

## S U S S

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EDITORIAL

Firstly I would like to thank Alison, Erik, Diane, Rick, Dick, Grahame and several other people for their best wishes during my recent enforced stay in hospital; this was much appreciated.

It has often struck me as rather curious that a group of university students, who are supposed to have methodical minds, (particularly the scientists) should be so unscientifically casual in their approach to an activity like caving which for best results requires a little planning and research into past efforts. Yet the usual position is that trips are run practically on the spur of the moment, outsiders have no chance to come unless invited and while a good selfish time is had by all, the tangible results are nil. Not only is the result not worth publication in either the Newsletter or the SUSS Journal, but the trip-leader, if there was one, does not so much as bother to complete a report for the record. I think I have already made this point previously, but it bears repeating: I consider that this selfish laziness should not be tolerated, people who want to gain all the benefits of membership without giving anything in return are not wanted. Let them go join the opposition, as a few seem to have already done, or look after themselves. Or let them go and tell everyone what a nuisance SUSS is at Jenolan or Bungonia or wherever you like - loudly complaining about the time spent at these places with little or no result, but not offering to do anything about it themselves. These people encourage the proliferating breed of freelance sp@leo who knows nothing and cares even less than the SUSS member about where his efforts might best be directed and about the significance of any discoveries.

The Assistant Secretary takes up this theme with further gusto within. Stop thinking of your own selfish enjoyment and do something about it.

You can make a start by attempting something original for a change, and be exercising yourself during the long hot summer in writing an article for the now almost legendary SUSS Journal. It has been pointed out in previous Newsletters that contributions need not be terribly original masterpieces. Reports of interesting trips, new areas investigated and new caves discovered, humorous pieces, poems and the like would be welcome. The criterion used is that the contribution be of some speleological interest.

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A General Meeting of the Society will be held on ~~Thursday~~ <sup>Tuesday</sup> December 14<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be combined with some pre-Xmas festivities of a different kind, commencing at 6.00pm in the Library, Geography Department at the University. Business to be discussed will include the drawing up of a programme of trips for the long vacation. Remember:

GM 14<sup>th</sup> December Geography Department Library 6.00pm  
Kindly note altered time and venue.

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A Committee Meeting will be held chez Alex, Carslaw Building, on Wednesday-December 8th at 7.00pm

### NULLARBOR '66

A letter received from CEGSA a few weeks ago said there were still one or two vacancies on the Nullarbor trip leaving Adelaide on Dec. 27. Females are in relatively short supply and are desperately needed. There will be about 6 or 7 SUSS members on this trip.

### COMING TRIP(S)

A trip to CLIEFDEN has been arranged jointly with Orange Speleological Society. This is the first SUSS trip to this area for nearly four years and will be an interesting introduction to this excellent caving potential for most participants. For information ring Publicity Officer or, better, the trip leader, Glenn Hunt, 495784. Departing Dec. 10th.

W T S ⇒  
A H P  
T H A ⇒  
C I C  
H S E ⇒

← L F U  
A I X  
T N T  
E A R  
← E L A

### CAVING IN THE PULP PRESS

Womens' Weekly, 13/10/65 -- How to be a Cave Woman, by Jenny Irvine. Describes the Barellan Cave, discovered by the guides at Jenolan in June 1964. This is scarcely the "first major cave discovery at Jenolan since 1904" (what about Chevalier, N.R. section Mammoth, Serpentine, Hennings, Wiburds, J41 etc.) but it is undoubtedly the one of most immediate interest, being much more accessible and attractive to tourists. The article is accompanied by some excellent colour photographs.

Man, October 1965.-- Black Magic Below, by Kenneth Roberts. Is rather dated article on caving in Australia and elsewhere. Some good photographs in b. & W.

From the Assistant Secretary, Geoff Butlin:

To Authorised Trip Leaders (in particular) and everyone in general:

As we all know, from the Society's records and more generally from the Newsletter's lack thereof, the submission of Trip Reports, however inadequate, is not only the exception rather than the rule, but in the last couple of years practically none had been prepared.

Without a Trip Report a trip is worthless other than to those who actually participated; without these reports the Society is, in the long run, a failure, failing to fulfil its aims as stated in the Constitution. These aims are not being fulfilled at the moment for three basic reasons:

FIRST: lack of trips. The blame must inevitably fall on Trip Leaders, for it is their duty to organise trips wherever possible.

SECOND: lack of attendance on trips. No use is made of the Newsletter or the Publicity Officer to advertise trips, and often it is obvious that other than a select group was not intended to even know about a trip. This is pure selfishness and unfortunately seems to be the main fault of some of our keenest members. They seem to overlook the fact that they are members of a society and as such have certain obligations to share their knowledge and experience. Otherwise why form a Society.

THIRD lack of Trip Reports, again the fault of the Trip Leader.

Thus Trip Leaders are failing to fulfil their obligations as the more senior members of the Society. The relevant sections of the By-Laws relating to duties of Trip Leaders are in Sect. C(2) inter alia:

The duties of the Trip Leader shall be:

(a) to give full details of the trip to the Publicity Officer  
14 days in advance of the departure date

....  
(f) to forward a trip report together with trip and equipment fees  
within 14 days of the completion of the trip.

Other sub-sections provide for obtaining of Official Permits conduct of the trip itself, firelighting restrictions etc, equipment safety and so on.

There are also relevant sections of S. D(1):

(a) an Official Trip shall be defined as one for which approval of at least two members of the Committee has been gained in writing approval to be submitted to the Secretary and Publicity Officer not less than 14 days in advance of the departure date. Only on Official Trips may members use the Society's name to gain any privileges. If proposing to visit an area under direct Government or private control this approval must be in writing.