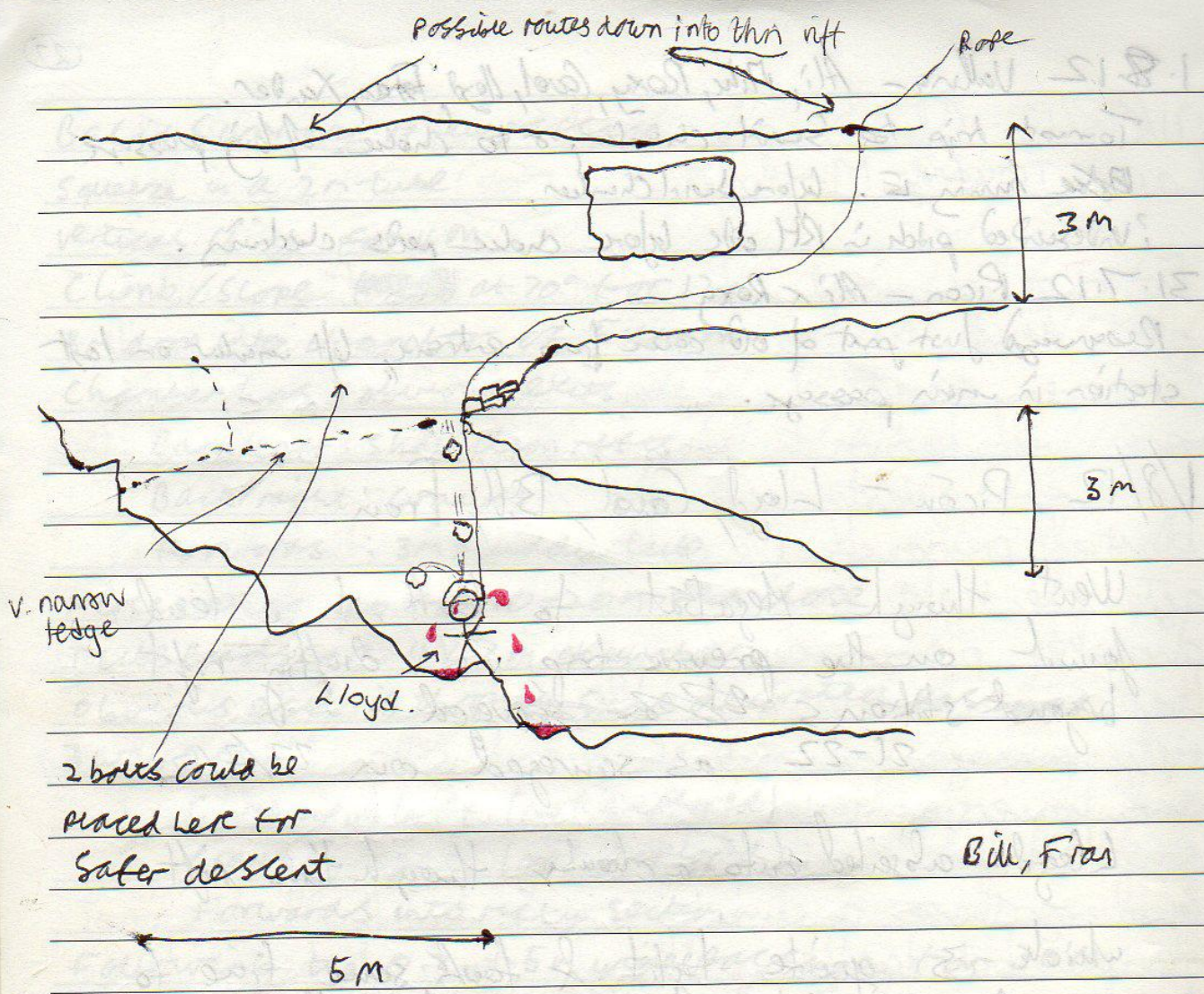
Went through Mega Bast to look at a lead found on the previous trip. a drafting rift beyond station ~~21-22~~ as surveyed 21-22 as surveyed on 27/7/12.

Lloyd abseiled into a chamber through this rift which is quite tight & took some time to pass through. When almost at the bottom the rope dislodged several rocks that landed on him & Lloyd needed testicles in his head.

There are two possible ways into this chamber, the most direct was taken, although the other may be easier.



Lots of loose rocks/boulders
be careful & do lots of
Gardening.



2 boxes could be placed here for safer descent

Bill, Fran

31st July 2012 - 2883 (BODEGA) - TOM HOWARD / DI ARTHURS

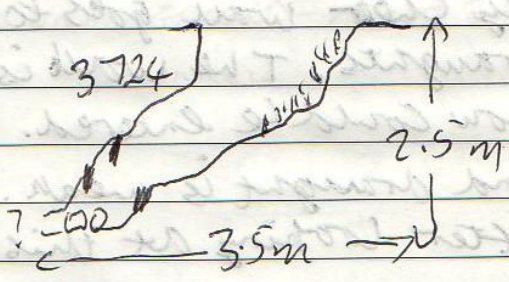
PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED TO HAVE A DOOR FRAMED ENTRANCE THE CAVE ENTERS INTO A CHAMBER WHERE A SMALL PASSAGE LEADS OFF TO THE RIGHT. AHEAD BEARS LEFT AND QUICKLY INTO FLOODED AND LOW PASSAGE, SQUACE. THIS PASSAGE HAS A DRAUGHT BUT REDUCES DOWN TO A FLAT OUT CRAWL ONE EYE IN THE WATER JOB. THIS PASSAGE IS STILL GOING WITH A FURTHER RIGHT HAND BEND, I WAS IN A COTTON BOILER SUIT SO DIDN'T WANT TO FREEZE.

THE RIGHT HAND ~~BEND~~ ^{PASSAGE} IN THE ENTRANCE CHAMBER HEADS ~~OUT~~ OUT OF THE HILL AND TO THE TOWN SIZED ENTRANCE, HERE IS AN UPRIVE 1FT BY 6" WHERE THE PASSAGE NOW LEADS 90° TO THE WEST FOLLOWING

TUBES (ROUGHLY 2FT BY 2FT) THAT ~~ARE~~ CONTINUE FOR ABOUT 40 METRES IN A NOT SO STRAIGHT LINE. WE THEN ~~REACH~~ A JUNCTION WHERE THE DRAUGHT COMES MOSTLY FROM THE LEFT WHICH, AFTER A TIGHT SQUEEZE CLOSSES DOWN. ~~IS~~ AHEAD, BACK TO THE JUNCTION CONTINUES A FURTHER 15 METRES? AND AGAIN CLOSSES DOWN. BEST POTENTIAL HERE IS A RIFT IN THE ROOF WHERE YOU CAN SEE UP INTO WHAT LOOKS LIKE A CHAMBER, BUT AS IT'S SO TIGHT WAS UNABLE TO TELL.

Phil, JJ + Paul - walk up from top of llueva track to Muela to look at 170 + 171 + dig former. Had problems finding 170 as GPS is not correct (as expected) found by going to 1774 and going round contour, found a cave ³⁷²⁴ near expected site of 171 + but was not enter - did not find 1774 MB further along we found 170 + 171, 170 dig at end is not easy + given its location + poor draught it is not worth a dig. Survey + a few pics taken. New(?) hole at 3724 is a small cave down a rift to a small dig - not worth digging

- 171 @ 0454458 4796592
- 170 @ 0454449 4796672
- 3724 @ 0454467 4796562



28-12 Velling, Torben, Mike, Roxy, Al!

Back to R.H. passage before South Chamber

15m traverse off slope at end to hole seen last summer.

10m long passage to mud choke.

Pitch on R.H. side before slope, where water can be heard.

Water comes from top right inlet.

Pitch 13 m, draughting up well but too small at bottom.

(Previously discarded - an old spit spotted).

3/8/12 Picon, Francesca, Mike, Bill

went underground at about 4:30 and got into the new section half an hour later. Mike observed

into the chamber (drawn on previous page) and kicked down a selection of loose ~~rocks~~ rocks (~200 kg worth).

A short (~5m) crawl on one side led to an aven, 40m tall by 8m diameter. A crawl under one side would be possible with a hammer.

On the floor of the first chamber, a squeeze went to a chamber 6m diameter with no way on. Climbing up the rear of the chamber led to a small chamber.

A 4m fairly sheer wall goes to a window at the top that draughts. The wall is climbable and the window could be entered. It wouldn't be trivial though, and draught is weak.

We left after looking at this and got out for 8

Bill

3/8/12 Ali + Zoe Turner.

Slight 3725 near Torca Bora - previously located by Zoe - approx 4km to slope down going off - unexplored, probably free climbable

3726 - small cave ca 4km to steel choke.

3 GPS readings (not good?)	0455901	4796601
	906	579
	909	567

(Averaged to 0455906 4796580)

AT A CINEMA NEAR YOU (EXPULSION PASSAGE)

ANDERALTI Site 0009 3/8/2012. P. SMITH, SQUIRREL

SURVEY BY BUDDHA AND ZANK 1/5/75.

PETE AND SQUIRREL PROGRESSED NORTHISH FROM ENTRANCE (INSIDE CAVE) BUT SOON FEEL UNCERTAIN ABOUT OUR SURROUNDINGS. TIME DISTORTS MEMORIES? AT AN EARLY JUNCTION THE RIGHT HAND PASSAGE CONTAINED MUCH SILT ETC, SO THE LEFT WAS PURSUED IN FAVOUR. CRAWLING THROUGH A WATER AND MUD POOL THEN LEFT THEN RIGHT OVER GOUR POOLS TO MORE COMFORTABLE PROPORTIONS. WE CONCLUDED OUR EXPLORATION IN AN AREA OF AVENS WHERE PETE TOOK PHOTOGRAPHS I TOOK TO THE WAY OUT (WITH PETE LEADING) WHERE HAD WE BEEN? TIME UNDERGROUND - ABOUT 3 HOURS.

NO MP3 PLAYER. NOT SURVEYED. SQUIRREL

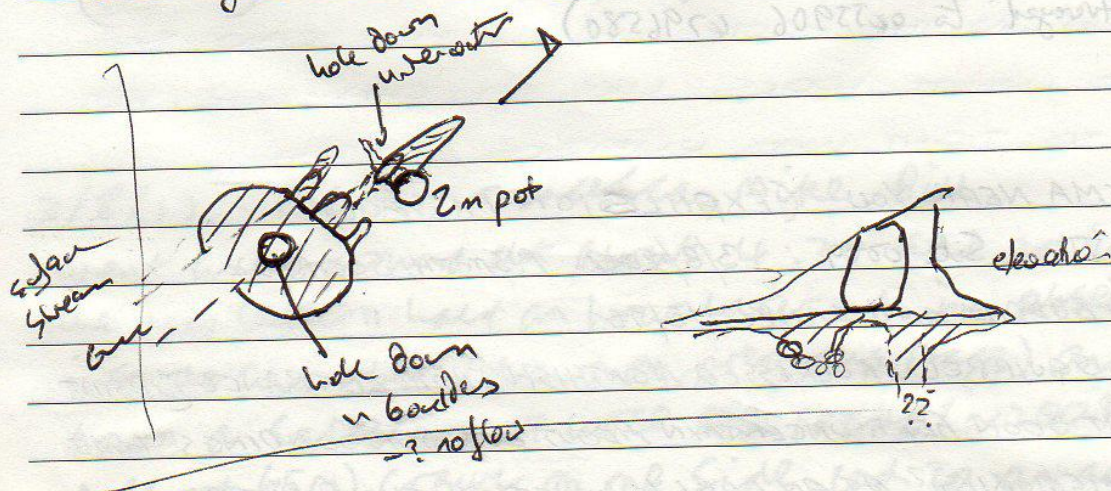
5/8/12 Ali & Phil P.

Espeada - end of draught passage leading N. Dig a little, in soft mud - needs a shovel. Draught comes from hole

down before end - ~~is~~ too tight, dug way round this.

Riño Resurgence - spotted double shaft with fish in collapse just behind resurgence pool.

Pozo Negro (above road) is v. murky water & probably after creek flow.



2/8/12 Louise, Koenig, Marie, Maribel, Taken
#3722 continued from August 2012. 4 caps
opened it up. P4 leads to 3x3m chamber, crawl
leads to two more chambers, about 15m of cave,
No obvious way on. The draught varies, probably
affected by wind. P4 was covered with boulders
and left safe for children.

Pic + Maps: 5707 + 5710

(Trip was on 2/8/12)

Taken

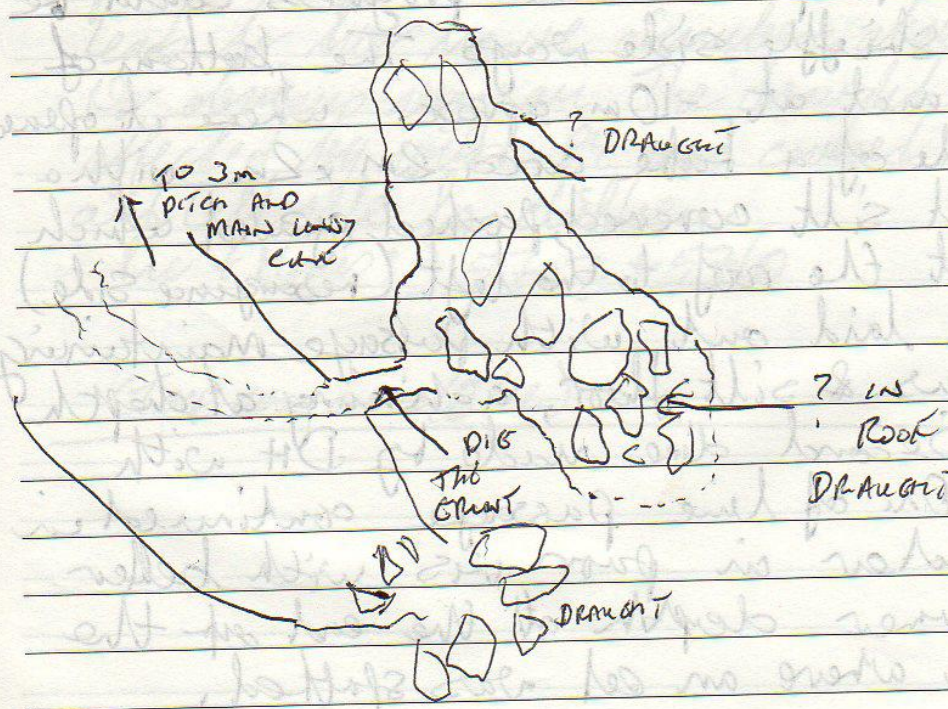
5/8/12 - 2753 Allan Berry & Peter Clewes

Went back to 2753 which we last visited in 2010. Surveyed up to tight restriction which I passed in 2010 to around 40m of further passage. Unfortunately this time I couldn't fit and will need a snapper or hilticap to get me through. Took some video. Total length of survey today was 23m with estimated 40m beyond the restriction.

06/08/12 - 575 RIAÑO RESURGENCE.
DAN HIBBERTS, JOHN TAYLOR, ZOT.

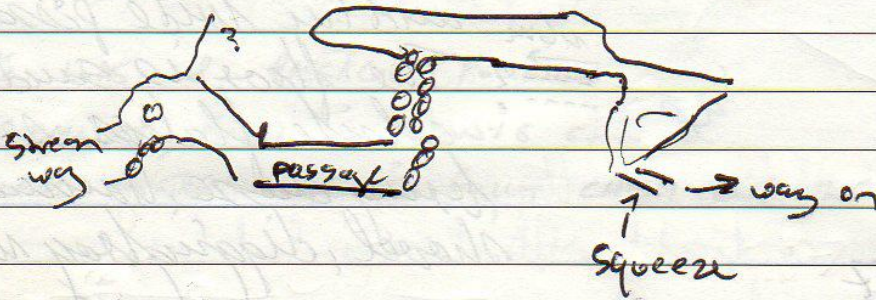
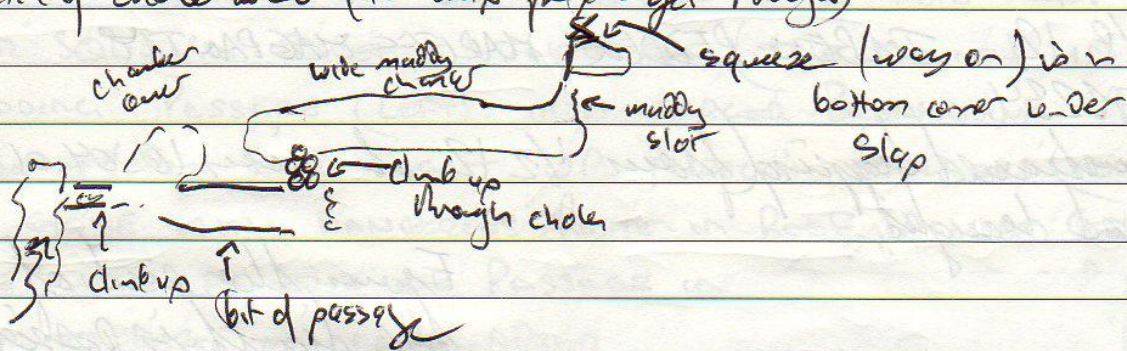
Dan had dived this site the previous evening & stated that a tight rift descended to around -10m & opened out. First dive was made by JT with 30m of line. A clock weight was used part way down the narrow rift at a point where progress could be made by a shuffle side ways. The bottom of the rift was met at -10m approx. where it opened into the side of a tube circa 2m x 2m with a floor of soft silt covered, packed gravel which rose to meet the roof to the left (resurgence side). 30m of line laid out with passage maintaining same proportions & silt floor, achieving a depth of -12.5m. Second dive made by DH with a further 30m of line passage continued in same character in poor vis with better vis & shallower depth at the end up the available line where an eel was spotted.

Paul & S-J, 5/8/12?
 Down Pitch (3.3) in Lennie's Cave
 at FARE END OF PASSAGE, FROM NEW ENTRANCE
 10m FROM DRAFTING END OF GHOKE. LOW
 STREAM PASSAGE ON LEFT WAS DOWN FOR 2m
 FOR SQUAIDS SQUEEZE THROUGH (THE GRUNT) IN TO
 BEDDING PASSAGE (LEFT) INTO LARGER BREAKDOWN PASSAGE
 6m +/- 5m TO RIGHT UP THROUGH BOULDERS (DRAFTING)
 TO GHOKE WITH DANGEROUS ROUTE IN ROOF, ALMOST CERTAIN
 SAME CHOKE AS END OF PASSAGE IN MAIN ~~CLIMBER~~ PASSAGE
 PRIOR TO DIG TO LEFT AFTER BREATHROUGH RISING PASSAGE
 TO GHOKE LEFT BACK TO RIGHT STRONGLY DRAFTING WITH
 POSS ROUTE IN ROOF THROUGH LOOSE BOULDERS, TOTAL PASSAGE
 30m
 DIG WAS UP PASSAGE FOLLOWING THE ROUTE ^{UPSTREAM} OF THE SMALL
 STREAMWAY, FOUND IN LOWLY'S CAVE BELOW THE 33m PITCH) CLIMBER
 WORTH ANOTHER VISIT TO FULLY CHECK OUT THE LOWLY CHOKE.



