

Box 35, The Union,
Sydney University,
February, 1960.

Circular

Dear Speleo,

Since SUSS's brightest trips occur while the University is submerged in Examination gloom, it is characteristic that in the Long Vac., trips are few and trip reports even fewer. However there are signs that life is not extinct and we may expect the usual hectic and entertaining first term.

1. MEMBERSHIP FEES

All Members, other than prospectives, will become unfinancial 22 days after the A.G.M. in March. You are invited to read the SUSS constitution which states: 8.(a) The Financial Year shall begin on the first day of March in any year and end on the last day of February in the succeeding year. (b) Members' subscriptions for the current year shall be fixed at the A.G.M. for that year. (c) Members who have not paid their subscriptions within twenty-one days from the date of the A.G.M. shall be deemed unfinancial and shall, at the Committee's discretion, be assumed to have relinquished all rights of membership."

Two conclusions to be drawn are: (i) it is not safe to assume that you can retain full membership rights until the Secretary's slavey gets round to sending you a renewal notice.

(ii) Members proffering subs. at the G.M. following the A.G.M. may have to submit an application for re-admission.

If you are no longer able to participate in the Society's activities but hesitate to lose touch, we suggest your becoming a corresponding member. Payment of a small fee will ensure that all circulars, journals and other publications will be sent to you for 1960.

2. MEETINGS

(i) A Committee Meeting will be held at Adrian Hunt's place on 6th March, 1960 at 7.30.

(ii) A General Meeting will be held in the New Geography Building, in Manning Rd., opposite the tennis courts, on Thursday 10th March at 7.30.

Business: NOTICE OF MOTION has been given by A. Hunt of the following Constitutional Amendment:

That, in Item 3(b) the clause "at least twenty hours caving" be deleted and "at least forty hours caving" be substituted.

(iii) A Special Meeting will be held in the N. Geog. Building, on Thursday, 31st March at 7.30 p.m. For further details see item 7 below.

3. ORIENTATION WEEK

The Society will be giving its usual display of slides, equipment and speleos in the P.N.R. Lecture theatre on Tuesday and Thursday of Orientation Week from 1 - 2 p.m. Volunteers are asked to contact Jeff Hinwood (JW1175) who may otherwise do his own volunteering. Star performers are also needed to make a stand in Science Rd, Mon. - Thurs, from 8.30-4.30. Again, contact Jeff.

4. TRIPS

It has been decided to hold concurrent trips to Bungonia, Jenolan, and Cliefden on the weekends 12 - 13th March, 2-3rd April, and 30th April- 1st June. While these will be run chiefly for the benefit of Freshers, people interested in projects in these areas are asked to contact Jon Hinwood (JW1175) as soon as possible. Easter (16th -20th April):

A trip to Caves Creek in the Yarrangobilly area is forecast. This is recommended for anyone interested in wild-life, (particularly birds and insects) or in metamorphic rocks (Hedenbergite) while for the the speleo it offers a virtually unexplored area with plenty of limestone. Some bushwalking is necessary but the scenery is terrific. ---See Adrian Hunt (WM3316) for developments---

5. EQUIPMENT

Adrian Hunt will be the new Equipment Officer and would like all gear belonging to SUSS brought in to the General Meeting on 10th March. If you are coming in to Uni and it is convenient, please drop it in to my room in Elec. Eng. Gear to be borrowed or returned will be deposited in this room in future.

6. JOURNALS

SUSS 5.2 is selling rapidly at 3/- per copy. Get yours from the Secretary or at the next meeting.

PLEASE TURN OVER.

Journals continued.

Jon Hinwood is collecting material for SUSS 6.1 which promises to be good.

Orders are being taken by A. Hunt or myself for Tasmanian Caverneering Club Bulletins of which the latest issue is nearly ready. They are usually of high standard and this should be a really good one. Among the contents are an article and other descriptive matter concerning the last ASF conference in Hobart (should not be missed by those who may have been described) and a surveying article with maps by Bob Sexton (Bob's maps are practically 3-dimensional when of Tasmanian caves). Cost is 5/-

7. NULLARBOR TRIP

Various reports in the newspapers, ABC interviews and the like have indicated that the recent Nullarbor Expedition was really something to write home about. What is the truth of stories of surveying parties disappearing for days (food left out at night vanished mysteriously - was a diprotodon about?) how did Sammy die in N31? how extensive were these tool factories apparently quite suddenly abandoned thousands of years ago. Why does Dr. Gallus want to return to Koonalda Cave this year? What are the chances of arranging a small intensive trip for scientific rather than tourist purposes?

Come to the Special Meeting on 31st March in the N.G. Building and find out. Slides, displays, supper. Bring your friends and any interested bods.

8. GORDON RIVER TRIP

While on the subject of exploration, TCC ran a boat trip up the Gordon River from Strahan over Christmas and found the area lousy with limestone. Discoveries sound most promising and warrant a visit to Tasmania. --Tasmania's awfully full of holes - why doesn't it sink?

9. A.S.F. COMMITTEE MEETING

As a result of the A.S.F. Committee Meeting held in Melbourne last long weekend, the new A.S.F. President is Elery Hamilton-Smith, (VCS)

" Secretary is Peter Aitken (CEGSA)

Publications Officer David Taylor (VCS)

Suss offers its congratulations and foresees a brighter future for ASF.

In future, ASF Newsletters, which formerly consisted of one sheet arriving at irregular intervals, will be circulated several times per year to all members of societies. This should keep us more in touch with speleo activities throughout Australia.

Kempsey and Katherine Speleo Groups were admitted to membership. Both of these are very interesting areas of which we hope to know more soon. Congratulations to these Societies.

10. NEW MEMBER

At the last Committee meeting Harvey Cohen was admitted as a Full Member.

11. FUTURE MEMBER?

We are glad to announce the addition of a small American citizen, Richard John to the O'Brien household in Iowa, U.S.A. Congratulations.

12/ WANDERERS RETURNED.

Suss welcomes back Eric Burnett from the Antarctic and Keith Renwick from the world at large. We hope to hear some more about their trips later.

13. READING MATTER

In a recently received (Jan. 1959) NSS bulletin is an interesting article by Trevor Shaw on length and depth records and fallacies for caves. According to Trevor, the longest mapped cave is not the Mammoth (America) but Holloch (Switzerland, 37.6 miles). Some English cavers have their own particular 'togetherness machine'. Not content with being squuz in squeezeways, they have an adjustable measure - usually brought out after annual dinners - consisting of a screw and 2 stout wooden beams - the record stands at 5 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches.

yours sincerely

margaret innes
hon. secretary.