

NEWSLETTER

Cave Exploration Group

South Australia

C'O SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM NORTH TERRACE ADELAIDE

AUGUST 1967

EDITORIAL

Towards the end of this year CEGSA intends to publish an occasional paper on the caves in the Naracoorte area. This publication will be of similar quality, size and style to Occasional Paper No. 4 on Mullamullang and should be suitable for sale to tourists at Naracoorte.

So that this can be achieved, an intensive program is being organised to complete surveys and gather data. If you observe the latest program you will notice that there are three trips arranged for Naracoorte in the next three months - this is not because the members of the committee like going to Naracoorte but is for the specific purpose of getting out this publication.

Please bear with the Committee and organizer of this project and give them all the assistance that you can. Several teams for surveying etc will be required on each of these trips if the large amount of work is to be completed, so make every effort to attend as many of those trips as you can.

Remember if YOU call yourself a "SPELEOLOGIST" (which means the science of cave exploration) do your little bit to justify the name and help make this project every success that it should be.

A.R.J.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Perhaps the most remarkable feature of some of the recent large caving trips has been the time taken to "get mobile" in the mornings.

For example - on a recent overseas trip everyone was instructed to be ready to move by 8 a.m. The poor unfortunates who had breakfasted and packed by 7.30 then waited until 11.30 before being able to leave the campsite. In another instance on a more recent trip a small group camped some miles from the remainder of the party. After a leisurely breakfast, tent demolition, lunch packing etc., they drove 6 miles to rejoin the party. They were then forced to endure a 2 hour wait for the rest of the group. (The time was passed in betting on whose tent would be the last to go down.)

What is the cause of this? Possibly a few people are slow cooks- but surely not that bad! One person alone cannot cause everyone to wait. If this were so why don't the others in his car help him get. a move on? . Do some people have too much expensive gear that requires hours of packing? - Or is it just that some driver's and their car-crews are addicted to "fluffing around."

What can we do to cure this? Aside from everyone pitching in to help one slowcoach, it might be an idea if trip-leaders set a "moving off time" and adhered to it. It is surely important for them to at least set a good example in this matter. Finally, those who "fluff around" could actually be left behind - just once (assuming they don't include the leader.)

At least this would stop interstate visitors from invariably remarking on our tardiness,

Yours Faithfully, "FOREVER WAITING".

MEMBERSHIP

The Group wishes to welcome the following new associate members to the Group, and congratulate those attaining Full Membership,

Associate Members

Ralph Berry

Bob Roddars

Ernest Maddock

Alan Stanley

Full Members.

Wayne Goedecke

Barbara Dicker

Peter Chappell

Gail Wigley

Robin Ide

DEATH:

DR. P. S. HOSSFELD.

The death of Dr. P.S. Hossfeld was recorded on Saturday 15th July 1967.

He was associated with CEGSA from its' very beginning and he had maintained a most constructive association with the Group as an Honorary Life Member. He was frequently a willing and able speaker at our Meetings and was also associated with the first ASF Conference in Adelaide, and also the Naracoorte Research Centre. Later members of CEGSA will remember his recent talk to the Group and his attendance at the last Cave Man's Dinner. Many of his Geological papers are in the CEGSA Library.

By his many friends in CEGSA, and the caving world generally, "Hossle" will be missed.

FIRST AID COURSE:

Lectures commencing for the ST JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOC. FIRST AID CERTIFICATE on 19 & 20 JULY (Wed.& Thurs night) Course duration of 1 night per week for 10-12 weeks of $2\frac{1}{2}$ - hrs per night.

COST including Hand-book: \$2.65

Contact :- -St John Ambulance Assoc. 21 Austin St Adelaide.

Phone 23 1316 or R Simms

CEGSA AUCTION No 2.

The biggest "WING-DING" of a show will be on at 413 Cross Rd Edwardstown on Saturday 16th September, when CEGSA runs its 2nd "SOCIAL AUCTION".

Get rid of all -that unwanted gear and odd junk that may be useful to someone else!! If you have expensive items you may place a reserve on them and CEGSA will take what the auctioneer can get above it.

Bring your items to the General Meeting on Aug.23rd or if you can't make it, then bring them on the night of the Auction.

Even if you haven't got anything to Auction, come along and enjoy yourself. You never know - there might be something there that you have always wanted.

LADIES bring along a Basket Supper please.

MEN bring along the "liquid refreshments."

TRIP REPORTS

CAVE DIVING - NARRINA LAKE CAVE (F11)

"You must be crazy, who ever heard of diving in the Flinders Ranges" This was the comment made as I loaded my air tank-and diving suit into the 'Volksy' before leaving Adelaide last long weekend. I suppose the words were warranted, I'd never heard of any water up that way. Most of my cave—diving had been done in the South East of South Aust. in the sink holes around Mt. Gambier district. To say I was intrigued about the Narrina Cave was putting it mildly.

All I was told was that "there would be 10' or 100' of water, and to my knowledge no other divers have been in the water.

After leaving Adelaide we had a meal at Clare and arrived at Hawker around 1.15 a.m. for refuelling. The convoy of -half a dozen or so cars was complete. We journeyed on through the Parachilna Gorge, (we had heard that the road through Wilpena to Blinman might be flooded) and it was raining quite heavily by now. I remember thinking to myself if there's no water in -the cave, there darn well ought to be with this continual downpour. Most-of the cars had arrived at the campsite by early morn but I was the last car to come through the Gorge, and within only a few miles of the Cave, I was negotiating a particularly muddy section between Blinman and Angorichina, and the Volksy didn't make it - we were axle deep in mud. Time was 4.30 a.m. and still raining heavily. Grant Gartrell's land-rover coming into view to pull us out at around 10.00 a.m. was a welcome sight.

Having settled in at the Camp and rested awhile. It was decided to dive in the cave early that afternoon.

Having checked our equipment, Doug Seaton, Peter Robertson and myself proceeded to the cave entrance. The lowering of air tanks and weight belts etc. into the cave was quite a feat; the assistance of the other members of the group was gratefully received. The three of us entered the water together with D. Seaton on the life line and Peter Robertson with the underwater telephone. We entered the first cavern; our underwater torches showed us that visibility was excellent, probably 70' to 80'. We swam to the bottom and on checking the depth gauge, found it was showing 30'. The silt on the bottom appeared a reddish brown and flakey.

Most other cave water (around Mt. Gambler) is 47 deg., plus or minus a few deg., but my thermometer showed a warm 72 deg. We then proceeded to deeper water and at 50' the silt had now become a greyish soft mud.

CAVE DIVING NARRINA LAKE CAVE (cont.)

There were no bubbles of air on the roof of the cave, a sure sign that no other divers had been in here before. D. Seaton tapped me on- the shoulder and indicated that we were going to surface. This was a sensible decision on Doug's part, because on looking up we realized that the visibility was now very poor due to the mud we had churned up with our flippers. On the surface we talked to those who were holding the other end of our lifeline and told them we would like to go down to another tunnel we had noticed on our way up. This tunnel was a lot deeper, probably 60' to 70' wide and taking a very sharp turn and going on down again; almost like an escalator. It was here that Doug found the remains of a Rock Wallaby. Going down deeper, my torch picked up some thing which looked like a girl's necklace. On handling it, it fell to pieces, and it was then I realized it was the vertebrae of a snake.

Doug then signalled he was surfacing, but I was more interested in collecting the remains of the snake. My depth gauge was at 80' so I started to surface in clear water, but around 30' met all the mud that had been stirred up. My lifeline had become caught in a rock crevasse. My self-preservation instinct was working over-time, visibility was down to 1 foot. I had to feel around in almost total darkness, when suddenly I saw a glow of light above me. It was Hilly's carbide lamp. I was never so glad to get on to dry land.

Talking afterwards it was agreed by the three of us that it was an exciting dive and well worth the long trip. One thing I'm sure of, I'll be returning in October, just to see how deep that tunnel does go.

Alan Walden.

A.S.F. CONFERENCE - 1968.

Arrangements are well in hand for the seventh biennial A.S.F. Conference to be held at Christmas 1968. Graham's Castle accommodation has been booked and has all the facilities required for the conference. An added bonus is that it is within a quarter of a mile of the beach for the early morning swim!

More details will be released at a later date, but keep Christmas 1968 free for the Conference.

LETS GO A ROVAN.

Flash, Plonkety... Flash!

Great explosions of light twirl through the gloom, Cecil de Hill-leads the troupe on.

Flash !... Ahhh!!

The figure in red sits silent smiling at the stalactites.

"That's it!"

Now just .a bit of a flash-here and there.

....3....2....1....open - Dazzling void.

A buttercup squeals through the night.

Cecil de •Hill does his quick flash, flash, and ahhh!

Smoke pours through the opening to the wet sky above, and the veiled cavern's shrouded beauty blooms.

The Epic over,...home for tea and crumpets.

Depart 13.30 hours. The sun sweet on our little car warms the way home. Past Christmas Rocks and mottled gums. The soft clouds bumble on, Speedy Moss is at the wheel, Keith looms. All is calm....When...

CLUNKITY, CLUNK, CLUNK!!

A rabbit catcher in passing gives us a tow. The Rover lurches into town.

Step by step book in hand, the engine lies disarranged. Night is upon us. Still, supper at home drives us on. A change of oil, and another 50 good miles. The thought of hot soup at Murray Bridge keeps the words mellow in our mouths. Then.....CLUNKITY, CLUNK CLUNK!!!

BLANK.....AGOG......BLANK....

Back and forward across the bridge. Our bellies blearily bulging, the gaily coloured benches become our bug-bag beds.

TOOT.....TOOT...TIS MORN!

The Guard rattles his chains and waggles his red light. Aboard we settle down in the comfort of the Overland, as .the cows moo to the morning in the glowing golden Monday meadows. The Guard puffs with pride.

"Only 10 minutes late today" he tells us.

We all but smile.

L.M.

NARACOORTE

On the morning following the S.A. Championships for the loudest talker in the Naracoorte hut at 3 a.m., the winner was observed talking to Frank Harrison the chief guide, who lives next door.

"Hope we didn't disturb you last night, old chap" he said, "but some visitors dropped in and tended to be a bit noisy."

"No trouble", said Frank, 'Didn't hear a thing.' Better luck next time, Hilly.

Peter (Gelignite Jack) Robertson sure started something when he casually mentioned to the Constable at Prospect that he was getting an explosive permit for some gelignite to use at Naracoorte. It wasn't till later that the officer became worried and contacted the Mines Dept. who contacted the Tourist Bureau, who finally through Ern Maddock contacted Alan Hill to find out if a maniac was going to blow up Naracoorte Caves!! All this took place six hours before Peter actually bought the gelignite, (Quite an explosion without even a match!)

Anyway, only half a stick was used to clear a small hole on the caves reserve, with very little effect, and Naracoorte finished up with exactly the same number of caves it started with no more, or no less.

The Bordertown Rural Youth Club arrived at the Reserve roughing it in luxury Caravans. Saturday evening saw them emerge a little tired and soiled from Victoria Cave, thinking that perhaps Duffle coat over Parka over jumper, over Rural Youth might be just a bit much.

Saturday night in the Adult Education Centre at Naracoorte was the best show of the year with talks by Hill, Hawkes, Gartrell, and followed by Hilly's immaculate set of slides

We are also indebted to Tony Butterfield, who, although he had to frequently leave the room, provided us with his epic rendition of:

"Stalactites – Stalagmites

Ants in your pants!!

The mites go up and

the tights go down."

Despite this, the Bordertown bruisers awoke early on Sunday and somehow dragged the rest of us along to the Brown Snake Cave, where they really caught the caving bug. They'll be back for more!

Sunday night, an uneventful return home except for Bill Daw who had some trouble steering. He met four Hereford steers on the road at Coonalpyn and missed three of them! Bad luck for the steer, but fortunately for Bill he was travelling slow at the time.