6.8.12 Valhalla

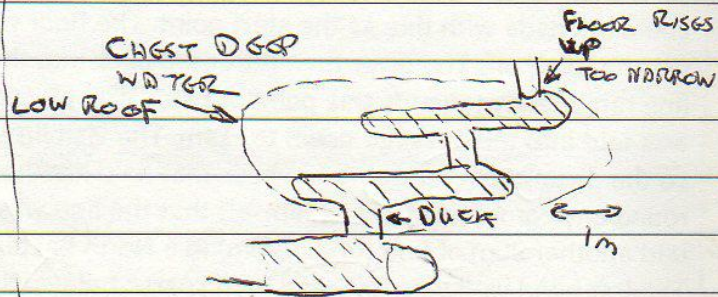
Cost of Thousands / SS, Badger, Tackling,
 Di Arhuna, Simon Conkitt - A. Keill resumed into Volume 2.
 Sketch of choke area (to help people get through)



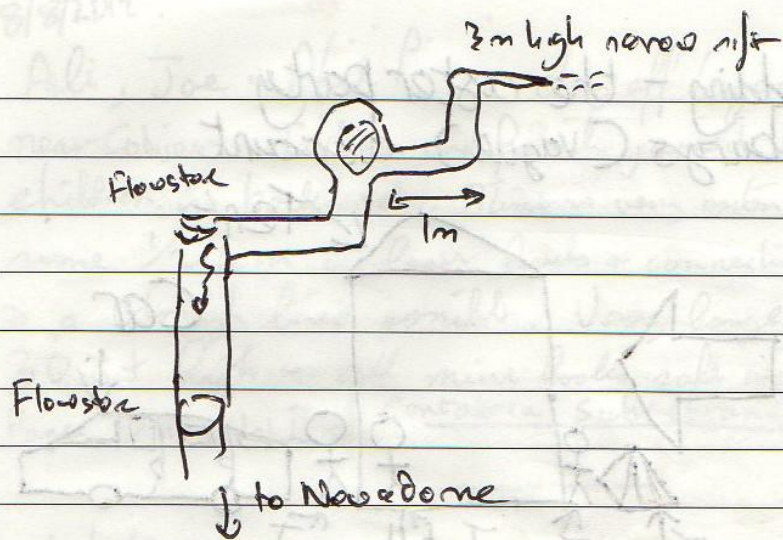
Squeeze seems to have shifted on R.H. wall - now tighter than it used to be ?? - needs opening out, could be capped on L.H. wall making it easy ??

To Rio Blanco. Muddy Waters duct, passed by Simon

THROUGH THE DUCT INTO CHEST
 DEEP WATER, CROSS RIFTS
 THE ONLY FEASIBLE WAY ON
 BEING THROUGH A TOO TIGHT
 HOLE WHERE THE FLOOR ROSE
 UP AND WATER WAS STOPPING
 OVER THE EDGE.



End of Rio Blanco (up climb of narrow rifts) - flowstone squeeze (previous ed) passed by Di:



Navedome distorted - max. reading 48m which is perhaps half total height.

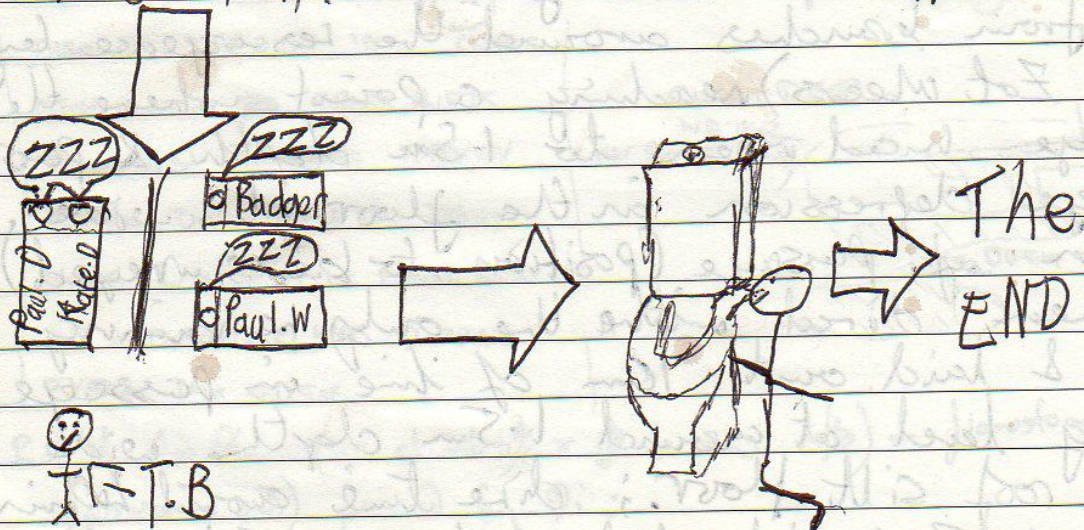
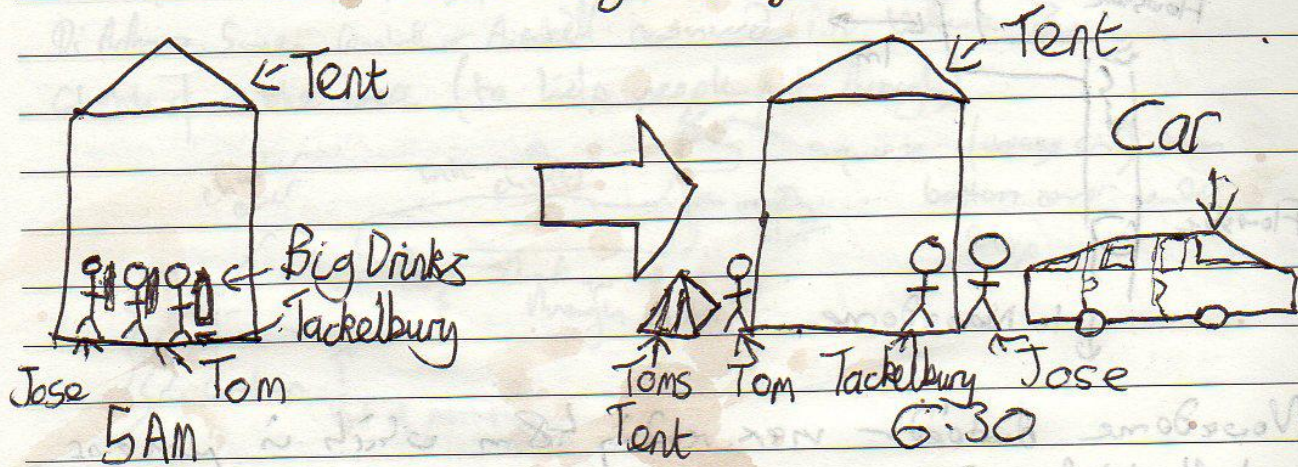
7
~~08~~/08/12 B75 RIAÑO RESURGENCE
 DAN HIBBERTS JOHN TAYLOR ZOT

JT dived first checking the line & consolidating repairs; attached new line & laid 60m of line. Passage continues in same vein, rising to 1m high & 2m wide passage @ 5m depth with wide arched roof & fine silt floor. Ran out of line & silt screws then returned.

Dan dived second & attached 30m of line which he ran out using improvised silt screws (cut from branches around the resurgence by Ray Zol Meers) reaching a point where the passage had risen to 1.5m depth & forming a large depression in the floor at a wide section of passage (position to be surveyed).

JT then dived with the only remaining line & laid out 10m of line in passage running level at around 1.5m depth wide arched roof silt floor; dive time around 20min. Dived on 1x 300 bar 4l cylinder & 1x 200 bar 6l cylinder which just about fit in the inverted rift.

4/8/12 Tony + Sue Wedding - the after party
Tackelburgys (vague) account

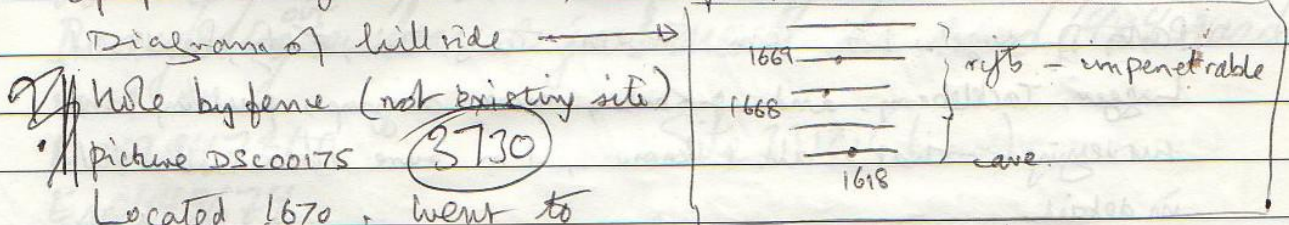


8/8/2012.

Ali, Joe & Phil P - day off (again!) to look at mine (Haya) near Cobijón - Torben and family joined trip for first-part with children in back packs. Mine is very extensive with long incline down some 1/2 km to lower levels & connection to cave - looks like there is a through trip possible. Very large mined out areas some 30m+ high - all mine looks safe with no or little loose rock. Page 759 in Vol II of Contabria Subterránea

30/7/2012

Searching/checking around Riaño area (Nigel, Steve, Tom, Phil P., Susie). Went up to 2479* found hidden by rocks and undergrowth but spot on to woods. Dropped ladder in and Steve & Tom descended. Narrows down at about -5m and no obvious way to extend. Moved over to 1618* - coords correct. No obvious prospects so left for another day. On to 1668*. As described. Then 1669* - series of parallel rifts with very little prospect:



Located 1670, went to look for 1789*. Position incorrect - identified likely correct site at 30T 452683 4799854. NJD (* = photos)
New site 3727

31/7/2012

Picón - Phil P, Mike (Muse), Peter S, Nigel to far end to snapper hole left on previous Muse trip. Hole enlarged enough for Mike to descend. No obvious way on after drop of about 10m: ~~more~~ further detail may be available from Mike or Phil. NJD

1/8/2012 Lennie's Cave 3721

Just for the record! Tony B, Dan and Bob T dug in 3721, Entrance opened ~~on 31/7/12~~ on 31/7/12 then followed draft up short climb (needed digging) through tube and down to rift in floor. Rapped open and Bob went forward to enter main cave. Nigel surveyed in and by the time he reached the breakthrough they had gone so he went on alone and met the others in decent passage. Few photos and a bit of poking. Dan found day light at another entrance. (east passage - no number yet). Second entrance dug out to provide through trip. Tom got confused after going round surface so ended up doing through trip alone. Also on trip: Eddy M, Tom, Nigel (Photos taken on this and subsequent trips). Survey of first 25m only.

2/8/2012 Lennie's Cave 3721

Party of Nigel, Liz, Tom, Steve M, Tony, Di, Eddy, Paul Dold, Luggen, Tackleberg, and probably more digging, pushing and surveying. That's all I know, I'm sure others will fill in detail.

6/8/2012 3721 and 0489

Pete Clewes, Allan B, Pete Whetham, Nigel, Tom, Liz. Quick look around 3721 but no new finds. Went to end of 0489 but again no leads. No draught at end.

7/8/2012

Junglebashing at Secadewa See map 6 pages on →

Tony reckoned he had bribed a farmer with a bottle of wine to point out a 2m square draughting hole which was somewhere up the hill somewhere below a eucalyptus tree. On this precise information, Nigel, Tony and Allan jungle-bashed up above 3721 - average speed

3728

(41)

= 0.7 mph. Located rock shelter at 309 0455547 4799614 which looks like old passage completely filled with earth. No draught (NJD w/P 023*) then further up wet spring line and saw about 10m long (NJD w/P 032*) at 3729 309 0455452 4799421. Never found cave with draught or even the eucalyptus tree. On way down, spotted large depressions each side of barn but all grassed over. No sensible prospects. See photos and route in Word doc. NJD

8/8/12 NJD / Tom / Allan tourist trip to Cayuelo (cañuelo) Long search for entrance but found at 9657 1705, not where shown on Topo Espana map. ~~Entrance~~ Best route follows fields up towards entrance then path up from very highest point in fields. at 9526 1807 NJD

9/8 2012 Dan, Torben + family Draughting ^{out} entrance just next to road (4x4 road) WTM # N 4794731 Site 3318 (known) E 0449674 Entrance pic: 5872 ~ 3/6m

CONTINUED Torben

9/8 2012 (week 10) Dan, Torben, Marites The site is a dig, requiring explosives. The draught comes from a rift 1.5m down. About 20m south in the gully, ~~there~~ on the western side, there is a draughting rift with one drilling hole used for explosives (Dr 120m).

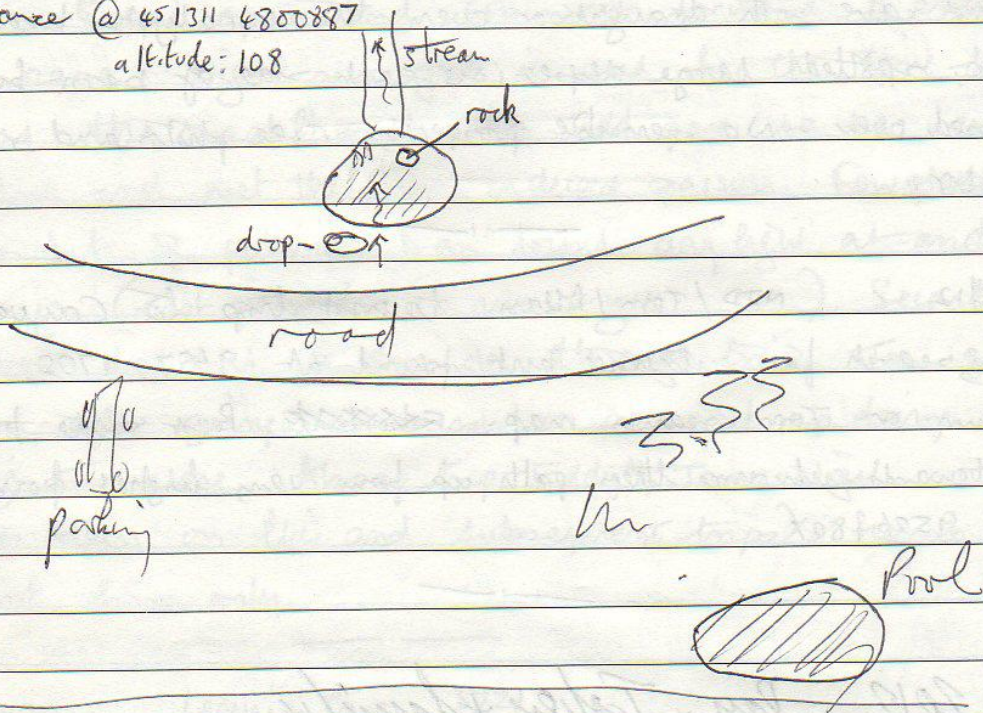
Torben

10/8/12 Tran surface survey around resurgence + pool at
Riño

Rock @ 451305 4800888

drop entrance @ 451311 4800887

altitude: 108



9/8 12

#2753 Allan, Todben + family

One mapper made the passage a lot easier.
Cave surveyed ~50m. The 10-20cm diameter
slit at the end will require explosives for
at least 4m. It seems like the end is an
inlet.

Videos + TOP-files in folder Todben

7/8/12 - Coverón - Ali, Carol S., Pete S.

Aim - to fix position of passages closest to Torca CEZ.

50 survey legs in the maze of small passages - some of which
could be pushed further. Then surveyed back to entrance and
nearest GPS position in the field.

09/08/12 575 RIAÑO RESURGENCE

DAN HIBBERES ZOT

(43)

Dan dived to the 59m mark surveying along the passage.

10/08/12 575 RIAÑO RESURGENCE.

DAN HIBBERES JOHN TAYLOR ZOT

DH dived just & surveyed to 160m from the last survey. Noting an area & a possible passage on the right (position to be confirmed by survey).

JT dived next with 27m of line using buoyancy (scott bag) and fins, fins were filled at the right which used some gas. The dive was made with 1x 300 bar fl cylinder & 1x 200 bar fl. The end of the line was reached & 47m of line layed out. The passage had a large arched roof with silt banks on either side passage 0.75m to 1m high 1.5m ϕ 7m depth. The final belly was made with a silt stake 1m from rock glass fins which came in from either side of the passage with eyeholes. Return dive was interesting as the last belly had pulled the line under an undercut (this needs to be sorted on the next dive by putting a silt stake on the left, diving in, prior to continuing) Dive base was reached almost on the 1st. \therefore Further dives may need to be made with more gas by whatever means!

10/3/2012 Luggor, Tony + Phil P to 289 secadura with
Louise, Wandy + Sue in support.

Continued dig at far end of cave where a small roof tube
has good draught. Day before Luggor had moved large
block from roof to make dig possible. Digging in hard
mud/sand very difficult for hand tools, so took big breaker +
gen set. Worked very well + got access to small
chamber + further slot up to second chamber ~~and~~ with
boulder roof, two dips possible, but easy one is to
snapper a boulder to give access to further open space
above with solid roof - can't see if it goes off - draught
is almost lost, probably as it ~~comes~~ comes through
a number of holes/gaps so is not concentrated.
Temp of draught seemed a little to warm to be from
major system ie top of hill - but still cold on
this hot (33°C) day so digging very pleasant.



