

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)
N E W S L E T T E R

AUGUST 1966

Editorial

We are now back in top gear with Hill at the wheel. Meetings are and bigger and brighter than before. A field day whose attendance has far excelled all previous ones let alone all expectations. A most profitable auction was held at the Galbreath establishment where over forty dollars of bargains changed hands. Ron's place has hardly recovered as we noticed at the Committee Meeting the carpet is still up side down! While things are well it time to look into the crystal ball and work out who will be driving next year. Old father time still plods on but we must beat him to the gun, give CEGSA a new set of tyres and a refill of petrol (someone say Carbide?) for next year. We've been to Mullamullang twice this year and will be there again soon - that's a long way for only one tank-full of juice (Carbide! no?). So all I ask is that you put a penny in the hat if you are not able to give more but I do expect to see a new committee next year, don't you? The position of Hon. Life Auctioneer Extraordinaire went to Dauntless at the last auction for a bargain price so if you missed out on the last one, make sure you, don't miss the next for a good nights entertainment. Among other ideas for the next program it has been suggested that we have a social breakfast in the Parklands ! !

J.B.

Are you Financial

If an X appears here you are no longer on our books as being financial. If you remain unfinancial we regret that this may be the last newsletter you will receive. If, however, a mistake has been made leave no stone unturned and contact either Ron Smith or Ron Galbreath and have the matter straightened out.

Overheard Somewhere

It was noted that on a large trip earlier this year involving many interstate visitors that only a few could tie their own bowline!! I certainly hope that this is not true! It definitely need no longer be even if it is true!

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,
as an active member of this group I am rather concerned about the recent attitude towards alcoholic drinking on official trips.

There is reference in our Constitution concerning this matter and new members and visitors should be acquainted with this ruling.

If liquor is produced on the trip without the trip leaders' prior knowledge a situation is produced which is embarrassing for the leader who wishes to carry out his obligation to the group. Far be it that I wish to prevent consumption of liquor on caving expeditions but I do feel that the discretion of the trip leader should be respected.

Signed "A Member".

History Diprotodon Hillii

Amidst great clouds of white smoke spasmodic bursting flashes of light and a forest of wilted candles Diprotodon Hillii was born in the beginning of March 1966.

2.

The original Diprotodon of 1954 was the brain child of Captain J. Maitland Thomson of Nullarbor fame. This was a sealed up version of old photographic magnesium powder device. The idea is not new, professional photographers used this idea before reliable and powerful (relatively) flash bulbs were readily available. When Thompson incorporated an old fire extinguisher case, a tyre pump complete with valves and pressure gauges; the total weight being about 20 pounds, the beast was aptly called the "Diprotodon" and name has stuck.

With the first really big Nullarbor Expedition of 1957 the Diprotodon MK II of Henry Fairlie-Cunningham was thought to be the answer to the photographic problems associated with large caverns. It was not really a raging success as the results proved. Early calibration troubles were encountered and there was insufficient latitude with the early Kodachrome to cover the variables encountered underground. Although the MK II was greatly reduced in weight (to only a couple of pounds) it was still a beast belching a flame 4 ft long 3 ft high and 1 ft thick. Magnesium consumption was an ounce per second and the guide no at 25 ASA was quoted at 400 per second or ounce. Smoke was a great problem, there being time for two photos only at a site. The first obvious photo could be taken in the clean air of the cave, and if you were quick, a second could be taken before the smoke from the first firing descended from the roof in a thick fog.

Many good photos were taken and the great advancement of the MK II was the introduction of the toy balloon as the air source. Full details of the MK II are available as an unpublished "Photographic Report on the 1957 Nullarbor Expedition", 15 pages and plans by H. Fairlie-Cunningham in C.E.G.S.A. files.

The next phase in Magnesium pyrotechnics followed with the introduction of the "Hookah". This was never intended for large caverns, but more of a substitution for the flashgun either bulb or electronic. It was a simple device operated by blowing by mouth through a tube connected to sealed chamber of a few cubic inches holding a quantity of powder - say an teaspoon tea-spoon full. The air blast aerated the powder in the chamber which exhausted via a slot over a wick fired by methylated spirit or Shellite. The ensuring flash was similar to but not as reliable as a flash bulb. It seems to have fallen out of favour in our affluent Group, as even the poorest of us can afford Pfls

But come the 1965-66 Expedition to the Nullarbor and there was not a single Diprotodon in South Australia. Rick Crowle of Sydney came fortuitously to the rescue with a miniature devices which we can only call Diprotodon MK III

Rick has been threatening to publish details of his device, since the beginning of the year and in all fairness we can give him another three month to actually do this before we continue this article with details. The Diprotodon MK III attained the ultimate in economy and had its own particular developments. It was on these and further developments again that he Diprotodon Hillii was modelled reaching the stage of giving a light suitable for underground movie work.

Plans of Diprotodon Hillii will appear in the next newsletter together (we hope) with an important announcement : the availability of a special magnesium powder.

A.L.H.

Hill Apology

All those people who were accused of theft, misappropriation or otherwise knocking off Hills Mullamullang Slides (photographic variety) may now breathe again : that is all except Fred.

Marriage

John Scown will breathe his last breath of bachelorhood on August the 6th, 5.00 p.m. at Croydon Church of Christ. Our Congratulations go to both John and Fay.

UNCLASSIFIED ADDS

For Sale Contaflex camera f.2.8/45 m.m. lens 1/500 sec. Shutter light meter. \$90 apply John Scown.

Wanted: First class volunteers only for a free trip to Naracoorte and back with 240 account! Assistance is needed to demonstrate the pleasures of caving as a sport and or an interesting lively occupation. When from the 2nd to the 5th January 1967. Volunteers are required to contact Ian Holt, phone home 65.6074 or at 50 Galway Avenue, Broadway.

Report on Queen's Birthday Weekend Trip

The long weekend in June saw about 25 people from Adelaide and a few interstate visitors camped down at Naracoorte Cave Reserve. The weather for this time of the year was as expected and no more be said. After everybody consented to get out of bed and have breakfast Saturday started a team proceeding to corner of the Fence Cave and commence mapping the same. As to be expected G. Gartrell led a party into Fox Cave for digging purposes.

Sunday was the Cave mapping of the Corner of the Fence finished and Smoke Cave started. This cave proved to be bigger than everyone thought and another weekend is needed.

Mr. Bill Parry put the group onto a new cave on his property which proved to be a 20 ft. deep solution tube opening out into a single chamber along with a large number dead sheep. He also put us onto another possible cave out by Mr. Platt's property and this has to be investigated.

Overall the weekend was successful and everybody had a good time.

I.L.H.

Membership

A count of heads reveals that our membership strength is as follows:-

Honorary Life Members	5
Full Members	33
Honorary Members	4
Associate Members	21
Interested Persons	8
Prospective Members	8

Of the 33 Full Members, 7 are resident in the country. This leaves 26 city dwellers. A quorum for a General Meeting is therefore 9.

Do YOU count?

Applications for membership have been received from four persons, but these have not yet been presented to the Committee.

R.S.

Field Day

Thirty members and friends spent Sunday June 26th learning to trust a climbing rope on a cliff at Workanda Creek National Park.

The sole use of a rope as a belay line on ladder or rock climbing pitches was the principal training topic, and this field was well covered.

4.

The need to use a rope for direct aid occurs only occasionally in S.A. caving but usually under emergency conditions. Accordingly, some useful techniques in this field were also covered. Many people, after a little practise, became "crash hot" at the art of descending a rope by abseiling. Unfortunately, this is of only limited use in caving but is nevertheless both thrilling and spectacular. A few hardy souls tried the rather more trying experience of climbing a single rope with the aid of "Prussik loops".

The social side of our activities was not neglected by some couples who were seen at infrequent intervals. I am sure that those who participated will have forgotten their blistered backsides in to re-enact the display next year.

R.S.

Search and Rescue

The Bush Search and Rescue Organisation of the South Australian Mountain Activities Federation began their activities with a training weekend on 9-10 July. Participants were given an introduction to Search Organisation, General Search Techniques, Menu, First Aid and Bush Stretcher making. The first trial of the contact system will be on the weekend of 1-2 October when a "Scramble" will be held under actual emergency conditions.

R.S.

