

10/10 a.k.a. Cave of the Old Mens' Dream
a.k.a Cueva del Bullshit
a.k.a 2/10

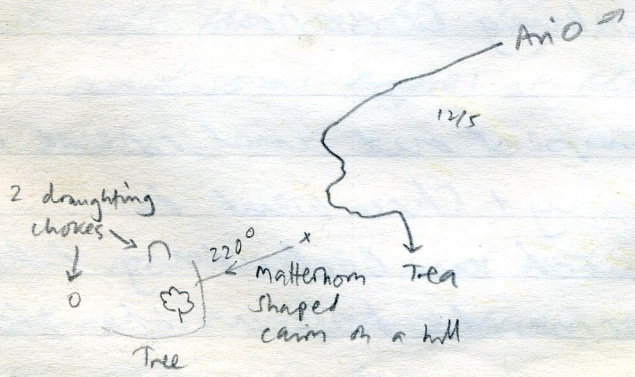
Eventually managed to find the entrance and recognised it as 2/10, discovered by Iestyn in '89 and bottomed by (I think) Dirk and I last year. By the way this is certainly not the biggest entrance we've never found, nor is the passage the size of the 2/7 streamway, contrary to what I'd been told. At least we surveyed & marked it

28/7

Looking for 3/10 Richard.

Armed with Iestyn's description I climbed the green ridge upto Jultayn & there was indeed a big wall over the other side at about the right height. Over I went & down a v. hairy rebecca path. Iestyn's crack lay (gaped?) just where it should have & so I carefully traversed across... carefully, because any stones I dislodged tumbled down at great speed all the way to Corroble in the canal de Trea. The crack turned out to be impenetrable with no cave at all. Was this not Iestyn's crack? The description fitted too well. Maybe he was bullshitting.

On the way back I found two profoundly draughting choxes which could well do with further attention...



Richard

2/7

Paul, Dirk, Chris + Jenny go camping
25th - 28th July

Day 1 Went down to camp without any
traumas, except for forgetting parafin.
Paul had to go out to fetch some. We
spent a couple of hours looking for the
lost tackle bag. Chris abseiled down the
rift at the top of the crash pad - the rope
didn't reach the bottom, and he didn't
find the bag.

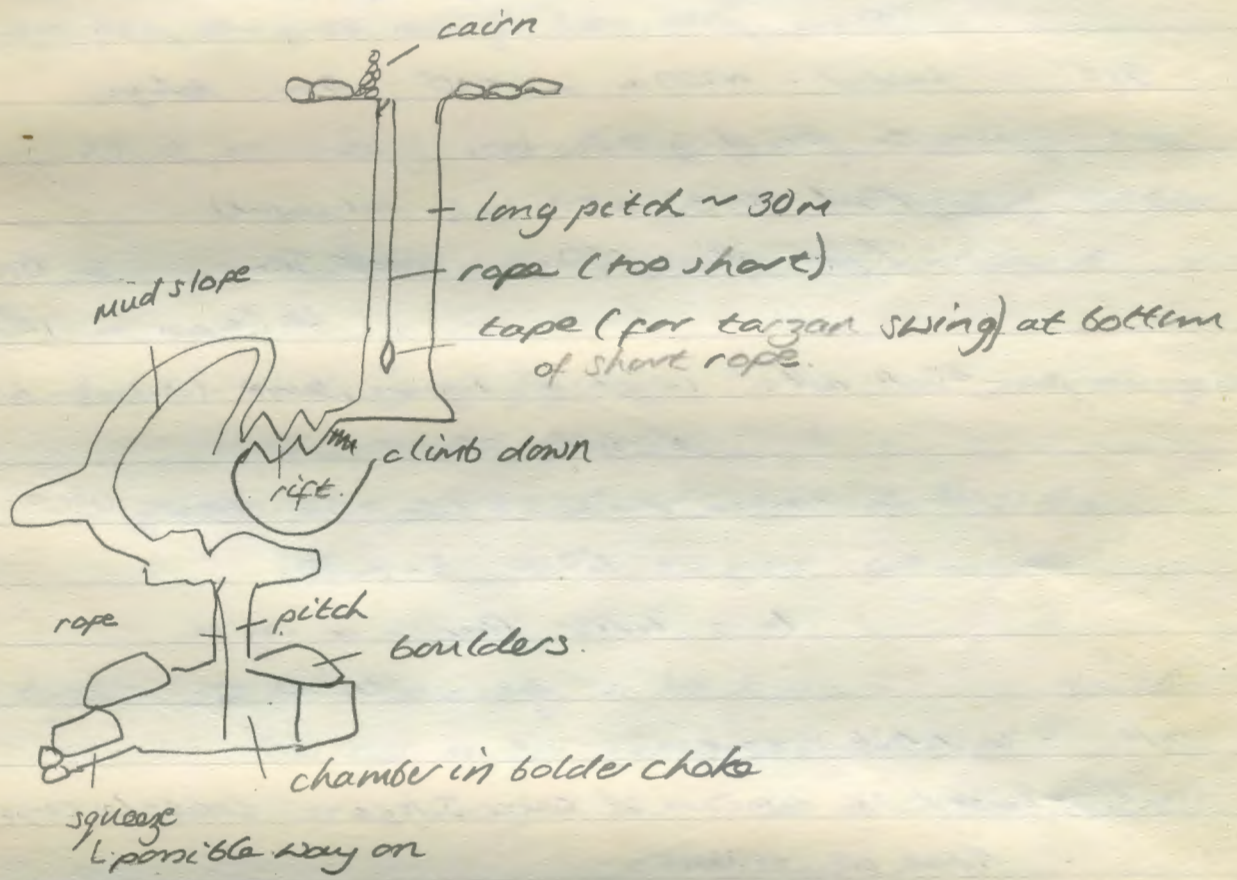
Day 2 Spent the day investigating 'Tim's new
bit' near Egbert. Paul + Jenny removed
rocks and boulders from a dig at the
far end of the muddy phreatic tube (where
water can be heard - probably choke Egbert).
Dirk and Chris investigated the dig, or
lack of, at the top of the climb. All to
no avail; nothing amazing was discovered.
On the way back to camp, Paul re-rigged
the line over the stream, so it's back to the
original 'Denstans Dunking Deviation'!