Observations from 10th August 2012, the day after the connection: Whitworth with Bassenthwaite. (45)

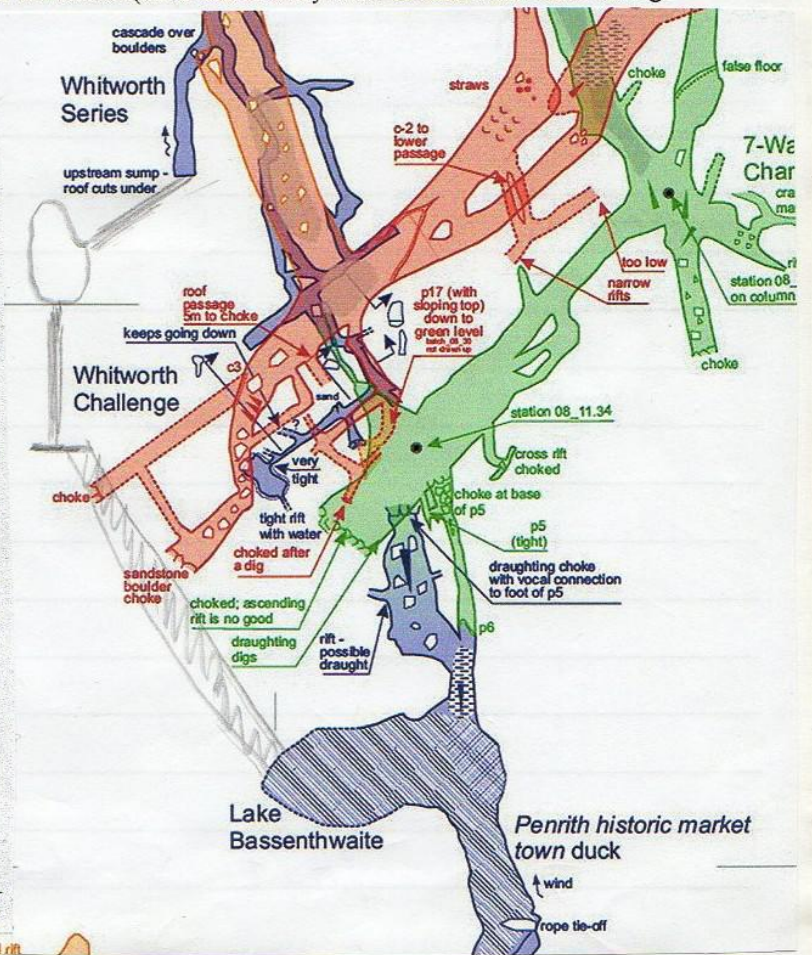
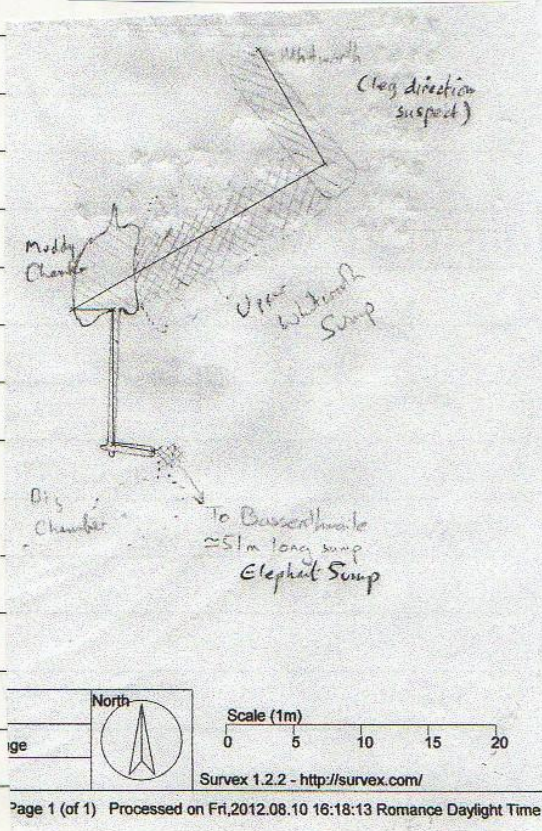
2889

- There was flow in Buttermere and all areas downstream.
- The dive through to Whitworth was clear so there was possibly flow there as well.
- There was no flow through Whitworth (the cascade was dry and the water was well below the level of the rocks on the upstream side).
- The water in the upstream Whitworth sump had not cleared at the bottom of the sump but was okay, both ends, at shallower depths.
- The side walls of upstream Whitworth have not been looked at fully.
- The link with Bassenthwaite starts as a chamber which has not been explored fully and then goes to a large passage which also has not been fully investigated off the line.
- There was only a very small amount of flow into Bassenthwaite from upstream T-L-V, downstream was not investigated.
- The dam bypass cuts out Buttermere the other side of the dam (upstream). It is a direct link between Buttermere (downstream of the dam) and downstream Whitworth.
- The water levels in downstream Whitworth and upstream Whitworth are different (upstream is about 0.75 m).
- The water in the dam bypass (Buttermere) was very clear despite the amount of mud that we had dislodged from the dam on the way in and out (the water immediately below the dam on the downstream side was very cloudy until it met the bypass water).
- The passage cross section in the new (muddy) chamber seems too small to take all of the water that flows through Buttermere in flood conditions. This area also has heavy silt deposits.

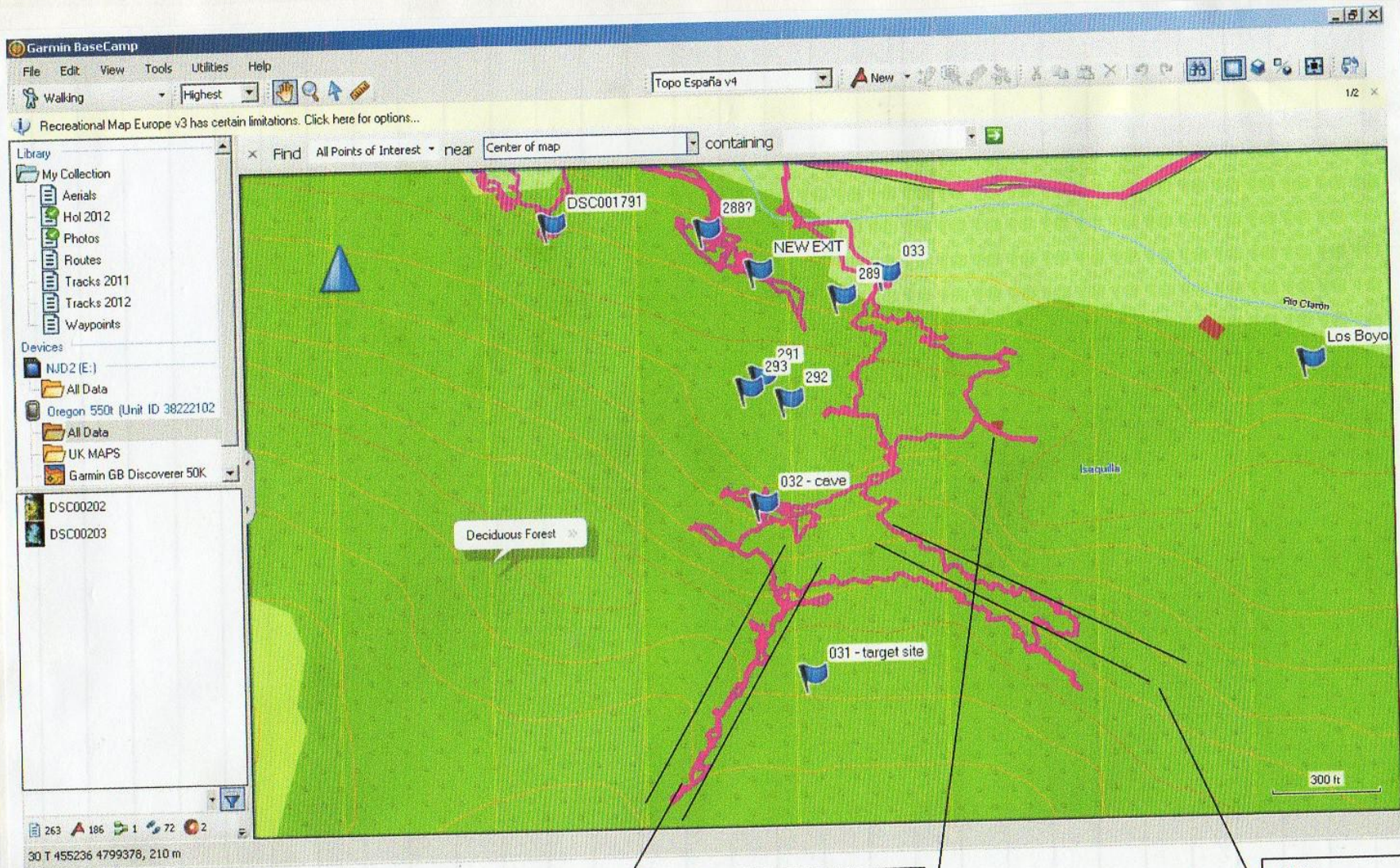
Guesses from the above observations.

- The flowing water in Buttermere was not being fed from Bassenthwaite.
- The water in upstream Whitworth may flow through at a shallow level following the roof and only take up the whole cross section of the passage when the flow increases.
- The rift complex where the dam bypass is has a flow and is worth a thorough investigation to see where it comes from which may be in that passage or in downstream Whitworth (as the dam bypass is part of downstream Whitworth).
- As has been said before, the whole length of Buttermere needs looking at underwater.
- The most promising leads (at the time of writing) seem to be pWhitworth downstream and the chamber at the start of the sump (Elephant Sump) through to Bassenthwaite.
- Upstream Whitworth and the Muddy Chamber looks to be high flow bypass when the Bassenthwaite water rises above the level of the cascade in Whitworth (there is also likely to be an underwater route through boulders and rifts).

Colin Hayward & Jim Lister



7 Aug 1971
Sevier
Mud Spring



Rift like feature with rock walls about 10 m apart. Animal tracks

Big depressions each side of this barn (pics 196 east and 198 west)

Cliffs

11/08/12 575 RIAÑO RESURGENCE.

DAVID HERBERTS, ZOT.

DH dived with the intention of exploring the oven mentioned in the previous report but Owen could not be found in poor vis.

DH then explored the depression in the floor previously mentioned & found it to be 2m deep with no leads, passage on right previously mentioned is not actually a passage, DH then surveyed to the end of the line. The dive was conducted with 2x 200 bar FL cylinders which just about fit down the initial entrance rift which will improve qty. of gas on future dives.

11/08/12 3504 Track @ Back of Muela.

JOHN TAYLOR, Phil Papard, Hilary Papard, Young Tom, Melanie Taylor-Achne, Fin Taylor, Will Taylor

Phil entered the cave & entered a chamber from the small entrance tube. The chamber appears to be a leading rift leading up to the track & dropping down 6m to a floor with a steel grill leading to other side. which can be reached from the chamber by previously capped squeeze. JT entered the cave & aided rigging ladder & line down the squeeze.

Tom dropped the squeeze & found a small chamber with possible dig in the floor.

Fin & Will entered the cave and were suitably impressed with the decorations.

Hilary
Penny

(49)
I had stayed on surface & weathered.
The cone appears to be very old with
plenty of stal & calcite cauliflower.

11/08/2012 @ 3:05 am Squirel found looking for Tom-
on road to Andy's house - pointed in correct direction &
he wended off - just like old days in 1970's!

↳ Toris bit: Chamber in floor through squeeze.

After descending the ladder I was in a chamber roughly
a metre wide. From Phil's last survey station the floor
then drops off at a 45° angle down 2-3 metres.

Now in a chamber 1m wide, 2m high. The dig in the
floor that Phil mentions is a draughting hole
about 30cm^2 . It's a dig through calcice and a small
space can be seen beyond but can't see where
it went beyond that.

30/7/12 - Steve, Tom, Nigel, St, Di, Susie, Phil + Moff

A DIG JUST OFF THE TRACK NEAR 1616* & 1618*

(NIGEL OR PHIL MAY HAVE A GPS) ← BUT TOM KNOWS WHERE TOO!

- Draughting hole roughly $0.6\text{m} \times 0.3\text{m}$ needs

digging, there is a loose boulder lying in the
way which may need breaking too get out.

As space beyond can be seen but can't tell
much more. It's at the bottom of a ^{small} cliff face

where the track bends a little, has a very prominent
tree above... This is 1616.

12/08/12 575 RIANO RESURGENCE

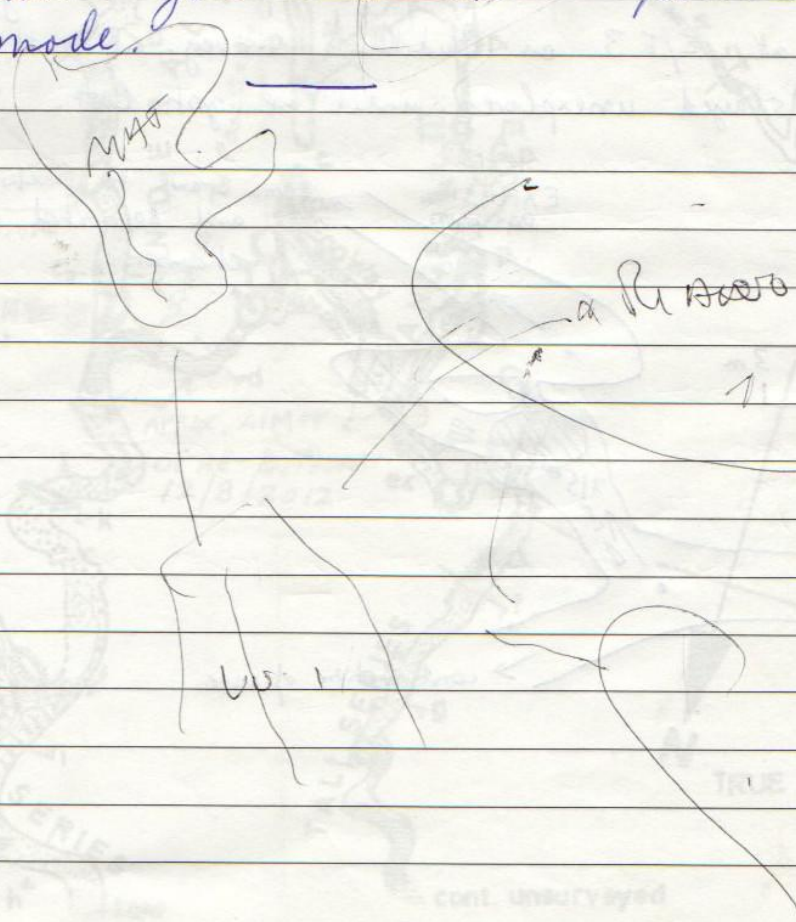
John Taylor, Dan Hubberts, 2 OT.

DH Dived just on 2x 200bar 7L cylinders & with fine 6 bottles 'nicely filled!!' & a stage to be placed at the top of 'the long slope' in case of any gas difficulties as well as 40m of line. The dive was conducted, without problems to the end with the stage having been placed but fine silt at the just delay created problems with attachment of the new line. DH reached dive base after a 30min dive with gas left within 3rds.

JT Dived next with same equipment & made an uneventful dive to the end of the laid line. The diver then spent around 20min securing the new line & ensuring any slack line was dealt with. The new line was then continued over a rock bar where a silt stake was placed but further progress was deemed risky as vis had reduced to zero sorting the new line attachment.

JT returned along the laid line to an undercut which had created difficulties on a previous dives (around 10m from the end of the line) to check activities had not caused problems & to let the vis clear at the known end. There were no problems & JT returned to their end but vis was still useless. Another dive was made and JT surfaced having been in the water 60min with gas comfortably above 3rds.

12/8/2012 S. Vega Dan, Luggar, Tony, Phil, Zot & Tom - Drove the 2 4x4's up from Arredondo side left Tony's where track turns from rock to mud as it looked like rain. Don took his to field near 2534 to find a new Cockal gate (put-in by wind turbine Co), found that we could open the gate as lock was not working correctly & drove to near wood and 1340. PP & Tom went down 1340 to look at dips at bottom to see best drought - but all were either no or little drought, other covered in area had outwood drought - odd for this time of year & temp of 20°C - possibly a pressure change with a "low" moving in! Need to go back on hot day. Cave above 1340 (20m above) in wood Luggar went down that at bore of 7m out pitch, but it needs 3 ladders - looks quite Big (good drought in hot weather) PP remained boulder at top with snapper - so now easy to get down. Don drove 4x4 down Matongo side through one more gate so a traverse from Arredondo to Vega was made.



12/8/12 Andean II - Squirrel, Pete. S. 10/12/12

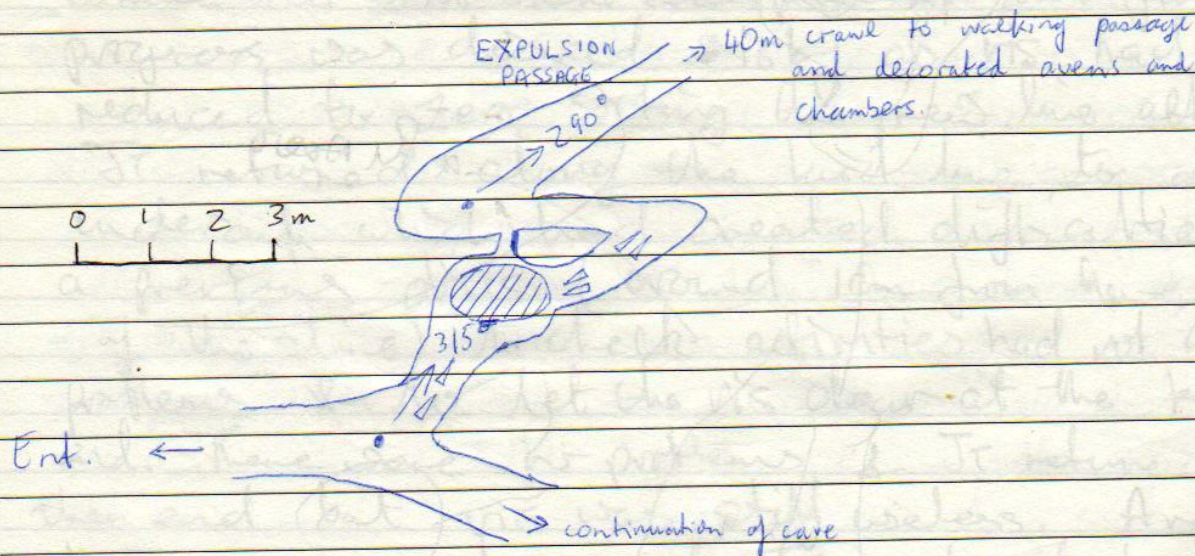
Continuation of trip on 3 Aug. We dug out and continued along right-hand passage. Partly along it, an aven was free-climbed until it became unsafe. A possible meander passage goes off the top.

We reached drippy aven (at G2 on Buddha's survey). At first we went left, but decided it was too full of silt and too much like what we had come through.

Instead we went right, into yet another crawl that was pursued for 10-15m to where it could be seen to get very small. After studying the survey again, it's clear that the left-hand passage was the correct way and the right-hand passage was new.

On the way out, some compass bearings were taken of the start of Expulsion Passage, and photos of the larger passage near the entrance.

