

21  
Sun 17<sup>th</sup> Smokey & George - cont'd P99

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July.

Photo Trip :- Phil R. Andy Markin H.

Smooth trip without any cock ups  
(Bar Markin absiding of a short length of rope  
on pitch after 15 Messory, + myself struck again  
in Mander of The Argonauts) Took my photos down to  
bottom of Michael 3 trying out many  
exciting poses. One out at 7pm now  
very varied about George + Smokey.

P99 - With the news of the cane ramping, 8-  
miles & I decided upon an exploration. Went into  
cane on Sunday at about 1400 hrs, took about  
3 hrs to reach dream river. From here on it  
was all new ground. We found the route without  
much trouble. Decided against putting a line on  
the last ladder pitch - space was restricted

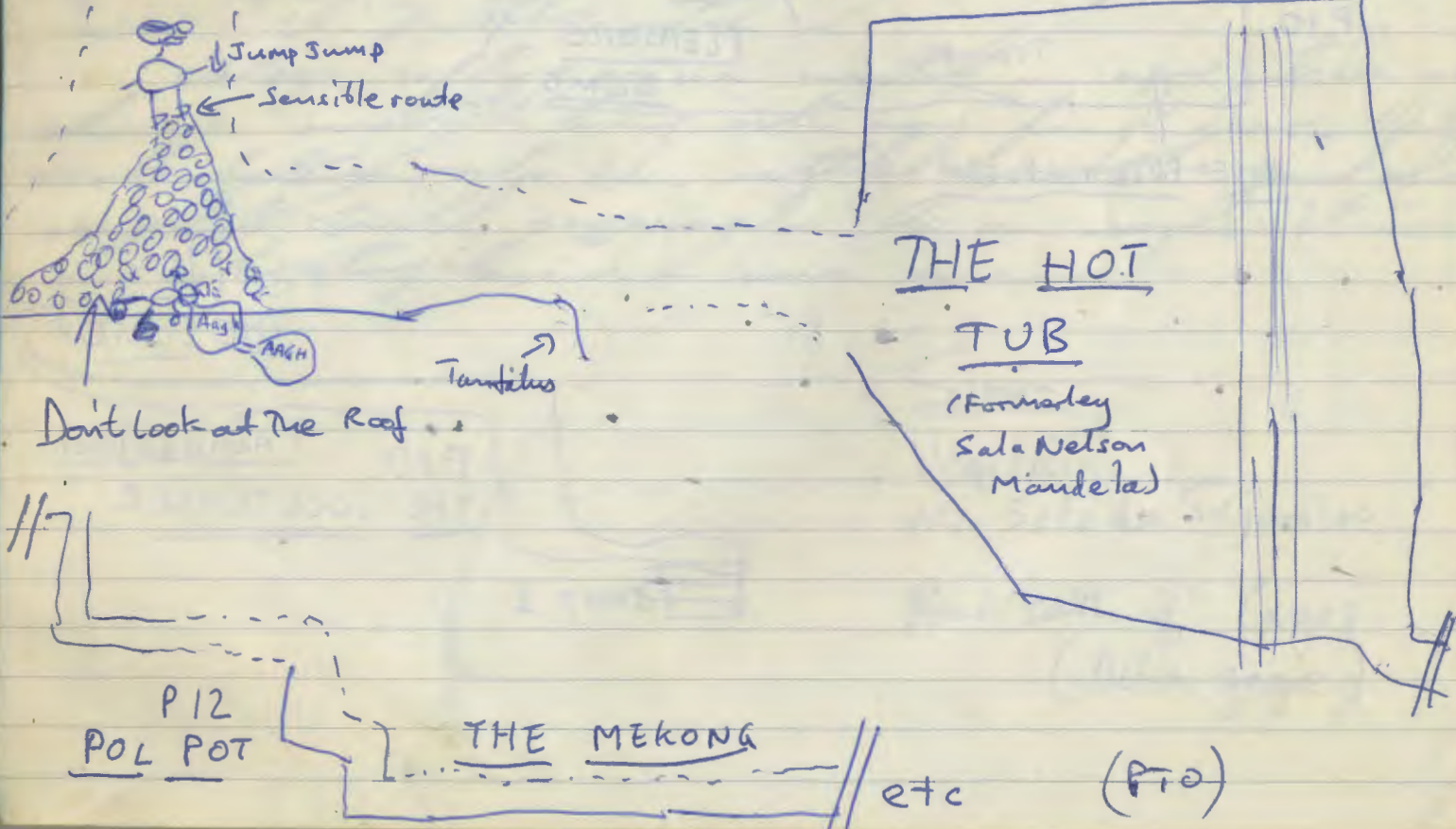
enough as it was. We didn't board the last pitd  
due to a lack of gear.

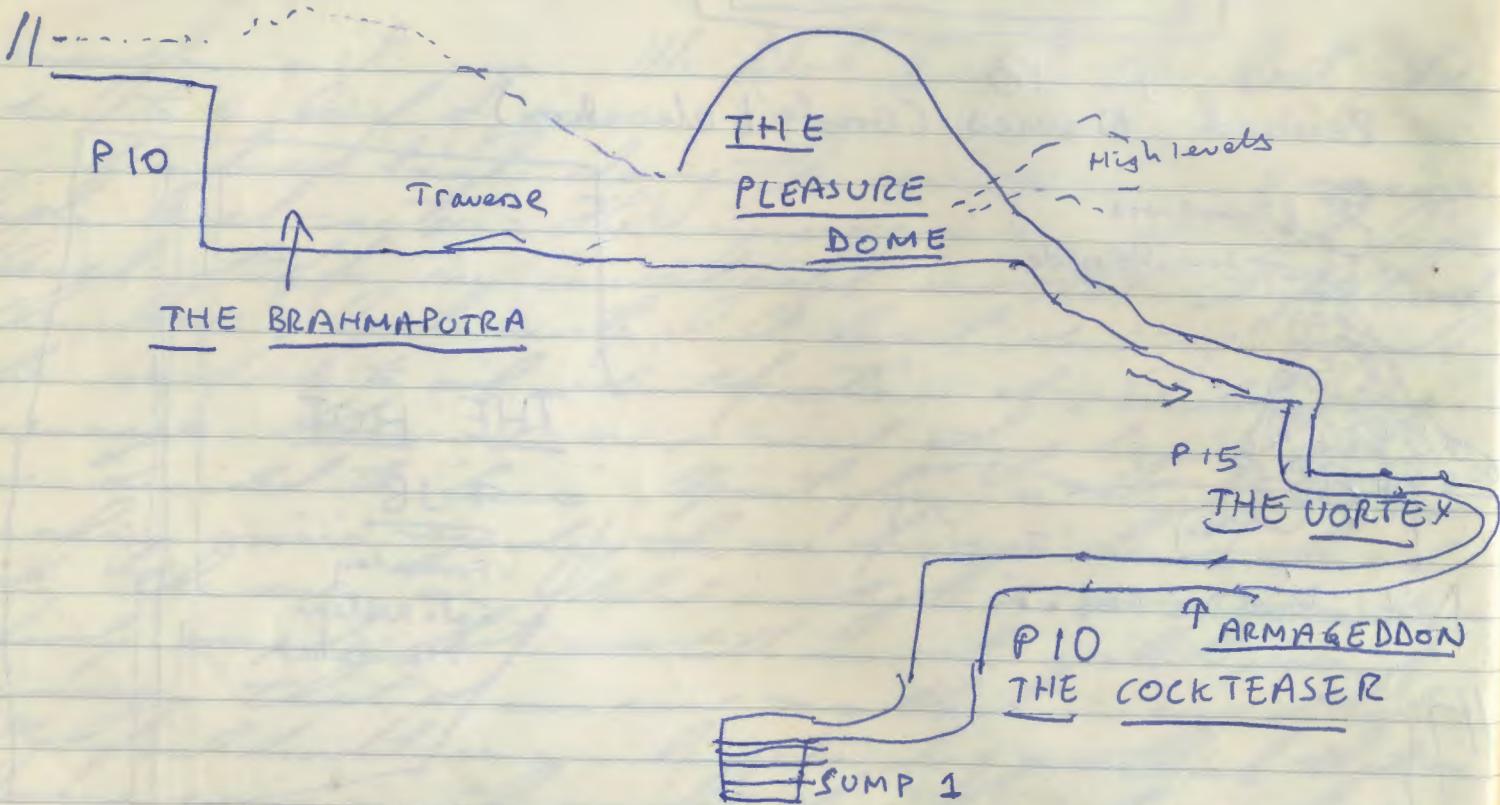
Wandered back along the cave examining various  
high level routes. The impression on all the high  
level stuff we investigated was that it followed  
the low level route. A decent survey would  
be useful to aid identification of possible going  
passage. However, our real story begins when  
we decided to 'leave'. Apart from a slight decision  
making crisis regarding the use of a rope near the end  
of the cave, we didn't investigate it; our route out was  
fairly simple. That was till we met a short piece of  
passage that I can now recall in any detail.

