CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP

of SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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JULY-OCTOBER 1965

To the Editor of the Newsletter, Cave Exploration Group of S.A.

In reference to Elery Hamilton-Smith's meditation on "workers" and "thinkers" for which I am grateful, I would very much like to add a few of my thoughts.

We all have our own personal selfish reasons to go on caving trips and it is good that this is so, as it makes us individuals but let us not think of our differences but of the things we share together, the exploration of caves, the sight of beautiful formations, togetherness around the campfire. This is reality.

Let us think how lucky we are that we are able to share this together out of the millions of people in this world and we are fortunate enough to set eyes on Nature's creations. Why spoil this perfection and happiness by criticising each other and so dampening our cause, to foster caving. Let everyone feel free to be a "worker" or a "thinker" or both if time permits and let us remember the wise words of Dickens.

"Not in our heads, but in our hearts lies the power, that leads us to great deeds".

Joyce Bakker

C.E.G.S.A. Welcomes letters on all aspects of caving from anywhere in the world.

Editor

PAST MEETINGS

March General Meetings:

In spite of very short notice the attendance was pleasing and visitors welcomed. Although the meeting was not as formal as usual, a motion requiring persons who wished to carry and use corrosive materials on a CEGSA trip must keep them in suitable containers, was carried. These persons may be liable for financial restitution of gear damaged by these corrosive materials. This was followed by a talk on wine by Miss Lee Venning of the W. & B.P.A. who later provided twelve bottles - very nice stuff? Hic !!!

At the Committee Meeting, it was noted that many people who volunteered to help repair the Naracoorte hut have yet to do so!

April General Meeting:

The attendance and the number of visitors was very pleasing. A motion giving trip leaders the power to ask for applications in writing accompanied with a nominal deposit was passed. Mr Southcott of Laubman & Pank gave a very informative talk on the Problems of Lighting. This talk was illustrated by excellent colour slides.

May General Meeting:

There was an even greater number of visitors at this meetings and it is very encouraging to see so many people interested in the activities of the Group.

Elery Hamilton-Smith ("The Beard") honoured us with a visit from Melbourne and pointed out some of the problems the A.S.F. are having with conservation of caves in N.S.W. and Queensland. He followed with a most interesting and informative talk on cave fauna, including some aspects of the Bat Research being carried on throughout Australia.

PAST TRIPS

Naracoorte:

Several trips have been conducted to Naracoorte in the last quarter, mainly to work on the N.R.C. The response to these trips has not been good and most trips have turned out rather expensive for the participants. Notwithstanding, a remarkable amount of work has been carried out by the stalwart few. The replacing of the ceiling and possum proofing is almost complete and the electric wiring in the main rooms and kitchen is complete. The next trip should see a marked improvement in the look of the N.R.C. as it is planned to commence the painting of the exterior walls and woodwork.

A trip was run during the May school holidays of a small party of three trogs on which a complete survey of the Reserve locating all known caves both in position and level to within a foot. It is good to see some constructive work being carried out in the Group. In addition, new surveys were completed of the Appledore, Victoria, South Extension and the Little Victoria Caves.

Curramulka:

The first Town Cave trip for several years was conducted successfully in May. The trip was intended as an orientation trip for future digging trips in the cave where the Thylacoleo skull was found.

The dig in Corrells Cave was continued and a survey to the dig was planned.

COMING TRIPS

Naracoorte.

On the 10th and 11th, a trip is planned to commence the painting of the N.R.C. and to continue explorations of the caves on the Reserve. Let's have as many trogs as possible and get the job finished as quickly as possible.

Starters are wanted for the forthcoming Hill Trip to Naracoorte Caves on 31st July and 1st August weekend. It is intended to make a cave work party out of it, spending all available time in The Brown Snake Cave.

Hence wanted as a minimum party:-

- 1 Surveyor
- 3 Wombats
- 2 Diggers
- 1 Cook

The cave is not large and the entrance is even smaller so there is a physical size limitation. Additional starters are welcome in Brown Snake and there will be other activity on the reserve as well.

The plan is to descend on the Saturday morning and stay down for lunch and possibly tea. Tourist trips to Brown Snake commence late Saturday.

Those interested contact A.L. Hill 59-705 so the work party can be made up well in advance.

RECORDS OF <u>CAVES</u>:

Appended to this newsletter for all full members is a summary of data concerning South Australian Caves which has been prepared for inclusion in the A.S.F. Handbook of Australian Caves. With a total of 215 caves now recorded by the Group in South Australia, it is obvious that members will not be conversant with all known caves, or even all districts where they occur. These notes aim to provide a brief description of each cave and a summary of notable features in or around it. Although the information will be published elsewhere, it has been felt desirable to duplicate the notes in this form for use by individual Group members and especially as a guide to trip leaders since the caves are listed on an area basis. It is hoped that the summary will be revised from time to time by the publication of supplementary and amending notes.

GENERAL:

Trip reports are still lagging but the enthusiasm of members on tripping has been very good and this has shown up in extensive work at Naracoorte. So much so that we are just beginning to realise how little we do know about the area so there is tons of scope for the explorer trog - new caves or extensions are turning up almost every trip.

With this newsletter a circular is enclosed recording the proposed Nullarbor trip at Christmas this year. If you are interested please fill in the form and return to C.E.G.S.A. as soon as possible so that transport arrangements can be made.

NEW MEMBERS FOR 1965

The Committee formally welcomes the following new members "into the fold".

FULL MEMBERS

Neville Stuart PLEDGE 56 LeHunte Ave, Prospect, S.A. - 65 2554 Ronald Sydney SMITH 1 Ellerslie St Kensington Gdns S.A. 31.7881

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

David Stuart WRIGHT 26 Angwin Ave, Blair Athol, S.A.- 65 1102 Peter Graham HOCKNELL 20 Adelaide Tce, Woodlands Pk, Edwardstown.

Paul Sutton DOLAN Box 127 Lucindale, S.A. - Woolumbool 8 David Garard WILLIAMS 67 Jenkins Tce, Naracoorte, S.A. - 3494 Kenneth Maxwell HEYNE 9 Park St, Mount Gambier, S.A. - 22157

Congratulations to all those people and we look forward to their company on future trips and meetings.

POINTS FOR THOUGHT; TRIP LEADERSHIP

The qualifications for trip leaders are always a platform for discussion and a list of these has been incorporated in the Sydney Speleological Safety Bylaws - Clause 13 reads:

"Qualifications required by a trip leader

- (a) He shall have the necessary temperament and sense of responsibility to ensure the safety of the party, the protection of the cavern and the well being of the society.
- (b) He shall have attended ten or more official caving trips.
- (c) He shall be proficient in the following: -Knots - Bowline, Clove Hitch, Prussic Belaying - Preparation and care in the use of a safety rope and holding a 160 pound weight in a simulated fall. Abseiling from an overhang of 30' - 60' with or without a karabiner.

Coiling and care of rope and wire ladders.

Ladder climbing techniques.

Prussic slings - their use in the ascent of a single rope. Rock Climbing - Demonstrate his ability to climb a selected rock face.

(d) He shall have taken part in lectures and discussions with the trip leaders programme. These lectures to cover such topics as

Safety to Caves Basic First Aid Surveying and Mapping Techniques Trip Organization

(e) A member may attend a trip leaders' training course before he has attended the required ten official trips"

Well! - What do you think

PROGRAMME JULY/OCTOBER, 1965

JULY:

Saturday 10th) Naracoorte Trip

& 11th) Leader - A. Jackson, Phone 59 5360

Friday 16th Committee Meeting at 28 Philip Avenue, Leabrook.

Wednesday 28th General Meeting

Topic Andamooka and Slides

Speaker K. Sloan and G. Gartrell

Members bring own slides.

Saturday 31st) Naracoorte Leader - A.L. Hill

Sunday 1st) Survey Trip to Brown Snake - See note in

newsletter.

AUGUST:

Saturday 14th) Tantanoola Trip

Sunday 15th) Leader J. Cole, Phone 31 7388

Friday 20th Committee Meeting at 8 Wattlebury Road, Mitcham.

Wednesday 25th General Meeting

Topic Some Aspects on Recent Work at Naracoorte

Speaker - A.L. Hill

SEPTEMBER:

Saturday 11th) Curramulka Town Cave - Leader to be appointed.

Sunday 12th) All applications in writing to the Sec.

C/- S.A. Museum.

Friday 17th Committee Meeting at 6 Hudson Avenue, Rostrevor.

Wednesday 22nd General Meeting

Topic Caves of the coastal areas of S.A.

Speaker R.T. Sexton.

OCTOBER:

Long Weekend Flinders - Leader - G. Gartrell, Phone 96 7022

Any person wishing to attend any of the above trips must give his application to the trip leader at least 7 days prior to its commencement. Failure to do this may result in the trip being cancelled. It is preferred if the application is in writing and signed.

Trip Contact List

- A. Jackson, 6 Hudson Avenue, Rostrevor. Phone (Work) 59.5360
- J. Cole, 28 Philip Avenue, Leabrook. Phone 31.7388
- G. Gartrell, 6 Gurrs Road, Brighton. Phone 96.7022

General Contact list:

President A Jackson, 6 Hudson Ave, Rostrevor. Phone Wk 59.5360

Secretary Miss K. Sloan, 1 Pine Tce, Clovelly Park

S. & R. G. Gartrell, 6 Gurrs Road, Brighton. Phone. 96.7022

Q.M. F. Sanders, 8 Wattlebury Road, Mitcham. Phone 76.3839

The Q.M. would appreciate all gear returned promptly after a trip. Trip leaders are reminded that on all gear returned late a rental will be charged.

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA 1965 - 1966 NULLARBOR SPELEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION

ADVANCE CIRCULAR No. 1

The Cave Exploration Group of South Australia is at present organizing an expedition to further explore and survey the caves occurring in the Western Australian section of the Nullarbor Plain.

The proposed duration of the trip is three weeks, from 26/12/65 to 14/1/66, leaving from Adelaide. The organization will be on similar lines to the highly successful expedition of Christmas 1963, and if sufficient people attend, total cost should not exceed £35 (thirty five pounds) per head.

The purpose of this circular is to inform clubs, societies, and individuals of the forthcoming expedition, so that we may assess interest in it to facilitate the early arrangement of transport.

Application forms may be obtained by writing to C.E.G.S.A. C/- S A. MUSEUM, NORTH TERRACE, ADELAIDE, S.A.

stating the approximate number required (not too approximate, please).

A detailed preliminary itinerary will accompany application forms, so any suggestions should be made early. While no specific grade of proficiency at the techniques of caving is sought from applicants, experience will be considered in assessing the applications. Those whose special abilities can best serve the aims of the expedition will have priority in the event of a limit on numbers. For example: surveying teams and equipment will be very welcome.

After the success of the last trip, and with the end of Mullamullang not yet in sight, -- early application is the only way to make sure of your seat.

Remember the address:
 C.E.G.S.A.
 C/- S.A. MUSEUM,
 NORTH TERRACE
 ADELAIDE, S.A.

GRANT GARTRELL HON. SECRETARY. 30/6/65.

C.E.G.S.A. NULLARBOR EXPEDITION 1965 - 66
NAME(Group or
individual)
ADDRESS
PLEASE SEND APPLICATION FORMS.
WE HAVE MEMBERS WHO DEFINITELY WISH TO ATTEND
WE HAVE MEMBERS WHO ARE INTERESTED
COMMENTS.

THE CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA SEARCH & RESCUE ORGANIZATION

The C.E.G.S.A. Search and Rescue Organization is designed mainly to give aid, if required, in the event of accident during a trip involving members of the Group. The strict observance of safety procedures should keep such calls to a minimum.

Where assistance is required, a member whose name appears on the contact list (to be issued shortly) should be telephoned person to person and given all details possible. He will then contact the other people on the list.

It is expected that people outside the Group in similar circumstances will notify the police, who are well equipped to handle most situations. It is understood that the police will only seek the assistance of our search and rescue team where a situation requires specialized knowledge of caves and/or caving techniques,

While we may be very pleased with the past lack of need for our search and rescue team, we must prevent ourselves being lulled into false feelings that the people in the State in general and the Group in particular, have charmed lives. The recent and continuing increase in interest in caving is world-wide, and similarly the increase in newspaper publicity following it. As a result we may expect an increasing number of inexperienced people exploring caves outside the guidance of the Group, inadequately equipped and unaware of the dangers involved. In short, there is an ever increasing probability that we will be called upon for search and rescue work. If this happens it is vital in more ways than one that we do a good job.

To have an efficient Search & Rescue Organization we need:

- (a) A small group of people who are trained in first aid, or who are willing to undertake a comprehensive first aid course and who are willing, to train as a stretcher team for attendance to accident victims.
- (b) A large group of people. People with less time to spare for specialized training can still be of great assistance in search work, where detailed knowledge of particular caves and caving regions can be invaluable.

Accordingly I would like you to fill out the attached form as accurately as you can, and return it to me at your earliest or 'convenience, or by the next meeting. Thank you.

GRANT GARTRELL Committee member for Search and Rescue.

28th April 1965.

C.E.G.S.A. SEARCH & RESCUE ORGANIZATION

- PERSONAL PARTICULARS

NAME
(surname in block) ADDRESS
(a) WORK PHONE
(a) HOME PHONE PHONE
AVAILABILITY
1. I AM / AM NOT AVAILABLE FOR GENUINE SEARCH & RESCUE CALLS
(If answer to 1. is "am not" leave rest of form blank)
2. I AM / AM NOT AVAILABLE FOR PRACTICE S & R CALLS (Practice calls will only occur on weekends and some
prior warning will be given.)
3. I AM / AM NOT WILLING TO ATTEND A FIRST AID COURSE AT A
SUITABLE TIME. (If you have already attended such a course
could you please indicate who gave it
and when it was given)
4. I HAVE / HAVE NOT A CAR AVAILABLE
(In 1. to 4. cross out whichever is inapplicable)
If your car is available describe it under these headings.
Obviously conditions change from time to time so this will serve
the records only as a rough guide.
MAKE MODEL Sedan/ Stat. Waggon/ Utility
YEAR of MANUFACTURE: 19 CONDITION: Exc./ Fair/ U/S
If you are prepared to take your car only to certain regions
indicate A, B, C, etc. as marked below
EXPERIENCE I am familiar with the following caves:
A. South-Eastern:
B. York Peninsula:
C. Flinders Ranges:
D. Kangaroo Island:
E. Eyre Peninsula
& Nullarbor:

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

CIRCULAR

4.8.65.

BY-ELECTION

Notice of a By-Election is hereby given for the election of Secretary due to the resignation of Kay Sloan from this position. This election shall take place at the General Meeting held on Thursday 19th August at 8p.m. in the National Fitness Council Rooms at 69-70 South Terrace, Adelaide. If a present member of the Committee is elected to this position then an election of a Committee Member shall also take place at the same meeting.

CHANGE OF AUGUST GENERAL MEETING DATE

Due to bookings of the National Fitness Council rooms, the General Meeting for August has been changed from Wednesday 25th of August to Thursday 19th of August.

ADDITIONAL NARACOORTE TRIP - BROWN SNAKE CAVE

A trip is being organised to go to Naracoorte on 28th - 29th of August to continue the mapping of the Brown Snake cave. Mapping of 400' of the main chamber has been completed and Wombat types are again needed for extended exploration in the unknown ends of main cave. Experience in combined compass sketching would be of great help. Work on the Naracoorte Research Centre will also be continued on this trip. Those interested may contact A.L. Hill at work on 59.705 or at home on 64.1523.

(A.R. Jackson)
PRESIDENT