Expulsion Passage must be marked as "gatera inundada" (flooded crawl) on the original Spanish survey, and marked at E/F3 on Buddha's survey. But this collector's item had stayed unexplored until we got lost.

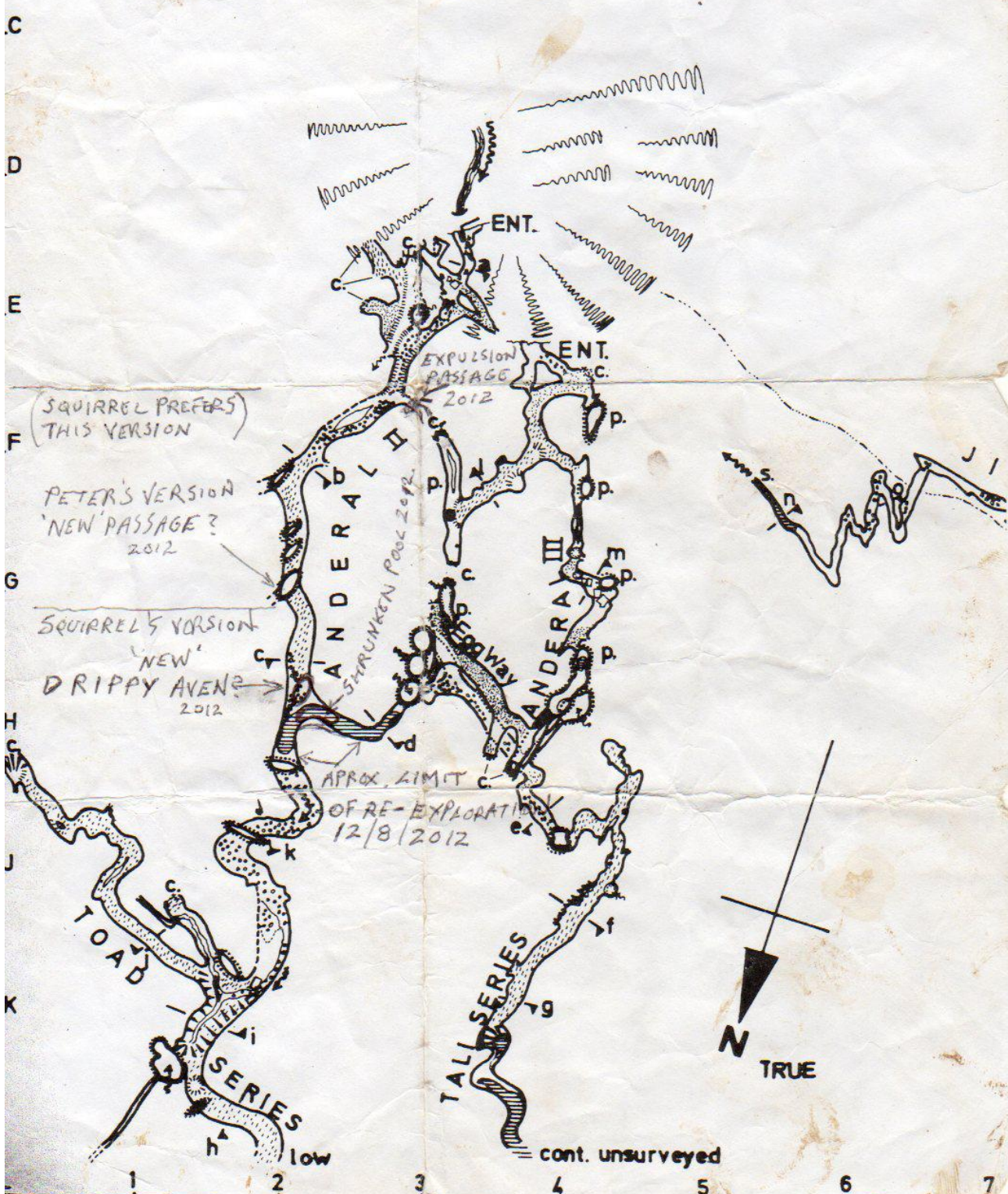


ANDERAL II & III - JIVERO II & III

53

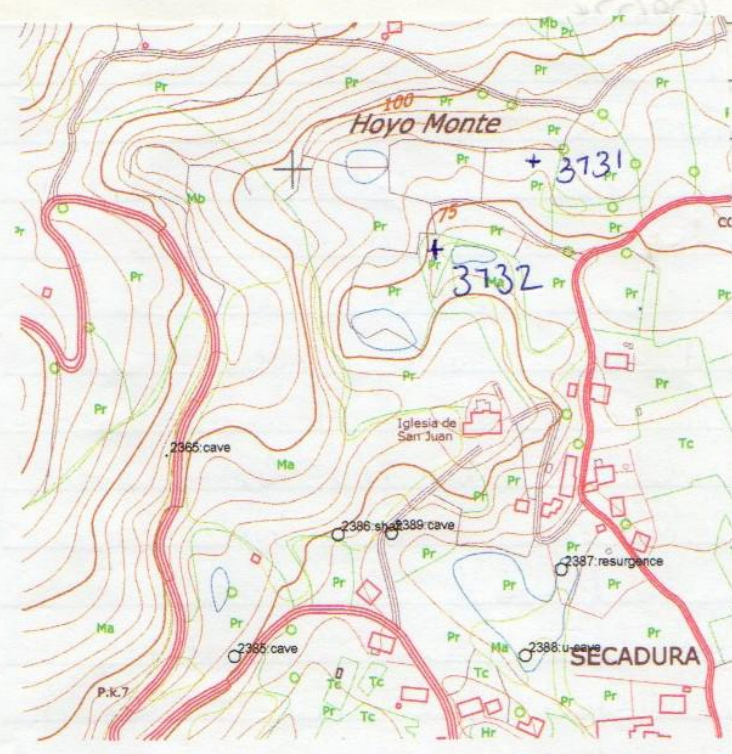
SURVEY TO GRADE 4b.

MAY 1975



WALKING IN SECADURA.

DAN HIBBERTS, EDD MASON.



3731.

WE SPOTTED A HOLE WITH A FENCE AROUND IT FROM THE EDGE OF THE ROAD. DIDN'T GO ANYWHERE JUST A COLLAPSE.

3732.

A CAVE ENTRANCE IN FIELD NEXT A DEPRESSION. THIS ENTRANCE HAS SHETER OVEN THE ENTRANCE. AND STICKS

BLOCKING THE WAY ON. NO OR VERRY LITTLE DRAFT.

10/8/12 Loggs, Wendy + Juan. Walk/jungle back to 708, 709 area
709: Varin bones + teeth looked at. At rear right is probable articulated deer bones.

708: Floor covered with microfauna bones.
Couldn't find site 349 ~~but~~ but there was heavy jungle.
Walked ^{east} along cliff line of 708, 709, and giving up where jungle thickened. Then walked east on next cliff line down reaching site 261 near Alberto's cabin. One of the holes here looked into by Juan. 3m climb down on a collapse to where stones drop ~ 4m in a v. tight rift. Walked back along Caravanso track.

Found be probable source of the Easter water (site 3700) - a tiny cave and chibed resurgence pool

(no date)

3733 hole discovered by Joe while looking for Joe's lost cave.
Draughting 0456078 4796774.

14/08/12 575 RIANÑO RESURGENCE

JOHN TAYLOR, DAN HUBBERTS, ZOT.

Purpose of dive to swim to the end of the lead line & inspect the passage for any evidence of leads.

Dive conducted with Zoota 7l cylinders
jims & scuff tag. (cylinders pumped to 260 bar)

Entry through artificial rift was ok &
25m in where boulders lay across the

passage a choke was seen on the left.

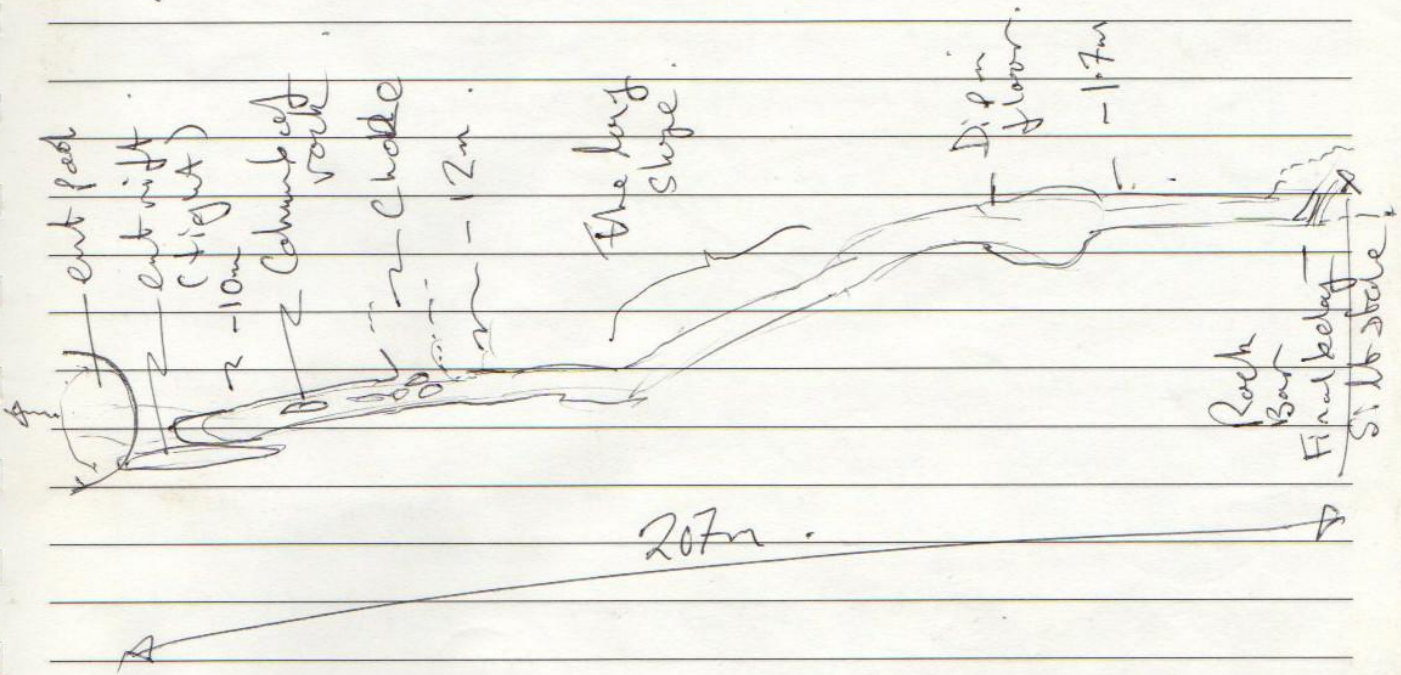
The dive was made to the end with no
problems along the whole dive, as on all
dives previously made.

Visibility at the end of the lead line was
still very poor & it was unclear which
way to lay the line, to the left seemed
bigger but this could not be determined
in the poor vis.

The line was cut & tied off to the last
belay (silt stake) & the reel retrieved.
On the return dive further silt stakes
were placed one pulling the line away
from the depression wall.

The vis had not cleared in the two days from
the previous dive. Future exploration
would benefit from better vis either from
first dive or more flow although this
would exacerbate gas management as flow

up the long slope may need more gas.



13/08 Llueva J. Clarke, C. Smith, P. Ryder + H. Long

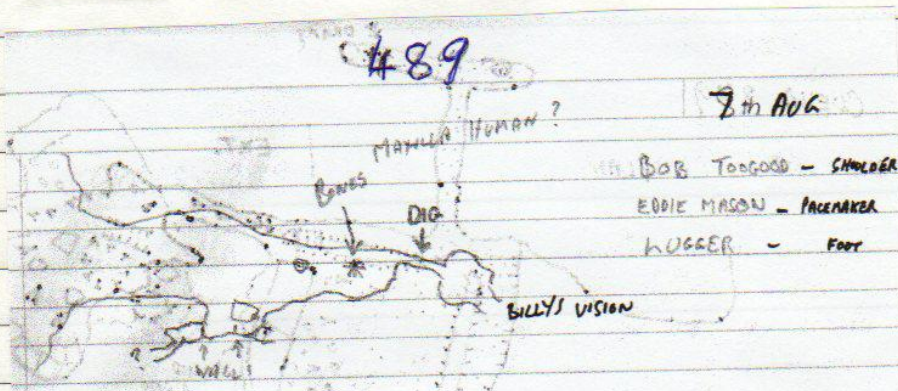
- 1). Went to 3691 and John + Chris got on with digging the westerly crawl. By the time they had worn themselves out they had dug thro' several blockages and along about 80 metres, all crawling. It was draughting out and still going at far end with more digging.
- 2). Walked along bottom of slope on south side of the valley - only thing of note was just over the wall along the track and out into the fields where a 'wet weather' channel ended in a small depression. Small opening leads down a short step to 1.5m of crawl to where it gets too tight.

3734

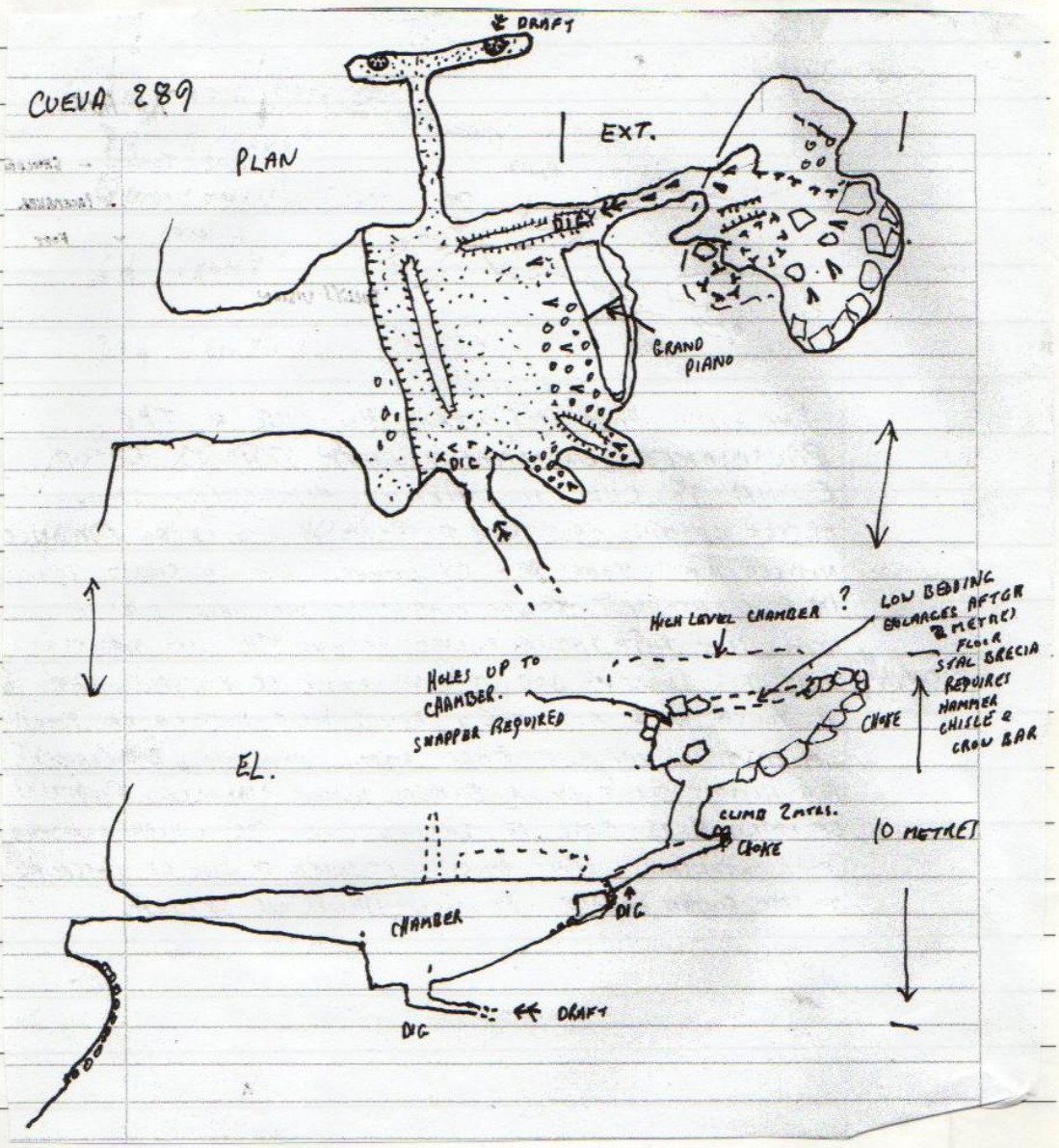
GPS (taken 7m out into field on north side) 0455178.4798162 (Alt. 88m).

14/08 Riano area J.C.I, C.S., P.R. + H.L.

- 1). Went to 3662 and removed flake that blocked access. J.C.I. went down (on ladder) 3.5 m to where it got narrow and was choked.
- 2). After that went to 1805 (~~or 4?~~) and J.C. + C.S. looked at end of rift heading towards valley at bottom of short pitch. They got past some boulders and down about 8ft, but more boulder, with no room to work, stopped play.
- 3). P.R. + H.L. had a quick dig in the cave below the depositor which was draughting well. It needs a big dig to remove enough of the silt + sand to see where it was coming from. (1809)



KNACKLED FOOT, FROZEN'S SHOULDER & THE PACEMAKER UNDERTOOK A LATE TRIP TO CUEVA ESPINA TO CURE A CONTINUED HAINCOVER. MAIN OBJECT OF THIS TRIP WAS TO CHECK A LEAD NEAR ENTRANCE NOTICED A FEW YEARS AGO BY LUGGER. HOLE ON RIGHT, 20cm IN-FRONT ENTRANCE THROUGH REMAINS OF OLD WALL ENDS AT OVAL SLOT WITH LARGER PASSAGE BEYOND. THE SLOT WAS TOO TIGHT FOR LUGGER & BOB THOUGH WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR A YOUTH WITH ATTITUDE. BONES WERE NOTICED ON FLOOR OF CAVE IN VARIOUS PLACES SMALL CARIBBEAN, BIRD (LARGE) AND ALMOST CERTAINLY A BROKEN HUMAN MAXILLA. PORTION OF MAXILLA IS CLOSE TO THE D.C.C. DIG WHICH ENTERED SHORT EXTENSION. SURFACE BONES WERE MOVED TO SIDE OF PASSAGE TO SAVE FURTHER DAMAGE. POSITION SHOWN ON SKETCH.



