

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

N E W S L E T T E R [#43]
May 1966

EDITORIAL : (Discovered under an ex editors "Soap Box.")

How's this for size. An editorial by a bod who isn't even the editor. Under the great Hill regime the wheels of organisation are gathering speed. Projects, Rescue groups, Auctions and all manner of crazy things are well under way.

Conduct an earth resistivity survey of your back yard and find a cave. Perhaps this is going too far but even without these modern scientific aids one member still persists in finding an average of four caves a week. See if you can do the same or better and make life hell for the records keeper. Soon it is hoped that we can give details of how to do a radio location survey of the nearest patch of limestone.

Complaints

Telephone rings 11.00 p.m.
I want Fred.
I am sorry but he is not home.
When will he be in?
I am not expecting him home till midnight
Uhh!!
"Clunk."

Signed : Frustrated Quarter Mistress

The man that I married
Is a cave man no doubt
For his chest caves in
And his stomach caves out.

<u>For Sale</u>	200' nylon Rope	offer?
	2 Helmets	\$2
	1 Nickel Alkali Cell and Lamp (CEAG)	\$5
	1 Head Carbide Lamp	\$2
	1 Ridge Tent	\$8
	1 Primus Chuffer (Shellite)	\$2
	1 Rip Van Winkle Orlon Filled Sleeping Bag	\$5
	1 Pr Centurian Boots Size 6	\$2
	1 Pr Centurian Boots Size 9	\$2

If interested, see Tor Murphy, Flat 1, 15 Mortimer Street, Plympton,
Phone (Work) 63.4110 before 14th May.

Birth: To Jill and Dave Formby, a boy, James Patrick, a good reason why we haven't seen them for some time.
Congratulations Jill and Dave.

Marriage: Lorraine Harris and Tom Murphy are taking the big step on the 14th May. They will be going to England afterwards and the Group take this opportunity to wish them all the best for the future.

Death : It is with great regret that the death of Jack Love in Singapore is recorded. Jack was one of the early members of the Group and was one of the truck leaders on the 1956-57 Nullarbor Expedition. At his death he was working in Singapore as a trade school instructor under the Colombo Plan. Our condolences are extended to his wife and family.

Naracoorte Hut : The Naracoorte Hut is now occupied by one of the guides and is no longer at our disposal. The old curators residence has been demolished ready for the construction of a new house. We can camp in the pines on the reserve providing all necessary precautions are taken.

Social Training Day : A training day will be held at National Park, Belair on 25th of June. Learn how to tie knots, belay, climb ladders, survey using a staff and many other things that every caver should know. It starts at 10.00 a.m. so bring your lunch. If you are interested (and you should be) get in touch with Ron Smith for more details.

Social Auction : A rip roaring party will be on at Ron Galbreath's place on 2nd July at 8.00 p.m. During the night an auction will be held to raise funds for the Group. If you have any equipment that is cluttering up your place and you no longer have a use for it bring it along to the party and come along and buy someone else's junk to clutter your Place up. Bring along your friends and help make it a swinger. B.Y.O.G.G.G.

Subscriptions : Members are notified that the Subscription rate is now

\$3 Full Membership

\$2 Associate and Country Membership

Members who have not yet paid are also notified that they have one month to pay or else they will have to rejoin and they will not receive future newsletters and programs until they have done so.

MEMBERSHIP

The committee formally welcomes the following new members. Congratulations to all these people, and we look forward to their company in future.

Associate Members

Ross Harding,	28 Mitchell Street, Seaton Park
John Nield,	49 Glenburnie Tce, Hayhurst
Bob Johnston,	4 Netherby Ave, Plympton
Allan Stevenson,	Box 43, P.O. Lucindale

Full Members

Tony Butterfield,	23 Queen Street, Alberton
Trevor Bright,	59 Anthony Street, Mt. Gambier

The record of caving hours for these last two made a forceful impression on the committee in that it went something like this.

Curramulka, Rouse etc.,	12 hours
Naracoorte, Hill etc.,	8 hours
Mullamullang, T. Bright,	140 hours!

Sufficient Experience?

Congratulations to all those people, and we look forward to their company in future.

R.S.

