

Pretend that
the HCG badge

is here

HCG STRIKES AGAIN! (In May 1999)

I have this habit of starting newsletters/bulletins with what is meant to be a profound message.

Or maybe a sarcastic one. This one is meant to be logical.

About meetings. What are they for? Does anything happen afterwards? Are they merely a display of egos?

Let's look at our meetings using a logical path.

We have a common interest - caves and caving, with side interests in outdoor activities; for a few, service to the community is a component.

We meet for two hours once a month except for three months at year's end. (And let's change that). That is not a lot of opportunity to share our common interests and concerns so we should look at achieving the highest efficiency possible.

Commonly, most organisations follow a set organisational/parliamentary procedure with apologies', minutes of last meeting', corro', treasurer's report', and so on. The limited opportunity to communicate is consumed by all this trivia.

And it's obviously boring - some people go off into their private little huddles which could be conducted elsewhere, disregarding the meeting and common interest. Meetings are about common interests.

There has to be a better way. Our meeting may appear slack but people ARE communicating. Improvement is possible. Let's all strive to make meetings - so few of them - more effective and more satisfying for ALL members.

Let's have your ideas.

And don't be frightened to consider different concepts of meeting processes.

Evalt.

MINUTES OF APRIL MEETING (13/4/99)

Present:

Evalt Crabb, Brian Race, Chris Dunne, Joe Sydney, Grace Matts, James Skinner, Robyn Mountford, Ian Lutherburrow, Lindsay Matheson

Apologies: Ian Wilkin BCA, Phil Flemming, Brette Moule

Corro IN:

SUSS Bull Vol 38

NSWSL Meeting notice for 17/4/99

Hills Vol 14 #2 Oct 98

Hills Vol 14 #3 Jan 99

ACKMA Journal Mar 99

Ackma Conference Update

SA Cave Exploration Group Annual Report 98

GEGSA Feb 99

Thank you letter from NPWS

Corro Out: None

Treasurers Report

March

Balance brought fwd 705.30

Income

ASF & club fees (\$35.00) from Michael O'driscoll; Dirk Stoffels; Peter Bauer;

Mark Laurendet; Lindsay Matheson

\$70.00 Jim McGregor

\$52.00 Phil Fleming

\$5.00 Grace Matts

Nightly Takings \$12.00

Total Income \$314.00

Expenditure

Under Bungonia \$45.00

Total Expenditure \$45.00

Monthly Balance +\$269.00

Total Balance \$974.30

GENERAL BUSINESS

It was agreed that the website requires a revamp. a separate website committee has been formed, Chris Dunne, Jim McGregor, Joe Sydney, Lindsay Matheson, Ian Lutherburrow, Evalt

Crabb

HCG Website meeting is sheduled fror next Tuesday 20th April 7:45pm.

Evalt's comments on the 'Hypothetical' content issue (See prebvious minutes) on the website was discussed, some agreed some didn't.

SPELEO SPORTS and DINNER

Speleo Dinner 18th September, Rovers have agreed to help Joe is taking update info to Speleo

Council.

The venue for speleo sports will be Macquarie Uni, the Dinner is to be held at a local scout hall near the speleo sports venue.

Hunter Speleo and SUSS are confirmed to be attending.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

HCG Cheque Account: It was proposed by Jim McGregor that Rebecca Small and Brett Moule be taken off as signatories and and Evalt Crabb and James Skinner be added.

The motion was carried

There has been a request from the NSW Speleo Council that we pay a \$10 fee. (I did not minute the reason we had to pay it) The request was approved and the cheque was drawn.

CAVING ISSUES

Joe discussed a cave entrance (St Michael's, Avalon) being blocked by it's local council.

He will be providing a report and has photos

TRIP REPORTS

Evalt has a new chart for Portland.

Meeting Closed 21:15

NHT PROJECT

Two of the programmed trips have been held: Portland on 13/14.3.99 and CocoCreek, Blue Rocks on 10/11.4.99. The trip of 1/2.5.99 was abandoned by default. The documentation, maps and reports have become scattered and will be retrieved by private negotiation.

Work in both of the above areas is incomplete - there are indications that a person unknown has tagged at Blue Rocks! - and the areas will not be ignored.

However, the programming and strategies are being changed to suit current knowledge and situations.

The 12/14 June trip to Apple Tree Flat/Queen's Pinch has been moved to 19/20 June because of the significant HCG traditional pyro night. Originally this was a joint trip with RSS (who wanted to practice their cave mapping skills). But we have some homework to do - there is increasing confirmation that there are three, not two, patches from Mt Margaret north to the end of the range.

The trip of 10/11 July, originally TBA, will move to 24/25 July - requested by Ian Lutherburrow post Nullarbor - will be to Blue Rocks again - there is so much there. CSS have

indicated interest in 10/11 July; Blue Rocks most suits their distance, so I guess there'll be negotiations.

The unfinished Portland areas will be programmed after tapping into Bruce Howlett's local knowledge.

Further trips will be programmed when we know of various snow trips August-September!

PYRO NIGHT.

This traditional fireworks night will be held as usual at Ian's, 19 King Street, Appin on Saturday 12th June 1999.

BYO food and drinks; sleep over (BYO sleeping bag) and go walking at O'Hares Creek on Sunday. Maybe pushbike opportunities.

A donation of \$5 per person towards the cost of fireworks is expected. Ian - 46 311 055.

NULLARBOR TRIP.

Ian has confirmed that the Nullarbor trip is a goer. Current arrangements are: meet at Eucla on. Tuesday 6th July, home on Sat. 17th July.

FUTURE EVENTS

15-16 May (OSS) - Cliefden Tree Planting - contact Bruce Howlett 6331 4627

22-23 May (BCA) - Timor - contact Ian Wilkin 4294 1668

22-23 May (ECRC) - Tuglow Caves - contact Hamish McCracken 9528 5680 (h)

29 May (ECRC) - Leadership Training contact Robyn Mountford 9810 8100(w) 9713 2757 (h)

29-30 May (OSS) - NHT Project, Molong - contact Bruce Howlett
(Hey - not one HCG trip in the above!)

12 June (HCG) - Pyro night, suit families, eaters, drinkers, walkers and many others.

12-14 June (ECRC) - Cliefden - contact Glen Fleming 9748 3544 (w), 9568 4730 (h)

19 June (BCA) - Bungonia - contact Ian Wilkin

19-20 June (HCG) - NHT project, Queen's Pinch, Apple Tree Flat - contact Evalt 9607 2142

3-4 July - NAV Rogaining Event contact Joe Sydney 9577 3361 (w), 9875 1887 (h)
6-17 July (HCG) - Nullarbor trip (see above) - contact Ian Lutherborrow 4631 1055 (h)
24-25 July (HCG) - NHT Project, Blue Rocks (w/-CSS?) - contact Evalt
then there's Wee Jasper, Leadership Training, ski trips, until -
11 September (all) - Speleo Sports, Cavers' Dinner - stay tuned!

and many thanks to Ian Wilkin for his compilation of future events partially printed here.
Now, a personal comment to Peter, Steve, Phil, Dirk - what would you like members' support
for? Let's communicate. Evalt.