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BULLETIN OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



SUSS



FOUNDED 1948

Box 35, The Union,
University of Sydney,
N.S.W. 2006.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 2 August

usual place

Badham Room, The Union,

7.30 pm

WANTED

WANTED

Starters on the many trips
listed within.

F O R T H C O M I N G A C T I V I T I E S

- August 2 GENERAL MEETING in the Badham Room, The Union, Sydney University
- 4-5 WOMBEYAN Denis Ward 6442497 (H)
 Surveying, exploration. Definitely only a few places left.
- 11-12 JENOLAN John Dunkley 7599956 (H)
 Surveying, exploration - open to suggestion
- 11 JENOLAN CAVES HISTORICAL AND PRESERVATION SOCIETY
 Annual General Meeting in the Ball Room, Jenolan Caves House.
- 11-12 CLIEFDEN Keith Oliver (HCG) 6231768 (H)
- 25-26 BUNGONIA - Public Inspection organized by SSS to draw attention
 to the area and raise public support. All welcome
- 26-28 JENOLAN John Dunkley 7599956 (H)
 There will be a trip of two or three days duration sometime between
 26 August and about 8 September. Probably during the dates given.
 Open to suggestion on what to do, but further exploration etc. in
 Barellan Cave is a possibility.
- 21-27 BUNGONIA Tony Austin 6606276
- 25-26 JENOLAN Bruce Welch 991013 (H)
 Mapping rockfall in passage leading to Slug Lake, southern section,
 also general exploration in this part of Mammoth Cave
- 28 EISRIESENWELT, Austria Ms Jeanette Parkes 7599956 (H)
 Definitely limited trip.
- 30 OLOMOUC, Czechoslovakia Ms Jeanette Parkes 7599956 (H)
 Sixth International Congress of Speleology and lots of caving
- 25-26 CLIEFDEN Keith Oliver (HCG) 6231768 (H)
- September 22-23 TUGLOW - gating, general caving - just turn up if you
 are interested.
- September 30-31 - October 1 (long weekend)
 CLIEFDEN Denis Ward 6442497 (H)
- October 20 Meeting at Canberra to discuss future research at Yarrangobilly.
 Further details later.
- November 10-11 JENOLAN Bruce Welch 991013 (H)
 Mammoth Cave - attempt to follow up Waterfall Passage. Possibility
 of big discoveries but hard work required.

HANDBOOK OF CAVE TYPES.

(Being a Guide to aid the Speleologist in recognising the many and varied Species of Undergroundlings)

1. THE TROGLODYTE: Foundation member of SUSS. Generally bearded if male, occasionally if female. Once every four years emerges from caves to vote, tends to be a bit cloudy on events above ground (e.g. identifies Kosygin as author of Dr. Zhivago). Has visited caves all over the country, his bloodstains in Mammoth, his footprints in J41 and his claw marks in Eagles Nest.

2. THE NEBPHYTE:

Type A. The Wide-Eyed Innocent-Shows up for his first trip in street clothes white tennis shoes, and a beanie; equipped with candles, a ball of string, a flashlight, a pocket knife (for killing cave bears and dragons). Remembered extra batteries for flashlight, but forgot a change of clothes. Usual highlights of ensuing trip include panic at first bat, painful extrication from deep pit, attack of vertigo on high ledge, engaging pants on projections in crawlway, loss of flashlight in pool, loss of shoes in mud, loss of beanie in fall down slope, loss of string around own neck. On trip home, wrapped in blanket, usual comment, delivered between chattering teeth, "G-g-gee, that was g-great! When c-can we go out again?"

Type B. Good time Charlie-Appears for trip dressed similar to type A, with dirty sand shoes, and Tyrolean hat instead of beanie. Forgot candles, flashlight etc. but remembered flask of Bundaberg Rum in case of chills, snakebites, etc. Coordination, none too good to begin with, deteriorates rapidly under frequent doses of said medicine; proportional use of spirits marked by loud guffaws and comments such as; "Jeez, I wasn't gonna hurt the bat- just wanted to stir him up a l'il " "Oops- oh well, it was only a little stalagmite", and "There y'are-don't my name look neat on that formation!" Generally concludes at end of trip that others in party are a bunch of dead-heads.

3. THE EXPLORER : Is frequently present at the beginning of a cave trip, but seldom at the end of it, having vanished at the first inaccessible crevice encountered in search of the Woolly Rhinoceros. Knows all the twists and turns in the Great North Cavern. Has a vast number of cave discoveries to his credit, most of which average ten feet in depth, four feet in width, and two feet in height. Generally has some pet wombat-hole that he is certain will lead to a cave with a judicious amount of digging and/or blasting. Years after the excavation of this hole has been brought up short by an underground spring, a council sewer system or a family of furious wombats, still can be heard murmuring; "It goes! I know it goes! We just didn't dig deep enough....."

4. THE GEOLOGIST: Any trip he accompanies is bound to be somewhat rocky. Nothing mineral escapes his flinty gaze - he leaves no stone unturned. Has a passion for e. attitude, measuring stream discharge etc. On all but geological subjects, maintains a stony silence. Though his associates believe him to be a man of iron, he has a weakness for marble cake, and greatly admires Broch Powell.

cont'd

5. THE NATURALIST: Can be easily recognised by a certain glittering intentness of eye and a tendency to pounce without warning on anything that moves. Is able to tell at a glance whether it is a cave cricket, is male or female, how old it is, whether it is married or single, and if the former, whether it has successfully adjusted to married life. Travels underground encumbered by butterfly nets, reference books, charcoal filters, formaldehyde specimen boxes, and cyanide bottles for quick, painless execution of bats, rats, bugs, centipedes, millipedes, snails, whales and puppy dogs' tails, and cavers who aren't fast on their feet.

6. THE CLIMBER: Rates the worth of a cave as directly proportional to its verticality. Scorns anything less than 80 deg. incline with more than one toehold per square yard, and is generally believed to sleep hanging by his toes from the ceiling. While he probably can't really walk upside-down, he tries.

7. THE PHOTOGRAPHER: Can be heard long before he is seen- his movements are accompanied by the rattle of flashbulbs, the clink of reflectors, the the clashing of the lei of cameras slung round his neck, and mutters of "Lets see- Tri-X at F1.4 hand held for obe second might do it, maybe Ilford HP3, wide angle lense, in a ground level shot-try it at 1000th, with a yellow filter!" Has a camera for every conceivable situation-35mm. for small caves, Hasselblad for big caves, underwater camera for Mammoth etc. etc. Punctuates cave trips with howls of "But I want to take pictures!" Has been known to burst into tears when a bat refused to smile at the camera.

8. THE ORGANISER: Aim and object in life is to turn a nice, comfortable, confused, disorganised bunch of cave-gawking slobs into an efficient, well functioning unit. This alone proves he is insane. Can be distinguished by a military air of command, knife edge crease in trog suit and nervous habit of tapping imaginary swagger stick against imaginary riding boots. Cultivates deep, ringing chest tones for use in shouting, "Lets get this show on the road!" " Follow me men!" and "Don't give me the drama!" Has occasionally been seen posing in front of mirrors with his hand inside his shirt front, which has given others in his group the idea of arranging his exile to the Isle of Elba.

9. THE POLITICIAN : Generally has no interest in his own society, is concerned mainly with the Speleological Federation and the bettering of his position therein. Has no time for actual caving, since most of his time is spent making plans to load the N.S.W. Coordination Committee with representaion from his society. At meetings, can usually be found at the back of the room. Prides himself on always having the "inside dope" -always attends the Conference, but is hardly ever seen since he is usually holed up in a hotel room with other politicians, debating, finangling, and passing the "Word"! Seldom seen with mouth closed, except when cave trips are being organised.

10. THE FAMILY GROUP: Rapidly expanding in numbers-usually headed by a pair of (rapidly) aging avant garders, at least one of whom is determined that because we're married and have all these damn kids doesn't mean we're going to give up caving a all together by heck. They are accompanied by from two to twelve juvenile delinquents ranging from five weeks to 15 years of age. These dash, scramble, crawl, stumble, leap, climb, wallow, career, stampede, swing, tumble, shriek, whine and howl their way through a trip, getting in front of cameras, getting lost, soiling nappies and being sick to their stomachs .

cont'd

IO. THE GIRL CAVER.

Type A: The Women's Libber—denied the opportunity to her bra and chain herself to the door of Parliament, heads underground to prove her equality. Disdaining masculine aid, climbs every mountain, swims every stream, suffers bruises and lacerations in comparative silence, and thinks bats are cute. Underneath however is wholly feminine and suffers violent shock when she realizes that remark about "you fellas" includes her.

Type B: The Lily Maid—discovered some time ago the charm, chivalry, virility, dash and general lovability of the male speleologist; decided caving presented best opportunity for proximity thereto. Has no desire to prove her equality, quite the contrary—the ruggedness of underground exploration is perfect for setting off her femininity. Her shrieks at bats, need for helping hands (male) across two foot wide pits and quivering distress at rappel ropes and ladders arouse protective instincts in men, killer instinct in other women. High point of trip occurs when she is carried twittering and giggling across cave stream, usually by type 3. Usually fails to attain ultimate objective—permanent enslavement of cave-man—since general concensus of opinion is that she is too much trouble.

Now attempt to classify your caving associates.

Carol Eckel:

The Nittang Grotto Newsletter.
Vol. IX No. 7 pp. II2-II6.

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BUNGONIA

OR

NIMBIN RIDES AGAIN.

Is work getting you down? Why not come and join us for a glorious week of fun and games at Bungonia. You've heard a lot about it - why not come and see the area for yourself? Bungonia has something for everyone - caves for the caver, bush for the walkers and views for the voyeurs. With over 100 items of Speleological interest, how can you go wrong? Like long, low crawls - there is always the Extension (5200 ft) or gymnastics in Odyssey (485 ft deep). Feeling lazy - there is always the Grill!

Seriously though, there will be a SUSS trip to Bungonia from August 21 to Aug. 28. There is just so much that can still be done there that we want as many people as possible to come and have a look around. There will be tons of 'sport' caving in the larger and smaller caves alike with exploration and a bit of digging for those so inclined to give a hand. It is not envisioned that there will be any surface work (apart from some bushwalking for those hardy souls who favour the sport) and you can leave your compasses and tapes at home.

Over the weekend of the 25-26th SSS will have a Public Inspection of the area with guided tours of the Gorge and a few of the caves. This means that refreshments etc. will be available then and there is a folk concert/film showing scheduled for Saturday night. You could even bring the family?!?!

I might add that this is one of the best times of the year to visit Bungonia as the bad air found in some of the deeper caves is usually at a minimum during winter.

Further details from: Tony Austin on 660-6276
Cathy Lawlor on 512185.

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

NULLARBOR CAVING DIVING EXPEDITION: JANUARY 1974.

In January 1972, I led an expedition to the Nullarbor Plains to dive in selected underground lakes (Weebubbie and Cocklebidgy). The trip had a basic party of 32; 7 divers and 25 dry cavers, wives, scouts, etc. and our efforts produced 4000 ft. of new cave, all surveyed, in the various holes visited. Large discoveries were made in both dry and wet sections.

The same sort of expedition is being planned for the end of this year, with dates approximately Dec. 26 to Jan. 14, and I am at present asking for applications from anyone interested. Chances of success are ENORMOUS---- new cave everywhere!

The expedition will take place in three stages, revolving around the diving. The plan is to camp for one week at each of three deep caves, to permit thorough diving exploration and survey, and dry cavers will be needed to help carry tanks, wetsuits, and survey gear down to the lakes for each dive and back again, for refilling and drying out. You will appreciate that the diving teams will need all their energy for exploration.

However, I want to divide the 30 or so dry cavers into, say, 3 teams to explore and survey to standards large caves within the vicinity of the base camps. These will include Murra-el-elevyn, Pannikin Plain Tommy Graham's (if we can find it!), Warbla and extensions in Weebubbie. We will also be visiting Mulla-mullang for a few days for work purposes and there will be several days set aside specifically for photography in the big caves. A "MAGNUS!" Diprotodon may be available but Hillii versions will certainly be used.

Cost per person from Adelaide would be approximately \$50.00. No divers are needed---we've got enough! Interested trogs are asked to write to:

Ian Lewis,
12 McLachlan Ave.,
Glenelg North, s.a., 5045.

Please give some idea of your caving experience although single rope techniques will not be needed. Past Nullarborophiles are particularly welcome!

CHRISTMAS IS COMING (SOON)

Louise Holliday has obtained some Christmas cards from Derek Barthow depicting scenes from two New Zealand caves:

* Helictite Cave : the Christmas Tree.

or * Waipuna Cave (at Waitomo): the Sea Dragon.

Photos are by Derek Barthow.

25c. each or \$2.40 per doz.

See Louise or phone her at 463708.

THE BUNGONIA ISSUE - LIBERAL PARTY SCENE.

Having done my bit early in writing to Mr. Beale regarding the Bungonia issue and receiving his stereotyped reply I decided to present the conservation viewpoint to the Young Liberal Movement. On Tuesday 22nd May, 1973 I moved a motion of urgency at the monthly meeting of the State Young Liberal Council. The motion was:

"That this Council demands the recent Q8 (closed) proposal of the Associated Portland Cement Company be subject to a public enquiry before being accepted by the State Pollution Control Commission".

Urgency was established on the grounds that any action to obtain a public enquiry before the Q8 proposal is accepted by the Government must be launched immediately.

The details of my case would be well known to all readers of this article and I do not intend to enlarge on them further than to say that I emphasised that the rejection of the Metropolitan Mining Warden's recommendation constituted undemocratic action by the State Government unless a public enquiry supported the rejection.

To indicate the strong reaction against my case I shall quote from the Editorial of the July issue of the Australian Liberal:

"The motion met strong opposition from delegates who generally felt that if the economic development of Australia was to proceed it was inevitable that some of Australia's topography would have to be destroyed. This view was best explained by Bruce McCarthy of Strathfield. He claimed that in the past he had actively supported conservation and had worked to save the Colong Caves from destruction when they had been threatened by mining.

"Our slogan was save the Colong Caves at any price" he said "That price... Bungonia".

While my motion was lost 35 to 26 votes this rather biased editorial does not point out that many delegates (43% in fact) supported my plea for a public enquiry. However I found the major factor against my case was that not a soul at the Council knew where Bungonia Canyon was, let alone have any idea of what was to be preserved. This is very important because if the general public or people in high places are to show any great support for conserving Bungonia Canyon they must be aware of what is worth conserving.

The issue has now moved to the State (Senior) Liberal Council in the form of another motion of urgency.

"That this branch (Randwick) condemns the action of the State Government in over riding the decision of the decision of the Metropolitan Mining Warden in relation to Bungonia Gorge and deplores the secrecy and haste with which the Government reached its decision".

This motion was to be put before Council in the presence of Senior Ministers on Friday June 29th. This action was prevented when the power strike caused cancellation of the June Council Meeting.

I hope to speak on the motion of urgency at the July Council Meeting.

Brendon Hyde.

"---AND THE BUNS KEPT FLYIN'"

This was the theme (again) at the 25th. Anniversary Dinner of S.U.S.S. held on the 17th. July in the Holme and Sutherland Rooms, Old Union Syd. Uni. The main speaker was Dr. Harley Wright, ex-SUSS member, who spoke on the never-ending problem of beer (and now cider) disposal and other reminiscences. A get-together was held at Ian Wood's flat afterwards where the 'Caver's Lament' was sung, yelled etc. Ed.

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BEEN ON ANY TRIPS LATELY?

Why not get in touch with a TRIP LEADER. He's the one who knows what's going on. The following list may help you on your way to tour next, excitement-filled trip:

Anderson, Ted	6/I Mulwarrie Ave, RANDWICK	396608
Brister, Keith	1/73 Dunmore St., BEXLEY. 2207	
Dunkley, John	22/53 Alice St., WILEY PARK. 2195	7599956
Fardouly, Terry	64 Bettington Rd., DUNDAS. 2117.	6305021
Fieldhouse, Chris	94 Barker Rd., Strathfield. 2135	765028
Happ, Andrew	43 Mackenzie St. HOMEBUSH. 2140	769570
Holliday, John	56 Lynwood St., BLAKEHURST. 2211	541922
Lyle, Roger	26 White St., BALGOWLAH. 2093	945437
Mathers, Col	35 Beaconsfield Pde., LINDFIELD.	462389
Milligan, Ian	12 Arundal St., FOREST LODGE. 2037	
Muenzenruecker, Ludwig	20 Figtree St. LANE COVE. 2066	4282034
Radcliffe, Peter	116 Davies Rd., PADSTOW. 2211	
Seabrook, Jim	142 Parramatta Rd., CROYDON 2132	746084
Toomer, Phil	3/37A Fitzroy St., KIRRIBILLI 2061	9290432
Tunney, Rick	P.O. Box 176, FAIRY MEADOW. 2519	
Vaughn, Jack	3 Salmond St., CHIFLEY. A.C.T. 2606	821552
Ward, Denis	293 Park Rd., AUBURN, 2144	6442497
Welch, Bruce	108 Queens Pde. East, NEWPORT BEACH 2106	991013

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YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT THE PLIGHT OF BUNGONIA.

WELL HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING POSITIVE ABOUT IT.

COME TO THE

BUNGONIA CAVES AND GORGE INSPECTION WEEKEND

25-26th AUGUST, 1973

FOR THE PUBLIC.

Come and help the public find out the reasons for the fight for BUNGONIA.

New trip leader

Tony Austin University Hall, 287 Parramatta Rd., GLEBE. 6606276

New member

Stephen Warrell c/o Wesley College, NEWTOWN. 2042 512185