SECADURA

LOGGER

9th Aug CUEVA 289 J. SOUTHWORTH, T. BROCKLEBANK

Visited this cave to work on drafting dig in plan on right hand side of chamber. A little work was undertaken at this dig before a 2nd dig was started at a strongly drafting tube at back of chamber on right. During the digging a large thin slice of bedrock was lowered down from the roof (weighing several tons) and about 3m long it was christened the Grand Piano. Part of this slab was broken up to give easy access to the dig. Return trip planned with better equipment.

10th Aug

CUEVD 289

Louise, Sue, Wendy -
LUGGER, BROCK, PHIL P.

Returned to drafting dig in 289 with Phil Pappard and his generator and breaker, left the girls to sunbathe in the field below the cave. (Louise went prospecting in the wood above the cave). Dig moved forward rapidly with the breaker working well.

Eventually Lugger was able to enter a short continuation. A squin up entered a narrow phreatic rift on a joint. A short climb followed to enter a breakdown chamber. Phil and Brock then joined Lugger to check for a continuation. Two leads were noted both of these required more work to reach what appears to be an upper chamber above blockfall. First lead would require a block removing by snapper. 2nd lead would require hammer & chisel and crowbar to work on low bedding with calcited breccia in the floor. Prospects still seem good.

12th Aug

SITE 1220

SHAFT TOP AREA OF WOOD.

LUCCER

~~Went~~ Went up Viere track and ~~walked~~ walked over top with Brookbank to this site he had dug ~~at present~~ which had a blockage about 5-6 metres down. Hole through blockage was passable though very tight. Shaft appeared into large rift with cross joint, unfortunately the ladder was much too short and I was left dangling in mid-air. Three ladders would be needed to batter the shaft. Before we left a block was snapped at constriction at top of lower shaft. Will need gardening on next trip to make a safe descent.

13/8

SITES 708-709.

AOZE CAVE

LUCCER

VISITED THIS SITE WITH SUAN & WENDY. BURNT BONES OF COW, DEER, AND HUMAN. FINGER BONE. PICTURE TAKEN OF ARTICULATED ANIMAL LEG POSSIBLY DEER. A PIECE OF RED OCHRE (RUDDLE) WAS FOUND ALSO BONES OF BIRD AND OTHER SMALL ANIMALS. NOTHING REMOVED FROM CAVE.

LUGGER & TONY BROCK. SEVERAL OTHER PEOPLE DOWN
DIGGING & SURVEYING.

TRIP WAS TO ACQUAINT MYSELF WITH CAVE AND CHECK FOR ARCHAEOL. WENT TO NEARBY SMALL CAVE FIRST WHERE BIG STEVE SHOWED ME LARGE POT WHICH I PHOTOGRAPHED. (288)

ENTERED LENNY'S BY MAIN (EAST) ENTRANCE, TOOK SEVERAL PHOTOS OF SMALL MAMMAL BONES AND CHECKED SIDE PASSAGES ALL CHECKED. LONGEST WAS OXBOW SHOWN DOTTED ON FIRST SURVEY. PROBABLY 40 METERS TO SURVEY.

AFTER OXBOW A MUCH MORE INTERESTING PASSAGE WAS FOUND ON RIGHT HAND SIDE. A SMALL TUBE ASCENDED BRACIA TO ENTER LARGER PASSAGE AND CHAMBERS. PROBABLY CIRCA 40 TO 50 METERS TO SURVEY. WITH IMPRESSIVE WIDE BEDDING AND HOLE CONNECTING THIS TO LOWER MAIN PASSAGE. A FURTHER FEATURE ARE TREE ROOTS LIKE THICK VINES COMING DOWN AN AVENUE AND DISAPPEARING INTO A HOLE IN THE FLOOR. BY THIS TIME BROCKEDANK HAD HEARD ME SHOUTING SO WE TEAMED UP TO CHECK ALL LEADS IN THE AREA.

A PASSAGE HEADING BACK INTO THE HILL DRAFTED STRONGLY SO WE PULLED OUT A FEW ROCKS, DECIDED IT WAS A GOING DIG AND LEFT IT FOR THE NEXT TRIP. AN OFFSHOOT CHAMBER ON LEFT SIDE LED TO A NARROW RIFT WITH TIGHT BUT PASSABLE 45CM DROP BUT NEEDED ROPE OR LADDER (STILL TO DO). UPPER BEDDING CONNECTS TO MAIN TRUNK ROUTE VIA HOLES AND ALSO A LOW BEDDING NOT EXACTLY WHERE (NEEDS SURVEYING).

AFTER CHECKING EXTENSION CONTINUED INTO MAIN CAVE AND LOOKED AT CHOKES AT EAST AND THIS LOOKS QUITE TERMINAL THOUGH POSSIBLE LEADS IN ROOF.

WAS THEN SHOWN A BONE STICKING OUT OF CONGLOMERATE IN A SMALL OXBOW CLOSE TO ENTRY INTO MAIN PASSAGE A FEW OTHER BONES WERE ALSO NOTED AT START OF THIS PASSAGE, BONES WERE STARTING TO MINERALIZE SO HAVE SOME AGE (OLD).

CONTINUED DOWN MAIN PASSAGE STICKING NOSE IN PLACES IT SHOULD NOT REALLY GO, WENT DOWN DOWNSTREAM PASSAGE ABOUT 15 METERS TILL IT WAS A GROUND. (CONTINUES) FOUND A COLONY OF WHITE SHAMP TYPE CREATURES IN POOL. CLIMBED UP TO HIGH LEVEL PASSAGE OF MAIN PASSAGE LOCATED ON LEFT SIDE BETWEEN STREAM INLET AND WEST PASSAGE CLOSED DOWN AFTER ABOUT 10 METERS IN CALCITE CHOKER. CONTINUED DOWN MAIN PASSAGE TO JUNCTION TOOK RIGHT

BRANCH WHICH I LATER FOUND OUT LEADS TO WEST ENTRANCE. CLIMBED UP INTO ROOF WHERE PASSAGE TURNS RIGHT AND ENTERED TWO CHAMBERS ABOVE BENCHFALL BOTH WERE BLIND. CONTINUED ALONG PASSAGE TOWARD WEST ENTRANCE AND DROPPED DOWN NARROW SLOT TO FLOOR OF IMMATURE CANYON, BEDDING AT FLOOR LEVEL QUICKLY TERMINATED TO NORTH, COULD BE FORCED WITH HAMMER PROSPECTS POOR.

SITE 3721 LENNY'S

5th Aug.

DIRTY TRIP LUGGER & TOO GOOD

INTENTION WAS TO WORK THE DRAFTING DIG IN EAST CHAMBER EXTENSION FOUND ON PREVIOUS TRIP. SEVERAL HOOPS OF WORK OPENED UP A HOLE LEADING EAST. We decided left wall required capping as right wall was an enormous block resting on fill. We then went to see how others were doing at the drafting choke on far side of main passage. Soon got cold waiting. Checked out a side passage opposite entry (chambers after initial dig) this was about 10-15 mtrs to where a large slab stopped progress beyond the passage can be seen to enlarge and continue (needs a snapper) While checking this out we realized the other team had broken through their dig. We then followed them followed them into a large chamber full of blocks and soft sediments with various holes up and down. Lost the draft, chamber needs a thorough search to locate source of draft.

SITE 3721 LENNY'S 6th Aug. LUGGER & TOO GOOD.

Went down to finish dig started previously on the 5th Aug. Two snappers and we were through into ~~the~~ a small chamber with hanging death above, by this time J. Southworth had joined us. No continuation was possible, draft was issuing from a ladder checked rift heading east too dangerous to dig. Retreated and decided to check out choke at west end of main passage. Tensed up with J.J. et al climbed first aven below pitch (chink) this was blind, rift aven would be a better prospect, looked at the

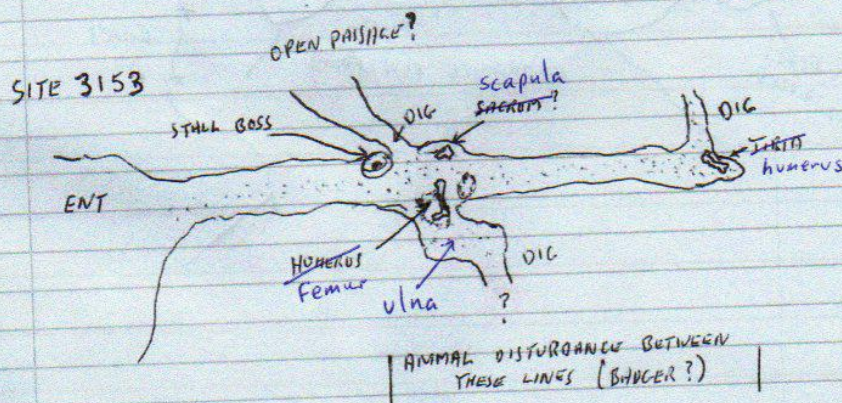
11
6th Aug. Trip

The Count slow down on left near end this drafted well and a short extension was dug into later the same day by J.J. et al. This is still a good dig? The end choke was checked, at high point a way on to left could be forced over dodgy block to open passage round side of blockfall probably needs hammer & crow bar.

15.8.02

LUGGER, ZOTTY, PETE SMITH.

VISITED SITE 3153. This cave was known to have a small accumulation of human remains which Spanish archaeologists had recorded and replaced in cave. Pete entered the cave and found a human humerus which appeared to have been freshly exposed probably by badgers, this was on right hand side half way into cave, near end of cave a tibia almost certainly human was found this again had been exposed by badger?. A partial sacrum? human was also found at opposite side of passage to first bone. The sediments are soft and composed of sand & silt, signs of animal disturbance is evident in last section of passage. Several partially blocked holes go off animal burrows one of these appears to be big enough to crawl along after initial constriction. SKETCH BELOW



[Revisions after email from Lugger 18/8/12]

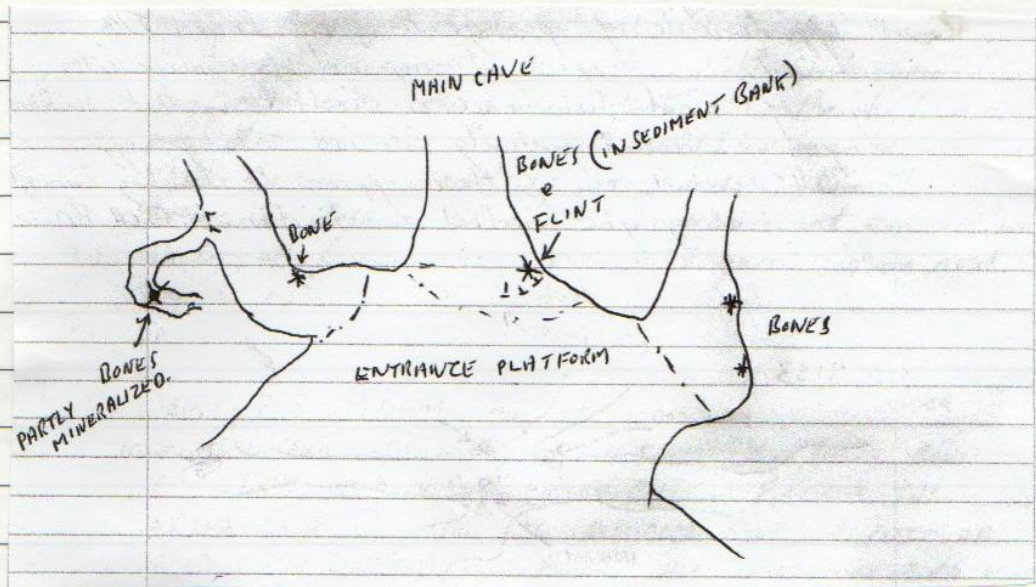
15 METRES APPROX

15.8.12

ARENAL

LUGGER, ZOTTY, PETE SMITH.

Short trip to check on archaeological remains at entrance to this cave. Flints & bones were found eroding out of sediment bank on right side of main entrance. The flints are probably Mesolithic as broken micro blades were present, a bi-facially worked scraper was also found all were left in-situ. Broken bone fragments which appear to be very old were also found in shelter entrances to left and right of main entrance.




3420

AMIOALS WOUNDS MACHISE WERE FULL PAPER (CENS C
 CRAN HAD FUSED IN WITH WOUNDS) IN SAND GRAVEL
 SPENT A FEW HOURS RESEARCHING MORE WORK NEEDED.

SUN 12th AUG.

~~SAT 11th~~ WORKING ROUND 3012 AREA HAD A DIG AT
 BOUNDER CHOICE IN 3011 BUT NO GO, NOTED POSSIBLE
 PASSAGE BOUNDED BY BOUNDERS UNDER ROOF JUST
 DOWN HILL BELOW 3012 ENT APPROX HALF WAY TO
 BOTTOM OF SNAKEHOLE.

~~SAT 11th~~ AUG 3703 DIG OPENED UP TO MAKE
 LIKE SITUATION WITH ALL PASSAGES CLOSED.
 APPROX LENGTH 20m.

13th 14th 15th
 MON, TUES, WED, 3649 + SURROUNDING AREA SEE SEPARATE
 REPORT. 

From: Tony Brocklebank <tony@laptopbits.co.uk>
To: Derbyshirecavingclub <Derbyshirecavingclub@yahoo.com>
Cc: uzueka <uzueka@aol.com>
Subject: Lenny's Cave
Date: Wed, Aug 15, 2012 3:33 pm

288
3721

On Wednesday 31st July Big Steve directed a cast of thousands including Tom Howard, Bob Toogood, Ed Mason, Diane Arthurs, and others to site 288 – La Bodega, in Secadura, where we were met with a short walk to an obvious hole with a great draught which Steve had ideas we should be digging. As all the water passing through the Matienzo valley resurges in this area it sounded promising.

We had a quick look upstream, and decided it was squalid, before inserting Tom into a short side passage just inside the entrance which appeared to run downstream to an obvious tiny resurgence just below the entrance.

I had a quick look around and above the entrance and spotted a small draughting hole slightly above and to the right of it. Within a few minutes I could see Tom below excitedly yelling that it got bigger and continued, and he'd found a pot, and it went off to the left. Then all went quiet. Had he gone grabbing? Realising we couldn't get in the same way as Tom, it was simply too tight, Ed went down for digging tools but before he got back I'd managed to open the top entrance and was almost in. It did get bigger, but consisted of lots of squalid small tubes, Tom returned and I managed to get nearly as far as he had, with tight passages going off in three directions from a junction. Not Bottlebank sized, so time for a thinnier style team. I exited and Tom and Di went in pushing. Not a bad start to our first full day in the valley – perhaps thirty or forty metres of new passage. Shame about the size.

While Tom and Di were busy pushing even further Ed and I got bored, and decided to have a wander. We set off and Ed asked what we were looking for, by this time we must have been nearly twenty metres from 288. I suggested a draughting hole would be good – a bit like the football sized one I was pointing at. Digging fever set in for the second time and again within a few minutes we'd opened up a hole to a slot which dropped into a chamber, perhaps 4m high, with small holes in the floor, a passage to the right and a second passage straight ahead ending at a blank wall. The passage to the right ended at a smaller chamber, with a few uninspiring holes at roof level, the holes in the floor may lead to La Bodega, and a tiny hole at the top of the 3m high blank wall appeared to be the way on. Backing and footing up this revealed the "blank" wall was actually a vertical sand blockage in a 4m or so high canyon like passage – with cold air blasting from a small final flow hole.

Ed came in with digging weapons and we set to work cutting steps up the wall until we could dig the top. Di, Tom and Bob soon joined us and taking it in turns we revealed a small awkward crawl at roof level, with a nasty looking drop on the far side. After an hour or so the spoil heap both sides had grown to the point where Bob felt confident enough to attempt the climb down and after turning a corner entered another chamber, on a cross joint, with a climb up in the roof to the left and a howling draught emerging from an awkward and disappointing looking narrow and twisting floor slot (the continuation of which may again lead to La Bodega). Maybe Tom could get through – no – he was cold and he'd gone for a walk. The Plumbers bar was beckoning and we called it a day.

Bob and I were both pretty excited about the draught, but not too optimistic about the prospects – it looked like a big job, but despite that there was no trouble recruiting a team for the following day. Pretty much everyone returned, along with Liz, Sue, Nigel and Dan Hibberts. Dan, Bob, Nigel and I headed underground with Nigel surveying behind us with Tom (we thought) and Dan reached the slot first but announced he wasn't grabbing and was simply going to have a look. We'd decided capping would be worth a try and after half a dozen shots Bob (as the smallest - Tom is never there when you need him – he'd gone for a walk again) was inserted. He confirmed he could probably get through, but was too old or something, and would like more rock taking off. Dan and I were happy enough about this and so more demolition took place. After an hour or so Bob was shoved in again and we could hear him disappearing, "it gets bigger", "I'm on hand and knees", "I'm standing up", I followed, then Dan and

at some point Nigel gave up surveying and joined us.

The slot broke into a short crawl and then out into a chamber, where Bob was busy ferretting in the roof. Dan and I spotted a small hole low on the left (much bigger now after some attention with a lump hammer) and through this the cave quickly enlarged to a junction with what seemed at the time to be a never ending 10m high, 10m wide passage. In fact it did end, with draughting chokes at both end, side passages at the end of the left hand branch led to a crawl up into a fairly extensive high level area and also led to a complex of phreatic tubes with daylight and the new entrance at the end of one, after a couple of hours digging this provides a much easier way in.

More work has been carried out at various digs with some extensions and there are good draughts at four spots or more. Di and Simon Cornhill took over surveying and so far the cave has around 350m of passage surveyed with, at a guess, enough to survey to take it to around half a kilometre length. The strength of the draught hints at big passage further into the hill.

The breakthrough and initial exploration all occurred during Lenny's funeral and wake - and over several glasses of Selecta in the Plumbers Bar the cave was named in his honour, and in memory off all his hard work in the Matienzo over the last thirty odd years.

He'd have loved it!

We then returned to the valley where we held an alternative wake, but I can't remember the details (or even which bar) so it must have gone well.

Search 16/8. Phil P. James C + Jenny

1st we went to area above La Gaitana from road turn at Smoolly Bar, new cave/dig at

~~535 m 00448680/4786453~~ - in 20m of shale hole on ^{West} side at head of valley north of road. 511m (3739)

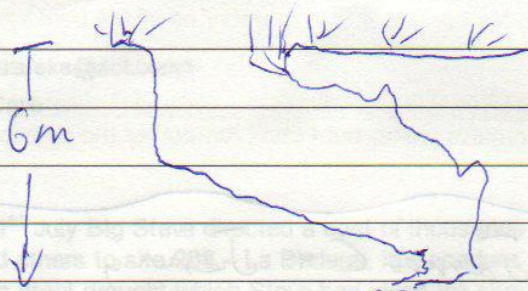
0450916/4798665 cover zone 1.5m to choke (dig), no draught. Below this spot (20m) is small 1.5 drop to a choke. James looked at all the line of shales in the 'valley' + found no other open leads. Does not look like a good prospect. (3740)

James found a shaft in trees to the West of this valley + below the barn. We thought it may be 1360 but gps showed it to be "new". James after some complaint was forced to go down a into many years of rubbish from the farm + confirmed it was 1360 + that shown location was wrong. Correct gps is 478 m 0450763/4798664

Team then moved to above Cobadal using the Bos Martin track for access. Looked at 3 holes found at Castro, but not fully descended - all were choked + it seems this area is above a big sandstone lens that cuts off downward development + directs water to line of springs that then form a short stream before sinking in shaft 3694.

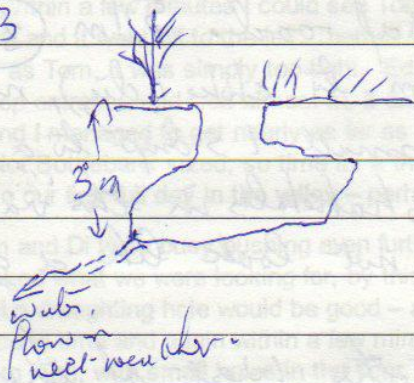
- 3681 - 3 ladders were needed to get to bottom + choke \approx 24m deep
- 3682 - One ladder down this open hole to left 6m deep + 6m long - choke
- 3683 - small left 3m to South of 3682 by small tree - 3m deep, 1m wide + 4m long - choke - no go. (PTO for digs)

3682



Water runs away down 4" ϕ tube in
 feet in wet weather - no drought.

3683



Water flows in
 wet weather.

3684



14/08/12: Simon Corbhill, Dave Arthur, James Corbhill

Went to Honeyman Pits to dig bottom of new shafts lowered by S & D. Took 2 hrs cons of expanding foam to stabilise the wobbly squeeze below down through boulders. The foam we had a life of its own, and once opened would not be stopped, spraying foam all over the cave. S went down to the top of the shafts ~~then~~, but the large boulder holding up ~~the~~ a large pile of choss above the squeeze into the second shaft had a large crack in it that had grown since the previous visit. A hasty withdrawal was made to leave nature to take its course - hopefully the block will have gone by the next visit.

The team moved on to tackle the spiderly duck in Hypocentral Pits. The duck was lowered by digging a trench and eventually became a ~~quite~~ shallow pool. Simon forced himself through and progressed the crawl for about 15m past ~~several~~ several tight bends until a slight narrowing prevented further progress. A chamber could be seen ahead and there is a strong cold draught. This passage is the source of the water - that ~~exists~~ the resurgence and will need building again before another attempt is made. Needs a thin person.

Finally we went for a walk on the hillside above Ostrich Farm Entrance, we found several interesting sites - TODO

11 AUG 2012

JOHN SOUTHWORTH, ALF LATHAM, PHIL GOODWIN.

CAVE 289. EXCAVATED 2 PASSAGES FOUND ON PREVIOUS DAY BY TOMMY B. PHIL P & LUGGER. LEFT HAND ONE INTO LOW FLAT OUT PASSAGE WHICH REQUIRES CAPPING OR SNAPAGERS TO PROGRESS PAST FALLEN BLOCKS. RIGHT HAND PASSAGE IS SMALL CLIMB UP INTO LOW CHAMBER 6M ACROSS, NO OBVIOUS WAY ON, NEED TO RETURN ON A GOOD DRAUGHTING DAY.

JOHN SOUTHWORTH, ALF LATHAM, PHIL GOODWIN, CHRIS CAMM, PHIL PARKER
INVESTIGATED RECENT FOREST CLEARING IN RIPIO AREA. SMALL CHOKED
RIFT FOUND UNDER LIMESTONE OUTCROP. NO DRAFT. (3736)
0450 961X 4801352X ALT 136M PIC 072 073
0448860 4801071 118

12 AUG

JOHN SOUTHWORTH, ALF LATHAM, PHIL GOODWIN.
JUNGLE BASHING IN MONCOBE AREA, ONE CHOKED SHAFT
FOUND FULL OF FARM RUBBISH. (3735)
0445527 4797117 ALT 291M PIC D

13 AUG

JOHN SOUTHWORTH, ALF LATHAM, PHIL GOODWIN
INVESTIGATED DRAUGHT IN CAVE 2988, TRIED UPSTREAM AND
DOWNSTREAM PASSAGE'S TO SUMP. INCONCLUSIVE RESULT.
JOHN S. ALF L. PHIL G. C CAMM. PHIL PARKER
WALK IN MONCOBE AREA, LOOKED AT CAVE 3649.
FOUND LOW CRAWL AT END OF CAVE HAD SILTED UP.
THIS WAS EXCAVATED TO ORIGINAL END WITH A STRONG
DRAUGHT AND GOOD ECHO, THE SAME ECHO AND DRAUGHT
WAS ALSO NOTED AT TOP OF A MUD SLOPE IN ENTRANCE
CHAMBER, A DIG WAS STARTED AT THE ENTRANCE
CHAMBER AND 3 HOURS LATER GAVE ACCESS TO A
TIGHT VERTICAL RIFT TO THE TOP OF A 6M PITCH

14th August. Cave No. 3649 Cueva de la casa vieja

Alf Latham, John Southworth, Phil Goodwin, Phil Parker, Chris Camm.

Top of pitch seen yesterday was bolted and descended by ladder, 5m. into a high-roofed chamber with possible tunnels near the top. A clean-washed stream passage leads after 10m to a 15m pitch into a big chamber with avents above. At the far end of the chamber a narrow descending rift over loose, unstable boulders leads to a lens-shaped hole down which boulders fall cleanly for about 5 seconds. The rift continues horizontally past the pitch and gently meanders, with a climb over a flake, for about 20m to a low possible crawl over wet mud.

At the bottom of the 15m pitch, to the left looking inwards, a small tight passage appears to lead to a chamber.

15th August Cave No. 3649 Cueva de la casa vieja.

Alf Latham, John Southworth, Phil Goodwin, Phil Parker, Chris Camm, Chris Smith, John Clark.

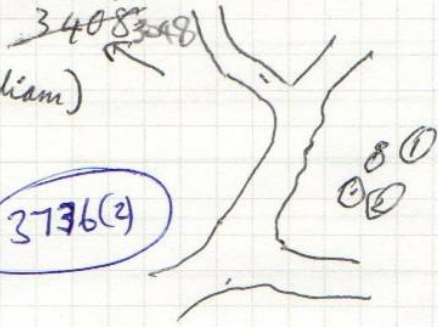
Large pitch descended to a depth of about 80-85m. It will need further attention for regular trips, 2 rehungs near the bottom at the moment. A tight muddy rift blocks after a few metres. On return up the pitch a possible way-on was noted about 8-10 metres above the bottom which needs bolting up to.

At about half height a major tube enters at one side which will only be reached by bolting down from the top on that side. Opposite on the side the rope runs a confused area of arches and flutes may be a continuation.

At the bottom of the 14m pitch, the small tight tube was pushed into a chamber about 8m high. A narrow rift over loose boulders in the floor may lead to a way on.

Alf Latham (with Phil Parker)
Thursday 16th Sept. Aug.

Descended the 2nd of two holes (3m diam) by ladder 5m pitch over brambles. Roughly circular chamber of boulders collapses + soil - no way on except for window down into Phil's rift passage. Chamber.



Phil Parker: Slide down ^{for 3 1/2m} over a block to a ~~soft~~ ^{5m long} ~~vertical~~ ^{vertical} which ~~leads to a small chamber~~ ^{is 6 x 2m} ~~at N end~~ ^(PWP). A ~~vertical~~ ^{vertical} mud bank. Leads to a high window + daylight of Hole 2. ~~Through draft - no~~ slight draught over of choke @ end of chamber. ~~other draft detectable~~

Thursday 16th Sept Aug Alf. L., John S., Phil, G + P, Chris Camm (3737)

Two digs in broadleaf woodland about 10 mins i from field edge. First looks like a long-collapsed tunnel with big sandstone blocks + cold out draught. Dug for no other reason than it was good exercise.

9m to west over a col is a hole in a bank + depression. Climb down 5m to small passage gets too tight. Small out draught. Descended by Phil Parker. (3738)

Wednesday 1st August 2012

Bodega. 288

Di, Tom, Tony, Eddie, Sue, Susie, Steve (supporting ^{also} Simon diving)

Tony found the access too restricting so Tom and I entered whilst Tony began digging uphill of the Bodega entrance.

Tom squeezed through the right hand constriction and I continued over the 'bridge' into the crawling passage which continues meandering in squidgy, gloopy mud and a trickle of water.

Tony dug into the passage that Tom had squeezed into - finding an intact pot wedged in the passage.



This passage, though bigger than the previous, was still too small for Tony... so he scampered further up the hill side whilst Tom and I meandered through the passage, mostly crawling till it became too restrictive for us. Meanwhile Tony & Eddie found a third draughting hole which they dug until it was just right... Lenny's cave was born.

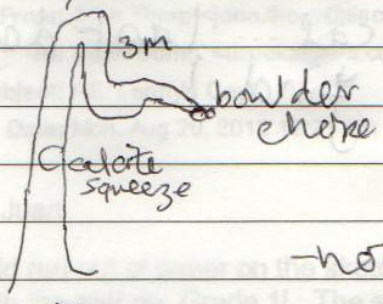
Thursday 2nd

3721 Lenny's Cave.

Joining the thousands scampering around Lenny's, Simon and I surveyed from where Nigel finished - Using Disto X starting from the original entrance along the main passage to the second entrance, recruiting Paul of the Badger clan to help us.

17/8/2012 Phil P; Pedro, Squirel - to look at holes that Pedro was told were not protected. One was 1438 & we think the second was 3559. The latter is well filled in & does not need more work. Site 1438 still has the rope fence in place. We spent 3/4 hour improving fence, now very low proof!

7/8/12 Riano Di, Si, Badger, Paul, Tackleberry, Tom, Di, Si & Badger surveying with DistoX.



Section not surveyed: The passage to the right. Continues flat out crawl over a calcite Squeeze - not passable by Badger :- The passage turns back on itself for 3m, turns to the left and ends in a boulder choke.

TO SQUEEZE A BIT MORE SURVEY IN I CRAWLED OFF PAST THE LAST STATION THAT BADGER COULD GET TO; WITH THE DISTOX TAKING LEGS & PASSAGE SIZE MEASUREMENTS - THIS WAS LATER DOWNLOADED TO THE PDA WITHIN BACK IN RANGE (AROUND 10-15 LEGS?). THIS SOB SURVEYING IN A TIGHT BUT PASSAGE WAS QUITE SUCCESSFUL.

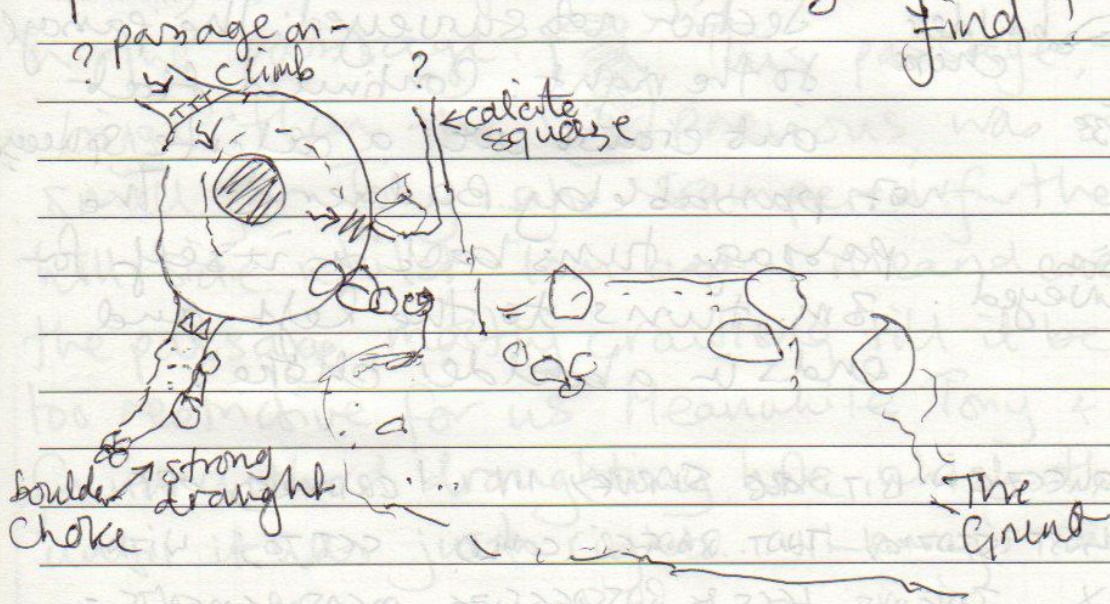
From: John Thorp <john.thorp@iscali.co.uk>
To: Uzueka <Uzueka@aol.com>
Cc: Juan Corrin <juan.corrin@matienzo.org.uk>
Subject: Cave bones Matienzo
Date: Sat, Aug 18, 2012 5:01 pm
Attachments: site_3153_ulna.JPG (932K), site_3153_scapula_frag.JPG (833K)

Hi Juan. (489)
Just checked on upper jaw (maxilla) from Cueva Espina and I am almost certain it is pig, probably wild boar. The teeth are very worn but the third molar is same as pig with the extra cusps at the back.

Better news though from site 3153 with the human bones certainly a femur and humerus, these are marked wrongly on my drawing, the bone marked humerus is actually the femur and the one marked tibia is a humerus. There also appears to be a broken ulna and scapula, the scapula is marked on drawing as sacrum? and the ulna is located in a hole just beyond where the femur was found. Will send you a revised drawing later. Has the big shaft done anything? Luggar

17/8/12 Lennix's Cave

Di, Jenny, James (Si later after diving)
Went through The Grunt following the draught to the left of the chamber
Boulder bashing was easy as the rocks shattered with Si's magic pointy chisel, we initially avoided the boulder choke and began to dig through calcite squeeze but then reverted back to choke - easily got through so large chamber with a pool in the bottom. Typical... last day find!



17 AUG 12 Ark L, Pull C, Tow, S Pull PALKER
curses. 3048

seen used seaweeds for new stuff in wood
looked at size seen pic of PALKER with note
about ~~some~~ draught may be a over!
called out some boulders at deepest point,
pull P then found a canal in the enclosure
behind. man draught came out of pull under entry
point. others had ^{edges} and wrote this off
at. seaweeds too much work. on way out a draught
^

WAS NOTED BEHIND WHERE PIVOT WAS STOOD IN PHOTO AND A WAY THROUGH TO A DRAGON-~~DE~~ RIFT ENGINEER.

~~18/8/12~~ Pull, course more work on BOUNDARY, I WFL LEFT FOR A WHILE WHEN CAVE PASSAGE MIGRASED UPWARDS FOLLOWING ROOF COURSE!

18/8/12 Phil Paprod, Pete + Juan into Lenny's Cave 3721 for quick look around after the Horticultural Show.

From: John Thorp <john.thorp@tiscali.co.uk>

To: 'Juan Corrin' <uzueka@aol.com>

Subject: RE: Lenny's Cave

Date: Mon, Aug 20, 2012 12:21 am

3721

Hi Juan

I did run out of paper on the sketch. There was not much more than you see but will send you a scan with the rest on. Grade 1L. The snapped section was done by me with Bob Toogood in attendance.

See trip reports I did for the 5th. And 6th. The dig only broke into a small chamber with a hanging death choke above, a narrow rift continued which was choked with calcite rocks, holes could be seen dropping down the rift to where it looked bigger and the draft was issuing from the rift. Unfortunately it would mean undermining the hanging death blocks so we kicked it into touch. The bone passage is drawn in wrong on the survey as it starts in the main passage and oxbows back into it after about 6-8metres. Bone passage is immediately on your right as you break into the main passage. Confusion reigns will do my best with the sketch. All the best Luger

LUEVA 3691 13-8-12. J. CLARKE, C SMITH, H. LONG, P. RYDER.

CARRIED ON PUSHING PASSAGE FOUND AT EASTER.

LOW ALL THE WAY FOR APPROX 5MBS FILLED WITH ROOF DEBRIS. DROP DOWN INTO SMALL CHAMBER, THEN DOWN AGAIN WHERE PASSAGE TURNS 90° RIGHT THIS IS A LOW PASSAGE BUT FAIRLY EASY TO GET ON. TWENTY TO THIRTY METRES LONG. ANOTHER CONSTRUCTION WAS DUG OUT WHICH ALLOWED US TO MOVE THROUGH TO PASSABLE PASSAGE BUT STILL VERY LOW BUT SLIGHTLY WIDER APPROX 1.5M. THE WAY AHEAD IS MORE OR THE SAME TO WHAT LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER DROP IN THE FLOOR AND A BEND TO THE RIGHT. APPROX 60-80MBS PUSHED. NOT SURVEYED. SLIGHT DRAUGHT.

J. CLARKE

LIANO 3451 (17-20 - 8-12)
J. CLARKE, C SMITH, H LONG, P. RYDER.

BACK TO A STRONGLY DRAUGHTING HOLE FOUND AND
RECENTED 2011. THE DRAUGHT HAD BEEN LOST
SO THE TASK WAS TO LOCATE IT. CHASS FOUND IT
COMING THROUGH BOUNDRS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE
BOTTOM OF THE PITCH. A DIG BEGAN WHICH WAS AT
AN ANGLE OF 45° THIS RESULTED IN DROPPING
INTO A RIFT WHICH MEANDERED ROUND TO THE
TOP OF A 5M TIGHT PITCH WHICH DROPPED INTO
VARIOUS SQUEEZES AND AVENS BUT THE DRAUGHT
WAS LOST. FOUND AGAIN BY CLIMBING BACK UP THE
PITCH AND INTO A SIDE PASSAGE, WE THEN BROKE
INTO AN AVEN WHICH I HAD ALREADY CLIMBED
UP INTO BUT THIS TIME WE CAME ACROSS A
SMALL TUBE OF CALCATED BOULDERS WHICH DRAUGHTED
STRONGLY, AFTER A COUPLE OF HOURS WE BROKE
INTO A CHAMBER WITH A DROP AT THE END INTO
A STREAM PASSAGE, TIGHT BUT SHOULD DIG, A
STRONG DRAUGHT AND GOOD ETCO IN FRONT.
HARD TIGHT TRIP.