Day 3 Paul + Dirk wimped out and spent the
day in bed/pets. Jenny + Chris went to
the undescended pitch in bed along the
left hand wall. (from the hole in the floor

with a short traverse line spanning it, would
left up a boulder slope until you reach a pitch
with a large cairn marking its presence)

WE FOUND NEW CAVE !! Although not in a
very helpful place, from the point of view of
circumventing Egbert.

The new bits look like this:



We took rope off the traverses in ^{soup dragon} ~~harder part~~ (the
ones which were double rigged) and from a
traverse line near the top of the ascent into
bad from the streamway.

We left the tackle bag with spare rope, 2 bolting
kits and some tapes at the 'hole in the floor' traverse
in bad.

Day 4 Came out Dirk was ill and slow. Jenny
had a pit in paradise, but otherwise everyone
O.K. Chris, the hero, carried the tackle bag through
the rifts.

29/7/91

Area 11

Paul

Explored area 11, behind & to right of refugio.

Located & explored 4 new caves, 2 to almost certain conditions, 1 with potential requiring major surgery, 1 with reasonable potential with not much work

Also had look at starts of 8/11 & 2/11

(Someone please check my compass bearings - the peaks could be wrong!)

9/11 Located - N200 m on 020° from Refugio,
on second green ridge.

Faint s.c.e. mark (didn't mark)

Approx alt 1630m, Cumbre Jilagoa on 025°

" Las Campanas on 140°

Description - 40 ft shaft (rugged off long wire, ladder (climb down to.), ad climb at bottom)

- entrance dimensions - 1.5m x 5m trending 030°

opening out to 3m x 10m

to a boulder floor - no way on

10/11 - 'Lag de Milla' cave

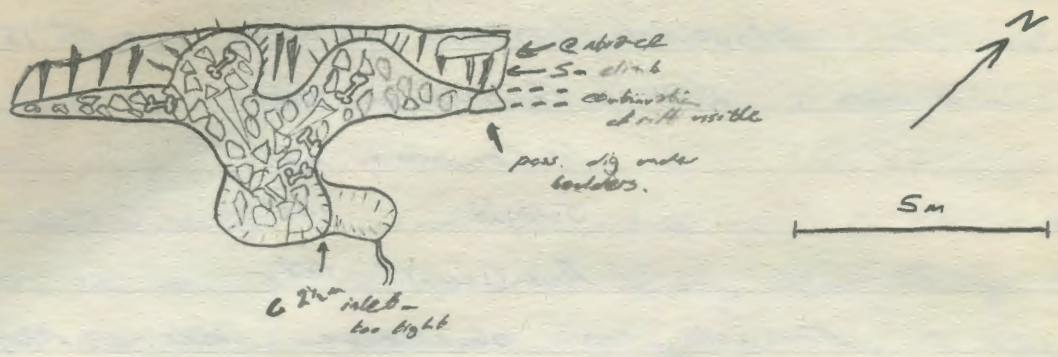
- Located on NEW side of Cumbre Jilagoa, Cumbre Las Campanas on 352°

