

MAY 1975

SUSS Vol 15 No 1

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BULLETIN OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY.

Lumen in Poetris  
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NEXT MEETING

7.30 CULLEN ROOM

University of Sydney

1st May 1975

5th June 1975

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ADDRESS

Box 35 The Union  
Sydney University.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Thursday 3rd April 1975 and the following were elected as office bearers for the coming year:

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Vice President	: Spike Milligan. 32 Arundel St, FOREST LODGE. 6601508.	
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	: Bill Tunney. P.O. Box 176, FAIRY MEADOW.	

The Society wishes to thank Gerry Hopkins for chairing the A.G.M. with no prior warning - not an easy task at the best of times!

The outgoing Committee presented reports of the past years activities and hopes for the future - these reports will appear in the next issue of the Bulletin as some of them have yet to be received .... HINT, HINT?

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It is with great pleasure that we can announce that Mr C.H.C. (Henry) Shannon has been made a Life Member of this Society in recognition and appreciation of the significant contribution that he has made to the furthering of the Society. For the newer members of the Society who have not had the pleasure of meeting Henry and hearing of his work it is hoped that we will be able to publish a short resume of his activities with the Society before his departure for the warmer climate of Queensland.

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#### NOTE TO FUTURE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE BULLETIN:

This and the next Bulletin have been prepared on stencils for Gestetner reproduction but it is hoped that the following issues of the Bulletin will be printed Offset. Thus it is no longer asked that material be submitted for publishing on stencils but rather as ordinary typewritten copy so that it can be transcribed to paper masters for the Multigraph printing press. I ask for the material to be typed as it is much easier to transcribe (i.e. read!) than is handwritten copy.

It is also envisaged that we will be holding 'get together' evenings about once a month, probably at my place, so that the work involved in collating and wrapping the Bulletin can be shared a little - and more importantly provide a good excuse, other than Committee meetings, to have a good grog-on.

As you have no doubt noticed - the cover of the Bulletin is not its usual beautiful self. This is because someone lost the original stencil and someone else neglected to Offset print more than his immediate requirements. Plans are afoot to redesign the cover - not only improving the weight and quality of the paper but also the consistency of the finished product. It might never contain anything startling but gee it will look good from the outside!

One last, and rather important point. The Bulletin is a very important and worthwhile part of the Society - just as the members of the Society are different in a myriad of ways then so the Bulletin should reflect these differences. It can only do this if many different people contribute to it. Finally - what say you write something for yourself in stead of letting the 'other' guy do it.

Ed.

The following letter was received in reply to the article by Brendon Hyde which appeared in the last issue of this Journal. The thoughts outlined by Noel certainly warrant very serious consideration as it is not often that we get the opportunity to see how our activities are viewed by someone out of the 'Society' circle but who is still so closely associated with caves and their preservation. Personally, I find little in Noel's letter with which I can disagree. It is reproduced below in full.

Ed.

Noel Rawlinson  
Guides Office,  
JENOLAN CAVES 2706.

4.4.1975.

Dear Sir,

This letter is in response to the article by Brendon Hyde in S.U.S.S. Journal April 1975 concerning the Chevalier Cave and his comments about the feelings of the Guides at Jenolan.

I would like it to be known that I was one of the outspoken Guides on this matter when the subject was brought up in the Guides Office and at no time do I recollect saying anything about bringing in professional surveyors in to survey the caves. I and all the other Guides realise that the greatest amount of work done in surveying the caves is accomplished by members of the various societies that visit Jenolan.

Our main gripe is this, that a lot of people come up here at times on the pretext of surveying caves and it turns out to be a tourist trip through the caves and very little work done.

This habit generates more traffic through the caves and over a period of time the caves are damaged, when the surveying should be done and tracks marked through the caves to minimise the damage and only then should there be trips for families etc. and if the particular cave be well decorated, like Chevalier, then by all means access to be restricted.

There are 4 Jenolan at present four Guides who are capable of carrying out high grade surveys of the caves and this should be the object of all people who survey caves, a high grade survey of the caves (Grade 6 or better) right from the start to the end. If time is spent in doing a grade 2 or 3 survey then the time spent is taken to do the job properly from the start at grade 6 or better. As for bringing out rubbish from a cave, this is expected of all parties that go caving and the reason why a detailed list of people involved in these trips and details of trip reports be furnished to the Guides Office after trips is to see who has been there and who left the rubbish in the caves in the first place.

I feel that if all information on the various caves that is gathered by the clubs was freely available to all there would not be any need for duplication of exploration and surveying trips to the caves. The Chevalier Cave was surveyed in 1954 (Grade 5) and again in 1973 by A. Navy.

If this knowledge was available there would not be need for duplication and more work could be done on the rest of the Jenolan limestone.

The reasons that I have stated are not for the want of having a go at the Grottoes etc. I have been caving with friends from all societies and have, apart from the members of the various clubs, seen more of caves in Australia than the other way round and have seen what too much traffic through undeveloped caves can cause especially when entry to these caves is unrestricted.

N. Rawlinson.

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 BRITTLE BAZAAR DISCOVERY.  
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23/24 Nov. 74

Mammoth Cave. Jenolan.

Exploration Party: Malcolm Handel, Peter Winglee, Peter Campbell  
 Randall King, Joe Friend, Mick Law.

Support Party: Rik Tunney, S. Bunton, P. Hill, G. Clifford,  
 M. Napper, N. Burgess.

BACKGROUND.

In the four years since the rediscovery of the Can't Get Lost section in the Northern area of Mammoth by J. Dunkley, interest here has mainly hinged around cracking the rockpile and the aven. To this end there were few attempts by SUSS on the rockpile and an attempt to climb the 'unclimbable' aven rising in the roof.

The only common feature of these trips were their failure to find anything significant. So after a reconnaissance trip was carried out by us in August, it was realised that it was going to take a lot of organisation and effort to drag the scaling pole all the way in from the entrance. Daunted by this our hopes were pessimistic until Peter Campbell made contact with one of Australia's best climbers-Joe Friend. He agreed to give the aven in Can't Get Lost a go. Bringing an experienced climber in from outside the club seemed to be the key to success and we just hoped he could handle the poor climbing conditions inside a cave - inadequate light, lots of slippery, wet mud and few or no cracks for artificial aids. The famous abortive attempt to climb the aven in 1972 by SUSS failed mainly for three reasons - the tiredness of the climber, a complete reliance on bolting, and the lack of a support party which resulted in a corresponding deficiency of equipment and manpower. We hoped to remedy the situation this time on all three counts.

Our idea essentially was to have an experienced, fit and well organised exploration party of climbers and cavers who were prepared to spend 12+ hours underground, if necessary, in one final bid to climb the aven. If at an early stage it looked impossible, the support party were to help bring through the scaling pole and any other equipment or lighting. It was also hoped that by having some high standard climbers we could forego the time consuming need to bolt all the way to the top. Malcolm also spent the week before the trip arranging for the extra lighting and caving gear. Peter Winglee was to provide the photographic equipment for some photo 'firsts', just on the remote possibility that the aven was climbed.

Rik Tunney gave a concise account of this discovery (SUSS Bull. 14(10):116) but since he was the leader of the support party, he was absent most of the time and didn't enter the Brittle Bazaar. So in the absence of a report from other members of the party, I am writing this to document the initial entry. (Hence the lateness of publication.)



Brittle Bazaar cont.REPORT.

By 1100 hours on Saturday morning we were ready to abseil into Mammoth. So, loaded to the teeth with all the lighting and climbing paraphernalia associated with a long underground climbing trip, the exploration party quickly proceeded on, leaving the slower support party to follow us up. It is perhaps of interest to note here the difference in attitudes between climbers and cavers to abseiling. Climbers consider abseiling to be one of the most hazardous operations of ropework, whereas to cavers this is just part and parcel of a normal weekends caving, and although we still have a healthy respect for it, we are probably a lot more psychologically relaxed about it than the average climber. Perhaps that is why they last so long doing the dangerous climbs that they attempt, and where a caver wouldn't last 5 minutes.

We arrived in the Can't Get Lost section just under 2 hours later, after the traditional inauguration of the climbers through the Wet-Dry siphon (another of those Mammoth Paradoxical names, like the surveyed Unsurveyed Connection,). With the aid of a fluorescent light and a primus lantern, lunch was had in style, and Joe began the task of climbing with Mick as his second. Mick is an enthusiastic young up and coming rockclimber who will be one of the big names of the future, together with Joe a quite formidable climbing team is revealed. With such a reputation to uphold, and having been taunted with such cries as 'virtually impossible' before the trip, Joe seemed to be particularly in form for the pitch. The arrival of the support party, after a touristy trip through, made the spectator gallery at the bottom larger and more raucous.

Earlier in the day we had been mortified when we had learned that the climbers only possessed one bolt! There was no way it seemed to us, that the sheer sided bottom 7m. of the aven, could be bypassed without using bolts. For the sake of a few paltry dollars we thought that the attempt would fail. Yet, spurning the three bolts inserted on the 1972 attempt, Joe free climbed the wall, inserted the one of his own as a running belay and was poised precariously below a boulder wedged on the pitch. Festooned like a Christmas tree with his myriads of equipment, he finally surmounted this obstacle using etriers from a piton dangerously placed in the tiniest of all cracks.

When Joe had climbed so high for our lighting to be ineffective and all our lights were turned out to conserve energy, a humorous event occurred. Malcolm and I were perched on a near vertical clay slope about 3m. above the floor of L, and which gave us the best view of the climb, so for a handhold we had tied a sling around a rock about 0.6m wide embedded in the clay. Initially, this had proved most effective, but suddenly, after we had been unwittingly putting too much weight on it, it proved too much and gave way whilst we were in total darkness. The others were just as surprised at the commotion and were most amused at

Brittle Bazaar cont.

the sight of us sprawled one on top of another halfway up the slope when they switched their lights on.

Meanwhile, Rik and his mob had disappeared back to a warm fire on the surface, whilst we were chilled to the bone watching Joe slowly progressing up the slope. The major technical obstacle after the initial 7 or 8 meter was a mudslope without any cracks or jems which had to be climbed free in parts. Eventually after about an hour and a half, Joe made it to the top with a near paralysed left leg due to a chimney jam below the bottom boulder. Apparently the nerve in his thigh was compressed and this must have made the top part of the climb rather difficult for him. After untackling and tying off, Mick had the rather unglorious task of following and unrigging the pitons etc., and he did this in a remarkably short time.

From the bottom: "What's up there?"

Joe: "It opens up into a sort of chamber with formation."

Following this news there was much general clarity and, naturally, volleying for who was to go up the rope next. Funnily enough, Malcolm just happened to be rigged up! (We were using S.R.T. ). Peter Campbell ever the gracious (exc. when caught in Mammoth Squeeze!) and unselfish of us delegated himself to last.

A very brief period of exploration followed during which the extremities of the cavern (about the same floor size as Oolite but not as high) were quickly ascertained. An adequate description of the cavern has been given in previous S.U.S.S. Bulletins. Since the climb was only made possible by the great skill and ability of Joe, it was given to him to name. The Brittle Bazaar originated. (I secretly suspect that he had this name in mind from the start!). Peter Winglee was kept busy taking lots of B&W pictures, with the view to quantity rather than quality. Joe and Mick seemed to be taking activity casually not showing more than a mild interest, and must have been somewhat mystified at our excitement. However, the call of the campfire became too much, and with the thought of a 2 hr trip out with gear, we hastily departed out via the aptly named Sewer Slide. What used to be Joe's rope, but now looked like a piece of limp mud was left for some luckless person to jumpr up on another trip. Unfortunately it turned out to be me!

On arrival back at camp, the other's skepticism before the climb quickly changed to excitement. Those who read this and have not had much to do in Mammoth will find it hard to understand why we are freaking out over a discovery that would hardly even rate a mention in Tasmania. The reason is simple. The Mammoth Cave has been intensively explored for the last 20 years, as S.U.S.S.'s main and almost exclusive project. Every new extension found now will have some major geomorphological significance or hydrological importance. Virtually all the extensions (with the exception of the T.O.P. extension - a joint A.S.F. 9th Biennial Conference field trip discovery), the mapping and documentation of the cave have been pioneered by S.U.S.S. This discovery confirms our continuing interest and will, we hope, possibly act as a catalyst for further exploration by other parties in Mammoth. In a few words, the Brittle Bazaar represents a new level in the Northern reaches of the cave, being possibly one of it's highest and oldest points and containing a variety of formation previously unknown in this area.

The possibilities in Mammoth are by no means exhausted. All that it requires is time, enthusiasm, organisation and energy in conjunction with research and manpower. The sheer size of the cave means that many of the hard to get to places remain to be systematically investigated and/or mapped. In future years, I would hope that this tradition in Mammoth is carried on.

Randall King March 1975

Trip Report: BUNGONIA 12-13 April 1975.

Present: Tony, Cathy Austin; Gerry, Jen Hopkins.

The purpose of this Trip was to finish off some of the loose ends of the Easter trip. More specifically we wished to positively identify the cave that had been opened last trip and to finish the digging in the B58 doline that had started off so promisingly. We had also wished to finish the survey of the Phoenix Cave which was a little over half way to completion. Such were the intentions!

We arrived in the reserve within half an hour of each other after an easy trip from Sydney on the Friday evening. As I can talk more persuasively than Gerry (i.e. louder and longer) it was decided that the weekends activities would start with a look at my dig in B15. Despite all his efforts to negotiate the squeeze at the end of the entrance tube Gerry was unable to have a look at the cave which he had helped to open the previous trip. Thus the task of fully exploring it fell to Jen and I. We were able to establish voice contact with Gerry when he was in the bottom of the lower dig but it was difficult to be sure at exactly what point in the cave the dig would have emerged. Suffice to say that we were soon convinced that the cave that we had opened up was in fact the long lost Shaduf which was originally opened by S.S.S. in 1964. The cave was fully explored and does in fact closely resemble the map of B15 prepared when the cave was first opened. Needless to say that all enthusiasm to continue on the lower dig disappeared very quickly as the higher entrance in the face of the cliff will provide a safe and permanent access to the cave. The careful examination of the cave revealed nothing of startling interest other than a few extremely tight and jagged passages that go around in circles going absolutely nowhere.

After settling the B15 issue once and for all we adjourned to B17 which is a small cave in the base of a cliff overlooking B15. We did see a bat hanging from the roof in the final chamber - he appears to be a permanent resident now as his deposits will testify. We departed quietly not wishing him to feel that the neighbourhood had degenerated in any way.

Saturday night was spent in the usual fashion - around the campfire until the call of the cards became overpowering. Where would cavers be without 500? Sunday saw us making an early start over to the dig at B58. When we had left off after Easter it had appeared that all we had to do was pull a few big rocks out of the way and we would be into a 'goer'. When has that ever been that simple? The big rocks were there alright - buried under quite a few feet of silt and smaller rocks. After a few hours of concerted digging by Gerry, Jen and I we were in a position to tackle the big ones. We succeeded in pulling out two real whopper using a block and tackle and a beer can as a pulley. Very interesting... but it worked! Anyway that just exposed more dirt for us to dig out (anyone interested in a rockery ... I got one going real cheap). Gerry finally managed to open up a hole in the floor and it really looked as though we had the cat in the bag .... well almost in the bag that is. Needless to say Gerry couldn't get in past the waist so yours truly had to squeeze down this extremely tight and worse still, jagged slot. Nett result was a big zero - the slot drops about eight feet onto a dirt floor that very closely resembled the one that we had just broken through. The only trouble is that it would be next to impossible to continue digging at this lower level as there just isn't enough room to breath let alone swing a shovel. Oh well, you can't pick a winner every time - though it sure would be nice. We left the reserve for Sydney at about 2.30pm - just before the rain really started to come down.

Tony Austin.



R.KingJENOLAN TR

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"MAMMOTH - MANIA & W.RHINOCEROUS"

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15/16 March 75

PRESENT: Malcolm Handel, Peter Campbell, Graeme Smith, Thea & Jim Seabrook, Randall King(TL) - (M's). Max MacGreevy Julia Crawford, Geoff Datson, Prue Kirby, Stephen Bunton - (P's). Lisette ? - (V)

After staying up until 3am putting up Peter Campbell's impressive Taj Mahal tent, fly and awning, the others arrived early and aroused us. Malcolm and Prue were obviously suffering the after-effects of a S.U. Alchemists Society party the night before! The main purpose of this trip was to introduce the new Prospectives to Mammoth Cave in particular, and to the Jenolan scenario in general. Amidst the usual confusion of packing, the ladders had, typically, been forgotten: each of us thinking that someone else was bringing them. Fortunately, we had half a dozen pairs of jumars, and since all but two of the party had jumared before, we felt confident enough to venture into Mammoth.

Upon abseiling in at about 11am, the party immediately made for Railway Tunnel. The torrentious rains in Sydney the previous week had left us concerned as to whether Mammoth would be flooded, however there wasn't any evidence of this. Yet in Horseshoe Cavern, it is of interest to note that the mud sink near the SE wall had subsided about 1m since I was there last. There being many insane amongst us, the mud slide past the Ninety Foot was enthusiastically used, although I piked in favour of staying clean and dry (little did I know.....)

Back at the top of the Forty Foot, we split - some down the pitch itself, and some through Mammoth Squeeze. This was the first time that I had done the squeeze, and although I struck a little trouble at first, once the right technique was found, it was a piece of pie. Prue, much to my embarrassment, made it through in about half the time, whilst Peter disappointed us by not getting stuck again. It was undoubtedly the first time that a kazoo duet was ever played in the squeeze! Rejoining the others, we made our way down the main Southern section passage to Lower River.

Lower River is, in itself, the Ultima Thule of Jenolan. The river on the surface normally sinks near gravel beds a km to the north, appears in Mammoth at this point, and is then next seen in the Tourist Caves, over 1km to the South. In between these extremities, nothing of it's course is known, with the exception of a few feet either side of where it appears in Mammoth, gained by risky diving throughout the years, and similarly towards the north(upstream)



in the Tourist caves. Unfortunately, diving in Lower River and other Mammoth backwaters has proved only to be abortive and unproductive. These waters have also been the subject of intensive hydrological studies, which in essence have only really served to ascertain which water comes out where.

The amount of water which this system carries is also intriguing. Even in the driest of times, Lower River still flows at a near constant and voluminous rate. John Dunkley once told me, and I hope he doesn't mind me mentioning it here, that some calculations he did at one stage, based on the volume and porosity of the gravel beds a kilometre to the north which compose the Wiburds Flat where the river normally sinks, showed that the water storing capacity was enough to support a 1 cusec flow of water in Lower River for six months! Some manipulation with time and water flow figures myself led to the conclusion that during peak flooding in Mammoth, Lower River drains conservatively over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mil. cu. ft of water. Although these figures are not concrete and, hypothetically derived, they do demonstrate the large flow capacity of Lower River, and hence to speculate upon the existence of large and cavernous regions of the river as yet undiscovered. Surface levelling by Ted Anderson has shown a relatively steep river gradient between the Wiburd's sink and its Mammoth appearance, whereas to the south, a drop of only 50ft or so between here and its eventual resurgence in Blue Lake. Of course, this implies rapid cave development and open passages to the north, whereas its southward procedure would be impeded with many blockages and sumps.

This course of the river north of its appearance in the Southern Section (upstream) is the legendary and mythical Woolly Rhinoceros, which must lie roughly parallel to its old abandoned stream passages - the rest of Mammoth Cave. What has caused it change its course? The experience with other caves, particularly the well publicised river caves in France, is that over a long course of time, the river gradually changes to a new equilibrium position below its older abandoned flood passages. It would therefore seem reasonable to expect this of Mammoth. It does in many ways show the classic 3 or 4 stage development

i.e. Stage 1 - Initial surface solution. Here, the faults and cracks in the limestone become phreatic (water filled) and lead to the development of the initial high caverns. eg Entrance Cavern, Oolite, Brittle Bazaar.

Stage 2 - The fossilised section of stream passage where little or no water is ever present, hence its development is virtually over - in Mammoth, perhaps the best example of this is the Can't Get Lost to Nthn Railway Tunnel area and rockpile. However, in the horizontal river

caves of France, Austria and Yugoslavia, this level is quite well defined.

Stage 3 - A level below that of the fossilised Stage 2 development, which represents the flood passages and backwaters of the river below. Development is still in a state of flux, but it is quite slow. The most striking examples of this in Mammoth would be the three lakes, and, of course, the main Southern Section passage.

Stage 4 - The living stage of the river, which is still in its relatively young stage of activity. This is the stage at which lower river around the Woolly Rhinoceros region is currently at.

I make no pretence here as to being a karst hydrologist, and indeed, the scientific person would probably be aghast at such an uncomplicated classification, yet it is in this way that a simplified visualisation may be most easily represented. The case of Mammoth cave, is, however, made more complex by the appearance of another independent river - Central River. Henry Shannon has shown using fluorescein that Central River joins Lower River downstream, to the south, and as such, gives little hope of any major cave connection.

Another direction of attack to the Woolly Rhinoceros problem was expounded again by Henry Shannon. His approach was different to all the others, in that rather than trying to extend north from inside Mammoth, he thought that by digging in Wiburd's Lake Cave a km to the North, a proven hydrologic connection with Lower River, he might gain entry from the opposite direction i.e. from the north. After a digging attempt, which had so far produced no results, he left for Queensland, and no-one has, as yet, been inspired to continue with this. Still, that's the characteristic of many speleological digs - a lot of work and little success.

More recently, my own line of thought about this matter is turning more and more towards digging in Mammoth. There are two possible areas which deserve consideration: Denzdig, in the Colite Loop in the Southern Section, and at the end of the Infinite Crawl in the Northern Section. Firstly, let's consider Denzdig. The dig itself is in sand sediment, at the bottom of a sink and next to the wall. This sand is then underlain by mud. From 1963 intermittently to about 1971, digging has proceeded. However, this was very abortive, as just as they seemed to be getting somewhere, the southern Section would flood, resulting with the dig being filled again. I have no doubts that this could be solved by engineering a portable, but solid, retaining wall. The situation existing is this: Denzdig lies almost

directly to the north of lower River's appearance, and it is reasonable to assume that it can only be a matter of, at the most, 15 to 25 metres to a Woolly Rhinoceros connection, if it does in fact connect.

Secondly, the Infinite Crawl passage dig. Apparently, this peter out in a choked, sediment filled horizontal squeeze, and is the most westerly part of Mammoth Cave. John Dunkley mentions this as being another distinct possibility for a dig. Unfortunately, the distance between this point and the Woolly Rhinoceros is even more of an unknown than with Denzdig: it might be a few metres to a few hundred. Also, with the thought of the long and tiring trip between here and the entrance, it is difficult to foresee anyone with the enthusiasm required for systematic digging.

It would be impossible not to mention here another possibility. The Mammoth Book mentions a micro-squeeze in the western wall of the Oolite Chamber, through which water can occasionally be seen at the end. I have not seen this, so I cannot really comment on it, other than to mention that it is likely to sump all the way to the River.

The southern downstream end of the Lower River can be heard from the end of Smirhoff's passage, but I shall have more to say about this in a separate article.

This rather long digression from the actual trip report is important, as it illustrates the present stage in thinking as to the Woolly Rhinoceros. For all those people who fail to understand why we revisit Mammoth weekend after weekend, it is the incentive of attaining this almost impossible dream that is always in the back of one's mind. I personally am slowly evolving to the conclusion that at some stage in the future, an organised attack on Denzdig will be a necessity, and perhaps towards the end of 1975 we might begin to approach the Woolly Rhinoceros from this angle. Lower River still remains the Ultima Thule of Jenolan.

Returning again to the Mammoth trip, at Lower River, having nothing better to do, Graeme, Malcolm and I decided to traverse across for the hell of it whilst the others watched. It is definitely only suited to tall people, as it requires a chimney about 1.7m wide. Getting back across is even harder. Graeme Smith astounded us by only using the western wall, surely the first time this has been done. He must have a very delicate sense of balance! Malcolm made it after much difficulty and nearly falling in. Unfortunately, it was my turn next. The object of the exercise is to arrive into the key position of having both feet on a tiny ledge on the LHS (looking upstream), with



both hands stretched across to the wall on the right. However, getting into this strategic arrangement represents the major difficulty. After having one precarious try at doing this, I decided to cut out all this fussiness, and just walk across.

Upon arrival dripping wet on the other side, it was immediately conjectured that I had fallen in by some unmentionable people, but I categorically deny this viscous rumour to be true!

A visit to the Southern Section would not be complete without a visit to the Oolite Cavern, and so this is where the party now headed. Foreseeing the length of time before everyone arrived, Graeme and I dashed off for a lightening trip to Upper Oolite and the Pisa Chamber. After detrogging, we marvelled at the pretties, our only regrets being that we didn't have our cameras with us. Malcolm had lit a piece of magnesium, and it comes as a realisation to find out how high this section is in relation to Oolite itself.

At the bottom of the Forty Foot, Peter and Malcolm seemed to be coping adequately with getting people up the pitch, although it was a very slow process. Taking advantage of this, Graeme, Steve and I went back for a look at Grinning Monster Lake, the Oolite Loop and Smirnoff's. Smirnoff's turned out to be most interesting, and an article on this will be dealt with separately.

Jumaring everyone out took something like 2½ hours, during which Malcolm lost his voice from continually shouting from the top to the bottom. It is pitches such as this, with an overhanging ledge containing a long let-off slope that the "Frog" system of jumaring comes into its own, as opposed to the "ropewalking" type method which I utilise. The lack of real "reach" offered by this system makes it hazardous on ledges such as this. Graeme Smith also uses this method, and he experienced similar difficulties, thus we are investigating the practicability of other systems at present. I must be quick to point out that in all other respects it is superior i.e. speed, ease of use etc., however the disadvantages of it are trouble on ledges, even when properly adjusted, and a tiring of the arm on long pitches, and these tend to outweigh its major attributes.

Of course, Jim immediately set off for Oberon before the pub closed!

On Sunday morning, we were greeted with the sight of the awning which Malcolm had erected collapsing on top of those sleeping underneath! Julia, Malcolm and Geoff then departed to investigate a wombat - hole entrance behind the east ridge of the Jenolan River discovered on a previous trip (SUSS Bl 14(10):120) and they were to meet the remainder of us in Hennings Hole later.

At HenningsHole, Malcom arrived and told us that the hole, which is at the bottom of a sink in a gully, went for about 2m and then ended in solid dirt - so much for any hopes of finding a new entrance to the Brittle Bazaar in Mammoth.

Apart from Prue posing with the phallactite for a photo, the only thing of interest occurring outside the normal trip to the roof straws chamber and aragonite cluster, was Graeme and Steve's exploration of the narrow squeeze passage which continues on past the aragonite chamber. They reported that this continues on for quite a distance, Graeme also found a perfectly preserved outstretched bat skeleton in a passage which continues down and to the left in mud from the roof straw chamber.

Next on the list was a visit to Upper Serpentine to examine the reported helictite formations inside. Eric Halbert (SSS), who was also at Jenolan this weekend, had spent the Saturday digging out the boulder collapse which had occurred a month before in the Lower Serpentine (J72) entrance. As we walked past, we noted that the rock with the entrance tag had also been removed (SSS tagging people please note). Eric had spent Saturday night in Lower Serpentine also, taking some more meteorological readings for his project. Upper Serpentine truly lives up to it's name: you have to be a snake to get through! Nevertheless, it presents the best and most fun sporting caving outside Mammoth at Jenolan. At one part on the return from the helictites, there is an S shaped squeeze which drops away for about 2 to 3 m on the far side. Of course, Malcolm went through head first, and when he got to the other side, he presented a target for jest by having his hands on the wall, both feet still in the squeeze, and his bum hanging right down the middle of the drop! However, he eventually managed to extricate himself. (much to myr disappointment).

On the way down the hill from the entrance, some bright spark sprained his ankle - me!, well the less said about that that the better .... After some concern as to whether Max's car would make it back (needless worry as it turned out), everyone made it to Sydney safely this time.

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After reading this copy of the Bulletin the average reader might well begin to wonder if there exists any limestone other than at Jenolan.

WELL- not only is there limestone elsewhere but there are even caves other than at the Big J. Yes, the Society even has been known to visit these strange and distinctly alien areas. Now for the discerning speleo there is always Bungonia - that hav en for earthworms and/or masochists. People have even been known to visit places like Wee Jasper and even Wyabene! A taste for little Boy Scouts is not exactly a prerequisite but it can add to the enjoyment. Grilled on an open fire is the method of preference - the only trouble is, have you ever tried to clean one? Anyway - with a bit of luck someone will lead a trip to a area other than the usual two - its just a matter of time.

Trip Report:

BRITTLE BAZAAR - MAMMOTH CAVE.

Easter Saturday night

Present:

Peter Campbell(L), Spike, Malcolm, one other and myself.

I would appreciate if you would put a name to the other person as I have a bad memory for names. ( It was Brian Cleaver of St. George A.C.T.)

Since the discovery of this part of Mammoth Cave late last year it has created a great deal of interest in the Guide office at Jenolan and after talking to Randall King he arranged a trip into Brittle Bazaar for me with other S.U.S.S. members for Thursday 27 March. Unfortunately I had to go to Sydney to pick up Cath. When I got back from Bathurst on Wednesday night I happened to see a strange sight, the only push bike spello that I have ever seen and after greetings we started to talk about a trip to Brittle Bazaar on Saturday night for me.

This was to be the trip of trips for me as I had never prussiked up a rope before. I have done a fair bit of abseiling but never this type of S.R.T. which I had to learn quickly for this trip.

The five of us were at the bottom of the entrance pitch by 7.05 and then we continued through the cave that I had been through often before to Central River, then it was all new to me. The rock pile was a bit of a personal test to me as the last time that I had been through a rock pile was in the Barralong Cave when the entrance squeeze caved in on me. The avens near the Middle Bit interest me a lot and I would be interested in any work in this area. Then the Dry Siphon and the O Me Knees squeeze which I needed assistance to get through below and above, a rest and quick look at Red Cascades and then into the 99% Friction Squeeze, no problem until about 5 meters from the end when I had to lower the floor to get through. I carry a hammer and chisel with me on all trips. We arrived at Can't Get Lost at 10.15 where we found out that after Malcolm and Peter had climbed up into the top section, Peter advised that it would be too dangerous to climb as the rope was too muddy and the Jumars were not grabbing. A big disappointment. We then had a look around the bottom and froze for the next 13/4 hours while Peter and Malcolm dismantled the pole and lowered it down. Out via the Sewer Slide to the Dry Siphon, what a way to go. While we rested at Central Lake we heard noises of pebbles falling and then the pres himself shed usual form. He and Max and possibly Peter Winglee had come looking for us as we had said we would be out by midnight. After passing the usual greetings they went out and as we got to the bottom of the entrance pitch Max was seen disappearing over the overhang.

I came out via the ladder first as I had to be at work by 8.30. I reached the top and out by 2.45 am.

Though I never got to Brittle Bazaar the trip was a success for me and my appreciation goes to the members that made it possible.

Noel Rawlinson.

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Heard in Mammoth at Easter; from the top of a pitch:

"Sorry folks ....I, I don't want to worry you but; through the hole and around the tree.....?"

Courtesy Peter Winglee.



EASTER 1975 - JENOLAN

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"SPELEOLOGICAL AUTHORITIES WARN THAT THE BRITTLE BAZAAR IS  
A HEALTH HAZARD."

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27 March - 1st AprilMAMMOTH CAVE AND OTHER WORKRandall King

PRESENT: R.King (TL), Malcolm Handel, Bruce Welch, Ludwig Rieder, Peter Winglee, Jim and Thea Seabrook, Peter Campbell, Ian Milligan, John Dunkley, Graeme Smith, Keith Murray - (M's), Noel Rawlinson (Guide), Brian Cleaver (St G.A.C.T) Marilyn Mee, Prue Kirby, Tony Haymet, Greg Foy, Max McGreevy, Kathy Handel, Simon Falk. - (P's) Chris? Lesley?

These people were all present at some stage over the week, although at no one time were there more than 12.

Scientific speleological projects for Easter concentrated around 3 main areas: Brittle Bazaar - HG. Surveying; Scaling Pole work, general exploration (Mammoth Cave). Wiburds Lake Cave - Passage detailing, scaling pole work, general exploration. Surface work

THURSDAY, 27th March.

Peter Campbell had ridden into Jenolan by bicycle from Mt. Vic. the previous night (who said SUSS were slack?!!), only to find that there was no one else there, owing to Ford's built in obsolescence rendering Graeme's car unserviceable. Since the SUSS scaling pole was unavailable, the guides kindly lent us theirs, so when Malcolm & co. arrived, they got a free trip into the Red and White Temple to retrieve it.

Brittle Bazaar Trip 1 - Scaling Pole Exploration

One of the major aims we had in mind for work over Easter was to consolidate further work in our newly discovered section of Mammoth, the Brittle Bazaar. We had only had two trips into here since its initial entrance on the 22/11/74, so there was still much to be done. Peter Campbell had decided before the trip to carry the scaling poles in to investigate the three avens, or, to be more precise, the high roof levels, which I have previously mentioned as being exploration prospects. (SUSS Bull 14(10):122). For those poor ignorant people, the BB is located on a level above Can't Get Lost in the remote Northern Section of Mammoth, and involves the sometimes hazardous operation of jumaring up slippery rope for 17m. Thus Peter's suggestion was not met with any overlarge enthusiasm, although it was realised that this exploration would have to be done sometime. So when the practical logistic difficulties of carrying 8 lengths of scaling pole there and back rapidly made themselves known, Peter became the scapegoat

and assumed the role of the villian for the week.

P.C., M.H., T.H., P.W., & K.M. only took two hours to get the pole into CGL, and this proved to be deceptively easy. The 10m of scaling pole were erected and put up the aven in the roof which we amongst ourselves refer to as "Malcolms Hole", owing to Malcolm originally noticing it and then being superkeen about exploration prospects up it. This hole is located on the eastern side of the back of the Central Section. Malcolm free climbed another 15m from the top of the pole around flowstone and up a high rift, but unfortunately nothing was found. Some photographs were taken by Peter W. up the aven to document the effort. Already 7 hours had elapsed, so the party again made the 2 hr. trip to the entrance (with gear), and their night arrival at the campsite was greeted by Brian and Graeme (who had hitchhiked to Jenolan from Caringbah, taking 6 hrs to reach Liverpool), and those of us from the "Maxmobile", alias a 1962 automatic BJ Holden Station Wagon. During the day, Prue and Cathy showed some pioneering spirit by going on 3 tourist cave inspections - an ordeal probably harder than getting to the BB and back.

#### FRIDAY, 28th March

##### Brittle Bazaar Trip 2 - Connection To CGL Found, & High Grade Mapping

Randall King, Brian Cleaver, Max McGreevy, Graeme Smith.

Following the almost tragicomic trip with the scaling pole, some of us decided to do some real work. The Forestry Compass and tripod were dragged up to the BB, since a HIGH GRADE survey had become a necessity, especially owing to this sections inaccessibility and its complex relationship with the other two levels - CGL and the Junction Area.

On the way to CGL, Brian and I made a quick detour up past Ohmencez Squeeze's mudslope base to have a look up Central River. This river passage is quite extensive, and the Mammoth Book map gives no indication of its 50m or so length upstream.

Inside the BB itself, we immediately headed to the squeeze that I had investigated on a previous trip, and had found too small for me to fit through. To this end I had brought a sledgehammer and chisels with me, but after  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours work I was still unable to get past it. Nevertheless, the other three were small, and they sat on the other side of the squeeze, whilst I watched with my head stuck through the hole. The squeeze itself is not marked on my published Gde 3 map, but it is located down a mudslide a few metres SW of the drop marked "20' " (but which is in fact only a deceptive 4m). On the other side of this squeeze is located a low, flat horizontal area abt. 1 to 1.5m H. Through the floor of this there is a very muddy & extremely tight vertical rift, which Brian dug out, and then slid down (I might add here - with the greatest of difficulty). This rift continues down wards at an angle of 70 to 80 degrees

to the horizontal and with a southerly strike from the BB. Eventually, the bottom of this emerged about 10 to 12m further down in the Can't Get Lost rockpile where Malcolm had investigated a few months before and John Holliday et al had been looking in 1972. However, according to Brian, it is unlikely that entrance through the Brittle Bazaar will ever be effected as a main route from Can't Get Lost owing to the difficulties encountered, - but who knows? Brian then jumared back up the pitch (the only person ever to go up twice and come down once via the aven!!) and proceeded to draw a Gde 2 map of the connection, which I will eventually publish.

We then started our High Grade Suvey, using the stalagmite "Fred's" in the Right Hand Branch as the control datum, and with other major stations in the Left Hand Branch and Central Section. A survey peg was left in the ground just before the 4m pitch in the RH Branch to enable future lower grade maps of the rockpile to the East & the CGL connection to be tied in - PLEASE MAKE USE OF IT. The survey was closed and the error was later calculated to be less than 20cm!! This map will be published in the future, as floor detailing & cross sections will need another trip in - probably in May.

Brian decided to call the connection to CGL the "Neverpass" since I'll never pass it! Moral: never go caving in a party with everyone smaller than yourself. (Seabrook take note!). On the way back we were suffering from a shortage of light due to our protracted length of stay underground, and this prevented us continuing on to Great North Cavern. We arrived back at the campsite singing our theme for the week - the Mickey Mouse Club Song - after 11½ hours in Mammoth.

Meanwhile, during the day, Malcolm and Ian had done some mapping of caves up the Gorge and on J41, Dwyers Bluff. They had then gone to a party at Noel Rawlinson's house, where they sampled Noels home brew - it is still talked about as the best home made beer they had ever tasted. Thus everyone was in a great state of frivolity when we arrived back at midnight! However, I will also make comment here that Bruce had stayed at camp drawing up his Wiburd's maps - this is just an example of his persistence in trying to get Wiburd's finally mapped.

#### SATURDAY, 29th March

Some typical Jenolan drizzle dampened our spirits to do any serious caving, however there were a couple of Upper Oolite trips during which Marilyn did her first few abseils with competence, although the chimney from Ooolite to Upper Oolite proved too much for her and Prue. Cathy Handel made it up, where we hope she was not malhandled (an "in" joke).

#### Brittle Bazaar Trip 3 - Part Recovery of Scaling Pole

The primary purpose of this trip was to show Noel the Brittle Bazaar Cavern, to continue with scaling pole work,



and to unrig the scaling poles and carry them to the bottom of the Sewer Slide. Leaving at 7PM the trip to CGL was quick and uneventful (yes, Noel did get through Ohmeneez!!). On the pitch to the BB, our 12mm sheathed Terylene clogged up Peter and Brian's jumars teeth so much, that safe prussiking became well nigh impossible. Thus it was considered safer for the others to remain at the bottom, as the other rope was being used at the top of the scaling pole. I would suggest that in future, a toothbrush for cleaning the teeth of the jumars should be an essential part of every prussikers kit.

Due to the lack of manpower in the Brittle Bazaar itself, thoughts of any further scaling pole work had to be pushed aside and Peter and Bryan unbolted the scaling pole - thus there are still two avens remaining to be investigated in the future if anyone ever again has the enthusiasm to take the scaling pole in. The bottom 1.3m section had almost totally embedded itself into one of the most notable features of the BB - the mud! Next time a base plate would come in handy, as this section proved impossible to budge and required us to return the next day.

All was not lost at the bottom of the pitch, however, since Noel had utilised the time to tell Greg and Ian all about Exit Cave and Khazad Dum in Tasmania! The poles were then carried to the bottom of the Sewer Slide and the surface was reached at about 2AM. At the campsite, the rest of us were systematically working our way through the umpteenth Bushwalker Song Books of Jims, spurred on by a variety of alcoholic beverages, and when there was no sign of the wavers at 1AM, Jim and Max went into Mammoth in the expectation of helping to carry out scaling poles, whilst we played guitars outside the entrance.

#### SUNDAY, 30th March

Graeme Smith, Peter Winglee and Max McGreevy left to retrieve the scaling pole sections and ropes from the bottom of Sewer Slide mid-morning, and these were brought back in a record time - less than 3 hours, surely a remarkable feat. Marilyn, Ian and Keith were on their way to help, and were shocked to see all the gear already at the Skull and Crossbones!

#### Brittle Bazaar Trip 4 - Exploration of Eastern Rockpile

Because of the stuck section of the scaling pole, Peter (for the third time) and I (for my second) were again forced to return to the BB, this time with an entrenching tool. After a superfast trip, we were in CGL by 1/2 an hour from the entrance, where Peter prussiked up first - this time on braided nylon - and had no trouble with the jumars. Perhaps the braiding acts as a funnel for mud from the jumar teeth, as opposed to the difficulty with sheathed ropes. By the time I got up, the last section had been retrieved, so I decided to thoroughly explore the BB Rockpile at the eastern end of the Right Hand Branch.

The passage continues on past the side of the 4m drop for

about another 5m horizontally, at which point there is a 70 degree mudslope about 4m high. At the top there are two holes: one going off to the left, and the other to the right. The one on the right is obvious, and Malcolm and I had already investigated this on the initial discovery. This continues upwards around boulders for another 8 to 10 metres, but is eventually blocked.

The hole on the left at the top of the mudslope was previously unentered and is less obvious. This also winds its way upwards, until you can drop down into a small chamber 2 by 3 by 4m with some straws and small stalactites on the wall. A passage continues from this for another 5m, but it too eventually peters out. Of course, pioneering my way through all this virgin mud left me looking like a blob, but it was nevertheless enjoyable.

Now for the big question; what are the chances of pushing the rockpile towards the Middle Bit and Railway Tunnel rockpiles? Unfortunately, I cannot see this being done from here as the effort required to bring digging equipment, sledgehammers, jacks etc would be exponentially greater than the chances of finding any new sections of cave. I have pretty well thoroughly explored this rockpile, and the possibility of any unnoticed passages are negligible. The chances of there being a continuous rockpile from here to the top of the Middle Bit rockfall I would theorise as being fairly high, since they are geomorphologically contemporaneous. Pushing the rockpile would also be pretty impossible without blasting, so this looks like the end of any further extension from this side. Still, one never knows....

Outside Mammoth, John, Bryan and Ludwig were bashing around on Wiburd's Bluff. On Wiburds Bluff, about 30m south of and on the same level as Wiburds there is a large cave entrance approx. 2mH by 1m W which may be seen from Wiburds Flat. This appears on the SUSS Unnumbered Cave List as UCL53, and the first published references to it seem to be in a BMSC Jnl for October, 1972 (Oolite 4(3):74), and they dubbed it later as "Kens Curious Cavern", although SUSS refers to it now as BMSC Cave. Inside, Bryan found a hole, and upon dropping a tape down, it turned out to be a 23m pitch!! Since there are no mentions of this in the BMSC reports of the time, and since upon writing to them there was no reply, it may be safely assumed that this was discovered for the first time. Having no rope with them, they returned to the campsite, and they would investigate further the next day.

#### MONDAY, 31st March - New Entrance to Wiburds Found

Whilst the group who had become known by now as the "Wiburd's Team" of Bruce, Greg and the Seabrooks, and the others, carried the scaling pole up to Wiburds Lake Cave, John and I took our time to do some mapping up the Gorge, and at the base of J97 Bluff. Peter Winglee and Bryan also

descended the pitch in UCL 53, and after climbing down through a rockpile at the bottom, emerged in what was later confirmed to be 22 Passage in Wiburds. Thus there is now a new entrance to Wiburds! Later in the afternoon, all those still left at Jenolan went into Wiburds for a look around, and to help carry scaling pole sections back.

I make no apologies for the length of this report - all be it, it may be long and boring - but it is my sincere belief that all caving trips should be thoroughly documented, and I hope others will do the same. Some lessons were learnt, i.e. Never undertake to carry the scaling poles into the Brittle Bazaar unless you are assured of people being willing to bring them back. Although everyone did an abnormal amount of work, there are two people which deserved particular mention: Bryan Cleaver, whose enthusiasm inspired many new discoveries - we hope to see more of him when he starts Uni next year, & Bruce Welch, who was working 12hrs plus every day, and, even though his brief report gives little indication of it, accomplished more in a week than the previous 2 years work in Wiburds put together. Peter Campbell is still recovering from 2 BB trips in 24 hours, and it will be a long while before he takes scaling poles back there!! In summary, an extremely successful week. Randall King

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#### WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE WIBURDS TEAM OVER EASTER

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##### Wiburds Lake Cave

##### Bruce Welch

Wiburds Team: Bruce Welch (L), Greg Foy, Jim & Thea Seabrook.

FRIDAY, 28th March - Welch and Foy entered Wiburds at 11am and completed cave wall and floor detail from the entrance to Survey Stn. 43, which is halfway between Neddy's Knock & Pitter Patter passage, excluding the Lake Chamber and the chamber at the top of the mudslide above NW passage.

SATURDAY, 29th March - Entered Wiburds at midday and Welch & Seabrook completed floor and wall detail for the river section. Also investigated extremely large area of rockfall at higher level above end of this section. Seabrook & Co. then wandered around Wiburds Bluff hillside looking for a surface feature corresponding to the rockpile investigated earlier. Apparently, a large collapse block is situated NW of the Wiburds entrance. Welch meanwhile completed wall and floor detail for Lake Chamber

SUNDAY, 30th March - Welch commenced wall & floor detail for 22 passage. Welch and Foy then completed wall and floor detail from Survey Stn 43 to the end of Pitter Patter passage. Most of the holes off main passage were investigated and some promising digs noted. The main mud sump just past the bottom of the climb up to Pitter Patter Passage was pushed by Welch and an extension to this sump was noted, but not entered. This would require very



little digging. The chamber at the top of the mudslide above NW passage was mapped, and wall and floor detail completed.

MONDAY, 31st March - A large party carried the scaling pole into Lake Chamber, and Welch, Fof & the Seabrooks pushed the pole into holes in the roof of Lake Chamber. One hole led to the discovery of a large section of cave at about the same level as survey Stn 5 (which is 30m inside Wiburds down on the main level). The new section led to a large rockfall area which is heading towards the rockpile area above River Section. A long waistlength was left down one hole, and a double nylon loft from the hole above Lake Chamber. Winglee confirmed the connection between UCL 53 and the Gulches No 1 just below Survey Stn 23 in 22 passage. (King, McGreevy & Winglee also thoroughly explored NW Passage, but nothing new was found -RK). Bruce Welch

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NOTES ON MAPPING IN  
MAMMOTH

I would consider some clarification of my map of the Brittle Bazaar (pub. SUSS Bull. 14(10):123 Jan/Feb 75) appropriate here. It is only meant to serve as a provisional map in lieu of a higher grade survey and to show the general layout of this section of the cave. Also, the hole marked as '20ft drop' is only 12 feet. These corrections were submitted too late for publication, but are shown on all maps since distributed. The nomenclature 'Left, Right, Centre' are only used here for the want of better names, and any apt suggestions will be considered for future use.

Also, I would like to comment on Rik Tunney's map preceding mine in the same issue. Whilst this serves to show the rough position of Brittle Bazaar to the rest of the cave admirably, it should not be taken as much more than a sketch. This is obvious but the lack of grading on the map might be taken to be ambiguous. On a preliminary pencilled detailed area the relationship is shown to be quite complex, and will require a higher grade survey of the B.B. for a final draft to be made. (March 1975). This is not to criticise Rik's map and his efforts in drawing it up quickly for publication, but just to warn of the glaring inaccuracies in it.

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- \* Peter Winglee has planned a trip to YARRANGOBILLY AND WYANBENE (hopefully) for the Uni holidays - from May 24-30.
- \* He says that this is a good chance to get acquainted with some of the more distant areas. People who know these areas as well as Prospectives are welcome. (Funny about that - Ed.).

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Needless to say there will continue to be many exciting trips to Bungonia led by yours truly. A full trip list will appear in the next issue as it has yet to be drafted. In the mean time if you feel like a quick trip to the aforesaid place then give me a ring on my new home phone - 750 7785.

Ed.

FUTURE TRIPS LIST

- JENOLAN - 10/11 May - Southern Limestone. Mapping. JCH & PS meeting. - B.Welch (L) 991013 (H)
- BUNGONIA - 17/18 May - T.Austin (L) 750/7785 (H) - Digging, surveying.
- WYANBENE - 18/21 May - R.King (L) 969/4543 (H) Big Hole and familiarisation. Some people will go straight after to Jenolan. If Shodihwon flooded, Bungonia instead.
- BUNGONIA - 24/25 May - T.Austin (L) 750/7785 - exploration etc.
- JENOLAN - 22/25 May - R.King 969/4543 (H) - Joint trip with BNSC. Wiburds mapping, cave documentation, Mammoth (Brittle Bazaar mapping, Great North Cavern)
- LIBRARY DAY & EVENING - 27th May - At Peter Campbells place, 5 Marion St, Strathfield West. 76/8855 (H). - Library reorganisation. Everybody needed!
- YARANGOBILLY - 29 May/ 1 June. - P.Winglee (L) 83/9182 (H) - Photography and surveying.
- COMMITTEE MEETING - P.Winglee's place, 73 First Ave, 5 Dock. 7.30PM 3rd June
- CLIEFDEN - 6/8 June, Queens Birthday Long Weekend? - R.King (L) 969/4543 (H) - Stay at hut (\$1/night). Mapping with UNSWSS. Taplow Flat Maze etc. Members preferenced.
- JENOLAN - 21/22 June - Cave documentation, Mammoth, Wiburds. - R.King (L) 969/4543 (H)
- JENOLAN - June sometime - B.Welch (L) - Twin Shafts surveying & Wiburds.
- BUNGONIA - June sometime - T.Austin (L) 750/7785 - digging etc
- TASMANIA - August Uni Holidays - P.Winglee (L) 83/9182 (H) - main Tasmanian areas to be visited for familiarisation
- STHN NSW & NTHN VICTORIA CAVE TOUR - August Uni Holidays - R.King (L) - Major and small caving areas will be visited tentatively. Abercrombie, Wombeyan, Cooleman (if accessible), Yagby, Bendethra, Tabbra Sea Caves, Buchan. Private transport only
- CHILLAGOE QLD. - Christmas - B.Welch (L) 99/1013 - Train to Cairns, plane to Chillagoe. Over 100 sq. miles limestone!
- NULLARBOR - Christmas - R.King (L) 969/4543 - Mulla-mullang etc
- TASMANIA - February or May 1976 - 3 weeks in major caving areas eg. Ida Bay, Junee-Florentine, Hole Crk. SRT people only

Jenolan trips will be held every fortnight (contact R.King) and Bungonia trips every 3 weeks (contact T.Austin) through the year. Thou can't not complain about a lack of trips! All welcome.

EDITED: T Austin CYDEN.C & T Austin R King PRINTED: P Winglee D 7/55