South Australian Mountain Activities Federation

This newly found group exists as a co-ordinating body to bring more weight to the efforts of "mountaineering type" clubs in the fields of Search and Rescue, Conservation, and Education.

The Search and Rescue organisation is designed to put a large number of good bushmen in an area such as the Flinders Ranges, when called upon to do so by the S.A. Police Department. For this reason, member clubs are being canvassed for men (please note, no ladies) with one or more of the following capabilities :

- Leadership qualities
- Navigational experience
- First Aid Certificate
- Fitness
- Base Camp organisation experience

It is expected that in the event of a Bush Search and Rescue Call-up every possible co-operation will be met with the S.A. Police Department as regards transport and communications.

If you feel you can offer yourself in this regard, complete the Questionnaire and return it to Ron Smith

1 Ellerslie Street
Kensington Gardens.
Phone : 317881.

as soon as possible or by the May general meeting. The first combined Search and Rescue practice Scramble with associated Club members will be held on the weekend 9th-10th July.

Country Members : It is anticipated that for reasons of availability the list of searchers will comprise only city-dwellers; however, if you feel strongly about being left out, write to me and I will see what can be done.

C.E.G.S.A. Search and Rescue Organisation.

All rescue calls received by the Federation which specifically require caving knowledge and technique, will be routed directly to our own team, as will internal calls from within the group. The need for up-to-date records showing who is our best authority on any particular cave or caving area cannot be overstressed, so I am recirculating the letter and particulars form from last year (with thanks to Grant Gartrell). If it worries you, please change the date and "Grant Gartrell" to "Ron Smith".

R.S.

Adelaide University Mountain Club 24 hour walk

Once again C.E.G.S.A. shows its superiority by having its sole entry for 1966 carry off the "A" grade event. In case they read this a note of thanks should be said for a very fine effort by the organisers.

R.S.

SAFETY NOTES

A copy of "Equipment for Mountaineering" prepared and published by the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club, has been obtained for the Group Library. This book is worthy of a place in every cavers' bookcase, notable chapters being those on homemade camp gear and first-aid kits. - Available from the Scout Shop (45c.).

Helmets. "All applicants must own an approved helmet...."
Approved helmets are available in several different patterns, made of one of four materials.

Compressed Fibre. Mostly of European origin, these are the "old originals" owned by some of our more senior members. They are generally strong but tend to disintegrate if allowed to remain very wet for long periods. They are not commonly available nowadays.

Fibre Glass. "Protector" Safety Equipment, and "Mining Supplies (S.A. Ltd)". The material used in these helmets is very strong but brittle and tends to flake off a little around the edges. They are made with a full brim which is wider over the back of the neck than in front.

Plastic. "Protector", "Mine Safety Appliances Ltd." These helmets are most popular on industrial sites, being available both in full brim and peaked-cap style. They do not withstand extremes of heat, but wear well.

Aluminium. "Mine Safety Appliances Ltd.". The lightest weight in helmets, these fairly recent additions to the popular market suffer from a very inferior harness and poor brim shape, protruding too far in front and too little at the back and sides. Ex. WW II "Tin hats" are definitely out being far too heavy and insecure on the head. All helmets should have a chin strap for use on vertical pitches. Endless argument could be had over the pros and cons of whether to have a full brim or peaked cap style. The former undoubtedly affords more protection to the neck and shoulders from falling rocks in vertical Pitches. However it is found that in many South Australian caves such a helmet needs to be removed at frequent intervals to negotiate a tight squeeze. Now it is in these very places that a caver is most likely to hit his head against a rock, so a brimless helmet is a distinctive advantage under these conditions.

It is my opinion that the best compromise is a wide brim helmet cut down to give a half inch brim at the sides and rear, and a rounded peak at the front.

I am happy to invite discussion on the above advice. - What's your theory?

Ron Smith
SAFETY OFFICER.

Mining Supplies (S.A. Pty Ltd,
728 South Road, EDWARDSTOWN, 76.7255

for Pinnacle lamps and spares
Helmets
Miners cap lamps (Lead-Acid
Rechargeable (Nickel-Cadmium

Geomorphology of the Nullarbor Plains

Anybody in possession of C.E.G.S.A. Occasional Paper No. 2 - "A Preliminary Report on the Karst Morphology of the Nullarbor Plains" by J.N. Jennings (1961), is welcome on request to a brief follow up paper by that author.

