

NEWSLETTER

Cave Exploration Group

South Australia

C'O SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM NORTH TERRACE ADELAIDE

February, 1967.

EDITORIAL

Again we come to that time of the year when we must don our thinking caps and elect a new committee to operate the business side of the Group. At the A.G.M. all offices will become vacant and we have to fill them. We will need a President, Vice-President, Secretary and five committee members.

Of these the Secretary is the most important position, for through him the group operates. He is the eyes, ears and mouth of the Group but if he is not these then he must be the nose, by which token the group falls by the wayside.

The President must be conversant with standard meeting procedure and be able to control a meeting. He must have a dynamic personality as he is the figurehead of the group who must present a good impression of the group to the general public, interviewers, members, etc.

The Vice-president must be able to take the place of the President at any time and provides a good training ground for future Presidents.

When electing the committee we must keep in mind that they are selected to do certain jobs, namely Treasurer, Membership - search and rescue, safety, Quartermaster, Publications and Librarian. We must have these jobs in mind when we nominate someone to stand for committee.

Now get your thinking caps on and organise your pressure group and see if we can come up with a first class committee for 1967.

A.R.J.

ASF CONFERENCE MIRBOO NORTH XMAS 1966

Arising out of business transacted at this Conference the following points are worthy of mention.

- 1. Because of the popularity of the currently produced ASF
 Newsletter it was necessary to increase the per capita rate on
 Member Societies from 30c to 50c. However, since the per
 capita rate will now only be levied on Members with full voting
 rights our subscription will be almost as before. A number of
 Associate Members will now only receive copies of the ASF
 Newsletter on payment of a subscription of 35c which should be
 made through our Secretary.
- 2. The Executive of ASF is substantially as before with Roly Webb as President, John Dunkley as Secretary, Graham Wallis Librarian etc. etc.
- 3. The next ASF Committee will meet at Orange N.S.W. at the end of this year.
- 4. We will be asked at that Meeting if we are prepared to organise the 7th Biennial Conference of the ASF in Adelaide. This is recommended by our Committee and has been approved in principle at the January General Meeting of CEGSA.
- 5. We (A.L.H. and Glen Hunt of SUSS) have been asked to prepare a wall exhibit of Mullamullang Cave material for the British Speleological Association Exhibit to be held in the U.K. later this year. Some photographs are already on hand for this.

MULLAMULLANG TRIP - JANUARY 1967

In contrast to last year's large-scale assault on Mullamullang, CEGSA's first trip to the cave for 1967 was made by a party of only eight persons: four from CEGSA (Tom and Gail Wigley, Peter Hawkes and Alan Hill), three from UNSWSS (Howard Dengate, Paul Jenner and Kevin O'Brien) and Dick Daniels from OSS. Peter Bridge from WASG joined the group for the last few days. Some significant advances were made and the chief aims, to carry out further meteorological work and to establish a link between Franks Station in the main tunnel (see YOUR CEGSA Occ. Paper No.4) and the Easter Extension, were completed satisfactorily.

The party left Adelaide at various times (in VW, Holden ute and LR ute) and reached Madura almost simultaneously on Jan. 2nd. Camp was set up that night at the cave after some unscheduled sightseeing along the newly constructed bulldust highways which make the cave even harder to find by road than before. During the first few days (over 110°F) some time was spent around the South Doline and a new bypass was found through the rockpile to the North Doline. The Refrigerator was examined in an attempt to find the hypothesized southern part of Mullamullang and, although this attempt was unsuccessful, further work is warranted. The extension which leads off the Smoko Junction bypass was surveyed to just past the limit of previous exploration without reaching an end and with still an encouraging breeze to follow at some future date.

Preliminary exploration in the vicinity of Franks Station revealed a large tunnel running off towards the Easter Extension.

The next two (approx.) days were spent taking meteorological observations at two stations which had been set up at the Camp One Blowhole (N-73) and at the Southerly Buster. Extremely accurate Digital Aneroid Barometers were used to measure pressure and these instruments were later used for height determinations between Madura and the sea directly south of Madura. During this 'aneroid run' the Madura Six Mile South Cave and Nurina Cave were visited briefly.

