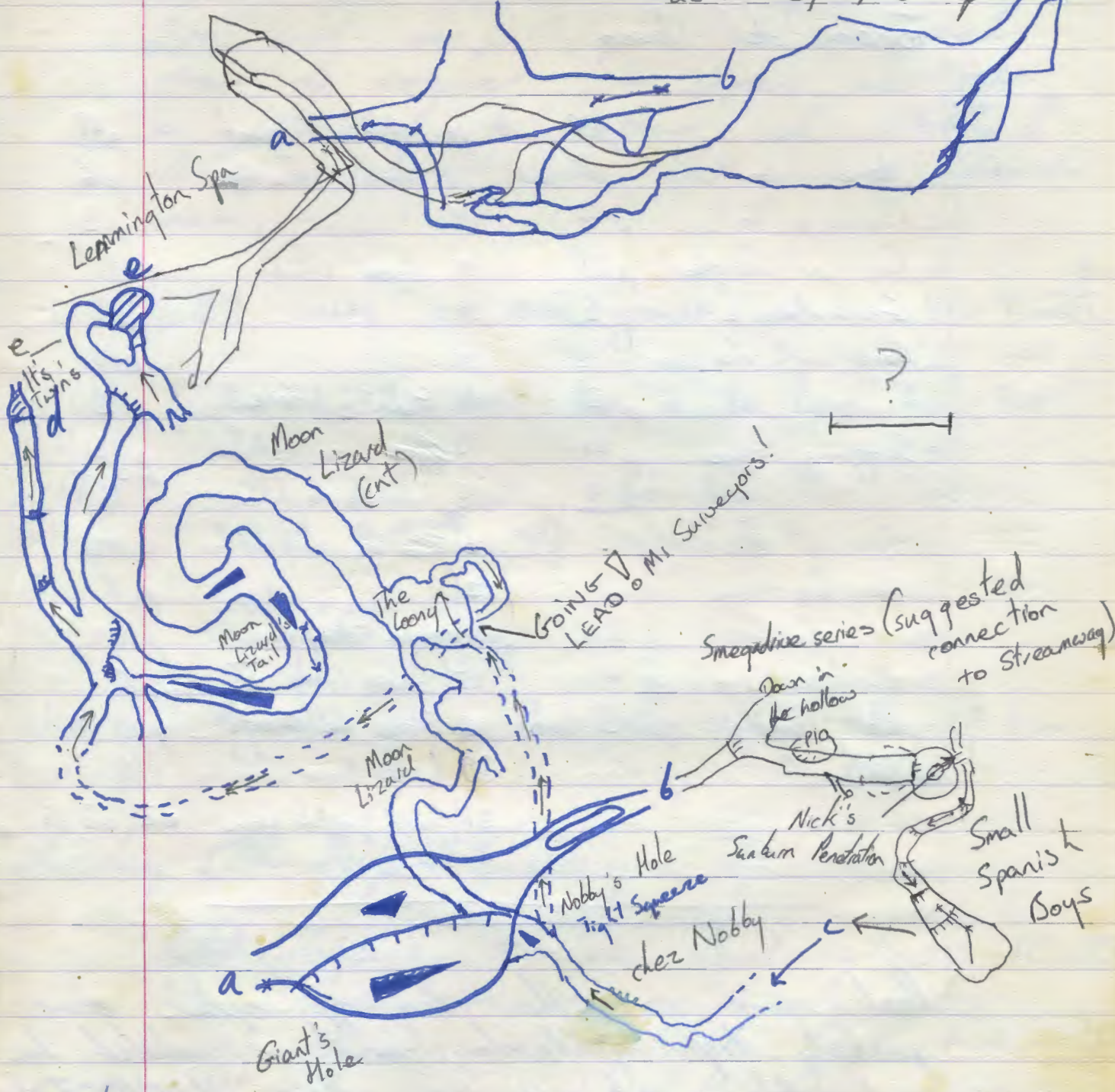


# Bottom of Torca del Vasco Grade I/II as at 15/08/96 trip



(82)

Friday 16th August: - 8

Torca del Casco,

Spanish Series

- |  |      |  |                          |
|--|------|--|--------------------------|
| 1.   | p 28 | 16. Another Planet                                   | p 19                     |
| 2. Here a bolt?                              | p 14 | 17. Another Fine Mess                                | p 16                     |
| 3. There a bolt?                             | p 7  | 18.  | p 3                      |
| 4. Red for danger                            | p 24 | 19. Loped Climb                                      |                          |
| 5. Grandma's                                 | p 5  | 20.  | p 5                      |
| 6. Gone with the gear                        | p 28 | 21.  | p 10                     |
| 7.   | p 7  | 22. Giant's Hole                                     | p 5                      |
| 8. Shopping bags                             | p 40 | 23. <del>There</del> Lizard's Tail                   | p 15                     |
| 9.   | p 9  | 24. Easy Curry                                       | p 5                      |
| 10. Open all <del>ours</del> <sup>ours</sup> | p 3  | 25. Down <del>to</del> <sup>to</sup> the hollow      | c 10                     |
| 11. The Big Sleep                            | p 15 | 26. <del>There</del> <sup>There</sup> the shall walk | c 15                     |
| 12. (ladder)                                 | p 8  | 27. In Glorious Mud                                  | p 8                      |
| 13. Lucky B                                  | p 4  | (Non Fiction Caving)                                 | p 6                      |
| 14. Bolt Farming                             | p 15 | 28. Easy Curry II                                    | c 8                      |
| 15. Another Girl                             | p 10 | 29. Stone the Giants                                 | p 10                     |
|  |      | 30. In their Brown Cars                              | p 10                     |
|  |      | 31. Small Spanish Boys                               | c 2, c 3, c 4, c 7, p 20 |

Paul gave us the day off after our pushing trip yesterday, and so whilst he and Alex set off on their MAMMOTH surveying trip (Lemington Spa, It's Twins, Chez Nobby & Small Spanish Boys) the rest of us remained on the surface. Nobby & Bill close to carry rope downstairs this afternoon, Andy sun-bathed & sewed and I sun-bathed and started the washing. Having concluded that writing in French

is a little impractical, I shall save my French for guided tours of "Lemington Spa" and au fait que je suis en train de cuisiner le repas du soir en attendant le retour de Nobby & Dill, un bon verre de jaune dans la main.

Bill wants a rina grande with his lentil burger...

NICK  
BILL  
NOBBY  
NICK

- How do they make them in the lower, then, Bill?
- What, girls?
- They mine them, don't they?
- No, that's in the valleys...

On guitar playing...

Nick: 'My mate reckons Paul Weller stole a gift off him...'

<sup>ps</sup> Saturday 17th August: Day - 7

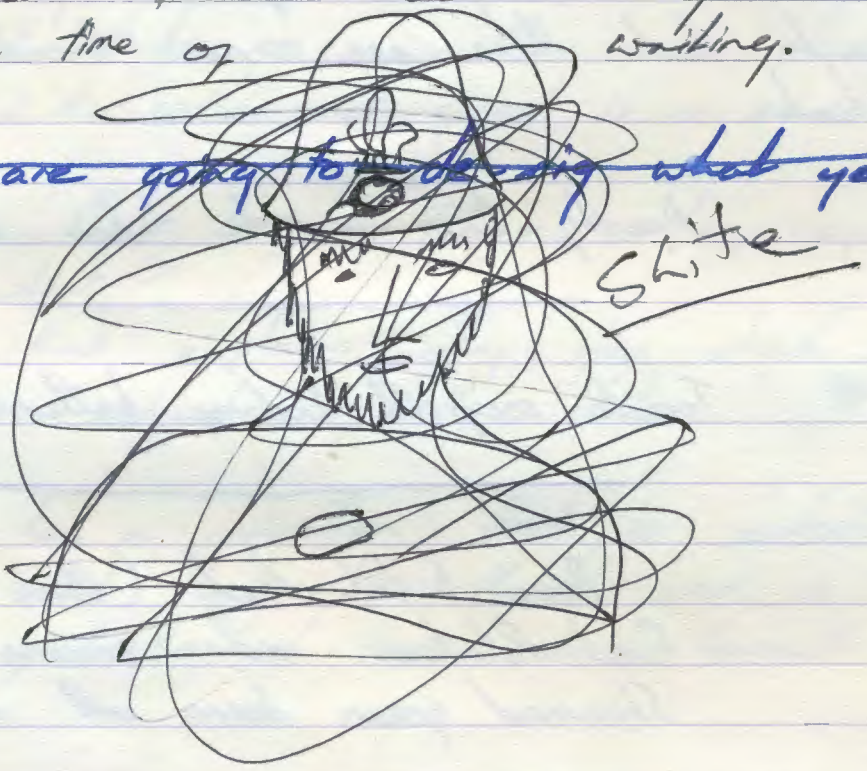
~~But~~ Glorious sunrise. Paul returns 10.00. Alex returns some time afterwards after exiting with no light, but OUR FUCKING BREN KIT, BASTARD!!! 62 legs surveyed. Ties bien, Merit Mark. Forgot chez Nobby but remembered los pequeños rinos españoles, Muy muy bien.

Sunday 18th August Day - 6

TPST: 12h30 Partis vers midi hier, rentrés peu après minuit. Torco del Vasco deséquipé entièrement malgré les reticences de Nobby. Parti pisser un coup au fond de Vasco. Fini par pisser trois fois et sorti 500m de corde et deux grand-mères. Manque de rechaud m'a fait chier, mais on a quand-même réussi un très bon plat de nouilles aux champignons avec moules cuit au meta. On est très fier de nous. Il est aussi <sup>possible</sup> que ~~le~~ OUCG est compatible avec la speleo light, Dndy ayant découvert le descendeur simple avec skip DMM autalock. Je n'aime pas les grand-mères, j'aime encore moins les porter. Dudley rest pas un brave car que ses kids se sont bien que pour chier dedans. Ceux qui sont restés à la surface aujourd'hui, surtout

celui qui nous a volé notre recharge,  
sort ~~des~~ des CUNTS. However harsh this  
may seem, such was the general opinion  
at the time of writing.

~~"You are going to decide what you do."~~



Lying in the sun surrounded by the rope  
and tackle hauled out of Vasco yesterday  
and clouded by a thunder storm in the  
night, I find myself with time to mull over  
how perfectly the expedition might end. Today  
being Sunday we have a full 5 days before  
we are due back in Oxford. It is my  
belief that if everyone manages one down-  
up today the remainder of top camp  
can be carried downstairs tomorrow. I  
do not consider this impossible. This would  
allow us a fine meal and cider rest  
at top camp / Ario refuge this evening  
followed by a further bout of  
rest at Los Lagos tomorrow

(86)  
evening. To this end I am preparing the menu for tonight's Top Camp Banquet row. The menu being as follows, allowing for the fact that there are no bread rolls or steaks.

Aperitif - Atris to be taken at sunset.

Tomato soup with knob of butter & Bread rolls

Prime british steak (More lentil burgers)  
Fried potatoes with onions & garlic  
Steamed green beans with courgettes

Peaches with cream and  
chocolate-brandy meringues

Coffee & mints.

The alternative being re-heated pasta, was stop less than appreciated by the returning de-riggers.

My time-scale for the next few days, although ambitious would if successful allow for a full two days of leisure before the long drive back to Oxford. Yes, Tuesday & Wednesday spent on the beach, shopping or frequenting larger bottles. Two whole days of small spanish beer

or middle-aged spanish shower depending on one's persuasion. A fitting end to an outstanding expedition and all that "legend" bollocks. Oh, let it be so..... Oh such a perfect day I'd rather not spend it on a bolt & back-up.

Andy: "Cola Cao makes you waterproof."

Nobby: "You what?....."

"Ah, that explains why you drink such ludicrous amounts of the slite..." \*

Nobby has a conviction ~~that~~ for molesting small girls and that Lou Reed was a ~~cover~~ <sup>man</sup> with geological tendencies based on the lines:

"You are going to de-rig what you rig."  
(reap) (sow)

"You just keep me hanging on."  
(Perfect Day)

Does anyone else but Nick write in this book at the moment? (see last nine pages for confirmation...)  
And lets stop all this French nonsense, eh?  
Its not big and its not clever. fuck it!

Nick: "Are you pleased with Vasco?"

Paul: (pause)... Yes - Mahahahaha! Dont quote me on that...."

\* Bill (some hours later) "Waterproof.....?"

88  
END

Monday 19th August & Day - 5

Monster carry downstairs. Everybody's gone down with a first load. Back soon for a second. Paul does not lack motivation and has offered to carry me down the hill in the stretcher with the green tent on his back, running all the way.