



# NEWSLETTER

## **Cave Exploration Group**

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***South Australia***

C/O SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM NORTH TERRACE ADELAIDE

APRIL - JUNE, 1970

Last year the four or five social events proved to be very successful. This year it seems we are going to have even more, providing an excellent opportunity for new members to come along and get to know the oldies. This is something that doesn't occur at meetings and on most trips. I feel it is up to the older members of the group to welcome new people and not ignore them; unfortunately this happens at nearly all meetings. Similarly we must keep our correspondence up to date. Recently several interested people and would be members have been lost through late replies. Maintaining good public relations is the best and easiest way to keep the group as active as it has been for the last year.

A minor change to the Constitution is intended. At present the committee hasn't the power to spend more than \$10-00 a month or more than \$6-00 on any one item without permission at a general meeting. Considering that carbide for example, costs of the order of \$12-00 per drum and general meetings are a month apart, it has been necessary on many occasions to purchase articles without the said permission. Similarly \$10-00 is considered to be insufficient petty cash to meet costs of this nature.

Finally, a note on the subject of conservation/pollution. With escalating world-wide interest on this subject, here in South Australia little thought and no action has been taken concerning water pollution in the South East. Mt. Gambler residents are only just becoming aware that they're drinking their own sewerage, only slightly filtered. I feel some C.E.G.S.A. members should form a type of sub-committee to look into this problem, see what can be done, and, if possible, do it.

M.M.

### THE NEW COMMITTEE.

The A.G.M. elected the following committee for 1970:

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| President:              | John Bishop       |
| Vice-pres., Membership: | Ron Galbreath     |
| Secretary:              | Cynthia Clarke    |
| Treasurer:              | Merrilyn Bateman  |
| Library & Records:      | Peter Chappell    |
| Search & Rescue, Q.M.:  | Wayne Goedecke    |
| Publications Officer:   | Malcolm Macdonald |
| Committee-man:          | Fred Sanders      |
| Tourist Bureau Rep:     | Ern Maddock       |
| Museum Rep:             | Neville Pledge    |

### NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION:

In accord with section 11(b) of the C.E.G.S.A. Constitution, notice is given of a motion to alter the Constitution at the general meeting on 22nd April at 7.30 pm in the Museum Lecture Room. The motion is:

“That in section 9(b) of the C.E.G.S.A. Constitution the sum of \$10-00 to be altered to \$25-00,

that in section 9(c) the sum of \$4-00 to be altered to \$5-00,

and that in section 9(d) the sums of \$10-00 and \$6-00 to be altered to \$50-00 and \$20-00 respectively.”

This motion has been proposed by Peter Chappell and seconded by Ern Maddock

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### FOR SALE:

Gestetner Duplicator — an early model in working condition, going cheap. If not sold before MAY 9th will probably be auctioned.

### NEW MEMBERS:

The Club welcomes the following new members:

Associates:      Jim Arthur  
                         David Sanders  
                         Trevor Maddock

Full members:    Theo Visser  
                         Bob Henzell (see him for any rubber problems)

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Sir,

Last year I filled out a search and rescue questionnaire form. I never did find out if I ended up on the search and rescue list nor was I asked to take part in any practices during the last year. It would be appreciated by me and others in a similar position if we knew whether we were subject to call out and under what category. What gear are we supposed to have in readiness and what do I do when I am called out?

Yours under a large cloud,  
Neddy.

Editor's note:

Last year the search and rescue officer was also membership officer, which alone involved a large volume of work. This year the situation has been remedied and there will be several search and rescue practices. For a start, Noddy, attend the first aid lectures and the bush search and rescue practice organised by the S.A.M.A.F. (see programme).

### GRYPE.....GRYPE.....GRYPE.

When you haul out your dog-eared and dusty constitution to find out what the motion change is about, how about looking at it closely and also the rules which follow, with the aim of perhaps becoming safer and better members of a better group, or, if we are not going to abide by them, remove them from the rule book.

- (a) “It should be a condition of associate membership that an approved helmet shall be owned....”

In many cases we have seen members (even Fool members), particularly on small trips without helmets. We also have too many members who don't carry a second light source.

- (b) “All trip leaders shall make themselves acquainted with formalities and restrictions for entry to property on which it is proposed to visit caves....”

Trip leaders must notify the property owners in advance. If members of other groups happen to read this I would ask them to do the same thing to continue to maintain good cave / owner relations.

- (c) “A quorum for G.M.s, E.G.M.s, & A.G.M.s, shall consist of 30% of the financial Members...”

This number is about 14 now and at most meetings we only just make it. C.E.G.S.A., unfortunately, is not all trips and no business. Let's take the froth with the beer and have a few more full members at the general meetings.

- (d) “A time limit will be placed upon general business at a General Meeting of the Group when a visiting speaker is present. This limit shall be 40 minutes....”

- (e) Trip Fees. In 1968 trip fees amounted to \$24-60 and last year, with more trips throughout the year only \$6-40. This year, be fair to fellow members and pay trip fees. Trip leaders are responsible for this.

### THE NEW DUPLICATOR:

A reconditioned Roneo rapid reproducer (of newsletters etc.) has been purchased for \$275-00. This will enable us to produce much better quality publications with less ink and paper wastage. Photographs should appear considerably better than that of Mr. Thylacoleo in the annual report. Multi-colour work is extremely easy due to excellent lining up and simplicity in changing rollers. It is a very easy and clean machine to operate with a top speed in excess of 150 reproductions a minute.

A reprint of one of the occasional papers (probably No. 4: "Mullamullang Cave Expeditions 1966." A.L.Hill.) is being considered. Any members who are interested in assisting with publications, especially those who can type or have a typewriter are asked to contact Malcolm Macdonald.

### BARBECUE AND AUCTION:

The big social event of the year is going to be the barbecue and auction (see programme for time and place). The sale of old gear will help to clear the quartermaster's quarters and a hot special may be a slightly used duplicator; owned by a little old lady and going real cheap, suit mechanically minded youth.

### A.H.S.S.: (Alan Hill Survey School.)

Alan Hill has volunteered to have his house surveyed and will even show you how to do it. For all you new people in the club who don't know how to survey, and those oldies who think they know, come along; it will be well worth it, (see programme for date). Hilly always has a good show, and is the master of cave surveying. A barbecue will follow so B.Y.O.G. & chops etc.

### A.B.C. YOUTH CONCERT BLOCK BOOKINGS:

Season tickets for the series of six concerts for \$4-15 (may be less if you're under 21) in a block booking for C.E.G.S.A. are being arranged by Merrilyn Bateman. If you're interested see her as soon as possible. Dress: trog suits & tie.

### OCCASIONAL DINNER No. 2 :

A non-stop 4 hour, 11 course meal at the Silver Dragon for only \$5-00 including as much saki (or what ever those Chinese bods swill) as you can drink. This show should be even better than occasional dinner no. 1. This will be in a private room if we have more than 20 people. The date is 1st May (Friday) but see Merrilyn Bateman as soon as possible so we can have some idea of numbers.

### MAPS:

As you probably realize an as near complete set of maps of all South Australian caves as possible is required for search and rescue.

One hundred and thirty of the recorded S.A. caves have been mapped but forty one of these are missing. If anyone has any of these maps could they please lend them to me (I promise they will be returned), so that I can make tracings of them. The missing maps are:

- E 9 & 10.
- Y 1, 3 & 4.
- S 7, 8, 9, 10, 21, 33, 34, 56, 60, 62, 63, 65, 90, 91, 95, 101, 103, 104, 112, 114, 124, 127, 153, 154, 155, 156 & 157.
- F 9, 11, 15, 16, 18, 20 & 26.
- K 19, 20, 22 & 32.

If you have any outstanding trip reports or folders of trip reports could you please contact me.

Peter Chappell (Librarian).

Continuing our new serial:

SPELEO SPYGLASS :- CHAPTER TWO (2)

Last episode BOB HENZELL had just said "Dinkum's really a nice dog", when RON GALBREATH drank his third cup of tea.



NOW READ ON.

- Harvey Cohen: The elite caver now arrives at caving campsites in a taxi..?..
- Bert Young: The return of the champion Weebubbie Burper.
- Ern Maddock: Ambition: To be an elongated earthworm "so I won't have to cart all dem buckets of dirt from the dig".
- Tony Lake: The proverbial batman - his technique of flattening blackberry bushes around cave entrances warrants inclusion in our field day.
- Malcolm Macdonald: "We have a pyromaniac in our midst".
- John Bishop: King of the stirrers.
- Wayne Goedecke: "And Gary's yoghurt just got up & ran away from him" (and he hasn't been seen eating it since).
- Toby McLeay: Would the next person through Smoke Cave Letterbox please pick up my drawers?"
- Bill Daw: They'll say no more.
- Barry Wright:
- Judy Allanson: The Punyelroo Cave cliff...."climber" (?)
- Rod Wells: "Where's Harvey nesting now?"
- Gary Havens: "One well-Nullarbored landrover for sale"
- Ed Sangster: Come on, Ed- even Plodge can get through that Victoria Cave squeeze.
- Neville Pledge, alias Plodge. –"Until they've dug it out - never again"
- Peter Chappell: Our subterranean vocalist now suggests we use the metric system for mapping - he has realised Australia will adopt this system in approximately 10 years time.
- Rick Bills: The Town Cave, Curramulka, Choir Boys.
- Noel Ancell: (Lord Give me Wings being the specialty, no doubt.)
- Leslye Gartrell: "Lets play making Giant meece Poops....."
- Ron Galbreath: "this is not a Social Column-- strictly caving!"
- Harvey Cohen: "push the sugar bowl into my sphere of influence, please."
- Cynthia Clarke: "What's 'Peel offa ladder' mean?"

to be continued

## GRIPE GRIPE: part II.

On a very recent trip with a certain bushwalking group to one of the most beautiful parts of the S.A. coast, we were met on our return to the vehicles (on the Sunday) by the property owner, two henchmen and the local policeman. The latter, satisfied after inspecting our vehicles that we weren't the Sunday afternoon roo shooters he was looking for, left. The property owner then expressed great discontent with our entering his property without his permission and it appears that the only parties allowed onto his land in future will be those involved in army manoeuvres; because they have always written prior to entering the property. Don't let C.E.G.S.A. be involved in such an embarrassing position. I say again, trip leaders must notify property owners in advance.

## PERSONAL FIRST AID KITS:

It would be a great idea for each member of the group to have his or her own kit; below is a list which can be added to as you desire. With a little thought you can make yourself a quite inexpensive but handy kit to be carried with you on all trips, not only caving.

Car owner's have a greater responsibility; they should have a much larger kit, always readily available in their car.

Plenty of triangular bandages and sterile dressings are essential. You may not hold a First Aid Certificate but with a good kit you could give at least practical assistance; you never know, around that next bend could be a serious car accident. I've had that experience several times.

Wayne Goedecke (Search and Rescue)

|                                    |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Container (plastic & waterproof)   | Aspirin        |
| Elastoplast strip dressings        | Safety pins    |
| Antiseptic cream (Savlon)          | Band-aids      |
| Tourniquet (30" of ½" rubber tube) | Needle         |
| Matches in waterproof container    | Cotton wool    |
| Adhesive plaster (1" roll)         | A.P.C. tablets |
| Triangular bandages (2)            | Sunburn cream  |

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## Christmas 1970

For those who can't reach Tasmania for the Conference there is a trip to Kangaroo Island.