A dripstone decoration formed by union of a 28. COLUMN stalactite and a stalagmite. A comparatively level and straight passage 29. CORRIDOR which links two or more rooms or chambers 30. CRAWL A passage which must be negotiated on hands and knees A pool, generally with little or no overflow, 31. CRYSTAL POOL containing crystal deposits 32. CURRENT MARKING Shallow asymmetrical hollows distributed in rather regular fashion over limestone surfaces and caused by turbulent water flow A wavy or folded sheet of dripstone hanging 33. CURTAIN from a roof or projecting from a wall, often translucent and resonant 34. DAYLIGHT HOLE A hole in the roof of a cave reaching to the surface 35. DEAD CAVE A dry cave in which there are neither flowing stream nor dripping decorations. 36. DECORATION Cave features due to secondary precipitation of calcite, aragonite, gypsum and other rarer minerals. 37. DIP The angle at which beds are inclined to the horizontal. 38. DOLINE An enclosed surface depression in limestone country of moderate dimension, it may or may not lead to a cave A mineral composed of the double carbonate of 39. DOLOMITE (a) calcium and magnesium. 39. DOLOMITE (b) A rock composed predominantly of dolomite mineral 40. DOLOMITE CAVE A cave developed in dolomite. 41. DRIPSTONE Secondary precipitation from falling drops in forms such as stalactites or stalagmites. Usually of calcite but sometimes or aragonite or gypsum. 42. DRY VALLEY A valley which lacks a surface watercourse.

43. DUCK-UNDER		A place where water reaches the roof for a short-distance but can be passed by quick submersion without swimming underwater.
44. DUNE LIMESTONE		Coastal dune sands, including a substantial proportion of shell sand partially consolidated by secondary precipitation of calcite.
45. ECCENTRIC (n. or adj.)		Referring to decorations such as stalactites or stalagmites which have abnormal attitude.
46. FAULT		A fracture in rocks with relative displacement of the two parts of the mass.
47. FAULT CAVE		A cave developed along a fault or fault system.
48. FAULT PLANE		Plane along which movement in a fault has taken place.
49. FLATTENER		A passage which, though wide, is so low that movement is only possible in a prone position.
50. FLOWSTONE		A continuous sheet on floor or a wall, formed by secondary precipitation from a thin sheet of flowing water.
51. FLUORESCEIN		An organic chemical; which fluoresces green in water, detectable even when present in minute quantities only. Used in tracing underground water flow.
52.	GALLERY	Remnants of an upper level of a stream passage.
53.	GOUR	A hollow enclosed by a rimestone barrier.
54.	GROTTO	A room in a cave system, of moderate dimensions but richly decorated.
55.	GYPSUM	The mineral hydrated calcium sulphate.
56.	HALL	A lofty chamber which is much longer than it is wide.
57.	HELICTITE	A stalactite which at one or more stages of its growth changes its axis from the vertical.

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

PROGRAMME AUGUST – OCTOBER 1967

AUGUST

Saturday, Sunday South Australian Mountain Activities Federation.

5 - 6th Search and Rescue Training weekend in Deep Creek area – see

Peter Hawkes for further details.

Wednesday 9th Committee Meeting - Alan Hill's, 84 Perseverance Road, Tea Tree

Gully.

Saturday, Sunday Naracoorte Trip – Survey Cave Park Hole.

12th - 13th Leader - Peter Hawkes.

Wednesday 23rd General Meeting – S.A. Museum Lecture Room. 7.30p.m. Speaker

not finalised.

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, Sunday Naracoorte Trip – continuation of survey for forthcoming

3rd - 4th Naracoorte Occasional Paper. Leader - Peter Hawkes.

Thursday 14th Committee Meeting – Fred Sanders, 8 Wattlebury Rd Lower

Mitcham.

Saturday 16th 2nd Social Auction – 411 Cross Rd Edwardstown. Bring along all

your unwanted junk and let our Auctioneer make some money for

the Group.

Sunday 24th Field Day – National Park. Meet at old Government House at

10.00 A.M.

Wednesday 27th General Meeting - S.A. Museum Lecture Room. 7.30pm Speaker

Vic Linke on Observations of Lava Caves in Victoria.

OCTOBER

Saturday, Sunday Monday Trip to Mt Gambier Area. This will not be a Tourist trip.

7-8-9th Leader – Norm Hocknell.

Thursday 12th Committee Meeting – Leslye Mackay, 49A Jetty Rd Brighton.

Saturday, Sunday Naracoorte Trip – survey Hodges Bat Cave.

21 – 22nd: Leader - Peter Hawkes.

OCTOBER (con)

Wed.25th General Meeting - S.A. Museum Lecture Room. 7.30 p.m. Speaker - Dr. Brian

Daily - A résumé of the late Dr. Hossfeld's Work.

Sat-Sun Trip to Curramulka - Survey in Corrells Cave.

28-29th Leader Grant Gartrell.

TRIP CONTACT LIST

Peter Hawkes 46 Hardy Ave, Glengowrie 93658 (H)

Norm Hocknell 20 Adelaide Tce, Edwardstown. 763827 (W)

Grant Gartrell 6 Gurrs Rd Brighton, 23433S xtn 322(W) 967022 (H)

COMMITTEE CONTACT LIST

President. Grant Gartrell, 6 Gurrs Rd. Brighton. 254333 xtn 322, 967022 (H)

Secretary. Leslye Mackay, 49A Jetty Rd Brighton, Messages through

President

Quartermaster. Peter Hawkes, 46 Hardy Ave, East Glenelg. 93658(H)

Search and Rescue. ditto

Editor. Athol Jackson, 6 Hudson Ave. 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.

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

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

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

ISSUE 6

1st JULY, 1961

SYDNEY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY INDEX OF PUBLICATIONS HELD BY CEGSA

<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u> (Journal) Vol. 1. 1956: Constitution - Annual, General & Committee Reports - Trip Reports - Experience with Direction-Finding Equipment at Jenolan - The Scaling Pole - 40 Years Ago at Bungonia and Wombeyan - Aspects of Aqualunging - Reviews - Introduction to Cave Mapping - A Guide To Trip Organisation.

<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u> (Journal) Vol. 2. 1956: Annual, General & Committee Meeting Reports – Trip Reports - Caving Areas of NSW. - Colony Spiders at Jenolan Caves - Cave Photography - Australian Caves (abstract) - Survey - The Orange Speleological Society 1956 Supplement.

NEWS BULLETIN			
Vol.2	Dec 1957	Society Activities.	
Vol.2	Jan 1958	Society Activities.	
Vol.2	March 1958	Society Activities - SSS Library Catalogue.	
Vol.2	April 1958	Society Activities - Kempsey Trip Report.	
Vol.2	May 1958	Society Activities - Bungonia Trip Report.	
Vol.2	June 1958	Society Activities.	
Vol.2	July 1958	Report on Cave Diving and Bungonia Society Activities.	
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Vol.4, No.2	Feb. 1960	New Method of Ladder Construction - Reviews.	
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Vol.4, No.4	April 1960	Harwood Hole (NZ) - "Smellies" for cave Tracing.	
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Vol.4, No.6	June 1960	Wombeyan Trip Report - Bats on Long Flights - Plastic Ferrules for Cave	
		Ladders - Bone Breccia at Wombeyan.	
Vol.4, No.7	July 1960	Underground Breach of a Divide at Mole Creek, Tasmania - Jenolan Caves	
		Trip Report - Abstracts.	
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Vol.4, No.11	Nov. 1960	Society Activities - Reviews.	
Vol.4, No.12	Dec. 1960	Rediscovery of Bouverie Cave - Deepest Cave in NSW - Radio	
		Communication - Note on Rope.	
Vol.5, No.1	Jan. 1961	Philosophy of Caving - Caves in Uganda, Belgium Congo and Ireland.	
Vol.5, No.4	April 1961	What Kind of Rope - Lighthouse Keepers Find in cave - Abstract	
Vol.5, No.5	May 1961	Caves of New Guinea.	
Vol.5, No.7	July 1961	Abstracts - Conservation of Bat Colonies.	
Vol.5, No.8	Aug. 1961	Cave Numbering - Limestone Caves in the West Kimberleys (part 2) Reviews.	

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                              An Important Re-discovery, J41 (with map) - Review.
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                              Wellington Caves - Review.
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               Sep-Oct. 1962 Ladder Design - Abercrombie Caves.
COMMUNICATIONS Vol. 7, No.1 Oct. 1965: (Occasional Paper No. 1).
New Caledonia Exploration - Some Cave Fauna From New Caledonia - Memories of Magnetometer
Pothole - Radio Direction Finding in Caves.
S.S.S. Year Book 1962-1963
S.S.S. Year Book 1963-1964
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                       - Trip Reports - Reviews.
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Vol.2 No.5 May 1967 Foul Air Experiments - A floody Wet Cave - Argyll Pot Preamble - Trip Reports
                       - Reviews.
Vol.2 No.6 June 1967 The physiology of "foul air" - Trip Reports - Reviews.
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