

# LOGBOOK

Year: 2014

Season: Christmas : New Year

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

*Juan Corrin, January 2015*





CHRISTMAS 2014

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Matienzo Christmas 2014

23<sup>rd</sup> December – Simon Cornhill

2621 – Descended the shaft, choked 11m down.

24<sup>th</sup> December -2889 Torca la Vaca - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs

A trip down Torca la Vaca from Bigmat Calf hole to the start of Henry's Way to drop kit off and rig/re-instate hand lines on the way.

On the way in, we continued NW along the big passage to near Scafell Aven, then South down the two 8m pitches into Walking on Eggshells, returning via no1: Haverflatts Lane. We did this mainly to decide which route is best. If you know the way no1: Haverflatts Lane is best!

26<sup>th</sup> December - 2889 Torca la Vaca - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs

Trip to Nearly Dan chamber, aim to have a look for the downstream Henrys way... Looking under the East wall of NDC yielded a 89m extension heading back north at a lower level. Mainly in chambers created out of MASSIVE fallen blocks. Dropped two short pitches and one (3 bolt) climb – all unfortunately choked. Area surveyed. 'Roa Island' 89m *Batch 14-05*

27<sup>th</sup> December - 2889 Torca la Vaca - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs

A shorter trip to survey a side passage at the start of 'Help Me Lloyd Passage' discovered during the first route finding trip. 'Let it Snow' 215m surveyed ending in a gypsum choke. Then testing Di's new GoProHero down Kendal Mint Cake Passagell *14-06*

29<sup>th</sup> December - 2889 Torca la Vaca - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs

Today we headed South as far as Henry's Chamber, checking to see if anything had been missed by the original explorers. *14-07*

Around 100m upstream of Lagutuna Inlet close to station '1.15', we found and surveyed a 61m extension heading West through a couple of digs ending in a too tight ascending rift. 'Meathop passage' 61m

At the southerly end of Henry's Way shortly before the scramble up to Henry's Chamber, an unsurveyed 'oxbow' marked "crap" on the survey in the wrong place. This is actually a very small inlet and is now surveyed. 'Grange-over-Sands' 140m. *14-08*

30<sup>th</sup> December – 2889 Torca la Vaca - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs

Heading south west from Scafell Aven, along the high level passage to the area at the top of the 8m ladder pitch, there are two leads marked 'continues' opposite the 3m climb up before the pitch. A couple of bolts and a handline or a brass neck would be required to traverse the aven to get to them. Probably worth a look at a later date. We had a good look around this place finding nothing of interest.

We then continued over the top of the 8m pitch to survey the 'continues unsurveyed' area. The passage which '*seems to connect through tight crawl and meets stn23 (not sure whose)*', is a fairly easy going crawl to a boulder choke with black spaces glimpsed beyond. Perhaps this is the small chamber near the end of the Guano Chamber extension '*boulder and mud run in*', however I haven't been there to check.

A wriggle over a boulder into the 'continues unsurveyed' area, a right turn leads to a tight rift surveyed for some distance but not to it's conclusion though. Maybe this is the passage that connects to stn: 23?

Going left into a small chamber, the only passage exiting it ends in a window overlooking the large passage trending south east from Scafell Aven. 80m surveyed – 'Roose Chamber' *80m 14-09*

Moving on to Frizzington we completed the survey loop from Easter, from Dingle station 09\_14.31 closing at station 14\_02.8.18 – it looks reasonably accurate! 29 metres surveyed. *14-10*



2 31<sup>st</sup> December – 2889 Torca la Vaca - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs

Around 50m South of the 4m ladder pitch at High Street Oxbow, we surveyed the 'big passage' lead. This is a well-travelled oxbow back into the main passage. On the opposite side of the passage we also surveyed a smaller oxbow.

Lane' 69m surveyed.

14-11

'Gillinggate' & 'Captain French

Moving on down High Street to the 40m section of passage north of '2009 summer extensions' there are several roof tubes. Using various combined tactics they were all entered. All were alcoves or quickly choked apart from one. This is on the west side of the main route and is a brief hands and knees crawl degenerating into flatout. A complex area.

Continuing south the 'holes between boulders' just after the c+3.6 were checked finding nothing of interest.

Having checked most of the High Street for leads, one place we hadn't been was the 2009 high level passage which trends south from Nearly Dan Chamber. Looking at the survey, this appears to be the most likely place for the cave to continue.

Strolling down this lovely well decorated draughting passage, it became strikingly clear that there were FAR more open (and scampered) leads off the main drag than were recorded on the survey. Annoyingly, there was also a serious lack of written survey stations, this combined with next to no passage detail on the survey, making it difficult to locate exactly where you are and being in a key location prompted us to consider surveying it, for the THIRD time!!!

1<sup>st</sup> January 2015 – 2889 Torca la Vaca - Simon Cornhill, Diane Arthurs

We decided to 'take one for the team' and spend our final caving day resurveying the passage that trends due south from Nearly Dan Chamber, placing marked survey stations at the entrance to all of the leads and recording passage details. Due to time, we selected one previously entered side passage and surveyed it to a little beyond the previous cavers limit. Starting at stooping height it quickly changes to a narrow well decorated rift, this still continues....

'Should Have Gone to Surveying School' 115m Part of batch 14-12

This area has loads of potential, and hopefully plenty for everyone to have a go at! (Twelve? Passages off the main route waiting to be surveyed...)

A grand time potholing down Torca la Vaca, making a start on tackling those passages that have been visited but aren't surveyed or recorded – approximately 800m worth.

Many thanks to the Martins, who put us up and put up with us!

Si & Di

Where: 415

When: 5 January 2015

Who: Peter Smith, Terry Whitaker, Carol Smith

Small trip with line survey to prepare for the resurveying/drawing of the cave in the summer. Climb off the first chamber (way on) has been left rigged with a rope to pull up a ladder.

Some sections of the survey are confusing and might need to be resurveyed but, if we are able to find the stations, we will try to keep the resurveying to a minimum. I've started with the survey sketch for the first section of the cave, and will continue throughout summer. Carol Smith





## **MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT**