

LOGBOOK

Year: 2014

Season: January : February

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

Juan Corrin, January 2015

Matienzo 2014

Jan - Feb logbook

①

18th February

2917: El Zorro, Los Gatos y El Frigo Si & Di

An early start following the 2-day ferry trip.
We cautiously entered the fridge with the knowledge that February is the month that mating foxes will return to their lair.

Crowbar in hand Simon led - no sign or smell of anything currently living there apart from the abundance of spiders and small snails in the entrance.

First on our list was ~~the~~ to revisit Zorro's Revenge, the southern of the westerly boulder chokes.

We surveyed a small amount - the unfinished sections that ~~was~~ ended in solid calcited chokes. No good digging prospects found.

From 1.45, sliding under the large boulder Simon climbed down approx 4 metres, becoming too narrow. From Station 1.44 Simon pushed through a muddy crawl to connect at the foot of the pitch/climb in the neighbouring boulder ~~choke~~ northern boulder choke ~~there~~ (accessed through the round window in ~~fracture~~ way).

We returned to station

On the western side we capped a boulder which gave us access to two rift passages which got too narrow to continue.


Next, we visited the Bedheadrest - a draughting digging spot found in the summer. With a combination of digging, capping and

18/2/14 cont

plug & feathers and bashing we pushed through a wriggle (for us, squeeze for most!). Opening up into a larger walking area - sta. 103: 'Maya Teletá'. We slid down a 5 metre slab, the crocodile slide - hand land needed. Into a larger area, in line with Lost chamber. This area seems to be very loose - lots of loose debris. Looking over a rubble bank we could see what appeared to be a 15 metre pitch. Simen climbed through the boulders to emerge halfway down the pitch. After 10 hours in the fridge and our lights beginning to fade ~~we~~ and stomachs rumbling we called it a day. To be continued....

* Note, on previous occasions this site has been strongly draughting out. Today it was draughting in.

* Additional note. On all occasions we've actively looked for any locals to chat to them and tell them what we are doing. Today we spoke to the residents (young man) up the road above the parking spot. He didn't seem bothered but an elder woman arrived and spotted us in the field. We could hear her talking to the young man in an irate manner whilst looking at us. However, their conversation ended with her in hysterical laughter.



19th February 2017 Di and Si

Returned to Meya Teleta, ~~then~~ continued surveying in this area then down crocodile slide to Choss Pit. Although potentially Free-climbable we descended Choss Pit by three short pitches, 25 m. of rope; 7 through bolts placed. At the bottom of the first pitch a high level chamber can be accessed but it is a false floor with a 7 m. drop below. very dodgy !! Loose rocks everywhere.

At the bottom of the 3rd pitch a chamber is formed by massive fallen blocks. (taking long wheel-based mini-buses here). We had a poke around various obvious places but the main interest is underneath the first pitch. A muddy slot descends for m. However we crawled through a gap and dropped a short pitch into this as we couldn't determine how stable the mud slope was. (we climbed back up this route). A wiggle through another slot led us to an area with a different feel - no break-down and leading us out of the boulder choke - to a 'snug' pitch down a heavily fossilised cross rift. (metres.) We dug at the base of this; rocks could be heard to rattle down a few more metres. Peering through the rift an enlargement could be seen, but this would need ~~at least~~ capping. The whole area is very drippy. All ropes de-rigged.

* Note. We spoke to the same young man from yesterday. It transpired that they have bought the house of the woman that called the Guardia Civil causing "The Incident" in 2008, she had made them fully aware of this situation. They were interested but not concerned in our activities.

20th February A Walk in the Langdals D. & P.