The Senior Scout Headquarters are organizing a Venture on the island, one of the activities being caving. It is not essential to be familiar with the island or its caves; all that is required is experienced cavers to assist the inexperienced ones. Tourist caves will not be entered for exploration.

The Group will be approached soon to nominate the most suitable caves available for the Venture, making this a great opportunity for cavers to see the island, so why not give it some thought.

More information will be available later.

WAYNE R. GOEDECKE.

## TRIP REPORT(S)

### Victoria Cave, Naracoorte

The trip to Naracoorte on the 28th February was attended by no less than forty one cavers including three from Victoria. In order to cope with such a large group in Victoria Cave they were split into groups which were involved in bone digging, exploration and attempts to establish bypasses around the passages containing flowstone floors.

In the fossil chamber levelling of a work area and assembly of benches was completed. Excavation of a pathway under the overhang at the entrance to the fossil chamber revealed a very large jaw of a diprotodontid only half an inch below the surface, and at a depth of two feet we have exposed our first articulated skeleton. Both these important finds have occurred in an area where we hitherto thought there was little bone material thereby considerably increasing the potential of the deposit.

A hole has been bored into the last chamber of the tourist cave and a transformer building has been completed so that we are eagerly awaiting on E.T.S.A. to connect the power.

Bob Henzell has experienced some difficulty in establishing bypasses around the flowstone floor and the 8" squeeze. He informs me that the work may require the use of heavy equipment such as pneumatic picks.

Ron Galbreath led a small party into yet another new extension which was apparently complex enough for these old hands to become disorientated for an hour or so.

Ed Sangster has produced yet another fine set of prints depicting progress in the cave and these will be on display at the next meeting.

ROD WELLS.

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THIS report, except for the GARY HAVENS Nullarbor Special, Vol I, was the only one received for this edition. Since last edition there have been more than four trips BUT NO TRIP REPORTS.

Ed.

## NULLARBOR EXPEDITION 1969 - 70

TRIP LEADER. - G. HAVENS

OTHER PARTICIPANTS - M. MACDONALD  
J. ALLANSON  
J. BISHOP

Date of Departure December 20 1969

Date of Return January 14 1970

Approximate surface miles covered by the vehicles  
(1 Landrover and 1 Volkswagen) 2600 miles

Approximately 25 caves, dolines, landslips etc. were entered or observed.

About 150 hours were spent underground.

### Introduction and Dedication

The purpose of this trip was to familiarize ourselves with the known and any unknown caves of the Nullarbor Plains (South & Western Australia) in the hopes of someday returning to caves or extensions to caves that offered the most potential in further advancement of discovery. One realizes after visiting the Nullarbor what the words potential and Huge really do mean: all 65,000 square miles of it. If a person wanted to spend a lifetime, ten times over, thoroughly exploring, surveying, and doing a host of different types of scientific observations and experiments, work would still not be completed.

After completing this journey, I for one, can appreciate all the hard work and time such people as Alan L. Hill, T. Wigley, D. Lowry, G. Gartrell, E. Hamilton-Smith, Ted Anderson, and the many, many others who have paved the way for speleology on the Nullarbor, especially Mullamullang Cave. Hopefully in the future other persons will show similar enthusiasm.

At this time, I wish to thank Judith (esp.), Mac. and John for helping me organize a trip that took weeks and months of preparation, materialize from a dream to reality.

The trip will be remembered for its caves as well as time spent not directly involving speleology. I am sure all of us feel it was extremely worthwhile, and, as the Yanks would say "rarin'" to get back again. The Nullarbor offers that strange sort of challenge; either you love it as if it were a part of you, or you despise it due to its loneliness.

Saturday Dec. 20 - Both vehicles (the Landrover and the V.W) Left Bolivar Salisbury S.A.) approx., at 12-30 p.m. preceding vaguely north toward Pt. Augusta. John & Judith continued onto Port Augusta while yours truly and Mac detoured at Pt. Pirie for a quick visit to a now ex-acquaintance. After a swim and a bite to eat, the extremely loaded down Landrover once again set its course for Pt. Augusta. At dusk, both vehicles, like overloaded camels that belched "Nullarbor or Bust", set west across the Eyre Highway on the real beginning of our journey. We finally decided to camp for the night at 10.30p.m. about 3 miles west of Iron Knob.

Sunday Dec. 21 - Had a quick "brecky" and we were on our way by 9-30 a.m. All day we drove over the slightly undulating and undulating hills of the Eyre Peninsular passing through small townships and arriving at Ceduna on the Great Australian Bight at 4-00 p.m. After managing to loose each other for approx 1/2hr on a matter regarding some fresh eggs, we reunited at the local beach for a paddle. The sea water was very clear due to a lack of algae. The sun beat down to make the water pleasantly warm. We hated to leave, but felt it best to keep pushing west. After travelling 40 miles or so on the now dirt highway, we decided to detour off the main track and spend the night at Fowlers Bay. Arriving at Fowlers Bay, we were welcomed with a most magnificent sight - miles & miles of huge white sand dunes and beach. Instantly



Mac and Judith were off like a rocket. By the time John was out of his vehicle to take photos of them, they were, what seemed like, miles away. After finding a suitable camping location, John went charging off to recover them leaving myself behind to set up camp.

Monday Dec. 22 - Broke camp and were on our way by 9-00a.m., soon returning to the main highway. During most of the day we travelled over the washboard dirt road passing Nundroo, the Yalata aboriginal mission, and Ivy Tanks. At this point, it became necessary to plot our first course to our first cave. We continued approx. 18 miles S.W. on the Eyre Highway past Ivy Tanks, then taking a dirt track 8 miles N.N.E. to Bidura Blowhole. (National Development Maps were used.) Due to lack of time, we did not survey this cave. This was most unfortunate, because up until then there were no details available. Entrance was approx. 6 to 8 feet in diameter dropping approx. 15 ft. to 20 ft. into quite a large chamber on a small rock pile. Dingo trap was found in chamber and retrieved to be brought back to Adelaide. A few short passages shot off from this chamber but choked off except for a 4ft hole in the major section of chamber at bottom of rock pile descending approx. another 20ft through collapse into continuation of chamber which descended at approx. 35° on left hand side of chamber. At the bottom of the chamber, rocks choke off any continuation to further chamber. Chamber turns slightly right at the bottom. I feel this cave, without considerable physical effort to remove large boulders, will not go. We checked every possible opportunity fairly closely.

After returning all of our gear to its proper place we set a compass course for Jimmys Cave. Because nightfall was approaching and after searching for a considerable length of time we gave it up, returning to the Eyre Highway, taking the dirt track directly opposite preceding S.W. 5mile to the abandoned White Wells homestead. Deciding that it was not a suitable place to camp we set a course to the head of the Great Australian Bight 10mile to the S.E. Upon travelling across this immense and vast Nullarbor, one welcomes such sights as microwave antennas, water conservation tanks, and old telegraph poles as geographical references. We were just in one very small sector of the Nullarbor and its immenseness was awesome knowing the treeless plain stretched out for hundreds of miles. We observed only 5 or 6 types of small vegetation such as salt bush and blue bush. Arriving at the Head of the Bight at dusk we looked for a suitable place to camp. Wow! What a night. As the cold wind was blowing, and the clouds were threatening to rain, we took shelter from the rain behind a small sand hill covered with bushes. The sand blew on our supper and in our sleeping bags.

