



NEWSLETTER

Cave Exploration Group

South Australia

C/O SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM NORTH TERRACE ADELAIDE

Nov – February 1971.

EDITORIAL

This is to be the last newsletter before the A.G.M. Unfortunately this year too few have been involved in the running of the Group. With the exception of the bone-digging trips to Naracoorte, all trips have been led by Committee members. Those on the Committee have enough to do already without having to organise every trip, social or any other event. Assuming, however, that this is how members want the Group to be run, give some thought, even at this early stage to finding some members who don't work during the day, have every night free, drive a Holden Hurricane, have time to go caving every weekend and who are prepared to work twenty four hours a day or even more on some occasions. Better still, consider some way in which you yourself can become involved in the running of the Group.

There has been a very large increase in membership this year. What have we offered the new chums? Certainly there have been trips, but these have been almost tourist in nature this year. What has happened to the highly exploratory and scientific type trips of a few years ago? There have been no trip reports to speak worthily of this year, supposedly because the only item of interest on trips has been "who ran out of petrol and where?" The Group's only real achievements this year have been the completion of the mapping of known worthwhile caves, and the continuation of the valuable work in the Victoria Cave at Naracoorte. Within the Group, the Search and Rescue Organisation has been organised and the library has at long last almost been put in "order". All this has been done by three or four people in the main. Consider some way in which you yourself can become involved in the running of the Group.

Individual behaviour has not always been the best on trips this year. We must watch ourselves. While it is of great importance, however, to be aware of the public gaze and our relation with the group on trips, one should consider one's own role on such occasions before complaining about other person's actions.

Environmental conservation and pollution are at present imposing problems and CEGSA is very concerned because we in this Group can see the foul littering and the destruction that is occurring in our caves; "our caves" because everybody has an equal right to enter them, provided they behave respectfully within. What can CEGSA hope to achieve in prevention of pollution and destruction of caves unless its name is held in high esteem by those in command?

So consider some way in which you yourself can become involved in the running of this Group to enable it to achieve the respect in the necessary circles that it deserves. And then do it next year!

mac.

The group -welcomes the following new members

Associates;

Richard Bowen
Roger Morgan
Lorraine Copping
Paul Dixon
William Gamble

Graham Brown
David Renisson
Dianne Hore
Dela Huntly

Full members;

Trevor Maddock
David Hawke

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LOST: on long weekend trip to Tantanoola, a purse containing driver's license, university union card and a ten dollar note. Anyone who found same would they pass it on to Cynthia Clarke.

FOUND: On same trip, two pies and a tin of burnt soup. Owner collect from Tantanoola cemetery.

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FOR SALE: The following publications are available from the Librarian, Ptere (alias Peter) Chappell;

Mullamullang Cave Expeditions 1966.	\$1-50
Caves of the Nullarbor 1967	\$1-35
A Preliminary Report on the Karst Morphology of the Nullarbor.	\$1-20
Transcript of the Proceeding of the Seventh Biennial Conference	\$1-40

All prices include postage within Australia. Reductions are available for bulk buying.

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TASSY TRIP:

It's still not too late to see Athol Jackson about going to the A.S.F. Conference in Tassy this year. The boat leaves on Christmas Eve, so hurry hurry.

CAVE SCIENCES

There is a surprising amount of cave research that can be carried out by the amateur in his spare time. He may not be scientifically trained, but this in no way detracts from the validity of his research. The amateur can select a particular field of study in which he has an interest and not have economic necessity or some supervisory directive playing any part in his choice. This interest will prompt him to further study of the disciplines which are necessary to his research. Possible fields of study concerning caving are:-

History	First aid	Speleology
Photography	Exploration	Geology
Biology	Surveying	Geomorphology
Archaeology	Hydrology	Stratigraphy
Paleontology	Acoustics	Zoology
Mineralogy	Meteorology	Cave Ecology
Equipment	Communications	Cave Diving
Search and Rescue	Cave Detection	Bacteriology

Peter Chappell.

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PAPERS

In the C.E.G.S.A. Library there is large collection of technical and scientific papers on different cave sciences. Should you have any old articles or should you discover any articles with particular relevance to any cave science we would most definitely find a place for it in the library.

The following books and papers have disappeared from the group's library over the last few years:-

Map Reading and Field Sketching (Sheldons)
Photographic Report, 1956-57 Nullarbor Expedition by H. Fairlie-Cunninghame
Cave Pearls at Carramulka by A. J. Marlow, 1958
Geology of the South-East Province of South Australia. R.C. Sprigg, 1952
Report on Oraparina Cave Phosphates by R. W. Segrit
Some thought on Cave Flora by J. A. Newrick, 1957
Instruction and Training of Novices to Caving (a syllabus) by W.H. Little, 1961
Diprose Caves by Thompson and Ellis, 1947
Exploration of the Nullarbor Plains by J. M. Thompson
Glorious Kangaroo Island, 1962

If you have any of these books or know of their whereabouts, could you please contact me.

Librarian
Peter Chappell.

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good luck in exams

happy Xmas

and a merry new year.

PREPARATION FOR TASSY TRIP

For those people who intend going to Tasmania this Christmas for the conference and yet don't know how to tie bowlines, climb ladders, abseil or belay, Wayne Goedecke is holding a special course of training on the 12th, of December. C.E.G.S.A. will look pretty foolish if at the conference, half of its delegates (?) don't even know the basic techniques involved in safe caving. This is to be a serious training session, so see Wayne Goedecke as soon as possible if you are interested in attending. It is not restricted to Tasmania goers so any other people interested should also see Wayne. Instruction and practice will continue the next day, which is the field day.

FIELD DAY

The previous field day was poorly attended. Make this one on Sunday, 13th better by being there yourself. Meet at the Museum lecture room at 9.00am. or at the usual National Park site at 10.00am. Bring a bite for lunch and a bot for tea. Climbing on the cliff, caving in the railway tunnel.

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J. M. Mag. CAVE

On Wednesday, 23rd. December, Peter Chappell is leading a trip to a hitherto unexplored cave in Rundle Street. For some years now it has been his intention to carry out a grade nine survey of Johnie's Magic Cave. He has written to Father Christmas asking for his jigger two days early. Don't miss out on this one. Details to be announced at the Caveman's Dinner.

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HILLY SURVEY SCHOOL

Once again the portals of the Lord Alan Hill residence will be thrown open to the populace requiring tuition in the techniques of mappelation and survelling. The usual chunks of juicy red meat will by thrown to the flames afterwards only if you remember to bring them. Bring something to wash it down with. When? Sunday, 28th, February 1971 at 1.30pm. Oh no, that's over three months away. Don't wait - act now.

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C. C. R. P. S. S.

Cynthia Clarke requires Practice in the art of Reversing (a car) and a Special School is being held at her place on Saturday, 19th December at 2.00pm. This is the day after the DINNER so bring something to settle in your stomach. Don't forget to bring your car, bus, bomb, tank, bike, trike, roller skates etc.

THE CONTINUING STORY OF OUR FRIEND POOH BEAR, HUNNY EATER, AMACHEWER CAEVER ETC.

Pooh was humming this hum to himself, and walking gaily along, wondering what everybody else was doing, and what it felt like, when suddenly he came to a sandy bank, and in the bank was a large hole. So he bent down and put his head into the hole, and called out: "Is anybody at home?" ...

So Pooh pushed and pushed and pushed his way through the hole, and at last he got in. "You were quite right," said Rabbit, looking at him all over, "It is you, glad to see you. What about a mouthful of something?"

Pooh always liked a little something at eleven o'clock in the morning, ...

"Well, goodbye, if you're sure you won't have any more."

"Is there any more?" asked Pooh quickly. Rabbit took the covers off the dishes, and said, "No there wasn't." "I thought not" said Pooh nodding to himself. "Well, goodbye I must be going on". So he started to climb out of the hole. He pulled with his front paws, and pushed with his back paws, and in a little while his nose was out in the open again ... and then his ears . . . and then his front paws . . . and then —— "Oh, help" said Pooh. "I'd better go back." "Oh, bother" said Pooh, "I shall have to go on." "I can't do either" said Pooh. "Oh, help and bother."

Rabbit came around to Pooh, and looked at him. "Hello, are you stuck?" he asked. "N-no," said Pooh carelessly. "Just resting and thinking and humming to myself." "The fact is," said Rabbit, "you're stuck."