J. CLARKE.

3048 17.8.12

PHIL GOODWIN, JOHN SOUTHWORTH, ALF, CHRIS CAMM, PHIL PARKER

STARTED DIG AT BASE OF SHAKHOLE ROCK FACE, AFTER
SEVERAL HOURS CAPPING ETC ENTERED 2 LOW WAYS
ON WHICH WOULD REQUIRE A MAJOR DIGGING EXERCISE,
A ^{SMALL} HOLE TO THE LEFT AT THE TOP OF THE SURFACE
DIG WAS FOUND TO BE DRAUGHTING. 2 HOURS WORK
AND A FEW HOURS THE DAY AFTER LEFT AN ONGOING
DIG DROPPING DOWN THROUGH LOOSE BOULDERS, THIS HAS
BEEN LEFT TO SETTLE.

18-8-12 3649 Cueva de la casa vieja.

John Southworth, Phil Goodwin

Aven bolted up between 2 short pitches. Roof tunnels end after 2 metres at very tight inlet.

Rift over top of big pitch pushed further. Becomes a low streamway running ^{slightly} downhill with solid sandstone floor. Needs a "thinny".

19-8-12 3648 ALF LATHAM, PHIL G^o, John Southworth.

Draughting hole dug out. Narrow rift leads after 3 metres to cross rift which meanders for 7 metres getting lower. Not worth pursuing further

20-8-12 3649 Cueva de la casa vieja.

John Southworth, Alf Latham, Phil Goodwin

Big pitch descended. Climb at bottom, with one bolt, for 5 metres to a col. Descends for 20m gradually flattening out to a very low passage with debris. The hole is very muddy and it is clear that the whole bottom of the pitch backs up for a considerable distance in ~~the~~ heavy rain. The mud is then cleared at ^{the} bottom of the pitch by later drips.

Big pitch measured at 86 metres.

The possibility of a passage at about 45 metres was confirmed. To get to it, the left hand wall (looking in) will need bolting from the top with a slight diagonal away from the entrance direction

19-8-12 Washing Machine Hole 3420

Chris Cann, Phil Parker.

Continued digging through sandy crawl, nearly ~~there~~ ^{through} by one ~~old~~ ^{outward} from draught + bald backs dictated a retreat.

20/8/12 Washing Machine Hole 3420 (A gain)

Chris Cann, Phil Parker

Go through crawl and headed for uninvestigated passage. Second smallish passage, ^{on right} entered by PP, it became ^{narrow} walking height after a few metres there was a 3 or 4m deep hole in floor (not descended), over the top passage continued to lighter area (to be continued). First passage on right goes for a couple of metres to a T junction. Right leads to a calcited boulder choke. To left in comfortable walking size passage leads to mass of helicitas on left wall followed immediately by large holes/pits in calcited floor - calcite overhangs require care in passing first hole. Traverse line is called 2nd pit, ^{which was} descended for 12 or 13m - possible continuation to be investigated as CC ~~was~~ not able to get to absolute bottom - example - coming up pit. Beyond 2nd pit and some more floor is either very long pit or large passage.

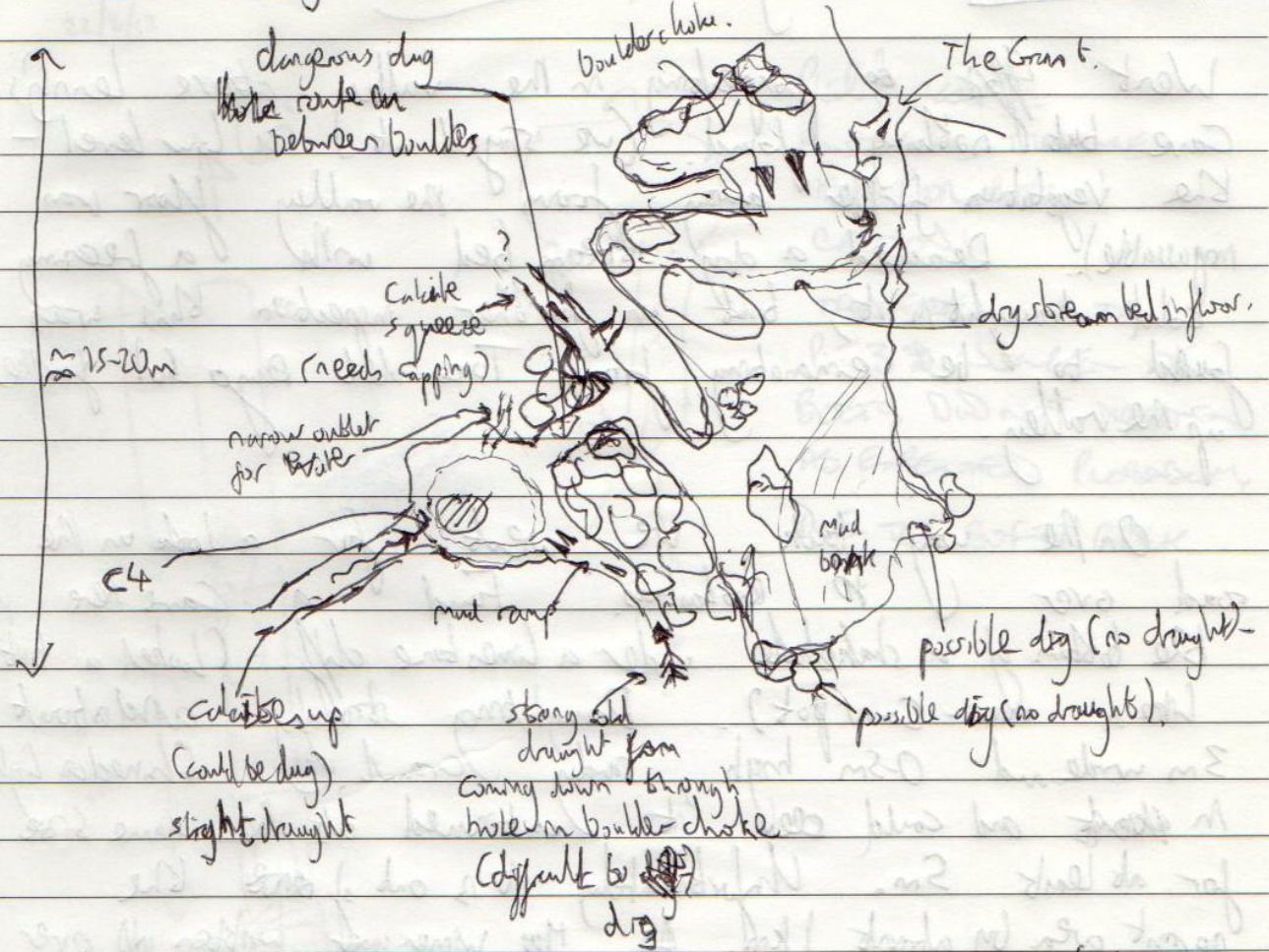
22-8-12 Bend in the Road Cave No: 2415

John Southworth, Alf Latham, Phil Goodwin

Inlet at top of last pitch pushed for about 15 metres, becomes too low at a pool.

At the top of the bottom chamber some blocks were moved giving a through route up to the 3rd Chamber above meaning that the last pitch can be avoided. Halfway up a hole looks onto a short shaft which needs capping (or a thinny).

18/00/12: Lenny's Cave. Simon Curthill, Diane Arthur, James Carole



Went back in to Lenny's cave to climb the 4m climb ~~back~~ Simon balled up to the inlet (which had a slight stream in it, despite the prolonged dry weather) but unfortunately it became blocked with caliche after about 5m. There was a slight drought, but it is imposing - though could be dug. Most of the drought (cold & strong) comes down the mud ramp to the left as you enter the pool chamber. This can be wiggled up about 6-7m ~~to~~ to where the drought comes vertically downwards ~~the~~ between caliche boulders.

20/08/12: Jerry Corn, James Curiale

Went off on prospecting in the valley above Lenny's Cave but nothing found. (we stayed at a low level - the vegetation further away from the valley floor was impassable). Reached a dry stream bed with a freezing cold draught in it, but on further inspection this was found to be emanating from Toca del Rango Sol further up the valley.

On the way back we went for a look on the road over to Probasas. Found a cave here in the bottom of a shakohole under a limestone cliff. (Looked a bit like a mini-Corn pot). Draughting strongly and about 3m wide and 0.5m high, sandy crawl. Shined a light in ~~down~~ and could see it continued at the same size for at least 5m. Unfortunately it is out of ~~the~~ the permit area by about 1 km. As this winter just written all over it!

22/08/12: Jerry Corn, James Curiale

Looked for cave above Barrío de Arriba but didn't find much of note other than a draughting dog.

24/8/12 Juan + Penny on Cano - GPS + photo holes.

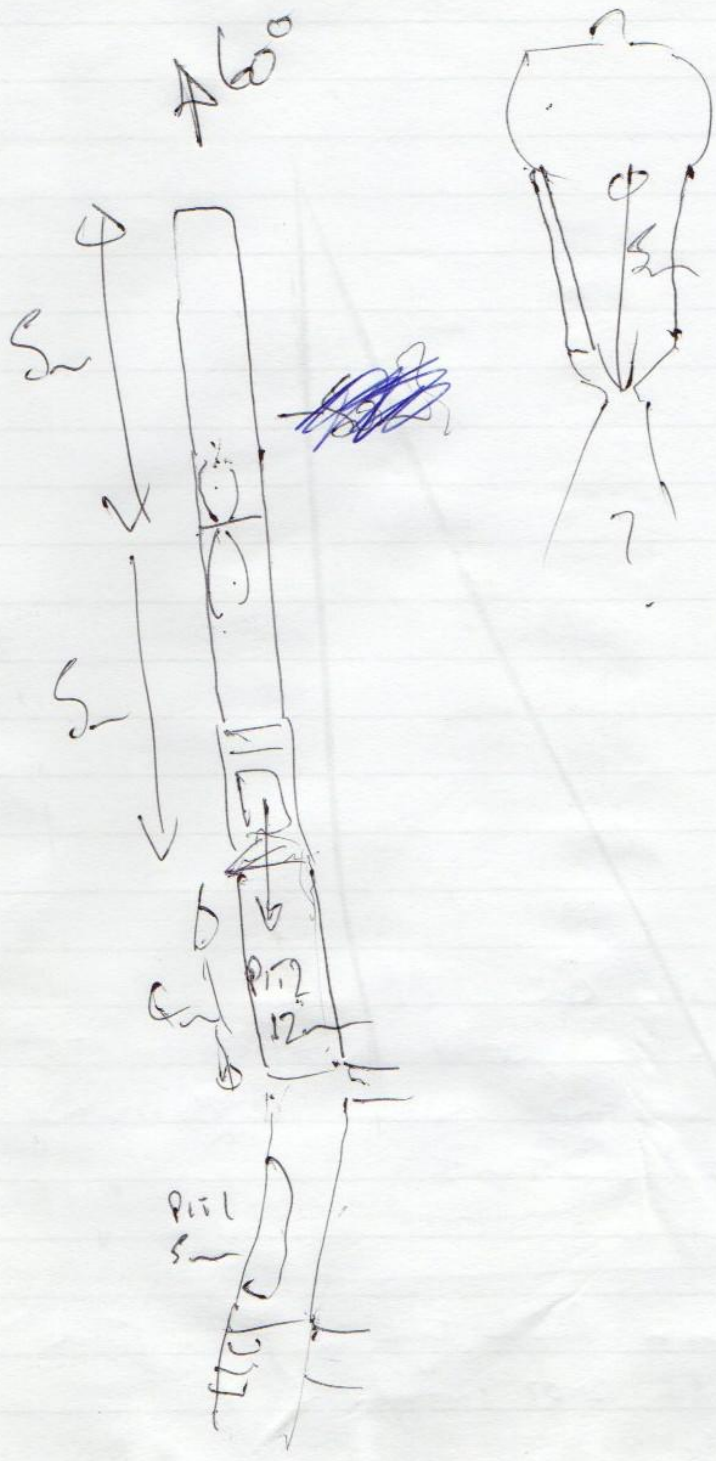
Searched for site 146 - Gamma Redonda and found it @ 0451496 4797357. Photos in cave. Only one shaft entrance. Near old position of 146 found a dig into visible chamber @ 0451492 4797323. Large slab and small tree need removing. (3746) Site is a vegetated shakohole.

Site 723 possibly seen. Crawl under tree to slab covering a drop down.

Slab not moved. 0451644 4797315

Washing Machine Hole 3420.

22/8/12



Pit chase
 BOLT HAVE TRAVEL IN
 VERY POOR ROCK!
CANON!
TRAVEL OUT TO
 P. 3 ~~NUMBER~~ OF
 BOLTS DID NOT MOUNTED
 AS EXPECTED PROBABLY
 DUE TO SOFT ROCK.

Hi Juan,

Back safely thanks, after a good trip.

3743

Yes, you're right forgot to give you the details - sorry! It is a 3.5 metre descent below a sandstone outcrop into a 3 x 4 metre chamber with a silt floor and no sign of any outlet passage. 21/8/12

Cheers, Harry

22/08 - Riano - H. Long

- 1). Dig under scar by an ash tree next to wire fence and edge of wood. Needs several blocks pulling out to get into low crawl. Draughting out. GPS 0452770.4799601. Site No. 3744.
- 2). Small entrance under a rock outcrop needs top enlarging to access a 2m drop to? Site No. 3745

23/08 Onite area - Phil Ryder + H. Long.

- 1). Took photos of entrance to Site 0024 - no noticeable draught.
- 2). Looked at Site 1260 (photos of P.R) and took GPS position as 0453593, 4795672

Photos from 3384

Sat 25th AUG JS, PC, AL, CC + PP

WENT TO LOOK AT WARE IN WOODS SCOUTED BY JS
DAY BEFORE. RES ENTRANCE (NEW) PROPS DOWN
3m TO BOUNDARY (3747)

25/8/12 Pete, Jerry, James in Reñada trying in Tolung/Jude
exterior (12-01). Batch 12-03 surveyed.

15th August 2012 Site 124

Hi Juan .

Not sure what was reported in the log book so here are maybe some better descriptions.

Phil G is doing a report on cave 3649 for you.

Have attached rough survey of 3648.

Has Phil Parker given you a report on two small caves I found directly above Washing Machine hole , if not I will TRY and get the info from him & forward it to you . Same GPS , 7m higher .

Going to try to find another entrance to Washing Machine , Phil G thinks he might know of a good

place to dig ,we need to try a smoke test from underground , does the expedition have any smoke pellets for draught tests , the type

used for chimney / flue testing ?.

3648.

Found easter 201², the floor of a narrow horizontal rift at the entrance was excavated to reveal aprox 5m of level tight passage to what looked to be a man size passage . This tight rift would have required considerable time & effort to gain any progress . On closer examination 6m east in the same scar hidden in the vegetation another hole was found , some large boulders were removed to reveal a 2.5m narrow sloping drop to a T junction , left arround two sharp bends the passage choked underneath the observed end of the original dig . Light & voice connection at this point. Right at T junction starts as walking , hands & knees then flat out going to a small inlet on right , forward is small descending mud tube which becomes to tight , slight draught coming out at this point . $L=11 \quad D=3m$

3747.

This cave is 9m @ 320 bearing from GPS position . $L=4 \quad D=3$
Found when movement in vegetation was observed caused by a strong draught on a very hot day . Small hole in hillside was enlarged to reveal a 2m drop then a right turn to a fallen block calcited into the floor . Progress stopped at tight squeeze over the top of this block , no obvious way on seen .

3651

Shaft descended , no way on , totaly choked .

See you at Hidden Earth .
Cheers John.

Hi Juan.
3648.
Should have been (found easter 2012) . L 11m .. D 3m.
3747 L 4m...D3m.
2 caves above W/M are 2m apart . Left cave 9m long , mostly a flat out crawl to possible dig.
Right cave 11m of crawling to slight enlargment , possible dig.
Re smoke pellets . Found some on ebay .
Cheers John.

3/9/12 Enrique Valero + others turned up @ 11pm and took me to the bar. Lots of talking re Coverón + CEZ. Apparently some of the team has extended the Coverón streamway upstream. A by-pass cuts out the last 150m and possibly rejoins the stream + another 200m beyond heading upstream to large aens close to Torea XLs. (517). The aens bring in the water. The 'cobble' dig in XLs may be significant.

31ST JULY 2012 SITE: 124

SIMON CORNHILL - DIVING. BIG STEVE - BUSH WALKING.

THE ENTRANCE WAS UNCOVERED BY BIG STEVE MARTIN - INDIANS!
THE CANAL IS INDEED AROUND 70m LONG - UNTILL THE ROOF DIPS DOWN TO MEET THE WATER.

THE FIRST SLUMP WAS REPORTED TO BE 20m LONG, SO BELAYING 20m OF LIVE KNOTTED EVERY 5m | SET OFF INTO THE SLUMP. IMMEDIATELY I SENSED AN "AIRBELL" OVER HEAD, NOT SURFACING I HEEDED FOR AN ARCHWAY, BELAYED THE LIVE @ 5m FROM BASE AND CONTINUED ALONG THE PASSAGE 1.5m x 4m approx. FLOOR COVERED IN SILT.

@ 20m FROM BASE NO SURFACE IN SIGHT I CONTINUED LAYING A SECOND WPTO 50m FROM BASE WHERE A LARGE CHOKED AREA BLOCKED THE PASSAGE.

EXPECTING TO SURFACE AFTER 20m I WAS NOW FEELING A LITTLE CONFUSED. REELING BACK IN SEARCHING THE WALLS IN THE NOW MURKY SLUMP, TO THE RIGHT I COULD HEAR MY BUBBLES RUMBLING ALONG THE ROOF. EVENTUALLY @ 6m I SURFACED IN A 15m LONG CANAL WITH DRY PASSAGE GOING OFF TO THE RIGHT. "SLUMP 1" TURNED OUT TO BE A FREE DIVABLE 3m IN LENGTH.

DE KITTING, A SHORT FLATOUT WRIAGLE OVER MUD/ROCKS RISES TO CRAWLING AND THEN STOPPING PASSAGE, DRIPPING INTO A DEEP CANAL 1m WIDE, ENDING AFTER AROUND 10m WHERE THE FLOOR RISES UP AND CHOKES WITH MUD. - NO VISIBLE WAY ON.

I RETURNED AND GOT ONE CYLINDER TO SEARCH THE BOTTOM OF THIS SECOND CANAL. ALMOST IMMEDIATELY IT DROPPED TO -4m AND AN UNDERWATER CONTINUATION WAS FOUND - BUT NO LIVE LAID INTO IT.

DUE TO VERY LITTLE / NO FLOW THE VIS WAS NOW QUITE WELL STIRRED UP, SO I LEFT IT FOR THE DAY.

NOTE: THE 20m KNOTTED LIVE WAS LEFT THROUGH SLUMP 1 AND TIED OFF AT THE DRY SHOPE AT THE END OF THE CANAL - WHICH WAS 18m, PERHAPSE THIS CAVE WAS EXPLORED IN HIGHER WATER LEVELS?

1st AUGUST 2012 SITE 124

85

SIMON CARV HILL - DIVING

THIS TIME I LAID A TAGGED LINE INTO SWMP 2 STARTING IN THE CANAL AFTER SWMP 1.

FOLLOWING THE LEFT HAND WALL I INVESTIGATED A LOW FLOW PASSAGE WHICH WILL REQUIRE DIGGING TO MAKE PROGRESS. THIS IS AT 20m IN AND IS LIKELY TO CONNECT TO THE LOW CROOKED SWMP AT THE RIGHT HAND END OF THE DRY PASSAGE.

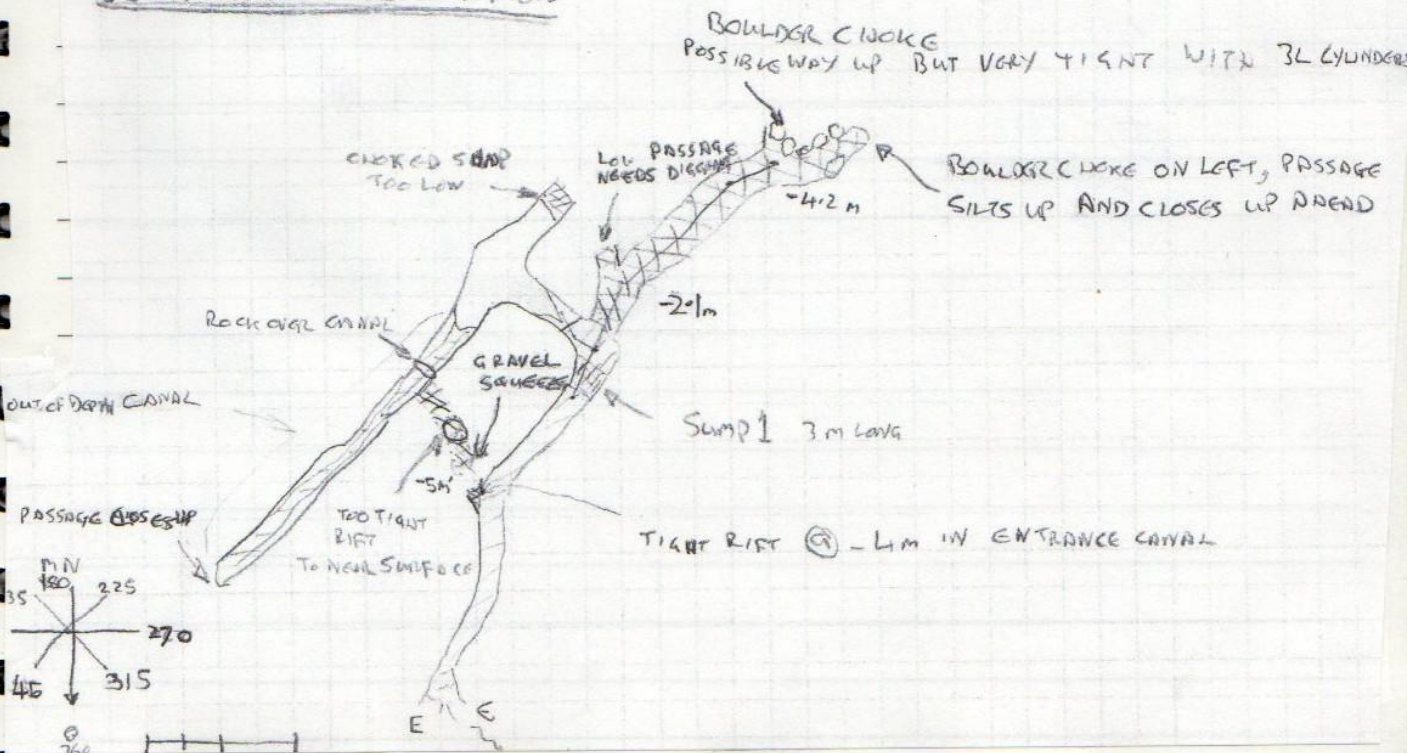
CARRYING ON TO THE END FOLLOWING THE LH WALL I INSPECTED THE CROOK. ON THE LEFT SIDE IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO SQUEEZE THROUGH THE Boulders, BELAYING THE LINE THE VIS WENT, SO NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE ON THIS SQUEEZE. SURVEYED BACK TO BASE.

I WENT BACK TO THE OTHER LEAD IN THE BOTTOM OF THE CANAL IN THE DRY PASSAGE. DESCENDING TO -3.4m THE LINE WAS LEADED & GRADUALLY DESCENDED IN WORSENING VIS (FLOOR TOTALY COVERED IN SILT) UNTILL THE SILT BANK ROSE UP THE WFT, WITH THE TOP OF IT COVERED IN ^{THE} GRAVEL CREATING A SQUEEZE.

THIS WAS ENCOUNTERED IN ZERO VIS @ AROUND -5m AND 15-20m IN. NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE ON THIS DUE TO DEPLETED CYLINDERS FROM SURVEYING BACK IN SWMP 2. HOWEVER FEELING THROUGH IT SPACE COULD BE FELT, SO THE LINE WAS BELAYED TO A SILT SCREW.

THE LOW/NO EXISTENT FLOW AND EVERYTHING BEING COVERED IN ~~THE~~ A LAYER OF SILT GIVES THE GENERAL IMPRESSION THAT THIS IS INDEED A FLOOD OVERFLOW CAVE.

124
SECADURA FLOOD OVERFLOW



THURSDAY 2ND AUGUST 2012

3721 (LENNY'S CAVE) Si & Di PDA.
DistoX

SPENT THE MORNING MESSING WITH PDA'S & DISTOX'S GETTING THE THINGS TO PLAY NICELY TOGETHER AND CALIBRATE DISTOX!

NOTE TO SELF: ON O² XDA II: SET POCKET TOPO TO COM 6 !!!
000

SURVEYED FROM THE ORIGINAL ENTRANCE THROUGH TO THE MAIN PASSAGES AND OUT OF THE NEW EASIER ENTRANCE. ONCE THE DISTOX-PDA WAS OPERATING PROPERLY, SURVEYING WAS SMOOTH & EFFICIENT.

Simon C.

FRIDAY 3RD AUGUST 2012

3721 (LENNY'S CAVE) Si, Mr S. Penkil, Young Tom

THE FERRITING TEAMS FROM THE DAY BEFORE HAD LOCATED A DRAUGHTING HOLE, BLOCKED BY A LARGE ROCK PROJECTION. AS THIS WAS MR GSP'S LAST CAVING DAY, HE WAS EXCEPTIONALLY KEEN TO GET PAST THIS AND RAMP OFF INTO THE HILLSIDE!

TWO ROUNDS OF CAPS AND A BIT OF DIGGING HELPED THE LARGER CAVER IN THE GROUP GET THROUGH THE CRAWL BEFORE THE ENLARGEMENT NEAR THE DIG FACE.

TEN ROUNDS OF CAPS AND TWO SNAPPERS GOT US PAST THE OFFENDING OBSTACLE, THEN ~~FE~~ DIGGING REACHED FEVER PITCH (AS USUAL) WHEN BLACK SPACE WAS SEEN OVER THE TOP OF A LARGE ROCK!! AS THE BOTTLE BANK WEDDING WAS LEAVING FAST AND THE OFFICAL PHOTOGRAPHER NEEDEYENIS EXPLORATION FIX, ~~STAYED~~ I DECIDED THERE WASN'T ENOUGH TIME TO CAP THIS LAST ROCK. INSTEAD I TURNED GREEN RIPPED MY SHIRT OFF AND WRESTLED THE INANIMATE OBJECT INTO SUBMISSION!!

DOWN A SANDY SLOPE
WE ALL PILED INTO THIS NEW CHAMBER. HAVING A QUICK EXPLORE IT APPEARED THAT WE WERE IN A BIG BOULDER CHORE, CLIMBING UP THROUGH IT ^{WAS} A BLIND CALCITED CHAMBER WAS REACHED. DESCENDING THROUGH IT GRAVEL AND EVIDENCE OF A STREAM WAS REACHED AT THE BOTTOM. IN THIS AREA BLACK PIECES OF STRAW WERE PLASTERED ALL OVER THE WALLS SUGGESTING BACKING UP OF WATER IN TIMES OF FLOODING.

FEELING PLEASED WITH THE BREAK THROUGH, BUT DISMAYED WITH NO WAY ON, WE SET OFF OUT FOR A MASSIVE PISS UP!!

Simon C.

5th August 2012

(87)

3721 (LENNY'S CAVE) S_i (DISTOX), D_i (POA), JJ & PAUL (FERRETS/DIGGING)

HAVING SPOKE TO PHIL PAPPARD ABOUT VERIFYING DISTOX CALIBRATION WE RE-CALIBRATED THE SINGLE DISTOX AS A POTENTIAL 5° ERROR WAS FOUND.

D_i & I SURVEYED DOWN THE LADDER AND THROUGH THE LOWER CHAMBER WHILST JJ & PAUL ENTERTAINED US WITH THEIR DIGGING VOICES! ALL LOW LEVEL WAYS ON ENDED IN DRAUGHTING CHOKES.

THE LATE START ~~BECAUSE~~ DUE TO BEING THE DAY AFTER THE BOTTLE BANK WEDDING, MEANT WE DIDN'T GET TOO MUCH DONE, BUT AT LEAST WE GOT OUT AND DID SOMETHING!

Simon C.

8th August 2012

3594 (HONEY MOON POT) S_P & D_i

RIGGING THE LADDERS WE WENT ARMED WITH DIGGING GEAR, DRILL, CAPS ETC AND HEADED DOWN THE FINAL PITCH DROPPED AT EASTER. A SLIGHT DRAUGHT AT THE ENTRANCE BUT NOT VERY STRONG MEANT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO FIND IT DOWN THE SHAFT(S).

ADIG WAS STARTED IN THE ^{CHOKES AT THE} BOTTOM OF THE FINAL SHAFT UNTILL WE DECIDED THAT WE REALLY NEEDED A LONGER CROWBAR TO TICKLE THE CHOKES WITH!

ON THE WAY BACK OUT TWO OTHER DIES WERE STARTED IN THE CLIMB DOWN JUST BELOW THE 'WOBBLY BLOCK SQUEEZE' BOTH IN THE FLOOR OF PARALLEL ~~AT~~ SHAFTS.

9th August 2012 Site:154 (Cueva 77A) - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs, young Tom, Big Steve

On the hottest day in Cantabria (41°C) we decided to follow up a lead given to us by Ali. This was to inspect an area of deep water in Cueva 77A, which had apparently only had two brief hydrophobic visits before.

A nice idea at the time, but in reality getting a crispy dry wetsuit on in blistering heat, then wandering about trying to find the pothole entrance was less than pleasant!!

Eventually locating the hole and thrutching through the loose boulder choke heading for the 'main chamber', in said attire was something non of us were terribly keen to return through.

The deep water section proved to be not very long at all, and could be navigated using a knee deep underwater shelf on the right hand side. So a wetsuit was definitely not needed!!!

As we were in there, we took the opportunity to have a good look round. Nothing of interest was found, apart from Di saying she had found what appeared to be another entrance but required some digging. Not wanting to go back through the loose choke, we all set off to check out Di's find.

This was a hands and knees crawl leading off from the bottom of the main chamber, with the odd flat out wriggle ending in daylight coming through hanging boulders above. From a lying down position digging with no tools wasn't a viable option, but from the outside looked possible. Leaving the others I had a rummage about in this area, locating many draughting holes all near the surface.

Finally I found another daylight hole at chest level, which was much easier to dig my way out of - after a herculean effort moving one massive rock.



77

Locating my waiting chums, they were eventually extracted from the second new entrance to cueva77A of the day.

Having been listening to 'Fatboy Slim' on the drive over, the first new entrance has been called 'Right here' and the second called 'Right now'.

SimonC

Friday 10 August 2011 Site: Agua - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs, young Tom, Big Steve

59

A nice swim in Agua to rinse the sweaty sand out of our wet suits from the day before. The water levels were unusually low.

We visited the high level passage about 2/3 of the way in with the MASSIVE gour pool at the top of it. We took some disappointingly poor photos here.

SimonC

Saturday 11 August 2011 Site 3594 (Honeymoon Pot) - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs

3594

Having been constantly harangued by Johnny Dingle to visit this site we, broke under the peer pressure and went.

Remembering the joss sticks this time, a very weak draught was observed coming out of the entrance.

Working our way down with it we found a draughting horizontal hole hidden from view behind a large rock at the top of the final pitch. This was dug out to the top of a better looking parallel shaft - around 15m deep. At the bottom was a tight rift at floor level (really does need capping!!) followed by a 3m drop (requires a hand line fitting). After a very brief look round, two further tight rifts leading off were noted but not inspected.

On the way out the large block (above the 'old' final pitch we had been going under into the crawl to the new shaft) was seen to have developed a large crack underneath in its centre. Well it hadn't been noticed before!!

SimonC

Sunday 12 August 2012 Site 154 (Cueva 77A) - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs, Big Steve

After two grown men finished arguing over who was going to 'have' the young boy for the day we finally set off minus wetsuits to survey 'Right here' and 'Right now' into the main chamber of cueva77A.

This was uneventful apart from having to recalibrate the disto-x again (is there a problem with the dingle disto?)

I used the solo disto-x technique to survey the loop from 'Right here' to a joining station in 'Right here'. I think there could be an error introduced from not using the same spot for a station after a wriggle through the entrance - silly boy!! SimonC

Monday 13 August 2012 Site: 3721 (Lenny's cave)-Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs, young Tom, Big Steve

We videoed the very strong draught coming out of the easy entrance. The object of the trip was for Di & Si to survey the rest of the un-surveyed area and Big Steve/Tom to try and locate the a way through the draughting choked area Doldy and I broke into.

Unfortunately the PDA(s) weren't playing nicely with me so no surveying got done. Meanwhile the rest of the team were doing a great job of filling the whole cave with a sandalwood sent, but failing to locate where the draught was coming from.

To calm me down from the PDA debacle, I did a quick bolt climb to a hole in the roof above the crawl to the muddy extensions. It all closed down where massive slabs have fallen out of the roof.

SimonC

Tuesday 14 August 2012 Site:3594 (Honeymoon-from-hell Pot)-Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs, James Carlisle

Tooled up with expanding foam to stabilize the entrance shaft and the wobbly block squeeze, James found out the stupid way how to deploy the foam.

- 1) Make sure the can has been well shaken first, otherwise it comes out like 'cheesy poofs'
- 2) Decide where to apply the foam BEFORE depressing the button!!

The top of the wobbly block squeeze is now called 'Seagull Diarrhea'.

Meanwhile I had discovered that the crack in the block above the final pitch appeared to have widened to a worrying degree. So the capping trip was aborted, all gear was carefully removed, photos taken of the crack and we all left quietly!!!

BT
UR
C
I
M
B
O
S
D

Site: (Hypocritical hole) - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs, James Carlisle

To avoid an early bath we went to take a look at the 'spidery duck' in Hypocritical hole. Not many spiders were in residence in the entrance, but there was a large amount tadpoles. We lowered the floor leading up to the spidery duck to reduce it to a wet wriggle. No one else was keen so I got shoved into it. It was a squeeze through into a tight rift, progress being made flatout on one side by knocking projections off with a crowbar. This was forced for around 15m until an obstreperous lump of calcite stopped progress. An enlargement could be seen a few meters ahead. Capping/chiselling etc would be difficult. Di videoed my flailing attempt to reverse out through the duck. On the way back we stopped off on the hillside above Rianio and did some surface scampering. James returned from this with tales of an uncharted resurgence 2mx1m a winner/goer if he had ever seen one!! SimonC

Wednesday 15 August 2012 site: 2099 Pointless bushwack – Simon Cornhill, Big Steve

The aim was to try and locate a dig **site: 2099** found on my first trip to Matienzo in 2004. It seems that a dodgy GPS location has been taken as the coordinates ledus to the middle of the bush with no holes in sight (probably the old datum issue). Other dead end holes were jumped in and very quickly out of again. A crap, hot waste of a day. SimonC

Thursday 16 August 2012 Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs James Carlisle, Jenny Carlisle

We all trouted off to have a go at James's winner/goer resurgence found two days earlier, which in true style turned out to be a dead end no-hoper!! In the same depression a draughting hole was found and capped to the conclusion of ... a dead end no-hoper!!! Jenny by this time knew full well where the day was leading and left us to it. We carried on to the nearby area where Di was two days earlier and had had a merry old time digging up several more dead end no-hopers!!! At least we all enjoyed ourselves. SimonC

Friday 17 August 2012 Site: 124 – Diver Simon Cornhill

I went for a final go in this resurgence to take some video and push the boulder choke in the up stream continuation and the gravel squeeze in the static canal. Not having to lay line and disturbing the silty floor, the visibility was great enabling me to have a good look round. First I went to the up stream choke where a hole up could be seen through the poised blocks. I made an attempt to get through but it was very tight with a pair of 3l cylinders on. Having spent some time in various other caves in this immediate area, all of them ended in a large extensive loose impenetrable chokes, so I decided no to push it. Returning to the second lead in the bottom of the static canal, I could clearly see from the surface the line disappearing through the archway in the left hand wall. Again in great vis I saw a rift soaring upwards from around 5m in and at -4.5m. This was a rattle up it to very near the surface where it was too tight to continue, an 'interesting' reverse back down was made to the main line. Proceeding on to the limit at the gravel squeeze I dug into it, but the passage remained too narrow for further progress. As this is heading back to very near the entrance canal this was also left. All diving lines were removed.

Saturday 18 August 2012 Site: 3721 (Lenny's cave) - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs, James Carlisle

Today Di and I were supposed to leave the happy valley to go to the Pyrenees for the 'Mallinson Matienzo Rehab camp'. However the day before Di, James and Jenny had found a passage in the area at the bottom of the pitch and through the grunt, 3m up a wall apparently beyond the boulder choke, covered in calcite with a draught and water coming out of it!! This was un-entered due to it needing a bolt and an athletic leap to get up to it. Unable to resist, with a fully packed car we stopped for one last trip to grab this five star quality guaranteed lead. A bolt and an athletic leap later I was in said passage, which was quite small (1m in diameter) with a thick crust over the stream. Having to break this crust to make progress the passage gradually got too narrow with no discernable draught. Very disappointing. Meanwhile James and Di had located the draught whistling up into the roof of the boulder choke through a nasty looking area. We also had a dig at various other locations in this part of the extensive boulder choke, not finding the way on.

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT