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SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

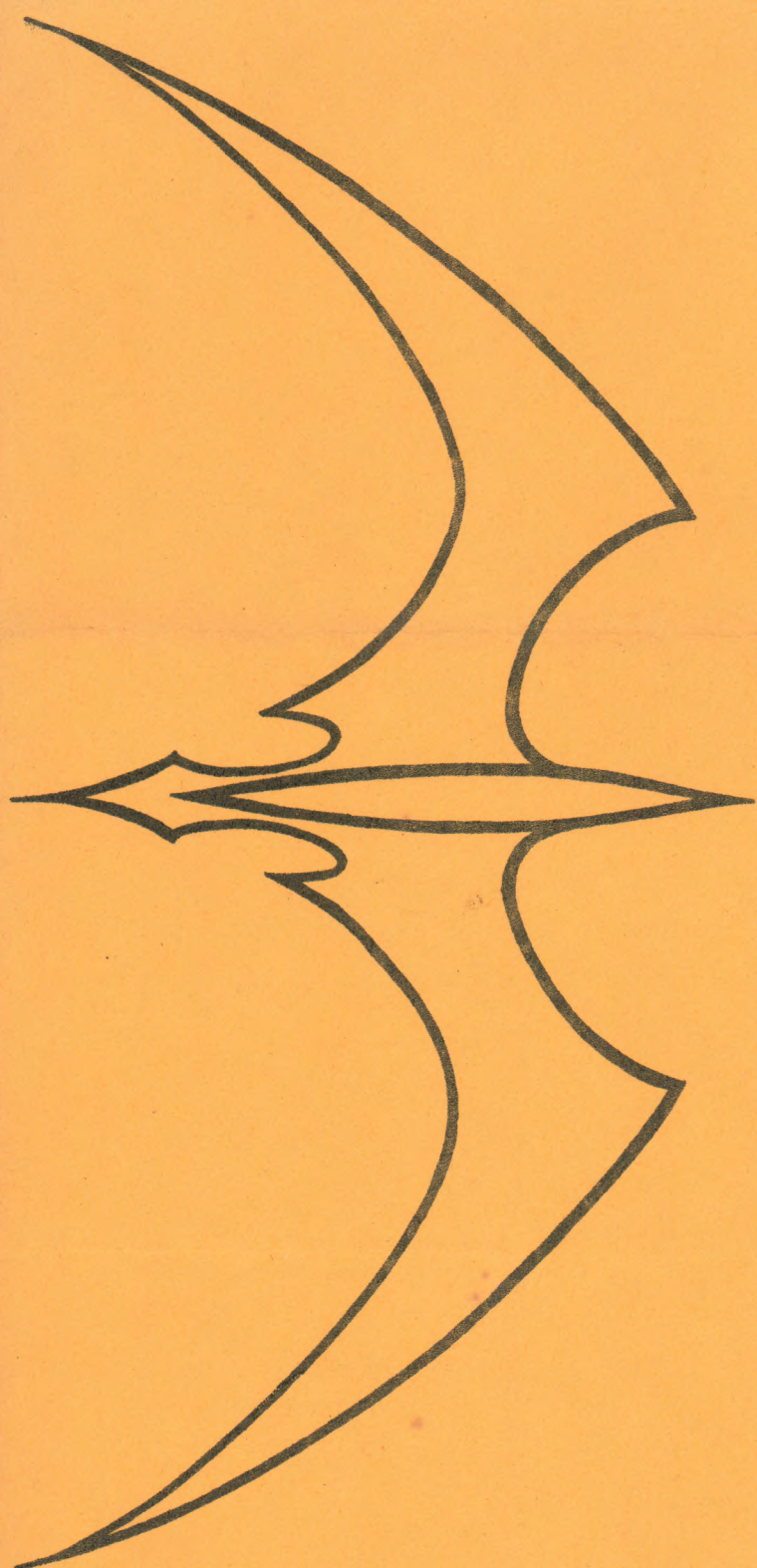
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P.O. Box 86
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N.S.W. 2292



COMBINED TRIP REPORT TO TUGLOW CAVE BY MEMBERS OF:
 NEWCASTLE SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.
 ORANGE SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.
 UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB.

New Year Long-weekend 67-68.
 30th Dec - 1st Jan 67 - 68.

N.S.A.	Trevor BERMAN	T.L.
	Keith DAVEY	M
	Ted SAVAGE	P.L.
	Bill WATSON	M
	John SMYTH	M
	Richard SHADWELL	M
	Mike LEYLAND	M
	Mal LEYLAND	P.L.
	Jeff LONGWORTH	M
	Colleen SAVAGE	M
	Ted HAYES	M
	Barry MILTON	P
	Denise MILTON	P
	Carole DONNELLY	P
	Kerrie HAYES	P
	Paul LACKEY	V
	Tony KING	V
	Peter WOODS	V
	John NORDHEIM	V
	Sue YOUNG	V
	Heather MACKIE	V
	Kim SMYTH	V

O.S.S.	Chris BENNETT	P.L.
O.S.S. UNEMC	Bob DOUGLAS	M

N.S.A. UNEMC	David DAVEY	M.
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(T.L. Trip Leader, P.L. Party Leader, M Member, V Visitor, P Prospective.)

AIM: To try climb the waterfall and push the passages to their farthest limits. To take some still-photographs of the cave. To make an insect collection.

LOCATION: Tuglow cave is to be found about 15m SW of Jenolan. The turn-off is on the Kanangara Walls Road. The road to the cave from the turn-off is first-class gravel excepting the last pinch down to the river. Very steep. Two wheel-drive cars may be left and the last mile or so walked. Land-Rovers make easy work of the steep slope. Up the other side on the right of the track an outcrop may be seen. The cave is to be found at the peak of the outcrop. A well worn track leads up from the river. (Kowmung R.)

FOR ACCESS DISTANCES SEE SECRETARY FOR REPORT:

SATURDAY: The first party to enter the cave had five members. We were going to push as far as possible up the river to gauge the possibility of climbing the rumoured thirty foot waterfall.

After reaching the bottom of the slope the group went upstream following the rockshelves and river bottom.

Coming to the bolt-hole in the wall, Chris said that the upper passage was chimneyed up to from here. After struggling for some time we all climbed up into the roof. We continued to follow the river far below.

Soon a waterfall was heard, so we dropped down to have a look. After chimneying along a cleft, the bottom of the fall was reached. This was the first waterfall and there were already bolts ascending the rock face on one side of the waterfall. Mike, David and Bob stayed behind while Mal took photographs there.

Meanwhile John, Keith and Chris did a bit of exploration. After roaming around the cave for some time on the upper level the top of the falls was found. Everyone then went back to the photographers. Keith stayed with Mal while the rest of the party, excepting Ted, Colleen and John who set out to find a way upstream from the upper passage. John was in the upper passage and worked his way back to the bottom of the ropes. Ted and Colleen returned to the ropes and together with John went to the surface.

Bob worked his way through the flowstone-shawl barrier followed by David, Mike and Chris. They set off upstream. Mal and Keith followed soon after. The first four went upstream to where gravel crawl began. It was at this extreme that Chris sighted some bats and chased off after them. To get here we had to wade for some time in thigh deep cold water clambering up over mini-falls along the river passage. Mal and Keith only went half the distance because they were having great difficulty with fading lights. When the four returned, everyone pulled out of the cave.

Chris BENNETT (P.L.)	I.40p	7.45p	to waterfall, to wading start and up to gravel crawl.
David DAVEY	..	8.00p	as Chris.
Keith DAVEY	..	..	to waterfall, wading start. Insect collecting.
Bob DOUGLAS	..	7.40p	as Chris.
Mal LEYLAND	..	..	to waterfall, wading start. Photography.
Mike LEYLAND	..	..	as Chris.
Colleen Savage	..	6.15p	to waterfall
Ted SAVAGE	..	6.20p	as Colleen
John SMYTH	..	..	to waterfall, into top passage return by top passage.

The second party on Saturday went down to the top of the first ladder to see if they could connect with the first party. It was at the first ladder that they could hear members of the first party returning.

Paul LACKEY	3.00p	3.10p	to first ladder.
Barry MILTON	..	..	as Paul.
John NORDHEIM	..	..	as Paul.
Bill WATSON	..	..	as Paul.

The third party on Saturday went down to the chimney in the entrance route. Ted, Paul, Jeff and Bill went right down to the rimstone pools while the others returned to the surface.

Kerrie HAYES	4.25p	6.15p	to chimney
Ted HAYES	..	7.30p	to chimney, rimstone pools
Anthony KING	..	6.15p	as Kerrie
Paul LACKEY	..	7.30p	as Ted.
Jeff LONGWORTH	..	7.30p	as Ted.
Barry MILTON	..	6.15p	as Kerrie.
Denise MILTON	..	..	as Kerrie.
John NORDHEIM	..	..	as Kerrie.
Kim SLYTH	..	..	as Kerrie.
Bill WATSON	..	7.30p	as Ted.

SUNDAY: Most members did not want to go caving. They kept muttering excuses like they were still tired after yesterday.

It came as a great surprise to find that Paul and Jeff had entered the cave at 7.15am. Heather and Sue went down with them to the rimstone pools.

Paul LACKEY	7.15	10.25a	to rimstone pools
Jeff LONGWORTH	7.15	10.25a	as Paul
Heather Mackie	as Paul
Sue YOUNG	as Paul

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At IO.10a Trev, Kim and Bill went into the cave. While they went down the conventional passage Bob and David were setting up ropes for an abseil into a hole which was expected to be a quick 120ft. drop to river level. At IO.20a Bob belayed by David went down. The 120ft. rope reached only to a mud slope near the top of the chimney. This abseil goes down through the daylight chamber of the conventional route.

At IO.45a Paul and Jeff went into the cave.

At the same time David was abseiling in, IO.50a another large party was entering the cave en route to the waterfall. Trev, Kim, Paul, Jeff, Carole, Kerrie, Anthony, Barry, Denise, John, Ted, Peter made up this party. It was at the waterfall that Jeff fell into the deep pool and lost his carabineer and sling after a spectacular swan-dive backwards from Trev's shoulders. Lucky he didn't hit his head... for he could have damaged a formation. Kim, Paul, and Jeff came out earlier than the rest of the party. Meanwhile Bill had joined with Bob and David. They went downstream to the top of the lower waterfall, then to the left along the upper river passage till its end. Here a ladder was set up and after going down to the river level they crawled along to the sump and chimneyed up to the horizontal entrance to a "Red Carpet Route". (Rimstone Pool Floored tunnel) which led back to the bottom of the waterfall. Here they paddled around looking for non-existent passages. A couple of frogs were seen. A return to the ladder and then to the bottom of the ropes where the pro-cons of leaving were discussed over a feed supplied by Bill. Here they met up with Chris, Keith, Mike, Paul, Jeff and Mal (PL) who were just coming down the last rope. They set off upstream on their photographic and exploration trip which was to be the last major one into the cave.

Bill, Bob and David followed the previous party upstream until we split at the waterfall turn-off. Bill chimneyed along to take a few photographs and upon his return went out of the cave. Just as they got to the entrance the more energetic pair Paul and Jeff were at their heels. Meanwhile Mal was intent on taking photographs with his Nikon F, and Nikkonas Cameras. Chris was also taking photographs. Mal found that the Nikkonas was well suited to caving and was extremely easy to handle. It had a most brilliant viewfinder.

Keith busily engaged himself in catching harvestmen. There were many here even if it seemed that there were not many other forms of life.

This party spent a long time in the cave and went to the furthest limits in two of the three final passages. Mal took many fine photographs.

Meanwhile Ted and Barry had entered the cave at 8.35p. Keith caught a Weta on the way to the surface.

Trevor BERMAN	IO.10a	3.00p	to waterfall
Kim SMYTH	..	1.05p	to waterfall
Bill WATSON	..	6.45p	downstream, to waterfall
Bob DOUGLAS	IO.20a	6.45p	abseil, downstream, waterfall
Paul LACKEY	IO.45a	1.05p	waterfall
Jeff LONGWORTH	..	..	..
David DAVEY	IO.50a	6.45p	as Bob.
Carole DONNELLY	..	3.00p	as Trevor.
Kerry HAYES	..	..	..
Anthony KING
Barry MILTON
Denise MILTON
John NORDHEIM
Ted SAVAGE (T.L.)
Peter WOODS

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Chris BENNETT	2.05p	8.35p	upstream to extreme.	Photography.
Keith DAVEY	Insects.
Paul LACKEY	..	..	..	..
Mal LEYLAND	..	..	as Chris.	..
Mike LEYLAND	..	..	as Paul.	..
Jeff LONGWORTH	..	..	as Paul.	..
Barry MILTON	3.30p	3.50p	enter	
Ted SAVAGE	..	..	enter	

NEW YEARS EVE: That night, since it was new year, we held a small party. Some of that filthy brown stuff was consumed, and one large bottle was effectively dealt with ~~the~~ in the traditional manner. After that a few things got out of hand, and a group of practical jokers had a good time at some people's expense. Jeff Longworth and Paul Lackey seemed the prime targets.

After the ceremonial putting out of the fire (Bush-fire Prevention Week) and constant interjection from would-be sleepers or Party Poopers, all retired to their beds. The first person to enter the cave in 1968 was Chris Bennett (O.S.S.) closely followed by John Nordheim (N.S.A.). From their scrawled entry notes we could not find out what work they did in the cave, but the loud noise of sawing timber issued out of the hole.

Chris BENNETT	12.02a
John NORDHEIM	12.02.01 sec.

MONDAY: Since a fair percentage of the group wanted to leave early only three went down at 7.30a. They were going down to roll up the ladders and the ropes as well as pick up two tadpoles left at the bottom for Keith. Members of the party were Paul, Keith and Anthony. They arrived back at camp at 9am. Most of the people were packed and the three had to rush like mad to get ready in time.

Keith DAVEY	7.30a	9.00a	Bottom of the ropes.
Anthony KING	..	..	..
Paul LACKEY	..	..	..

Two of the camping spots were left in a mess and by people that should have known better. Both were ex-scouts who are always telling us to burn, bash and bury our rubbish.

Left Tuglow at 10.00 am and drove down to the river for a wash. The group from Orange, Chris, Bob, and David parted from the main party at 12 noon. They were off to Jenolan to go touring.

Having disguised themselves as TOURISTS the IMPERIAL CAVE was taken in. The formations were tremendous but the volume of dust kicked up onto the stalagmites is disappointing.

Au; Keith DAVEY and DAVID DAVEY.

Trip Report on Barrington Caves.

Trip Dates : 25 to 26 May, 1968.

Persons present :

Ted Savage (T.L.)
Derek Burridge
Judy Burridge
Peter Woods
Tony King
Stephen Ramsey
Paul Fowler
Neil Stanborough

Ray Jackson
Sue Miller
John Smythe
David Davey
Bill Watson
Kevin Wood
Jeff Longworth
Ian Mackey.

AIMS. All previous trips to the Barrington Cave by the Newcastle Club had been aimed at exploration and preliminary cave life study. The apparent easily accessible limits of the cave had been reached in the deepest section where digging would have been necessary.

The aims, therefore, of the weekend trip on the 25-26 May were to continue the digging, to study the explored section and to surface the limestone mass. The study of the explored section was aimed at producing a map of the cave and examining the cave atmosphere in the lower limits.

THE TRIP. A still half asleep group assembled themselves at Hamilton (Newcastle) early on the Saturday morning. It had been decided to leave early in the morning rather than ~~the~~ late Friday night as had been done on previous trips. This was estimated to provide a warm nights rest and a fresh start on Saturday. After late night (all night?) conversations however, these advantages seemed obscure when a bleary eyed group awoke to prepare for the trip.