The highlight of the trip was the visit to Arubiddy Station at the invitation of the manager, Don Whalen, who we met at the Madura pub. After visiting Cocklebiddy Cave on the way we had a fantastic night of luxury at Arubiddy with lamb chops for tea, real beds to sleep on, hot showers and plenty of cold Swan and congenial conversation. To top this off Don took us to a 'virgin' cave on the station property which proved to be about 170 feet deep (a hairy vertical climb down through a rockpile), rich in gypsum flowers and containing a few specimens of the Nullarbor Caves Cockroach (see CEGSA Occ. Paper No.4). After leaving Arubiddy we visited Murra-el-elevyn Cave and returned to Mullamullang.

In the remaining days the connection between Franks Station and Easter Lake was made and surveyed to Grade 5 and a second link to a higher level in the Easter Extension was made. Some water samples were taken together with a few mineralogical samples for Xray analysis and a beetle, yet to be identified, was collected. On the way home Erosion Blowhole, Bobobogol Doline and Firestick Cave were visited and the cliffs near Wilson Bluff were inspected. In brief the trip was most successful and enjoyable.

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. $763839\,(\mathrm{H})~513458\,(\mathrm{W})$

Search and Rescue - Ron Smith, 1 Ellerslie Street, Kensington Gardens 317881(H), 791662(W)

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

BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION - CORROBOREE CAVING VENTURE

From 1st to 6th of January an official trip was run to provide trained cavers to act as guides at a Venture Camp held at Naracoorte. The boys, all from the Australian Corroboree at Woodhouse arrived at Naracoorte in successive groups of 40, each group staying fox 24 hours. Arrival time was about 1.30 p.m. and allowing 1 hour for setting up camp, issue of gear, and preliminary instruction, the afternoon's programme consisted of a 7 hour jaunt through Fox and Smoke Caves on Mr. W Pavy's property.

Each party of 8 boys had one or two guides in control, and the timetable was arranged to minimise clashes by parties travelling in opposite directions. This was achieved by dividing each cave into 'Activity Areas', permanently staffed by an expert in their particular field; - a fine effort by Bob Davies on mapping and Athol Jackson on photography. Bob mapped the same chamber in Smoke Cave 15 times and I suppose that Athol witnessed a great blinding flash something like 50 times in the formation chambers of Fox Cave. Ian Holt spent the 1st day guiding 5 groups through the long southern crawl in Smoke Cave as this area was little known by our other guides. The next day he succeeded in filling Fox Cave with smoke from Diprotodon shots taken in the largest chamber for the benefit of each group. This rendered photography impossible in the main passage. After spending approximately equal times in each of these two caves, each party would emerge between 9.00 and 9.30 p.m. and make for the bus to return to camp. Our resident camp staff of each day managed to come good with a hot meal served on our return. Their service was all the more appreciated because it was almost essential, in order to stave off fatigue and maintain good morale in the latter stages of a very demanding programme. The boys cooked their own meals on small methylated spirits stoves and were completely self sufficient as regards camping arrangements.

In some ways the programme for the following morning was even more challenging, and more rewarding in the response to it by a few of the lads. The group was subjected to a 20 min. talk by myself on what I called the 'Progress of Exploration' of any particular cave. This finished, the boys divided themselves up voluntarily into interest groups, to practise, for about 2 hours, their chosen activity in the plan I had outlined. The first stage covers the initial report or suspicion of cave occurrence, cave search to locate the entrance, and initial hasty examination to gauge prospects. As an exercise, one group went out with a rough sketch map as a guide, to locate 'Lost Cave', fix its position by crossbearings and distances from known points and prepare a sketch map of the entrance. The next stage of development is the real exploratory trip during which sometimes severe physical and technical difficulties must be overcome in order to push the cave to its furthest limits. It is this party which should bring back reports of anything of possible scientific interest so that specimens may be examined by qualified personnel. Planned scientific examination is the 3rd stage in the 'Progress of Exploration'.

One small group was directed down Brown-Snake cave without a leader, to carry out their own exploration and to examine the rare manganese containing formations, while a smaller party examined a bone dig and experienced the siphon in Beekeepers Cave. There is little merit in removing specimens for examination unless their exact location is known as a few lads went on to more advanced mapping techniques with Bob Davies in Tomato-Sticks Cave. Finally as an example of tourism with a purpose, those who wished were able to take photographs by Diprotodon Flare under instruction by Ian Holt in Cathedral and Tomato-Sticks Caves.

We found this two part programme most effective in that it gave each lad a grounding in all aspects of caving, then allowed each to develop his own interest. The team to which we are indebted consisted of 15 persons, of which two were the official scouting officer-in-charge. These two have taken out Associate Membership of C.E.G.S.A. The remainder may be broken down into the following categories.

Full Members 4
Associate Members 2
Associate Members 2 (since the trip)
Non-Members 5

Of the 5 non-members, 2 have had experience with C.E.G.S.A., and all are likely contenders for membership. Two of the staff only were non-scouts, our sole lady beings a warranted Cub Leader.

C. E. G. S. A. has formed an association with the local branch of the Boy Scout Movement that we cannot now dishonour.

There is no doubt that in the near future there will be requests for assistance from individual troops. The policy should always be for inclusion of small parties of Senior Scouts on official club trips, preferably trips where all endeavour is made to achieve some worthwhile aim. An attitude of tolerance, interest and willingness in this matter could reap big dividends in the field of public-relations and ensure the continued success of our Membership drive.

Ron Smith
Senior Scout Leader
C.E.G.S.A. Vice-President
Membership Officer.

MEMBERSHIP

The Committee has much pleasure in welcoming the first new members for 1967.

Graham Carter, Lucindale
Tom Michelmore, Scout Corroboree Guide
Allen Stanley, Scout Corroboree Guide

These people have been accepted as Associate Members. We hope that in a few short months, they, and many others, will be converted to the full variety, with the desirable result that more cavers will be found taking an active interest in the hack-work of maintaining the Club's many functions.

SEARCH AND RESCUE, SAFETY

One bod on scout trip managed to provoke a large goanna into leaving one tooth in his finger. The victim was removed to Naracoorte for penicillin shots while the goanna, after photography, was released to return bushwards.

The Boy Scouts Association has made available to C.E.G.S.A. two unused inflatable splints at 2/3 new price. It was felt that these should be on hand during the Venture.

PERSONNEL

It is rumoured from a very reliable source that Kaye Sloan is now married and is living in Gibraltar. Best of luck to Kaye and her husband.

Norm Hocknell has announced his engagement. The Group extends its best wishes to Norm and his Fiancé.

FLOGGING SECTION:

CEGSA now has the long awaited Mullamullang Report for sale. The quality of both the contents and the presentation are far in excess of the cost - \$1.00 per copy. Get yours now from Alan Hill or Grant Gartrell and avoid disappointment.

The magnesium powder is now packed in a most convenient $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. container at \$2.25. It is also still available in bulk form at \$1.50 per lb. up to 10 lbs. and \$1.20 per lb. for lots of over 10 lbs. This powder is the only type available that will successfully operate in the Diprotodon Hillii, to get yours while it still lasts.

NOSTALGIA CORNER OR 10 YEARS AGO

This quarter of 1957 saw the resignation of Elery Hamilton-Smith as President when he moved to Victoria.

26/28th January, 1957 Australia Day weekend trip to Buckalowie.

27th February, 1957 AGM - R.T. Sexton elected President.

12th March, 1957 Museum Lecture Room - "Cave Insects" by Gordon Gross.

DIPROTODON EXPOSURE GUIDE

Diprotodon Hillii - Part III - Continued from October Newsletter

A real problem in the use of Diprotodons occurs when there are several people set up to ride the "flash" and the person with the Diprotodon is called on to suggest exposure times. To overcome this and simplify exposure calculation the "Diprotodon Exposure Guide" was built and is shown on the accompanying diagram, reprinted from CEGSA Occasional Paper No.4. Variables of distance, light output, film speed, subject reflecting capacity, and angle of lighting source, are in turn dialled. Aperture and exposure time are then read directly from the calculator. Light output is given as one of the variables so that the calculator can be used with different model Diprotodons. Diprotodon hillii is best suited to light output "E".

Compensation has been made to allow for "Reciprocity failure" which occurs in most colour films when exposures longer than about 1/10 second are made. The effect is a speed loss by the film for longer exposures and this accounts for the rapid time scale reduction on the exposure guide for these longer exposure times. If a Diprotodon is being initially rated with a light meter it must be remembered that the meter makes no allowance for reciprocity failure.

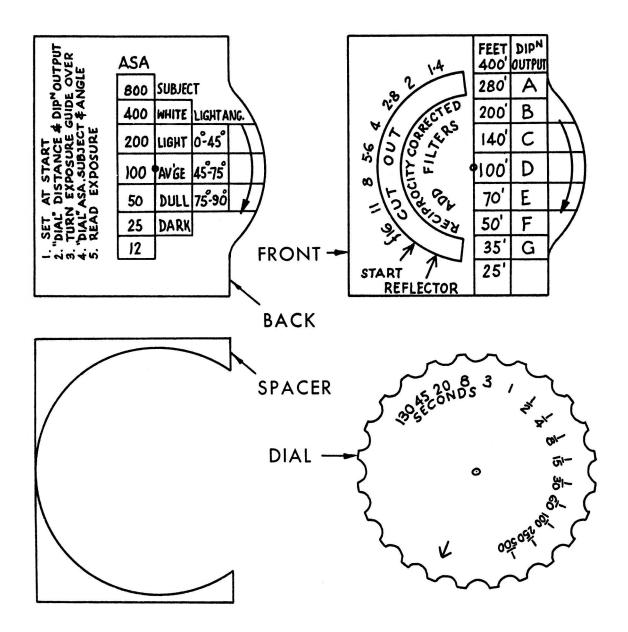
A secondary effect of reciprocity failure with colour film is there is usually a colour shift for long exposure times and these can be corrected with colour compensating filters.

These filters should not be confused with colour temperature correction filters which balance daylight $5600\,^\circ\text{K}$ film or $3200\,^\circ\text{K}$ or $3400\,^\circ\text{K}$ film with the colour temperature of magnesium of $4200\,^\circ\text{K}$ (comparable with clear flash bulbs).

Thus ideally two filters need to be used and the exposure times increased accordingly, but these filters are rarely used by cave photographers.

A most useful data card is available through CEGSA (or A.L.H.) which gives some details of these filters, their uses and characteristics in relation to a leading range of colour film.

DIPROTODON EXPOSURE GUIDE



Construction

- 1. Cement front, back and dial under 1/16 inch clear plastic.
- 2. Cut spacer from 3/32 inch thick cardboard.
- 3. Cement front, back and spacer with dial loose.
- 4. Rivet dial in centre to run free.

Exposure Example

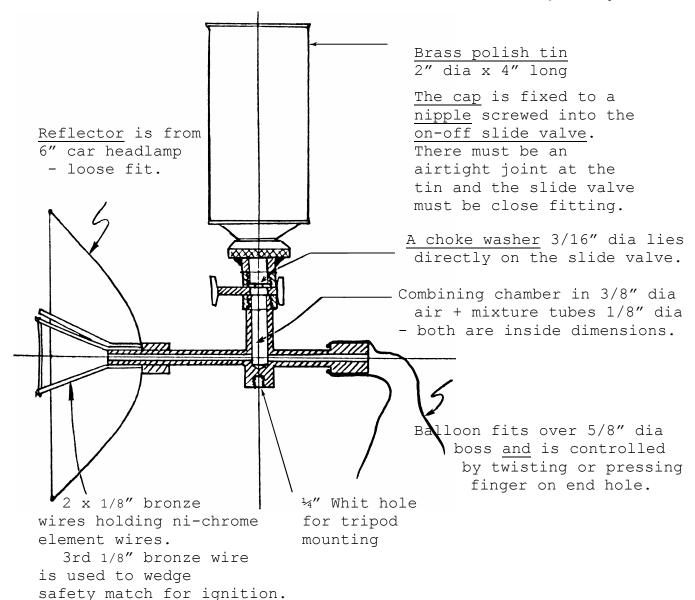
Say 'Lake Cigalere from Camp One'. Set start and dial 70 feet distance; Diprotodon hillii has an output E, 50ASA, average wall lighting, and angle 0° to 45°. Exposure is 8 seconds at f4.

<u>DIPROTODON</u> HILLII

Mount wires in

horizontal plane.

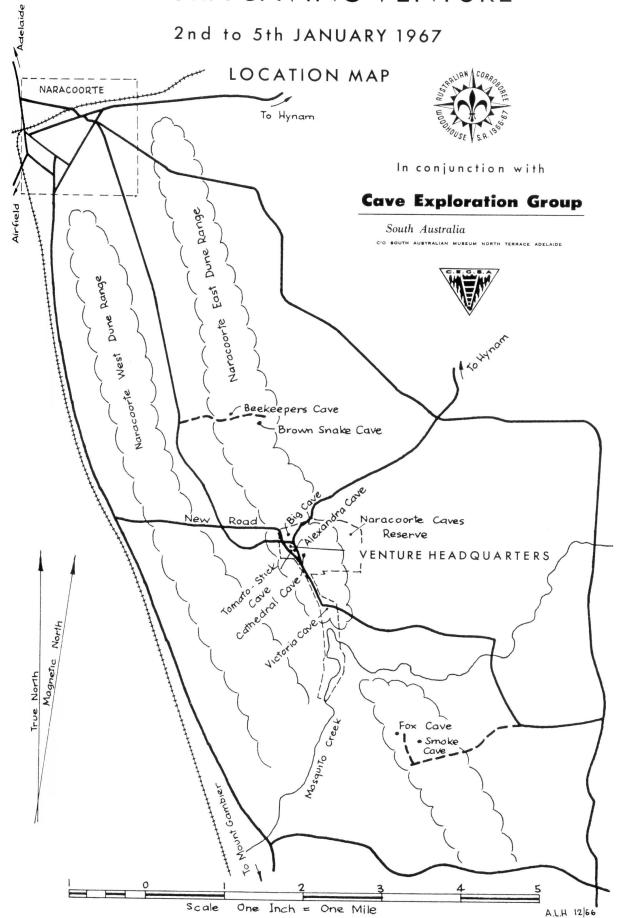
Scale ½ Full Size Drawn Sep 66 by ALH



MATERIAL: BRASS
Spare Polish tins become "instant" recharges and a spare cap is needed for the tin on this unit.

AUSTRALIAN CORROBOREE

ALDURA CAVING VENTURE



CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

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

C.E.G.S.A. LIBRARY SUPPLEMENT ISSUE 4 25TH JANUARY 1967

AUSTRA	LIAN SPELEOL	OGICAL FEDERATION NEWSLETTERS		
No.1	- June 57	Current Projects		
No.2	- Sept 57	Current Projects		
No.3	-	A Banding Scheme for Bate		
No.4	-	Histoplasmosis		
No.4 No.5	<u> -</u>	"Amberat"		
No.6		Bat Banding		
No.7	- March 60	Publications Sub-Committee - Reviews		
No.8	- June 60	Society Activities - Reviews		
No.9	- Sept 60	Bat Banding - Society Activities - Reviews		
No.10	- Dec 60	Society Activities - Reviews		
No.11	- March 61	Code of Ethics - Bat Banding		
No.12	- June 61	Society Activities - Bat Banding		
No.13	- Sept. 61	Society Activities - Victories Cave Recording System - Cave Lighting.		
No.14	- Dec 61	Lava Cave Fossils - Society Activities -		
		Preservation of Snap Links - Orientation of Cave		
		Development.		
No.15	- March 62	Buchan Extensions - Diving at Cocklebiddy and		
110.10	1141 611 62	Weebubbie - Society Activities.		
No.16	- June 62	Speleo Digest 1958 Index - Society Activities		
No.17	- Sept 62	VCES S&R - Library Abstracts - Society Activities		
No.18	- Dec. 62	Society Activities - Reviews - Caving Areas near		
	- Dec. 02	Darwin		
No.19	- March 63	Michel Siffre - Punch Card System of ASF Library		
		Reviews - Society Activities - Histoplasmosis.		
No.20	- July 63	Conservation Society Activities - New Guinea		
		Expedition Abstracts.		
No.21	- Sept 63	Abstracts		
No.22	- Dec 63	Annual Report - ASF Library Publications Sub-		
		Committee Reports.		
No.23	- March 64	Air Photographs and the Nullarbor Plain Caves -		
		Nullarbor Expedition 1963-64, Kestrel Caverns 1 and		
		2 Abstracts.		
No.24	- June 64	Annual Reports		
No.25	- Sept 64	Society .Activities - Caving Areas of W.A		
	ı	Abstracts		
No.26	- Dec 64	Assigning a Grading to Cave Surveys - Abstracts		
	- March 65	Society Activities - Abstracts and Reviews		
No.28	- June 65	First Cave Fatality in Australia - Society		
110.20	ounc os	Activities - Mullamullang - Conservation - Search		
		and Rescue*		
No.29	Cont 65			
NO.29	- Sept 65	Search and Rescue - Society Activities - Cave		
		Fatality Inquest - New Deep Cave near Cocklebiddy -		
NT - 00	D 65	Cliefden Rock Falls - Abstracts.		
No.30	- Dec 65	Cavern Breakdown - Abstracts and Reviews		
No.31	- March 66	Conservation - Rope - 1965-6 Nullarbor Expedition -		
		Society Activities - Abstracts and Reviews.		
No.32	- June 66	Bungonia Caves History - S&R - New Caves on		
		Nullarbor - Water Tracing at Yarrangobilly Society		
		Activities.		

A.L.H., Librarian

GROUP EXPLORATION GROUP (S.A.) FEBRUARY - APRIL, 1967 **PROGRAMME**

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Thursday 9th Committee Meeting at Fred Sander's home,

8 Wattlebury Road, Lower Mitcham.

Annual General Meeting - Museum Lecture Wednesday 22nd

Room, North Terrace, Adelaide at 7.30pm, All nominations for Office Bearers to be in

before start of meeting.

Sat-Sun 25th-26th Naracoorte Trip with Adelaide Bushwalkers.

Applications to Secretary

MARCH

Thursday 9th Committee Meeting - Tentative

Wednesday 22nd General Meeting - Museum Lecture Room,

> 7.30pm, Lecture by Dr. P.S. Hossfeld on Aboriginal Artefacts found in Rock Shelters

in S.A.

Thursday-Tuesday

23rd - 28th

Easter Trip to Kangaroo Island. Leader Grant Gartrell. Trip departs Thursday afternoon and returns Tuesday morning by Troubridge. Members wishing to go on this trip must be able to get Thursday afternoon and Tuesday morning off. Written applications and Deposit of \$8 to be with the Trip Leader by first week in February so that bookings can be made on the boat. Approx. transport cost

\$16.

APRIL

Thursday 13th Committee Meeting - Tentative.

General Meeting - Museum Lecture Room Wednesday 26th

7.30pm. Caving films from French Consulate

Sat-Tue

Anzac Day Trip to Glenelg River. Leader 22nd-25th Ron Smith. It is preferable that those

going on this trip be able to take the

Monday off.

TRIP CONTACT LIST

Ron Smith - 1 Ellerslie St, Kensington Gardens 317881(H), 791662(W)

Grant Gartrell - 6. Gurrs Road, Brighton. 234333 Ext.313(W), 967022(H)

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.