

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Edited by the
Hon. Secretary



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EDITORIAL

It has become apparent that very few people in the society use, or even know where the S.U.S.S. library is. This is a pity, since S.U.S.S. has a library of which it should be proud. We receive publications from many overseas societies including some from Missouri, N.S.S., Cuba, Germany, U.S.S.R., and many others. All recognised Australian societies are also well represented.

Trip leaders will find the folders of past trip reports very useful in planning future trips. By consulting these reports, useful work will be done in the various areas and past efforts will not be duplicated.

The library is situated in the Geography Building on the third floor and is incorporated in the Geog. Dept. library.

Finally, let us hope that many more members use this library which, after all is for the benefit of all members.

NOTICE OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Moved By: Alex Jones.

Seconded by: David Drummond

Amendment to clause 7 of the Constitution: instead of " ...to show cause why he should notfining", to read ".....to show cause why he should not be recommended for temporary or permanent suspension of any or all of the rights of membership." Thereafter the words "expel or fire" to read "suspend."

A General Meeting will be held in the McCallum Rm., The Union. 7.30 29th. November to consider this matter.

A.S.F. CONVENTION.

The A.S.F. Convention is being held in Kempsey over the Xmas holiday period. would those who wish to attend please contact the Secretary at XL4203 or on the Botany Lawn, as soon as possible and an application form will be supplied. First-class accomodation is to be provided at a very reasonable cost.

RECENT TRIPS.

Jenolan - 9th-13th. August. Leader - John Foster.

Digging in J.86 revealed 30 feet of new cave, digging being halted by a tree root and a lack of diggers. A tape and compass survey of J41, "Blen's Bunder" was carried out.

Jenolan - 11-15th. August. Leader - John Steele.

Some photographic work was carried out in the Oolite Cavern of the Mammoth, however, extremely wet weather made the Lower Level river impassable and no surveying was done apart from one station into the Oolite.

Colong - 20th - 24th August. Leader - John Lotz.

Surface exploration of southern limestone revealed a small cave (about 40 ft) on the S.E. face, possibly Trickett's Coral Cave. A search for Red Cave in the Northern Limestone was unsuccessful.

Great Possibilities exist in Billy's Creek where a 200 ft vadose cave was explored ending in a siphon. This cave was in unmapped limestone.

Wombeyan - 24th - 26th August. Leader - Barbara Dew.

A biological survey of the Figtree cave revealed Mites, Spiders, Moths, Beetles, Wetas, and other assorted specimens.

Wombeyan - 29th Sept. - 1st Oct. Leader - Barbara Dew.

Surface mapping of sinks in relation to Tourist Caves, road, and kiosk occupied most of the time, however, some biological work was done. viz. insect collection, and bat banding (3 recoveries)

CHANGES OF COMMITTEE —

The following changes of committee took place at the last G. M .

Hon. Secretary — John Steele.

Hon. Assistant Sec. — Glen Chandler.

COMING EVENTS.

Jenolan - 24 - 25 November. Leader - Don Westaway.

Phone Sec. ... XL4203

STOP PRESS — G.M. now on 29 November, 6 - 30 in the BADHAM Room, Union

CONDITION OF THE JENOLAN SURVEY

Due to the pressure of exams etc., there has not been a survey trip this term, so the state of the map remains as it was at the end of second term.

For those who have not been in touch with the survey crews, the broad situation in that the entrance cavern, Conglomerate Cavern, and the Lower Level as far as the River have a grade 5 traverse through them, with accuracy tested, over the less accurate Easter trip, within 1% which is somewhat more accurate than is needed for any normal description.

The instruments being used are ; the Hinwood Miner's Dial and a steel tape. It is to be hoped that SUSS will, in the near future, acquire a Forestry Compass which will greatly facilitate the Survey.

There are about ten SUSS members who are helping in the Survey, many of whom must leave Sydney in each vacation. Many others have term exams. These disruptions mean that term vacations result in a break during which trips cannot be organised for the early weeks of term and that leaves only about one month in term, before exam study sets in, in which survey trips can be organised.

Essentially, the organising troubles are the reasons for the present state of the cave mapping.

H. SHANNON

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Would anyone who has the following book on loan from the Library, or knows where it is, please contact Glen Chandler as soon as possible.

BRITISH CAVING

Also missing; SSS COMMUNICATIONS, VOLUME 1.

FUTURE TRIPS(additions)

JENOLAN: 1st and 2nd December.

Photographic, Glass and Chevalier Caves.
Leader Jeff Hinwood, phone JW 1175.

JENOLAN: 8th and 9th December

Survey - Mammoth
Leader John Steele, phone XL 4203

JENOLAN: 15th and 16th December

Surface Exploration) Southern Limestone.
Leader Henry Shannon, phone FU 3144.

YARRANGOBILLY (tentative): Between 6th and 9th December.

Exploration, Plateau area.
Leader Tom Landecker, phone FL 3931

DOUG MILES: Probable date of return from Indonesia - 10th Dec.

JEFF HINWOOD (JW 1175) is performing safety tests on all
SUSS equipment in his capacity as Safety Officer. He would
like all equipment delivered to him as soon as possible.

THE RESTORATION CAVE, YARRANGOBILLY

Discovered in April this year in a sinkhole supposedly
devoid of entrances, the Restoration Cave has turned into
the biggest find at Yagby in the last four years. A small
squeeze entrance leads through a narrow passage, down a rock-
fall, and into the largest and most spectacular cavern in
the Plateau area. The cavern is at least two hundred feet
long, although its length has only been estimated, not meas-
ured. At points the roof is a hundred feet from the floor.
The top of the cave is very near the surface, and as a result
a large amount of water is dripping through the roof and the
cave is filled with flourishing live formation, which excels
that of East Deep Creek (now the second best on the plateau)
and, in some opinions, that of the Yagby tourist caves.

All downward passages from the cavern are apparently
blocked by unstable and broken rock, and no connection with
any previously known caves has yet been found.