Approx alt 1605m

- Entrance at lower end of large obvious slab running down across hillside - marked once 10/11

Description - Entrance 'squeeze' through boulders is followed by a 5m climb based with steep leg ladders, to floor of chamber, which is bouldery and slopes towards alcove. No way on from alcove, but climb up 22m reveals smaller alcove to left, with inlet (too bright) beyond. The far end of the chamber has no way on, but underneath the entrance climb the boulders can be dug away to reveal inlet beyond - need more digging to probably hammering, all seems to be combination of surface fracture. Seem limited potential only.

10/11 - Grove 1 survey - plan



11/11

20 ft pit - hardly worth effort - very slippy, with mossy sides.
 possible dig at bottom into rift - but personally didn't bother
 - smells like a thousand sparrows have pissed down it.

located in green grassy gully, 15m N of green path running east
 from Cobetto las Campanas.

Cobetto las Campanas,	~275°	Apr 21 1575m
" Ferris	220°	left unmarked

12/11

Location SW side of same valley as 2/11 & 11/11 Apr 21 1580m
 Same height as 2/11 - clearly visible from 2/11
 10 m SW of green path from Cobetto las Campanas (on 298°)
 Cobetto Ferris on 210°

Description - hopeful looking rift leading southwards soon gets to
 point where minor overhanging 1cm bar across way to
 reach. But doesn't look hopelessly tight - could
 go without much effort; Only one of these 4 cars I'd
 later giving another look.

Also looked at 2/11 & 8/11 - P.T.O.

2/11 - Located to N side of valley containing 11/11 & 12/11,
at same level as 11/11, 50m from pit (approx 1580m)

- Cabezo Ferris on 225°
- " Los Campanas on 270°
- " Juloque 140°
- Arre (sable) 180°

From valley, cairn above entrance visible. Marked 2/11 OCC (entry)

Description - Climb down 3m in entrance cleft to lead of ladder pit (11/11)
(rigged off robot & long wire, bratticed above)

This leads to top of balcony with chamber (gentle slope)
At lower (S.Westerly) end, is a gentle 'squeeze' through to collection
of rifts. Before however, crabs lead off either side - upward
to left, downwards to right, these latter leading down
to the top of a parallel rift that can be descended
down 15m to balconies. Space can be seen downwards
beyond boulders.

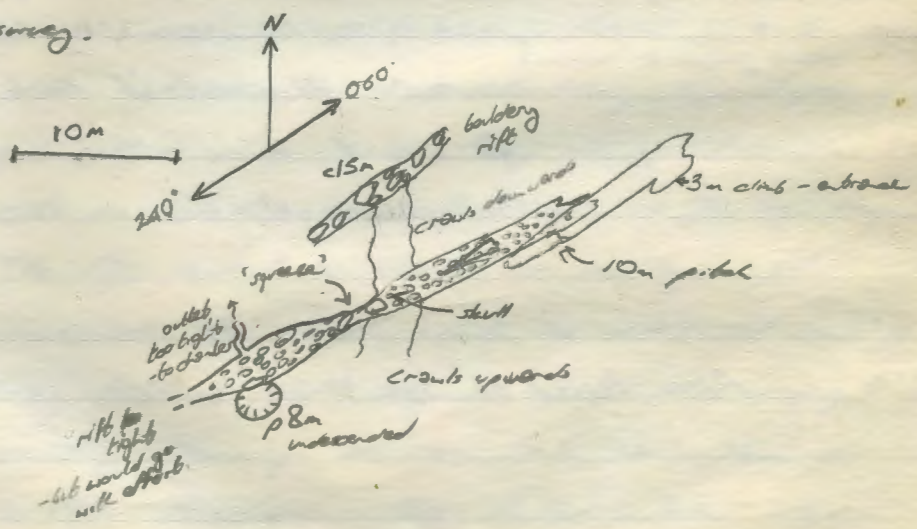
Straight on through ~~the~~ 'squeeze' the chamber
continues to where it again closes down - too tight.

To the right an outlet has cut down into another chamber,
but this way is currently impossible, needing lowering

To the left an unextended 8m pit remains unextended.

- Cave trends 240°/060°

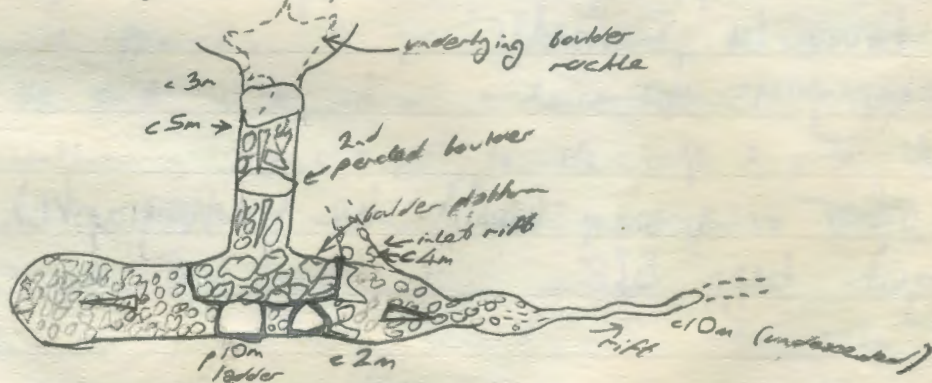
Grade 1 plan survey.



8/11 - Looking at the obvious entrance, anyone could be as optimistic as Bill, but having been down the entrance pit, well, I have to take the role of pessimist and say - it looks tough!

Description - climbing down past the plastic sheet a vertical 5m climb takes you down to the top of a bouldery slope. Doubling back under, crawls lead of into a boulder pile. Carrying on down the slope through takes you under a perched boulder, to a ^{platform} ledge at the top of the pit. The shaft here seems to consist of 2 or 3 parallel shafts, one to the right, the other(s) to the left. Rigging a ladder from a medium wire around one of the perched boulders, a boulder floor can be reached. To the right there is no way on, but climbing down to the left, the base of the other shaft can be reached. A rift leads off under the entrance, this seems to be a partially boulder filled inlet, without many signs of encouragement. But on the far side of the base of these shafts a large rift leads off, very reminiscent of the section just below 'Flying Reckles'. Several routes are possible here, but the most obvious is following the widest part of this rift up an ascending slope in cream coloured rock, up to where it meets the ceiling, where a fairly sizable climb downwards descends - this appears to be ~ 10m, may be more - there seems to be nothing here really to stop progress.

8/11 - Grade 3 - plan



Hammered the bottom rift with little success. The top of the rift can be followed until you can nearly see round the corner. The bottom is slightly more hopeful but demands a committing move which I didn't fancy. Exited very slowly, feeling completely wiped out.

Derigging Plan

- 1/8 - 4/8 Penultimate camp. DJM, ADS, DRB, A@B. Bring out anything which the final camp doesn't need and which can't be left underground until next year.
- 4/8 Derigging camp goes down. CFW, JEV + Z.
- 5/8 Camp moved back to Big Ledge.
- 6/8 Detackle out from Big Ledge. Z people to come down from surface to help. Aim to derig most of the way up the shaft.
- 7/8 Team of ~5 people to finish derigging shaft and bring out all tackle bags.
- 9/8 Derig through rifts, all available people.
- 10/8 - 12/8 Carry gear down hill.
- 13/8 Beach party.
- 14/8 Drive to Santander.
- 15/8 Ferry sails.

All other caves should be photographed, surveyed & derigged by 5/8.

66/5 Richard William Tim

William & I went over to the 'Valley of the dry Bones' to dig one of the draughting chokes. We got only as far as tying a rope to a boulder when we both went off looking for entrances near this most-promising-of-valleys.

Bill almost immediately found a hole and I went through the first squeeze in my shorts to be able to see enough to see that it went. We skipped back to Anio to get the essential ingredients for a 1991 Picos push - SRT gear, hammer, crowbar, Tim. We left the trowel behind.

The cave has an idiotic entrance, a 1m hole at waist height which has a 7m climb down to the first squeeze, which is immediately followed by the second. Both are easy. The .25 m pitch is rigged on a Y and is smashing. It lands in a big chamber from which issues a tiny meandro. Tim inserted himself into this, armed with a hammer. For the next 2 hours the rift resonated to the merry sound of hammering banging fitting & swearing. Much later, after a prolonged pause, Tim re-appeared. 'It goes' he said & we were content. At the end is a 10 m undescended pitch, with the passage continuing. Passages to the left & over the top were not explored but a passage to the right led Tim to a chamber with a midgirt rift. The horrible rift could be eased with hammering & chiseling if the cave were to go (subjunctive mood). This isn't the Big One - could it be the Little One?

Richard

PTO for grade 1 survey

Route 66, Grade 1 Survey. L. Placey