Bishop Public Opinion Poll No. 1

Results have yet to be processed but a few more replies would be appreciated.

J.B.

A Short note on Knots (Knots and nuts)

Learn to tie a bowline properly as your life depends upon it. The Committee recommend that the one handed method be learned as it is fool-proof and can be done whilst hanging on with the other hand in darkness. It is recommended that two or even three half hitches be tied with the tail and the body loop - this is essential when using Nylon and other synthetic ropes.

F.H.S.

Two more members now have first aid certificates - when will you have yours?

J.B.

NOSTALGIA CORNER OR 10 YEARS AGO

8th July, 1956	The first underground camp was held at Curramulka Town Cave - Leader J.D. Taylor. The Pearl Extension was discovered.
31st July, 1956	Applications close for participants in the 1956-57 Nullarbor Expedition run in conjunction with the first National ASF Conference in Adelaide.
23rd August 1956	for 10 days - the first co-ordinated Naracoorte trip led by Hamilton-Smith.
13th November 1956	8.00 p.m. Museum Lecture Room, Members Paper Night: "Caving Equipment" N. Mollet and "Cave Physics" J. Somerton.
1st December 1956	from the CEGSA "Code of Ethics" 3(c) Cavers are not uncouth, unwashed, unshaven undesirables.

A.L.H.

THE CAVEMAN'S DREAM

The caveman sat and took his ease
Among the stalagmites
And gnawed a mighty mammoth bone,
And dreamt of hunts and fights

His cave wife knelt and stocked the fire
Which burned beside the door,
His cave kids romped and yelled and fought
And tumbled round the floor.

Now in the corner of the cave
There was a narrow crack,
The firelight could not reach its depths
So menacing and black.

The caveman idly looked way
And saw a vision weird,
Two bleary eyes, a big red nose,
A very muddy beard,

A helmet with a light on top,
Enormous boots below,
A trog lamp in its skinny hand
Gave forth an eerie glow

This horrid form, this vision weird,
The caveman did accost.
"Excuse me mate," it hoarsely said,
"I rather think I'm lost.

I'm looking for the Black Snake cave,
Where all my mates are still,
But you don't look like Ron Galbreath,
Or even Alan Hill".

The caveman turned a ghastly white,
"The devil's come!" he said.
"I'll never touch the mead again!
Oh, take my wife instead".

The trog looked at the caveman's wife
Then turned and disappeared.
The caveman howled and tore his hair
And pulled lumps from his beard.

His cave wife said "Don't be a nong,
Your mind is playing tricks.
I tell you C.E.G.S.A. won't be formed
Till nineteen fifty six"

GROUP EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)PROGRAM AUGUST - OCTOBER 1966

<u>AUGUST</u>	11th	Committee Meeting Fred's Place 8.00 p.m. 8 Wattlebury Road, Lower Mitcham
	24th	General Meeting 8.00 pm Open Night at Museum to ABW, YHA and other associated clubs for presentation of slides by Alan Hill.
	27th-4th Sept.	Mullamullang trip contact Alan Hill 59705.
<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	8th	Committee Meeting 6 Hudson Avenue, Rostrevor.
	17th-18th	10 yr trip to Town Cave Curramulka. Leader G. Gartrell
	28th	General Meeting at Museum Lecture Room 8.00pm Caving films from Channel 2 if available.
<u>OCTOBER</u>	8th -10th	Wild flower weekend. Special trip to Narrina Lake Cave and Narrina Pound area. Leader required
	13th.	Committee Meeting at 142 Hindley Street Adelaide.
	19th	General Meeting Night at Hindley Street Adelaide. Rope practice night. BBQ in Crippen Lane.
	26th	General Meeting at Museum Undisclosed speaker and Subject.

TRIP CONTACT LIST

A.L. Hill	54 Perseverance Road, Tea Tree Gully Phone 641523(H) 59705(W).
G. Gartrell	6. Gurrs Road, Brighton. Phone 234333 Ext. 313(W)

COMMITTEE CONTACT LIST

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641523(H), 59705(W)

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

The QM 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 NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT
AUGUST 1966

NARACOORTE TRIP

An additional trip to Naracoorte has been announced with Ian Holt leading, (home telephone number 65-6074). The trip is on the 6th and 7th August, and will be combined CEGSA and Scouts. Its purpose is to continue mapping of the Smoke Cave and also to survey the top of the Sand Cave shaft. We are considering stabilizing the entrance to this cave with concrete to prevent any more sand collapse down the hole.

ALTERATION TO CONSTITUTION

At the last General Meeting July 27th, at the Museum, notice of motion of alteration to the Constitution was given. The motion proposed A. Jackson, seconded J. McLean-Smith, is "that the Constitution be altered to allow a fourth class of membership and that the Constitution should read:-

3(d) Honorary Associate Member

- d(i) In recognition of special qualifications or services to the Group, persons may be elected Honorary Associate Members by the General Meeting, to enjoy all privileges of membership, except they shall not hold office or vote".

Voting will take place on this at the next General Meeting at the Museum, on 24th August.

A.L. Hill
29/7/66

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

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

C.E.G.S.A. LIBRARY SUPPLEMENTISSUE 3 / 16th JULY, 1966CAVE RESEARCH GROUP OF GREAT BRITAIN :C.R.G. NEWSLETTERS

- No.72/77 1958 Condensation formations on clay; Plumleys Hole; Ireland 1956-57; Reads Cavern (boulder falls); Cavern formation near lava dyke; Cave inhabiting arthropods; Biology in Agen allwedd; Poulmega (co. Clare); Calcareous formations on Cornish coast; "A nameless stream".
- No.78 1958 A.G.M.; Naming of caves & cave passages.
- No.79/80 1959 Tracing underground water; Cave diptera; Natural caves in chalk; Vermiculatations in Pooles Cavern; Rock falls in Swildons & Eastwater Swallets; Co. Clare 1958-59; Caves in trachytic lava (Kenya); Caving in S. Australia & Victoria; Caves of India & Pakistan; Review: "The Cave of Rouffignac".
- No.81 1959 A.G.M.; seasonal growth of stalactites; Excavations of British caves in 1959 (archaeological).
- No.82 1960 A.G.M.; Report on Derbs. Spel. Congress; Review: "Caving in North Wales"; Cave flora.
- No.83 1961 A.G.M.; Report on 3rd International Congress in Austria, 1961.
- No.84 1962 Obituary: Mr. E. Simpson; Water tracing: various articles on Rhodamine B and Durazol Orange techniques, also a warning note; Vermiculatations; Reviews & reports on Irish caves; Review: White Rose Pothole Club Journal; Note on geol. map of Matlock-Bonsall area; Flow markings; Biological notes.
- No.85 1962 Perched sump in Ireby Fell Cavern; Fairbottom Caves (Ribblesdale Ffynnon Galtfaenon, (North Wales); Caving in Malaya; Report on concentration of CO₂ in a cave; Reviews.
- No.86 1962 A.G.M.;
- No.87 1963 Cambridge Exped. to Greece; Carrowmore caverns (Sligo); Full National Grid references; Flow markings; Reviews (various); A secondary form of phreatic development; Obituary: J. Waddon.
- No.88 1963 Field methods for hardness determinations of cave & river waters; Iron formations in Seymour swallet (Forest of Dean); Assigning a grading to cave surveys; Neoprene vests; Effects of explosions in quarries on cave passages; Notes on Beaumont Quarry Caves (Eire); Reviews (various); Flow markings.
- No.89 1963 Chairman's Address: "Ogof Ffynnon Ddu System".
- No.90/91 1964 Hibernation of Moths in Caves of the Mendip Region; The So-called Stalactitic Barytes of Derbyshire; The Pohl Cell; Flow Markings; Flow Markings in South East Passage, Gaping Gill; Report on a visit to Caves in Mount Elgon, Kenya; Grading of Cave Surveys; Cave Surveys and their Grading; Mendip Cave Survey Colloquium; Safety in Potholes.
- No.92 1964 A Punched Card Index of Cave Flora and Fauna; A Vanishing Lake, Co. Sligo; Survey of Gaping Gill; Caves and Weil's Disease; The Mendip Cave Registry; Exposure, a comparison of two recent articles; Dan-yr-Ogof Caves.
- No.93 1964 A.G.M.; Cave Detection - Origin and Development of caves in British Limestone.
- No.94 1964 The Flat Earth; Possible Risk of Contracting Cave Sickness (Pulmonary Histoplasmosis) in Mediterranean Areas; A C.R.G. Films List; Caves and Caving in Czechoslovakia; An Unusual Karstic Phenomenon in the Peruvian Andes; Some simple methods for the Construction of Lightweight All-Metal Ladders; A Magnitude Scale for Caves.
- No.95 1965 Bearings on Inclines and Pitches; Repairing the broken Colonnade; Limestone Corrosion; The Holloch; The Regional Caving Organisations
- No.96 1965 Further Discoveries in Swildon's Hole; Notes on Training for Rescue; Navigational Aids for Cave Surveyors.
- No.97 1965 Navigational Aids for Cave Surveyors; C.R.G. Publications; A first Report on Cave Detection Apparatus Experiments; Poll na Gollum - Poul Elva Caves; A Note on Access to some Welsh Caves; Visits to Caves in the Island of Portland.
- No.98 1965 Preliminary Report on a New Hydrological Technique; Report of the 1965 Cave Rescue Conference; Moorland Gripping and Cave Flooding; Caving in Norway.
- No.99 1965 A.G.M.; Electricity - a danger to cavers.
- No.100 1966 Cave Surveying and Cave Surveys; Extensions in Setergrotten, Norway; Notes of some fauna recently collected; Mixture Corrosion: a brief review; Poulmagollum; A Survey of Trogloxene Moths in Mendip Caves.

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

C.E.G.S.A. LIBRARY SUPPLEMENTISSUE 3 / 26th JULY, 1966CAVE RESEARCH GROUP OF GREAT BRITAIN :C.R.G. TRANSACTIONS

- Vol.5 No.1 1957 (Part only) Some thoughts on cave fauna.
- Vol.5 No.2 1959 Caves of the Sierra de Aire Massif (Central Portugal); Cave Sickness - benign pulmonary histoplasmosis; Cavernicolous collembola collections; Moonmilk: Sutherland caves.
- Vol.6 No.1 1961 Underground water, geology and water-divining; Recent excavations at the Torbryan Caves; Jugoslavia - some of its caves and scenery.
- Vol.6 No.2 1963 The Tunnel - a cave in the Napier Range (West Australia); Hazards of using explosives; The Goyden Pot Drainage System (Nidderdale, Yorks); Some simple techniques & apparatus for the collecting and preservation of animals from cave habitats.
- Vol.7 No.1 1964 Intermittent springs; The caves of the Isle of Portugal; A study of calcite solutions at 10°C: the speleology of the Massif de Ger.
- Vol.7 No.2 1966 The Golconda Caverns Derbyshire; Recent cave discovery in Leicestershire; scallops and flutes; Analysis of flow data from Karst drainage systems; Fauna of the Portland Caves and fissures, Dorset.

C.R.G. OCCASIONAL PUBLICATIONS

- No. 2 1958 Geomorphology and speleogenesis of the Dachstein Caves.
- No. 4 1961 Instruction and Training of Novices to Caving.
- No. 5 1961 The deepest caves in the world and caves which have held the world depth record.
- No. 6 1962 The Lapiaz Superieure du Plas Segoune.
- No. 8 1962 Wire Rope Splicing.

C.R.G. NUMBERED PUBLICATIONS

- No. 3 1950 Cave Survey.
- No. 7 1958 Survey of Tunnel Cave, South Wales.
- No. 8 1958 A Preliminary Investigation into the bacterial and botanical flora of caves in South Wales.
- No. 9 1959 Survey of Pant Mawr Pot.
- No.10 1960 Ogog Agen Allwedd.
- No.11 1962 Some Technical Aids for Cave Exploration.
- No.12 1963 Reports on the investigations of Pen Park Hole.
- No.13 1965 Mendip Cave Bibliography and Survey Catalogue.
- No.14 1965 Oxford University Expedition to North Spain.

C.R.G. BIOLOGICAL SUPPLEMENTS

"Fauna collected from caves as recorded in the C.R.G. Fauna Records.
Parts III to VIII complete.