

CALCITE

The Official Journal of the Highland Caving Group

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Editor: E. Crabb, 159 Hoxton Park Road, LIVERPOOL

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N.S.W.

EDITORIAL

The Black otulining signifies mourning. We deeply regret the passing of the old style of caving trip, and, we hope, many old-timers are with us in awareness of this bereavment.

Gone are the Friday night departures with no set arrival time (and sometimes no destination!); gone are the colourful characters with completely unpredictable behaviour; gone are those Saturday nights in front of a log fire swapping yarns with the truth occasionally bent a little gone is the grim acceptance of utterly inedible Paddy's dried vegetables, etc. Occasionally we hear tales of the good old days, such as the sinking of a car in the Shoalhaven, a summer's walk to Bendithera, and the many, many occurrences at Colong. In those days, strangers partaking in this caving activity were offered viscous tea from a big black, battered billy, and caving knowledge swapped without restraint. Yet, despite this apparently haphazard approach, good, advancefull, caving was done, and many discoveries made.

What have we today? Warring Societies, class distinction within Scoieties, and a distrustful attitude between nearly every person. We have a few dynamic dictators whose word is absolute; constitution restrictions policed, not by cavers, but by distasteful escapists from normality; in short, a hot-bed of hatred, based on one-up-man-ship, fanned by brinkmanship. The bull session at a fire is replaced by individuals relaxing with a can or bottle of turps, or wenching behind a tree!

Supporting a scientific study, surveying, developing new equipment and techniques are, we feel, highly desirable; respect of cave conservation is of utmost importance; but, let us not forget that caving is voluntary.

And so I end with a very sincere plea..... Please, everybody, don't take yourself so seriously; a little tolerance, a helpful hand, a friendly approach, and you, yourself, may yet experience that terrific feeling of comradeship that we once enjoyed.....that transcends any constitution.

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LIND-RIVER BLAZES
TRIP TO
TUGLOW CAVES
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SEE FULL STORY

INSIDE !!!!

HATARI.....ON SAFARI (AT TUGLOW CAVES)

A familiar sight at the past two trips to the popular (!) caving region of Tuglow, has been one Land Rover (Hatari) owned by Mr. Grant Warren. The final landing of this vehicle in situ is an exciting story and bears some mention here, so here is the full story (as it really happened).

In view of the considerable amount of time to be spent at Tuglow in completing the UNSWSS map of the region (or some other equally obscure reason) it was decided that it would be a very good idea to be able to reach the caves easily. It was with this idea in mind that a recent party from HCG advocated that the LR should go to Tuglow. The most alarming part of the episode was when the LR crossed the Kowmung River at the ford at the foot of Parachute Hill (Boxs Mountain). After successfully crossing the LR was soon in difficulties, bogged axle deep in silt on the side of the mountain. This is a full story in itself, however, so we will let it suffice to say that prayers of thanks were offered to Archimedes for the principals which he discovered.

We were also hampered by the huge trees which were blown over the path during a recent wind storm, but with all the muscle power available we soon reached the turnoff, from which it was a simple matter to bounce the LR from tree to tree up to the site of the caves. On a subsequent trip the LR was brought to within 6" of the entrance to the main cave. It is recommended however, that only experienced LR drivers attempt this trip, as it is potentially dangerous, particularly the climb out of the river.
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FUTURE EVENTS (for your diary):

4-5-6- October	Wee Jasper - Trip Leader: E. Powell. - General. Tuglow - Trip Leader: B. Pearcey. - Mapping.
12th October	Social & Film Night - Contact Grant Warren - 73-4781.
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X1st October	General Meeting - 1st Fairfield Scout Hall. - 8.00 p.m.
26-27 October	Mudgee - Exploration & Mapping - Trip Leader - B. Pearcey 622-4551
16-17 November	Tuglow - Mapping - Trip Leader - B. Pearcey - 622-4551.
Christmas	Nullabor - Contact G. Warren at 73-4781 for details.

REPORT ON TRIP TO BUNGONIA CAVES 7th-8th SEPTEMBER 1963.

B. Pearcey

A party of 22 persons, including some visitors and prospectives paid a visit to Bungonia on this weekend. Possibly the main thing which took place was the Mock Rescue from the Grille Cave, a full report of which will be published later in the Year Book. As usual, the trip was not without

its happenings.....

Further mapping was done in the Fossil Cave, down at the water level, and a few prospectives were examined for membership qualifications in this cave. A few members took advantage of the opportunities and treated themselves to some exciting caving in the numerous holes!!

An exercise on ladder climbing techniques was carried out on the surface and later in B34 for the benefit of some of the new members, and a general look around was had at a few of the old stomping places.

Work on the Junction Sink was also continued with reasonable success.

On disturbing point which was brought home all too clearly was that we have in the group, some people who are in caving for the recreation and enlightenment which it can give; and some who are in it or rather against it for some other obscure purpose which is completely unrelated. It is hoped however, that with a few more trips behind them, these people may realise that the spirit of caving is there to be enjoyed, and act accordingly.

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THAT NUT, CALSIET, REPORTS:::

The group, with many friends, had a ball at a recent party held at the Kaye home at Castlecrag. Highlight was grass skirt routine by Eddie Powell and John Dougall, followed by Miss Delia cutting a cake.

Count the Holdens.... Jim Kerr is the latest proud owner.

Heard a whisper, that Grant traded a pile of comic books in on British Caving.. Well done, laddie!!!

Saw a letter about an ASF Committee Conference addressed to HCG. Does this mean we've broken the barrier into the political world?

Believe that volunteers may be called for to arrange some system of pre-trip organisation. We confess to agreeing with another society that everything runs to schedule right up to departure time.

MISS BARBARA KAYE: NEVER travel in one car with your sleeping bag in another. Four hours is now considered standard waiting time!

Looked over the Editor's shoulder, and saw, (yes it's true)! proposed layout for year book! A hot tip: no separate sub-committee reports, new material on ropes, etc, dyeline map even! The boss, will of course deny any knowledge of its release mid November.

Some years ago, Evalt Crabb, Ross Ellis, John Powell opened and entered a cave at Cooleman, which they subsequently joined with the Cooleman cave. We're very pleased to hear that our name, The Right Cooleman (continued page 5)

THE TUGLOW PAGE

In view of the number of trips recently made to this region, the trip reports are joined together on this page.

The first trip to Tuglow to continue the mapping for UNSWSS map saw 11 persons working frantically after getting the LR out of a nasty predicament. Despite the weather, very little work was done, although quite a fair amount of surface exploration was done by the Area Director.

The following trip saw fewer people, but more caving done. Much of the work which was done was of a classified nature, but the following is a reasonable regime of same.

The wall details down to the water passage was completed and the map is now coming along very well. A new (or nearly new) cave was located and quite a considerable amount of time was spent in this, mapping and exploring. Many interesting possibilities have been brought to light and much further work will need to be done in this region to clarify a lot of outstanding questions.

It is suspected that this cave may be a maternity cave, therefore its location will be classified until this is proved. Several bats were sighted in this cave, and the temperature of certain parts of it seem to substantiate this feeling. In case this is so, it is requested that any member learning of its location do not enter it until further permission is granted.

Quite an amount of time was spent in the upper level, which is very much of a change from the wetter portions of Tuglow.

An interesting sideline to the trip was the arrival of a party of Scouts who spent a grand total of 4 hours in the main cave, some of which time was used to bodily drag a phobia-struck member of their party back to the surface.

It was also noted that the main cave is becoming very littered, and it is proposed to spend a weekend in the near future in cleaning this cave out. It is also suggested that anyone who so desires may employ some ladder climbing techniques in certain parts of the system.

A knapsack of scientific instruments was also found in the main cave and some may be obtained from Mr. E. Powell, 148 Belar Avenue, Villawood, or phone 72-7570.

As there is much further work to be done in the mapping, in particular, it is anticipated that further trips will be made to Tuglow. Anyone who is desirous of helping this worthy cause is invited to come along, as there is plenty of work to be done.

B. Pearcey

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(Calsiet...continued)

Cave, has been officially adopted by A.S.F. Another first to us.

Another roaring social success, was the recent social, particularly enjoyable for all the LR worshippers...(wonderful vehicle).

Anyone want any cats....we know justbwhere there are hundreds ofmthem justbwaiting for an owner, otherwise a certain trip leader will have to give up caving to look after them, or something equally drastic.

They tell me that a certain person also has some funny ideas about the nesting habits of bulldog ants, and that a certain PTL nearly met his match..Is this what they mean about a TL having the temperament etc suitable to handle any situation.

STOP PRESS: Group celebrating member's birthday thrown out of Cafe. Arthur Rose (age 18) finally overpowered trog candle flame in front of above kafe!

IS A CAVE????

Generally, contributions to this magazine are carefully screened to ensure 100% truth content; therefore a recent article - doubting the actuality of any cave - was rejected. The theories seemed too fantastic at first, but a kittle cogitation brought forth an advance on the original theory.

Basically, it was suggested that caves only exist (in a caver's mind?) during the time a person is caving, i.e., that caves have no sybstance, but are of a transitory, or psychological nature.

The latter theory is that caves do not exist at any time, not ever in a person's mind. Therefore there are cave walls, floor, atmosphere, decoration, etc, (permanant or transitory?) But what are they walls, floor, etc, to? Nothing, except each other. So where did the cave go? What, indeed, is a cave? Contributions on these or allied theories will be considered.

Particularly welcome would be confirmed reports of practical experiments to prove the continued existence of any cave.

(Editorial Note: Disregard Penman).

OFFICE BEARERS - 1963

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