

LOGBOOK

Year: 2013

Season: Easter

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

Juan Corrin, January 2015

From: Peter Smith <smith_peter2004@yahoo.es>

To: Corrin Juan <uzueka@aol.com>

Subject: 1499

Date: Sun, Jan 27, 2013 10:29 am

Attachments: 100_3634.JPG (5044K), 100_3635.JPG (4675K)

2

Hi Juan

I had a walk in the sunshine afternoon yesterday to locate properly the site of the latest dog rescue, on 6 Jan. My suspicions were right and it's one I'd done before. But how was I to remember? I was wearing your helmet so I obviously never intended to go caving that day!

The GPS gave me 449.151 4.796.708.

Here's a couple of photos from yesterday.

1499

Cheers

2 Attached Images



EASTER 2013

6

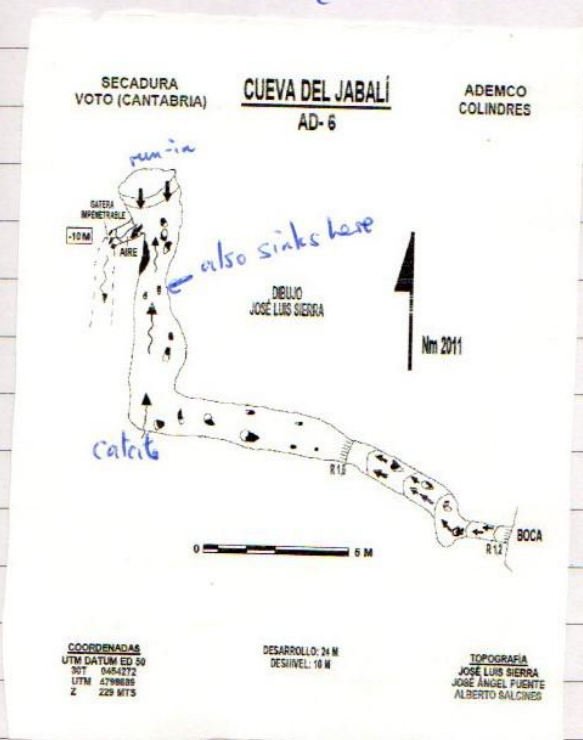
21/3/13 Juan and Penny, having had a lunch with Lea at Hoznayo, met up with Sue + Steve at Lennie's Cave 'car park' in Secadura at 5pm. Walked up track + stream bed towards Torca del Rayo de Sol. P+S turned back @ climb before TdRdS. S+J carried on to find ⁽³⁷⁵⁰⁾ Cueva del Jabali just where it had been GPS'd by the ~~AA~~ Colindres group. Survey of cave is also spot on. Short drops down boulders to chamber where stream enters. Passage with water is very low and is clogged with rubble and mud from a run in. A long day (probably). No draught today - Be outside

①

New 9/2 For (123) Torca del Rayo de Sol 30T 0454707 4799879
putting it, correctly, in the stream bed. Entrance today had a
rope in place.

Survey lines for Surveys + TdRdS will need adjusting.

Site 3742 (resurgence) must be 120
Site Claro.



24/3/13 Tom "ferret" Thomas,
Footleg, Steve + Juan ~~into~~
Lenny's Cave area. Specimen
collecting from 288 Bozega then
into Lenny's for more biological
field work and photography.
S + J came out to look at
120 vs. 3742 - Still inconclusive

from ~~Yr~~^{Dec.} 2012: Barni + Bob Toogood

Initially a fairly wet trip.

Looked around in Lenny's Cave to no avail. 3721



118

Churo.



Prospected around Gatuna and Seldosuto

Finally had a trip into Vallina

Nothing much happened of any note.

bt mb 1

2/12/12

3790

Coordinates WGS84 30T 448559 4800463

6479 30T 448⁶⁶¹ 4800672

Small hollow with rift going in for about 4m. Possible dig on right just inside entrance, draughting in lightly. 3m in on left another descending rift – too tight to enter



IMG_20121202_114110.jpg



bt mb 2 2/12/12

Coordinates WGS84 30T 448536 4800433

EUR79 30T 448638 4800642

Sandstone capped hole draughting cold out

3791

3



IMG_20121202_120137.jpg



bt mb 3

3/12/12

EV279 30T 449046 4795438

3792

Coordinates WGS84 30T 448944 4795229

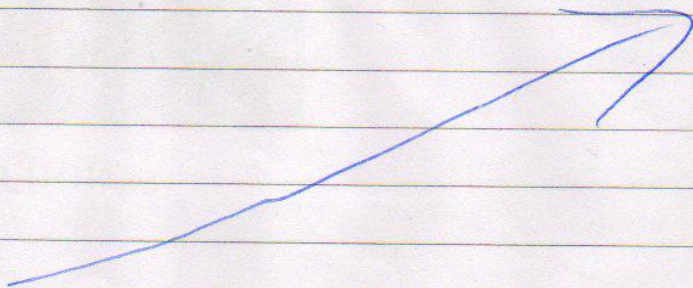
Hole in open grass, 5m drop to floor

Two small chambers at bottom.

Rift enlarged to enter further chamber, dig through floor to enter yet another
Dig continues.



IMG_20121203_125343.jpg





bt mb 4 3/12/12

3793

Coordinates WGS84 30T 448921 4795188

EUR 79 30T 449023 4795397

2x1.5m oval pitch increasing to a 5m across a metre or so down. Capped with a deliberately placed stone. Passage seen leading off. Approximately 10 to 12m to visible floor. Descended 3/12/12 both pits blocked. Disto'd to 13.1m. No draught, unlikely to be a fruitful dig. Another smaller rift like shaft about 10m southwest at same level and yet another a few metres to the Northeast, neither opened up as they do not look to have potential and they would be difficult to close up to prevent livestock falling in.

3793



IMG_20121202_162538.jpg

3794

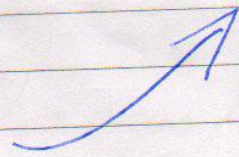
bt mb 5

3/12/12

Coordinates WGS84 30T 448967 4795212

60R79 30T 449069 4795421

Complex opening. Hole deeper into the hill dropped for about 10m, no way on. Opening under outside rock wall has a constriction 2m down but floor can be seen at -4m, as there is no discernible draught the effort of enlarging the "etroiture" seems somewhat futile.



3794

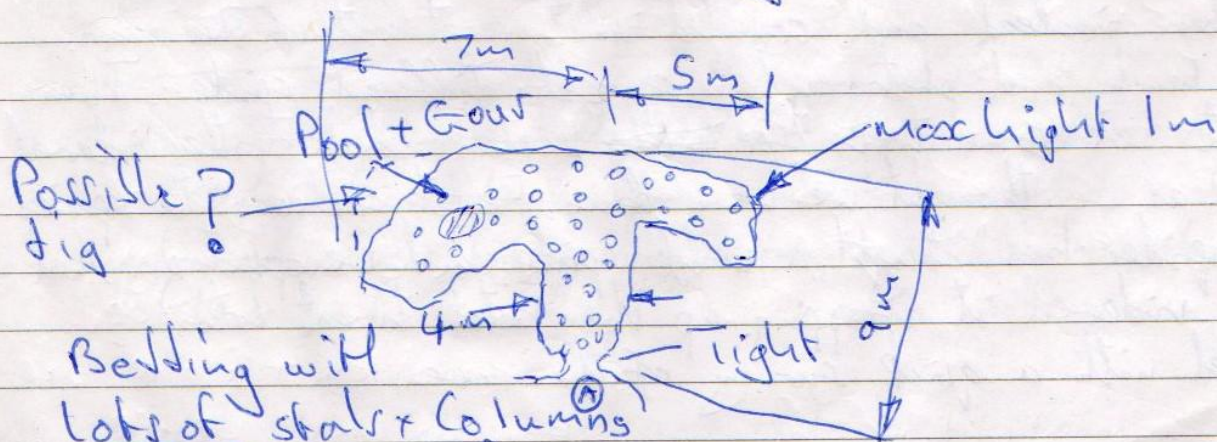


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7

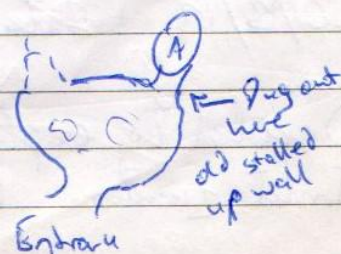
3796 P.T.E. Ali, Andy

26/3/13

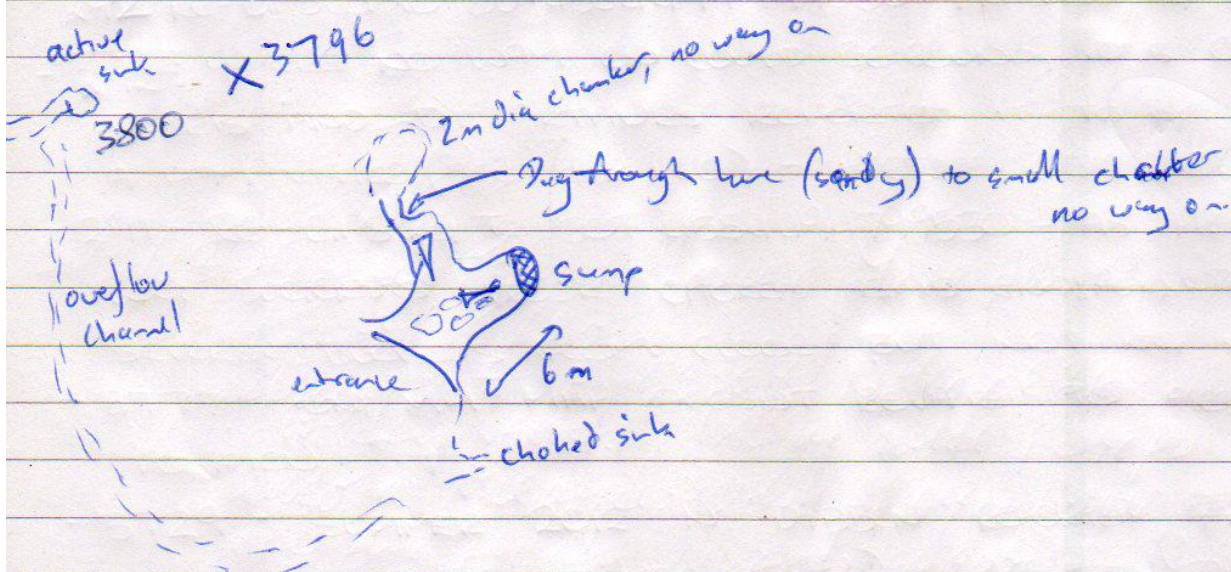


Bedding with
lots of stals + Columns
Solid floor + roof
Difficult to find
a route through

This site is just behind sink taking substantial
stream, sinking into mud.



Site 3299 - flood overflow sink for stream at 3796.



Site 3795

1.5m x 1m opening at top of grassy slope left of Espada main top entrance. Steep slope may need tackle, depth 10-5m (not explored).

25/3/13 Site 2417 Letterbox Cave Footleg & Cave Ferret (Tom T.)

Started in Riño entrance looking for bugs. Took some vides of Ferret pondering some spiders before moving onto 1630 Mad Axe Woman which we failed to find the entrance of. Found Letterbox instead and crawled in to get out of the rain. Had lunch and photographed several different spiders. Then Ferret set some traps for ~~better~~ beetles which Footleg videoed. Just as we thought we were done, Ferret saw a Meta species of spider had caught a wolf spider and we photographed and videoed it wrapping up the catch to eat later. Ended with a quick survey of the cave.

26/3/13 Site 0105 Riño (Downstream) Footleg + Ferret.

Decided to explore and survey Riño downstream of Tomo Inlet junction. On the way in Ferret set some pitball traps

(9)

and photographed some Harvestman (which Footley learned are not spiders). Caught a few aquatic specimens in the pools alongside the streamway. Hoglice and Mayfly larvae we think. Reached the Torno Inlet junction and immediately got distracted by unsurveyed passages. Closed several loops around the streamway and other higher level passages. Eventually made it far enough downstream to encounter bollock deep wading and connected via a 5m climb back up to the higher level phreatic passage above. Feeling a little cold we decided to continue in the dry upper level and start on the last side passage there on the resurvey to-do list. This immediately turned very pretty and is I think the Ghost Rift which Andy Brington found many years ago. As soon as we got up into the pretty passage we found on going passages not recorded on any old survey data. So we left the known main way on to concentrate on these.

Most of the passages had a single set of footprints, but one extension was found where straws blocked the way up a flat out ascending crawl. (Briefly blocked) A booming echo could be heard from above and Ferret had his first experience being first into new passage. We found some more formations and a 16m high aven but no further way on.

28/3/13 Tom Thomson with Joan + Penny. "Tour of the Caves" for biological collecting purposes. Jivaro 2 visited - traps set and 5 crayfish seen. Agua and Concediente appeared to have much less life.

28/3/13 Cave 671. It seems to be a bit longer than it looks on my sketch survey on the website. It's worth a proper survey. PS

- SITES ABOVE LENNY'S (3721) - TOM H, TONY B, ED M, BOB T, PETER W
- 292 - RE-GPS'd TO 30T4554494799530 - MEASURED TO 18M
 - ~~292~~ WHERE NO WAY ON COULD BE FOUND, LOTS OF FLOOD DEBRIS AND DI ARTHURS REPORTED IT TO BE FLOWING A DAY LATER (SEE HER LOG) - PICTURE 0000004
 - 291 - RE-GPS'd TO 30T4554494799530 - AS PREVIOUS LOG SUGGESTS, FLOOR CHOKED AS IS END. PULLED SEVERAL BUCKETS FROM FLOOR BUT NOTHING YET!
 - 3777 - ON MM MAP DOESN'T RELATE TO ACTUAL POSITION!
 - 3729 - SUMMER 2012 N. DIBBEN REPORTED A HIGH RESURGANCE (SINKS NEAR 292). CORRECTED DISTANCE TO 30M IN LENGTH VIA SMALL RESTRICTION AT 12M. STALL BOSS RESTRICTING END WHICH OPENS OUT FURTHER ON (WATER AT 3FOOT NOW) WHERE NO ROOM TO TURN AROUND!

25/3/13 Espada - Ali, Pete E, Andy Pringle.

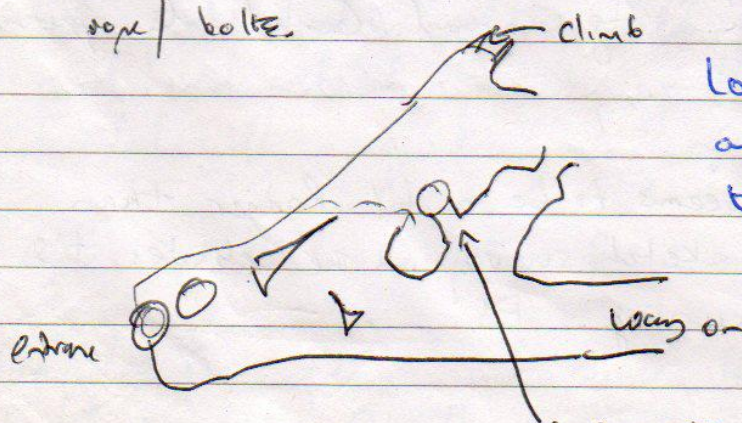
Photos in downstream area from upper entrance.

Streamway found splitting off about 50m from entrance, low w/b inlet (drainage) on south side. Small passage surveyed on left at choke area,

26/3/13 Rug inlet (golden shovel best tool) heading towards Ilario. Passage totally choked with squalid mud but may be worth further work as draughting slots on either side, both too tight.

28/3/13 Picon. Resurvey of old cave completed. Photos.

looked at clubs & tunnels towards entrance - work done with rope / bolts.



Pushed choke below last wax stals removed a large block + flake but the way on is dense with boulders/blocks
PTE

Ali, Pete E, A Pringle.

28.3.13: AN

(3801)

(11)

- ? entrance in west bank of stream gully short distance (<50m) upstream of 774 entrance, probably a flood cut. unexplored.
- depression contains steeply descending passage, short distance (ca <50m) east of parking spot for Mostaja/Acon/774 etc. (3802)

28.3.13 Big Steve, Si + Di
3777 Dos Burros

Straight off the ferry to Secadura. Big Steve led us to Dos Burros. GPS taken and surveying completed. No way on without concerted digging -

3777 GPS = 30T 0455924
4799385

(3797)

Near donkey was a small hole 30T 0455847
4799406

Following this we wandered through the woods, passing Mr. Bottlebank with digging fellows. Moved on to 291, 292 & 293 to take GPS.

291 = 30T 0455432 4799516

292 = 30T 0455462 4799501

293 = 30T 0455436 4799521

293 - Simon dug out the flat out crawl looking into the chamber. It requires a ladder which we didn't have.

292 - water was flowing into the flat out crawl which was diverted down another hole in the cave.

29/3/13 Big Steve, Si + Di
2717.

STARTED DIGGING & CLIPPING THE SOIL AT THE BASE OF THE SHAFT. NOT BIG ENOUGH TO GET INTO - yet! LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT LEAD INTO A BLIND, CHOKED SHAFT.

30/3/13 Penny and Juan out with Tom Thomas to Cobadal. Visited Orchard Cave⁶¹⁸ and Cueva Torida⁶¹³.
Set fall traps in both caves and collected various bugs. Salamanders seen in 618.

30/3/13 Tooker, Peter, Larissa, Mark, Helen, Marile,
Kerry shaft

(3798) Position: 30T E 453557 N 4800636 Alt: 336
6m deep shaft, 1x3m wide, drops
into a meander with 10cm wide opening
opening in the meander towards N/S.
Picture: _____ Tooker

31.3.13 Rock outcrop approx 50m SW of site 1435, by highest tree.

(3803) seems to be a chamber under it, accessed by hole on SE side. AN.
0732 - box & pot found.

Probably worth digging. (PP)

30.3.13 Pican - Alt: Pica Phil P. Pedro

Pican Eye Series - through eyehole on left of main way on
near entrance (after slope to lower passage).

Short pitch down to passage to choke after approx 7m (SW side
sloping up).

3 traverses to left starting over pitch led to chamber with a
bootprint & very impressive column. 3 passages going off, two
short, third led to even or 10m pitch (underscored)

Climb up at bottom of big passage down to left from entrance partly
done, needs completing - rope left.

31/3/13 Juan with Andy Prengle; Angus with Tom 'ferret' Thomas into the top level of Torca la Vaca to photograph.

01/4/13 surface work start seen @ 30T, 453977, 4798269
(Gorge Creek Ref in) tom.T. 0454079 4798478 Ew 79
Also photos of 2748 + 3001 Site 3799 1595.

1.4.13. Phil P., Angus, Ali, Pete E. Espada area.

3442 eventually found, needed several hours to dig out entrance
cave - prob. choked by small wet weather stream flowing over
entrance. Only PE could get past just squeeze. Managed to
survey cave by shooting back readings to Ali, & connected
survey from undescended pitch into Espada.

Invoice for non-completion of work will be forwarded to
previous contractors in relation to this and site 3222!

3795 explored, sloping 10m pitch drops into arête (in wet
weather) streamway, up to 6m wide 2m high, upstream to chokes,
and downstream - stream enters in floor, passage to left choked,
muddy road ahead to swampy area, cobble passage on right chokes.

etc

(3838)

Possible dig at foot of slope below 3442 approx 30m 245° from 3442,
too small tube but may be enlarge below floor level (mud). At
west end of rock face containing other impenetrable ledges (which may
include site 3301). Seems to be a small wet weather sink below this
(on edge of field).