My first doubt came when Dan had questioned that we  
were going in the right direction. I'm honest  
doubt set in all rapidly. To cut a long story  
short, we couldn't find the way on. I don't  
consider that we were lost, but I will admit



Revised Names (Grade / elevation)





that we couldn't find the way on. This was in spite of the fact that we were certain that we were near the Fautalos pitch.

Asleep calling as we waited on airy pitches, we chose a suitable living site very high up. With rocks between ribs, we settled down to a good sleep complete with goose-pimple. As an exercise it was an interesting exercise in cave survival.

Simon

Vegaña

nr. Soto de Sajambre

Road south of Cangas  
(Dora gorge)



26

CARES.

Sarcada Blanca Δ Robliza.

Travesos? Δ

Pena Santa Δ

Vega Huerta ●

Verde. Δ

EL Frade. ●

Vega bano. ●

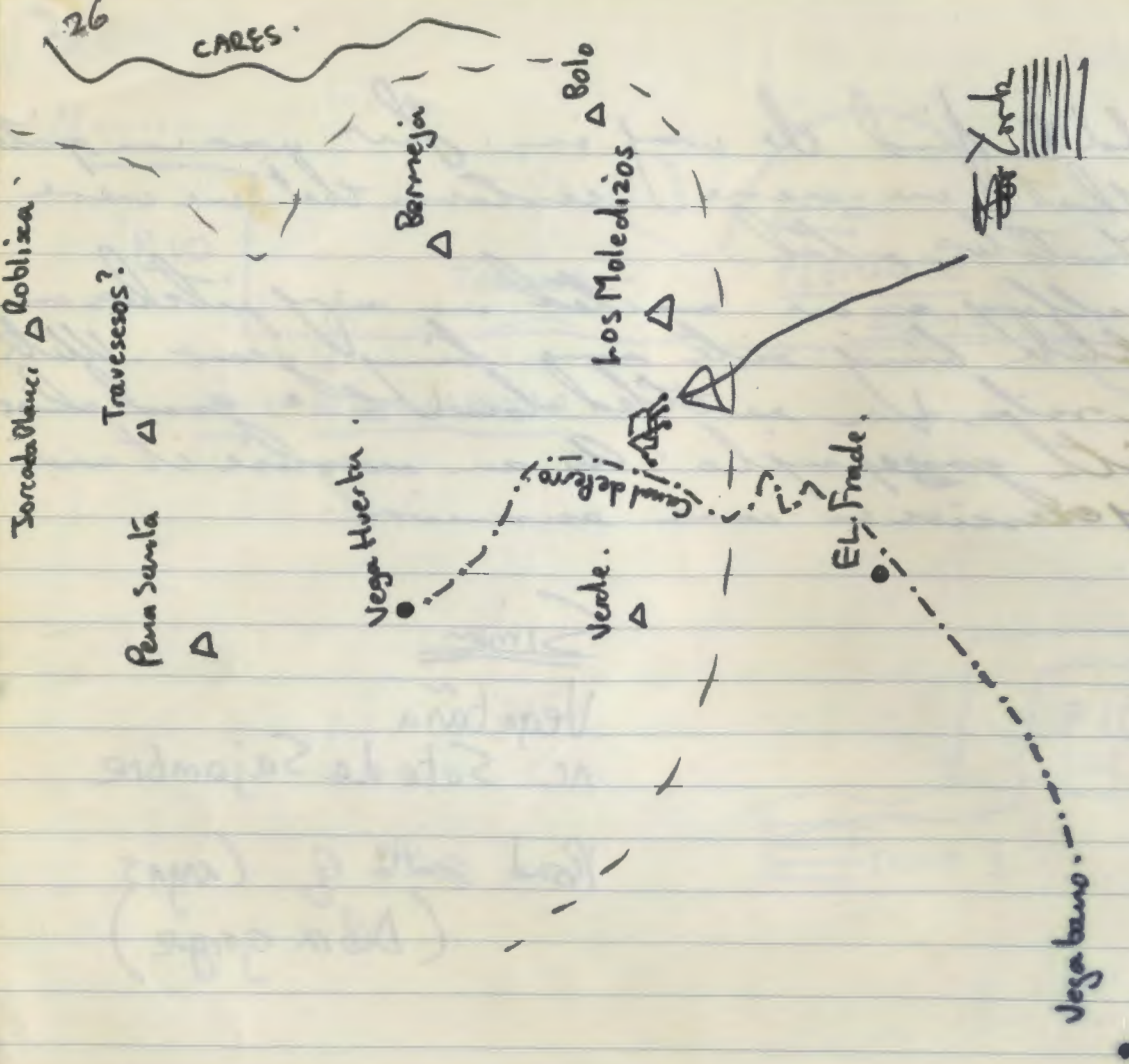
Barneja Δ

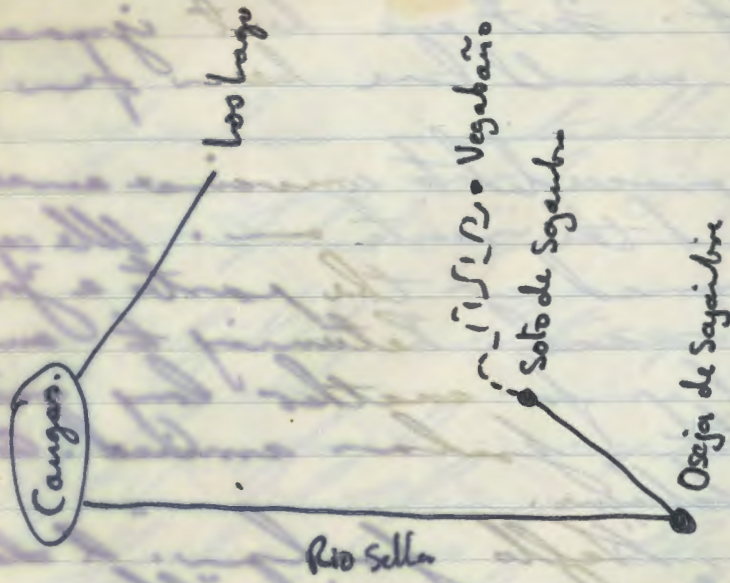
Los Molezizos Δ

Bolo Δ

~~Zorba~~ Zorba

Cañal de Ferro





Riss - y arranged for next Sunday

Lifting was difficult but possible men slung  
 and I being turned off. Feet are best ignored  
 totally. Radio music would have been fun for  
 warming up.

After rested we proceeded to convince ourselves  
 that we could find the route on. We couldn't  
 still the exercise warmed up the parts a Jodie  
 bar square couldn't reach. Returning to our  
 being site we worked up for another long wait.

About 12 hours later Graham arrived. Our  
 conversation met as follows.

Donker & George, "Hello Graham." A short  
 pause followed, & then said "Have you  
 my good Graham?"

A . . . . .  
 . . . . . long . . . . .  
 . . . . . pause . . . . .



... followed! ...

In Graham eventually replied "Er...  
... are you OK?"  
We replied "yes."

a slightly shorter pause followed ---

Finally, Graham replied "Thank fuck for that!" and then proceeded to tip a large pile of Yankee base on the deck.

Not being the sort of person that misses an opportunity to eat, I quickly buttered four Yankee base. Smoke was a little more restrained. The time was 2300 on Monday evening.

We wandered back out of the cage, the rapture obvious but I hadn't noticed it. We waited for

Richard & Paul in down river, they had the  
brew kit.

The journey out was fairly uneventful.  
I took a fair amount of time to reach a normal  
working temperature. Arrived back on the surface  
about 8 on Tuesday morning. Felt tired.  
Smoky actually claimed to have enjoyed  
his trip.

For my part, I must confess that the  
under trip was conceived as an elaborate  
way to get Dave out of bed early!

George

Tuesday 19th William & Ian down FU56 re-rigged cross patch  
with ladders as well as the rope. Decided not to carry off or  
frogged out reaching surface in the light!! A gentle introduction for  
both of us.

William