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Hon. Secretary

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31st July, 1963

EDITORIAL

Regrettable as it is, that such an uninspired subject as the internal organization of the Society should appear in this editorial, nevertheless I feel that some clarification of the requirements to be considered when organizing trips, may be of benefit to both new and old members. This is not a new theme, but I offer as justification of the lack of originality, the facts that a large number of newer members have never been treated to a clear statement of the essentials of trip organizing procedure, and some important changes in these requirements have taken place during recent months.

Thus the requirements contained in the By-laws of the Society, plus some additional requirements which must be satisfied when a controlled area is to be visited, are set out below.

When organizing an official S.U.S.S. trip:

1. Obtain the approval of two Committee Members.
2. Give full details of the trip to the Publicity Officer, (Edith Jones, 'phone XH1471) 14 days in advance of the departure date.
3. Collect one shilling per day from each participant other than Financial or Prospective Members of the Society.
4. Write a report of the activities of the trip as soon as possible. (Trip report forms are available from the Secretary).

If you propose to visit a caving area controlled by the Tourist Department or the Kosciuszko State Park Trust - such as Jenolan, Wombeyan, or Yarrangobilly - a maximum number of 12 members may participate, of which only 1/3 may be Prospective members. Also, in addition to the above:

5. Give full details of the trip, including the proposed dates and the purpose of the trip, to the Secretary so that a formal request for permission to visit the area can be made at least 10 days before the departure date. (NB. The Tourist Department has stressed that applications must be submitted by the Secretary).

6. Give a full list of the participants to the Secretary as soon as this is finalized, so that the appropriate authority can be notified.

7. Present the written permission, along with a list of those present on the trip, to the appropriate officer at the caving area, before commencing any caving activities, and also tell him when you are departing from the area.

After the trip, forward the trip report, any trip fees, and the trip permit (when applicable), to the Secretary. (Note that the Tourist Department requires a report of activities on any trip to an area under their control).

98TH COMMITTEE MEETING

The meeting was held on 18th July. A membership application received from Mr. A. R. Day was considered, but the meeting deferred its decision. John Steele was elected as the S.U.S.S. representative to the N.S.W. Co-ordination Standing Committee. Matters relating to SUSE Productions and the transfer of control of Yarrangobilly Caves to the Kosciusko State Park Trust were discussed.

48TH GENERAL MEETING

Attendance at the G.M., held on 18th July in the Geography Building, was small, there being only 13 voting members present. This was unfortunate as a considerable amount of important business was dealt with by the meeting. Also an excellent film of a very large cave in France was screened. Some impressive ladder pitches indicated the great depth of the cave, which also contained numerous formation filled caverns. An array of calcite formations was featured, ranging from small but superb helictites to enormous stalagmites and columns such as one fine example 25 metres (82 feet) high. Technically this was one of the best speleological films we have seen in Australia. (If this description appears to contain an excess of adjectives it is because each one is fully deserved). We have planned to show more films, similar to this, at the next General Meeting.

By-election

The vacant position of Assistant Secretary, caused by the resignation of Glen Chandler, was filled when the meeting elected John McConnell. Congratulations, and welcome to the Committee, John!

SUSE Productions

A Profit and Loss Statement for the last financial year was presented by the Manager, Tom Landecker. Despite the problems encountered during this period the financial position of the business was very satisfying. The meeting expressed its appreciation for the work of Tom Landecker and Alex Jones. Acting on a suggestion

of the Committee the meeting considered a motion providing for payment of remuneration to the Manager of SUSS Productions. Discussion indicated that, although the meeting supported the general principle of the motion, opinions on the amount of remuneration were divided. The motion, providing for payment of the lesser of £100 or 1/3 of the net profit per annum, was put and lost.

SUSS Productions Pty. Ltd.

Preparatory to establishing SUSS Productions as a registered proprietary company, a motion repealing by-laws G. 1 to 6 inclusive was passed, and the equipment and assets of the present business were transferred to the President (J. Lotz) for safe-keeping until SUSS Productions Pty. Ltd. is formed. The proposed Memorandum and Articles of the Company were accepted by the meeting, and T. Landecker A. Jones and J. Lotz were appointed as the original shareholders.

New Equipment

A motion that the Society should purchase 500 feet of 1 1/4 inch, monofilament nylon belay rope, and 200 feet of manilla climbing rope was accepted.

Safety Officer

Jeff Hinwood was re-elected as Safety Officer, with the unanimous acclaim of the meeting. Perhaps Jeff's first job in the near future will be to impress the essentials of correct handling of the new rope upon members. The present condition of some of the Society's equipment certainly indicates that this matter requires more attention.

Beware! The SUSS Burglars

It seems the skills of certain members are not restricted to the field of speleology. A call for assistance from "Keyless Khris Kourt" during the meeting, was answered when, with great speed and dexterity the "incredible Mini-Monster" was shown to be incredibly easy of access to those who happen to carry a wire coat-hanger around in their pocket.

BATS, BUGS & BIOLOGY (or Trip Reports)

Wombeyan, 7th-10th June, 1963

Leader: B. Dew

Six members helped Barbara continue the bat-banding programme, by banding a further 298 bats at Wombeyan. A total of 69 recoveries included some which provided evidence of the movement of bats from Bungonia to Wombeyan. Also the first recovery at Wombeyan of bats banded at the North Sydney Railway Tunnel was made. There was a great deal of water in the Basin Cave, but none of the party felt like swimming. (What happened to the "Casteret spirit" ?). Normal water levels in the Bullio Cave underground lake and river were reported, but several deep pools in other parts of the cave were noted.

Jenolan. 6th-7th July, 1963

Add this name to your list of fine furry friends: "PIPISTRELLUS TASMANIENSIS". One only of this species of bat - the first reported - was captured in the Nettle and Arch Cave at Jenolan. Also during this trip, patient searching in the Southern Limestone area turned up an interesting variety of insects. However, the searching in the field seems to be only the beginning of a much longer search of the records and literature, in an attempt to identify one of the specimens. To date, questions such as, "Is it a beetle or an ant?" are being asked in a serious tone and the possibility of having found a previously unclassified specimen is not being overlooked. Speleology was not entirely neglected on the trip, as a visit to Wiburd's Lake Cave produced some additional surprises. In spite of heavy rain and water in McKee's Creek, the lake had dropped an estimated 8 to 10 feet on the previously observed level. This made investigation of the siphon possible, and the passage was followed until water filtering from a low sandy passage, prevented any further progress. A very strong draught was observed. Mapping and a detailed survey of this cave would be a definite advantage in future investigations.

MORE BATS

As part of our overseas literature exchange scheme, we recently received some interesting news from the South African Speleological Association. Their reports tell of a bat banding programme which is being conducted in a similar manner to that which we are carrying on in this country. Five species of insectivorous bats are mentioned, including the *Miniopterus Schreibersi* which is so common to our caves. One article describes a small cave in the Port Elizabeth area of the Eastern Province, which was "packed with thousands" of this type of bat. Another dealing with the cave animals of the Bredasdorp area reports "tens of thousands" of bats in a 1300 feet tunnel, known as Guano Cave. (Apparently speleologists from either side of the Indian Ocean are capable of the same standard of originality when naming caves). Incidentally, if you are one of those people who like to decorate the English language with your own style of speleological lingo, you may be interested to know that the hot, humid air in this cave is referred to as the "batmosphere".

ERRATUM?

Risking monotony, I would like to remain on the subject of bats a little longer. In the last newsletter (Vol. 3 No. 1) the name of the bats banded at Jenolan was spelt thus: "*Miniopterus Schreibesi*". On further investigation, I was quite prepared to include an erratum in this newsletter, giving the correct spelling. However, I have decided that I shall add to the confusion by publishing a list of different spellings of the name of this bat,

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which I have compiled from overseas and local literature. So take your pick from the following:

Miniopterus	Schreibersi
"	Schreiberi
Miniopterus	Schreibersi
"	Schreibersii
"	Schreibosii

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Would anyone knowing the address of any of the Prospective Members listed below please contact the Secretary (Ted Anderson, XF3157).

CHAPMAN	Diane	NORMAN-MOORE	A.
CORTIS	R.	SMITH	R. A.
JONES	H.	WILSON	L.
MAY	Stewart		

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Membership cards for 1963 are being issued to financial members. Those who have not yet received a card should contact the Secretary.

CUSS METAL BADGES

Members can obtain the Society's metal badge from the Treasurer (Glenn Hunt) for a very low deposit of 5/-. These badges provide an excellent substitute for the weather as the beginning of a conversation. At such low cost, why not obtain two? A SUSS badge makes an unusual tie-pin.

NOTICE

 This notice is here to notify you that you should take
notice of the following notice.

Future Trips

Yarrangobilly Thursday 29th August - Sunday 1st September
Leader: Jeanette Partridge 'phone ~~822332~~
It's bound to be nice and warm. IN THE CAVES!

Next GENERAL MEETING

More films at the General Meeting. We hope to include a French film of the famous Pierre St Martin amongst those to be screened at the G.M. As usual the meeting will be in the Geography Building (Sydney Uni.) at 7:30 pm, on Thursday 12th September. Everybody welcome, particularly members of the other Sociological Societies.

[illegible]

15th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Plans for this year's annual dinner, which will celebrate the fifteenth year of existence of the Sydney University Speleological Society, have not been finalized. However the date has been decided on and this will be Tuesday, 24th September 1963. It seems likely that the Sydney University Union will once again house the festivities. This is one occasion that every member of the Society should attend, and that particularly includes the Prospective Members. The S.U.S.S. Dinners of past years are a perfect guarantee of a really excellent evening, so come along and join in the fun this year. Admission will be by ticket only, and these will be available from the Secretary or Treasurer shortly.



SPELEOMELODIOTHEN ??

XXXXXXHXHXXAXXXPXXXPXXXYXXXXXXXTXXRXXXOXXGXXXGXXXIXXXNXXGXXXXXXX

GENERAL MEETING
 7:30 pm. 12th September
Geography Building

15th Anniversary
 DINNER
Tues. 24th September