31/3/13 Pete E, Phil P, Ali - South Vega to 1220

Hot sunny day (for Gosh) walk up from TV mast with
a lot of tackle (drill, 100m rope, capping gear etc). Aim
to push 1220 from where Torben got to in Oct 2012.
Used snapper to open up top of main pitch (7m down
from sub) and after some time moving a rock stuck at
top Pete E went to bottom & confirmed it was
choked blocked with no clear way on. He then climbed
up to look at the parallel shaft - Torben had seen

this turned out to be a small slot that would need opening up for 1.5m to what seemed to be a shaft about as deep as the main shaft. However rocks thrown into it seemed to bounce off the sides suggesting it was not big. Due to boulders above slot the best (safe) option was to use snappers, but would need 3 or 4 to open it up. Given the poor draught today & the nearby 1340 it was decided to leave 1220 for now at least.

One walk back it was seen that 1340 and 2594 were draughting in strongly - these need to be looked at as best options in area.

31/3/2013 to 1/4/2013

Hidden Hole

Torben & Peter - 30hr logs

Radon 24 hrs.

1478 Bq/m³

26/3 - 2/4/2013 Cueva-Cubio Rexada

40 + 48

REPORT :- Airo - Squirrels PASSAGE D/STREAM + U/STREAM SUMMS.

Too wet to do any diving this Easter, but did the following / made the observations :-

1. Squirrels d/stream sump will be easiest approached from Comellantes, as carrying dune kit down the stream is a total bastard.

2. Closely observed flow in both Squirrels, and Comellantes on the same day. CONCLUSIVE: the flow in Squirrels is, at most, 1/10 th of what comes out of Comellantes.

HENCE:- somewhere between the RS - CS line junction, and the end of sump 1 in Comellantes, 90% of the flow enters.

3. The small inlet that comes into Breakdown Chamber represents

about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Squimels flow. So, the other $\frac{3}{4}$ is of unknown origin.

4. During a signif.ⁿ flood, Molina stream was $\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow$ and very milky (from snowmelt?), Comellantes stream was $\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow$ but quite clear (from floodwater). Looking at where the snow remains;

Molina water is coming from the horradal (s) side of the Bustabado valley.

Comellantes accounts for all drainage to the N of the Bustabado valley, i.e. Vallina, S. Vega + unknown systems.

A ~~Wassle~~ guideline was placed through the "Duck" to assist during flooding - it will help if the low section is partially full of water, but SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR FREE DIVING. The plughole that drains the Duck was observed in wet condition, and the change from it draining freely to backing-up observed - a rapid process that explains how the Duck can swamp quite quickly.

2/4/2013 Picon Pete E; Ali & Phil P

Aim to bolt climb at bottom of lower passage below entrance just to left of low crawl. Phil P climbed up some 25m to large blocks that must come from a void above. But, no way through could be found. Pete E then went up for a second opinion, which was the same. Rope taken off, one bolt left at top.

On way in Pete E found a hole in the slope down to the lower passage, this was explored to a short passage and ~~surveyed~~, this was then surveyed by Pete E & Ali.

Prior to going out - Pete E climbed up an ^{right} aven in the side of the main top level just prior to lower section before where Mega But - goes off. After some 20m

of climbing he found a sling with a note on
the wall - Ion Cannon 2001 - No back!
Radon meter left in passage at point the
lower and top route divide - read 4 Bq/m^3 after
3 hours which gives 32 Bq/m^3 as a 1 day
Bq - was on an inward draught - so represents mainly
the fresh air. Good idea to check in summer
with an out draught.

30/3/2013

BIG STEVE & Simon C.
Di & Suzi.

(2717)

CAPPED THE LAST OF THE SLOT OUT INCLUDING AN
INADVERTENT DETONATION WITH THE DRILL!!

A 3m DESCENT INTO A ROUND CHOKED SHAFT 2.5m DIA
A QUICK DIG IN THE FLOOR CONFIRMED IT IS WELL CHOKED UP.

30/3/2013

(3056)

MEAN WHILE DI HAD FOUND A DRAGHTING SLOT IN THE
HILLSIDE - THIS TURNED OUT TO BE 3056 WHICH WAS AN INACCURATE
GPS LOCATION WE LOCATED IT AS:

30T, 448231, 4799571

DI & SE WENT TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS INTERESTING HOLE -
NOT GOOD DIG SPOTS WERE FOUND THOUGH

* NOTE * THE HILL SIDE HAD BEEN BURNED OFF AND THE OPPORTUNITY
WAS TAKEN TO LOOK FOR NEW ENTRANCES - NONE WERE FOUND.

31/3/2013

VOLLIN & (733) DI, SI, BIG STEVE, BILL + GLENN.

A NICE TOURIST TRIP UP TO THE CLIMB INTO
VOLLIN & 2 AND BACK TO LEARN THE ROUTE.

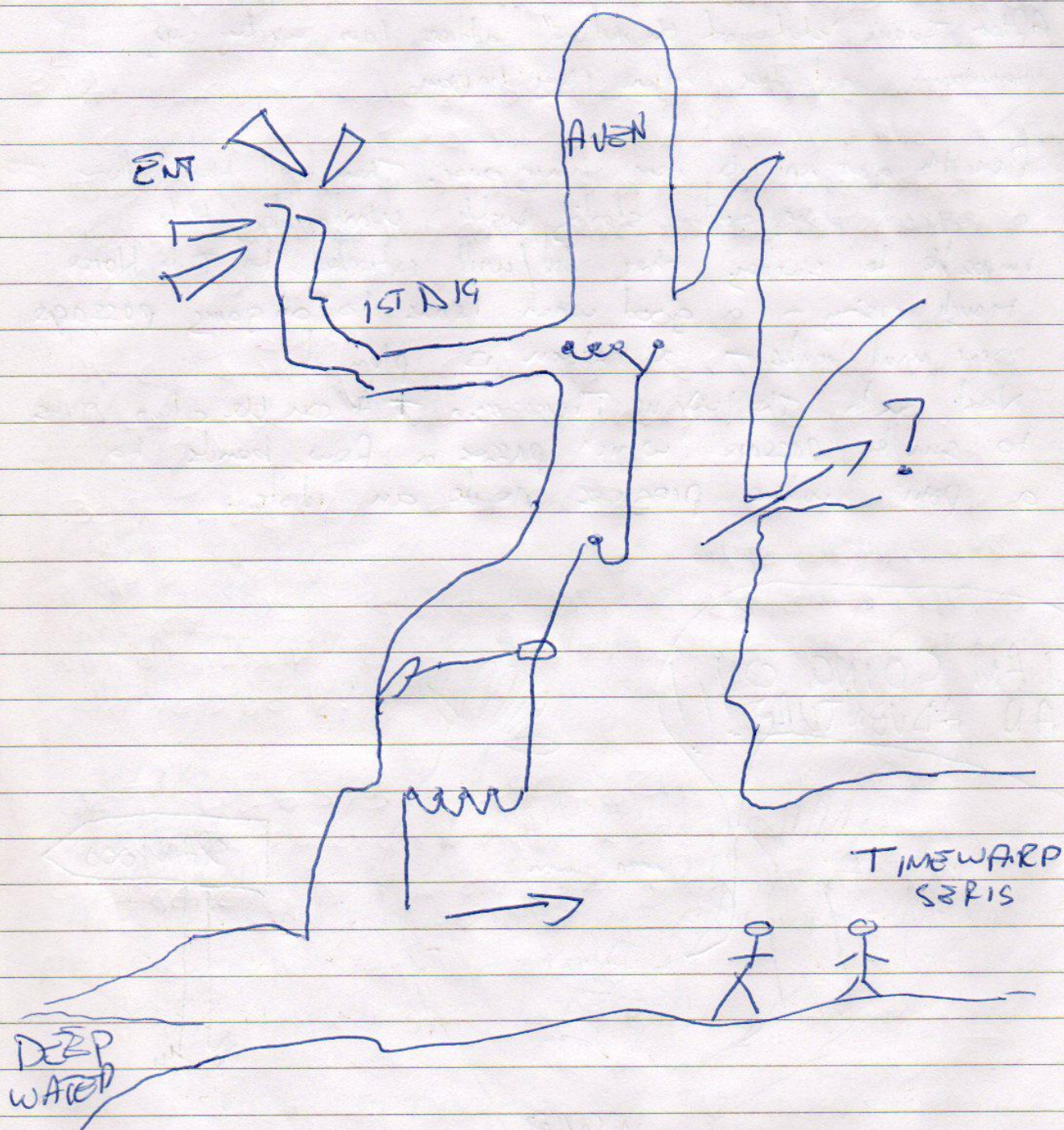
After Juan's "state of the nation" address I am writing up tomorrow's activities before they happen.

Perith got up late very hung over. There will then follow a square day and starting with Woodcutters' Hole impossible to survey. They did/will retreat to Two Horse trough rising - a good wash leads to ongoing passage over mud banks - a return is planned.

Next onto The Wrong Travellers + 4 on the climb goes to smaller passage which passes a few bands to a point where progress needs an idote.



GPR to follow



EC DON

2015

Signal
Bill Skerrett

1/4/2013

DP, SP, BILL

19

MR SHEPPINGTON KINDLY GAVE US A GRAND TOUR OF THE SURFACE FEATURES OF THE TARD LAVA ESCARPMENT, FEATURING THE DIG SHOW ROOM.

FROM THE PRINGLE HITLIST WE VISITED (2090) ALKA THE SNOUTY TOWN. A FEW ROCKS WERE REMOVED REVEALING A SOLID WALL AT THE BACK OF DIG - MAKING THE OPERATION ^{SEEM A} LESS FEARSOME PROPOSITION.

WE THEN MOVED ON TO FIND SNOUTITE (1874). THE 'DIG HERE' ENTRANCE ELUDED US FOR SOME TIME, EVENTUALLY TURNING UP IN THE FIRST SPOT WE PROBED. THIS WASN'T FULLY DUG OUT AS IT WAS STARTING TO GET LATE.

FINALLY ^{WE} MOVED ON TO THE BRIDGE (IN THE LONG DRAKS) (2917). THE LOCALS SEEMED FRIENDLY AND WEREN'T BOTHERED BY OUR PRESENCE. SI WAS DISPATCHED INTO THE TUNNEL TO BREAK UP THE SPATTERED ROCK FROM THE PREVIOUS VISITORS. THIS AND DIGGING THE FLOOR OUT DIDN'T TAKE LONG. SMALL BONES AND FRESH ANIMAL ^{EXCREMENT} ~~BONES~~ WERE FOUND IN THE SMALL PASSAGE BEYOND. FURTHER DIGGING WAS REQUIRED TO PASS A TIGHT 90° RIGHT HAND BEND INTO AN ENLARGEMENT. UP TO THIS POINT THERE ~~WAS~~ WAS A SMELL OF ANIMALS, IN THE ENLARGEMENT IT BECAME VERY STRONG. A BRIEF PLACENT SECTION LED TO A ^{SHORT} ~~SMALL~~ STANDING HEIGHT SECTION FOLLOWED BY A SLOPE UP. A FRESH GORGED LEG OF CALF (INCLUDING HOCK & KNEE JOINT) WAS ENCOUNTERED, ACCOMPANIED WITH THE SMELL BECOMING VERY STRONG. THIS WAS THE LIMIT OF EXPEDITION FOR THE DAY ^{!!!} ~~and~~

2/4/2013 Di, Si, Mr Pringle.

A GRAND PRINGLE TOWN OF THE MOTIENTO DIED TODAY!

(3720) LEWIS CAVE. SI REMOVED A FLARE BOARING
ENTRY TO THE TOP OF THE RIFT IN LUGGARD LANE, UNFORTUNATELY
THIS DROPPED INTO A SMALL 5 m DIA SLOPING HEIGHT
CHAMBER WITH NO WAY OUT. A VERY SMALL STREAM ENTERED
AND EXITED THIS AREA.

EDUCATIONAL

AFTER A NICE DRIVE AROUND WE ENDED UP IN A NEW
AREA, WHERE TWO NEW HOLES WERE FOUND.

30T 446327, 4800622

(3839)

^{2m} DROP DOWN FROM A DEPRESSION INTO A SMALL 2-5 m DIA
CHAMBER, PART SANDSTONE PART LIMESTONE. DILATED,
BUT A NARROW 2" RIFT WAS ON THE RIGHT WHERE STONES
ROTTED DOWN.

30T 446373 4800624

(3840)

A SQUEEZE THROUGH A TIGHT RIFT INTO A SMALL
ENLARGEMENT. A FAT OIL TUBE GROWS AFTER 3 m.

Risco - 2/4/2013 Pete and Carol S.

Passage noted in chamber on high-level in the through-trip (over
Christmas period). Starts below the big wall of layered sediment.

180m surveyed and photos taken despite problems with slave
units. Passage varying in size, up to 4 or 5 m wide and 2-3 m
high. Connects with stream passage upstream, in the roof of
high meander passage. Not many stal but curly cracked mud floors.

27.3.13 Vallina - Peter E, Ali, Andy P., Bob Ingeard, Bill Slurges, Barney, & C. Whill. Transport trip to climb up to Parake Ranch. Ali, Peter & AP took photos, others directed to choke area at end of Belitub - they need to write that up. Apparently dug into possible continuing passage. On way out looked at caverns & passages on left before canyon dug into ~~top~~ shaft but bottom of this can be reached by another route. AW.

3/4/13 Transport: Juan Undergrounds: Tom Thomson.

Tom collected the pit fall traps from Pinaro⁽¹⁰¹⁾, Letterbox Cave 2417; La Bodega 288 and Lenny's Cave 3721

Tom jungle-bashed to the probable position of the overflow resurgence 120, Cueva del Sifon Claro. The low chamber seems to have collapsed and flooded. A bouldery area with felled trees has holes to deep water.

Position is about 10m west of position marked on map. 0455188 4799825 ↑65m

Tom in Jivero to take out pit fall traps.

2/4/13. WGS 84 30T 455391 4799309. (Near 2922) 3841
+3? 4m 79 30T 455493 4799518

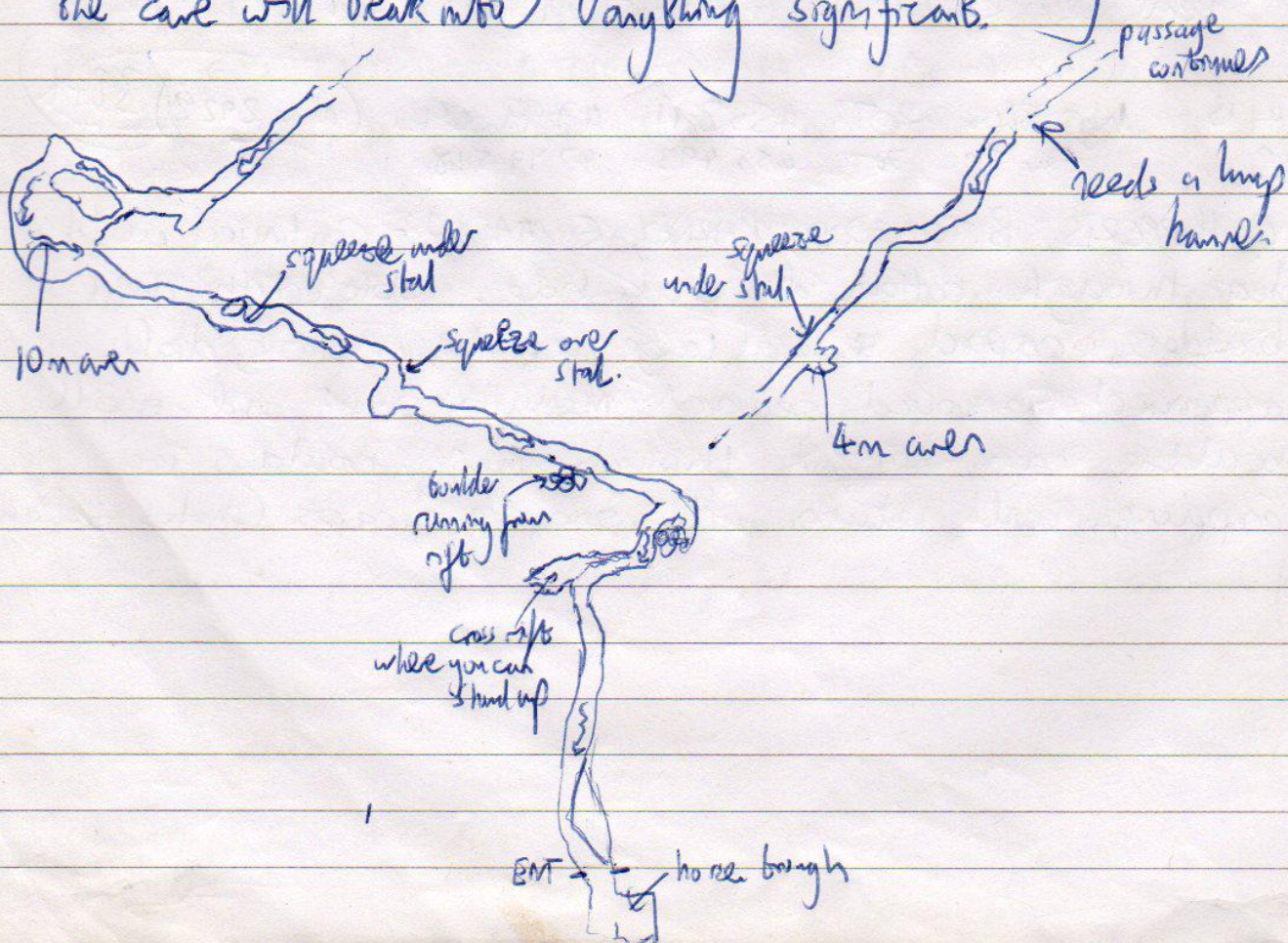
C. HIBBERTS, B. TOOGOOD, BARNEY, E. MASON - Continued with dig through bottom of snake hole. Soft earth until boulders. capped several large boulders. Strong draft appeared. removed several medium sized and small boulders can see on through more boulders w/c capping. will return with snappers + caps (photos taken)

James Carlisle

3/4/13: Simon Cornhill ~~James Carlisle~~

2185

Double Morse Trough Rising: According to Andy Progle and Peter Smith, this cave was 10m long and wide open. We were sceptical but went along anyway. The first 15m or so are flat-out in water but eventually we dug through to a cross-rift where it was possible to stand up. The way on was ~~the entrance~~ in the stream and required more digging. Eventually we broke through into a caliche (shapely - nodules) passage. This continued, following the stream for about 50m to a large area passing two squeezes past caliche. At the area the stream does a u-turn and continues past another area and a further squeeze. The drought here is looking out. Eventually we reached a point which needed some work with a lump-hammer to make further progress. The drought is really good but it seems unlikely that the cave will break into anything significant.



3/4/13 Big Steve, Suzie + Di

(23)

Shanty Town 2090

Capped + used plug + feathers to remove giant boulders in preparation for Mr Pingle's Easter Dig Fest.

Seafford, dig tray, board + beer tent required.

Vallina - choke - needs a return. Possible work @ low level?

4/4/13: The Wong Trower S. Cornhill, James Curlew, Chris Hibbert, Di Arthur, Tom

Went to push "The Wong Trower" after a five year absence. We decided to re-rig the pitch down into Squashy Street to avoid the loose boulders and piles of broken glass. This was achieved by the placement of three new bolts. Tom was left to photograph the rest of Cat Pot whilst we explored the end of "The Wong Trower" was a low flat-out crawl in water. We dug this for about half-an-hour and eventually Chris broke through into large passage ahead. I followed him through and we found ourselves in walking height passage with ~~rocks~~ black voids above. We climbed up and could see several possible leads, but the forecast blunderbusses and lack of surveying gear convinced us to retreat for the day. There is a nice draught and we are hoping that the weather will improve so that we can push it further.

Easter 2013

26 march 2013

3234 Peter, Torben

Surveyed passages in lower passage, in the most SE part of the cave (30m S of the bottom of narrow p16)

1) first passage (decorated with some 1m straws) goes west for 15m until below already known chamber above. From the chamber above water drips into the passage. Removing boulders reveals passage into the chamber above. The connection was not made due to possibly unstable boulders.

2) second target was off the chamber 15m further SSW.
A climb up a boulder

ramp and back over top of chamber leads to sloping up passage that ends in p14 (not dropped). At pitch head a slope up to the left (SW) ends after about 6m. Another slope up to the right (S), followed by a c+2 on solid stalls, leads to horizontal crawl for about 6m with body swallowing rift on one side (not checked how deep). Squeezing under wall at the end leads to a muddy 10m passage. At the end it goes two ways:

First: Crawl left to a chamber (Bird wing Chamber) with p8 and p7 (likely leading to same passage) The p8 gets really close to dig (see 3) below).

Second: Crawl straight to a 4m high meander, where the far end might dig to a continuation. Where the meander is entered, there is a small squeeze down in the floor, where water runs down. The squeeze ends too small, no way on.

3) Dig at top of ramp just N of bottom of p16. A 4m crawl leads to a too narrow window into a bigger passage, there is draught. The window may dig, but most likely it leads to the same passage as p8 mentioned under 2), as the horizontal distance is only about 3m from disto measurement down and towards W in p8.

4) There may be a higher passage to the right at the T junction, just 30m WNW of bottom of p16 (need rope and 1-2 bolts to protect)
5) there seems to

matienzoEaster2013.txt
be an error in the survey in the location marked "error" on the current survey, the p7 is located in the wrong end and there in only one connection at the 4-way junction. will be sorted on next trip.

pictures/movie: ✓

survey: *See at the end (p. 7)*

Locations showed on current survey: *See at the end (p. 7)*

27 march 2013

Renada, family trip, Louise, Torben, Marie, Karen, Marites, Peter
Kids introduces to wet conditions, and enjoied it

pictures/movie: ✓

28 march 2013

0075, Picon

Marites, Peter, Torben

Capping open passage in Melted Candle of wax Doom. Leads into well decorated grotto, 4 m diameter, with water pool. A crawl leads to 3m diameter chamber with boulder walls and no way on.

pictures/movie: ✓

survey: *See at the end (p. 8)*

locations showed on current survey:

See at the end (p.8)

29 march 2013

3234 Louise, Torben, Peter

Exploration is described at 26 march, but 2), 3) and 4) were done on 29 march

pictures/movie: ✓

survey:

See at the end (~~p.9~~) (p.7)

30 march 2013

Louise, Torben, Marie, Karen, Marites, Peter

New shaft found, already entered in logbook

3798

31 march - 1 april 2013

0458 Torben Redder, Peter Fast

Loaded up with equipment (5 tacklebags) for an overnight stay in Hidden Hole (assumed to be the first matienzo overnight trip with bivouac equipment).

First major problem was as the loops on one of the 5 tackle

bags broke at the top of p59 and made a gigantic water/milk bomb. Second problem was that unfortunately our DistoX was in the same bag, and seemed not to have survived the impact (after the trip both DistoX and pda

matienzoEaster2013.txt

actually had survived) . Our bivi spot was the flat mud floor 50m WNW from Gloom pitch. There are plenty of water to find i the cave.

The following was checked (see marking om attached survey)

- 1) about 20m down the p59 (note x on the current survey) a 0,5x0,4m window was entered. It leads to a 4m diameter chamber with flat floor. Continues in a rift to a p5 that seems to be blind ✓
- 2) draghting dig was hammered out an pushed for about 6m until a 20cm hole, with uncertain potential
- 3) "climb down to p20?" just N of Squeezing Column Passage was dropped. About p16. Leads to blind pit. About 3m off the floor towards N there is a) a ramp on boulders, going about 8 metes up (no way on) and b) 3m towards E into a wet about 6m high aven. Footprints and a sling from unknown exploration was found. No way on found.
- 4) Sherwood Forest was searched for continuations, but no way found ✓
- 5) From top of boulder slope at bottom of Gloom pitch, a climb can lead into tube in roof (may require 2 bolts for progress and protection) ✓

Measurement of Radon after 24 hours: 1400 Bq/m3

Due to the malfunction of the DistoX nothing was surveyed

It was an excelent experience to stay over night

pictures/movie: ✓

locations showed on current survey:

See at the end (p. 9)

2 april 2013

3234 Louise, Peter, Marites

matienzoEaster2013.txt

The following was checked (see marking on attached survey)

- 1) The far end of Left Ladders Series (towards S): the small passage heading northeast needs capping/snapping for at least 5 meters. Very little draught.
- 2) The small passage heading northwest (40_m NNW from 1)) from chamber was dug out for 2 meters but needs a lot more digging - dry sand. Very little draught.
- 3) The hole in The Hub leads to a little chamber with sand/mud floor that comes very close to the passage below (Horny Dog level) which ends in a sandy choke. The two passages could probably be connected by digging (bring shovel!)
- 4) The low passage heading northeast from High Hopes and taking the water from High Hopes is draughting and seems to get larger after about 2 meters of muddy digging (bring shovel). It could connect to the Horny Dog level.

Locations showed on current survey:

see at the end (p. 10)

2 april 2013

Louise, Torben, Marie, Karen, Marites, Peter

New cave, #

E 453300 N 4800732 altitude 238m

3042

0,4m wide and 0,5m high entrance leads into a meander 1x4m, that after 6m gets too narrow. At the roof it is possible to pass. Leads onto p6 from column (use stalls for rebelay to get 3m back, where the meander is wide enough. Drop back into the meander, that continues for another 6m where flowstone makes it too narrow, leaving only hole of 10x30cm. It seemed

movement into the cave at that point. The hole may dig, (snap) I like there was a weak air

~~Page 4~~

(29)

pictures and movie: ✓

matienzoEaster2013.txt

3 april 2013

Louise, Torben, Marie, Karen, Marites, Peter Smith

new cave from ²3 april, # 3842, explored

2 snappers made progress, but more are required. The fumes were sucked into the cave.

New stream sink found

E 453300 N 4800947 altitude 145m

The stream from N sinks here, but continues at high flow. The sink was cleared and 2 snappers made progress. There are small rocks on the bottom which dig easier in dry conditions.

pictures/movie: ✓

New dig found

E 453583 N 4801235 altitude 200m

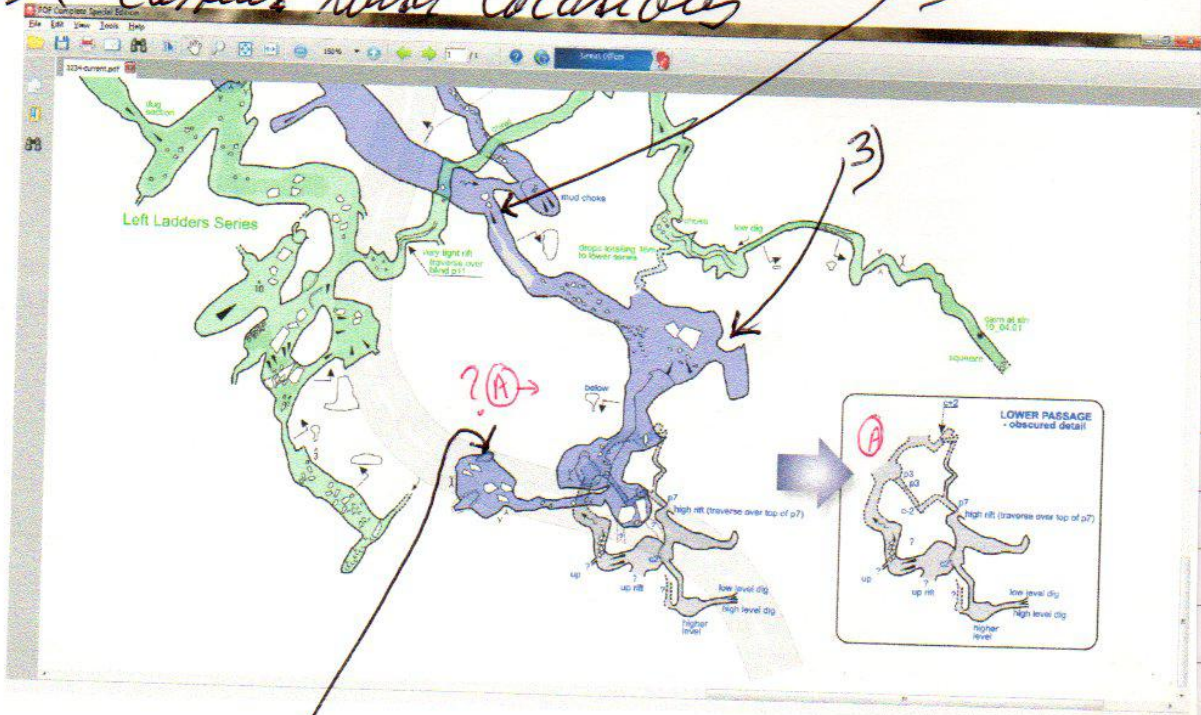
The dig is located just at the east side of road. water is heard and at high flow it flows out in a pipe under the road. Loose rocks dig easily, but the roof at the start is loose rocks too.

pictures/movie: ✓

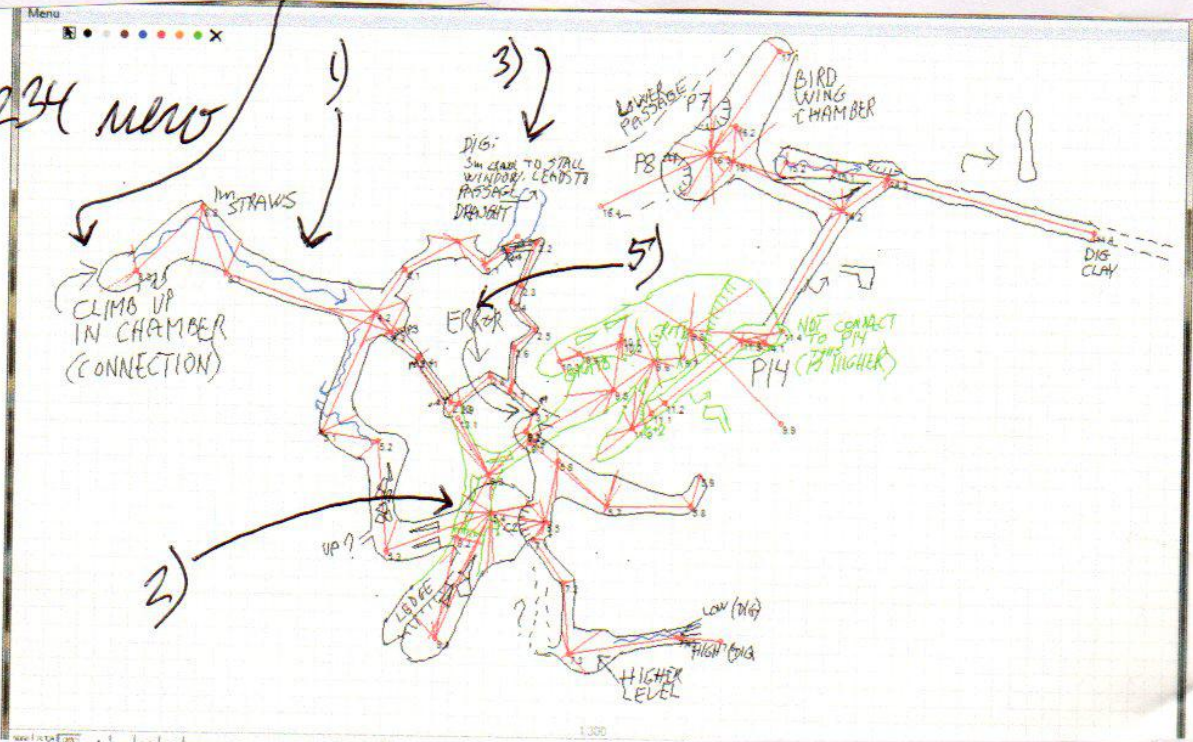
P. 6

Torben

26/3 + 29/3 2013
 #3234 current with locations



3234 new

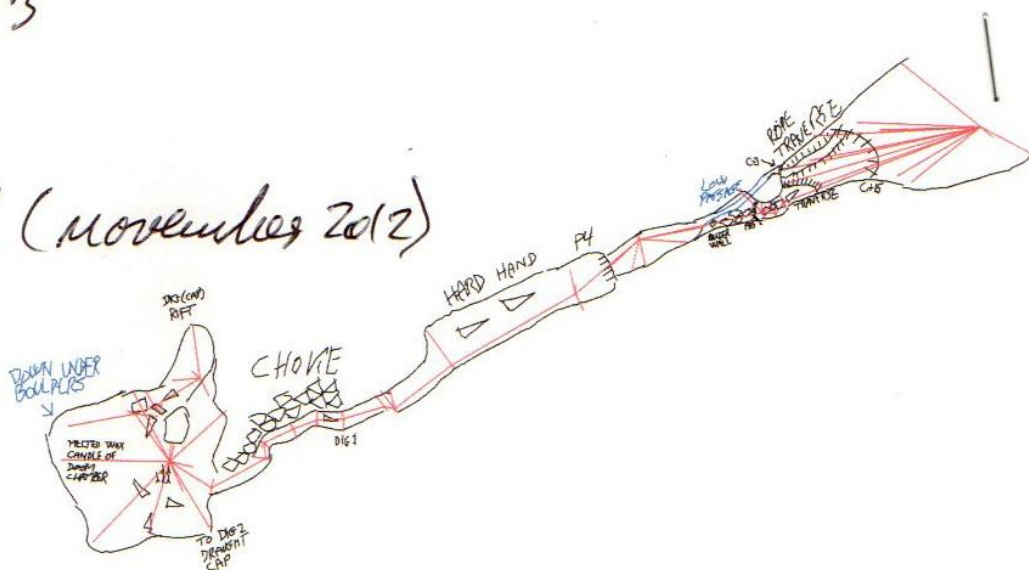


P. 7

28/3 2013

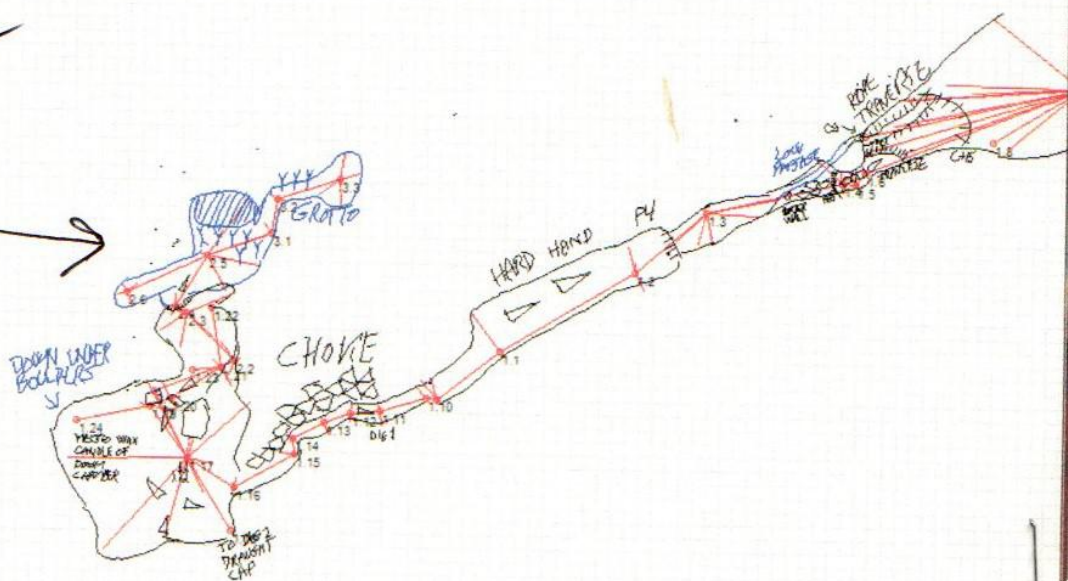
0075-

Current (November 2012)



10.0 5.

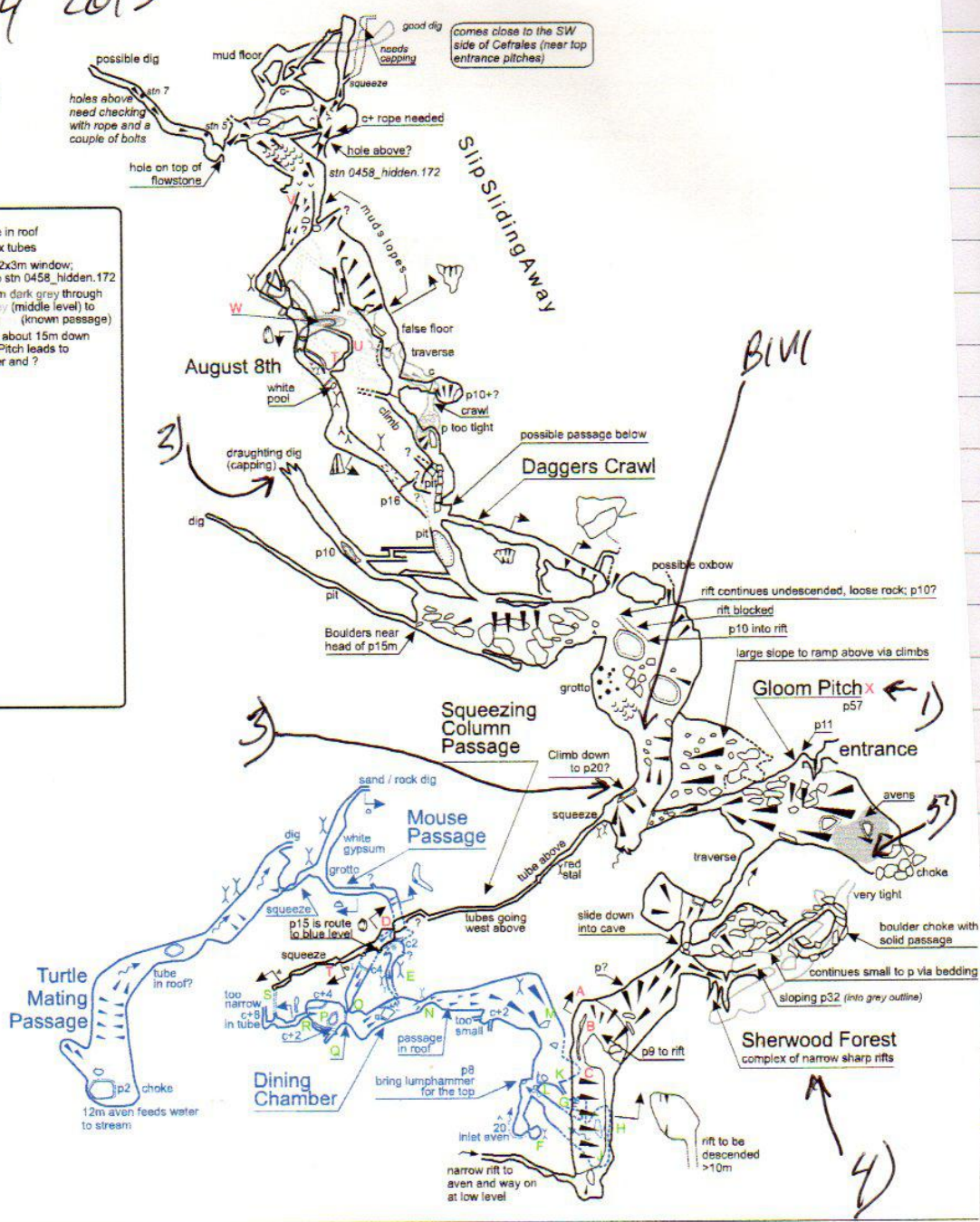
Now



p. 8

31/3-1/4 2013
locations

- A** narrow rift
- B** Robin Head Traverse
- C** squeeze under
- D** Precarious Tube
- E** Donkey's Nob
- F** needs bolt and rope to climb tube
- G** 32m aven; also Disto 46m length, N @ +40' into passage that needs climbing into
- H** 22m inlet aven
- I** crawl; caps needed
- J** c-4
- K** 10m handline
- L** crawl, 8m handline to west
- M** boulders
- N** 20m aven
- O** c+4 with bolt; hole to west can be used for 10m rope pull down
- P** c+2; bad rock
- Q** Disto leg
- R** too narrow; high level to east
- S** 6m hole in roof
- T** complex tubes
- U** c6 into 2x3m window; tied into stn 0458_hidden.172
- V** p19 from dark grey through light grey (middle level) to (known passage)
- W** window about 15m down Gloom Pitch leads to chamber and ?
- X** window about 15m down Gloom Pitch leads to chamber and ?



PLAN
projected section on another sheet

Site 458: Hidden Hole

South Vega VN5088(6)9532(5) Altitude 345m

Length 2211m Depth 130m

Surveyed 2000 - 2002 to BCRA 5c; additions Easter 2003; Surveyed Whit 2009 (with link to Gloom Pitch) and summer 2009 (August 8th) using DistoX (connections to Slip Sliding Away to be drawn in); other minor additions, summer 2009

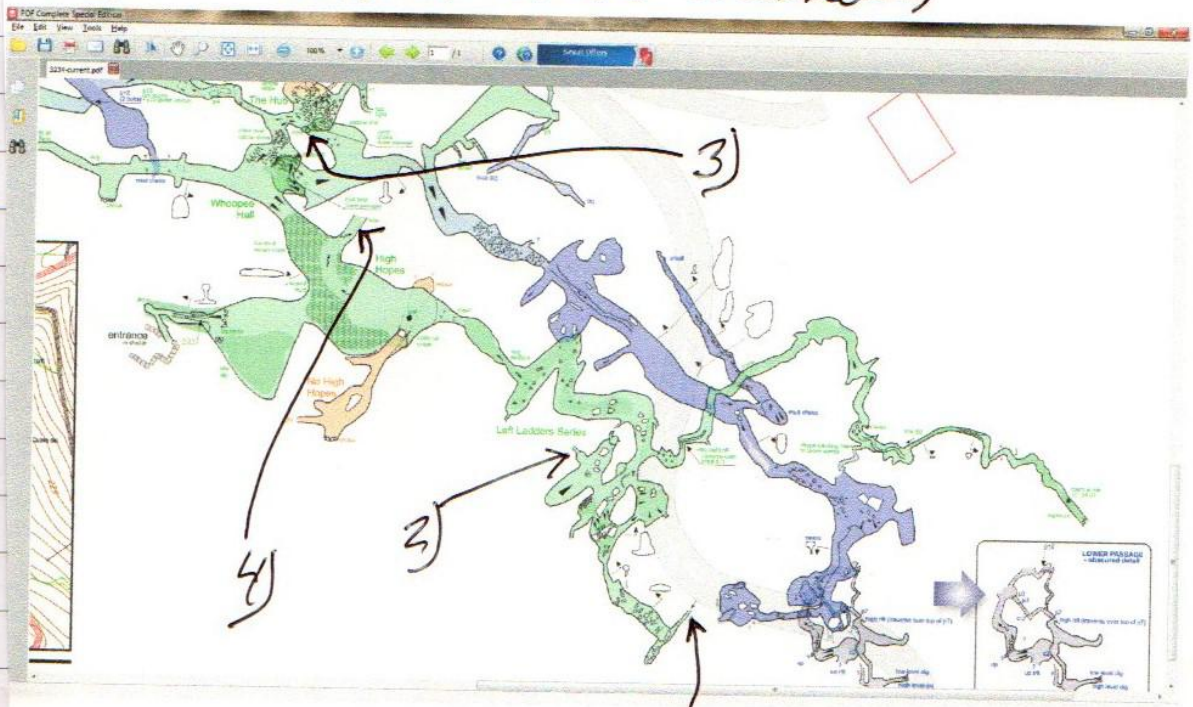
Drawn by JB, TR, PE

p. 9

2/4 2013 —

(33)

3234 correct with locations



p. 10

Torben

30/03 - Cobadal area - H.L.

- 1) Up track to Hidden Valley, then off on right to new timber + block built house. Right beside it is a deep hole with water showering into it. It is possible to walk down about 12 metres to where a rope or ladder would be a help. (3829)

GPS 0448292.4797595

- 2). Young man from the timber house (Portugese) took me to another hole up on the side of the Hidden Valley. A few metres of walk-in passage reaches the top of a deep pitch (20-25m) at the near end of a rift about 10m long, with water showering out of the roof. There is a good echo from rock dropped down. (3830)

GPS 0448442.4797488

31/03 Llueva Area - H.L.

- 1). Descending narrow rift in depression below track near barn. Slight draught. (3832)

GPS 0454510.4797754

- 2). Below track by barn in first depression. Cold store with steps down into a chamber with lots of loose rock and no obvious way on. Big coils of rope in chamber! Draught comes from all over (3833)

GPS 0454560.4797715

- 3). Up on side of depression close to old track to barn. 3 passable entrances sloping down into what looks like a series of low, inter-connecting chambers. Slight outward draught. (3834)

GPS 0454266.4797987

- 4). On opposite side of same depression as 3) above is a dig into a low chamber (3835)

GPS 0454286.4797997

FRESNEDO AREA. 27/03/13 H. LONG

(3824)

(35)

- 1). On recently cleared bank beyond Virgen's Cave. Drop below sandstone bed to undercut in limestone. Needs some digging to get into it.

GPS 0453857.4802020

- 2). Right at edge of cleared area near wire fence. A 1.5m drop to a steep slope on down into a reasonable-sized space.

GPS 0453983.4802034

(3825)

- 3). Small tube to enlargement in little outcrop just up into the wooded area. Needs the first metre enlarging.

GPS 0453742.4801970

(3826)

- 4). Up bank and slightly left of Virgen's Cave. Small, draughting tube, which needs enlarging to reach a step down and to the left to an enlargement.

GPS 0453650.4801954

(3827)

A few metres below and to the right of 4). is a sloping

enterable tube sloping down for about 3 metres to a block across the continuation.

(3828)

Bill Sherrington write up (edited):

Day 1 Tuesday 26th March. Torca la Vaca (2889). Bill S Dave G

Rigging trip to sump area. Discovered that the sump was up and that access to the cave would require free diving. I am not prepared to undertake free diving in such a remote spot. Decided that the best option was to seek alternatives and to enjoy the expedition with a plan B which was to acquaint myself with other caves of which I am unfamiliar. Left cow pot securely rigged for remainder of Easter and to assist summer explorations.

Day 2 Wednesday 27th March. Vallina (733). Ali, Pete E, Mr. Pringle, Bob T, Barney, Dave G, Me

Was guided through the low entrance to Swirl Chamber carried photographic gear was shown the way by Matienzo veterans that know the route and was shown sites of interest, of note was the top of a boulder choke that had been well visited and I assumed had been very well documented over the previous decades of exploration. The choke I am advised has a fantastic draught in summer and requires engineering and explosives to tackle. This would be a long term project. I then enjoyed route finding with support from knowledgeable cavers to acquaint myself with the terrain to assist in potential future explorations.

Day 3 Thursday 28th March. Riaño (105), Footleg, Barney, Dave G, Bob T, Tom H, Me

I jumped on the back of a pushing trip to explore a potential connection from Riaño to Torno. I was advised that I would probably not make it through School Boy Error aven. Having never been in the cave previously I assumed that those who had frequently been there had assessed some of the obstacles encountered and knew the tackle requirements. I was pleased as I managed to pass School Boy aven with some considerable effort and complete a rather scary traverse into rift climbs which have been previously documented by Paul Dold. However I was unable to progress further up the climbs due to the high level of caving skill being demanded and had to return to the surface after a long trip which was abandoned by myself and 4 members of a 6 person team. In my opinion it requires a much more considered approach and that the cave is either pushed by those with the necessary head for heights or that tackle is taken to aid progress.

Day 4 Friday 29th March 2 El Cubillón at Moncobe (2538). Dave G, Bob T, Barney, Me, Tom H

Entered cave and progresses to a new boulder choke which was scaled at some considerable risk and I understand that this has been documented and submitted (only survey, no passage description). I did not consider it appropriate to write up this trip as No new cave passage was discovered. (?? - cave surveyed by Barney). I was given a guided tour around previously explored new passage which has been documented on previous expeditions. No new leads discovered.

Day 5 Saturday 30th March Langdale area. Surface day. Recovery. Dave Gledhill, Bill Sherrington

Main objective to enter the Fridge Cave (2917) (and excavate and to reconnoiter area for purpose of encouraging relations with local inhabitants. I was shown the entrances to several documented and well known sites of digging interest. As I have never visited this area. Fridge cave was entered and it was decided that because of injuries sustained on previous trips that it was not advisable to excavate in such a tight and confined environment. We then rediscovered several previously known and GPSed sites.

Day 6 31st March Digging Cobadal areas and the Fridge with Si and Di hard.

Went to the well-known and documented area Snotite cave (1871) to uncover it "just" and to show Si and Di Andrew Pringles winner goer projects. Then proceeded to the fridge (2917) with less broken thin people. I understand that Si and Di have produced a survey (?no?) and account of the fridge in which evidence of unknown and possibly belligerent Cantabrian fauna were encountered in new passage.

Day 7 1st April Last day of trip Steve Martin, Bob Toogood, Si and Di Hard, Barney, Dave G, Chris Hibberts, Me and 1 other caver. Return to Vallina (733) my aim was to lead the way and consolidate my learning of the route to Swirl Chamber for future reference. I was surprised and pleased at the large number of cavers who expressed an interest in the trip as this seems to foster good relations and future plans. I was pleased that I recalled the route with accuracy.

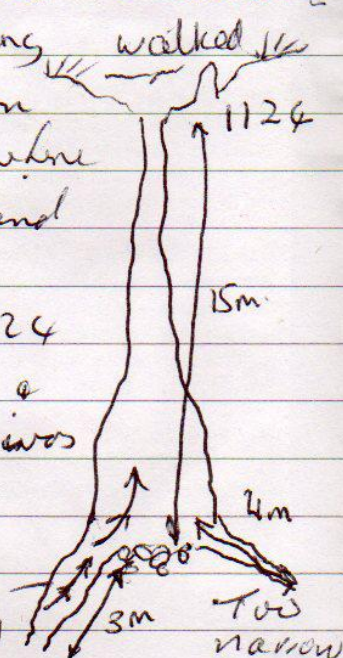
In summary this was a very frustrating and expensive trip for me as my main objective was not achievable. Other available options proved either too difficult or dangerous for my level of caving skill or required longer term and sustained approaches. My time and resources were focused upon preparatory work for potential future exploration and seeking alternative entrances to Cow Pot.

5/4/13 TRANSPORT: Juan UNDERGROUND: Tom Thomson
Collecting pit fall traps from 613 Torrida and
618 Orchard Cave.

5/4/13 1125 & Prob 1124 - 449846:4794107 Alt 535
WALK up to south vega to look at several shafts
present. Phil Papard, James, Jenny, C Hibberts, B. Toogood.
First went to look at 1125 put in bolt to descend
6m shaft to boulder choke not going walked on
to find 1180 but where shown on
maps is an area with no holes visible where
there should be 3 in a group, we did find
1178 & took an entrance pic.

Some 25m to West of where 1124
was shown a shaft in a rocky area &
surface rift was found - we assume it was
1124. C Hibberts climbed some 15m
to a rubble floor in a rift with key's
one way closing down & too narrow capping
the opposite side need capping, but had.

a good cut wood draught & water on a floor some 3m
down can be seen. A very good prospect.



5/4/13

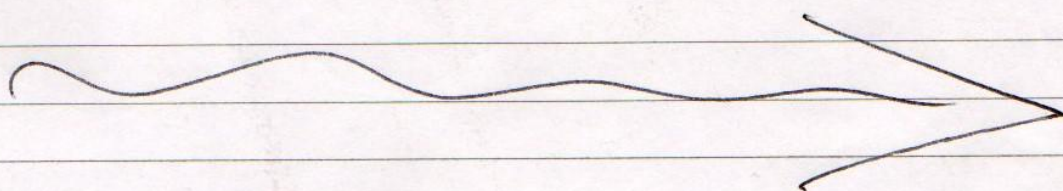
Site 3089.

Si & Di

(37)

Late start due to Simon's inebriation.

We dug at the bottom of the cave to remove the constriction. Capping was required; it didn't take us long to make the way as wide enough for us. The passage drops 5 metres in a body sized rift. The rift is easy to slide down and climb back out. A lower bedding plane can be seen where the water trickles but not easy to access as digging into it was difficult as there's little room to manoeuvre. Through a too-tight rift you can see a widening which is directly below the passage above at the point where the water trickles down. We dug for some time above this passage opening and holes appeared but the slope became loose. The draft-in appeared to head towards these holes (using a joss-stick). Securing of the boulder slope would be required for digging to continue.



21/03/2013. JOHN SOUTHWORTH, PHIL GOODWIN & DAVE MILNER
ARRIVED ON FERRY & COLLECTED GEAR FROM MATIENZO.

22/03/2013. JOHN, PHIL G. & DAVE.

DIGGING OUT ENTRANCE CRAWL IN WASHING MACHINE (HAY A GOOD LOOK MOUND PASSAGES BEYOND ENTRANCE PITCH: EXPLORED SIDE PASSAGE FOR 20' TO 40' PITCH - NOT DESCENDED BUT VOICE CONNECTION TO ~~RIGHT~~ RAGGED PITCH IN HEDGECOCK PASSAGE

23/03/2013 JOHN, PHIL G & DAVE

3804 23/1 - PHIL & DAVE - SHAFT (3.9m) IN ROCKFACE IN SHAKEHOLE AT 0446243
4800395 ALT 214m UNDESCENDED - NEEDS LADDER - ~~PHOTO PHIL~~ (SAN ANTONIO)

3805 23/2 - JOHN - CHOKED 2M SHAFT. NO DRAUGHT
0446200 4800345 ALT 224m (SAN ANTONIO)

3806 23/3 - JOHN, DAVE, PHIL - IN SMALL ROCK FACE SLOPING PASSAGE
2M BELOW A SANDSTONE, NO OBVIOUS WAY ON.
0446556 ~~4795465~~ 4795918 ALT 419m (BENCANO)

3807 23/4 - JOHN. VERY LIGHT RIFT AT TOP OF SMALL CLIFF.
ABOUT 8M DEEP
0446472 4795665 ALT. 450m (BENCANO)

3808 23/5 - PHIL & DAVE - 2 HOLES AT 0446151 ALT 215m. 4800349. (SAN ANTONIO)
(i) NARROW SHAFT, 15', UNDESCENDED - PHOTO (JOHN S.)
(ii) HOLE PART WAY UP CLIFF FACE - 12' DROP TO CHAMBER. POSSIBLE WAY ON AT FLOOR LEVEL. ALSO SPACE HIGH UP IN CHAMBER WALL - HOLE NOT DESCENDED - PHOTO PHIL.

3809 23/6 - 0446098 4800353 - RIFT - PARTLY RUBBISH FILLED. CLOSSES DOWN AT BOTTOM. 5m DEEP. - PHOTO - PHIL (SAN ANTONIO)

3810 23/7 - 0446538 4795828 - 445m.
SIGNIFICANT HILLSIDE ~~FEATURE~~ ~~FEATURE~~, WITH SMALL HOLE - ROCK FALL APPROX 5'. - PHOTO - PHIL (BENCANO)

3811 23/8 - 0446494 ~~479642~~ 4795642 450m.
FENCED RIFT - APPROX 4m DEEP - UNDESCENDED - PHOTO PHIL
ONE OF A SERIES OF RIFTS AT SAME ALTITUDE (BENCANO)

3812 23/9 0446541 4795572 - 440m. (BENCANO)
LARGE CAVE ENTRANCE - 15' x 8'. LARGE CHAMBER (30' ACROSS)
HOLE ON FAR SIDE. - PHOTOS JOHN ~~DAVE~~.

24/03/2013. JOHN, PHIL G. & DAVE.

(3812) RETURNED TO 23/9 - DESCENDING HOLE SEEN PREVIOUS DAY, INTO 'RAILWAY TUNNEL' PASSAGE WHICH QUICKLY CLOSED DOWN.

WAY ON WAS BOLT CLIMB UP TO A FURTHER UPPER HOLE.

ANOTHER DESCENT LEAD TO A DEEPER PITCH WITH NO WAY OUT BUT HAD ANOTHER WAY ON AT AN UPPER LEVEL. TO BE RETURNED TO FOR MORE WORK. - ENT. PHOTO - JOHN.

SURVEY DONE

25/03/2013 - JOHN, PHIL G. & DAVE (2538)

DOWN EL CUBILLON TO LAKE TIABERTHAITE & BOLTED INTO HIGHER LEVEL PASSAGE OVER SUMP. STILL ONGOING, TO BE RETURNED TO.

26/03/2013 - JOHN, PHIL G. & DAVE.

DIGGING AT HOLE N° 3614

MORE WORK NEEDED.

27/03/2013

Return to 23/9 John, Dave, Phil G, Gordon (3812)

Digging at bottom of first chamber made a short descending hole which by-passed the first pitch from ledge above.

Digging at end of blind passage to the right produced no results.

At end of on-going part of cave a 7m bolted traverse over ^{the} blind pitch led to a large shaft 15m across at the top. The descent was in 3 steps with a total depth of 25m.

The bottom of the shaft is 10m in diameter with alcoves and covered in large boulders and very very dry.

On the left hand side a small hole ^{about 8"} against the wall was draughting well. About 2.5m down it appears to undercut the wall and open out.

Any further progress would involve a serious dig with continuous capping and shoring.

27/1 - DAVE & PHIL G.

446764 4795799 (3813) 446755 4795797
ENTRANCE AT SIG PAL. UNDERCUT UNDER ~~THE~~ SMALL CHIPS

PAGE 3. HILLS, ALL INTERLINKED. SMALL PASSAGE RUNNING PARALLEL TO PAL, ABOUT 6' BELOW SURFACE. APPEARS TO CHOKED AT EACH END.

28/10/2013 - JOHN & DAVE (3814)

ENTRANCE UNDER LARGE SANDSTONE SLAB. SMALL HOLE, 1m DEEP, IN EARTH TO SMALL CONTINUATION.

LOCATION - 446479 4748594 - SIG PAL.

PHOTO - JOHN.

28/03/2013 - cont.

JOHN & DAVE

TRIP INTO ANGUELO'S HOLE (REFUGE) LOOKING INTO ALL THREE CRAWLS. SOME DIGGING DONE IN LAST CRAWL.

29/03/2013 JOHN, DAVE & PHIL G.

SURVEYED ANGUELO'S HOLE WHILST OTHER DUG MIDDLE CRAWL. THEN DESCENDING NEWLY EXCAVATED PITCH/S OFF MIDDLE CRAWL. - MAIN REPORT - PHIL P & C. CAMM.

30/03/2013 JOHN, DAVE & PHIL G.

MORNING SPENT LOOKING FOR "60m" SHAFT NEAR WASHING MACHINE, NO SUCCESS.

AFTERNOON SEARCH ON RIM OFF COBAYAL DEPRESSION. RE-FOUND TORON DEL HOMBRA - ALREADY KNOWN, PLUS OTHER KNOWN HOLE.

ONE NEW HOLE FOUND AT 0447586 4799401 - UNDESCENDING ALT 308m. PHOTO PHIL G.

31/03/2013 JOHN, PHIL G & DAVE

FINISHED BOLTING IN EL CUBILLON OVER LARGE TILSBERGTHWAITE MUDDY ROOF PASSAGE, WITH NO DRAUGHT, END IN MUD FILLED RIPP WITH 20' DROP ~~W~~ CHOKED AT BOTTOM. ROPE LEFT IN SITU. SURVEY DONE - DAVE M.

01/04/2013 JOHN, DAVE, PHIL G. & HARRY LONG.

LUAVA VALLEY. - MAIN REPORT SEE M.H.L.

ONE SMALL HOLE IN UPPER EDGE OF SHAKEHOLE FOUND. NEEDS DIGGING - NO DRAUGHT. - LOCATION 0454527 4798026 ALT 388m. PHOTO - PHIL G.

02/04/2013 JOHN, PHIL G., DAVE & ~~HARRY~~

(i) MORNING SPENT WITH HARRY LONG, LOOKING AT /DESCENDING HOLES IN COBAYAL. - SEE HARRY'S REPORT FOR FULL T/6TAILS.

(ii) AFTERNOON ON IDIOPUERTO SIDE OF ALISAS, 500/600 METRE LEVEL. A NUMBER OF PREVIOUSLY NOTED HOLES FOUND.

(iii) RE-VISITED HOLE N^o 3665 ; PREVIOUSLY UNDESCENDING, FOUND WHY, AS ENTRANCE BLOCKED BY THREE VERY LARGE BLOCKS.

03/04/2013 - JOHN, PHIL G., DAVE, CHRIS Gamm, PETE MORGAN,
GORDON PRATER, PHIL PARKER

(41)

RE-ENGINEERING ENTRANCE TO 3692

SOME SPOIL REMOVED BEFORE PARTIAL COLLAPSE STOPPED
WORK. NOT FULLY WRITTEN OFF, BUT NOW OF LOW PRIORITY.

BRIBB VISIT TO.

BRIBB VISIT TO HOLE N° 3752, GOOD OUTWARD DRAUGHT.

04/04/2013 - JOHN, PHIL G., GORDON & DAVE (BLACK MARBLE HOLE)

(3817) HORNADO AREA. SMALL ENTRANCE ALONGSIDE ROAD AT
~~045094~~ 0450346 ~~480266~~
4801266

HOLE UNDER SANDSTONE OUTCROP WHERE ROAD GULLY ENDS. INITIAL
ENTRANCE VOID 3m x 2m x 1m. ~~W~~ WITH UNDESIRABLE SLOPE DOWN
FOR 1.5m TO PASSABLE SMALL OPENING.

05/04/2013. JOHN, GORDON & DAVE.

RETURNED TO (3804). 4m LADDER DESCENT INTO SMALL RIPT CHAMBER,
CHOKED IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. (PHOTO DAVE)

RETURNED TO THE TWO HOLES AT REF (3808).

(i) 5m SHAFT, CHOKED AT BOTTOM, BUT WITH SMALL RIPT TO
AN ENLARGEMENT. NEEDS DIGGING OUT, BUT RESTRICTED SPACE.

(ii) 3m DESCENT INTO RIPT CHAMBER, WITH CLIMB OVER 2m MUD
WALL INTO A CONTINUATION. OVERALL DEPTH 5m, OVERALL
LENGTH 10m. ~~SMALL SHAFT~~ SMALL CALLITED RIPT HAS CYCLOPE
2.5m UP THE WALL - TOO SMALL TO ENTER, BUT WOULD DIG OUT.

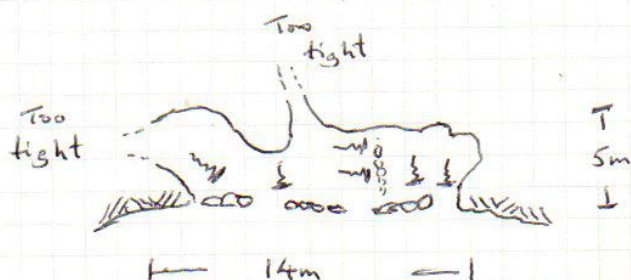
EXPLORED 'GORDON'S SCRAP HOLE' - REF N° ~~Hole 0~~ (SEE CHRIS Gamm REF)
~~447121~~ 4796068

LARGE SCRAP FILLED COLLAPSE, CONTAINING LARGE BLOCKS WITH
MULTIPLE ROUTES DOWNWARDS. ALL CHOKED. DEPTH 8m.



01/04 - Llaveva area - J.S., P.G., D.M., + H.L.

Returned with re-inforcements to look at cave found yesterday (3834). John + I went in at various entrances finding, as suspected, that there were 2 areas of chambers connected via an impassable section. All ways on were choked.



Went to cave opposite (3835) but needs hammer and a bar to get in.

02/04 Cobadal area - J.S., P.G., D.M., + H.L.

Went back to 3829 and found that the floor was about 15m down. The only possibility was a small opening that dropped another 3m but would take a lot of work to get into it.

Walked on to 3830 but found so much water entering through roof joint over the pitch that any thought of a descent was abandoned.

The last thing looked at was the hole covered by the metal disc near the road 3831. It was a straight 7 metre descent into a completely choked chamber.

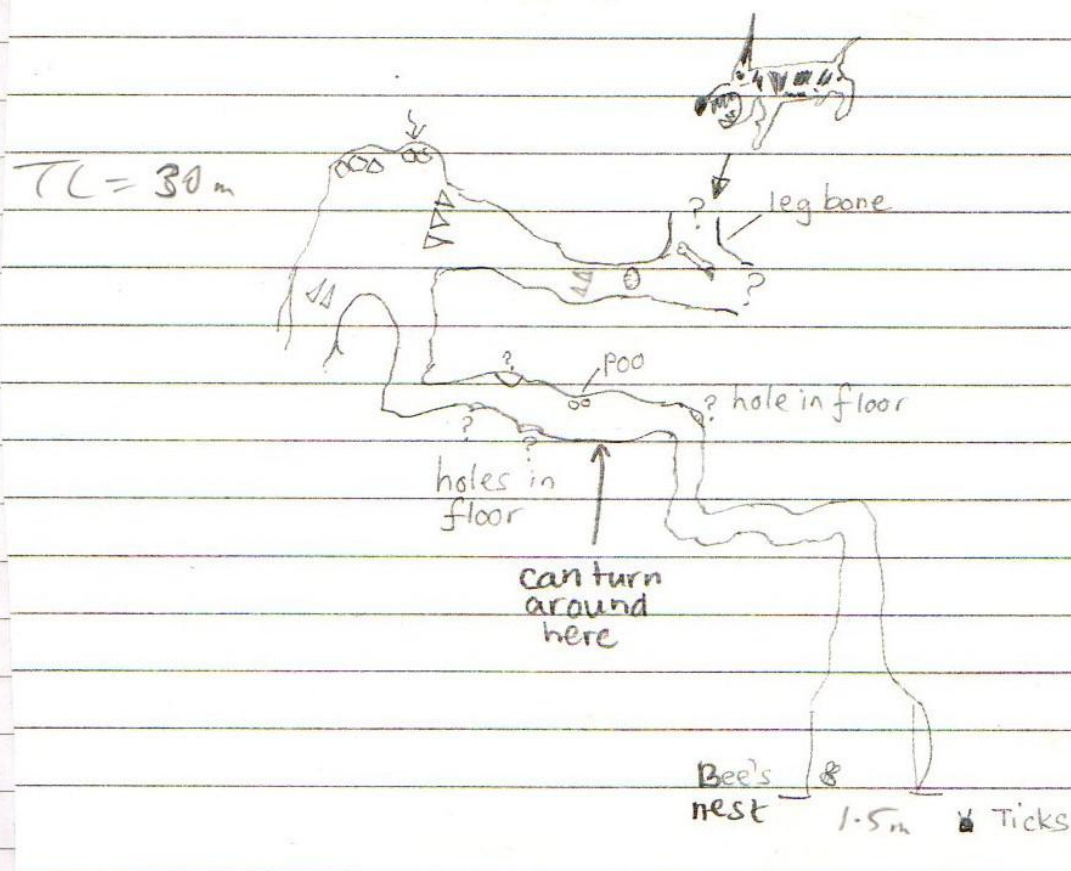


From: diane arthurs <diza_cutart@hotmail.com>
 To: juancorin <juancorin@matienzo.org.uk>
 Subject: 2917 The Fridge
 Date: Fri, 5 Apr 2013 23:13

31/3/13

The fridge 2917 Bill, Si & Di

Bill and I waited in the green meadow whilst Simon chiselled at the constriction at the back of the fridge. After a short while I noticed that a freckle on my hand was moving...we examined our over suits and tackle sacks and found we were being attacked by tiny ticks. Leaping out of the grass we removed all the creepy crawlies we could see and scampered into the fridge entrance. Sitting on the steps we were directly in the path to the bumble bee nest! Four or five bumble bees buzzing around us was not as concerning as the tiny tick invasion. It wasn't too long before Simon crawled back down the passage excited with news of ongoing passage beyond fresh poo. Bill led through the squeeze, questioning Simon whether there was a point at which he could turn around...beyond the poo Bill came across a 90° impassable right turn. We all reversed back out to the fridge entrance and changed the order of approach. Simon led again, chiselled a little of the 90° corner and dug the soft mud out of the floor which enabled him to pass through the narrowing. I lay at the corner not attempting to go through the squeeze until Simon shouted that the chamber led to a walking passage beyond. The animal smell became stronger and after a rise of the muddy floor Simon hastily moved toward me giving me news of the find of a freshly gnawed leg bone, possibly calf, in the centre of the passage. I cautiously made my way to look at it, aware that there was a hole in the passage floor (beast size) and a fork in the main passage (giant beast sizes). Video footage taken and our retreat out made rather rapidly. With crow bar in hand! Worth sending a Dingle down.



3299 description

Surveyed length 6m; total length approx 12m. depth 2m.

A 2.5 by 1.5m entrance enters a short cave leading to a sump pool. To the left up a short slope a sandy choke was dug into at Easter 2013 into a small chamber with no obvious way on. Just to the right of the entrance is a sink taking flood overflow from site 3800.

3442 description

Surveyed length 38m; total length approx 45m. depth 17m, (all excluding Espada).

A 1m by 0.5m entrance at the foot of an eucalyptus plantation draughts strongly. An excavated crawl leads after 4m to an enlarged but still tight squeeze. At Easter 2013 this crawl was found to have become filled up and needed much excavation for re-exploration. This may be due to drainage during rain from the plantation, and also animal action. After the squeeze turning right passes another squeeze then a junction. Left leads to a calcite choke with a dig on the left, while on the right an awkward climb is followed by an 8m (undescended) pitch connecting to the Espada streamway about 80m from the main upstream entrance of that cave.

3795 description

Surveyed length 58m; total length approx 70m. depth 10m.

The entrance is a 1.5m by 1m opening at the top of the grassy bank 35m to the west of the top entrance of Espada. This was explored at Easter 2013.

A sloping entrance pitch of 10m drops into a short section of fair sized stream passage. Upstream the passage chokes after about 25m, while downstream the stream immediately sinks near a too tight sump pool. The passage continues and splits. To the right is a cobbly passage which gets too tight, to the left rises to a choke with surface debris, while a muddy crawl straight ahead ends after about 10m at pools.

The source and destination of the stream, which was active in relatively wet conditions, is uncertain, there being several sinks in the immediate area, and it presumably joins the stream in Espada at some point.

3796 description

Surveyed length 10m; total length approx 20m. depth 2m.

An entrance 10m behind the 3800 sink enters a 6m wide bedding chamber. At the west end is a dig sloping down, while at the east end an opening had been walled up, the construction being partly cemented by flowstone indicating a considerable age. This was dug through at Easter 2013, through a tight squeeze into a bedding full of stal making exploration difficult. This could be followed for about 10m. No sign of the stream sinking at 3800 was seen or heard.

3800 description

A stream sink taking a fairly substantial stream in moderately wet conditions, which flows from the south and also takes the discharge from a new sewage plant nearby. The stream sinks in sediments with no hope of easy access at this point. In flood the stream overflows to another sink adjoining Cave 3299.

The stream presumably joins the stream in Espada at some point.

3rd APRIL 2013. (3649)

SIMON LATIMER & KEVIN CHADWICK.

CASA VEIJA.

40 metres down the 3rd (85 metre pitch) a 2 metre high rift / tube goes off on a bearing of 80 degrees.

A bolt traverse (7 bolts) which is stipply and passes a hole used which leads back into the 85 metre shaft, leads to a window into a further 6 metre shaft with small stream entering from above

From the end of the traverse a 3 metre pitch to g'hang and then 5 metre descent to re belay, then 45 metre free hanging pitch to bottom. At base of pitch is a gravel floor with too small rift.

4th APRIL 2013

3649 (CASA VETJA) (45)

SIMON LATIMER, KEVIN CHADWICK.

~~Pro B~~ FROM 45 METRE LEDGE KEVIN CHADWICK
INSTALLED A TRANSVERSE LINE ACROSS THE NATURAL
BRIDGE AND INTO THE WEST PASSAGE.

THEN PROCEEDED TO NEXT PITCH WERE LACK OF
BOLTS CURTAILED THE EXPLORATION

5th APRIL (3649)

CONTINUED EXPLORATION DOWN 6M PITCH
AND INTO AN AREA OF LARGE RIFTS, WITH
FURTHER PITCHES DOWN. SOME ESTIMATED TO
BE 20 METRES, LARGE ENOUGH TO DESCEND.

RAVE DERIGED BUT TRANSVERSE ACROSS
NATURAL BRIDGE LEFT IN PLACE.

~~ALL PLATES REMOVED~~

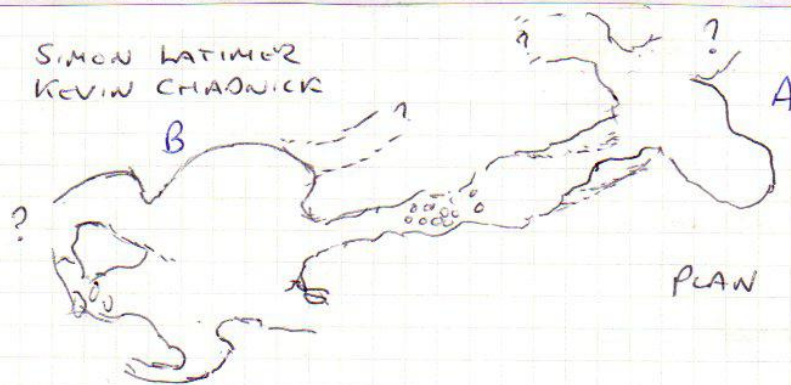
KEVIN SAID NOT FOR NOVICES.

(3649 cont)

→ → Opposite entry point is a large rift which could
develop into passage. Not entered. 3 rifts
were checked and all closed in.

3rd April 2013
CASA VIEJA
(3649)

SIMON LATIMER
KEVIN CHADWICK



PLAN

STUDS + NUTS & WASHERS IN SITUATION

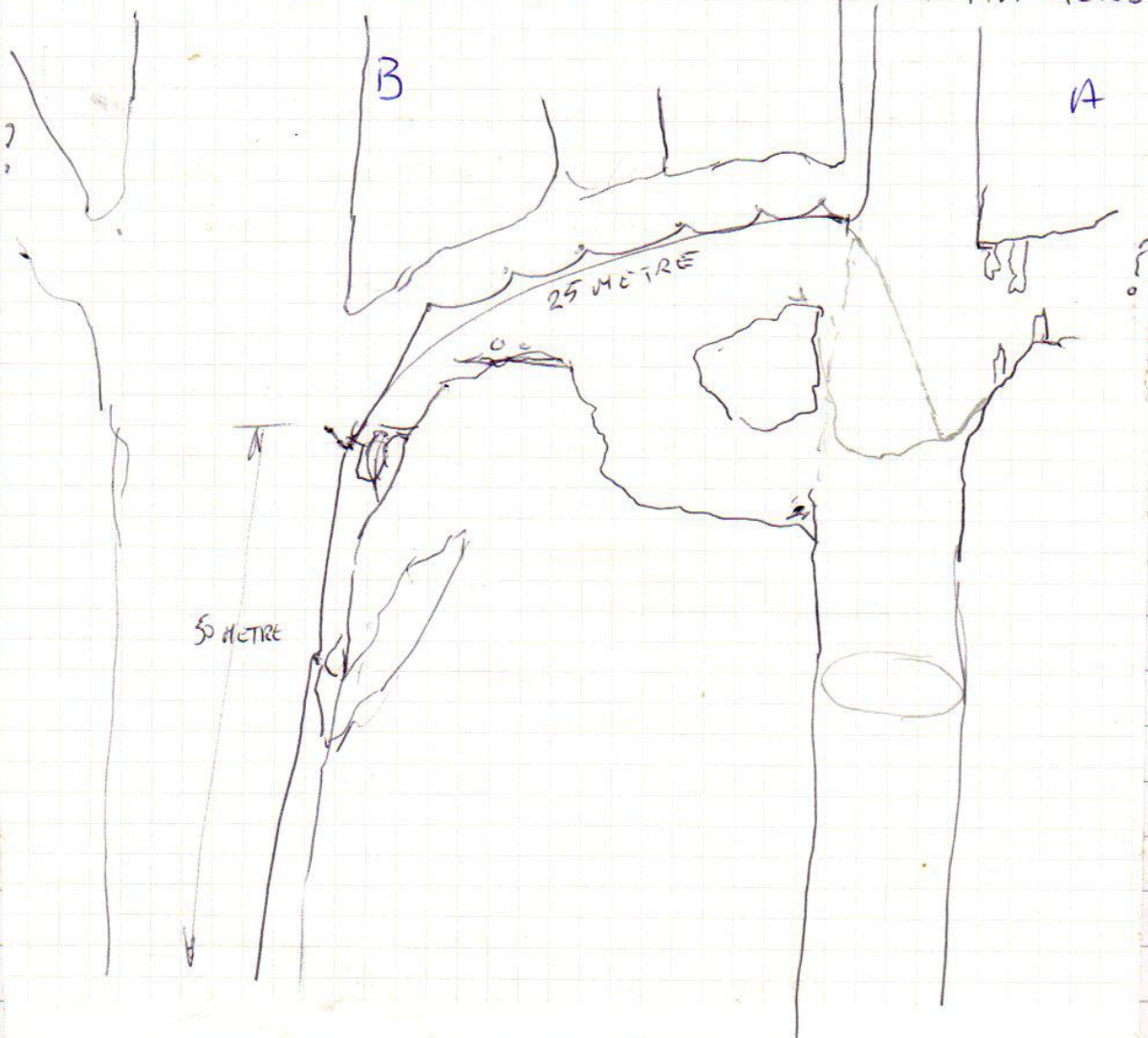
TRAVERSE -
PITCH

25 METRES ESTIMATED

~~18~~ 6 HANGERS

50 METRES ESTIMATED

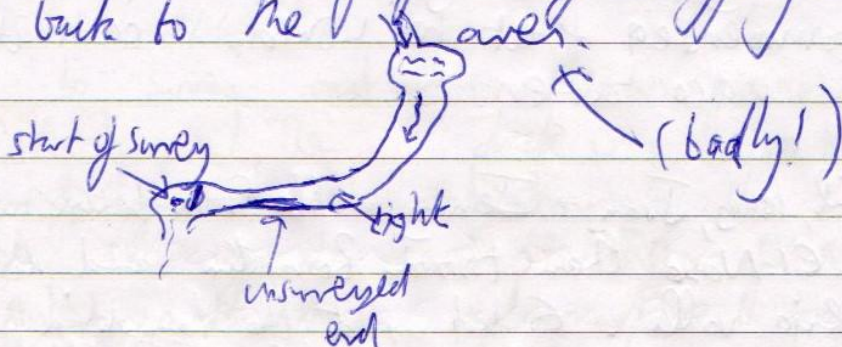
4 HANGERS



6/17/13 :: Woodcutters Cave ²¹⁸³

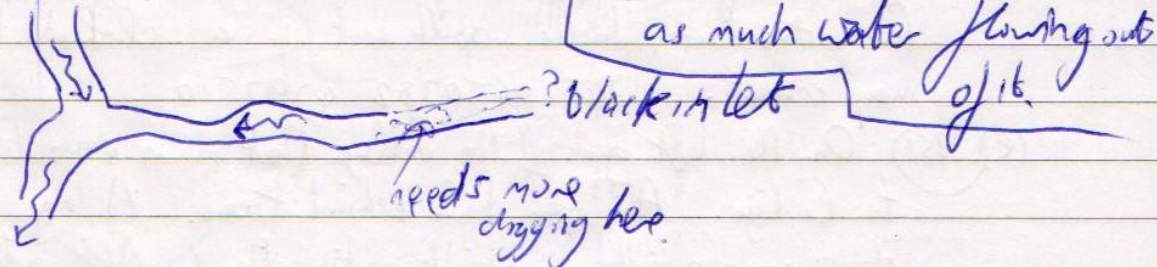
(47) Chris Hibbert, James Carbile

Went in on a very wet day to find huge stream exiting cave. Inside not too wet though. We pushed the passage at the end and a cone to a small pool with a cascade entering. Cascade came out of a rabbit sized hole with no prospect of digging. We surveyed back to the cave.



On the way out we dug Black Mud the Inlet for about half-an-hour. This disturbed some foul smelling mud and we had the amusing spectacle of a brown stream and a black stream mixing together at the start of the inlet. We dug through for several body lengths to reach a contribution that was much the same. Needs more digging ~~but~~ (in a wetsuit) but looks reasonably promising.

black inlet



On the way out the exit had to about twice as much water flowing out of it.

The cave seems to have a passage at the top so needs bolting. Looks like a winner-goer!!
Also NOTE: The survey notes from this trip later transpired to be crap!

Barrio de los Urros.

6/4/13. 3069 Siz Di

Si capped and removed gigantic boulders from the bottom of the sink hole.

The tantalizing gap was widened to body size. I squashed through into a small chamber, a small trickle of water passing but no way on. 2" gap where water ran!

Simon commented that he wouldn't call it a 'chamber'. Short video taken.

7/4/13 Phil, Penny, Juan + Jenny walk from house up to quarry on El Noso then towards Bosmartin and down into the Cubija valley. Ended up at the Panaderia where Hilary met us. Not a day for drought but a few holes documented.

(A) (3847) On main road, uphill side. A small 2.0m undescended shaft 30T 0451698 4797828. 2 photos.

(B) (3848) Just up from previous site. A tiny hole off the gutter. 30T 0451673 4797841

(C) (3849) On the Bosmartin stretch. A tiny 6.5m long rift. But large enough for a small goat to get in and shit ^{near} at the end. Probably a major dig for no reward. 30T 450574 4797364

(D) (3850) Just up off the road, a small depression has a block to remove before entry is possible into a continuing space. A few metres away to the south east is a choked hole which may connect. 30T 0450382 4797510

(E) (3851) On the left bank of the valley that runs down from Bosmartin to Cubija. An open hole behind trees. A large block stops progress into a possible continuation. Not entered ⁰⁴⁵⁰¹²¹ 4797660

(F) (3852) A possibly interesting old rubbish tip/fridge with old wine containers. A badger tube at back in solid rock. May dig if drought detected in hot weather 0450189 4797542

(G) (3802) GPS for dig taken at top of slope down. Hole between rocks. Good dig 30T 0450214 4797023

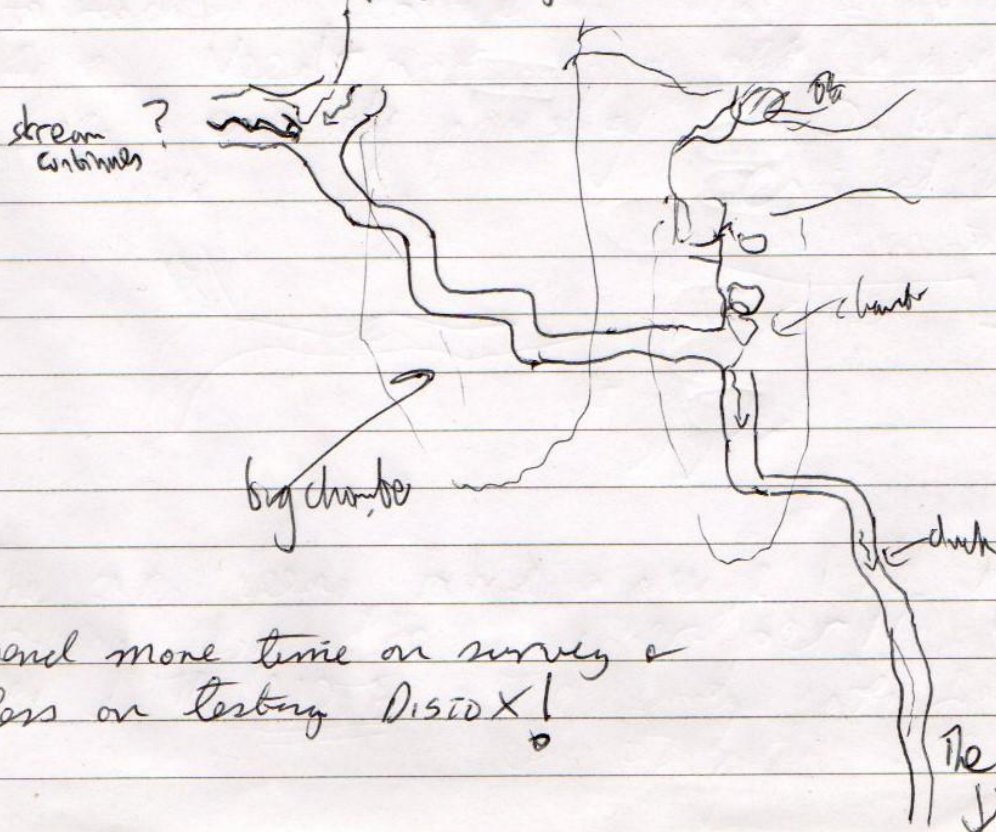
On walk up noticed that a reasonable stream was flowing under the main road at the raised bridge. This ~~needs~~ source needs investigation

7~~th~~ 4/13: The Wrong Disco in The Wrong Trousers.

Simon Grahill, Pk Arbours, James Carlisle

We went to survey and push the new passage found on the 4th April. The duck was ~~just~~ to survey! and ~~the passage~~ ~~straight ahead~~ ~~at~~

In total we got about 87 ~~150~~ m of survey before the ducks pushed in at a junction where two streams meet. The left-hand branch has ~~its~~ been pushed - the right hand passage broke into a huge chamber with a big dark space above. Out of this chamber were lots of ways on in a ~~the~~ ~~simple~~ complex series of interconnecting chambers. Still lots of leads to push!!



Spent more time on survey & less on testing DISOX!

07/04/2013 JOHN SOUTHWORTH, PHIL GOOGLIN, PAUL MILLNER & GORDON PROCTOR.

HYDROPERLA - N^o CHRIS GAMM - HOLE R. (3819)

~~16667~~ SHAFT FOUND BY CHRIS GAMM & CO. 11m 766P, RUBBISH FILLED,
CHOKED AT BOTH ENDS.

MAR 31st

DIG INTO SW. CORNER OF FIELD AT BACK OF FLAT FROSTED ALCOVE IN
BANK. REQUIRES MORE WORK PP GP CC 446689 4796468 (3820) J

NARROW SHAFT IN ROCK STONES FALL A GOOD DRAINAGE NEEDS WORK TO
FIX. REQUIRES CLEANING ON A DRAINAGE DAY.

PP PM GP CC. A FEW FEET ABOVE A FOREST TRACK

0446547 4796367 (3821)

(2768) REACHED BY PP. 12m deep. 0446612 4796433

34m from GPS. SHOWN TO US BY
30th MARCH.

30th MARCH. SEARCH FOR 2768 IN MORNING JS. DM. PG. PP. GP. CC.

FOUND 2 DIG. 0446522 4796387. "L" (3822) 2829

AND 0446618 4796471 DUG THIS ONE ON 31st MARCH, NOW "M"
APPROX 4m LONG. SHOWN 2768 LOCATION IN AFTERNOON

MARCH 29th. SITE 3543 JS. DM. PG. PP. GP. CC.

JOSEPHINE AND EUGENIE SITE NEEDS REPAIR ON A DRAINAGE DAY.
UNFROSTED PASSAGE OFF 8x3 CHAMBER.

MARCH 28th SITE 3543 DIGGING IN HERE LED TO A PITTED INTO AN
8x3 CHAMBER FLOORED BY STAINED BORDERS WITH DROPS BEHIND
TO LOWER LEVEL.

MARCH 27th PP. C.C. SURFACE WALK TO WORK AT TORCAS WITH JANE

HYDROPERLA - 0447116 4796134 "N" (3823) 447181 4796068 "O"

0447116 4796189 "P" (3853)

447178 4796219 "Q" (3854)

447256 4796172 "R" SITE (3819)

↑
Gordon's Scrap Hole
3818

ANALYSIS

448279 4796191 "S" (3855)

448204 4796167 "T" (3856)

448205 4796145 "U" (3857)

MARCH 26th SITE 3543 SHOWN TO US BY ANTER NO LIPS IN HERE BELOW
ONE USED AS A REFUSE DRAIN CUL DE SAC.

SITE 3420 WOULD NAME HERE SHOULD BE CAVED :-

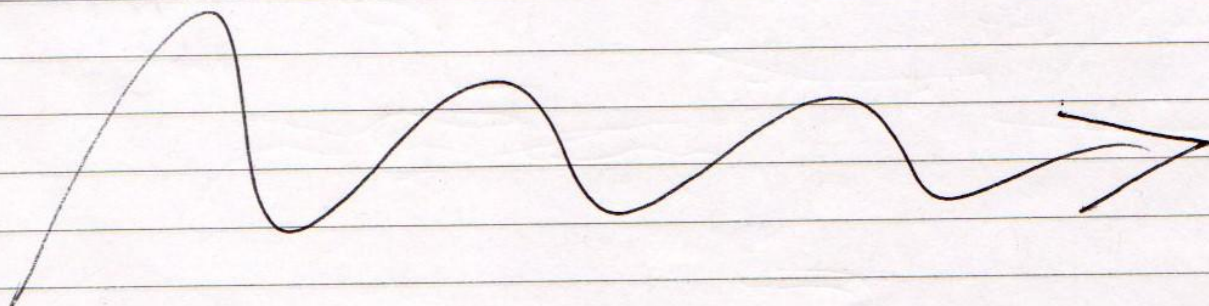
TORCA HOYO CARABO

SEVERAL DAYS DIGGING OUT ENTRANCE CORRAL ANTER PP. TO DUG
48m PITTED TO FURTHER 4m DUG 15m HORIZONAL TO MORE SURFACE
WAY ON?

TOLD ABOUT A TUBA BY A LOCAL, WENT FOR A VERY
IMPRESSIVE ENTRANCE SHIRT WITH SLOTTED CAVE OFF
UNDER NORTH WARE, SITE 3664, SIMILAR WARD BEEN
HERE A YEAR EARLIER.

MADE 27th demands

- 3857 HOLE "J" BIG FEARED SHIRT IN OPEN FIELD.
- 3856 HOLE "T" IN RAK OUTCROPS IN FIELD (ROCKY GROUND)
- 3855 HOLE "S" OPEN HOLE UNDER CLEFT FACE.
- 3818 HOLE "O" CLOSE TO BANK IN FIELD MASSIVE BROWN
CORALITE SURROUNDED BY SHIRT. LOW SURGEON
NEXT TO HOLE.
- 3819 HOLE "P" CLOSE TO HOLE SHIRT BLOATED BY BAGS AND FUDGE.
REMOVED LATER SEE REPORT BY TOWNS.
- 3854 HOLE "Q" 11m DEEP RIFT, APPROX. E-W ~~SHIRT~~ BEDS DIP TO EAST
APPROX 5cm DOWNWARD TO NORTH ACROSS RIFT.
- 3823 HOLE "N" SHIRT DOWNWARD HOLE BUT NOT EXTENSIBLE.
- 3853 HOLE "P" IN RAKIN PASSAGE 9m LADDER DEEP TO ~~SHIRT~~
Boulder GROVE DOWN TO FURTHER HOLE DEEPER AS
BEING 22-23m DEEP. POSSIBLY DEEPER RETURN
PROMISED.
- HOLE "L" ON EDGE OF FOREGOING TRACK "BIG"



Pink Parker Curis canner Peter Mountain

5 April 13 (HOLES A-F ALL ADJACENT TO ONE ANOTHER)

HOLE F ³⁸⁷⁷ SHALL DEEP IN SHALLOWER BEACH TRACK
APPROX 1m DEEP

HOLE A ³⁸⁷² LIFT APPROX 4m LONG AT SURFACE
VISIBLE DEPTH 4-5m TO EXTREMELY NARROW DRIFT
ABOUT 3m DEEP. LIFT ALIGNMENT 340° MAG.

HOLE D ³⁸⁷⁵ + C ³⁸⁷⁴ SEPARATED BY A TIP.

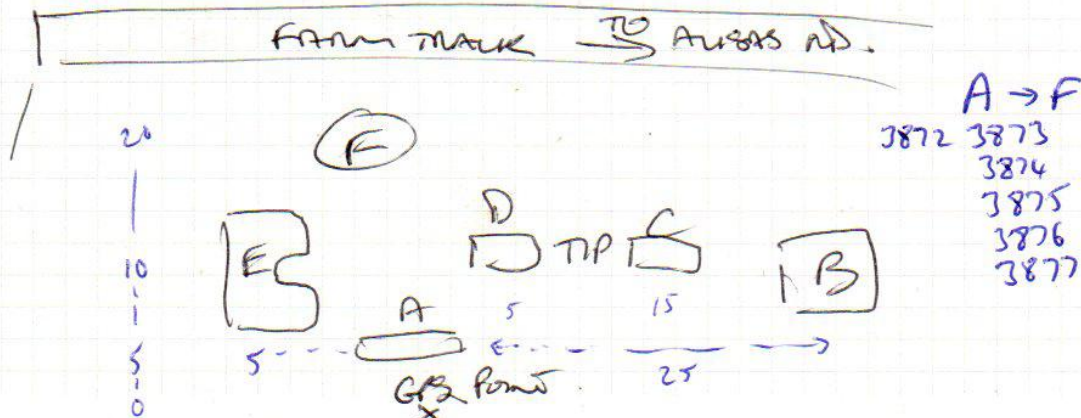
HOLE D 4m DEEP 5m LONG SLOPE DOWN DIRECTION
 330° TO 90° RIGHT HAND TURN. CROWNED FRONT.

HOLE C
4m DEEP 324° FOR 2.4m LONG GOOD MATE
 324° (END) BURNED BY FARM TIP. OFF END IS A
CALLING FOR DISINTEGRATED DOWN -30° 5.8m 152°

HOLE E ³⁸⁷⁶
6m DEEP ON 40° FROM LOW SIDE TO DEEPEST
POINT CROWNED.

HOLE B ³⁸⁷³
DRAINAGE FLOWED DEPRESSION ROCK LANE
NO OBVIOUS WAY ON SUMMIT ON 66°

Draw 1



GPS @ 0448415 4796035

A @ 0448420 4796035

B @ 0448425 4796010

C @ 0448425 4796020

See SIGPAC photo pages \rightarrow

D @ 0448425 4796030

E @ 0448425 4796040

F @ 0448435 4796037

S APRIL 13 CONT

GPS 448304 4795984 (3858) G
COVERED HERE UNDER STAIRS ABOUT 5m DEEP

A FEW METERS FURTHER DOWN Gully IS
CIRCLE OF ROCK WITH OBVIOUS ENTRANCE "H"
AT BASE. LEADS ALONG IMMEDIATELY TO (3859)
ABOUT 6m DEEP.

JUST ABOVE THIS GPS NEARBY (3860) ~~ARE~~ IS A SHALLOW
WITH SEVERAL HILLS WITH EVIDENCE OF BADGER
"I"

RETURN PLANNED FOR 6m SWIFT /
6m (3859) 448297 4795977
DESCENDING. "6m SWIFT" SITE. PITCH IS 8m TO
FLOOR OF STAIRS DEBRIS - WAY BACK UNDER ENTRANCE
SWIFT TO USE OF MEDIUM BOULDERS WITH WATER
FLOWING FROM SURFACE Gully (THE DAY WAS VERY
WET 30 min + OF RAIN) 2 PITONS NOTED NEAR
ENTRANCE. AT TOP OF PITCH A ROCK TUBE WITH FLOOR
SWIFT CAN BE FOLLOWED FOR SEVERAL METERS TO
A SHALLOW? ALONG, THE BOTTOM OF THE SWIFT BELOW
THIS ROCK TUBE IS 10FT UP THE WALL IN THE
CHAMBER THE LADDER LANDS IN. IT IS NOT CLEAR
WHICH DIRECTION THE WATER TOOK TO CREATE THE
ROCK TUBE AND SWIFT. WATER SINKS IN THE FLOOR
OF THE CHAMBER BUT NO WAY ON WITHOUT DIGGING.
DEPTH 11m LENGTH 16m. ^{DETERMINED} 250° - 70°

P. NOVAH, C. CANN.

8/4/13 The Wrong Trousers

Simon Cornhill, James
Cuthrie

Di's knee was playing up ~~but~~ so she had a look around on the surface whilst Si & I went ~~to~~ in to try to find the way in south into the hill.

The huge chamber I had all the signs of being a winner-goer, but unfortunately we were stopped by a ~~con~~ climb up ~~some~~ a 80° mud slope on which it was impossible to gain purchase. At the top we could see a classic looking con but still covered passage heading due south into the hill. It also draughts and has winner-goer written all over it! ~~the south~~ looking exciting for the summer!! Just needs a couple of bolt bangers in.

Unfortunately, there was no other way south, ~~so~~ and we spent the rest of the trip surveying the scummy stuff to the North. We got about another 100m or so, with lots of side passages still to be surveyed and lots of open leads. It's squashed though!

