

SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Box 35, The Union,
University of Sydney,
SYDNEY.

Circular.

Easter (March), 1959.

Dear Speleo,

1. NEXT MEETING --- ELEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The next General Meeting of the Society will be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday next, 2nd April, 1959, in the Main Lecture Theatre, Geography Department, University of Sydney. All outstanding business for the year 1958/59 will be dealt with at this meeting.

At the conclusion of this meeting, at approximately 9 pm, supper will be served. The ELEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held at 9.30 pm.

The agenda is as follows: 1. Minutes of the 10th Annual General Meeting.

2. Presidential Address
3. Secretary's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Record Officer's Report
6. Election of Officers, 1959/60.

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| i.e. President | Librarian |
| Vice-President | Equipment Officer |
| Secretary | Records Officer |
| Assistant Secretary | Programmes Officer |
| Treasurer | Editor of SUSS Journal |
| Full Committee Member | Survey Subcommittee Convenor |
| Associate Committee Member | S & R Subcommittee Convenor |
| | Auditor. |

2. NOTICE OF MOTION.

Due notice has been given of the following motion, by Mark Foy and Toni Rittie, to be presented at the General Meeting:

"That the present clauses 8.(a),(b),(c) of the Constitution be renumbered 8 (b),(c),(d), and that a new clause, 8 (a) read 'Constitutional Amendments may be made only at a General Meeting convened for that purpose, once a year. Matters of urgency may be moved at any meeting with the consent of 2/3 rds of the members present.' "

3. SUBSCRIPTIONS.

On the night of the Annual General Meeting, all subscriptions fall due, and those members desiring to vote must become financial before the elections. This means a lot of work for the poor Treasurer. If you have the funds available, please see Doug Denning during the week, or at least before the meeting. In case you've forgotten,

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| Freshers, Undergraduates or Associates under 17 years, | 5/- |
| Other undergraduates | 7/6 |
| Graduates and Associates | 17/6 |

4. NEW MEMBERS.

At the 68th Committee Meeting, held on March 24, 1959, the following were admitted to Full Membership of the Society.

Marian Carpenter
Forbes Gordon
Elizabeth Hahn
Jeffrey Hinwood
John Sutton

Congratulations.

In order that freshers who have completed, satisfactorily, the minimum of twenty hours underground, on at least two trips, may be admitted to membership before the Annual General Meeting, an Extraordinary Committee Meeting will be held at 6.45 pm prior to the meeting.

5. GROUND SHEETS.

Peter Knowland has perfected the SUSS groundsheet. This innovation is in heavy "Visqueen", which mere mortals know as a superior type of "plastic". They are 6 feet long and 4 feet wide, and have a number of re-inforced holes at the sides and ends. They are available from the Society at the sum of 15/- each, -- money to the Treasurer and the order to Peter. The first five to come of the production lines were bought by the Society for the Ian Carpenter Equipment Pool, and were used on the two Fresher's trips recently, where they proved their value. The large size makes them suitable for use also as rain-capes, and two together can make an effective emergency tent.

Please turn over.

6. ACCIDENT IN ENGLAND

Members will have read of the unfortunate accident in Derbyshire, England, culminating in the death of a student of Oxford University while leading a party in a cave. As is usual in such cases, the Press have given varied and many highly-coloured reports of the incident. Most paragraphs mention "mud and slime" a cliché that is used inevitably when referring to caves. (Have you ever seen slime in a cave?) At the moment, it is not clear if the student was a member of a Speleological Society, but this seems probable. In any case our numerous friends in the English Cave Rescue Organisations seem to have done a difficult job to the best of their ability. In due course we will no doubt receive a full report on the accident and subsequent rescue. Meanwhile the following cable has been sent:

British Speleological Association, Settle, England.

CONVEY DEEPEST SYMPATHIES.

Sydney University Speleological Society.

7. SEARCH AND RESCUE

At the last Committee Meeting, the Search and Rescue Subcommittee presented a report which slightly changes previous policy. It was previously suggested that any committee member be contacted. However this could lead to many costly trunk-line calls trying to locate members who are not at home at the time. In future it will only be necessary to ring one number. By courtesy of Mr Minchin of MSS, arrangements have been made to contact the METROPOLITAN SECURITY SERVICE in all cases as a primary contact. The MSS will then contact a SUSS member from a special list of suitable persons, and this member will then organise the search and/or rescue teams as follows:

1. Organise a phone watch (girls for this job)
2. Contact an expert on the area, or cave, to decide size of party needed.
3. Ring car drivers, and instruct them to organize parties.
4. Ring equipment officer to have equipment ready.
5. Notify others on contact list.
6. Leave for area to take charge of operations.

REMEMBER, in case of accident, you will speed action if you ring XJ 0218, MSS.

8. CARBIDE

For some time the Society has been investigating the possibility of supplying members with carbide at a more reasonable price than is charged downtown. Although it is possible to buy it at 1/3 lb, some places insist on selling it only in non-returnable tins at 1/6 "container deposit". Better still, some members know the thrill of getting it in a paper bag or cardboard box on a wet day. What finer way of getting a seat (even a whole compartment) on that train, tram or bus. This era can now draw to a close for SUSS members. In future, carbide will be purchased in bulk and repacked into suitable sizes. The cost per container which will be either a tin or a plastic bag, is just 1/- per lb. Supplies will be available at the Annual General Meeting, or from the Equipment Officer, Doug Denning. Naturally this scheme will require a number of containers, so anyone having suitable ins, etc., is asked to bring them to the A.G.M.

9. BEACH TOWELS

It may be out of season, but you can still be first with the latest. Ian Crook has found a craftsman who can supply an outsize beach towel (6 ft x 3 ft) at £2.11.0. May sound expensive but these have a large reproduction of the SUSS badge set on a blue background, and are ideal for non-caving weekends anywhere. Ring Ian at YX7531.

10. TENTS

At the moment, Anthony Hordern's are selling two-man "A" tents, which they normally retail at £8, for the bargain price of £6.

11. TRIPS

BUNGONIA FRESHERS TRIP, 14-15 March.

Jon Hinwood reports that about 25 Freshers and 25 members attended the Special Freshers' Trip to Bungonia. Work done ranged from 13 to 4 hours. Foul air was encountered at the Bottom of The Drum and limited work done there. A good time was had by all.

CLIEFDEN FRESHERS' TRIP, 21-22 March.

Ian Williams led a party of 32 (including some 22 Freshers) to Cliefden last weekend. Most caves were entered by someone and everyone did from 12x to 16 hours caving. Many Freshers seemed impressed by the formation and caving possibilities in the Murder Cave.

EASTER TRIPS are leaving within the next 24 hours. The main trip is a mapping trip to the Central level of the Mammoth, led by Jon Hinwood. The new mapping equipment should be put to the test this weekend.

At the moment, no-one seems to have ideas for the next few weekends. Is it the calm before Commem. Day?

Trusting we'll see all the old and many new faces at the AGM on Thursday,

Yours sincerely,

Neil G. Fraser
Hon. Secretary