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**S U S S**

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EDITORIAL

I am indeed proud to edit this slim novel which replaces our 12 yearsold Circular. This format is a preliminary to registration of SUSS as a periodical, for which minor changes to Bylaw 15 are required. Bulk postage rates will not only plug our financial drain (5ths saved) but allow the assistant secretary to return his tongue to more enjoyable duties.

Again the election of a new President heralds the entry of a the Society into a new era. I Warren we have a veteran Society politician (knows the constitution by heart - since he has amended most of it), a shrewd businessman and diplomat, with the cause of S.U.S.S. at heart almost to the point of being uninspiring.

Under his active Presidency, radical changes are being wrought. The most important of these, which portends far-reaching consequences, is the reconciliation between S.U.S.S. and S.S.S. In a series of summit conferences, the potentates of the two societies have planned the reformation and resuscitation of A.S.F.

A revised version of the A.S.F. constitution, similar in most points to the original and presumed to be at the moment under consideration of A.S.F. committee, will, if accepted, lead to the establishment of information services in Sydney-a central position in the area with by far the largest number of societies.

By remodelling A.S.F. Membership along the excellent lines of The very successful National Speleological Society of America, S.U.S.S. feels that the present apathy of many speleas towards the A.S.F. would be replaced by the desire of Australian speleologists to make A.S.F. function effectively.

And now the President has a few stern words to say on Society policy:

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Some years ago, it was fashionable for S.U.S.S. members to heckle S.S.S. at every opportunity, and for S.S.S. to reciprocate.

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I am happy to report, that, with the dying away of that ill-founded animosity, the committees of both Societies have agreed to close co-operation in future, and have arranged this exchange of Newsletters to keep members fully informed of their opposite numbers' activities. S.S.S. are hereby invited to attend all S.U.S.S. trips and functions where they will be made very welcome. A similar invitation to S.U.S.S. members has been issued by S.S.S.

I want it to be quite clear that S.U.S.S. members are never to use the Society's name in connection with any trip, unless genuine speleological work is being done. Where permission of a property owner, or the Tourist Department, has been sought to visit an area, the trip leader is bound to make sure that the principle activity of the trip is the carrying out of the speleological work for which the permit was obtained. It will reflect unfavourably on us all, should a case arise where a S.U.S.S. trip obtained permission to visit an area by mis-representation of proposed activities.

Warren Peck  
President S.U.S.S.

The last meeting went like clock-work, there was no time for unorganised contention and hecklers were quiet or absent. However, we were gratified to have as guest speaker Bob Wren, of the Northern Territory Speleos. He told us of caving in tropical climes - possible in the dry season only, of the vast quantities of water in N.T., of the inaccessability of caves, their vastness yet unexplored, their humidity above 80%, of a 300 square mile limestone massif accessible only by boat on rivers 400 feet deep, of flatter country where the grass is 6 ft. high and you cut your own track and of still other caves reached only by pony. This country was made for you if you want adventure and have the pioneering spirit. Unfortunately, slides of the caves had been destroyed in processing, but we did see the terrain and also the C.S.I.R.O. experimental farm, many of the slides having been taken from the air.

#### "The Value of Mapping as an Aid to Exploration"

Principle speakers in this discussion at the last General Meeting (20/10/60) were Warren Peck, David Shatwell, Joh Hinwood, Tom Landecker and Adrian Hunt.

W.P. queried whether the lack of enthusiasm in the exploration of complicated cave systems, such as the Yarrangobilly Non-Tourist Caves, stemmed from an inability to ascertain the exact localities visited by previous parties owing to a lack of exploratory mapping.

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He advocated the drawing of a map directly into a field notebook during exploration, using a compass to maintain correct map direction and a rapid measurement of distance (e.g. rangefinder or knotted string). Although the accuracy of this method was not as high as compass traversing, it avoided the large potential errors, due to incorrect recording of instrument readings, or incorrect interpretation of notebook entries.

D.S. felt that the results obtained from compass and clinometer traverses were not much better than a carefully controlled exploration map, yet were much more time consuming.

J.H. disagreed and stated that good results could be obtained with a little care from traversing. He explained the principles of the Theodolite and Miner's Dial and stressed their application. The Miner's dial was just as rapid as compass and clinometer surveying, yet gave a much higher accuracy.

T.L. claimed that, except for extraordinary purposes such as tunnel excavation, mapping involved great effort to obtain results which were of questionable application. Although he asserted that all information should be stored in the brain, he did not challenge the first speaker's explanation of the lack of enthusiasm to explore complicated cave systems.

A.H. summed up the arguments presented by the previous speakers, quoting a number of interesting examples where mapping was of value and enumerating a number of problems S.U.S.S. could solve by accurate surveying. He considered it a good idea to record information in the form of a map but stressed the necessity for care in compilation, if the map was to be of any use.

#### Joint S.U.S.S. - S.S.S. Fauna Subcommittee

Members of either Society, interested in Bat-Banding, Ecology and Parasitology, or Cave Biology, are asked to contact the Convenor, Barbara Dew, at MW1307 (work) or LU5890 after 6.30 p.m.

#### Apology

The Secretariat wishes to apologise to subscribers who did not receive their last circular. The post office at which they were posted denies all knowledge of their existence.

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And now that the axe has fallen and the heads have rolled,  
Christmas is coming . . . but the trips are on.

November

Jenolan: 26th-27th, Jenny Tomlinson Sojourning in the Mammoth  
Ring XX 7105.

December

Jenolan: 2nd-18th. ad nauseam, surface work, hydrology, exploration,  
and mapping - Henry Shannon (FU3144) et al. Some transport  
is available for those intending to go up at the weekends,  
contact Margaret Innes or Henry for details.

Braidwood: 2nd - 5th. Ian Williams (JY1694).

Colong: 3rd - 5th. exploration of Woof's Cavern and surrounds,  
Pete Knowland (BU7961(w) or Warren Peck (WM3756).

Yarrangobilly: After the G.M., about 8th-12th. - Tony Rodd (WM2756)

Bungonia: 16th-18th. Geophysical Survey - Warren Peck (WM 3756).

Search and Rescue

Your last opportunity to be a leader - the last G.M. decided  
that after the S&R trip to Bungonia on Dec.17th-18th, only those  
who have participated to the satisfaction of the Committee, can lead  
future S.U.S.S. trips. Ian Williams (JY1694) is leading the trip.

Publicity for Programs

Glen Chandler is now the Programs and Publicity Officer.  
You are requested to acquaint him with the fact that you are leading  
a trip AT LEAST ONE WEEK before its departure. This will be to  
your own advantage since he will subsequently publicise it in the  
notice case.

For Sale - A Boomerang Ticket to the Nullarbor

Roley Paine has written to say he has a spare seat or two in  
his N.T.U.C.S.S. convoy trekking to the Nullarbor in Dec.-Jan. Costs  
will be about £15 fare and food for 3 weeks. If you are really keen  
to desiccate yourself, get in touch with Roley, at Red Hill via  
Cooranbong.

Cloth Insignia

Now on sale @ 2/3 ea. Size 2"x3" black on white, a must for  
your favourite uncle at Xmas. Also makes strong washable patches.  
On sale chez Barbara Dew, Margaret Innes, at G.M.

(SUSS, 1:1 November 1960)

General Meeting

The last G.M. this year will be held on Tuesday 6th Dec. at 7.30 p.m. in the 3rd Year Lab., 3rd Floor, New Geography Building. Sailing directions are: on foot, enter Science Road from the Union Steps by the traffic lights on Parramatta Road, cross it diagonally and go through subway; diagonally across to your right is the entrance to New Geog. By car, enter at Main Gate on Parramatta Road and turn left at first choice, at the second, take the middle route - Manning Road and follow it as far as tennis courts. Go up steps beside new building opposite and enter front door. General Business will include discussion of the first revision of the **proposed** Code of Ethics for A.S.F. Societies, election of our delegates and nominations for office bearers to be elected at the coming Conference in Canberra. Selection of a leader for the A.S.F. trip to Bungonia must also be settled. A discussion of proposed exploratory work at Jenolan, Colong, Bungonia, and Yagbi will follow, and a projection of members' slides will conclude the evening.

Notice of Motion: "That Bylaw A.5. "Publications" be altered to read: "The Society shall publish a newsletter to be known as SUSS, issued at least 2-monthly. All copies posted to the private address of members, correspondents and subscribers will be forwarded regularly. The price of 6d per issue shall be included in the Annual Subscription of all classes of Membership and this money shall be set aside for the periodical and be separately accounted for in the Annual Balance Sheet and be duly audited. Non-members of the Society may receive all publications of the Society upon payment of the Corresponding Membership fee, as fixed by the Committee. This fee includes the above subscription to the newsletter SUSS." "  
Moved. M. Innes, 2. W. A. Peck.

Committee Meeting

Will be held on Monday 5th Dec. chez Ray Smith, 42 MacIntosh Street, Mascot. Starts at 7.30.

Letters to the Editor

Now that you have your own newspaper, you are invited to voice your complaints by writing to the Editor. After all, this is a democratic country and I have eight (8) pages to fill with such nonsense.

(SUSS, 1:1 November 1960)

Tues feb 2

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## BRING ON THE DANCING GIRLS

### The S.U.S.S. Christmas Party

The proposed date is Thursday, 22nd December. Doug Denning has suggested the dive cum reception house (coffee shop with wedding receptions up stairs) newly established at his old place in Crystal Street, Petersham. It sounds an excellent suggestion. Any other ideas or comments?

### An Invitation Extended to All by Jenny

Jenny Tomlinson is extending her hospitality to Little Narra-been Beach, where she is holding a barbecue on December 3rd, a Saturday from 7.30 onwards. The usual arrangement of females bringing meat and males supplying lubricant will apply, while Jenny herself will provide a banquet of savouries.

A map showing how to get lost (Grade 7) is printed on page (vii) We are told that not all of this map appears in the street directory so bring this one with you. Jenny would probably like to have an indication of numbers, so please oblige by letting her know if you are coming (XX7105).

### Proposed S.U.S.S. Code of Ethics

A code of Ethics should not be regarded as complete in itself but rather as a general statement of a minimum standard whose adoption will add greatly to the enjoyment of all spelcos and earn and keep the acknowledgement and respect of the general public which is of the greatest importance to us.

It is most important for SUSS to be generally acknowledged as being a responsible group of people whose recreation is caving, who love and ~~preserve~~ the caves and their surrounds, who respect public and private property, and the comforts and rights of others.

### Responsibilities to the Community

Members should be conservation minded at all times, above, as well as below the ground. Members should not damage or deface the caves either accidentally or by design, especially being careful not to

- (i) walk over clean cave formation in boots or muddy footwear.



BUS ROUTES

182  
184  
186 from Wynyard  
187  
190

alight at Narrabeen  
Terminus

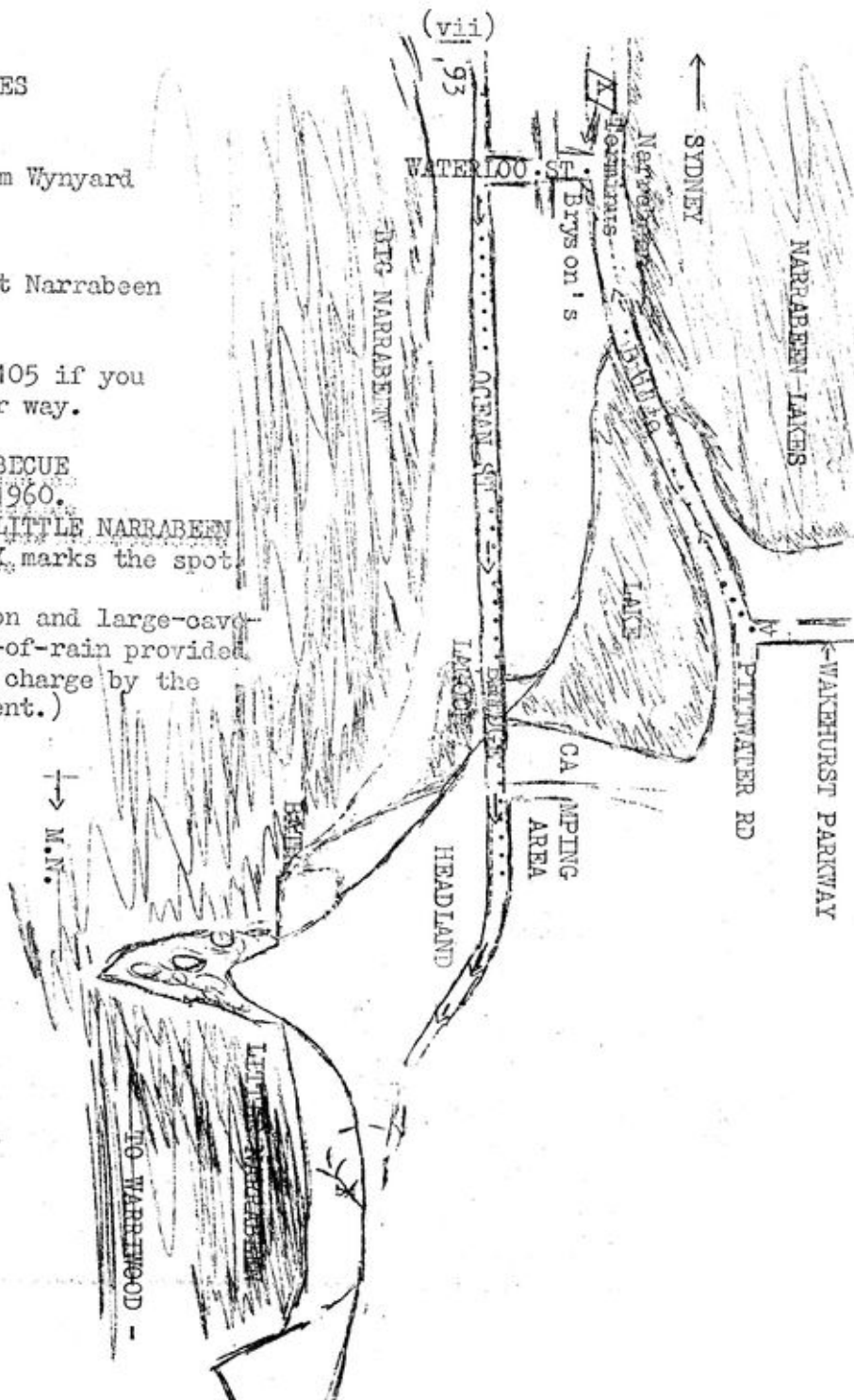
Ring XX7105 if you  
lose your way.

SUSS BARBECUE

3rd Dec. 1960.

HELD AT LITTLE NARRABEEN  
BEACH \*X marks the spot.

(Full Moon and large-cave  
in-case-of-rain provided  
free of charge by the  
Management.)



not to. . . .

- (ii) break or deface cave formation.
- (iii) leave rubbish (especially carbide or flashbulbs) lying around in any cave.
- (iv) write or leave markings on the walls and roof of any cave except to unobtrusively record a new discovery.

Members shall see that on any S.U.S.S. trip no offense shall be given to the Public, property owners or to those who control the caves. Some means of achieving this are:

- (i) carefully observe the established rules of good camping conduct e.g.

Don't use others' fires, wood or water without invitation, and when you do use them do your share of replacing. Use dead wood as far as possible for tent poles. Leave a campsite in such a condition that it is difficult to tell whether it has been camped on recently. Bury *carbide* rubbish and human waste well away from camp and tracks. Bury food scraps rather than leaving them on a dead fire or throwing into a creek. Burn trash and bury all tins. Always wash or swim well downstream from where drinking water is obtained. Put out all fires with water.

- (ii) close all gates on properties and reserves after use.
- (iii) take care to avoid any interference to stock and crops.
- (iv) gratefully acknowledge any hospitality received.

#### Responsibility to the Society

In order to continue to visit caving areas, which are all under govt. or private control, it is essential that SUSS maintain a high reputation. It is the responsibility of every member to see that nothing occurs on a trip to discredit SUSS. It is even more important that silly stories, either real or imaginary, that reflect unfavourably on SUSS be not started or spread by members. It is essential that good relations be maintained with other speleological societies. When visiting an area in which other societies are interested, notify them and invite their members to attend.

#### Responsibilities to Fellow SUSS Members.

No member should ever do anything to endanger the safety of others attending a caving trip.

Furthermore a member should not annoy other members or visitors attending a trip and so interfere with their enjoyment of the trip.

Members should realise their responsibility to other members, present and future, not to compromise the good reputation of S.U.S.S.