Somehow 14 persons plus gear were stuffed into 3 Landrovers and we left Newcastle at 5.15 a.m. With fair travelling we reached Gloucester at 7.30 a.m., then, slowed down by rough roads and numerous gates, we reached the campsite at about 10 a.m. Here we were greeted by Jeff and Ian - still asleep in bed. They had travelled up alone the previous night.

Immediately on arrival, David Davey left to begin surface triggging the area - looking for the limits of the limestone and possible cave entrances. To hasten this task, David travelled alone.

The rest of us set about preparing a camp as the weather appeared changeable and a cold westerly was blowing. Partly because of the cold, we decided to spend most of the night in the cave, different groups simultaneously mapping, digging and studying the atmosphere. After carrying all the gear to the cave entrance, the groups entered the cave at 2.30 p.m. to begin work.

The scouts constituted most of the group, so, to vary their services they spent some time on each project. Some began digging, other assisted Ted with his air testing and some assisted with the mapping. It must be noted that the digging team worked on a tunnel almost to that dipping tunnel where Keith Davey became stuck on the previous trip. The latter tunnel is more promising of the two but is believed to lead to a bat-breeding chamber. An untimely dig here could easily destroy the critical conditions needed in a breeding chamber, so no work was done in this tunnel.

Everyone worked steadily to about 7 p.m. when we stopped for something to eat and changed over some of the teams. By this time the mapping team had reached the large Bat chamber. The digging team was progressing steadily in the narrowing tunnel, while Ted was rushing between thermometers installed at the surface and cave bottom.

Ted used thermometers for comparing temperatures and a modified Hayes portable gas analyser for testing the amount of CO₂ present. The CO₂ readings registered suggested that the instrument was malfunctioning. The reasons for this are being investigated.

The mapping instruments used were a large hand-held compass and clinometer for bearings and dips, and a roll-up tape for distance measurement. These instruments should produce a map of grade four. Some means of marking survey stations, both permanent and temporary, needs to be considered.

The use of paint or chalk for this purpose must be avoided at all costs.

By the time we had finished working and climbed to the surface, it was 1.15am. The long walk back to camp in the cold night air was refreshing since most of us fell in the creek at least once. Upon reaching the camp, it was not long before everyone was in bed and asleep.

Early Sunday morning greeted us with cold rain. Considering the bad state of some of the roads and our good chance of becoming bogged, we wasted little time in having breakfast and packing up. Luckily the road had not deteriorated so we arrived back in Newcastle about mid-afternoon.

From this trip it is evident that more digging is needed in the bottom of the cave for, though the tunnel is narrowing, it shows some promise. Although a map is still being drawn, the steepness of the cave is evident in the field notes. A drop of 200' from the entrance to the bottom, over 300' horizontal distance. The upper reach of some of the high chambers must come very close to the surface. A surface cross-section here could be interesting.

Report on Surface TROG, NSA. 25 - 26 May, 1968 Barrington.

Date: 5.30 am Saturday to late Sunday afternoon.

Outcrop: Barrington.

TRIP

Objectives: To look for cave entrances and to determine the nature of the prominent bluff, south of the dingo fence.

Achieved David found no caves in the outcrop which rise on top of the eastern side of limestone creek.

The large bluff, south of the dingo fence is not limestone. It is greywacke.

Anecdote A few minutes after the landrovers pulled into camp, David set off for the far reaches of Limestone Creek. Due to a lack of keen troggers, he went alone and did not see anyone until about 6 hours later. Of interest were the many waterfalls often over 15 feet high which lie up near the dingo fence. Also there is a small cove 1' by 1' in the creek wall which contained a few small columns. A collapse of the creek wall has exposed the cove.

Whilst in Barrington Cave, David stayed with Ted until he left for camp at 10.30pm. On the way back to camp, a fox was sighted.

Prospects The outcrop on top of the eastern side was trogged lightly. No entrances were found but solution holes were present. A 4 wheel track leads right to this outcrop.