"It all comes," said Pooh crossly, "of not having front doors big enough." "It all comes," said Rabbit sternly, "of eating too much. I thought at the time" said Rabbit, "only I didn't like to say anything," said Rabbit, "that one of us was eating too much," said Rabbit, "and I knew it wasn't me," he said. "Well, well, I shall have to go and fetch Christopher Robin."

"If we can't pull you out, Pooh, we might push you back," said Christopher Robin. "You mean I'd never get out?" said Pooh.

"I mean," said Rabbit, "that having got you so far, it seems a pity to waste it." Christopher Robin nodded. "Then there's only one thing to be done," he said. "We shall have to wait for you to get thin again."

So for a week Christopher Robin read a Sustaining Book, such as would help and comfort a Wedged Bear in a Great Tightness, at the north end of Pooh, and Rabbit hung his washing on the south end. And at the end of a week Christopher Robin said, "Now." ... And for a long time Pooh only said, "Ow," and "Oh." ... And then all of a sudden he said, "pop," just as if he were a cork coming out of a bottle.

And Christopher Robin and Rabbit and all of Rabbit's friends and relations went head over heels backwards ... and on top of them came Winnie-the-Pooh --- free!

So, with a nod of thanks to his friends, he went on with his walk through the forest, humming proudly to himself.

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THE CAVEMAN'S DINNER 1970

This is the most important event of the year(?) and is being held on Friday, 18th December at a well known establishment in a popular locality. Everyone must attend in full or half regalia (no fire-arms, please). The price is a cool \$3-50 for four (4) courses with a choice of two in each course. Extra for band after 10.00pm. Bookings and money must be paid in full by Friday 4th. December (1970). See Peter Chappell. Sherries served at 7.30pm. Coffee at

TRIP REPORTS

Many years ago there used be a trip report submitted to the librarian for nearly every trip; now it is the other way around, with trip reports being few and far between. This is the only way others can know what you have been up to and saves them doing the same things again. Without any record of the work done on a trip the participants are reduced to not much more than Tourists!

If you have any outstanding trip reports please get them in. There are Trip Report forms available from me which make the task extremely simple.

The trip report folders will soon be up to date and can be taken by trip leaders as a guide to work previously done in the area.

Peter Chappell
LIBRARIAN

MT. SIMS 12 – 14 September, 1970

The survey of Mt. Sims was completed this trip: G. Havens, B. Rivett and myself spent three days understanding this truly amazing and interesting cave.

It is a cave with a challenge, but one which must be approached with caution in several places. There is a lot of very loose rock, and difficult squeezes, one of which was almost too tight to get out of.

The cave is a complex of passages, with four different layers on top of each other, but each section is different. I guess you could call it a miniature Corrells, with a section I have named "Little Ezam" underneath.

Next year a gate will be installed, so we can keep it almost the way we found it this trip!

Wayne R. Goedecke

BONE CAVE, CURRAMULKA Sunday, August 30

The large rocks are out, so let's have plenty of workers next trip — it must go somewhere. It's like a bottle of beer just waiting for the top to come off.

Wayne R. Goedecke

WAIKERIE CAVES 2nd August, 1970

To look at a bottomless pit called, the "Keyhole". Well, the pit was so bottomless it did not even have a top. But I did find some new caves for the Group, so the trip was rewarding.

A limestone outcrop - the locals called them "Yarra Caves". Three entrances - three caves, the deepest is 15ft but all three, as Gary Lee would say, "Could go with a push!". I also found and investigated several rock shelters on the river bank upstream from Waikerie. None went in further than 10ft but the locals call them caves. Big Deal.

Wayne R. Goedecke

CAVE SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE

12th - 13th July, 1970

Punyelroo Cave S-17 Swan Reach

First of all I would like to thank each and every one who attended this weekend for playing their parts. It was a great success and only because everyone pulled his weight. I know all those rescuers certainly went home with a much broader outlook on cave rescue or at least I hope they did.

The 3.00 a.m. call went off extra well, although most at first did not believe it was a police officer who gave the alarm: then for the next 6½ hours it was on, and it certainly showed me what people can do when the pressure is really on.

Each rescuer really played their part, but above all, without the patient's own experience in acting such circumstances it would not have gone nearly as well as it did. The way they acted even made me think several times that maybe something HAD REALLY happened.

One girl, very keen to help, who attended the weekend (her first time caving, but an experienced rockclimber) asked me whether I had arranged ambulances to take the casualties to hospital. I had to assure her that I had. That's how real it appeared to her!

Wayne R. Goedecke
CAVE SEARCH AND RESCUE OFFICER

Attendance: 12th - 13th July

Wayne R. Goedecke	- Squad Officer in Charge
Peter Chappell	- Squad Leader - Communications
Richard Pailthorpe	- Squad Leader - Squad 1
Peter Bolland	- Squad Leader - Squad 2
Ric Bowen	- St. John's First Aid Officer
Wayne Fidler	- S.A.M.A.F. Search & Rescue Observer
Merrilyn Bateman	- Welfare
Plus 18 C.E.G.S.A. members	

<u>Patients:</u>	B. Carter	- St. Johns Officer: Boy Scouts Assn.	Age 20
	P. Tonkin	- Boy Scouts Association	Age 21
	S. Robinson	- Boy Scouts Association	Age 20

Programme: 12th - 13th July

Saturday 10.00 am - 12.00 noon

Knots and their uses (practical)

Patient handling

Stretchers and their different advantages.

First Aid and your personal kit. Use of air splints.

12.00 noon - 12.30 pm Lunch

12.30 p.m. - 4.00 pm

Rescuers were divided into squads, and several rescues were held in the cave. Using a Stokes litter and Douglas stretchers.

Sunday 3.00 a.m. - 9.30 a.m.

Simulated cave search and rescue. 3 Patients, 2 carried out.

9.30 a.m. - 10.30 a.m. - General discussion. On tape.

REPORT:

1. Members need much more practice in knots and their uses.
2. Patient handling. Member should attend a Civil Defence Course to gain experience. It is a must to a rescuer.
3. Many techniques using Drag Sheets and Webbing Bands were used.
4. There must not be too many rescuers near the patient.
5. Carbide lamps must be replaced by electric. The lack of oxygen was very obvious, even in this practice.
6. Oxygen may have to be used in a real exercise, and should be on hand.
7. The First Aider or Doctor must have complete control of patient. He should not assist in the carry unless it is really necessary.
8. Rescuers not involved in carrying should be clearing the passage out.
9. Squad leaders must know their responsibilities before entering the cave.
10. Too many people were giving their own views. This should not be done, especially in front of the patient, as this would increase shock.

Telephones:

1. They are a must in a rescue. It cuts movement of runners to a minimum.
2. Care must be taken in laying the line. Pegs are necessary.
3. The line must be kept out of the way of rescuers if possible.
4. The phone must be out of hearing of the patient at all times.
5. One person should be near the phone at all times.
6. The phone should move out in front of the carry, to avoid breakage.
7. Acquisition of a suitable roller for the wire must be investigated.
8. The buzzer system should be checked.

Helmet:

1. A motor cycle helmet was used by the patient, but he complained it was hot.
2. Patient could not hear - this would cause panic.
3. It would be suitable for an unconscious patient, but watch breathing.
4. A visor became fogged. Goggles were- used to protect patient's eyes.
5. Leaning over the patient must be avoided if possible. This increases shock and may knock dust either from the roof, helmet or overalls.
6. A motor cycle, or perhaps a racing cycle helmet (padded) would be handy.

Welfare:

This is essential in a cave rescue. Hot coffee, soup and sandwiches were given to rescuers and they agreed that they felt less fatigued. Rescuers could not last longer than a few hours without something to eat or drink.

Welfare must be organized: thermos flasks should be on hand and an emergency food supply would be a good idea, in case of a real rescue.

Also, money should be available for welfare if needed.

First Aid:

This, of course, would be handled by a Doctor and St. John's Ambulance in a real rescue. But it would be a great advantage to the Group if as many as possible attended a St. John's Ambulance First Aid Course.

Toilet requirements for the patient is something which I think has been overlooked on previous practices. The patient's temperature must be very carefully observed. He will become overheated. Space blankets are good but their noise can increase shock. Two blankets would be sufficient.

Stretchers:

1. Two were used in this exercise - a Stokes Litter and a Douglas Stretcher.
2. The Stokes Litter was more suitable in this cave.
3. Both stretchers must be well padded; this is most important.
4. Patient must be firmly tied to stretcher. Special attention must be given to hands. He must be tied at all times without question.
5. Webbing Bands were used to move the patient and proved to be very useful in confined places. They can be used to move the patient on to a stretcher or to carry him when a stretcher could not be brought into the cave.
6. Drag sheets or a blanket can be, and were used successfully.
7. Even the most simple form of stretcher, e.g. overalls, blankets, sleeping bag, could be most suitable in a real rescue.

SUMMARY:

1. A rescue squad should be 6 rescuers under the leadership of a squad leader.
2. No more than two squads should be in the cave at one time.
3. More understanding of cave pattern searching should be exercised, and markers for checked areas should be used.
4. Once the casualty/s has been found a report must be sent to the surface (written) as soon as possible.
5. A recall should be predetermined.

Wayne R. Goedecke
CAVE SEARCH AND RESCUE OFFICER

PUNYELROO SEARCH & RESCUE

11 - 12 July, 1970

Twenty people arrived at Swan Reach Caravan Park at 10.00 p.m. All up at 7.00 a.m. and arrived at cliff top by 9.00 a.m. For the next three hours we tied knots and made up a bush stretcher. Had dinner and descended into the cave at about 1.00 p.m. Merylyn and Ann were taken into the cave as casualties and we had to find them. Merylyn was out in an hour and Ann in half an hour. We all decided that this was too easy, so Peter Bolland was put in the cave. We took 1½ hours to rescue him.

We all went back to camp and had supper. Everybody was told to get their gear ready for an early start in the morning.

At about 3.00 a.m. the local copper came into camp and told us there had been an accident at the cave.

I led the rescue squad into the first main rock pile, left at junction with log. Peter Chappell laid the land telephone. The patient had a fractured left leg, shoulder blade and internal injuries.

With good co-operation all round (especially the welfare squad - thanks girls) we had the lad out and at the bottom of the cliff by 9 a.m.

A small party went below ground about 10.30 am. Wayne Goedecke leading with about 5 locals and a few C.E.G.S.A. members. This was a most hilarious and enjoyable trip.

A most enjoyable weekend was had by all.

Two important notes on rescues:

1. Follow the rescue leader's orders immediately without question.
2. Don't do anything without prior permission of leader.

Richard C. Pailthorpe

TANTANOOLA & GAMBIER 10 – 12 Oct.

Nineteen trogs reached Tantanoola cemetery in the early hours of Saturday morning. All were down the ladder pitch in Tantanoola Lake Cave by 9.30 followed by several Victorian speleos intent on photography. M. Turner and F Aslin took a water level reading 67X” from water surface to a remnant crystalline outcrop of strata located section 3 on the C.E.G.S.A. map – a marker is to be fixed at the spot by F Aslin. A small cave formed from an enlarged joint was explored by R Pailthorpe and mapped by F Aslin, watched by 30 inquisitive cows. A general crawl through Tindales Cave followed. At Snake Hill cave system on Sunday the group, divided into several working parties supervised by F Aslin, succeeded in breaking through three voice connections. Meanwhile, in the treacherous depths, a party of courageous enthusiastic trogs (R Galbreath, P Chappell, M Bateman .. and Neil) mapped under great difficulties (we'd left the water-wings at home!) the coldest hole I'd ever crawled in. Clarke's Park at Pt. Macdonnell proved a suitable camping spot Sunday night; Monday, having been declared a touristy day, saw the conquest of the mighty Mt. Shank.

(Thanks to F Aslin and the trogs who helped organise) Cyn.

(At last, the long awaited continuous story of the Nullarbor Neurotics.)

N U L L A R B O R E X P E D I T I O N , 1969-70 Vol II.

TRIP LEADER:	G. HAVENS
OTHER PARTICIPANTS:	M. MACDONALD
	J. ALLANSON
	J. BISHOP

Date of Departure December 20th 1969.

Date of Return January 14th 1970.

Notes from the leader:

Before I continue with my next and last episode of the Nullarbor Expedition, I wish to express my most humble apologies for not having the completion of the trip report in the last news letter. Due to a trip overseas and a host of other pitfalls (a few of which were my own fault) prevented its completion. Nevertheless, we shall continue !!! (Refer to April-June newsletter for Volume I).

Saturday Dec. 27th (cont'd) - After returning 1 mile N. to Chowilla Land Slip, proceeded by a wild disappointing venture on compass course through very thick scrub, (a smashed up front end of the VW resulted) to Kangaroo Cave (N45), we proceeded 10 miles W to camp for the night.

Sunday Dec. 28th proceeded approx. another 5 miles W, and then turned off at Wileura Rockhole (this turn off took us about 1½ hrs. to find) It is not nice to be lost in the middle of the Nullarbor Plain without any geographical references and other than a map to go by. 11 miles SW along the turnoff back to the Eyre Highway, continuing on (not to mention the repeated overheating problems with that bloody useless Landrover) to Madura WA to recuperate (decent meals, showers etc) We then left 25 miles to the NE to reach one of the climaxes of the entire expedition - Mullamullang Cave (N37).

Monday Dec. 29th. - Late the night before, as well as all this morning and early afternoon, we all consulted our packs and equipment etc. (as well as fixing flat tyres) to prepare for what was to be an 88 hour continuous duration of time in a cave at least 6 miles long in total passages. During the early afternoon hours, we looked around the double doline complex, observing such sights as “the Refrigerator” - a hole in the limestone off to one side of the doline quite extensive in volume, full of talus, and a slight but surprisingly cool breeze coming out of it.

Peter Hawkes has tried to push the bottom of it in a very strong breeze. Unfortunately, because of heavy rocks, he could not make much headway (literally). Also, at the end of the doline (opposite the entrance to the cave), a very strong breeze came roaring out in a depression through a series of small holes and cracks in the limestone. According to certain people, a gravity meter has checked the surface in the area above and it indicates that there are very extensive voids beneath. Unfortunately no natural entrance. Once again I use my favourite saying, especially known by those who know me well, "IT WILL GO WITH A PUSH". Anyway, we were ready to begin our descent with heavy packs on our backs at about 3.30 p.m. Yours truly had the heaviest and bulkiest pack which was all I needed after being severely burnt by the sun (with blisters) two days previously. If that isn't the spirit of caving I don't know what is. We were hailed off by the Western Australia Speleological Group (W.A.S.G.) who had been in the cave three days previously. There is no need to go into much detail on Mullamullang itself as there have been far superior articles and publications printed on the subject. However, I will make a brief outline of our trip.

First 150ft very rough going, especially with packs down talus slope with crevasses. Passed "The Dune", "Southerly Buster" (the wind was not blowing that hard either on entry or leaving although it can reach 30ft per second), "Smoko Junction" (a small offshoot was partially investigated), "Sandchute", "Oasis Valley", "One Mile Cairn", and "White Lake", where the first night was spent.

Tuesday Dec. 30 - Making White Lake our main base, we continued on without gear, passing "The Sail", "the Drop-off", "Camp One" and straight to "the Dome" passing several beautiful underground saltwater lakes. Due to lack of time, weariness of the others, the Ezam was not entered or continued as far as exploration or survey (the Sydney University Speleological Society was supposed to meet up with us with a proper surveying team and equipment but failed to do so), and returned to White Lake.

Wednesday Dec. 31 - Moved main camp from White Lake back to Oasis Valley. Entered "J.B. Maze" which most of us felt the highlight of the trip. It is full of the most beautiful formation in small chambers I have ever seen in all my life. Halite "flagella-like" strands hang from the ceiling by the thousands glistening by one's torch and on the floor small, broken-up, delicate pieces upon sand mixed brown and cream in colour. Every movement we made was cautious but nevertheless, a few insignificant fragments were broken. Even that made us feel guilty. Periodically, small tunnels shot out into the side of the main traverse of Mullamullang cave. What an eerie feeling to look up 80ft and down 20ft sitting on a ledge (some of us thought we heard angels, which is quite normal after being in a cave for three consecutive days). Unfortunately, not all of J.B. Maze has been protected. One particular person, no longer active in C.E.G.S.A. (thank goodness), whose name I will not divulge, has written his name in the floor in one of these beautiful salt chambers. It is for this reason that I wish that many caves or parts of caves of the Nullarbor could be protected, as a refuge from all people except those who have scientific purpose, by some government body. Such an ironically different and beautiful area compared with the surface of the Nullarbor you think it would be protected! We passed the New Year together in the maze.

Thursday January 1, 1970 - NEW YEAR'S DAY! Easter Extension was visited all day seeing the Coffee and Cream, Salt Cellars, "The Clam", and Easter Lake (upper and lower passages). Very nice (not as J.B. Maze, I felt).

Friday Jan. 2 - Up and at 'em at 3.30 a.m. and out of the cave by 6.00 a.m. After packing all our gear (noticing for the first time that the Landrover had a cracked chassis which was just great!!

(I had it fixed at Eucla)) and a few pictures we left the Mighty Mullamullang to re-cooperate at the Madura pub. Unfortunately, the Kestrel caves were not visited. The four of us headed for Cocklebidy but the search ended in vain. We then retreated to the Eyre Highway and set off in search for Murra-El-Elevyn cave which was easily found. Again we met up with the Western

Australia Speleological Group (John Bywater, Trip Leader) and spent the night at the entrance with them.

Saturday Jan. 3 - John Bishop left the expedition to return to Adelaide. The rest of the day was spent in leisure (no caving), playing cards, cooking and feasting (Nullarbor-style bread was made).

Sunday Jan. 4 - Murra-El-Elevyn cave was entered in the early afternoon by both groups. Steep talus slope. Water. Very old calcite formation at end of main traverse in upper level of rock collapse. At top of rock collapse within 40ft of surface according to inclination and declination in cave. From Murra-El-Elevyn cave we set course again for Cocklebidy cave (with the help of W.A.S.G.'s direction and Ted Anderson).

Monday Jan. 5 - Entered Cocklebidy cave. Huge in volume. Large lake, shallow near shore. Ted Anderson (from Sydney) a few days before took readings for experiment concerning rise and fall of water table.

Tuesday, Jan. 6 - Returned to Madura and proceeded 6 miles S to Madura Cave to have a look at some of the anthropological diggings. Also aboriginal fire markings of walls and ceilings. Continued 2 miles SE to Nurina Cave. Small but beautiful cave. Water table -75ft, with huge calcite flakes at bottom of pools. Water very high in salinity (greater than or equal to 20,000 p.p.m. TDS (salinity rise probably due to relative elevation above sea level compared with other caves of the Nullarbor). Irregular limestone erosion. An interesting cave with some possibilities. Proceeded approximately 20 to 25 miles S to beach along the Great Australian Bight.

Wednesday Jan. 7 - Spent the day in leisure on beach reading, beach-combing, and collecting glass buoys that had been torn off fishing nets and had washed ashore (not to mention the millions of March Flies we killed).

Thursday, Jan. 8 - Returned to Madura and headed E along Eyre Highway to Mundrabilla Station and set a course due north for 5 miles and then about 10 miles NW in search of Thylacine Rockhole. After many hours of searching we gave up in disgust (most of which was done on compass course).

Friday, Jan. 9 - Returned to Mundrabilla Station and continued on to Eucla. Spent the afternoon with friends and camped in sand dunes near beach. Yours truly got bogged several times in attempting to reach the beach. Finally, I left the Landrover at 2.00 a.m. at high tide bogged (and I mean bogged) on the beach.

Saturday Jan. 10 - Let sea water out of Landrover cabin and dug our way out, returning over sand dunes and back to Eucla without incident. Just my Luck! The conrod in the crankcase in the main pump of the desalination unit had busted and spent most of the morning and early afternoon stripping it apart (meanwhile my Landrover being repaired). Continued E on the Eyre Highway to about 15 miles to the other side of Koonalda Station.

Sunday, Jan. 11 - Proceeded to Nullarbor Station to get some information of some caves just off the Eyre Highway. One was located at 150 yards S of the 22 mile Koonalda post (in which we had to back track to get to). We have called it Jugarmac Cave. We conducted a Grade 2 survey. It will have a number shortly. A small cave but very promising and full of potential. Only one small main chamber as yet but has what we call "The Keyhole" which is about 4" square and the wind rushes through with a noise similar to a vacuum cleaner. Also, a small rock pile in which yours truly squeezed down a declining hole over a ledge to prepare to dig with my fingers in sand and rock. Unfortunately, I could not dig very much because of the awkward downward position, the heavy flat rocks, and the WIND would keep blowing out my troglamp and sand was blowing furiously in my eyes.!!! A MOST promising cave. Left cave and proceeded to Ivy Tanks. Drat!

Monday Jan. 12 - Completed crossing of the Nullarbor and half of the Eyre Peninsula.

Tuesday Jan. 13 - Continued on to Port Augusta and dropped Judith off to stay with her grandmother. Mac and myself went on to Adelaide.

Wednesday Jan. 14 - Back in Adelaide.

Conclusion:

In this report I have only mentioned a few of the highlights of the trip. It may sound to many people as though the trip was predominately a “tourist” trip. Perhaps it was, but at least I “scratched the surface” in getting to know the Nullarbor. I can assure you the next time I go back I plan to explore and survey, concentrating with one or perhaps two caves (e.g. Mullamullang) and thus contributing a little bit more to the knowledge of the Caves of the Nullarbor!!!

Does anyone want to come with me???????????

Gary Havens

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Thanks goes to Merrilyn Bateman who found time to type all the trip report stencils except for one what got ripped on the infernal machine.

TERSE VERSE

Nobody knows
how the caver grows
with wriggling toes
and dirty nose
which he never blows.
So for home he goes
with all his woes,
washes down with the garden hose
and torn trog suit he sits and sews.

This ditty shows
less words in its rows
so that it fills up
more space which
is empty due to
lack of contributions,
than if it were
written in prose.

o o o o o o o o

PROGRAMME NOVEMBER - FEBRUARY 1971

<u>OCTOBER</u>	Wed 28th	General Meeting	Museum Lecture Room 7.30pm (at rear of SA Museum, Nth Tce.)
	31-1st Nov	Naracoorte Trip (bone-diggers only)	Leader: Rod Wells
<u>NOVEMBER</u>	Wed 11th	Committee Meeting 7.30pm	66 Ashfield Road, Elizabeth
	13-15th.	Naracoorte Trip	Leader: Peter Chappell
	Wed 25th	General Meeting Speaker: Alan Hill	Museum Lecture Room 7.30pm Caves of the South East
	28-29th.	Naracoorte Trip	Leader: Rod Wells
<u>DECEMBER</u>	Fri 4th	Closing date for bookings and money for Caveman's Dinner	
	Sat 5th	Barbecue and Auction	Wayne Goedecke's 7.00pm BYO bots and chops
	Wed 9th	Committee Meeting 7.00pm	2 Gray St, Kurralt Park
	Sat 12th	Prep for Tassie	see Wayne Goedecke
	Sun 13th	Field Day	Museum Lecture Room 9.00am
	Fri 18th	Caveman's Dinner	see details inside
	Sat 19th	C.C.R.P.S.S.	see details inside
	Wed 23rd	J. M. Mag CAVE trip	details inside
	25- Jan 17th	A.S.F. Conference in Tasmania & field trips.	see Athol Jackson
<u>JANUARY</u>	23-25th	Curramulka Trip	Leader: Wayne Goedecke
	23-25th	Mt Gambier Trip	Leader: John Bishop
	Wed 27th	General Meeting	Museum Lecture Room 7.30pm
	30-31st	Naracoorte Trip (bone-diggers only)	Leader: Rod Wells
<u>FEBRUARY</u>	Wed 10th	Committee Meeting 7.00pm	8 Wattleberry Road, Lower Mitcham
	20-21st	Naracoorte Trip (bone-diggers only)	Leader: Rod Wells
	Wed 24th	A.G.M. (be there)	Museum Lecture Room 7.30pm
	Sun 28th	Hilly Survey School	84 Perseverance Rd Vista 1.30pm
<u>MARCH</u>	Wed 10th	Committee Meeting 7.00pm	new committee
	Wed 24th	General Meeting	Museum Lecture Room 7.30pm
	27-28th	Naracoorte Trip (bone-diggers only)	Leader: Rod Wells

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QUARTER-MASTER

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