

S.U.S.S.



# CALCITE

Newsletter of the Highland Caving Group.

No 21 JULY 1976

## EDITORIAL

### A Going Concern.....

H.C.G. is now a going concern again, there can be no denying that. The work of members at Bungonia and Jaunter culminate in the publication of Journal No. 1, of which the A.S.F. Newsletter said "This well-presented Journal...Congrats on an excellent production" bears testimony to this. Not bad for a society that a few months ago didn't even have it's address in the A.S.F. Newsletter and the spelio world was wondering if we still existed.

But one aspect of our resurrection is causing us problems. The Canberra group. Ever since Canberra affiliated with us in 1969 they have been used as a crutch, a political tool, a hook to bear our name during the decline of H.C.G. in Sydney, and now, regrettably, have become a millstone around the Group's neck. When the groups (Sydney and Canberra) began to get things in order again late last year Canberra's cry was one of solidarity, but since then things have deteriorated. Correspondence from Canberra slowed, and has now ceased altogether, they have gone back on some of their basic undertakings and there is still the matter of some \$60 odd outstanding. They may be having internal troubles (an internal lack of communication perhaps?) they may have even disbanded, or perhaps Canberra itself ceases to exist when Parliament is in recess? Still we don't know do we?

Meanwhile H.C.G. Sydney continues to go from strength to strength. Calcite (the Journals older, but rather less refined, sister) now makes its reappearance to bring you news, views, and all that kind of stuff and The Journal No. 2 should (hopefully) be out soon. Like I said earlier, not a bad effort.

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### OFFICE BEARERS 1976

President.....Evalt Crabb  
Secretary.....Gerry Hopkins  
Treasurer.....Jenny Hopkins  
Library & Records.....Tony Hele  
Journal Committee.....Peter Dykes, Evalt Crabb,  
Gerry Hopkins.  
Calcite Editor.....Tony Hele

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AND DON'T FORGET CALCITE

HELP WANTED  
CALCITE

Even though the editor of this superb publication is a Lihot (Legend In His Own Time) even he needs help. As brilliant as this particular edition is (being a wholly T.H. issue) the editor can not be expected to keep up this amazing standard indefinitely. So it is up to you- ordinary or garden variety member - to keep Calcite going. Please, anything, that you think may be of interest submit it to me, you spelio bards. You may be assured that even the most puerile muck will be perused by a team of hand picked experts and carefully considered for publication along side the rest of the puerile muck. So it is up to you, dear member, to keep Calcite up to the standard that has been so obviously set by this edition.

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.....

This, by way of explanation, is an editorial policy. Publication it seems is the bane of many societies, it certainly has been that way for H.C.G. in the past. But now we have the Journal in which we plan to chronicle the work that has been performed by our members. So what then is the purpose of another publication like Calcite? A valuable purpose I feel. The role of Calcite is to inform members of what the club, and that means other members, is doing and also to simply entertain. It also acts as a medium to inform other societies just what H.C.G. is doing, not, like the Journal, what H.C.G. has done.

I do not plan to set any periodicity for Calcite. It will come out when there is enough material to cover the pages. So that means it is up to the members, not simply the editor, to decide when the next Calcite will be rolling off the presses (or should I say duplicator).

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AN APOLOGY.....We was rong (sort of)

The day after writeing and duplicateing the editorial on page 1 the club relieved a cheque for \$56 from the Canberra group. So part of that editorial now becomes redundant. Thanks fellas, we don't have to call out S&R to find yous after all.

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Contrary to popular belief the aim of this edition is NOT to insult the greatest number of people in the shortest possible space.

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BE A POWER MONGER --- WRITE FOR CALCITE

## WHO'S WHO IN HIGHLAND

Following the success of the Who's Who articles in the ASF Newsletter HCG now publishes its own Who's Who. This section will not be included next issue and no contributions are solicited. If your name is not included think yourself lucky....

### Gerry Hopkins

Leaps tall buildings in a single bound.  
Is more powerful than a locomotive.  
Is faster than a speeding bullet.  
Walks on water.  
Gives policy to God.

### Brian Race

Leaps short buildings with a single bound.  
Is more powerful than Ev's EJ.  
Is just as fast as a speeding bullet.  
Walks on water if the seas are still.  
Talks with God.

### Rik Tunney

Leaps short buildings with a running start and favourable winds.  
Is almost as powerful as Ev's EJ.  
Walks on water of indoor swimming pools.  
Often fires speeding bullets.  
Talks with God if special request approved.

### Graeme Smith

Barely clears medium gum trees.  
Is able to drive Ev's EJ.  
Can fire speeding bullets.  
Swims well.  
Is occasionally addressed by God's clerk.

### Steve Bunton

Steps over a dogs house with ease.  
Recognises locomotives instantly.  
Can fire a BB gun.  
Can float on his back.  
Can talk to God's clerk if special request approved.

### Judi Hayes

Runs into buildings.  
Recognises locomotives two out of three times.  
Is not issued with ammunition.  
Can stay afloat if properly instructed in use of "Mae West".  
Talks to walls.

### Peter Dykes

Falls over door steps when trying to enter buildings.  
Says "Look at the choo choo".  
Wets himself with a water pistol.  
Plays in mud puddles.  
Mumbles to himself.  
And believes he is God.

Continued over.....

### Evalt Crabb

Lifts buildings and walks under them.  
Kicks locomotives off the track.  
Catches speeding bullets with his teeth and eats them.  
Freezes water with a single glance.  
He is God.

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### THE LIBRARY

Work on the library is progressing at a steady, if rather slow, pace. However a complete list of publications in the library will appear in the next, (I hope) Calcite. A catalogueing system has been devised and work has begun on this task. Now that Calcite appears again it is hoped that we may be able to arrange exchange systems with other societies (we already receive several publications regularly, Down Under being a notable example).

Response to the request for details of members private libraries has so far been slow. To date only Mike Finger has replied. Members may be confused as to the reason for this request, the details of your own libraries are not for publication nor are you expected to lend material to other members. If the Librarian receives a request for a publication that is in a members private library he will liase between members and arrange for abstraction or photo-copies if necessary.

Finally a thanks to Gerry & Jenny Hopkins for donating the Mt. Etna book to the group's library.

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### THE JOURNAL

Issue No.2 of the Journal is rapidly taking shape and looks like being as good, if not better than No.1. The final contents has yet to be decided but it will contain more on Bungonia and Jaunter, an article on ladder construction, a continuation of the disussion on speleogenesis and more maps. Planing is already underway on Journal No.3.

At the last meeting finance of the Journal was discussed and it was decided that members be encouraged to make a \$10 loan to the Group to cover the cost of issue No.2, approxiamatly 10 members indicated their willingness to do so. Rik Tunney became the first (via his golden cheque book) to contribute.

If you can help in production in any way I'm sure the Journal Committee would be glad to hear from you, particulrly when printing time comes around.

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## NO. 2

OUT      SOON

OF JOURNAL NO. 1 THEY SAID.....

"Have just sent me a copy....This well-presented Journal features an article concerning spelio-genesis at Bungonia, maps of The Bunny Room, Mendip, Phoenix, Pants-In-Tail and Solar Cave, plus an article on a new cave dwelling silverfish and an article on the conservation of the Boyd Plateau. There is also a cave listing on the caves at Jaunter. Also of interest is the Introduction. Congrats on an excellent production.

~~MAX~~ - ASF Newsletter No. 70

"Disgusting and immoral....Should be banned.

xxxx- The FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

"Fyd dup gdes kjt mgcx jhtfdres kvdsm hgnx &  $\frac{3}{4}$ hsawq yyyynt.

xxxx- Evalt Crabb President HCG.

AND No. 2 PROMISES TO BE EVEN BETTER AND AT THE SAME PRICE: \$1.50  
 cccccc

More on Bungonia, Jaunter, Speleo-genesis plus ladder construction,  
biology and maps.

NO CAVER SHOULD BE WITHOUT A COPY

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STILL AVAILABLE---- THE JOURNAL NO. 7 AT \$1.50

SPECIAL OFFER

JOURNALS 1&2 FOR THE SPECIAL  
INTRODUCTORY PRICE OF \$3.00

AVAILABLE FROM YOUR LOCAL SEX SHOP, CASINO, CHEMIST, HOTEL  
OR DIRECT FROM HIGHLAND CAVING GROUP.

## PET PROJECTS

This is a brief summary of what some of our members are doing. I'm sure in most cases they would welcome assistance.

Gerry & Jenny Hopkins (& Others)

Digging B54. This is a most impressive dig that looks like going on forever. It has been dug to the stage that it is now a good to climb 10m chimney. The digging is fairly easy but a lot of manpower is required for hauling buckets.

Mike Finger

I understand he has a dig going in the Cowpools area though I don't know much about it. Is also working on an article on ladder construction for the next Journal.

Graeme Smith

Has been surveying at Bungonia among other things.

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## TRIP REPORTS ?

You'll notice this issue doesn't contain any trip reports. The reason is simple, I haven't got any. Anyway I believe trip reports are of questionable value for publication unless they actually contain some worthwhile information. But trip reports will probably be published if submitted.

Would anyone like to write an article on the pros and cons of publishing trip reports?

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## THINGS TO NOTE

Meetings: Third Sunday of the month, at the moment the venue is decided one meeting ahead though this will probably change so I can print a list of future venues in Calcite.

CAVCONACT 76: The Eleventh Biennial Convention of the Australian Speleological Federation- Australian National University, Canberra, 27-30 December 1976.

National Heritage Assessment Study: Have YOU returned your form yet?

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"The inhumanity of science concerns me, as when I am tempted to kill a rare snake that I may ascertain its species. I feel that this is not the means of acquiring true knowledge!"

Henry David Thoreau  
(From his Journal)

"And yet so poor is nature with all her craft, that, from the beginning to the end of the universe, she has but one stuff...to serve up all her dream-like variety. Compound it how she will-star, sand, fire, water, tree, man-it is still one stuff and always betrays the same properties."

Ralph Waldo Emerson  
(Essay on Nature)

MEMBERSHIP LIST 1976, JULY

K BLACK  
37 National St, Cabramatta 2166  
S BROWN  
19 Seine St, Miranda 2228 PH 5228299  
H BUJACK  
37 National St, Cabramatta 2166  
S BUNTON  
4 Chamberlain Ave, Caringbah 2229 PH 5248116  
B CLEAVER  
2 Mcleay Pl, Sylvania Waters PH 5227190  
E & J CRABB  
121 Hoxton Park Rd, Liverpool PH 6072142  
P DYKES  
538 Port Hacking Rd, Caringbah PH 5248723  
M FINGER  
4 Tweed Pl, Sylvania Waters 2224 PH 5220961  
P GRUNDOFF  
C/- Mrs Miller Farmer St, Kiama, 2533  
J HAYES  
41 East St, Hurstville Grove 2220  
T HELE  
167 Memorial Ave, Liverpool 2170 PH 6027735  
G & J HOPKINS  
4/7 Nagle St, Liverpool 2170 PH 720211 (W)  
soon to be moving to Lot 6 Borthwick St Minto  
B KITCHEN  
11/44 Rutland St Allawah 2218 PH 5879112  
M PICKERING  
27 Foveax St Casula PH 6012047  
B RACE  
2 Tracey St, Revesby 2212 PH 777601  
C ROBERTS  
163 Fowler Rd, Illawong 2234  
G & P ROSE  
38/4 The Boulevarde, Brighton-Le-Sands 2216  
B RUSSEL  
20 Werona Ave, Padstow 2211 PH 779527  
G SMITH  
37 Vista St, Caringbah 2229 PH 5246447  
G SOMMER  
618 Forest Rd, Penshurst 2222 PH 57 6956  
R TUNNEY  
PO Box 176 Fairy Meadow 2519  
& International House, Nth Wollongong PH (042) 287410