



No 4.

DEC. 1970

NEWSLETTER

of the

HIGHLAND CAVING GROUP

EDITORIAL

During a committee meeting at Cliefden last June, it was decided to put out a new publication for the members and associates of the Highland Caving Group. This publication was to be produced bi-monthly, and was only to be circulated inside the club, as it was only to inform members of future activities and general goings on in the club.

Three persons undertook to type, duplicate, edit, piece together, and staple this publication, which has become known as the Newsletter of the Highland Caving Group.

At first the Newsletter got away to a good start, with two being produced in the first six weeks. Then disaster struck, one of the three people left the club, another, because of business reasons, could not give the help that he wished, so the job was left up to one person. Hence the Newsletter began to slow down to a point of almost stopping. This issue will be the last for 1970, but it still came a little better than bi-monthly.

It is hoped that next year one or two people can be organised to assist in running off of stencils, as the typing can be carried out by one person.

So until next year, the persons involved in the production of the Newsletter, put away their pens, stencils and typewriters, and join in wishing the members and associates of HCG a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Meeting commenced at 8.15p.m.

Members present : L.Bennett, T.Hele, J.Heath, K.Ward, M.Burton, K.Fitzsimmons, E.Crabb, N.Poulter, L.Maguire, & K.Oliver. Visitors : P.Blackburn.

Declaration of Proxies : None.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and accepted. E.Crabb.

Business arising from the minutes being : STCCC membership being recieved from M.Burton and S.George.

Correspondence : Newsletters ; Trog, Speleo-Graffiti, Speleo-Speil, Explorer, Descent(English), CEGSA Newsletter, Report of search for J.Boyle.

Letters from : Equipment Officer, CRC minutes, MSS trip programme, NP&WS, Sydney Harbour and Parramatta River Pollution Committee, MSS, Newsletter Editor, Agenda for Co-ordination Committee meeting, E.Crabb, & nominations and votes for President from all members.

Letters to : Letters to all members regarding nominations for President, and Colong trip report to NP&WS.

Motion by E.Crabb, that the minutes of the CRC meeting be accepted in their entirety. Carried.

Business arising from the correspondence being ; As a result of the minutes from CRC, E.Crabb nominated T.Hele to compile a list of members willing to be called out in case of a search and rescue.

Motion by E.Crabb that HCG subscribe \$2.67 being 1/3 share with BMSC and MSS to the N.S.W. Film Council, for the purpose of borrowing speluological films. Carried.

The secretary was requested to write to SH&PR pollution committee asking for more information on this matter, and that earlier notice be given re future activities.

Treasurers Report : It was found, that entries in the minute book are inaccurate. There are no records of membership fees, no record of any amount going out. Only entries known being; \$13.43 for RDF battery, \$6.00 petty cash, and \$8.00 ASF subs. Outstanding accounts being \$3.00 in a share of APCM, \$2.00 subs to CRC, \$2.67 to N.S.W. Film Council, \$3.20 for sec expences, and money owing for Newsletter.(to be fixed). Funds stand at \$35.45.

It was recommended that all money to be paid into the club be paid by cheque, and the club open a cheque account.

It was recommended that the account be in an agency as to allow for Saturday withdrawals and deposits.

It was recommended that a budget be prepared for the AGM.

Motion by E.Crabb, that the above report be accepted, and that the Ad Hoc committee be disbanded. Carried.

Other Reports : Trip reports on Wee Uasper and Colong. K.Oliver.

Motion by E.Crabb, that the club purchase a new refill for the tape for mapping purposes. Carried.

General Business : Motion by E.Crabb, That HCG endorse the stated policy that the N.S.W. Co-ordination committee shall not in view of past criticism, accept discussion on STCCC without the opportunity for STCCC to be represented. A vote was then taken and the motion passed 9-2.

Motion by E.Crabb, that the responsibilities of any persons acting for HCG be the subject of discussion of a HCG committee meeting. Carried.

Verbal request from Baptist Cavers that HCG recommend them to Peter Matthews for the purchase of a Speleo Handbook. Motion put by E.Crabb. Carried.

Motion by K.Oliver, that all members (full and prospective) must know proper ladder climbing techniques, experience a fall while being belayed, and be able to saftly belay a person.

During discussion, an object was raised by E.Crabb, that if this would become a mandatory requirement on prospective members, the club could not accept as members, people who wished to limit themselves to normal horizontal caving techniques, and that HCG would only represent a narrow spectrum of cavers. The vote was then taken, and the motion passed 16-2. There was then a motion by E.Crabb that the above motion be recinded. This to be decided at the next meeting.

