NEWSLETTER OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Edited by the Hon. Secretary.

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EDITORIAL

What happened to all the Trip Leaders? At present there are only about five people in the Society who ever lead trips and there are at least twenty more who are sufficiently experienced to do so. Be a pioneer, explore one of the less visited areas such as Apple Tree Flat. If the pioneering spirit isn't yours, lead a trip to one of the more popular caving areas. Participants are never a problem if you take a few pains to make your trip known. (See Publicity Officer and the Secretary then talk about it to as many people as possible.)

Suggestions: the Better Known Areas.

Jenolan, Bungonia,

Wombeyan, Tuglow Main Cave, Yarrangobilly, Tuglow River Caves,

Cliefden, Colong.

Suggestions for the More Adventurous.

Abercrombie, Etrema Gorge, Wyambebe. Belubula, Jones Creek, Yessabah, Bendithera, Mt. Bocobal, Narrangullen, Borenore, Timor, Apple Tree Flat, Buchan, Rosedale, Mt. Fairy. Cave Creek, Wellington,

Transport for trips can usually be raked up from somewhere; if in your case it can't be found, go somewhere that is hitchable - many of the above suggestions are. When you make the big decision, come and see the Secretary who will tell you where to go or who to see for further details on the chosen area (if needed), and then see the Publicity Officer (Jeanette Partridge FX2692) who will advertise it.

NEW BY-LAWS .

- D.3. No firearms may be taken or discharged on trips (9.5.62)
- C.4. Except for applications for trip permits, no letters other than for routine matters, should be written on S.U.S.S. Letterhead. (7.6.62)

BEWARE! THE DREADED DEADING.

Some time ago, the late Dr. Ted Faunce suggested that it would would be most expedient for all speleologists to be immunized against tetanus, and since then, with the co-operation of Dr. Fred Stewart a number of members have started their course of injections.

Tetanus is a repulsive and terrifying disease caused by a bacterium found in the excretions of ruminant animals. The wog enters the human body through a surface injury which is usually in itself, a trivial affair and sets up an infection which may have no adverse effects for a week or so then, through the action of specific toxic substances, the full blown tetanic manifestations are seen - mainly very severe and typical convulsion-like episodes. This disease carries a 60% mortality even with the best treatment.

Not all people are at great risk of this disease but as most caving is done in rural areas, and minor injuries are not uncommon in this pursuit, we should be aware of the dangers and do something about them.

The only way of reasonable protection against tetanus is to prevent its onset as once started, the outlook is grim, to say the least. To this end, immunization by a course of three injections of tetanus toxoid is 95% effective in prevention of the disease - not bad at all.

Many people after injury have received one or two injections "for tetanus" but in most cases these are not immunizing injections and only give some safety for a week or two after they were given. The full immunizing course consists of three injections given over a period of about 7 months, and last for about 2-5 years when a booster dose is given. In February 1962, this Society started a number of people on the course and since then other people have begun the course. Injections are given after General Meetings. A number of people are somewhat overdue for their second injection and should have it as soon as conveniently possible. These people are:

Gail Knowland, Robyn Murphy, Gillian Drummond, Jenny Anderson, John Dale.

There may be others, so if you have not had your second injection and your first one was 6 weeks or more ago, you are due for it.

A number of people will be due for their last injection in July. Any people desiring injections for the next G.M., please ring John Lotz (JM4974) at least a week beforehand, so that it can be arranged for you. A fee of 2/- per time is charged to cover costs.

COMING TRIPS.

JENOLAN. 16-17th June. Bat banding. Leader Barbara Dew. LU5890. JENOLAN. 23-24th June. Surveying the Mammoth. H.Shannon. FU3144. JENOLAN. 30-31st June. Engineering type trip. G.Chandler.517947. WOMBEYAN. 7-8th July. Bat banding, biological collecting.B.Dew.

OTHER EVENTS IN THE AIR.

17th June. S.U.S.S. vs. S.U. Bushwalkers R. Union match. Long Reef Oval, Collaroy. Barbecue to follow. If you wish to be on the home team ring John Steele - WL4203.

26th July. Photographic Exhibition. New Geography Building, 7.30 p.m. 3rd Year Lab. Admission 2/- to help pay for a good supper etc.

Section 1. Black and White caving photography. Entries for this section should be received by Peter Knowland or the Secretary before the 20th July, but entries will be accepted on the night.

Section 2. Three or more caving films. (16mm.)

Section 3. Colour slide showing. Dig out your classics or any new ones that you may have and send or give them to either Peter Knowland (204 Beecroft Road, Cheltenham), or the Secretary (Botany Lawn), by the 20th July. The best of these will be selected for showing on the night. No entries for this section will be accepted on the night.

A special invitation is extended to all caving societies to come along and also to exhibit any of their photographic efforts.

12th July. GENERAL MEETING. Election of a new Assistant Secretary. 3rd Year Lab. New Geography Building. 7.30 p.m.

EXTRACTS FROM RECENT TRIP REPORTS .

Bungonia: May 12-13, Leader, Jeff Hinwood. Bludge trip and gibberology.

Wombeyan: May 19-20. Leader, John Lotz. The purpose of the trip was mainly that of bat-banding but some exploration was done and a special high speed colour film was tried out under caving conditions for Ansco.

Wellington: June 2-3-4. Leader, Barbara Dew. Search was made for bats and 4 were finally caught. They proved to be <u>Miniopterus</u> schreibersi 2 males and 2 females. The Gas Pipe also provided numerous spiders and a sample of guano which was fairly old but in quite reasonable deposits.

Wombeyan: 2-3-4 June. Leader, Chris Borough. A sink hole 1 mile to the South West of the Tourist Caves was located and explored. Igneous intrusions in the Figtree were also examined.

A WORD FROM THE SAFETY OFFICER. (Jeff Hinwood)

He would like all SUSS equipment not in immediate use to be submitted to him on the Botany Lawn or at the next G.M.

