

# LOGBOOK

Year: 2022

Season: Christmas : New Year

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

*Juan Corrin, February 2023*



**Nige Easton, Phil Parker. Matienzo Autumn 2022**(Corrected: 3114 has been changed below to 3014) (2<sup>nd</sup> email with coordinates incorporated)

**5th October** Full team inspection of site **3021**, blocked with tyres and earth but still draughting so worth digging. As cattle use the field there is a need to talk to the farmer, but we were unable to find out who farms the land. Checked around the surrounding fields and woods to no avail. Phil & Nige walked the stream bed as far as the Duck Pond Sink but nothing found.

**6th October** Alf, Nige & Phil visited site **5186** at Navajeda. Phil used a ladder to descend a 4 to 5m pitch through a slot whilst Alf got to the same point by descending earth slope and assorted dumped metalwork. Immediately in front a descending easily climbable gully leads to a small chamber with the remnants of two bikes and a narrow way on above the choked floor, cool air rising. Across the gully gives a steep upward climb of a couple of metres to a horizontal slot that would need digging to reach a visible enlargement but no draught. Total depth of 9m, with a mixture of rock and earth walls.

Note: Phil Goodwin (and John S) were staying in Navajeda. Phil was told by a local that in really wet weather water bubbles up in the adjacent field below the wood. This solves our Easter conundrum of the destination of the water we saw flowing into the cave.

**7th October** Phil and Nige to **2757** (High Moncobe) via the path that runs below **5069**. Small cliff faces below the path inspected, found entrance (**Phil & Nige X1**), low passage with lots of animal droppings and a second oxbow entrance 4m to the left but no draught. Moved on to **2757** (Gary & Abby's hole), a fair walk. Just above it Nige found a hole at the base of an outcrop (**Nige & Phil X2**), generally choked but had a small inward draughting hole at the right-hand end. (Photo)

*Photos*  
**X1** is **NEW site 5311 @ 445167 4796193** altitude from the phone 466, altitude from Orux map contours 461

*Photo*  
**X2** is **NEW site 5312 @ 445774 4795987 455 451**

Site **2757** descended to find it more complex and difficult to dig than suggested by Gary's description. We cleared the loose stuff and repositioned a large boulder. Definitely worth a return but requires capping gear and a bigger team. Draughts: gentle outward when we arrived later changed to a stronger inward draught. On the return walk Phil entered (**X1**). Almost immediately the passage lowered to near flat out. At 16m the way on was awkward and very low. The adjacent entrance was not inspected but appears to link to the main passage so present overall length 22m.

**8th October** All to old favourite **3901** (Moncobe) where a new downward dig was commenced at the base of the entrance slope.

**9th October** All to **3112** (Pena Encaramada area). However recent logging activity appeared to have buried the entrance under lots of debris – as no burning allowed (?) this could be permanent. Checked the locality. Alf found 2 possibles plus something that fitted **3014** description but 100m out of position.

**10th October** Day off

**11th October** Alf, Chris & Phil back to **3014** area to check Alf's new holes. **3014** is in the correct position except it should be on the shakehole northern side not the southern - Alf's Orux app was not set correctly.

Note Phil gps'd Alf's new finds.

Alf 1 447170 4801156 120 116

Alf 2 447194 4801168 115 118

Average of 2 readings at **3014** is **447128 4801140**

**12th October** Back to **3014** for Alf and Nige to attempt to descend pitch – capping carried out. Phil looked at Alf's 2 finds. One was in a small depression, looked like half a circle with a 600mm radius, animal burrow at the base and no draught. T'other also was in a small depression, heading diagonally for maybe 7m, quite roomy but ending at a small hole into a rising boulder choke/run-in of 2m length. Next to the entrance a floor level wriggle into a small chamber gave another 2m of passage.

## Alf's 2 new finds are site 5318 and site 5319

**13th October** Alf and Chris back to **3014**. Nige and Phil to **3012** which was difficult to find, requiring loads of thrashing as the slurry (circa 2013) appears to have invigorated the plant life. Slurry has degenerated to soft soil so no problem with entry. Nige attacked the 2009 draughting p.o.i. with capping gear making good progress.

**14th October** Nige and Phil sunbathing. Chris and Alf back to **3014** area for some surface searching.

**15th October** Chris, Nige and Phil to the top of the Alisas to look for several sites below the ridge line, above the Vega Valley. All were difficult to locate. In order of finding there was: **4125** is as book description, uninspiring; **4120** shaft, take a look if we go back to **4092**; **4121** shaft, ditto as **4120**; **4092** can be entered without removing large rocks (book description) so perhaps a return visit; **4242** was identified as being **4123** (60m away from the 4242 estimated position) by comparing surface location photographs. Twin shaft **NEW site 5313 & 5314 (1<sup>st</sup>) 447606 4794365 634 616 and (2<sup>nd</sup>) 447596 4794363 622 621**

**16th October** Alf on digging trip in **3234**, Nige having a rest, Chris and Phil part way up the Alisas to check road side possibilities and then maybe **4436**. Two narrow draughting slots in the uphill road bank, one just one or two metres deep, t'other enlarging about a metre down.

**New site 5315 @ 447589 4796651 337 325 and NEW site 5316 @ 447408 4797012 296 298**

**17th October** All back to the Alisas road so Chris could look below the road, opposite the more interesting slot from the 16th. Phil looked for **4436** but it needed a big thrashing stick to reach it. Then on to look at **4683** (near Las Calzadillas) but ended up in the adjacent wood. Nowt found.

**18th October** Phil and Nige back to site **3012**. Further capping by both and corner enlarged in to the draughting passage. The draught was intermittent, at times stopping and then returning strongly.

**19th October** Phil knackered so rest day. Chris and Alf to Navajeda to assist John S and Phil G.

**20th October** Alf to **3014**, Nige and Phil to **3012** to dig out floor and continue capping walls. Alf reached the bottom of **3014** and thought there were distinct possibilities.

**21st October** Alf and Phil day off whilst Chris and Nige went to "Shelob" (**4173**) to recover a digging tray. They were defeated by the undergrowth but Chris stuck his foot down Cueva Sin Sendero (**5227**) so successful day,

**22nd October** Chris and Alf back to Cueva Sin Sendero **#5227**, Phil and Nige back to **3012** where Nige capped using up 2 batteries and Phil had some awkward digging which allowed a view round a left hand corner to a T junction.

**23rd October** Last day, Alf and Chris plotting survey data from Cueva Sin Sendero **5227**, Nige and Phil final attempt at **3012**. Phil opened up the corner and managed to pass the tight bit into a rift. Maximum width 600mm, height about 3.5m for a length of 3m to the left and 2m to the right. At these points the roof drops to less than a metre high and passage narrows to on-your-side crawling. Draught comes from the left and some 2m into the narrow section looks like a diggable continuation to the right. Roll on Easter for the next exciting episode.

### Descriptions to be altered for some sites in the autumn log:

From Alf's account in the Autumn logbook, the in-order details are now:

A1 447059 4801186 shelter cave in the bottom @**5223**

A2 447064 4801202 rabbit hole size dig @**5224**

A3 447051 4801210 further up, a descendible shaft into a cave full of farm waste. A bolt and ladder would be need to descend over the waste bags and bottles down to a right bend. @**5225**

That agrees with what Phil Parker emailed 28th December. Alter the published descriptions and keep the numbers at the positions. (With a warning that the positions could be inaccurate due to cover).

889 and 890

3

From: Peter Smith (smith\_peter2004@yahoo.es)

To: uzueka@aol.com

Date: Thursday, 29 December 2022 at 20:31 GMT

Hello Juan

These holidays we've been to Bosmartin on two days (first day, team of S. Martin, A. Quin and me; second day, J. Latimer, A. Quin and me) to check these two caves, as the information on the website had obviously been given to you by some very dodgy characters, while the descriptions in the 1991 log-book were more detailed. We abandoned 889 when the pitch turned out not to be 10m (website) but about 25m (log book). But today we've descended, surveyed and photographed 890. Hopefully all the information will be ready for you when you're here on or about the 15th Jan.

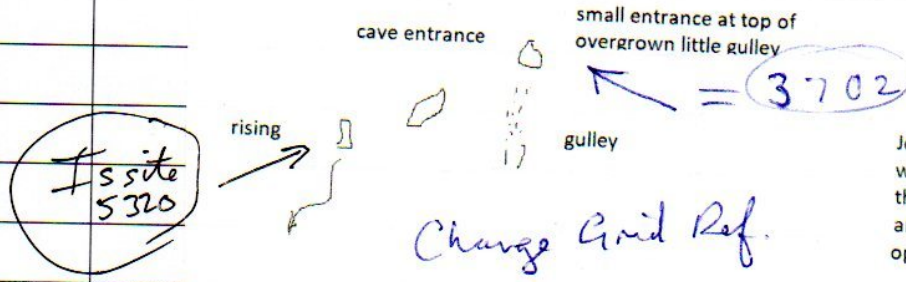
Happy New Year!

Cheers

Pete

From HARRY LONG 2/1/23

Rianio Area, date unknown.



John Clarke and I went to Rianio and whilst he looked at the cleared area up the hill I looked around the bottom area near the cave entrance. Found an open crawling size entrance but didn't go in.

From: mortacieto@hotmail.com,

To: smith\_peter2004@yahoo.es, uzueka@aol.com,

Subject: revisión de pasamanos del Mostajo

Date: Mon, 5 Dec 2022 20:45

Attachments: pasamanos Mostajo.jpg (2086K), pasamanos Mostajo2.jpg (2063K), pasamanos Mostajo3.jpg (2002K)

Buenos días,  
os mando lo que hicimos en el Mostajo.

En noviembre del 2022, el colectivo formado por: Akelar, GEGET (Getafe) y Piezo realizaron el cambio de anclajes en los tres pasamanos existentes en el primer piso de la Sima del Mostajo, así como la pequeña subida que hay entre las dos gateras.

Se sustituyeron los anclajes que no eran inoxidables por los del tipo rainox de Raumer. Así mismo, se sustituyeron las cuerdas viejas por otras en mejor estado.

En el primer pasamanos existía una instalación de químicos de origen desconocido, que no se usaba. Se cambió la cuerda a la instalación de anclajes químicos y, para completar la instalación, se pusieron cuatro anclajes químicos nuevos en la parte final del pasamanos. Se complementó el inicio de pasamanos con reaseguro y aproximación, que no existía en su aproximación.

En el resalte entre gateras había una cuerda de nudos para ascender. Se pusieron 3 anclajes con una cuerda para subir con la técnica de progresión de puño y croll.



En el segundo pasamanos se realizó la instalación por dónde ya estaba, cambiando por anclajes inoxidable.

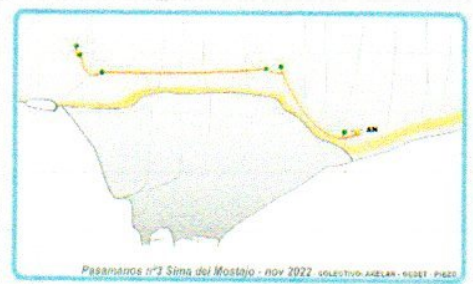
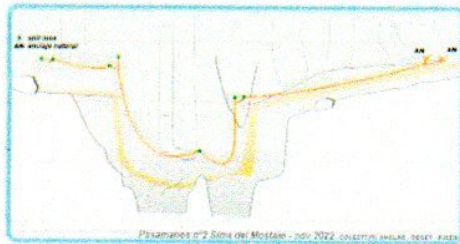
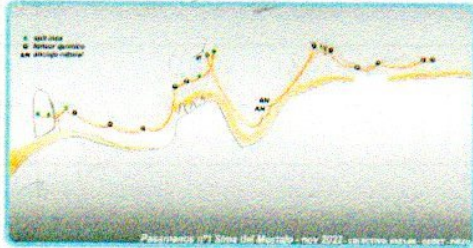
En el tercer pasamanos, se cambió el recorrido ascendente y descendente. Se ha hecho una variante recta que lleva menos anclajes y evita descender a la parte baja del hundimiento. Todos los anclajes son nuevos y se retiró la cuerda y anclajes del recorrido antiguo.

Un cordial saludo,

Ángel San Juan Gálvez  
656 38 32 35

Full diagrams  
put into descrip / 0026.htm

3 Attached Images



Hello,  
I send you what we did in the Mostajo.

In November 2022, the group formed by: Akelar, GEGET (Getafe) and Piezo made the change of anchors in the three existing handrails on the first floor of the Sima del Mostajo, as well as the small rise between the two cat flaps.

The anchors that were not stainless were replaced by those of the Raumer rainox type. Likewise, the old strings were replaced by others in better condition.

On the first handrail there was a chemical installation of unknown origin, which was not used. The rope was changed to the chemical anchor installation, and to complete the installation, four new chemical anchors were attached to the end of the handrail. The beginning of the handrails was complemented with reinsurance and approach, which did not exist in its approach.

On the ledge between the cat flaps there was a knotted rope to ascend. 3 anchors were placed with a rope to climb with the technique of fist and scroll progression.

In the second handrail, the installation was carried out where it already was, changing for stainless anchors.

On the third handrail, the up and down path was changed. A straight variant has been made that has fewer anchors and avoids descending to the bottom of the subsidence. All the anchors are new and the old course rope and anchors have been removed.

A cordial greeting,

Angel San Juan Galvez  
656 38 32 35

Un buen trabajo. Ahora será más seguro para todos.

2/1/23 Photos from Terry re summer dig in site 1390

31/12/22 Survey info for new site on Enavo from Pete Smith Site 5317.

Mistletoe Pot: Surveys and description

From: Simon Cornhill (simoncornhill@dsl.pipex.com)
To: uzueka@aol.com; papard@easynet.co.uk; diza\_cutart@hotmail.com; chrisscaife.cs@gmail.com; bcmcxiv@yahoo.co.uk; smith\_peter2004@yahoo.es
Date: Monday, 26 December 2022 at 18:58 GMT

Happy Boxing Day,
To celebrate the first anniversary of the Mistletoe Pot discovery and explorations, we have finally completed the surveys and written description. We're really sorry this has taken sooo long to accomplish but as you could imagine learning Therion has been a particularly perplexing, protracted and painful process!!

Anyway, hopefully this all bears more than a passing resemblance to reality without too many glaring errors or omissions. Please let us know of anything that requires altering, also any feedback on the surveys would be greatly received (good or bad!).

¡Feliz Navidad!

Di & Si

Re: Matienzo Christmas 2022

From: jessica eades (jess\_eades\_15@yahoo.com)
To: uzueka@aol.com
Date: Thursday, 5 January 2023 at 14:43 GMT

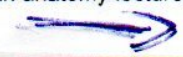
Hi Juan,

I was going to re-direct people to the forms and sample pots at the upcoming meetup at the YSS and then as you say post something on the facebook group and continue with general word of mouth. There's a stash of forms/pots and bags in Matienzo at Steve, suzie and Phil's house. In a box behind the telly in the kitchen, along with additional forms and pots stashed in our bin at your house to replenish the box when the time comes.

I downloaded all the surveys from the surveying mobile last night and have started sorting the photos. I'll have it all ready to send over after the weekend. With the proper drawn up surveys to follow. The raw surveys will be in the files (we were using sexy topo so it's just about smartened them up and flipping a few bits on some of the elevation drawings) to make a publishable survey.

In terms of everything we have done, here's a very brief summary:

0571 - originally considered this to be a new cave- on orux we were 20m off whilst looking for cave 0572. think it's an overlap in GPS accuracy parameters ie. +/- approx 10m from both old and new readings perhaps. Anyway, we descended (found a spit on the way down :-), surveyed, surface and underground photos taken. We found a bone at the bottom which whilst in Matienzo we thought might be human, but a caving friend who's an anatomy lecturer confirmed this morning it's not human but likely sheep or goat. Description written.



0637 - descended, surveyed, surface and underground photos taken. new description being prepared to better clarify the discrepancies claimed from the MCP and Spanish teams previously reported. Both descriptions are kind of right, if you consider different parts of the cave. Greater horseshoe bat found within the rock shelter section of the basin near the barn.

1108 - descended, surveyed, surface and underground photos taken. Climbed up to the draughting passage which leads pretty much back to surface. Need to check orientation but we think it's headed towards a gully on the surface. Unless the floor is dug out removing the cable and boulders, there's little potential left in this cave. no stacking space at bottom, so things would require hauling the majority of the way out the cave if not completely to surface.

4950 - this was one of our sites from 2019 so it felt right to go back and finish it off. re-descended, surveyed, surface and underground photos taken. description written. Ends with a pool of crystal clear water. Would need quiet a bit of capping to break into the water and see if it goes anywhere but water appears static.

New cave 1- this was a two small holes in the field near 0637 that were partially covered with stone. Opened up, too tight to descend. Surveyed, photographed and then recovered with timbers and additional stones on top.

several new cave entrances photographed and GPS'd during surface walks. and an number of additional surface photos for previously found ones. Updated photos as some where last photographed nearly 20 years ago so vegetation has changed a reasonable amount.

we went back to the bat cave and noticed that whilst there were a few bats present, the strong ammonia smell of an active large roost had dissipated and there also appeared to be very little recent goat activity. we noticed that the eucalyptus plantation had many relatively new trackways cut through it and perhaps the action of this has been sufficient to scare off the bats at least temporarily.

We have booked up to come back in Easter, where we will be changing tactic slightly and doing more underground exploration as there will be more cavers in the valley, so we will feel a little more comfortable spending longer duration underground. will be reviewing the website and looking at perhaps picking things back up in Renada and elsewhere depending on what has been happening in the interim when we haven't been around post covid.

further email for follow with the surveys etc next week.

all the best  
Jess

## Blog account of La Cambera members exploring shafts at Cierrolinos LC227, 228 and 229 8/1/23

### Los cambios suelen traer buena suerte

A veces los cambios en el último momento dan resultados inesperados.

El plan del día de hoy, ya que nos acompaña Adriel, era topografiar y seguir con la exploración de la Cueva del Gusnardo. Cueva incómoda pero no de excesiva dificultad para un niño en aprendizaje.

Peo unos metros antes de llegar la boca de entrada hemos empezado a dudar, ya que la ropa que lleva Adriel no es la más adecuada, para una cueva con unos cuantos pasos que te obligan a tomar una posición decúbito prono.

Así que hemos cambiado rápidamente de plan y hemos subido hasta la zona de Cierrolinos para explorar unos torcones y así que Adriel mejore sus técnicas en la cuerda.

La primera que hemos elegido es un torcón (LC227 Torca de los Urodelos) perimetrado con un cerramiento. Con un bonito pozo de 17 metros y una galería colgada que inmediatamente se hace impenetrable a unos 4 metros de su base. En un costado de la base, se abre un pequeño agujero que aparenta seguir y que hemos desobstruido sin poder progresar, abandonándolo finalmente por falta de interés. (Photo of LC227 Torca de los Urodelos) 5013

Ponemos rumbo a otro torcón situado muy próximo cuando aparece un paisano con el que nos hemos encontrado en numerosas ocasiones y que siempre nos ha hablado de un gran torcón situado en una zona por la cuál ya habíamos prospectado anteriormente

Nos vuelve a comentar lo del torcón y decidimos dejar los de la zona de Cierrolinos y seguir al paisano para conocer de una vez por todas el famoso torcón.



Emprendemos el camino hacia la pista y nos introducimos en una marcada depresión salpicada de avellanos. Y efectivamente ahí está el famoso torcón, un agujero de notables dimensiones en comparación con lo encontrado hasta ahora en la zona. Pero ahí no acaba la cosa ya que nos vuelve a ordenar que le sigamos mostrándonos otros dos agujeros muy próximos en una zona hasta ahora desconocida.

Nos decantamos por el último agujero que nos enseña y comenzamos a instalarle. En este momento despedimos al paisano dándole las gracias e invitándole a bajar, acción que rechaza con un marcado movimiento de negación con la cabeza.

Descendemos aproximadamente 14 metros. Su fondo está completamente taponado encontrándonos bastantes restos óseos caprinos de al menos 5 ejemplares y sin ninguna opción para poder continuar así que la topografiámos y la marcamos como (LC228 Torca de los 5 Cráneos) (Photo LC228 Torca de los 5 Cráneos) 5014 x 5101 2211

Ya se ha hecho tarde y decidimos volver atravesando por una zona no conocida. Apenas avanzamos 15 metros cuando vemos una pequeña oquedad (LC229 Torca No Binaria) con dos bloques encajados en su entrada. El primero lo sacamos al superficie tras un poco de esfuerzo, pero las dimensiones del segundo hace necesario instalar una chapa y tirar de él con unas cintas.

Resultado: el bloque se desprende lo cuál nos hace soltar las cintas debido a su gran peso. Adriel el pobre, como principiante no sabe que hacer y sus enclenques brazos quedan durante milésimas de segundo soportando todo el peso del bloque hasta que finalmente acaba soltándolo. Por hoy creo que es suficiente.

En menos de medio día hemos conocido 5 torcas. El cambio al final salió bien. Si teníamos ya cuevas pendientes de terminar o explorar, ahora tenemos más.

Participantes: Toñín, Adriel y Gustavo

**Changes usually bring good luck**

Sometimes changes at the last moment give unexpected results.

Today's plan, since Adriel is with us, was to topograph and continue with the exploration of Cueva del Gusnardo. Uncomfortable cave but not excessively difficult for a learning child.

But a few meters before reaching the entrance we began to have doubts, since the clothes that Adriel is wearing are not the most appropriate, for a cave with a few steps that force you to take a prone position.

So we quickly changed our plan and went up to the Cierrolinos area to explore some stumps so that Adriel could improve his techniques on the rope.

The first one we have chosen is a torcón (LC227 Torca de los Urodelos) perimeter with an enclosure. With a beautiful 17-meter well and a hanging gallery that immediately becomes impenetrable about 4 meters from its base. On one side of the base, a small hole opens that seems to continue and that we have unblocked without being able to progress, finally abandoning it due to lack of interest. (Photo of LC227 Torca de los Urodelos) 5013

We head towards another torcón located very close when a countryman appears with whom we have met on numerous occasions and who has always told us about a large torcón located in an area for which we had previously prospected.

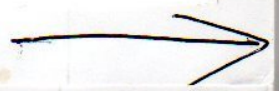
He told us about the torcón again and we decided to leave those in the Cierrolinos area and follow the countryman to get to know the famous torcón once and for all.

We take the path towards the track and enter a marked depression dotted with hazelnut trees. And indeed there is the famous torcón, a hole of notable dimensions compared to what has been found so far in the area. But the thing does not end there since he orders us again to continue showing us two other very close holes in an area hitherto unknown.

We opted for the last hole that it shows us and we began to install it. At this moment we say goodbye to the countryman, thanking him and inviting him to come down, an action that he rejects with a marked negative movement with his head.

We descend approximately 14 meters. Its bottom is completely clogged, finding quite a few caprine bone remains of at least 5 specimens and without any option to continue, so we topographed it and marked it as (LC228 Torca de los 5 Cráneos). (Photo LC228 Torca of the 5 Skulls) 5014 5101 2211

It has already gotten late and we decided to go back through an unknown area. We barely advance 15 meters when we see a small cavity (LC229 Non-Binary Torca) with two blocks embedded in its entrance. We got the first one to the surface after a bit of effort, but the dimensions of the second make it necessary to install a plate and pull it with some straps.





Result: the block comes off which makes us drop the tapes due to its great weight. Poor Adriel, as a beginner, doesn't know what to do and his puny arms remain for milliseconds supporting the entire weight of the block until he finally ends up letting go. For today I think that is enough.

In less than half a day we have known 5 torques. The change in the end went well. If we already had caves pending completion or exploration, now we have more.

Participants: Toñín, Adriel and Gustavo

Next photo = S-321

photos

From: Peter Smith (smith\_peter2004@yahoo.es)

To: uzueka@aol.com

Date: Saturday, 21 January 2023 at 20:14 GMT

Hello Juan

I'll take the USB to the bar later, hope to see you. A few remarks about the photos/surveys on it. For 0085 I've tried to point out the high level chamber no one seems to have mentioned before (and a new survey because the old one 'doesn't do justice to the shelter').

Also a couple of photos possibly for the 'speleothems' page.

And on the website, you could update 0889 and 0890 with the descriptions in the 1991 logbook.


The photos around 1300 are from this afternoon. Despite what it says on the website, there was no confusion between 0594 and 3479. They were both located in their right places.

That's all, thank you!

Cheers

Pete

Other material ~~0890~~  
Surveys for 0890  
5317

 Libre de virus. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

Photos for 1299, 1301, 1528



# **MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT**