

"THE CAVERNEER"

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EDITORIAL:-

THE REASON FOR A TIGHTENING UP OF THE ORGANISATION OF OUR CAVING GROUP IS TO ENABLE FULL SCALE EXPLORATION OF CAVES TO BE CARRIED OUT, WITH COMPLETE SAFETY. BASICALLY, IT CONSISTS OF LIMITING THE PARTIES IN DIFFICULT CAVES TO EXPERIENCED SPELIOS, TAKING THE WORK IN THE PIERRE ST. MARTIN AS A GUIDE, AND TRAINING NEW MEMBERS IN PROGRESSIVELY MORE DIFFICULT TECHNIQUES CO-OPERATION, CO-ORDINATION OF DUTIES, AND A RESPECT OF CAVES MUST BE THE ORDER OF THE DAY.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAMME IS EDUCATION IN ALL ASPECTS OF CAVING; MANUFACTURE OF EQUIPMENT, PHOTOGRAPHY IN CAVES, CLIMBING TECHNIQUES, CAVE LIFE AND FOSSILS AND HYDROGEOLOGY.

THIS, IT IS HOPE, SHOULD BE OF INTEREST TO ALL INTERESTED IN TRUE CAVING.

GENERAL MEETING:-

THERE IS NO DATE SET FOR ANY SPECIAL MEETING BUT EVERY SUNDAY NIGHT, A FEW

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OF THE MEMBERS MEET AT THE HOME OF EVALT CRABB, 159 HOXTON PARK RD, LIVERPOOL, AT ABOUT 8.00PM, AND JUST HAVE FRIENDLY DISCUSSIONS ABOUT ANYTHING EVERYBODY IS WELCOME.

FUTURE TRIPS :-

(1) LIMEKILN CAVE - UP NEAR BATHURST. THIS WILL BE A TRIP TO LOCATE THE CAVE AND JUST GENERALLY EXPLORE THE CAVE AND AREA.

(2) ROSEBROOK AND KYBEAN AREAS:- DOWN NEAR COOMA THIS IS ALSO JUST TO LOCATE THE ROSEBROOK CAVE AND EXPLORE IT AND THE AREA AND IF THERE IS ANYTIME LEFT CONTINUE ON TO KYBEAN AREA.

THERE IS NO DEFINITE DATES FOR THESE 2 TRIPS, THE 1ST. WILL BE BEFORE CHRISTMAS, BUT THE 2ND WILL PROBABLY BE SOMETIME AFTER CHRISTMAS.

POSSIBLY ANOTHER TRIP TO BUNGONIA WILL BE HELD, THIS TIME WITH THE INTENTIONS OF BLASTING OUT A FEW OF THE HOLES, ALSO SOME DIGGING MAY BE DONE, SO BRING THE UNAMENT.

LADDERS:-

A DELAY HAS COME ABOUT BECAUSE ON MAKING THE MOULD FOR MOULDING THE ALUMINIUM FOIL SLUG CASINGS, IT WAS FOUND THAT THE EPOXY RESIN HAD NOT BEEN MIXED PROPERLY, AND SO SOFT PARTS WERE FOUND IN IT. SO PRODUCTION IS HELD UP UNTIL FURTHER INFORMATION ON MIXING IS FOUND

WHYS AND WHEREFORES OF CAVE MAPPINGS

by EVALT CRABB

THIS ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, AND THEREFORE, SINCE THAT TIME NEW AND EASIER WAYS HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED, BOTH BY OUR OWN EXPERIENCES AND FROM OTHER PEOPLE. A NEWER VERSION WILL BE WRITTEN UP LATER.

CAVE MAPPING :-

THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS FOR ACCURATE MAPPING OF CAVE SYSTEMS, - THE MAIN ONES BEING : (1), FOR THE GUIDANCE OF FUTURE VISITORS TO THE AREA, (2). TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR THE EXPLORATION OF NEW TUNNELS IN COMPLICATED SYSTEMS THAT MAY BE OVERLOOKED, (3). TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR EXPLORATION FOR FORMATIONS AT CERTAIN LEVELS, (4) TO CHECK FOR POSSIBLE LINKS WITH OTHER CAVES IN THE AREA.

TO FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF A MAP FOR THE ABOVE PURPOSES THE IMPORTANT POINTS ARE LENGTH, DEPTH AND DIRECTION OF TUNNELS, NOTES ON ANY FEATURES THAT CAN BE USED AS LANDMARKS, AND A NOTE OF ANY DANGER SPOTS.

WORK HAS ACTUALLY STARTED IN THE GRILLE AT BUNGONIA, WHICH WAS CHOSEN BECAUSE (1) THE S.S.S. ARE CARRYING OUT A SURFACE SURVEY OF THE AREA, AND CORRELATION TO OTHER CAVES WOULD BE EASY AND ACCURATE (2). THE CAVE IS SUFFICIENTLY COMPLICATED TO PROVIDE INTEREST OTHER THAN ACTUAL MAPPING, (3). MOVEMENT THROUGH THE CAVE IS RELATIVELY SIMPLE, (4). CHECKING THE ACCURACY OF THE METHOD

OF MAPPING IS POSSIBLE DUE TO OVERLAPPING TUNNELS AND A VENT IN THE ROOF NEAR THE ENTRANCE

THE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED CONSISTS OF A CORD, WITH LENGTHS MARKED, A COMPASS, AND A DEVICE FOR MEASURING THE ANGLE OF THE CORD, RELATIVE TO VERTICAL OR HORIZONTAL THE CORD IS STRETCHED BETWEEN FIXED POINTS AS FAR APART AS POSSIBLE, CONSISTENT WITH THE SHAPE OF THE CAVE AND THE DISTANCE, DIRECTION AND ANGLE CHECKED THESE ARE NOTED, TOGETHER WITH A ROUGH PLAN SHOWING WIDTH OF THE TUNNEL, BRANCH TUNNELS, AND ANY SALIENT FEATURES THIS IS THEN REPEATED UNTIL EACH TUNNEL BECOMES IMPASSABLE. AN IMPORTANT POINT IS THE SETTING OF BASE DATUM POINTS, I.E. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FIXED, RECOGNISABLE POINTS AT WELL KNOWN SECTIONS OF THE SYSTEM. THEN, ANY MAPPING WOULD BE DONE RELATIVE TO THESE POINTS, WHICH SHOULD BE NEAR JUNCTIONS IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THESE BASE DATUM POINTS BE ESTABLISHED IN THE GRILLE CAVE AT THE OUTSIDE ENTRANCE, AT THE BASE OF THE LONG LADDER, AT THE TOP OF THE LONG MUDDY SLOPE, AND AT THE LARGE CHAMBER BEYOND AND BELOW THE CRUCIFIX. GROTTO (CRYSTAL PALACE); THEY WILL BE RECOGNISED BY THE LETTERS "A", "B", "C", "D", RESPECTIVELY EACH LINE SURVEY, THEN WILL BE TABULATED NUMERICALLY ACCORDING TO ITS POSITION, e.g. B+2, C+1, etc.

THE PROCEDURE IN THE CAVES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS: A SPECIAL NOTEBOOK WILL BE KEPT, EACH PAGE OF WHICH WILL BE DEVOTED TO A SINGLE LINE SURVEY. EACH PAGE WILL HAVE.

(1) THE INDEX NUMBER OF THE LINE, I.E. A+1, A+2.

- (2) THE LENGTH OF THE LINE FROM POINT TO POINT.
- (3) THE DIRECTION OF THE LINE.
- (4) THE ANGLE OF THE LINE RELATIVE TO THE HORIZONTAL.
- (5) IF ONE POINT HAPPENS TO BE A BASE DATUM, DETAILS OF THE POSITION OF THE POINT.

(6) A ROUGH SKETCH OF THE CAVE RELATIVE TO THE LINE, WITH APPROXIMATE WIDTHS MARKED, AND SPECIAL FEATURES, SUCH AS LEDGES, POOLS, OR LARGE FORMATIONS. THIS SKETCH WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE ENTRANCE OF ANY SIDE TUNNELS, WITH THEIR GEOMETRIC POSITION ACCURATELY DIMENSIONED

- (7). A NOTE OF ANY MARKER LEFT FOR REFERENCE

WHEN A LONG TRIP INTO THE CAVE IS CONTEMPLATED, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO COMMENCE MAPPING AT ONE OF THE LOWER LEVELS, SO THAT PURELY, EXPLORATORY WORK MAY BE CARRIED OUT AT THE SAME TIME. THE AREA IMMEDIATELY INSIDE THE ENTRANCE CAN BE MAPPED WHEN SUITABLE SHORT, OCCASIONS PERMIT, OR WHEN NEW PEOPLE ARE BEING SHOWN THE FORMATIONS, PERMITTING SPLITTING OF THE ^{ADVANCE} ~~ADVANCE~~ GROUP. ON THESE SHORT TRIPS, ALSO,

IS INTENDED THAT THE SHORT SIDE TUNNELS BE FOLLOWED AND MAPPED AS THE ABOVE SURVEY WILL BE CARRIED OUT OVER SEVERAL TRIPS TO THE AREA, IT'S INTENDED THAT THE DRAWING OF THE MAP BE DONE PROGRESSIVELY A LARGE SCALE MAP OF THE CAVE ONLY, AND A SMALLER MAP, TO THE SAME SCALE AS THE S.S.S SURVEY, WILL BE PREPARED, AND WILL CONSIST OF A TRUE PLAN VIEW, WITH PROGRESSIVE DEPTHS MARKED IN THIS WAY IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO DECIDE IN WHICH DIRECTION FURTHER EXPLORATION SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT FIRST, THE AIM BEING TO LINK IF POSSIBLE WITH OTHER SYSTEMS NEAR THE GRILLE CAVE.

A START WAS MADE IN MAPPING THE GRILLE CAVE ON THE 2nd AND 3rd OF AUGUST, 1958. THE AREA BETWEEN "A" "F" "B" DATUMS HAVE BEEN COVERED BY A LINE TRAVERSE, INDICATING THAT THE BASE OF THE LONG LADDER IS APPROXIMATELY 130 FEET BELOW THE ENTRANCE. COMPLETE MAPPING IN THE AREAS BETWEEN "A" and "B" DATUMS and "B" and "C" DATUMS WOULD BE A LONG AND LABORIOUS JOB. THERE MAY BE A WATER COURSE TO THE LOWER LEVELS IN BETWEEN "B" and "C" DATUMS, OTHER THAN THAT FOLLOWING FROM "B" DATUM. FROM "C" TO "D" DATUMS IS REASONABLE STRAIGHT FORWARD, AND WHEN TIME PERMITS THIS AREA CAN BE FULLY MAPPED.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT FOUR NEW DATUM POINTS BE ESTABLISHED, IDENTIFIED AS "E", "F", "G", and "H" THESE ARE TO BE RESPECTIVELY AT A CHAMBER AT THE END OF THE WATER COURSE RUNNING DOWN FROM "D" DATUM (BAT CHAMBER) AT THE ENTRANCE OF A TUNNEL BEARING OUR FOUL AIR SIGN, AT THE POINT WHERE THIS TUNNEL DROPS AND REVERSES DIRECTION, and at a "T" INTERSECTION. FURTHER DATUMS WILL BE ESTABLISHED SHOWN NECESSARY DURING EXPLORATION BEYOND THE KNOWN AREA, PARTICULARLY "G" DATUM. FROM "D" DATUM ON IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO FULLY MAP THE CAVE, BUT IT WILL TAKE SEVERAL TRIPS.

SINCE THIS ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN WE HAVE DONE A LINE SURVEY AS FAR AS THE BAT CHAMBER WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY 250 FT BELOW THE ENTRANCE. SOME FULL MAPPING HAS BEEN DONE ON THIS PART ALSO BUT FOUL AIR HAS STOPPED US IN PROGRESSING ANY FURTHER, IN DEPTH.

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REPORT ON BUNGONIA CAVES TRIP. 17-18 SEPTEMBER 1960.

AFTER A SLIGHT DELAY, ON SATURDAY MORNING, DUE TO CAR REPAIRS, THE TRIP STARTED, WITH ELEVEN PEOPLE TRAVELLING IN THREE CARS. THERE WAS A DELAY ON THE WAY, AS ONE OF THE VEHICLES SUFFERED A PUNCTURE. THE DAY TIME START WAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF BY GEOFF, WHO TOOK MOVIE FILM SHOTS OF THE TRIP ON THE FORWARD JOURNEY. EARLY LUNCH WAS TAKEN AT MARULAN.

A STOP WAS MADE JUST BEFORE THE RESERVE ENTRANCE TO ENABLE A LOOK-SEE TO BE TAKEN OF THE LIMESTONE OUTCROPS IN THAT AREA. ONE FAIR SIZED ENTRANCE WAS FOUND, UNFORTUNATELY THOUGH THERE HAD BEEN A LOT OF RUBBISH DEPOSITED IN THE ENTRANCE.

ON OUR ARRIVAL AT THE CAMP SITE, (NOT THE USUAL ONE), AS IT WAS OCCUPIED, FIVE OF THE GROUP WENT INTO THE GRILLE CAVE TO CHECK ON FOUK AIR. THIS WAS FOUND TO BE AT THE PREVIOUS LEVEL I.E. THE BAT CHAMBER. THOSE INVOLVED IN THIS TRIP WERE ROSS, KEN, JOHN, KEITH, and LES. AFTER THIS DISCOVERY, AND WHILE CAMP WAS BEING MADE SHIP-SHAPE EVALT AND ROSS WENT AND HAD A LOOK AT THE NEW CAVE THAT HAD BEEN RECENTLY RE-DISCOVERED BY U.M.S.W.S.S. (B31.) SATURDAY EVENING FOUND THE GROUP CLUSTERED AROUND THE TOP OF B.1. OF THE EIGHT THAT WENT DOWN, ONLY TWO HAD BEEN DOWN BEFORE, DAVID AND EV, THE OTHER SIX WERE KEN, JOHN, LES, BOB, GRAHAME and KEITH. KEITH STAYED IN THE LITTLE CHAMBER AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FIRST DROP, BUT THE OTHERS WERE SHOWN TO THE DROP WHERE WE NEED A LADDER TO GO FURTHER, SURPRISINGLY ENOUGH IT WAS AN EARLY NIGHT FOR EVERYONE.

NEXT MORNING, EVERYONE WAS UP FAIRLY EARLY EVEN our illustrious leader BEAT TWO of our members up in accordance with the new ideas THAT WERE TO BE TRIED OUT, THE party was SPLIT INTO 3 GROUPS, THE GREATER NUMBER, JOHN, KEN, LES and ROSS, WENT TO EXPLORE B31, A VERY DUSTY AND narrow CAVE, AS FAR AS WE GOT, WHERE A HOLE WAS REACHED (ABOUT 50-60 FT) WHERE A LADDER WOULD BE NEEDED FOR FURTHER EXPLORATION LES REPORTS FINDING ANOTHER HOLE THAT SEEMS TO CONTINUE ON IN THE TOP OF ONE OF THE CHAMBERS (FURTHER WORK REQUIRED DIGGING?) THE group CONSISTING OF EV, BOB and GRAHAM, WITH JOHN AS CHIEF HOLE-FINDER (foam) WENT LOOKING FOR THE LITTLE KNOWN CAVES AND POT-HOLES IN THE area. ALTOGETHER THEY LOOKED IN and AROUND THE ENTRANCE OF 18 HOLES (sounds LIKE A GOLF-COURSE) REPORTS ON THE condition of entrances to Caves. B1 - 10, 13-15, 18, 20, 23 and 30, ARE IN EV'S LITTLE BLACK BOOK.

B3, was FOUND TO END AT A DEPTH OF 200 FT, AND IT SEEMS THAT FURTHER WORK ON B3 WILL BE A WASTE OF TIME.

GEOFF, KEITH AND DAVID WENT ON AN EXPLORATORY WALK TO THE NEW (TO US) AREA OF LIMESTONE SEEN on our last Trip to Bung. THE FACE, FACING THE VALLEY PROVED TO BE an old landslide, and UN-PRODUCTIVE, THE ONLY AREA. WORTH another look SEEMS to be THE AREA SLIGHTLY INLAND FROM THE LIMESTONE FACE ITSELF.

AS WE LEFT THE RESERVE it started to rain heavily and THERE WERE RAINY CONDITIONS NEARLY ALL THE WAY HOME, THE JOURNEY OF WHICH WAS UNEVENTFUL.

EVEN THOUGH THIS TRIP WAS SHORTER THAN THE ones usually.

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UNDER TAKEN, SEVERAL POINTS WERE PROVED.

- 1). SPLITTING THE PARTY INTO SMALLER GROUPS AIDS EXPLORATION WORK.
- 2). LADDERS ARE A GREAT NEED.
- 3). MORE TRIP LEADERS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE CHARGE OF THESE GROUPS.
- 4). EASIER MEANS OF COMMUNICATION ARE NEEDED.
- 5). PRE-PLANNING PAYS OFF.
- 6). THERE SEEMS TO BE QUITE A LARGE AREA IN THE BUNGONIA RESERVE THAT WE REALLY HAVN'T REALLY TOUCHED YET, AND ALSO AREAS ADJACENT TO IT.
- 7). EARLY NIGHTS, WITH NO NIGHT CAVING, MEANS EARLY MORNINGS !!!

AS IT WAS SAID BEFORE THE SPLITTING OF THE PARTY INTO SMALLER GROUPS WORKED, LET US HAVE MANY MORE SUCH TRIPS, AND LET US HOPE THAT THEY WILL PROVE AS EFFECTIVE AS THIS TRIP DID

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REPORT WRITTEN BY DAVID THOMPSON.

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I WOULD LIKE TO THANK DAVID AND EVALT BOTH FOR HELPING TO GET ANOTHER MAGAZINE OUT AND I HOPE THAT IT MIGHT SHAME SOMEONE ELSE INTO DOING THE SAME THING ON A FUTURE TRIP. THE REPORT ONLY HAS TO STATE THE FACTS, NOT GIVE A FULL MINUTE BY

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MINUTE ACCOUNT, OF WHAT WE DID. SO DONT FORGET I'M NOT
GOING TO ASK ANY MORE. IF SOMETHING GETS TO ME WE
WILL HAVE ANOTHER MAGAZINE IF NOT THIS WILL BE THE
LAST ONE.

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