Of five pages, it is entitled "A Note for the C.E.G.S.A. 1965-66 Nullarbor Expedition"; it was written especially for the trip and was intended to modify the early paper and to indicate some of the general points emerging from work carried out after 1961.

Nostalgia Corner - or 10 years (sob) Ago

24th April 1956 - The C.E.G.S.A. Emblem was adopted as designed by Ian Dunlop. At the same general meeting entertainment was described in the programme as "bring cave muscles and ground sheet." It was a trap. Everybody who turned up was sent to Curramulka on our first S&R Scramble as the next day (Anzac Day) was a midweek holiday.

19th June 1956 - in Committee - The President reported on proposed Federation arrangements. Mr. B.J. O'Brien would take the chair and C.E.G.S.A. would handle local arrangements. The Federation Camp at Parnanga was to open on 26/12/56 and arrangements for the Nullarbor and Kangaroo Island trips that would follow were announced.

(Diprotodon Hillii - next time)

PAST TRIPS:

Mullamullang Revisited - Easter 1966

Ten C.E.G.S.A. starters led by Alan Hill set out for a follow-up ten day trip to Mullamullang this Easter. Hilly - Tom Wigley - Tony Dillon - Peter Hawkes - Geoff Hamilton - Bert Young - Dennis Shearing - Ian Holt - Tony Barker and John Ford set out in three private vehicles with sufficient objectives to last a month at the cave and to cut the detail - the trip was an unqualified success.

The Blowhole over Camp I had already been visited by Bruce Robinson and party from W.A., and as it had no potential was moved from the top to the bottom of our list.

A traverse was made from the doline to the water at Oasis Valley as a checkout on Ted Anderson's figures and to confirm the depth of the cave from the surface. Except from a constant magnetic zero error, the original survey was found to be excellent and the depth of the cave is now recorded as approximately 390' from the plain to water.

The Smoko Junction by-pass was mapped and several samples and specimens were taken of water incrustations - bats - fossils. The long eared bat Nyetophilus geoffroyi seems to be a common visitor to the cave but the "eyeless cockroach" was not seen alive this trip.

Tom "Ton-up" Wigley insisted on persevering with side passages until he made a mile, most of which was found in the "Easter Extension" leading off the bulge opposite the small pool in Oasis Valley. Most of this was mapped to grade 4.

There was some time for Tourism and a small party went on to Camp 1 and Lake Cigalare whilst sketching of the main cave was completed from the Drop-Off to White Lake.

Outside the cave the elusive "12th Hole" was descended for the first time but again - no real cave was found.

Aneroid traversing was carried out from the sea to Mullamullang and now it appears that the water table there is only 20' above sea-level from our early calculations.

The position of the Blowhole near Camp I was fixed.

Last but not least, about ten minutes of underground film was shot in 16mm colour using the Diprotodon Hillii and D. Hillii var. economy. Stills back already indicate these shots should be most successful and materially add to the film in hand.

The weather was good except in the storm/wind/rain/fog. The storm was frustratingly photogenic, the wind was too much for scout tents, rain was negligible and Tom took a hand with the fog by commanding it to do the right thing.

The trip had its casualties. Bert Young broke a finger in a fall and there is a trail of Rover and Holden parts from here to Madura. The Toyota would have been left there except we carried it backwards for 200 yds out of a coastal sand dune.

In conclusion the trip was a Ball and our special thanks go to the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs Smith of the Madura Hotel. With their help the "Refrigerator" was named, the second blowhole on the right in the doline where our butter and other essentials were kept at a steady 65°F

Beekeepers Cave Naracoorte 19-20th March 1966

Led A.L. Hill and attended by X people (X = approx 20). At least 12 people passed the Sump in Beekeepers for a mapping trip. One party mapped to a better grade part of the main tunnel, and the other party went to the end of the right hand lead and mapped another new 200'.

Diprotodon Hillii was used in the field for the first time in the bigger caves there and produced a few reasonable photographs in the Cathedral, Bat and Big Caves.

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)
PROGRAM MAY-JULY 1966

<u>MAY</u>	7-8th	Trip to Tantanoola-Glencoe Area to investigate new cave locations. Leader:- T. Butterfield.
	19th	Committee Meeting, Ian Holt's Place, 50 Galway Avenue, Broadview. 8.00 p.m.
	25th	General Meeting S.A. Museum, 8.00 p.m. Speakers will be Ron Smith and Grant Gartrell, who will expound upon Search and Rescue and Safety.
	29th	A Working Bee will be held at Austral Elevator Co. Crippen Lane, Adelaide to manufacture more new ladder. 9.00 a.m.
<u>JUNE</u>	11-13th	(Queen's Birthday). Trip to Naracoorte to survey caves in the Fox Cave Group. Leader:- I. Holt.
	16th	Committee Meeting. Hill's Hacienda, 84 Perseverance Road, Tea Tree Gully, 8.00 p.m.
	22nd	General Meeting. S.A. Museum, 8.00 p.m. Speaker Dr. N. Ludbrook. (Subject to Confirmation) "Tertiary Stratigraphy of South Australia".
	25th	Social Field Day, National Park, Belair, (See Newsletter).
<u>JULY</u>	2nd	Social Auction (See Newsletter) Ron Galbreath's Home. 66 Ashfield Road, Elizabeth.
	9-10th	S&R Scramble (S.A. Mountain Activities Federation, See Newsletter).
	21st	Committee Meeting, Ron Galbreath's Home, 66 Ashfield Road, Elizabeth, 8.00 p.m.
	27th	General Meeting, S.A. Museum, 8.00 p.m. N.A.S.A. Films - Space Flight Subjects.
	30-31st	Trip to Tantanoola - Mt. Burr Area to discover "Bigger and Better" Caves. Leader - N. Hocknell.

TRIP CONTACT LIST

Ian Holt	- 50 Galway Avenue, Broadview. 656074 (H)
Norm Hocknell	- 20 Adelaide Terrace, Woodlands Park.
Tony Butterfield	- 20 Queen Street, Alberton. 234333.

COMMITTEE CONTACT LIST

President - Alan Hill, 84 Perseverance Road, Tea Tree Gully.
641523(H), 59705(W)

Secretary - Grant Gartrell, 6 Gurrs Road, Brighton 234333 ext
313(W), 967022(H)

Quartermaster - Fred Sanders, 8 Wattlebury Road, Lower Mitcham
763639(H) 513458(W).

Search and Rescue - Ron Smith, 1 Ellerslie Street, Kensington
Gardens 317881(H)

Editor - A. Jackson, 6 Hudson Avenue, Rostrevor. 596467 (W)

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

Applications to attend trips must be with the trip leader at least 7 days prior to trip departure and applicant must ascertain time and place of trip departure from the leader.

CEGSA FIELD DAY

Note Alteration of date to Sunday 26th June.

The place will be Workanda Creek - Lower Fall. Meet at the Old Govt. House at National Park at 10 a.m. People from city and northern suburbs are asked to call at Kintore Avenue at 9.30 am on the Sunday to pick up anyone requiring transport. Associate members particularly are urged to attend.

Cease being a danger to yourself and your companions!

Learn safe climbing techniques and the use of correct equipment. Practical demonstration and practice in the following subjects will be covered:

- (1) Safe personal gear.
- (2) The use of party equipment.
- (3) Climbing techniques.
 - (a) Ladder climbing.
 - (b) Belaying.
- (4) Advanced climbing techniques.
 - (a) Abseiling for descent.
 - (b) The use of Prussik Loops for ascent of a single rope.
- (5) First-Aid Equipment.
- (6) The compass for navigation.

A hot-plate will be provided for a barbeque-lunch. Bring your own eats, which should be reasonably portable. Visitors are invited to view the activities and methods of the Club, so bring your girlfriends and mums along as well.

Social Auction

The CEGSA Social Auction is to be held at 66 Ashfield Road, Elizabeth, Saturday night, 8.00 p.m., 2nd July. Entrance is obtained by bringing something useful for caving to be auctioned off. If you have a rather valuable item, place a price on it.

Amongst items to be auctioned are a surveying compass, karabiners, sleeping bags, a diprotodon, a barbeque and nylon slings. I expect to see you all there with your friends. BYOGGG and a cushion.

Bishop Public Opinion Poll No.1

Results to be returned to him as soon as possible or at next GM, Place an X by the following suggestions that appeal to you in reference to CEGSA Meetings.

1. The Meetings are to retain their present format.
2. Two meetings a month. One a GM, the other a lecture.
3. One meeting a month with no business.
4. One meeting a month with very little business.
5. Two meetings a month. One lecture, one practical night.
6. Any other ideas?

The next committee meeting is on the 14th July, at Ron Galbreath's house.

J. Bishop. 14.6.66.

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

c/- S.A. Museum. North Terrace, Adelaide.

C.E.G.S.A. LIBRARY SUPPLEMENT

ISSUE 2

27th APRIL, 1966

BOOKS

- BRITISH CAVING 1953 - Edited by C.H.D. Cullingford. An introduction to speleology.
- CANGO 1958 - South African Speleological Association. The story of the Cango Caves of South Africa.
- CAVES OF ADVENTURE - Haroun Tazieff. The story of the 1951 and 1952 expeditions to the Pierre Saint-Martin and the Marcel Loubens tragedy.
- CAVES AND CAVE DIVING 1956 - Guy de Lavour. Mainly on river caves and diving expeditions; also a section on "The Evolution of Speleology".
- CAVE TEN NEWS AND OLD 1951 - Casteret.
- DEEP DOWN 1961 - Garry Hogg "Great Achievements in Pot-Holing". Stories of some of the world's most famous caves: Peak Cavern, Lepineux Cave, Eisriesenwelt, Carlsbad.
- EXPLORING CAVES 1951 - C.H.D. Cullingford.
- TEN YEARS UNDER THE EARTH 1940 - Casteret
- THE WHITE LADY 1956 - Leonard Dubkin. A true account from birth of the life of a rare albino bat near Chicago.
- THE GEOLOGY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA 1958 - Members of the S.A. Division of the Geological Society of Australia.
- AN INTRODUCTION TO GEOLOGY 1946 - W.B. Scott. A general text book on physical geology.
- GEOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA 1862 - Reverend J.E. Woods
Limited loan conditions apply.
- THE BUILDING OF AUSTRALIA AND THE SUCCESSION OF LIFE 1930 - Professor W. Howchin. British Science Guild edition 3 vols.
- THE MAMMALS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA 1925 - F. Wood Jones. British Science Guild edition 3 vols.
- BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GEOLOGY 1959 - E.N. Teesdale-Smith.
Published by S.A. Department of Mines. Includes all literature published up to and including June 1958.
- TRANSACTIONS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF SA. VOL. 73 PART 1 1949 - This contains both Thompson's and King's papers on the Nullarbor.
- THE BUILDING STONES OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA 1923 - R. Lockhart Jack. Bulletin No.10 of the Geol. Survey of S.A.
- THE UNDERGROUND WATER OF THE SOUTH EASTERN PART OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA 1941 - L. Keith Ward Bulletin No.19 of the Geol. Survey of S.A.
- THE GEOLOGY OF THE SOUTH-EAST PROVINCE SOUTH AUSTRALIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO QUATERNARY COASTLINE MIGRATIONS AND MODERN BEACH DEVELOPMENTS (1952) - R.C. Sprigg. Bulletin No.29 of the Geol. Survey of South Australia.
- THE HYDROLOGY OF THE MURRAY BASIN PROVINCE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA 1960 - E.P.D. O'Driscoll. Bulletin No.35 of Geol. Survey of S.A. Published by SA Dept. Mines 2 vols.
- MAP READING AND FIELD SKETCHING (SHELDONS) - A do-it-yourself book on what you should know before going underground.
- SOUTH AUSTRALIA NATIONAL PARKS AND WILD LIFE RESERVES 1964 - Edited B.C. Cotton.
- SPELEOLOGY - THE STUDY OF CAVES 1964 - Moore and Nicholas. It's ours if Tom doesn't claim it soon.
- WANTED (And we would even be prepared to buy it)
The following book is out of print with the S.A. Mines Department.
THE OCCURRENCE COMPOSITION TESTING AND UTILISATION OF UNDERGROUND WATER IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA AND THE SEARCH FOR FURTHER SUPPLIES 1946 - L. Keith Ward Bulletin No.23 of the Geol. Survey South Australia.