Nice breakfast in the Hunters; the sun was shining. Taking full advantage of the sunshine we wandered across the hilltops above El Frigo and through the Langdals. Akin to the lakes, the heavens opened and we got soaked to the skin! En route we found a few draughting holes (draughting out with a cool breeze). We visited humilde Miel (no draught) then the back doors to casa 3914 = small draught. Some of the eucalyptus trees were in progress of ~~being~~ being felled. 3916 had suffered a collapse ~~at~~ on the surface. It appears the tarpaulin over the entrance shaft may have diverted the rain water causing the earth to the right of the entrance to slump, revealing a small hole - about the same size as the entrance cap. We covered the hole up with the ready chopped tree branches and enlarged the fenced off area, adding more branches to prevent livestock getting into the area. (goats currently in the field)

21st February

El Frigo. (3917) S&D

WE RETURNED TO META TELETA TO CLEAR UP THE REMAINING LEADS. A FEW ROUNDS OF CAPS ACCESED A NARROW PASSAGE TO THE RIGHT OF CROCODILE SLIDE, UNFORTUNATELY THIS WAS ONLY A FEW METERS LONG ENDING EITHER TOO TIGHT OR CHOKED UP.

GOING BACK DOWN CROCODILE SLIDE WE DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE THE AREA AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FIRST PITCH OF CROSS PIT.
CAUTION/ THIS WHOLE AREA IS A FALSE FLOOR ~~OF~~ COMPRISING OF COLLAPSED BRICKS OVER A 10m DROP.

NOT WANTING TO EXPERIENCE THE 'PETE HOLL' EFFECT I CAUTIOUSLY ~~8~~ PLACED A COUPLE OF BOLTS AND TIPTOED ROUND THE CHAMBER ON THE END OF A ROPE - NOTHING INTERESTING WAS FOUND.

DI TOOK SOME PHOTOS AND WE FINISHED SURVEYING UP A SHORT CLIMB UP IN MEYD TELETA - THIS ENDED VERY CLOSE TO THE CHOKER NEXT TO L.O.S.T. CHAMBER (A VISUAL CONNECTION?)

FINALLY WE RETURNED TO THE MAIN SYSTEM AND COMPLETED THE SURVEY OF 'GOAT HOOK CORRIDOR' IN THE UPPER LEVEL.

SHUTTLING ^{OUT} THE SIX BAGS OF GEAR WE HAD ACCUMULATED DOWN THE CAIRNS PROVED STRAIGHT FORWARDS. APPROACHING THE EXIT A WHIFF OF ANIMAL WAS DETECTED RAISING OUR PULSES, HOWEVER IT TURNED OUT TO BE THE LOCAL GOATS!!!

Simon. See Survey over page.

22ND FEB 14 SILDIE - SURVEYED WITH DISTO X & PDA
(3115) TORCA DEL NOMBRE

THIS SITE BEING A PROMINENT SHAFT HIGH UP ON THE HILLSIDE OVERLOOKING 'THE DIG SHOW ROOM', FOR SOME REASON WAS ALWAYS INTERESTED ME DESPITE THE 'POOR DIGGING PROSPECTS' AT THE BOTTOM.
PARKING AT THE HIGHEST FARM ON THE BARRIO DELAS URRAS SIDE THE WALK OVER AND LOCATING THE CAVE FORTUNATELY WAS EASY AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR.

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Some GORDONING AT THE TOP OF THE SHAFT GAINED THE REBELS ON THE
OAK TREE AND THE ONE BOLT REBELS TO THE LEDGE.

GOING OFF THE SINGLE TURN BOLT FOR THE FINAL 36m PITCH!
LOCATED THE SECOND ^{SOLITARY} TURN BOLT AROUND 10m DOWN. GETTING
ON THIS SECOND BOLT THE ROPE WAS RUBBING, AND GOING OFF IT
THE ROPE WOULD HAVE GAVE OVER TWO LIPS FOR 25m!

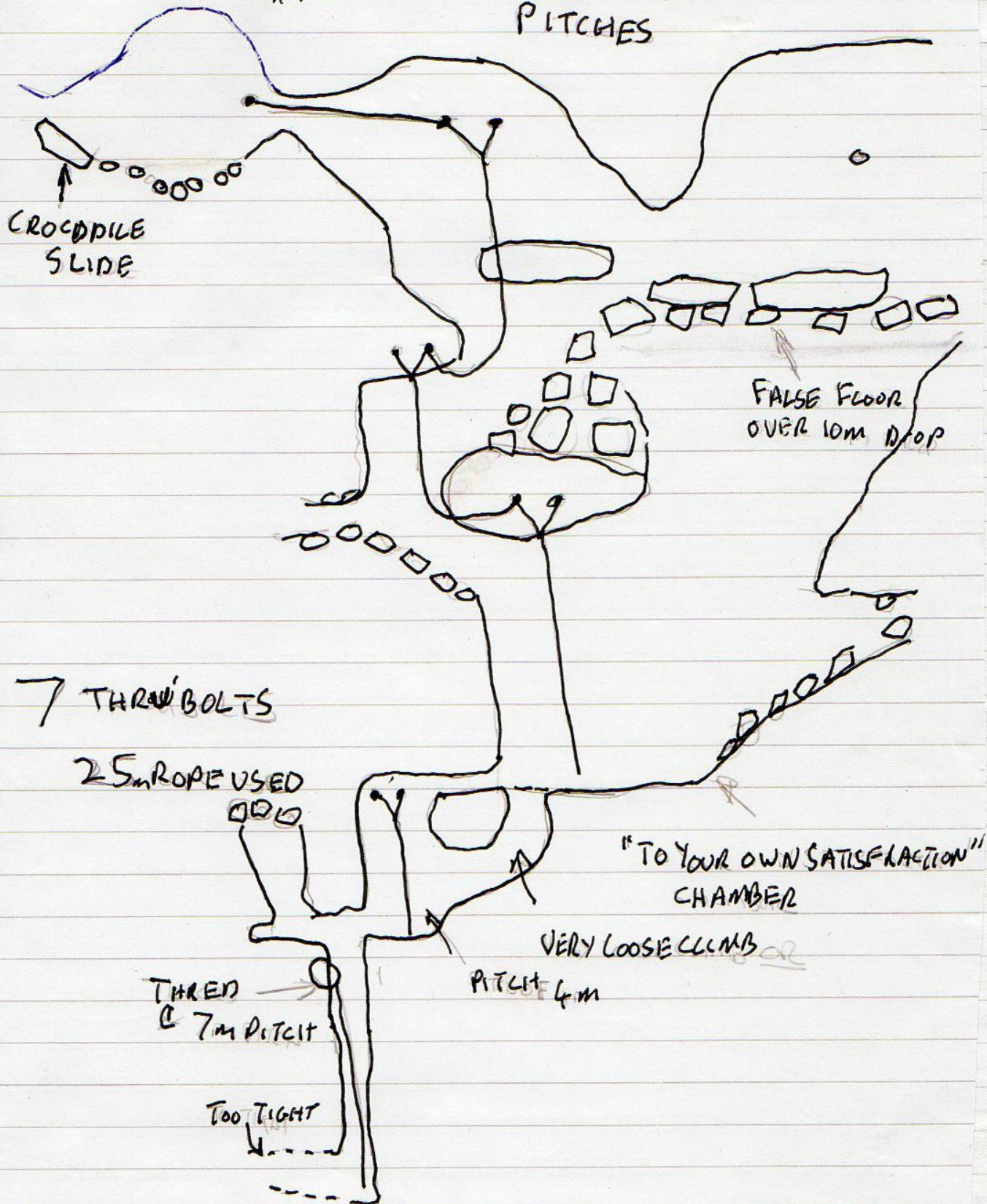
I WENT BACK UP, PLACED ANOTHER BOLT AT THE HEAD OF THE
PITCH AND ONE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SHAFT AROUND
7m DOWN CREATING A MARVELOUS FREE HANG TO THE BOTTOM
OF THE SHAFT. (THE DEVIATION HANGER WAS LEFT ON THE
TURN BOLT - CLIPPING IT WOULD PROVE TO BE ACROBATIC ENOUGH!)

AT THE BOTTOM THERE IS AN ALLEE TO HIDE IN WHILST
OTHERS DESCEND THE PITCH.

THE DIG WAS QUICKLY DISPATCHED TO FIND THE SMALL
PASSAGE CHOKED UP. THE ONLY REAL DIGGING PROSPECT IS
SINKING A SCAFFOLD SHAFT INTO THE FLOOR - MAYBE IF TIM ALLEN
& HIS DIGGING TEAM RETIRE AND MOVE TO MATIGNO!

NON THE LESS A FINE SHAFT AND WORTH THE EFFORT.

2917 - CROSS PIT PITCHES



MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT