

Meeting 7/3/2015 : Agenda item 4

Matienzo Caves Project Structure

The Project's administration structure has evolved over 2014. The Management & Policy Steering Group guides the work of the MCP and now consists of 4 main specialist roles: Expedition organiser, Expedition tackle master, Spanish liaison, Web site and archive. These are currently carried out by Phil Papard, Steve Martin, Peter Smith and Juan Corrin. Additionally, Sue Martin administers the Current Account and Juan Corrin the Reserve Account.

Further details are found on the web site.

Juan, Phil, Steve and Sue held an end-of-year meeting in December where the activities over 2014 were reviewed along with the finances. Finance roles and responsibilities were also agreed including authorising expenditure.

Expeditions Report elsewhere from Phil Papard

Expeditions Tackle Master Report elsewhere from Steve Martin

Expedition Treasurer's Report elsewhere from Sue Martin

Web site and Archive Report for the year 2014

New areas and datum

The new areas meant new maps were obtained and, as a consequence of that, a change in the coordinates datum (ETRS89) for all the caves' positions. As well as updating entrance coordinates (and checking altitudes for all entrances on the new map), all the Survex surveys have been updated and all site descriptions. The Orux Maps files were altered, a new digital map for use in the Matienzo Office prepared, and both Google Maps and Google Earth have the new boundaries on - all available from the documents page of the web site.

The "simple map" pdf has also been updated to include the new area.

IT Provision

In September, the complete disc failure of the main Matienzo Caves computer provided the opportunity to upgrade the IT provision, including facilities for the Office in Bar Germán.

The following items were bought at a cost of £950 to the Matienzo Caves Project:

- desktop computer (16Gb with twin 4Tb drives)
- replacement 4Tb backup drive for Matienzo

For the Matienzo Office:

- memory upgrades for the two laptops
- a network server (2 x 1Tb drives)
- uninterruptable power supply

An updated sub-set of the MCP information is installed on the server for use by cavers in the Matienzo Office during each main expedition. Uses include inputting survey data and drawing up surveys; downloading photos and videos; positioning new cave entrances; searching online logbooks, etc.

Web site

The web site now has information for more than 4100 sites.

Due to a number of issues with the Lancaster University server, the web site was moved to one.com with the new address of matienzocaves.org.uk. (Thanks are due to Nigel Dibben for funding the old address for a number of years.) The move required altering a number of the on-line facilities but, after a few months, everything now appears to be working and visible. Moving the Logbook Search facility requires users to re-register.

The "complete upheaval" of the IT provision and web site also provided the opportunity to completely rewrite the documentation for producing the on-line facilities and administering the web site.

A major addition to the web site was providing links to all the expedition logbooks.

*Juan Corrin
February 2015*