Minutes cont.....

Motion by K.Oliver, that members not attending trips over a period of six months without showing good cause why, can become liable to having their membership terminated, with their fees being refunded on a pro rata basis.

The vote was again taken, and the motion defeated 16-2.

The nominations for President were read out, and both candidates stated that they would stand. The nominations were Mr.E.Crabb and Mr.K.Oliver.

Votes were then counted, and the position of President went to K.Oliver, who then took the chair.

A proposed amendment to the trip programme was read, and this was accepted.

The final item, was an invitation by M.Burton to HCG members to attend the next meeting of STCCC.

As there was no further business, the meeting was closed at 11.25.

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Minutes of meeting of the Highland Caving Group.- 18th Sept. 1970.

Meeting commenced at 8.15p.m.

Members present : Bess and Bill Patrick, R.Grinhams, J.Heath, K.Oliver, G.Thompson.

Visitors : Mary and Peter Cohen.

Apologies : E.Crabb.

W.Patrick was appointed minutes secretary.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and accepted R.Grinhams.

Correspondence : Newsletters from SUSS, TCC(Speleo-Speil), CSS(The VeryLatest).

Letters from : CRC minutes, UNSWSS re STCCC,

Letters to : MSS(Trip programme).

Treasurers Report : Clubs finances \$35.45.

Trip reports : Colong (K.Oliver), and Cotter (W.Patrick). Accepted R.Grinhams.

General Business : Notice of rescission re ladderwork rejected 4-0.

Motion by E.Crabb that HCG support a proposal that the three clubs (HCG, MSS and BMSC) act as joint hosts for the 1972 ASF Conference. Carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.45.

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New arrival into the club is Greg Thompson(11½ hours). At the last committee meeting at Bungonia, Paul Connolly and Laurie Maguire were accepted as full members of HCG.

By now all of you should have the latest copy of Calcite (who said whats that???), and I'm sure you will all join me in congratulating Bill Patrick and all who helped him in putting together such a fine publication.

One member gained, one member lost. The club says goodbye to Wayne Evans who has left the district with his parents to live in Griffith

The RDF gear is once again operational, thanks to the efforts of Noel Patrick. All we need now, is someone who can now figure out how to use it.

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Forthcoming Trips

TRIP.	DATE.	OBJECTIVE.
WEE JASPER	14 - 15 Nov.	Photography.
WYANBENE.	28 - 29 Nov.	Practise Rescue.
BUNGONIA.	12 - 13 Dec.	Annual General Meeting.

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Contacts for trips.

Evalt Crabb - 6077038.

Keith Oliver - 6231768.

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Mudgee in brief. Oct 4-5-6. This trip was the first combined trip held by the three clubs (HCG, MSS, & BMSC), with members of STCCC also present. All clubs were well represented, with a total of thirty-two active persons caving, three land-rovers for inaccessible areas, and to some groups, walkie-talkies were available. A complete report will appear in a later issue.

Minutes of meeting of the Highland Caving Group - 25th October 1970.

Meeting commenced at 8.25 p.m.

Members present : B.Miller, L.Maguire, K.Ward, N.Poulter, E.Crabb, J.Hale, K.Oliver,
Prospectives : G.Thompson and D.Hemple.

Apologies : R.Carwana.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and accepted. K.Ward.

No business arising out of the minutes.

Correspondence : Newsletters from; UQSS, CQSS, KSS, CSS, & BMSC. ASF Newsletter minutes of CRC meeting, and letter from STCCC re affiliation meeting. BMSC trip notice. Business arising from the minutes; Re ASF Newsletter, a suggestion by N.Poulter, that ASF capitation fee be raised from 50% to \$1.10 and have a motion put to ASF as to the possibility of the Newsletter becoming a commercial publication. Suggestion by R.Miller that instead of one copy being sent to all members, one copy be sent to each club librarian.

Motion by E.Crabb, that HCG write to UNSWSS regarding their present project at Bungonia, and that as a club, HCG has not received any information of the project, and at the same time, suggest that publicity be given to any projects so as clubs do not encroach on another's work. Carried.

Treasurer's Report : It was recommended that the account be changed to the Commonwealth Bank. Funds in hand \$35.45. Owes K.Ward. \$6.25. for tape measure, K.Oliver. \$7.82. (Sec expenses) and E.Crabb. \$4.67. Pro-tem balance \$18.46.

Motion by E.Crabb, that treasurer's report be accepted. Carried.

Motion by E.Crabb, that steps be taken to change the bank account to a branch of the Commonwealth Bank. Carried.

Motion by E.Crabb, that a card system be introduced for records of membership data. Carried.

Following discussion, Ken Ward volunteered to compile a list for the purpose of S&R.

A trip report was given by E.Crabb on the Mudgee Mini Conference.

Motion by E.Crabb, that N.Poulter's resignation as Equipment Officer be accepted, and a vote of thanks be recorded to him for his efforts. Carried.

E.Crabb was then nominated and accepted as Equipment Officer.

Motion by E.Crabb, that the resignation of Wayne Evans be accepted. Carried.

Motion by N.Poulter, that the Speleo Handbook due to Wayne Evans be re-addressed to HCG. Carried.

Motion by K.Ward, that HCG purchase 300' of 1 1/2" manilla rope. Carried.

Future trips : Colong, Waa Jasper, and Wyanbene.

Motion by E.Crabb, that the actions and attitudes of K.Oliver and himself, re STCCC affiliation be endorsed, and that the general policy line adopted be followed for future negotiations. Carried.

The meeting then closed at 10.30 p.m.

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Minutes of CRC meeting November 3rd 1970.

Minutes of previous meeting were accepted as read and confirmed.

Arising from the minutes, Paul Richards produced the draft Cave Description Sheet, which was again discussed in detail, and after some minor amendments, it was decided to submit the draft as it now stands for ratification by member clubs.

Apologies were received from Evalt Crabb and Keith Oliver.

It was decided to defer any further contact with SSS re Walli Caves access until after the ASF conference, as the matter will probably come up for discussion on that occasion.

In the absence of Evalt Crabb, the Mudgee trip report was deferred to the December meeting.

Barry McWilliam advised that he has made final arrangements for discussion with Evalt Crabb on the Wyanbene rescue exercise, and details will be completed during the coming week. Clubs will be advised separately.

Member clubs are asked to advise CRC what maps are held in their records. Perhaps librarians could send a list to the Secretary.

C.R.C. Cont.....

It is proposed that letters of thanks be sent to H.Clarkson, Apple Tree Flat; D.Raynor, Queens Pinch Road; L.Skinner, "Eastwood", Apple Tree Flat; Mrs. Ellis, Buckaroo; Mr. Dowd, Headmaster, Mudgee High School; and the Shire Clerk, Mr.B.Sengleman for their co-operation. A report is also to be sent to the Mudgee Guardian.

This meeting recommends to member clubs that a letter be sent to the A.S.F. Secretary requesting recognition of C.R.C. as an advisory Council incorporating at this stage H.C.G., B.M.S.C., and M.S.S.

Evalt Crabb requested that individual trip leaders at Mudgee forward their trip reports to him prior to the November meeting of C.R.C.

A verbal request was conveyed to the meeting by Evalt Crabb from John Dunkley as Editor of the A.S.F. Newsletter asking all member clubs to very carefully consider the matter of the A.S.F. Newsletter. The present staff will not be available next year to carry on, and have done an excellent job of bringing this publication up to date. The question asked is, "What do we expect the A.S.F. Newsletter to be and do?" John Dunkley may well recommend that the Newsletter be abandoned- have clubs any comment??

In its present form it is said to be too demanding on voluntary labour and quite uneconomical.

The alternative would be commercial production and higher cost, thus higher capitation fees. Will clubs please discuss and prepare your delegate with your views to present at the December Conference.

A comment was received from B.M.S.C. that C.R.C. minutes have circulated outside the delegates and member clubs. The Secretary assured all delegates that only sufficient copies were produced for delegates and one for each club secretary. It was resolved to recommend to all clubs that these minutes be treated as confidential among the clubs concerned.

Discussion then ensued on the rescue exercise proposed for Wyanbene, and after consideration of several alternatives it was decided that due to the great variation in cave environment, Wyanbene should remain the venue, but members are assured that the exercise will be modified so as not to force rescuers and resources beyond reasonable limits. (In fact the Water Crawl section will not necessarily be included).

It was suggested that clubs attention be drawn to the C.S.I.R.O. Wildlife programme and asked that members co-operate to the full in passing information and observation to that authority relating to cave fauna.

A suggestion was made that member clubs combine for a Christmas Dinner function and the agreement of clubs is requested.

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Trip report - Bungonia Sept 19-20. Members present; Bill & Bess Patrick; Roy Grimham, John Heath, Gregg Thompson, & Keith Oliver. Visitors; Mary & Pater Cohen.

The aim of the trip, was to test the R.D.F. gear, but it was found that the battery had been left behind. It was then decided to look at the collapse above B5. Having inspected the collapse, the party entered the cave, and emerged from B4. Later in the afternoon, a party entered B5 again, but this time to go down Hogans. Upon reaching the bottom, it was found that there was no foul air, so the party decided to continue through the sump. The first person into the sump, (who will remain anonymous) found himself stuck with a capital "S", and needed help to get back out. The sump was then dug out, and this time no one was stopped. But after each person went through the sump, it had to be dug out again for the next person.

(Continued over....)

OFFICE BEARERS - 1970.

President/Secretary. - K.Oliver.
Treasurer. - K.Ward.
Safety and Equipment Officer. - N.Poulter.
Librarian. - T.Hele.
Newsletter Editor. - W.Patrick.
Committee Members. - L.Bennett, E.Crabb, & R.Grinham.

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Minutes of the Central Regional Council held on 13th Oct 1970.

The meeting opened at 8.00p.m. with the chairman presiding.

The Cave Description Sheet was discussed and delegates' suggestions were consolidated into a draft to be prepared by Paul Richards for submission to all member clubs.

It was resolved that a copy of the letter received from S.S.S. re Walli access be distributed to all clubs for information.

It is recommended that the Council approach S.S.S. asking them to consider removal of restrictions on A.S.F. member clubs subject only to notification of intention to visit the area.

A letter was received from B.M.S.C. which was a copy of their instruction to their delegates regarding action taken by C.R.C. The matter was discussed and delegates agreed that in the instant of letters sent to Mr.A.Wilson and the Goodradigbee Council, approval of the member clubs should have been awaited, but due particularly to the nature of the letter to Mr.Wilson the secretary had not excused the C.R.C. terms of reference, and his action in sending that letter in the form in which it was written was supported by the delegates.

In connection with the Mudgee Conference trip, it was reported that a surplus of \$2.40 was collected in camping fees, and with the approval of all trip leaders on that occasion this amount was passed to C.R.C. to help defray other expenses of organising this venture.

On the motion of Evalt Crabb and Keith Oliver, the amount was passed to Barry McWilliam to help with petrol costs on his trip to Mudgee prior to the Conference in connection with advance organisation.

Delegates expressed their thanks to Barry McWilliam, Stan Thomas, Evalt Crabb and Ken Keck for their work in organising this trip.

The hosting of the 1972 A.S.F. Bi-ennial Conference in Sydney by C.R.C. was then discussed and it was reported that H.C.G. and M.S.S. support the proposal. It remains to obtain B.M.S.C. support before any offer can be considered to the coming December Conference.

A report was given on the Mudgee trip and the meeting discussed some aspects and criticisms. It was felt that location in the camping area, while necessary in this instance, did not contribute to the ability of club members to mix as freely as would have been the case at an open camping spot. The trip served as an introduction to a very interesting area but there was insufficient time to cover the full possibilities during the week-end. However the trip was considered sufficient success as an initial venture to warrant consideration of a similar organisation during the next twelve months.

A full transcript of the proceedings of the Saturday evening will be prepared from a tape taken by Barry McWilliam, and Evalt Crabb will submit a Comprehensive Trip Report for circulation to member clubs as soon as possible,

CRC minutes cont.....

Regarding the proposed Christmas Dinner, it is proposed for Friday 4th or Saturday 5th December, and the Secretary will endeavour to arrange it in the Parramatta area and advise all clubs separately.

Mention was made that trip notices are not being regularly circulated to member clubs in some instances, and clubs are asked to rectify this if they are at fault in this matter, as it is essential to co-operation between members.

It was reported that contact has been made with Andrew Wilson, and he finds the CRC proposal for co-operation with him quite acceptable.

It is recommended that CRC send Andrew Wilson details of Rescue contacts within our clubs for his use as required. (One contact from each club.)

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Minutes of meeting of Highland Caving Group.- 22nd November 1970.

Meeting commenced at 8.25p.m.

Members present : E.Crabb, K.Ward, J.Heath, N.Poulter, K.Oliver.

Apologies : T.Hele, L.Maguire, & R.Carvana.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and accepted. K.Ward.

No business arising out of the minutes.

Correspondence: Newsletters from: SSS, UNSWSS, VSA, KSS, NSA, CQSS, TCC, NUSS, ASF, CSS.

Johh Dunkleys submission on the Newsletter, E.Hamilton-Smiths proposed re-structure of ASF, CRC minutes, and a letter from Macquarie University, Prelim agenda for ASF Conference. Motion by E.Crabb, that upon application of Southern Caving Society (Tas), to become a member society of ASF, that HCG support that application. Later changed to a notice of motion.

E.Crabb moved that HCG approve Item 7 on the agenda of ASF Conference in principle. Carried.

A resolution was passed that Items 8&9 on the agenda be approved. Carried.

Motion by E.Crabb, that the NSW Convention be elected by the NSW Societies; that the quorum for the New South Wales Co-ordination Committee be 50% of the membership, and that there be a minimum of 4 months notice given before any Co-ordination committee meeting.

Motion by E.Crabb, that motion re Co-ordination Committee be held over until December meeting. Carried.

Notice of Motion by E.Crabb, that HCG support a proposal that the ASF Newsletter be produced quarterly using commercial offset production; that the ASF capitation fee be based on a flat rate per society plus per capita subscription; and that HCG accept any form of capitation not in excess of \$1.00 per member grace.

Notice of Motion by E.Crabb; that HCG support in all details the proposals by E.Hamilton-Smith regarding Structure and Re-organisation of ASF, with the added item of provision for non-affiliated societies to be affiliated in some way with regional councils.

Treasurers Report : It was reported that the clubs funds are the same as last months, and that the account should be settled within the coming week, As the treasurer will not be able to attend the next AGM, he will prepare a report and hand it to the secretary for that meeting.

Motion by E.Crabb, that the treasurers report be accepted. Carried.

Notice of Motion by E.Crabb, that in respect of the affiliation between HCG-STCCC, the terms of reference be flexible, based on a degree of co-operation in both trips and meeting procedures, with no formal control of one society over the other, with problems or interaction, being resolved by mutual discussion between the club committees, and that consideration always be given to amalgamation of subsidiary club functions where possible jointly to a regional council.

Verbal reports by E.Crabb and K.Oliver on Wee Jasper Trip.

The meeting closed at 10.55P.M.

HIGHLAND CAVING GROUP - MEMBERSHIP LIST November 1970.

Miss. L. Bennett. 522-7360.
2 Terrace Ave. Sylvania Heights. 2224.
Miss. T. Brandenburg.
"Green Court" Flat 3. Smollett St. Albury. 2640.
Mr. M. Burton. 520-9649.
11 Leawarra St. Engadine.
Mr. R. Caruana. 665-6849.
Flat 17. 322 Clovelly Rd. Clovelly. 2031.
Mr. P. Connolly. 634-1344.
2 Tuckwell Rd. Castle Hill. 2154.
Mr. E. Crabb. 607-7038.
121 Hoxton Pk Rd. Liverpool. 2170.
Mr. F. Crome.
c/o CSIRO Tobacco Research Institute, Mareeba. Qld. 4880.
Mr. D. Eldrige. 869-1086.
2A Haywood St. Epping. 2121.
Mr. K. Fitzsimmons. 522-8083.
48 Young St. Sylvania Heights. 2224.
Mr. C. Foat. 750-0915.
55 Wattle St. Punchbowl. 2196.
Mr. S. George. 521-4642.
1 Moona Rd. Sutherland.
Mr. R. Grinham. 491-668.
28 Gilbert St. Hackett. A.C.T. 2602.
Mr. J. Heath. 560-7919.
4 Toothill St. Lewisham. 2049.
Mr. T. Hele. 602-7735.
167 Memorial Ave. Liverpool. 2170.
Mr. D. Hemple. 77-4315.
Lot 1. 4th Ave. Llandilo. 2760.
Mr. R. Kennedy.
19 Greenpoint Rd. Oyster Bay. 2225.
Mr. L. Maguire. 750-0915.
40 Renown Ave. Punchbowl. 2196.
Mr. R. Miller. 856-419.
14 Milton Ave. Eastwood. 2206.
Mr. K. Oliver. 623-1768.
44 King St. St. Mary's. 2760.
Major. W. Patrick. 491-556.
Mrs. W. (Bess) Patrick.
Mr. N. Patrick.
85 Melba St. Downer. A.C.T. 2602.
Mr. N. Poulter. 70-1634.
21 Collins Cres. Yagoona West. 2199.
Mr. M. Rowney. 639-4349.
31 Anderson Rd. Northmead. 2152.
Mr. G. Thompson.
142 Carpenter St. St. Mary's. 2760.
Mr. K. Ward. 759-3723.
93 Macquarie St. Greenacre. 2190.

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