Tuesday Dec. 23 - Spent the morning running and sunning over the beautiful beaches and sand dunes at the Head of the Bight. We were delighted to see a seal playing quite near to shore. A few large sea caves were found along the perpendicular cliffs about one mile from camp. These caves were maybe 50'-100' away from the edge of the cliffs and approx. 100' deep and 8' in diameter. At the bottom of the cliffs was the actual pounding surf of the ocean. There looked to be a possibility of horizontal extensions but obviously without adequate equipment we could not investigate. We saw a scorpion at one of these cliff cave entrances. We left for White Wells homestead and then onto White Wells Cave which we did not enter as we noticed two "Joe Blakes" (brown snakes) at the bottom of the 20' entrance. A large bug, similar to beetles and cockroaches, except bigger, was observed at the entrance. It was predominantly grey with markings on its back and was about two inches long. Upon leaving White Wells Cave we set our course to the Eyre Highway and onto Nullarbor Station. We had a short chat with Murray Thomas, manager of the huge sheep station and petrol stop. He was very much against any cavers trespassing on his property (leasehold land) for a reason he claims due to bush fires. However, he did give us a tip and permission to see a newly discovered cave 120 yards off the Eyre Highway. However, we decided to investigate it on our return trip in January which I will describe in detail later. We continued west along the Eyre Highway towards Koonalda Station. Mallee eucalyptus trees were noted which was a pleasant change from the treeless plain. About 17mile west of Koonalda Station we turned about 2½ miles to Koomoolooooka Cave. Koomoolooooka Cave was one of the few caves in which calcite formation was observed. This

cave had a most unusual entrance or should I say entrances. It had 5 or 6 roof windows varying from about 18" in diameter to 3' in diameter dropping about 10ft into a live formation chamber. Calcite formation for the most part, was alive but small and only in this chamber near the surface. Chamber shoots off in one direction about 200ft descending about 30' from entrance area and then levelling off on silt floor. Bones. No passages. Other direction drops about 25' down small talus slope and continues about 50' relatively level, then chokes off to rocky floor passage (the kind that dig in your knee caps!) for about 10' then splits with right hand passage remaining rocky and directly leads into low lying small rocky chamber. Left hand passage leads into more area with some possibility. Warning! Very, very dusty! At times we could hardly breath, choked with bull dust.

After returning to our vehicles, we set course south for N30 and Bildoolja Cave. Unfortunately, due to the new microwave tower in the area, the old track has diminished, so after much searching we gave up and camped about 2miles south of Koomoolooooka Cave. The night was full of excitement, with tempers flashing around the camp fire. We were visited by a dingo during the evening, but it left when it smelt the gun.

Wednesday Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve. Pushed straight on toward the Eyre Highway and continued west. Directly we found a small sports car with trailer that had cracked its oil sump on a rock whilst travelling too fast. He had gotten (sic. Ed.: "An American word", Gary) a tow on the back of a semi-trailer but the tow rope had come undone and before the truck driver had realised it, he was 5mile ahead. So yours truly towed the car and the trailer in low ratio back to the semi with the Landrover. The Eyre Highway always has its incidents. We continued on, stopping shortly at a few blowholes to have a quick look. Garbage partially blocked the entrances as they were right on the highway where tourists could get at them. We also stopped and had a look at a 250ft microwave tower; a most impressive sight was seen from the top. At the sixteen mile tank, about 9mile before the Western Australian border, we turned N.N.W. for 6mile on a dirt track, again passing one small blowhole; then turning N.E. for 1½mile on another track and then turning south on another track (not really a track!) (I might add trying to find that last 1½mile is a "dilly" because trying to find the beginning of it is hopeless. It starts in an open paddock where there are no defined tracks until you reach the edge of it.) which brought us to Warbla Cave. There is no advantage in describing this cave as C.E.G.S.A. has properly surveyed maps of it. I will say that there is a possible new small extension just before you reach the water table in an area where a large amount of bat guano has accumulated (as you start to go down the steep slope towards the lake on the right hand side. I tried to push it but the bat guano kept slipping down in a small crack towards the lake. There seems to be a vertical fault from the deep pools going parallel to the small passage just mentioned. I am wondering if anyone else knows anything more about the area of the cave I am describing?

We retraced our path back to Eyre Highway and crossed into Western Australia and hence the bitumen highway. We had a small ceremony during which we had a fire in the middle of the road. Eight miles further on we came to the modern Amber Motel, which is managed by a good friend of mine, Steve Patupus, who put us up for the night. We all enjoyed our first fresh steak and vegetables for quite some time, not to mention the shower. Then back in our room we launched our Christmas Tree (a bough from a mallee bush) decorated it, and "cracked some coldies". As I had to repair our company's desalination unit at the motel, I retired early, but had difficulty sleeping with balloons going off in my ear etc. etc.

Thursday Dec. 25 CHRISTMAS DAY! - Others slept while I worked till about midday. After organizing ourselves from the night before, we drove out to Eucla Station to see another friend, Harvey Gurney, manager of Eucla Station. We asked permission to cave on his property over the next few days which was fine with him. Eucla Station has an area of approx. 800 sq. miles in which we planned to travel over much of it. We all decided to retire from caving for Christmas Day. Returning to Eucla we were surprised and pleased to meet up with some

members of W.A.S.G. (Western Australian Speleological Group), with whom we chatted for some time, and also assisted them in changing a tyre. We headed for Wilsons Bluff back to the border then approx. 4mile S.S.E. We stayed here all afternoon pushing down cliff, and then made camp and prepared our lavish Christmas dinner of canned chicken, ham, strawberries, cream and most important of all, 'bubbly'. That evening we sat around the camp fire having a theological discussion among other topics.

Friday Dec, 26 - Back to Eucla, and six miles W.N.W. along the new microwave tower road, and then approx. 2mile further on to Weebubbie Cave in the same direction. Along this road two dolines were noted, one with a solution tube. Weebubbie Cave has two main passage offshoots, of which both are large and between  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile combined length. We decided to take the shortest offshoot first, in which a new extension was found, called Christmas Extension. As far as the rest of the cave goes, it is small and very tight, with some possibilities, according to Mac. Unfortunately, I was investigating bats nearby in the main chamber so I can not give a detailed description. Beautiful gypsum formation was present in the Christmas Extension on a big declining slab of rock. We also ventured into larger off shoots of Weebubbie which needs no further explanation as John Bishop has mentioned it in the annual report (1969-70). I am sorry to say that I have anything to do with the polyethylene pipe sunk into the lake at Weebubbie Cave. The water being pumped out of this bore is sent by pipeline to Eucla, which is then run through our desalination plant and used at the motel. Admittedly, from a cavers viewpoint, it ruins and exploits the natural beauty, but from a business viewpoint, I see differently. I wish to remain neutral on this matter because I have no direct control over it. Unfortunately, I can see in the future when desalination of brackish water on the Nullarbor becomes more economical, station manager and businessmen will exploit caves not only because they offer the usually cheapest way to get water to the surface, but also for tourist potential. Steve Patupus plans to covert Weebubbie Cave into a tourist cave. We have already seen trash & vandalism in Weebubbie Cave as well as the mighty Mullamullang Cave. From Weebubbie Cave, we drove about a mile N.E. passing many small dolines and few solution tubes. Then proceeded approx. 26 mile west to Chowilla Landslip where there is no known cave, only a huge 175' by 100' rock collapse. We investigated at the bottom of the rock collapse; there was a very strong breeze, but no way to get in. Then continued 1mile south to Abrakurrie Cave, large in volume & length. As one gets to the bottom of the talus slope, you feel as if you are walking along a gigantic underground creek bed with level silt floor which spreads from wall to wall of the cave. The acoustics of the cave are fantastic. After exploring, we all had a sleep in this eerie atmosphere. Approx. 5' above silt floor remains an old water line along the wall, which seems to indicate that the present water table is not far beneath the silt floor.

Continued in new Newsletter.....

## PROGRAMME APRIL - JUNE 1970

|              |                        |                                                                                                 |                                                                         |
|--------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>MARCH</u> | Wed 25th               | General Meeting<br>Members slide night.<br>Bring along a <u>few</u> of<br>your <u>good</u> ones | Museum Lecture Room<br>at rear of S.A. Museum<br>North Terrace.) 7.30pm |
|              | 27-30th                | Easter Flinders Trip                                                                            | Leader: John Bishop                                                     |
| <u>APRIL</u> | 3-5th                  | Naracoorte Trip - bone digging <u>only</u>                                                      | Leader: Rod Wells                                                       |
|              | Wed 8th                | Committee Meeting 8pm                                                                           | 27 Beckman St GLANDORE                                                  |
|              | 10-12th                | Naracoorte Trip                                                                                 | Leader: Peter Chappell                                                  |
|              | Wed 22nd               | General Meeting<br>Motion for alteration of Constitution<br>Guest speaker on water pollution    | Museum Lecture Room<br>7.30pm                                           |
|              | {Thu 23rd<br>{Wed 29th | First Aid lectures<br>(see Wayne Goedecke)                                                      | Museum Lecture Room<br>7.30pm                                           |
| <u>MAY</u>   | Fri 1st                | Occ Dinner No.2<br>(see Marilyn Bateman)                                                        | 7.30pm Silver Dragon                                                    |
|              | Sat 9th                | Barbecue & Auction<br>B.Y.O.G. & Chops                                                          | Wayne Goedecke's 6.00pm                                                 |
|              | Wed 13th               | Committee Meeting 8.00pm                                                                        | 252 Cross Road, KINGS PARK                                              |
|              | Sun 17th               | Alan Hill Survey School<br>2.30 pm. B.Y.O.G. & Chops                                            | 84 Perseverance Rd. Vista<br>(W) 59705 (H) 641523                       |
|              | 22-24th                | Curramulka Trip                                                                                 | Leader: Malcolm Macdonald                                               |
|              | Wed 27th               | General Meeting<br>Nullarbor Slide Night                                                        | Museum Lecture Room<br>7.30pm                                           |
| <u>JUNE</u>  | 1-2nd                  | Overnight First Aid Practice<br>(see Wayne Goedecke)                                            | Mt Lofty YHA Hostel                                                     |
|              | Wed 10th               | Committee Meeting 8.00pm                                                                        | 16 Clark St., NORWOOD                                                   |
|              | 12-15th                | Naracoorte Trip                                                                                 | Leader: Ian Holt                                                        |
|              | 13-15th                | Long Weekend Trip to Mt. Simms etc                                                              | Leader: Wayne Goedecke                                                  |
|              | Wed 24th               | General Meeting<br>Guest speaker on Conservation                                                | Museum Lecture Room<br>7.30pm                                           |
|              | Sat 27th               | S.A.M.A.F. Search & Rescue<br>practice (see Wayne Goedecke)                                     | Mt Lofty YHA Hostel                                                     |

## TRIP CONTACT LIST

|                                    |                                                          |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Wayne Goedecke<br>(Quarter Master) | 225 Findon Road, FINDON. (W) 45-2391; (H) 45-2411        |
| John Bishop                        | 16 Clarke.St, NORWOOD. (W) 87-6531                       |
| Peter Chappell                     | 46 Ormonde Ave, ENFIELD HEIGHTS (W) 51-6790; (H) 62-5092 |
| Malcolm Macdonald                  | 252 Cross Road, KINGS PARK. (H) 71-6939                  |
| Ian Holt                           | 50 Galway Ave, BROADVIEW. (W) 61-1922; (H) 65-6074       |
| Rod Wells                          | 7 Parish Hill Rd., URAIDLA. (H) 38- 3150                 |
| Marilyn Bateman                    | 27 Beckman St, GLANDORE. (W) 23-2272; (H) 53-3128        |