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BULLETIN OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY  
SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



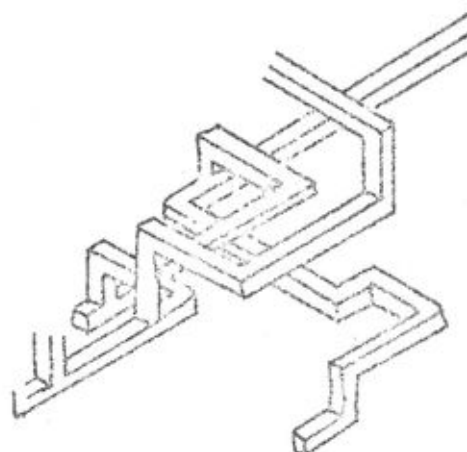
SUSS



FOUNDED 1948

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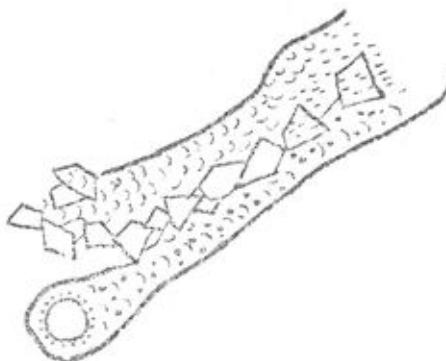
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IT'S COMING !

IT'S COMING !

Watch for important announcement in this  
space in the next issue



## SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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## COMING ACTIVITIES

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\* The next issue of SUSS should appear prior to the Dec. meeting. Men-while credits for this issue: John Dunkley, Jim Sebrook, Chris Fieldhouse.

SUSS DINNER or THE GREAT ANNUAL BUN THROW

John Holliday

Last year it was human drama, this year it was psycho-sexually oriented humour, as once again the annual dinner lived up to its reputation. Reputation? This year the dinner (held on July 30th) took place in the comparatively plush atmosphere of Manning House, and the guest speaker was former President and stirrer Alex Jones who spoke on the "Psycho-sexual Aspects of Spelcology". Also along were Doug Miles, former Pres. and Secretary; Ian Wood, Andrew Pavey and Tony Culberg, all from UNSUSS; and old members Vince O'Donnell and Mal Watson. Owing to the difficulties of transcribing the speeches the author will instead attempt to give a regime of the riotous proceedings.

After a period of heavy wine consumption and eating the chairman, John Dunkley, asked Mal Watson to propose the toast to the Queen. Mal, who amused us all night with his unique style of laughter, eventually managed, amid bun throwing and much interjection, to propose a toast to Her Royal Highness and to the British Commonwealth of Nations "which is held together by Her Majesty".

Doug Miles in his reply to the Royal Toast, took it upon himself to explain, at great length, the connection between SUSS and the Queen, and how she is always deeply gratified by our annual rendition of drunken homage. The connection lies somewhere (?) in a story about a former SUSS member hitching back to Sydney after an arduous Easter -- after being dropped near Mittagong in the early hours of the morning, the member spent some time chasing frogs around a tree, and then assisted a man to catch a horse, put it in the sidecar of a motor-bike, take it to Sydney, over the Bridge (no toll for horses), lead it into the upstairs bathroom of a terrace house, place it in the bath and then slit its throat. Also resident in the terrace was a bushwalker, who like all bushwalkers was fastidiously clean and a know-all to boot -- everytime he was told something he would reply "Yeah! I know". Of course he didn't know of the bloody horse in the bath, and when he found that it was impractical for him to have his morning wash he stormed downstairs to exclaim to the motor-bike rider and the spelco: "Hey! There's a horse up there in the bath with its throat cut!" Quaffing the last of their sixth bottle of beer the two replied: "Yeah, I know!" End of story, but this short phrase became the cliché of the evening -- at odd times during the next few hours various half (at least!) snazled listeners could be heard to prophetically utter "Yeah, I know!"

Vince O'Donnell proposed the toast to the Society with a dissertation on the mythological history of SUSS. Not being up on my mythology I have since tried to interpret his speech with the aid of an encyclopaedia, but with doubtful success. Apparently SUSS membership in the early days included Kronos, Zeus several cyclops, notably Polyphemus (who devoured his sons), Theseus (he slew the Minotaur), and eventually that great old Pom King Arthur.

That controversial speechmaker Zyg Szramka was unfortunately not present to reply on behalf of the Society, so Ian Wood spoke on behalf of the guests instead. He mentioned Ted Anderson's "mounting of the Harbour Bridge" earlier that day, and UNSUSS's discovery of a new type of formation -- the phallicite -- amongst other things.

By the time Alex Jones arose to speak flagons galore had been consumed and we had moved into the reserve supplies. Occasional melecs of bun throwing and an apparent attempt to throttle the author meant that the stewards were hesitant in giving refills. Alex spoke to an audience which eagerly grasped at

the slightest of sexual innuendoes. He built up from the psycho aspects of speleology (eg: the cave as a coffin) to the sexual aspects, whence his reference to sexually connotative cave names saw the whole gathering break out with suggestions of their own: Jubilee, Frustration, Mammoth, Glory Hole etc.

Following Alex's speech the revs continued with several more brief toasts and fierce bun wars, mainly involving Mel Watson versus the rest. Jack Vaughn had a contemplative sit under a hair dryer in the ladies etc. Eventually most of the mob adjourned to Jack and Judith's, supposedly for coffee? Many thanks to them for their hospitality.

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## FILM REVIEW

### "Flint Miners of the Nullarbor"

ABN 2, Monday Sept 13th, 1971

Produced for the Sth Australian Museum and the Aust. Institute of Aboriginal Studies, this film describes excavation carried out in Koonalda Cave, S.A. This work began following the 1956-57 expedition after the inaugural Conference of the Aust. Speleological Federation. Leader at the time of filming was Richard Wright of Sydney. Also appearing was Bud Frank (A.N.U.) who describes his method of reconstructing history of the cave by analysis of X-ray diffractions of clay particles from the lake. This, together with the bone analysis by Alan Thorne (Univ. of Sydney) supports the strong evidence for Pleistocene climatic variations on the Nullarbor, since the first human habitation.

The attraction of Koonalda Cave was in the outcropping of flint in the walls which was mined, broken up and carried out for thousands of years; radio carbon dates suggest occupation at least as early as 20,000 years B.P.

Engravings consisting of broad finger grooves and cuttings with hand objects have been found deep inside, though the motive for such deep penetration within the caves is not apparent -- the aborigines of the area had a traditional aversion to such places. However the art of these unknown forerunners of the modern aborigines is as far removed from modern aboriginal art as Lascaux is from the Guggenheim. They were apparently very different, culturally from the aborigines of today. Had it not been for the protected cave environment, all trace of this tribe might have vanished forever. The Koonalda site has proven to be highly significant in the analysis of man's antiquity in Australia.

John Dunkley

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Andrew Pavey cont. from page 60: The rift to the S.E. should be climbed - nasty 30' - probably by combined tactics and hand jamming. The even (shaft) is definitely a scaling pole job and at least 60', walls pretty smooth and rounded with light covering of mud, diameter 5-8'.

A Brief Comment -- John Holliday : Re CGL. Since Andrew's visit the rock-pile has been pushed several times without success, although I don't think the shaft on the L.H. side has been looked at. The rift to the S.E. appears to me a definite non goer, assuming that we're both thinking of the same one.

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SUSS -- THE RADICAL SOCIETY?

The early 60's were supposedly the 'good, old days' in SUSS, the days of rowdy campfires, massive alcoholic consumption, orgies etcetera. But each generation in SUSS develops its own legends, and it's a safe bet to say that in 10 years time the early 70's will also be referred to as the 'good, old days', and stories will go round of: 'the Cliefden trip when ????', or 'the Dinner at which ????' etc.

However, in one particular field the SUSS of today hasn't even tried to match up to the past, perhaps because no one knows about it or wants to remember it. For you see, SUSS was once a politically active Society and even sponsored an ANTI-APARTHEID DEMONSTRATION. The editor unearthed this startling, yet heartening fact in Richard Gordon's (ed.) The Australian New Left : Critical Essays and Strategy (Heinemann, 1970) whilst he was researching for a Government II essay. I quote now from pages 21-22 in Chapter 1 entitled "An Overview of the Australian New Left" by Richard Gordon and Warren Osmond:

"Another sense in which a breakthrough was made in student activism in the early years of the sixties,....., lies in the mode of organisation that was current in the years 1960 and 1961. It was customary for large numbers of political and other student clubs to combine to sponsor meetings, petitions, demonstrations etc." (Gordon and Osmond's emphasis)

Gordon and Osmond then quote from a handbill which listed the sponsors of a meeting to organise an anti-apartheid demo. at which, by the way, nine people were arrested -- pretty rugged for those days! The handbill reads:

"This meeting will be sponsored by:  
 Les Gapps of the Anglican Soc. (Sec.)  
 John Glynde of ALP Club (Sec.)  
Douglas Miles of Speleological Club(sic!) (Sec.)  
 Frances Christie of Labor Club (Sec.)"  
 (my emphasis)

and so on, there being another 10 Society reps. on the list. Doug Miles is a former secretary and president of SUSS, and was one of the speakers at the Dinner on July 30th this year. The demo. was organised as a protest against the Sharpeville massacre a week earlier, and was the culmination of efforts by what Gordon and Osmond call "socially committed students".

SUSS is clearly failing to live up to these newly revealed radical traditions. Some individual members do make protests, but I certainly cannot imagine the SUSS of today, as a Society publicly supporting an anti-apartheid demo. if it had the opportunity to do so. Sure we fight for our vested interests on conservation issues, but that's not quite the same thing. Obviously the Society needs to radicalise itself so that future generations of members are prepared for the eventual revolution and the downfall of the ASF and Departmental bureaucracies. Let's get down to earth and away from the fancies of 'Lord of the Rings'. Remember:

C'EST POUR TOI QUE TU FAIS LA REVOLUTION! (Cohn-Bendit)

and don't forget 'IF YOU COULD SEE THEIR NATIONAL SPORT YOU WOULDN'T BE SO KEEN ON THEIR RUGBY!!!'.

Trashman - agent of the 6th International  
 alias JRH.

# Court rejects objections to mining dump

**Mr K. Anderson, SM, yesterday dismissed objections by conservationists to a mining company's application to lease ground at Marulan for dumping 40 million tons of mine waste.**

He said the individual grounds of objection had either not been proved or merely indicated situations which could be met by lease conditions.

Mr Anderson, who heard the application in the Mining Warden's Court, recommended it be a lease condition that all areas affected be progressively re-forested and revegetated.

Mr Anderson's decision in Sydney yesterday followed completion of an application inquiry which started at Goulburn in February and continued in Sydney during May, June and July.

The Colong Committee and Mr M. K. Dunphy and

Mr W. J. Counsell objected to the granting of the lease to the Southern Portland Cement Company.

Their objection covered 12 main points, including that granting of the lease was not in the public interest, that the dumping of mine residues and tailings would cause public inconvenience and that there would be a risk of injury to people using adjoining public reserves.

Mr Anderson said the objectors had agreed limestone deposits at South Marulan were extremely valuable and that the company must have an area nearby on which to dump 40 million tons of mullock.

He said it was also

agreed that if there was to be dumping on the land sought, the company's proposed plan was the best.

But the objectors had claimed it had not been established there was a necessity to dump on that particular land.

He had considered alternatives proposed and believed the company's proposal would be less detrimental to public interest.

"The scenic nature of the area is already affected by the quarry and the proposed dumping will not greatly increase the unsightliness," he said.

The company's proposal for revegetation, if adhered to, should eventually restore the area to something approximating its present state, he said.

He was satisfied the company's attitude was one of awareness of environmental issues and a willingness to do all it could to protect the environment consistent with its needs for a dumping site.

Mr Anderson said he recommended to the Minister for Mines, Mr Fife, that the application for consideration of a lease proceed.

Mr W.J. Counsell, who is one of the objectors to this despicable act of vandalism by a subsidiary of Australia's largest company. R.H.P., has hastened to assure us that this report, from the S.M.A. on Saturday, September 18, 1971, is rather misleading as the compromise settlement was a major victory for the conservationists. Mr Counsell, a member of University of NSW Speleological Society, is penning a longer report on the case for the ASF NEWSLETTER.

TRIP REPORTSCliefden - 7-8th August"Green Grass, Brown Mud & a Yellow Boat"

Present: Murray Anderson(TL), John Holliday, Manfred Listing, Ziggy Szramka, Jack & Judith Vaughn, Rob Watson, Rick Tunney, Jeff Turner, Graeme McGown, Ian Milligan, Denis Ward, Bev Riley, Ron Murray (H's), Steve Firkin, Arthur Jenkins, Brian Spilsbury, Georgina Shanks, Cherie Wheeler (P's), John Taylor(VSA), Lindy Vadas, Adrian Dodd, Margaret Holliday, Sue Browne, Dave Kelly (V's).

Due to the wet Friday, the early arrivals had set up camp on top of the hill near the silo at Cliefden after Manfred had become bogged when his ute slid off the road. Unbeknown to us, Brian and Georgina (who had arrived Friday morning) had made it to the river but could not get back out. They walked up the hill on Saturday morning calling for volunteers to help push them out. Jack & Judith also arrived that morning after braving (sic) the night at a Bathurst motel. After a late breakfast the group took the SUSS rubber boat down to attack the raging Belubula.

After a couple of hilarious but futile attempts by Jack to take the boat plus rope across, Brian grabbed the rope, and in the ultimate in streamlined swimwear quickly swam to the other side. Jack then took the boat over in spectacular fashion and with Brian scrambling naked through the nettles and Jack floundering in the water, tied the rope off and sent the boat back for Ziggy. On Ziggy's voyage the boat filled with water and when he abandoned ship it broke loose and started heading for the Pacific at a great rate of knots. A great chase down the banks of the Belubula resulted in Graeme swimming out and grabbing the boat about half a mile downstream. After this effort (which would have rivalled anything out of Comedy Capers) we declared the river the winner and trudged up to Cliefden Main.

About four hours were spent in this hot, vandalised, yet interesting cave. Parties went through in both directions, and as no one knew the way we saw most of the cave. A high grade survey of this cave would be a couple of weekends interesting work.

On returning to the campsite we discovered that Ron Murray, Denis & Bev had arrived and investigated Transmission Cave. That night Ron's guitar assured us of a good campfire, while Rob and Brian provided all with some late night stirring after a grog run into Canowindra.

Sunday morning saw a few fragile heads emerge slowly and a small number of keen bods (plus a large sight seeing gallery) thrash off to battle the Belubula again. John H. led a party through Taplow after forging the river in fine style, (a tree across the river was discovered after everybody was wet) but as we had no tape no surveying could be done. Meanwhile Ron, with Brian, Georgina and others completed a low grade survey of Island Cave.

Everybody eventually filtered back to the campsite and set off for home, stopping only for the traditional feed at the now licensed B.M.I.T.G.W.

Murray Anderson

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He who befouls the road, shall find flies on his return -- Zap.

Jenolan - 14-15th August"Photography Plus A New Discovery in Mammoth"

Present: John Dunkley(TL), Ted Anderson, Denis Ward, Ian Callander, John Holliday, Murray Anderson, Rob Watson, Jeff Turner (M's), Andrew Pavoy(UNSWSS), Henry Shannon(UQSS), John Taylor(VSA).

The main purpose of this trip was photography in Mammoth Cave. A large number of b.&w. and colour shots were taken in Entrance Cavern, Cold Hole, Horseshoe Cavern, Railway Tunnel, Skull & Crossbones, Conglomerate Cavern and Mammoth Squeeze. On Sunday Ian took further shots in the northern part of the cave -- Dry Siphon, Infinite Crawl, Can't Get Lost etc.

John Dunkley

On Sunday John H., Murray, Rob, John T., (who all arrived Sat. night) Ian and Jeff visited Can't Get Lost Section to explore the S.W. rift passage (see map SUSS 11 (3): 33). As expected it was found to eventually lead down to the N.W. Passage, and it appears to be the main drainage for CGL.

After a short crawl one goes up 5' into a small, jagged 30' long passage, and at the end of this on the right is a hole into a 15' drop (rope needed). Below the drop is a small muddy chamber which leads to a steep, very muddy slope thru a few strls. and down some 30' to a hole. This drops (rope needed) 20-25' at a very steep (the mud was almost flowing), slippery angle and comes out into a narrow part of the N.W. Passage just down from the upper end of the Overflow and an easy one minutes trog up from The Junction. (All distances approximate). Much of the route is characterized by almost liquid mud (possibly the best in Mammoth), and thus the connection (CGL to N.W. Passage) has been called the SEWER SLIDE. A short distance into the Sewer Slide from CGL the initials R.N.C. appear on the wall as they do elsewhere in CGL.

John Holliday

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Jenolan - 18-19th September"Curses All Round"

Present: John Holliday(TL), Bryn Barnett, Trevor Henry, Peter Henry (all SUMC)

Since the populous August Cliefden trip the third term jitters and damage to cars seem to have taken their toll, and thus only one carload got to Mammoth Flat to spend the weekend in residence with Erik Holbert's SSS party. Major aim of the trip was to have a second crack at climbing the shaft in Can't Get Lost Section of Mammoth Cave (see SUSS 11 (4): 45-47), this time using a hand-drill to put in bolt and cliffhanger holes.

Saturday morning saw us trudge up the valley, obviously set, as Erik commented, "to attack the North Face". Once in CGL Bryn set about climbing with Trevor belaying. Things started badly when the first peg started to pull out, but eventually he got up a couple of moves and began drilling a cliffhanger hole. Drilling in the extremely solid limestone was much more laborious than we had expected and it was quite a while before Bryn was hanging comfortably three moves up on a cliffhanger. Whilst drilling the drill handle had come unscrewed (unfortunately we had not had the foresight to take a Phillips head screwdriver



in with us), and such a handicap meant that it would have been impossible to drill a bolt hole (1" deep of 3/8" for a cliffhanger hole). Thus we gave the climb away, cursing all round and pondering on the possibility of next time using a Ramset-gun or some such gadget. Some brief exploration in the CGL rockpile again proved fruitless, and we eventually left to return to the surface after a nine hour stint.

Some people may wonder why we haven't used a scaling pole. Well apart from the sheer effort of getting it into CGL, it would probably not be long enough, and there is no really satisfactory base for it. Thus I feel that a Ramset-gun or battery driven drill (if they exist) could be the best answer. However perhaps a scaling pole could be used in some way to get a rockclimber above the very difficult first 25' or so, from whence it may be possible to climb free.

On Sunday we headed for Wiburd's. McKeown's Ck had been flowing a little on Sat., but by Sunday it was dry except above Wiburd's where it was flowing consistently. In Wiburd's the main stream was flowing although it diminished considerably during our six hours in the cave.

We found our way to a climb just round from the recently found 300' at the end of the western extension. After much unnecessary drilling and several frustrating hours Bryan came across a piton crack buried under mud. He then got up the rockface and hacked footsteps up the steep mudslope. A ladder was dropped and we all went up. However there is little at the top, just a 15' passage almost choked with mud (a possible dig?), and a 20' deep sinkhole with a very small hole at the bottom.

Finally we left Jenolan at 8.15pm after an exhausting weekend. Cold meat pies on the way home were of little comfort.

John Holliday

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#### Jenolan - 21-22nd, August

##### "Mini-Nibicon"

Present: Denis Ward (TL), Jim Seabrook, John Dunkley, Jeanette Dunkley, Ted Anderson, Bev Riley, Rick Tunney, Jeff Turner (M's), Andrew Pavey, Ian Wood (both UNSWSS), Henry Shannon, Kathy Horricane, Malcolm Pound, Eileen Beswick (all UQSS), Ian 'Eccles' McKendrick (TCCNB).

This SUSS crew was only part of 45 people who spent a wet weekend jammed into Mammoth Flat. Main purpose of the trip was to show our interstate guests over Jenolan. On Saturday the party visited Mammoth (Horseshoe and Oolite) taking many photos, and on Sunday an exploration party visited Wiburd's.

Denis Ward

Jenolan was experiencing the effects of Henry's curse on Sunday morning (his 39th or is it 40th consecutive Jenolan trip when it has rained) as five of us fled the milling throngs at Mammoth Flat and headed for Wiburd's Lake Cave. On the way up McKeown's Ck we stopped several times to inspect outcroppings of limestone, generally at Henry's guidance.

We took Henry on a grand tour of Wiburd's visiting such interesting things as: the rockpile upstream from the lake; the western passage including the new pretties section (now called Noddy's Knock); the north-west passage at the bottom of the mudbank; the passage running east from the lake; Henry's dig; and the

Yawning Gulches. We decided that the passages north of the 'lake' are inflow passages, and that the passage east of the lake is an outflow passage draining thru Henry's dig with the Yawning Gulches as an overflow. The passage beyond the upstream rockpile is supposed to connect (ref: Henry's map MK5) with the surface at creek level upstream from the main entrance. The passage NW from the lake, under the dyke to the bottom of the mudbank has scolloping indicating current flow in both directions, but predominantly outflowing.

The Western Passage -- the one reached thru a rockpile at the top of the 'mudbank' -- was unknown to Henry and now leads us to believe even more so, that this entire passage was discovered by a SUSS party in May this year (see SUSS 11 (2): 28). We had a look at the top of a large pitch at the start of the western passage. A bit further on we examined an oven that was unclimbable but seemed to go. Noddy's Knock was then inspected and the clusters of aragonite crystals viewed. The chamber was then named when a rock upon which I was standing decided to move 4' vertically down taking me with it. As the crystals in this section are very large and beautiful I request that utmost care be taken there.

We continued along the western passage filling in some detail on unexplained minor side passages. At the end of the passage are two excellent digs and three high level continuations which had been previously unnoticed. We attempted to climb two of these but were stopped by non-cohesive mud.

We explored the passage at the bottom of the mud bank and found that it trends NW -- it has a NE branch with a chimney at the end of it. The NW passage ends in a sand filled pit.

Henry showed us a passage that led to his dig from the end of the passage east of the lake. Instead of continuing to the Yawning Gulches one turns right into a dead end passage. Eight feet from the end there is a tight squeeze to the left which leads into a low mud filled tube. The other approach to the dig is from the passage that goes 1/2 right from the top of the Gulches. This route zig zags down over some flowstone, thru a sump and leads into a muddy chamber. At the far end of this chamber is a chimney that leads down into a lower level. Here the passage mentioned before joins it. Henry's dig lies to the left under a dyke.

Jim Serbrook

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### Jenolan - 25-26th September

#### "Sealing Pole Work in Wiburd's Lake"

Present: Jim Serbrook(TL), Keith Brister, Jeff Turner, Colin Mothers, Ludwig & Joy Muenzenreider, Jack & Judith Vaughn (M's), Peter Lake, Trevor Catterall (P's).

For the first time in many years a SUSS member has hitched to J.C. for a caving trip. It is not as easy as it used to be -- I left Sydney at 8.00am and six lifts later I arrived at J.C. at 3.00pm. Somewhat disgusted with the weather I made camp and waited for the rain to stop. I was woken 3hrs later by Keith's arrival -- he had conned his mother into driving him up from Sydney. As the rain had a dampening effect on our campfire we turned in to woken up at midnight by the arrival of CSS.

The rest of the party arrived on Sat. morning, and the six of us set off up the creek with six sections of scaling pole, the couplings, two ropes, two ladders, surveying gear, and assorted rock-climbing gear.

Inside the cave we split into two parties. Col, Peter and myself took the pole and erected it up a very large aven off the passage to the lake at the bottom of the mudbank. This involved cutting steps up a mudslope with a g-pick, and hauling up the pole. The g-pick was used as a base to prevent the pole sinking in the mud. A rope was taken from the bottom of the pole to a piton for further support, and another rope from the top of the pole to a 'bong' in a crack 10' up. The pole with ladder attached was hauled into position so that it rested diagonally ( $45^{\circ}$ ) with its top on a mudslope 18' up. With Colin belaying I climbed the ladder leaving a runner on the top rung. I then cut two steps in the slope before I began to run out of mud. I was about to place a knife-blade with etrier in a convenient crack when the mud holding me up collapsed. I was almost emasculated on one of the pole's bolts when Col stopped my fall. A repeat performance yielded similar results.

We then examined a pitch at the start of the western passage. Abseiling down we found that the pitch passed thru the chamber at the top of the mudbank and joined the passage at the bottom about 20'ft along. The pole was then erected up the aven at the start of the western passage but we found it 6' too short.

While we were exploring Jeff, Keith & Trevor were mapping upstream of the rockpile. The region here is generally small and tight compared with the rest of the cave. It tends north about 100' and then west about 80'. There are many separate small creeks in this region generally with a flow of less than 0.1 cusecs, and they tend to flow north and west. The whole party returned to this region before we headed for camp.

Saturday night saw the arrival of Ludwig, Joy, Jack and Judith. The evening was spent in the rain around the fire swapping bawdy songs and jokes with CSS.

Sunday was devoted to trying to find Henry Shannon's connection from the surface to the upstream section of the lake in Wiburd's. Keith & Trevor investigated a very likely looking hole about 50' up the creek from the entrance and at creek level. They reported that it became a rockpile with a breeze blowing out of it, but they were unable to find the way thru. Col & Jeff investigated a number of small holes further up the creek but could find nothing. They did notice however that McKeown's Ck was flowing for a short distance about 100yds upstream.

The rest of us took the pole to the end of the western passage stopping for Jack to photograph the argonite in Neddy's Knock. At the end of the passage the three avens were climbed (Andrew Pavey had climbed one on the weekend of Aug. 21-22nd, and John Holliday et al another on Sept. 18-19th). The aven climbed by Andrew has 200-300' of passage above it, the main section of which was a large open joint. (A report on the initial discovery of this passage has yet to be received - ed.). The other two avens do not appear to go although one of them has a possible dig -- this is the one climbed by John Holliday et al, and we climbed it to recover a piton left by them.

After surveying the passage found by Pavey (grade 3) Ludwig and Jack had to depart. The remainder of the party finished the work and removed the pole.

We returned to the camp and later gave some tourists a thrill when they saw three very muddy covers in various states of undress under the pipe at the tank. Pies, hamburgers and coffee at Hampton put the finishing touches to a hard working trip.

Jim Sebrook

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Cliefden - 11-12th September

"To Be Brief ....."

Present: John Dunkley (TL), Jernette Dunkley, Andrew Pavey (UNSWSS), Ian Wood (UNSWSS);

Once again, owing to the high level of the raging Belubula, we could not get across to continue work in Trilow Maze. Thus the weekend turned out to be a bit of a loaf, Cliefden Main being the only cave entered. Highlight of the stay was Andrew's huge fire which consumed cubic feet of wood.

John Dunkley

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Addendum to "A Working Trip If Ever" - Jenolan TR 5-6th June (SUSS 11 (4):41-44)

Andrew Pavey (UNSWSS)

Description of Central Lake from the time I paddled up it when with John Holliday on the way out on Saturday night. Water was 9"-1' deep, had fine muddy floor which was stirred up by my paddling. Lake curves slightly, roof about 8' high. At the end is a wall containing several holes. There was a view thru the right-hand hole of Central River descending a fairly steep (20-30°) bed of mainly gravel and pebbles about 3' below the hole. Turbulence in R.H. corner indicated water entry thru floor, and water was entering and leaving the Lake via a low left-hand hole. Looking thru the R.H. hole Central River passes into the wall on the left thru a hole 8" high part of which was blocked with mud.

My theory is that when this drain hole blocks up or water flow is sufficient to build up head then Central Lake will rise as water flows back thru the lower L.H. hole. Removal of blockage or less water will cause it to fall.

The Central River passage was about 1' wide, 2-3' high with 2" or so of water bubbling along it. Entry thru hole in wall would be exceedingly difficult as would passage up stream bed.

Earlier that day in Can't Get Lost Section I had explored the rockpile. Obviously someone else had been everywhere I got to -- there were obvious scabble marks in the mud. Most of the boulders would appear to have dropped down the bedding plane and were quite angular with coating of 2-3" of soft, sticky mud. There is a high shaft on the left hand side which I didn't climb -- would be very slippery. There is some formation (speleothem type) at the end -- quite nice; also a tight squeeze which might go.

cont. back on page 52

Photo opposite (page 60A): Jack Vaughn in Clown Cave, Cooleman, June 1971.