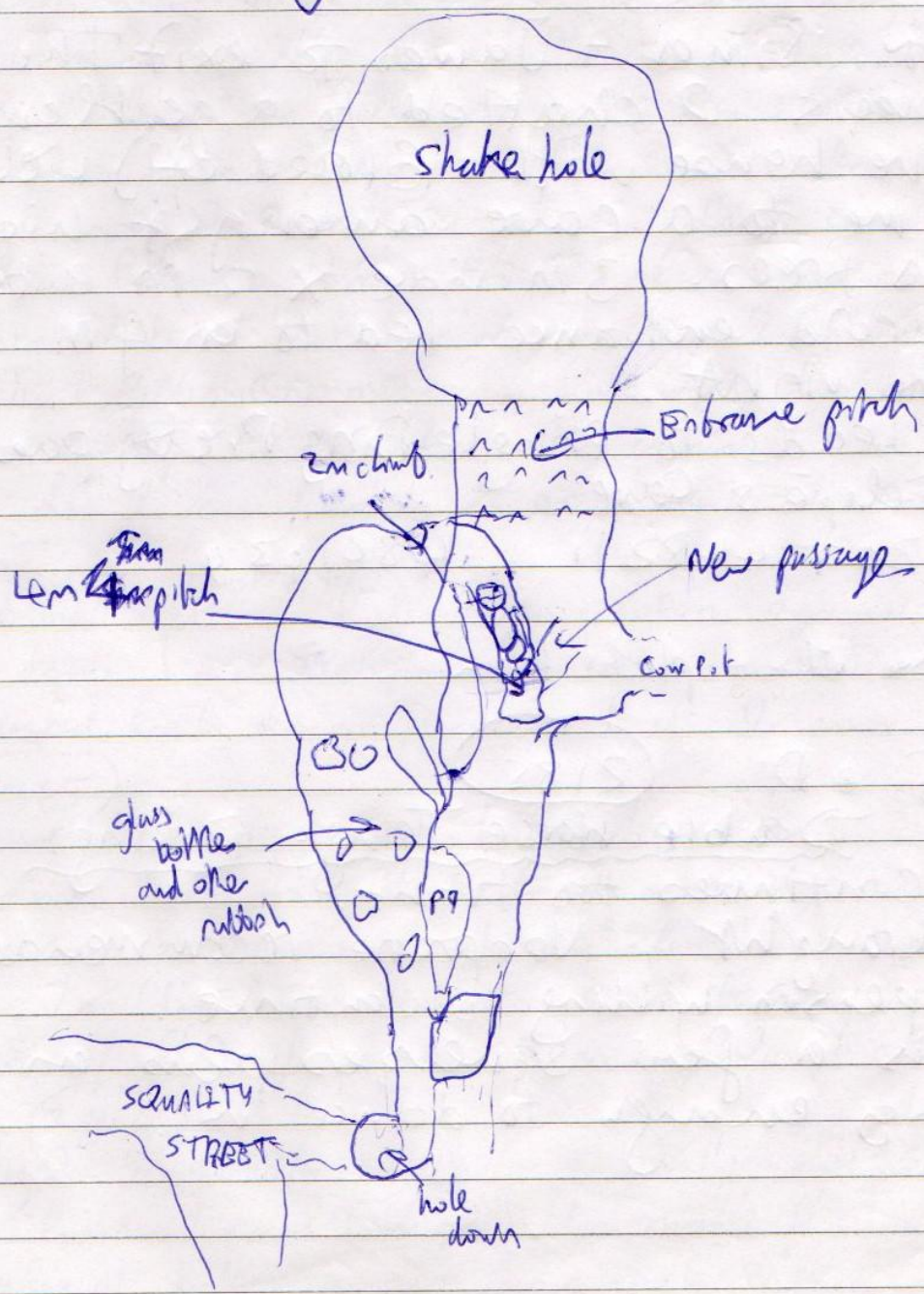


7/4/13

The Wrong Trousers

Si, D., James

At the end of the trip, Si dropped a ladder down the new pitch found at the bottom of the squally street entrance pitch. This went down about 4m and was a bouldery death-trap. However at the bottom he could see a stopping height passage heading of horizontally. However, he didn't dare step off the ladder because it was scary! looks like another one for the summer!



8/4/13

Di

(A)

Driving back from Entrambasaguas I spotted a cave entrance in the hillside.

Close to 3281

30T 447670

4802086 Alt 78m

Small entrance approx 1m. No way on.
video + photo taken. (3861)

Sinkhole behind letterboxes - (vaca area)
looked at dig and around sinkhole

whilst Waiting for Simon + James to exit The Wrong Trousers I chatted to a gentleman living in the house with a (closed off) well. He led me to a cave amongst his eucalyptus trees. 3m wide x 2m entrance a mossy cold entrance led to a 4m rift to the right.

Possibly leads to Pringle Ding Pretty passage

(B)

Felipe's Cave

3862

30T 448211

4801434

(3066)

Some video + photos taken

9/4/13

Si & Di

(2185)

Surveyed Double Horse Trough Rising.

130 m. continues too tight.

Strong draught. Neoprene recommended,

... if small person willing to continue.

2 ducks a few squeezes plus an oven big enough to dance in.

(5)

9/4/2013 North Cavadal area below Torca del Hombre
Phil P.

Walked to area of wood above cabana where John S was told there was a Cova de Hombre (447512 - 479912). No sign of any large cave in this area of wood that ~~etc~~ just down into the field. One large area of undergrowth not looked at. Small hole 3m long 1m wide & 2m deep on edge of wood area (west side) had no prospect with soil mud floor. Then walked route up towards Hombre & continue to Forest below it & back on route higher up but still below level of Hombre. Area covered with a thick layer of soil/clay with limestone blocks & small cliff lines sticking through. Any small caves likely to be filled in, partly by the forest work. A number of caves/dips were found none draughted, but outside temp was 12°C so not a good day. One group were in line below a forest track & show some collapse features. I walked round "lime kiln" or similar found 2.5m deep 3m dia 44712 / 479953. Dig 1 3863 One metre dia hole 2m deep on South side of small depression. Rocks rattle down a few metres. - worth a dig to see if likely to go. 447557; 4799404

3864 448156/4799513 -
V. small rift hole 25cm x 40cm against rock outcrop & some 1.2m deep, may go deeper as stick could be pushed easily down further. But - V. poor prospect!

3865 Cave 448123/4799519 Ent - 1m high x 40cm & needs dig some 2m in (blocks to be removed) will need rope. The cave slopes down at 40° then levels out at about 4.7m (dirts) in a rift. A disti shot through slit at top of this rift read 12m. Worth an hour or so dig.

3866 Dig 2 448059/4799518 shallow rift 80cm x 3.5m high with small cave (no go as too small) feeding water in to rift. Holes at bottom & side go a metre or so.

PTD

(3867) 448026/479513 below
Shaft (dig) Further ~~do~~ along, formal track to West from
Dig 2, Collapse over 2m dia, with rift shaft on north
side below track. 2m x 30m then opens up a little to
stepping floor at 2m & down to 4m to go dig.

(3868)
Dig 3 447906/4799475 Small dig under a rock
outcrop, hole slopes down some metre to dig, may
take some water in heavy rain.

South Vega winter 2013 Pete Smith

1244
0451246 4794639

1185
0451086 4794540

X3 = 1652? ✓
0451011 4794509
Space under sandstone with some small drops

1184
0450955 4794615

X5 (3869)
0450975 4794614
Scramble down to a tiny chamber with a couple of tight slots that drop 2 or 4m. Another two small entrances are in line towards the east.

499
0451025 4794662

0498
0451251 4794631

851
0450909 4794808

1183
0450798 4794678

X10 (3870)
0451622 4794800
Thrust down and along a rift for about 8m until it starts to get too small

X11 (3871)
0451637 4794827
2m free climb to a slot at top of second 3m drop. Stones roll on out of sight.

0857
0451663 4794763

0671
0451722 4794738

From: Footleg <drfootleg@gmail.com>

To: Juan Corrin <uzueka@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Riano and 4VS

Date: Wed, 10 Apr 2013 13:38

Attachments: 0105_Riano.svx(146K)

59

Hi Juan,

I've just processed it to answer 2:, and it is 56065.96m

I've attached the updated survex file. Note that it does NOT have the correct declination values for this year in it yet (I estimated 2.00 from memory, so it will not affect the length or positions of things greatly. But if you could send me the correct values for this Easter and last (I'd like to check I used that correctly in last year's Uzueka data) I can update it.

The bits of new passage were:

- 1) Riano Downstream from junction where Torno Inlet joins, a steeply ascending oxbow with avens which emerges high in the roof of the streamway about the pitch at that stream junction. This is named 'aven_oxbow' in the survex file.
 - 2) Part of the Ghost Rift series. This is off the phreatic upper level above the pitch at the Torno Inlet junction with the main stream. Named 'GhostRift_ptl' in the survex file.
- Both these series are inside the 'downstream' grouping in the reorganised file.

- 3) Some extra legs up the top of the 'Road to Torno' series. I've named these 'tornolinkpush' in the survex data file.

The rest of the data was a resurvey of the main streamway going downstream from the Torno Inlet junction, and connecting up a climb with the phreatic level above to close a loop onto a station from my resurvey of that passage a few years ago.

I thought your after dinner speech text which you emailed out was excellent and well said by the way. For my part I should apologise for not writing up my and Barney's Riano-Torno link pushing trip before I left. I am writing a detailed log report of the trip now I am back from family holiday which I will email. Checking my own write-ups I discovered I also never wrote a detailed account of all my Uzueka resurvey work last year either. That will appear in your in-box in due course to at least update the records if a little late. This year(*) I will be working on drawing up all that resurvey work in Therion too, so that we have a more manageable long term survey to extend, and proper elevation detail which is sorely lacking for the system.

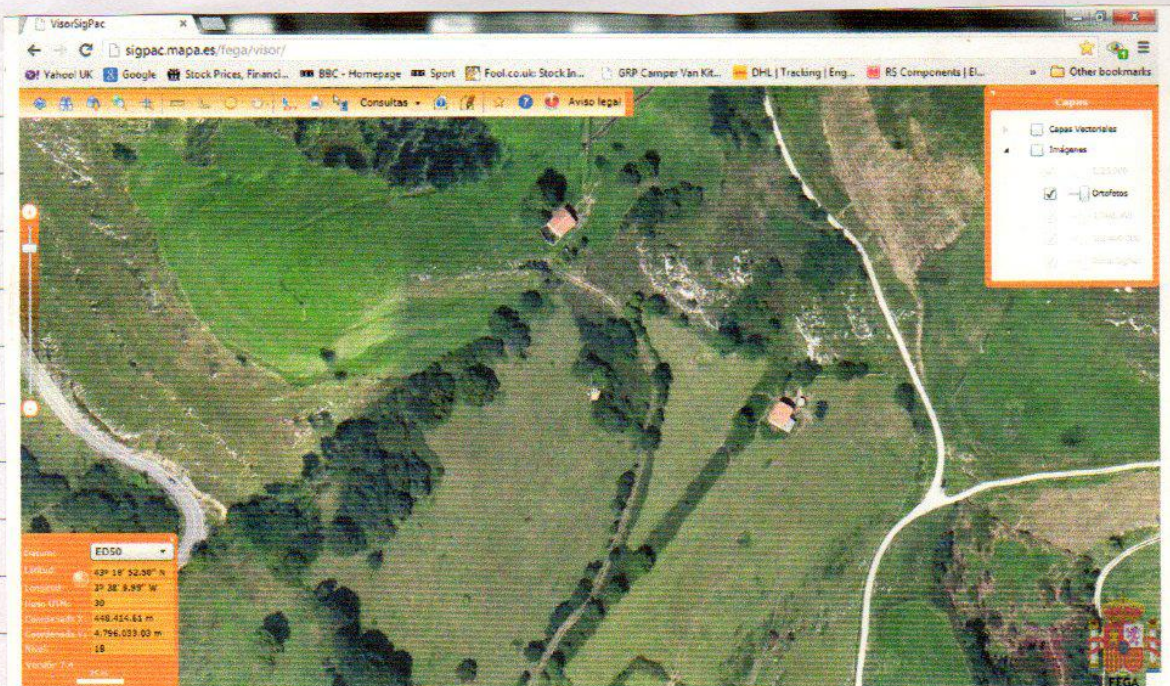
Footleg

I worked those out yesterday:

Overall I surveyed 258.91m this Easter. *in Riano 105*
Of this, 111.69m was previously unsurveyed (and new to me, but someone had been in most of it) passage.
The remaining 147.22m was resurvey of previously surveyed passages.

However once I had de-duplicated the older passages and spotted a typo which had incorrectly marked an entire series as duplicate the actual increase in length of the system had gone up by 274m since the last published total.

Footleg



Juan, Here is a screen grab of the area with the missing GPS location. The GPS location was 448415 4796035. My sketch of the hole shapes and locations were taken from the Western side of the trees looking up slope to the East where the track runs round roughly N to S. All the holes are within less than the 30m(N-S)x 20m(E-W) area shown with trees above(where the gps location is half way up the Western edge of the area).

Sites 3872-3877

See April 5 entry

Texts from Simon Cornhill from 10th April 2013

3286: The dig under the dodgy hanging sandstone boulders looks good. I may return and fire some caps into it. Also the crawl going off from the initial chamber is interesting. If this site hasn't been surveyed I would be prepared to do it.

3166: I climbed down to the round flat-roofed chamber at the bottom of this hole and pulled some boulders out. I also climbed down the very loose shaft parallel to this. An interesting but loose cave.

2949: 30T 448067 4801047 Three holes in close proximity. The left and centre holes connect up in a small cavity. The right hand hole enters a 3m low chamber via a flatout wriggle. A small trickle of water was uncovered emerging and sinking in very small slots.

New cave: 30T 448020 4801046 Up the hill from 2949 a significant amount of water was found resurging from a sandstone slot, cascading down and then quickly sinking into a small chamber 1m high and 2.5m diameter. The water then sank into the floor.

2951: The water here sinks into an old brick built cattle trough and sandstone beneath it.

2958: As described, an uninspiring dig.

3066: We had a quick look at these digs before going up the hillside and finding another draughting hole 30T 448291 480021. This was dug until the top of a very narrow slot was uncovered

Also 3306 - tried to find site which eluded us.

From: harrylong <strans@hotmail.co.uk>

To: Uzueka@aol.com <uzueka@aol.com>

Subject: Easter Bits and Pieces

Date: Sat, Apr 13, 2013 2:40 pm

(61)

Hi Juan,

Sorry for not having got this to you sooner, but nothing earth shattering I'm sorry to say.

RIANO AREA 03/04 H.L.

3880

a). In jungle on clints, not far in from edge of open field, is a well overgrown 4 - 5 metre deep shaft. Needs vegetation clearing to see things properly. GPS 0451383.4800942 Alt 129m

b). Cave entrance a few metres from the track edge and adjacent to the 'window' down to the side pool near the Riano resurgence. This was first spotted several years ago and not recorded. A crawl over boulders for 4 metres leads to a choke with no obvious way on and no draught. GPS 0451323.4800909 (this may be a bit suspect as it is under trees).

3881 ↑ 116m

ST. ANTONIO AREA 05/04 H.L.

3882

a). A well overgrown depression in the jungle with a 4 metre just off-vertical drop to where it looks to be choked, with no draught.

GPS 0447430.4801660 ↑ 98m

LLUEVA AREA 07/04 H.L.

3883

a). A 2 metre hole down in sandy limestone that needs the top enlarging to enter. This hole is close to Site No.3734 which was taking a reasonable sized stream although nothing could be heard down this hole. GPS 0455189.4798180 ↑ 92

The other dates, for which you have nothing from me, were either days when it rained all the time and I stayed at La Cavada or when I came across to Matienzo.

Cheers, Harry

11/4/13 From Fothergill GPS of 2nd entrance to Lenny's 3721
0455444 4799626

15/4/13 Pete and Joan drove to the southern extremity of
Orcana, to a hole that Pete had discovered on 13th.
30T 0454034 4794602. Open hole and slope down into a chamber
with the remains of leather shoes. A 3m ladder drop

between boulders lands on more rocks and a delicate slide down to the head of a second short drop with water dropping down and, apparently, more water at the bottom. A passage should go off at the base.

Over the top of the drop a small muddy hole is seen and this enters the "upstream" series - sandy, phreatic tubes which are sometimes ~~intersected~~ intersected by a vadose stream. Going is a mixture of crawling, walking, traversing in narrow passage. At water level, a small duck is met but this is bypassed by a climb to the high level. The current upstream "end" is where the passage becomes smaller. A weak draught was felt in places. The higher level passage may continue downstream of where it is entered and this is a dig.

Possibly 200m entered, but probably less. It took a couple of hours to explore - in and out. Direction is unknown. The passage winds back and forth.

Not the expected choked hole. Site 3884
Could be heading upstream to sites 2449 and 2450. Downstream could drain to site 246 and then to Jivaro 1, site 16.

From: Peter Smith <smith_peter2004@yahoo.es>

To: Juan Corrin <uzueka@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Risco

Date: Sat, Apr 20, 2013 5:05 pm

3884

Resurgence Sink
3885
3886

Hello

I went back to the cave this afternoon, to see if the crawl on the opposite side at the top of the second pitch went anywhere. Only about 10m to a low dig, with no noticeable draught.

I had a short wander around and there's a spring half way between the cave and 246 - in fact just looked at the website and there's a photo of Bill's with it in flood. Today it was sinking again almost immediately (Not pouring down into the field). Perhaps we could put some fluorescein in it the next time we go in the cave.

Good luck with the Risco survey.

Yesterday Pablo was pacing up and down the bar. Remind you of anyone?

Cheers

Pete

REPORTS FROM PAUL FRETWELL:**Sat. 23rd Mar. 2013****Arrival and Dinner**

Flew out with Cave Ferret from Stansted at a very civilised mid afternoon time. I was concerned when I awoke first thing in the morning to see the entire world outside the windows was white with fresh snow. But it turned out not to have settled on the roads, and the flights appeared to be taking off reasonably to schedule at the airport. Met Ferret airside after a complete bag unpack and rescan at security due to all my photography equipment, and apart from queuing on the aircraft steps in a horizontal blizzard it was an uneventful journey. Picked up a small hirecar at Bilbao airport and drove to Matienzo and then straight to Casa Tomas to join Juan, Penny, Big Steve, Susie and Pete Smith for dinner. Back to the bar for a few more drinks and then crashed out in Steve and Susie's front room for a comfortable first night.

Sun. 24th Mar. 2013**0288 La Bodega, 3721 Lenny's Cave**

Participants: Paul 'Footleg' Fretwell, Tom 'Cave Ferret' Thomson, 'Big' Steve Martin, Juan Corrin

Awoke to a fine sunny morning. Big Steve offered us a day out to the recently discovered Lenny's Cave in Secadura, to photograph the place and start Ferret's bug survey work. So after setting up tents on the campsite (our borrowed tents turned out to be instant pitching pop-up tents which were excellent), we set off following Steve to Secadura. This was my first visit to the bottom of the 4th Valley of the 4 Valleys System, so it was nice to have a tour guide. We parked by the farm and while we were getting changed a group of farmer workers came past, asking us 'Matienzo?'. Steve replied yes, to which they said 'ah! mucho, mucho' making drinking actions and laughing. I wondered if this reputation of the Matienzo community was in any way connected to the caving expeditions over the years?

We walked up to La Bodega and Ferret set a pitfall trap, consisting of a plastic cup buried up to the rim and baited with a piece of steak from last night's dinner at Casa Tomas. A couple of flat stones were placed over the top, apparently to give any bugs which dropped in the impression they were in a nice sheltered cave so they would be less likely to try and escape. I videoed Ferret setting the trap and looking for and collecting some spiders. We then headed up the hill a short distance to the main entrance of Lenny's Cave. This was not on the database yet, so I recorded the GPS coordinates of this second entrance (43 20.78'N 3 33.06'W = UTM (EUR79) 30T 455444 4799626). I then did some photography of the main passage and close ups of formations in Lenny's including a Greater Horseshoe bat.

When we came out the sunshine had been replaced with persistent drizzle, which lasted for most of the rest of the week! Ended the evening with a fine curry at Steve and Susie's.

Mon. 25th Mar. 2013**0105 Riaño, 2417 Letterbox Cave**

Participants: Paul 'Footleg' Fretwell, Tom 'Cave Ferret' Thomson

The plan for the day was to visit all the entrances of known caves on the hillside around Riaño to check for bug life, set traps and photograph/video the proceedings. First a trip into Ramales to get provisions for the week, including a visit the 'Chinese shop' which turned out to sell just about everything from curtains and clothes to kitchen and serious hardware for the home or cave dig. Ferret got all the things he needed to set pitfall traps, including some cheap vodka. We had a fine breakfast in the cafe on the main street near the Lupa supermarket before returning to the campsite to drop off the food and then drove over to Riaño.

We started in the entrance crawl of Riaño itself, where Ferret sampled the spiders and sucked up some things with his pooter in the flat out crawl (which made for some nice video shots). A couple of pitfall traps were set at the end of the crawl, and a harvestman was photographed. We then headed along the track outside the entrance to look at Mad Axe Woman Cave (site 1630) because I wanted to check the survey direction for this as it appears to run the wrong way from the entrance (parallel to the hillside). But we failed to find the entrance and came instead to Letterbox Cave (2417). As it was raining we decided to crawl inside to eat our sandwiches in the dry. That was as far as we got all day!

Once inside a climb down into a chamber provided a very comfortable place to eat and unpack all the kit. The walls were covered with Wolf spiders (Ferret told me these are a terrestrial species). We both photographed a few, and Ferret captured some to identify later. Around the corner down a sloping stoop were a load more spiders of the Meta family (Ferret told me these were proper cave dwellers). So we photographed these too. After lunch I videoed Ferret setting some more pitfall traps in the true dark zone towards the back of the cave. Then just as I was packing up the camera Ferret shouted that one of the Meta spiders had caught a Wolf spider in it's web. This occupied us both for some time videoing and photographing it wrapping up the catch into a bundle of web. I got some really nice close-up footage of the whole thing, and some nice stills from my Lumix GH2 camera.

Finally as this cave had no survey and was quite short, I gave Ferret another surveying lesson and we completed a DistoX/PocketTopo survey of the cave. This filled the day. Great value for an 87m long cave with no formations! Outside in the dark we made another attempt to find the entrance to Mad Axe Woman cave, but despite crawling into the thorny undergrowth at the most likely looking spot we still could not find it. (We succeeded later in the week when we came to do a trip in Riaño. The entrance was completely hidden by the undergrowth and is about 2m higher up the bank than the place where we had crawled into the thorny undergrowth. We did not have time to go inside however.)

We returned to the campsite to find that a good number of people had arrived via the ferry, and had dinner with them all at Bar German. Just before dinner while sorting out light recharging at Big Steve's I was standing behind the car in the dark with the boot open when Ferret opened the side door. I was immediately hit straight in the chest by a fast moving cat, which shot out of the boot horizontally. It did an abrupt turn and shot off into the night, leaving me with blood pouring from a long scratch along the side of my wrist. Big Steve helped patch me up with some sudocrem to prevent infection and I went to dinner with blood welling out along the scratch!

Tue. 26th Mar. 2013

0105 Riaño (Downstream)

Participants: Paul 'Footleg' Fretwell, Tom 'Cave Ferret' Thomson

After a couple of days bug surveying it was time to get properly underground and do some cave surveying work. So Ferret and I set off into Riaño to explore downstream beyond the junction with Torno Inlet. I had never ventured downstream from here, and the only surviving survey data

was a centreline and a published 1974 survey from the original exploration. There are several differences between these as well, so it has been on my to-do list for a while. From the tie-in point in the phreatic upper level passage heading off from above the 6m pitch in the main stream, the first task was to shoot some legs to get a shot down the pitch, and then survey around the free climbable bypass to the pitch down into the Torno Inlet streamway and back through the muddy crawl over the sump in this inlet streamway which emerges back at the bottom of the pitch in the main streamway.

Before we even got started I noticed that a crawl under the left wall of the upper level passage was comfortably passable and I had never pushed it before. So I took a quick look and shortly came to an eyehole in a calcite grill which I could see through to a streamway. There was an obvious landmark stalagmite beyond too. As we started surveying downstream in the main streamway I quickly spotted this same stalagmite up a small climb. The hole in the stal grill was obvious then from the other side. But also above and over the top of the stal grill the ascending passage continued. Climbing up led to a clamber down to the floor of a reasonable sized aven (10m high). Another climb up led to an ascending passage from the base of the aven which showed evidence of previous exploration. At the top a T junction gained a passage which was completely blocked by a sediment bank to the right, but led into a deep well decorated rift near roof level. The main stream could be heard below. Traversing along the rift gained a point where a survey leg could be shot down onto a feature boulder in the floor of the main streamway at the top of the 2m cascade above a couple of deep pools. This point is a little way upstream of the top of the 6m pitch. We can return and close this loop in the main streamway another day.

Continuing downstream Ferret had a lesson in sketching on the PDA for a few legs. We then continued to where the streamway turns into a narrower deep water rift with a duck under an arch requiring getting wet almost to up to our necks. Feeling a little cold after this section we surveyed on downstream until we reached the bottom of a hole which drops in from the phreatic level above. I already had a tie in point at the top of this so we decided to end the survey there. The climb up was bold but manageable and we closed a loop which adjusts the horizontal position of the main streamway below by 7m compared to the original survey.

Once back in the dry upper level passage we decided to start work on the other unfinished resurvey job there, the last remaining side passage with old centreline data but no passage dimension data or sketches in the file. This crawl quickly started ascending a white calcite slope to emerge in a well decorated large passage. This matches the verbal description of the Ghost Rift series which Andy Pringle has talked about (it being his first new discovery when he started coming out to Matienzo). Immediately we discovered that while this passage goes both ways from the entry point, the original survey only goes in one direction. So we concentrated on surveying the other way to add new length to the survey in previously unrecorded passage. There was evidence of previous exploration here with one set of footprints all the way to the end where the passage is completely blocked with calcite flow. The route to the end involves climbing up an impressive eroded flowstone spike which has fallen off the wall in the past. Near the end we found a flat out crawl under the wall gained an ascending crawl blocked by straws. These had to be broken to continue so we knew we were finally in completely new passage with a booming echo of open space ahead. I let Ferret go first as this was his first experience of being the first person into a new area. It was only short lived however as the big echoing space turned out to be an aven (12m high) with no way on at the base.

Content with a good day's work we headed out in time for dinner at Bar Germán. The main way on in the Ghost Rift series remains to be resurveyed another time.

Wed. 27th Mar. 2013

0025 Risco (Arco 2)

Participants: Paul 'Footleg' Fretwell, Tom 'Cave Ferret' Thomson

Having never been upstairs in Risco we decided on a photography trip into Arco Gallery and Arco 2. Printing off the survey and cave description in the bar, we set off with tackle to rig the main Risco entrance on rope. The persistent rain of the past few days meant a reasonable stream was pouring down the entrance pitch, but by wrapping the rope around the big boulder at the top rather than just off the bolts on the wall gave a drier hang, at least for the top half of the drop. Arriving at the bottom somewhat cleaner than when I had set off, I had to climb up into the passage on to get away from falling water which was running off every surface. When Ferret arrived to join me I asked where his photography gear bag was? "Oh bugger!" he replied. Given that Ferret was not getting on well with the SRT having not done any for a few years I offered to prussic back up and get it to save us losing a load more time, in return for which Ferret offered to pay for dinner in the evening. Now I had even more incentive to get out at a reasonable time! A quick jetwash later I returned with the bag which had been left on the surface. We then took a couple of attempts to find the correct way into the stream at a point where it was open in the upstream direction.

Heading upstream it was easy enough to locate the place where the Arco Gallery joins the active stream passage. Actually ascending the steep mud slope into the gallery was a little more challenging. I found the increased contact area of hands, elbows, knees and feet just about gave me enough grip. Easy walking brought us to a big chamber where an active streamway flows under large boulders. We tried to cross over this thinking it was the main Risco stream again, but there was no obvious dry passage on the other side. It did not make sense to me. Next we tried ascending a steep loose scree slope but the passage at the end of it closed down. I later realised that this was the route into the Dambusters series where some traverses head off. Returning to the bottom of the chamber I finally worked out that the streamway was the Pinto Gallery stream, and therefore logically Arco Gallery should go off left before crossing it. Walking back a short distance and looking up the massive open walking continuation of Arco Gallery was suddenly obvious! We had just walked past it on the way in as our attention was drawn to the sound of water in the chamber in front of us at that point.

More easy walking led to an awkward hole which required traversing around. The traverse along a ledge around the lip of the hole was very necky, and required my long legs. We re-assessed the options and realised a much safer alternative was to lay flat out and traverse along the mud ledge up against the left hand wall. Ferret was able to push the tackle bags ahead to me on the other side before coming across to join me. A second hole was passed with an easier traverse and from there it was straightforward large walking passage to the rope hanging down from Arco 2, our main objective. Before ascending we continued to the end of the Arco Gallery passing some fine large formations including big columns to reach the ledge where the way on was via a bolt traverse/climb up the left wall (no rigging in place). We returned to the rope and had a sandwich before I headed up.

Once at the top I set off in the upstream direction of the cave (although these are dry passages at this level) to see the sights. After the initial few metres there were very few formations, and nothing that jumped out at me as worth photographing. I got to a point where a huge void could only be crossed via a long traverse along a crumbly sloping sand and loose rock ledge above a fatally deep drop, or by climbing down a 4 metre vertical step at the bottom of an equally hazardous loose sand and rock slope which I did not dare descend in case I disappeared over the end in an avalanche of debris. This prevented me from being able to reach the continuation of Arco 2 and the Disneyland area which I wanted to photograph. Some rigging would be required

to safely pass this obstacle. So leaving this for another trip in the future, I returned to the top of the pitch up from Arco Gallery to find Ferret was still somewhere below on the rope. He confirmed he was on his way up after an incident. When he reached the top somewhat out of breath he explained he had slipped off the ledge at the rebelay and ended up hanging in the rebelay loop suspended upside-down. While he regained his composure I went to investigate the other direction along Arco 2.

Almost immediately in the downstream direction from the pitch head in Arco 2 there is an awkward down climb followed by a series of bold steps across or traverses around holes in the floor which drop the 30m or so into Arco Gallery below. Essentially the cave is one giant rift here with lots of false floor sections forming the different galleries at different levels. I reached what looked like an impassable hole, but then realised I could step across onto an undercut ledge, and crawl along in this undercut to gain the other side. The sand on this ledge had never been disturbed before, so I don't know how the original explorers passed this point. On the other side there was evidence of previous exploration again. More impassable voids in the main passage could be bypassed by a series of narrow rifts and phreatic honeycomb 3D maze on either side of the passage. I eventually found my way to an impressive giant column covered in flowstone, curtains and stalactites. This would make a nice photograph but I had no assistance or my equipment with me at this point. Some larger walking size maze passages on the South side of the main passage led to the top of a shaft with flowstone and stalactites at the lip, and a smaller inlet passage coming in on the opposite (unreachable) side. I confirmed all these features are on the current survey when I got back to my bag at the top of the pitch to rejoin Ferret later. Further progress along Arco 2 is prevented by a complete absence of floor beyond this point. But the rift clearly continues on the other side in what is almost certainly the Dambusters Series.

Back at the pitch I assisted Ferret in taking some photos in a section of well decorated rift from which you can see the floor of Arco Gallery down below. Ferret then took some photos in the main Arco 2 gallery with me climbing up out of this rift. We then agreed that while I did some close-up photography of the pure white curtains and stalactites in the rift, Ferret would descend the pitch back into Arco Gallery and go and set up a big passage shot at the columns we had seen earlier. Once I was happy I had got all the photos I wanted, I joined him back in Arco Gallery and assisted in lighting him in a self timer photo he had set up at the big column.

We had an uneventful exit from the cave, and arrived clean washed back at the top of the entrance pitch in good time for Ferret to buy me dinner back at Bar Germán.

Thur. 28th Mar. 2013

0105 Riaño - Torno Link Pushing Trip

Participants: Paul 'Footleg' Fretwell, Martin 'Barney' Barnicott, Bill 'Big Bill' Sherrington, Bob Toogood, Dave Gledhill, Tom Howard

Following our Risco photography trip the previous day, Barney had given such an impassioned speech about the value of pushing the link between Riaño and Torno that I could not refuse. It was 6 years since I had last made the long trip to the 'Road to Torno' area in Riaño, and after all this time it felt like a return was overdue. This was my last full day before flying home, so I felt up for a full on exploration pushing trip. Expecting only myself, Barney and Dave Gledhill on this hard sell trip, I was surprised when half the expedition turned up at the bar in the morning ready to come along! It looked to be a fine sociable day out with plenty of people to help push and potentially dig at the end. I had never been in the highest level of the rift at the Torno end of Riaño, having explored and surveyed in the other direction with Johnny and Simon Latimer on their first Matienzo experience back in 2007 when we first found our way up into this upper level. Paul Dold had led a second survey party to the other end, and later returned with Barney to drop a

pitch down to the stream at this end of the rift, providing a bypass to the squalid crawls and tortuous Razor Rift which were originally the only route in. So looking forward to a much friendlier path to the end we set off. A lack of information meant that Bob and I failed to work out which cave everyone had gone to on route, so we ended up parked up at the cave waiting for the other vehicles to arrive.

Once underground a pleasant social trip to the end of Torno Inlet along the endless crabwalk of the Soft Shoe Shuffle saw as all queued up at the bottom of Schoolboy Error Aven. The top of this aven is tight, even for me, so I was mightily impressed when word came down that Big Bill had managed to squeeze through without the need for permanent alteration to either Bill or the cave. Having passed what was expected to be the most difficult obstacle, we reached the climb up where the water spouts out of the wall in the extensions. I had forgotten how difficult this climb and exposed traverse was, having only ever been here once before under the euphoria of original exploration years earlier. The team was starting to lose focus on the main objective by this stage. After some of the team 'had gone very quiet' on this traverse, everyone made it to the Ammonite Choke. I could not find the namesake ammonite this time, and suspect it was not an ammonite at all but a circular fossil of some other sort. Some poking around was done by other members of the group here after I had started on up to find the rope Dold and Barny had left hanging down from the upper levels in 2007. The others who pushed the choke from stream level on today's trip reported later that they had climbed up into various places and found no possible ways on.

From how I remember Dold describing the exploration from 2007, I was fully expecting to find the end of a rope hanging down into the rift somewhere along the easy traverse levels which we had surveyed on our original exploration along 'Quake Rift'. But Barny told me the rope was in a dry chamber above and started looking for a climb up. The first place he tried turned out not to lead anywhere. Meanwhile I had found a survey note written by Dold with a message to climb up here to the rope. So I set off up a calcite covered free climb which started with an awkward step up into a narrower part of the rift which felt a little more secure. The climb continued up again and around a corner out of sight. Expecting to see the end of the rope just ahead I continued up in the calcite covered rift on solid but rather small foot holds. In the interest of avoiding exaggeration I have measured the height from the survey data since, and can state as fact that this free climb continues up to reach the bottom of the rope at 25 vertical metres above the floor. It felt like a very long way! The rope hangs down a mere 10m pitch at the top. While waiting for Barny to join me at the rope I explored an open horizontal passage going off at this level which had never been entered before. It followed the same rift as all the routes at other levels in this area and eventually closed down. When Barney joined me he said that everyone else had decided they were not coming any further, so the two of us ascended the rope to have a good push at the end. I was somewhat surprised on reaching the top of the rope to find it attached to just a single spit in the wall.

The Northern end of the Road to Torno rift turned out to continue wide open, but with no floor. A dangerous step across a hole in a muddy floor looked like it could be bypassed by enlarging an undercut to one side by digging out the mud floor. We had none of the digging implements with us as these were being carried by the rest of the group. But the mud was very easy to dig out by hand with the aid of some small rocks. While I was digging, Barny doubled the security of the rigging for the rope by putting in a second spit. After around 30 minutes I had opened up enough space to make a passable flat out crawl bypassing the hole in the floor. This led almost immediately to another bigger gap in the floor with a solid wedged boulder providing a further section of false floor out of reach on the other side. Again it looked possible to dig out mud from the left hand wall to open out a bedding squeeze, but it was a longer section with calcite layers in the mud needing breaking up. We worked on it for a while, Barny having a good dig before concluding it was not going to gain much more ground for the effort required.

It looked possible to dig up slope in this bedding instead, but meanwhile I found I could reach the same point from back where we started and climbed up to look into the continuing just too tight bedding at a higher level. A crawl back towards the rope at a higher level gained a bigger open space in the rift above the top of the rope. Here it was clear this was part of the same massive rift passage as the section we had found in 2007 named 'Dyslexic Twat Hits the Big Time'. Climbing up further gained more height until what appears to be the true roof of the rift is reached. Around here another too low bedding level continues in the direction of Torno, but would require much digging to enlarge. This point is also 38m back from the closest point between the two caves down at Ammonite Choke. We had a quick survey of all the new scraps of passage we had explored to record the direction and height of the rift at the various points.

We concluded that the most sensible way on would be to drop back down the hole where we had dug the bypass to hopefully reach another false floor level to try and progress towards the end at this upper level. This would require tackle and bolts which we did not have. A return trip will be mounted another year, and we will bring in a long rope to protect the free climb too! We both descended the free climb without mishap and the long trip out took a while. But we arrived safely back at the entrance and found the other vehicles had returned to the bar already. My dry clothes had been in Bob's van so I sat in my wet furry on a seat cover as Barney reversed out of the layby to check with the headlights in case any of us had left any gear behind. Good job he checked, as this was when we spotted the tacklebag Bob had left by the car containing all my dry clothes! At least we had discovered them before driving all the way back over the hill to Matienzo.

Fri. 29th Mar. 2013

0288 La Bodega, 3721 Lenny's Cave

Participants: Paul 'Footleg' Fretwell, Tom 'Cave Ferret' Thomson, Andy Pringle

My last day of caving for this trip, as I was flying home in the evening. The day started with glorious sunshine and I jumped in the car and drove part way up out of the Matienzo depression to take some panoramic photographs of the area. After returning for some breakfast and coffee at the bar, we set off for Lenny's cave again to check the bug traps and give Andy some photography tuition with his macro lens. We were delighted to find the trap in La Bodega contained a number of beetles. I videoed Ferret checking the trap and collecting specimens. As we walked up to the entrance of Lenny's cave I recorded some video of the others walking in the forest to set the scene, and in the process put down my gloves. Discovering this when I got to the cave, I went back looking for them and met Harry Long prospecting for entrances. After a brief chat due to the limited time before my flight, I then videoed Ferret checking the traps in Lenny's which were also full of life. Meanwhile Andy chatted to Harry outside the entrance, which may have messed up the sound recording of the bug sampling inside.

In the main passage in Lenny's I gave Andy some lessons in lighting and taking macro photographs of drips on straws. Some of the straws survived the experience! We then moved on to some curtains. Meanwhile Ferret set up some large passage shots, and as he did not require assistance, I went looking for bats. I did not find any, but I did find a snail which I photographed instead. A fine leisurely trip to end the week and we got out in good time for me to repack my gear for the flight home. As was becoming the norm, it was raining when we exited the cave. This turned to a torrential downpour by the time I set off for the airport and continued raining stair-rods for the entire 1 hour drive. I was glad to be off the campsite! It was still raining hard a couple of hours later when I boarded the plane. When I landed at Stansted back in the UK it was

not raining, but the temperature was just below freezing which was a bit of a shock after the mild Spanish weather.

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT