

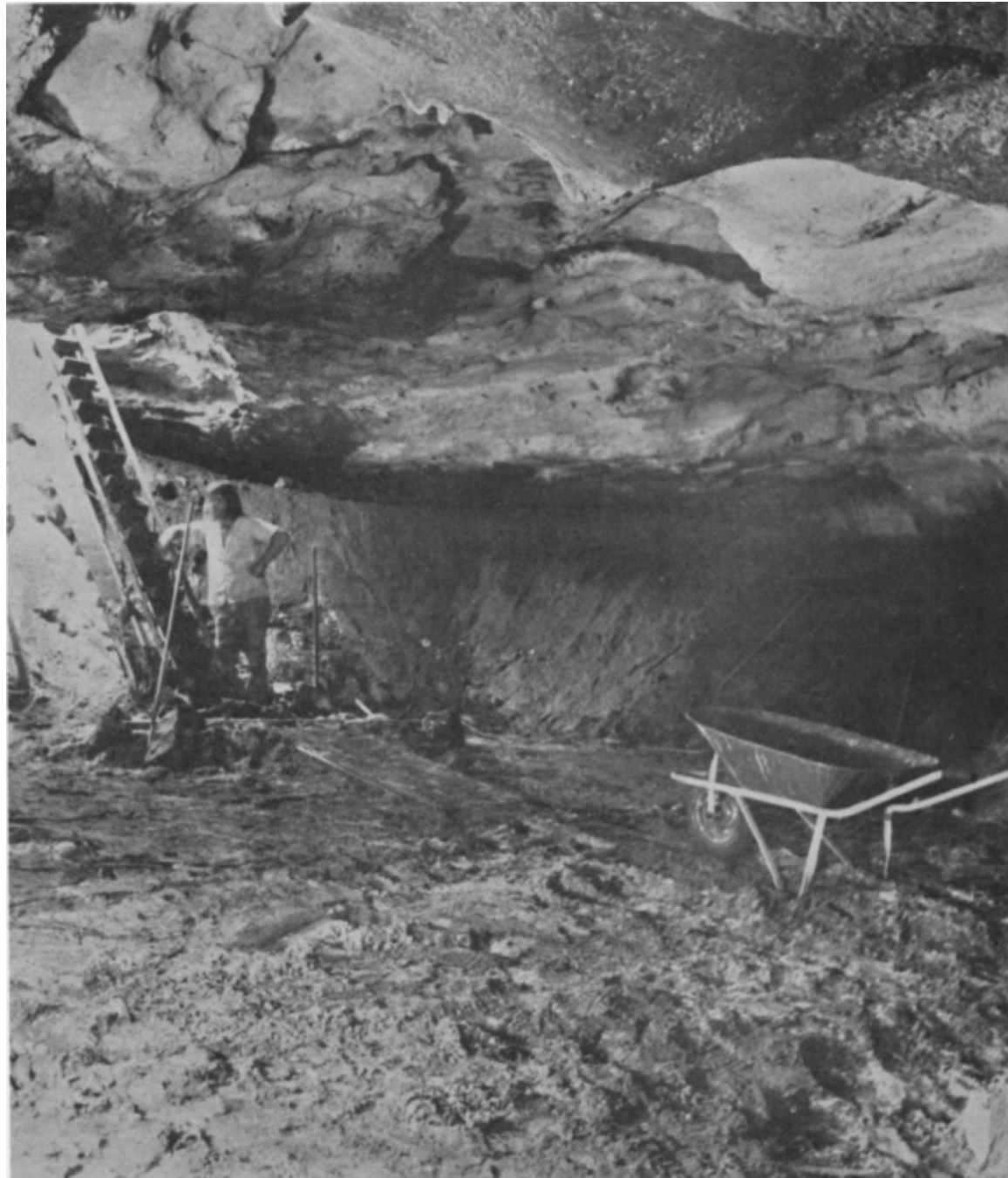
CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

c/o South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide



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N E W S L E T T E R



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In any given meeting, when all is said and done, 90 per cent
will be said -- 10 per cent will be done.

O.C.

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THE COVER:

This issues cover is an inside look at the new
Alexandra Cave extension.

Photo by Kevin Mott.

EDITORIAL

During the past few weeks I have met many members who have got some incorrect ideas about one of the recent additions to the code of ethics. The confusion is centred around two actual ethics:-

The first: "They shall not undertake any dig except with bare hands"

was UNANIMOUSLY OUTVOTED by the A.S.F. Committee.

The second: "They will not conduct any dig, on the surface or underground, without express permission of the landowner (or management authority) and their society committee. "

was accepted.

Hence the new additions to the Code of Ethics say ABSOLUTELY NOTHING about digging or not digging.

These votes were taken at the A.S.F. Committee Meeting at which ALL States were represented and had a vote; NOT a New South Wales directive as some rumours state.

There has only been ONE application for a dig put before the CEGSA Committee and this was unanimously APPROVED.

I trust that these facts can clear up the confusion, anything that you have heard to the contrary is pure rumour and nothing more.

JIM CUNDY.

TRIP REPORTS

HENSCHKES.

29th - 30th April, 1978

PARTY: Fred and Jan Aslin, Neville Pledge, Kevin Mott, Robbie Bray, Ian Lewis, John Waterhouse, Tom Michelmore, Jim Cundy plus a few others.

The weekend began as usual - early Saturday morning with everyone setting up the gear with a speed born of familiarity. The trip predominated by the two guest geologists, John Waterhouse and Tom. Michelmore who led some of us on a very detailed and complicated (to me but not perhaps them) geological tour.

In fact the whole weekend was marked by a sort of last minute frenzied activity as we became aware that this trip would be the last for the season and the cave might well be quarried soon. Kevin and I completed some last touches to the surveying. Kevin photographed any final detail that might have been overlooked. Samples were taken of odd bits and pieces that could later be useful, and while all this was going on, work continued as usual at the bone face and the sieves.

The faces that were concentrated on for this particular trip were areas A13 and A7; the latter yielding the greater quantities of bone.

Highlights of the trip were the discussion on geology in the hut on Saturday night and the magnificent defeat of Glenelg by Sturt.

Will there be another trip to Henschkes? Many times in the past we have thought that the quarry would take over, but Mr. Henschke has been more than generous in letting it stand. Still, I don't think we can be as optimistic this time. Only time will tell.

JIM CUNDY.

NARACOORTE.

13th - 15th May, 1978

PARTY: Meredith Reardon, Di Ancell, Flo Stock, Rod McDougal, Dave "Zeke" Hein, Kym Wickstein, Ott Lehmann, Malcolm Butcher and Terry Reardon.

All of the above, with the exception of Meredith, Rod and myself, had never been caving before, but were keen to try all that could be thrown at them. When we arrived at the Hut we were greeted by bottles of Fosters attached to arms of VSA cavers. After intros and exchanges of our beer is better than yours, we settled into a serious game of liar dice (a popular out-back game). Having ripped off the Vics money we turned in.

We went to the Straw Chamber in Blackberry Saturday morning and were all mind-blown. Saturday evening was spent in the Naracoorte Pub listening to the Juke Box - Wuthering Heights played at least fifteen times - must be popular down the S.E.

The following morning saw us slithering down a rope into Cathedral and that afternoon we did Tantanoola Lake Cave. Monday we had a good look at Fox Cave.

The VSA boys did Beekeepers, Fox, Alex and Robertson's, and they cleaned up the Hut and paid Trip Fees - I hate to say it but they're a good bunch of blokes.

We had a ripper weekend, and got some caving done between kicking the footy and throwing our super pro Frisbee.

TERRY REARDON.

JUNE LONG WEEKEND - A WOEFUL TALE.

For three weeks prior to the long weekend, I thought Rod McDougal, Ian Lewis, Meredith and I were going to the Eyre Peninsula, however two days before the weekend Rod informs me that he was going to Sydney and Lewie decided to go to Curramulka for one day.

About this time, Neil Smith rang me saying that Dave Sharp had a party of people who wanted to go caving, so I rang Dave and suggested the Flinders Ranges, as the Eyre Peninsula has been essentially abandoned, and he agreed to ring back that night, Thursday, and say yes or no. Shortly afterwards, Russell Starr, a recently joined member of CEGSA, contacted me to finalize arrangements for Eyre Peninsula. I said that the Flinders looked 'on', which was OK by him.

Dave Sharp never rang back, so I rang Lewie to gain numbers, however he wasn't interested in the Flinders but wanted to do something. We discussed a few alternatives e.g. Naracoorte, Curramulka, Eyre Peninsula but decided to think about it for a while. Lewie rang back later and said he didn't want to do anything (should have been born a woman) leaving Meredith, Russell and I to entertain ourselves.

Friday morning I had a boomer idea - why not go to K.I. Lewie and Russell were keen, so I arranged with a pilot friend of mine to fly the three of us to Karatta from Parafield and Russell booked on a commercial flight - I slept well having finally got something arranged.

Saturday morning arrived with disaster. Russell got away early OK but we were grounded by bad weather. We patiently waited at Parafield till late Saturday, being entertained by irate pilots whose long weekend plans had also fallen fate to the weather. One guy had waited 4 hours just to fly 15kms north to a local parachuting field.

By 3 p.m. we gave up any ideas of going to K.I., leaving Russell on his first CEGSA trip alone, knowing no-one, having no transport, no tent and lousy weather. We rang him at Kelly Hill and told him the bad news and gave him a few hints on how to survive.

Undaunted by our ill luck and determined to go somewhere, we pulled out a S.A. map and discussed the merits of various places. The Gawler Ranges, by virtue of that none of us had heard of anyone ever going there, won the vote. So at 6.00p.m. we headed off to Iron Knob in the Honda Civic, and slept there overnight. We got going early Sunday morning - quite unusual!

The road was quite good and we made good time to Nonning and decided to go through the lakes area to Kingoonya rather than west to Yardea. This country is really great, typically Flinders type stuff and well worth the drive. We treated it like a Sunday drive, and all agreed if we had planned to do the trip in advance, we would have had, the car serviced, packed lots of tools and generally made a big deal out of it.

None of us had been to Andamooka, so down the Stuart Highway we headed - absolutelyhouse road - staked a tyre - lucky to have had a reasonable spare. It was quite dark and drizzling rain when we got to Pimba, the news of 2 inches of rain falling between Pirie and Augusta and no tyres available in Pimba, Adelaide looked like the best bet. The road was badly cut and it was a wise decision to head back when we did - I think a few more hours and the trip may have been extended a few more days. Just as well we didn't go to Andamooka via Cooper Pedy as was suggested at Kingoonya. Got into Adelaide at 1.30 a.m. Monday - 1200 miles in 31 hours.

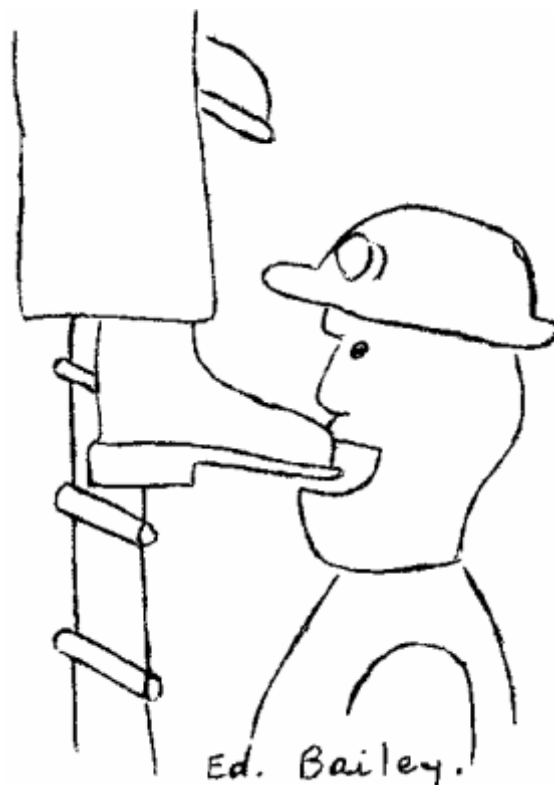
It was an interesting trip, despite the lack of caving - Lewie entertained us with his mouth organ, demonstrations of perfect pitch and mean driving.

Might do the Kimberleys or Chillagoe on the next long weekend.

TERRY REARDON.

P.S. Russell Starr had a good time on Kangaroo Island.

Now swing your other
foot round the side of the
glub!



PARTY: I. Lewis, R. McDougal and friend, D. Arnott, C. Reece, T. Reardon, Mark Barnett, D. Christmas (QSS), A. Bates, and K. Mott.

After a somewhat confused Saturday night arrangements, a trip to Town Cave was formulated. Most participants somehow managed to leave around tenish; a feat amazing in itself. Mott and Bates were calmly wending their way through the armada of traffic lights at Main North Road, Grand Junction Road, when an amazing papier mache or cardboard cut-out likeness of a Lewis appeared in front of them negotiating a rather difficult right angle bend. Following a wildly gesticulative, vociferous exchange of greetings and innuendos which left the bulk of your average Sunday drivers looking bemused, shocked or terrified. Bates continued onto Curramulka, and Lewis onto the Reardon's. The other exciting highlight of the trip over was sitting out front of the Ardrossan roadhouse watching the local fire brigade practise by washing the trees adjacent to the, main road.

Enough of trivia and back to the business at hand; actually, I have a large hand. On arrival at Town Cave it was found, much to the ire of your friendly neighbourhood QM., that someone had tried to force their way into the cave. One lock was missing and the, steel bar sealing the cave was bent at an unnatural angle requiring it to be levered off. After some minor panel beating to the bar and a new padlock, which the QM. just happened to have with him, the cave is once again secure. The most satisfying part of the episode was observing the little pools of blood around the entrance. The idea of someone smashing their fingers while attempting to force entry and vandalise the cave greatly appeals to my sadistic nature. Having had our laugh at this hapless vandal the pitch was rigged as the other cars progressively arrived.

Both ladder and S.R.T. were used, as transport mechanisms to enable people (a term loosely used to describe cavers of various sexes and types) to enter the cave. One party under the misguidance of Ian insanely set out to explore the last remaining lake. They deserve to be admitted as honorary associates to affiliated associates of Sadists and Masochists Inc. The under water section went down about 40 feet vertically then continued down at an angle of 60° through a rift decorated with phreatic rock. Rod led the other on a guided tour of Town Cave and introduced them to the joys of sport caving.

Whilst at Curramulka it was decided to inspect the lock on the door at Corralynn Cave. A group of about a dozen people were lazing around on the surface and when we reached the entrance there was an arm protruding through the hole in the door attempting to clear the step. Some right royal twit had demolished our retaining wall and the remnants were used to block the door. The new padlock on the door was still there but was not in use. Someone using the cave tried to gain easy access. A new fireplace and retaining wall should be built shortly.

When exiting from Town Cave, Rod through lack of chinstrap, lost his helmet in the lake below the entrance pitch. After a detailed discussion on the pro's and con's of eating real food it was finally agreed to be far healthier to buy greasy take-a-ways and eat them in the road house. Damned good meal too. Customers were delighted by an impromptu enactment of a Monty Python parrot scene, Ian wandering into the kitchen for sauce then trying to eat a steak sandwich with his nose.

About 8kms before Virginia we observed a motor vehicle on the side of the road. Dear sweet Annette upon realising its a McDougal type vehicle, immediately throws out all anchors and screams to a stop while attempting to demolish a bridge, gum tree and a white post. With the car finally stationary, Mott cleans his seat then goes back to find out what is wrong. McNuckle ran out of petrol. The gauge showed empty at Fort Wakefield but usually the car can go another forty miles. Unfortunately caving trips aren't renowned for their usuallity. Complication - Dave had to be back at Edinburgh by 11.00; the time was now 10.30. When Colin and Dale turned up Dave went with them while Claude the Continent Conquering, Casualtic, Cangaroo Cilling, Corona towing, Caving Cortina, towed Rod to Virginia. Leaving Rod at Virginia, a lightning trip was then made to Bolivar for petrol. After experimenting with garbage bags, coke cans and milk cartons, a rolled up newspaper was selected as the most appropriate funnel.

Oddly enough the remaining few miles home were uneventful.

KEVIN MOTT.



Fig 1 The Accident

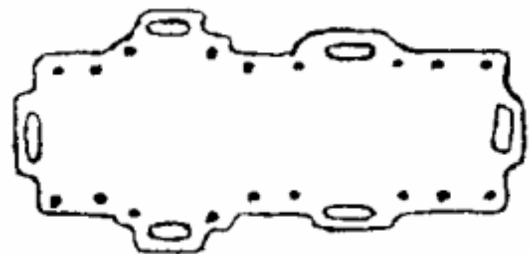


Fig 2 The Drag Stretcher

CAVE RESCUE - A CASE HISTORY.

The following article is the first of a four part serial (just like Women's Weekly - isn't it!) which reports in full an actual caving accident. The full story has many important points and should be read carefully by all cavers. Note firstly that the accident involved an experienced, capable caver; and secondly that the accident was an accident, not the result of poor or dangerous caving.

The second part of this serial is a discussion of the rescue while the concluding two parts are the victims report of the accident. Now read on...

INTRODUCTION

Potholing and caving accidents are on the increase. This is due in part to the increasing number of active potholers and partly to low standards of training and preparation of some of the participants outside the established clubs. A recent disturbing trend is the inadequately supervised potholing being done by school parties with the approval and encouragement of some local education authorities.

To meet the specialized requirements of cave and fell rescue in the North of England, the Cave Rescue organization was formed in 1934, followed by the Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Association in 1948 (Cansell, 1968). The members of these organizations provide a 24-hour service, they receive no remuneration and yet claim that they will rescue anything from anywhere at any time. Not all rescue attempts involve human beings and the statistics compiled for the period 1948 to 1972 by the Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Association (table 1) show a range of goods that would do credit to Pickfords.

TABLE 1. - Upper Wharfedale Rescue Association Total No. of incidents attended 1948 to 1972 (137 surface, 125 underground).

Assistance rendered to:-

285	men
33	women
1	horse
30	cows
3	calves
71	sheep
30	lambs
13	dogs
2	cats
2	goats
5	inanimate objects

Underground statistics for three years ending 31st December, 1972

1970:	7 incidents involving 8 men and 1 sheep
1971:	1 incident involving 1 man
1972:	8 incidents involving 10 men, 2 women, 2 lambs, and 1 sheep.

CASE REPORT

The patient, an otherwise fit 26-year-old male, entered Providence Pot (SD989729), a well-known cave system under Great Whernside, Yorkshire (Brook, Coe, Davies, and Long, 1972) at 10.00 hours on a Friday morning. He was wearing a safety helmet, 2 woollen sweaters, nylon shirt, nylon trousers, cotton trousers, neoprene socks, and boots, and was accompanied by two companions, both experienced potholers.

At about 12.00 hours as he was crawling through some unstable boulders about half a mile from the entrance, one slab of rock weighing about 2 hundred weight moved and trapped him over the left loin with the right upper limb abducted (Fig. 1). His companions were unable to release him, so one went for help while the other remained with the patient. He could not find the way out, so he returned and both companions then left the patient, to summon help.

The emergency call was received by the Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Association at 15.45 hours, and by 16.30 hours a rescue team was at the pothole entrance. This team reached the patient at 17 20 hours and released him about two hours later using bars and a jack. Examination by the medical officer revealed bruises over the left loin, a right brachial plexus palsy but no other injuries. He was dressed in an Air Force exposure suit for protection against the water and placed in a drag stretcher for immediate evacuation. A drag stretcher is a home-made device, made out of conveyor belting: the patient is wrapped up in it and literally dragged along the floor (Fig. 2).

It took another ten and a half hours to get the patient to the surface through passages so narrow, low, and tortuous that at places he had to be removed from the stretcher. Efforts to maintain his body temperature at a reasonable level were made by feeding him hot coffee and by having two rescuers lie against him at every stop. The cave air temperature varied between 8° and 10° Centigrade.

At 05.50 hours the following morning he was brought to the surface and carried up the fell to a waiting Land Rover ambulance, which took him to a house in the valley below for a hot bath. While in the bath he passed some very dark red urine which was subsequently shown to contain haemoglobin and myoglobin. He was then admitted to the Airedale General Hospital at 08.15 hours. Soon afterwards both lower limbs became cold, cyanosed, immobile and painful. This condition did not respond to an infusion of 250 ml. of dextran 40 but was dramatically relieved by an intravenous injection of pethidine.

He failed to pass any more urine despite an intravenous infusion of 20 percent mannitol, and he was therefore transferred two days later to the Renal Unit at the General Infirmary at Leeds. For the next two weeks he required intermittent haemodialysis, following which he became dehydrated during the diuretic phase. This was corrected by intravenous replacement and he was discharged from hospital after a further two weeks.

During this time his brachial plexus neurapraxia slowly improved with physiotherapy and he was transferred for further treatment as an out-patient at the Royal South Hants Hospital in Southampton. Two months later he was well enough to return to work. Four months later a follow-up intravenous pyelogram and cystoscopy at Leeds showed no residual renal damage, and no biochemical abnormalities were found. After six months he had recovered full use of the right upper limb and was discharged.

Dr. S.A. CRAVEN, Fairlea,
Arkendale Road, Ferrensby,
Knaresborough, Yorkshire.

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EXPLOSION!

After 4 years of silence, I now wish to explode my feelings into print.

I appreciate the fact that some members of the Club do genuinely forget the closing date for the Newsletter, but that is no reason for late articles that resemble the scribbles of a two-year-old, being presented for print. Your kindergarten days are SUPPOSED to be over.

A large majority of these badly written articles are handed in too late, for the Editor to unscramble, thereby forcing my eyeballs to work overtime. From this date forthwith, I will refuse to type ANY indecipherable article, whether it be late or early (unless, of course, you are prepared to accompany your article with a substantial cheque made payable to my eye specialist! In cases of reasonably legible data, authors will accept full responsibility for my interpretation of their handicap, because I hate wasting stencils (at 30 cents each) on stupid mistakes.

If you haven't the courtesy to write your article (IN INK!) on a clean piece of paper, in a legible manner, then don't expect me to extend any courtesy to you by trying to type it!

During the past four years, both Ed Bailey and Jim Cundy have had to rewrite (by way of interpretation and guesswork) the contents of dozens of articles before they could be typed. Wake-up CEGSA! If YOU want it printed then YOU write it properly! The Editor and myself have far better things to do than to waste our time, energy and eyesight on your laziness!

Without prejudice (and feeling lots better)
JAN PETERSON.

P. S.

If some 'Funny Bunny' thinks that I am not being serious - well then, just present your article in the 'usual' manner. It will be a very simple matter to have your 'copy' printed into the Newsletter in its ORIGINAL FORM!

J.P.

OTHER ARTICLES

Motions to be put at the General Meeting at 8.00 p.m. at the Museum Lecture Room on the 26th July, 1978.

Motion A that Rule 12 be replaced by

"Equipment Use and Trip Fees

- (a) The Committee may set fees for the use of equipment and for participation in trips.
- (b) All members shall be notified in writing of any changes to such fees.
"

Motion B that Constitution 9. (b) (i) shall have a set amount of \$20.00.

Motion C that Constitution 9. (d) shall have set amounts of \$50.00 and \$20.00 respectively.

Motion D that Rule 4 (a) have the words after "Associate Membership" replaced by "except as provided hereunder or at the discretion of the Committee. "

GRAHAM PILKINGTON.
Public Officer.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT.

There are a few new faces around - welcome to Frank Hendriks, a very experienced speleo from interstate who is now a Full Member of CEGSA, and to Ian Blavins, Russell Starr, Tim Daniel and Peter Clarke who are now Associate Members.

Dave Christmas, a Queensland trog, has just left for home after two months in Adelaide. He managed to go to Town Cave on a lightning Sunday trip, and with Lewie, McKnuckle and Mott in great form, was probably put off CEGSA for life.

Please note new Membership Fees.

TERRY REARDON.

CORRECTION TO VOL. 23 No: 1 - page 12.

Add D. Turner to list of participants on Trip to Corra-Lynn 18th 19th March.

AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL FEDERATION - CODE OF ETHICS.

1.
 - (a) They will in reporting their work, avoid and discourage sensationalism, exaggeration and unwarranted statements.
 - (b) They will in publishing their work take particular care to acknowledge other people's contributions to the work involved; either as clubs or individuals, published work, personal communication or whatever.
 - (c) They will be discreet in disseminating information that might endanger caves. In particular they should not broadcast their knowledge of entrance locations or routes.
2.
 - (a) They will treat guides and other officials of tourist caves courteously and respectfully.
 - (b) They will endeavour to be courteous to the general public but will defend caves from the attentions of the uninstructed where this is deemed necessary for the protection of the cave.
3.
 - (a) They will carefully observe the established rules of good camping conduct especially in the removal and proper disposal of rubbish.
 - (b) They will bury their faeces when camping in bush conditions but should avoid the catchment areas of caves.
 - (c) They will not camp in any cave.
4.
 - (a) They will have specific or tacit approval from the owner or guardian before entering private property or caves reserves.
 - (b) They will follow normal procedures regarding gates on properties or reserves.
 - (c) They will not, except in cases of emergency, presume on the goodwill of owners in dry areas for supplies of water. Prior arrangements must be made.
 - (d) They will take care to avoid interference with stock or crops.
 - (e) They will, where a cave entrance has been blocked by the owner to prevent injury to livestock, re-block the entrance after use and liaise with the owner to erect some fence or other less offensive means to protect the integrity of the entrance.
 - (f) They will not conduct any dig, on the surface or underground, without the express permission of the landowner (or management authority) and the society committee.
 - (g) The use of explosives is not encouraged. Any use of explosives should only be with the express permission of the landowner (or management authority) and the society committee.
 - (h) They will not construct a gate in a cave without first obtaining the permission of the landowner (or management authority) and their society committee, and ensuring that permanent provision is made for the security of keys.

4. (i) They will not construct a gate in a cave without an accompanying sign explaining the reasons for restricting access, and the circumstances under which authorised visits are possible.
5. (a) They will not leave rubbish in caves; their own or other peoples! Spent carbide, flash bulbs, wrappings and other refuse must be brought out of the cave.
(b) They will not disfigure caves by any unnecessary markings. Survey marks should be small and inconspicuous.
(c) They will take care to avoid disfiguration or destruction of cave decoration or any other natural feature of the cave. Disturbance should be confined to tracks. In areas of clean flowstone floors, muddy clothing or boots must be removed and only clean clothing worn. Tracks should be rigidly adhered to. Helmets should be removed in the vicinity of stalactite clusters.
(d) They will not under any circumstances leave faeces in caves; they will prepare themselves beforehand or, when, underground, make provision for the removal of faeces.
(e) They will take stringent precautions to isolate artificially introduced organic wastes from the cave.
(f) They will not smoke any cave.
(g) They will not carry out any tracing experiments in karst areas without first having carefully assessed the various tracing agents and techniques available, and selecting only those which can be shown to present no danger of damage to the cave or disturbance of flora or fauna under the circumstances of the experiment.
6. (a) They will, when visiting an area frequently visited by another club do all in their power to co-operate with that club.
(b) They will conduct disputes in a restrained and gentlemanly manner.
7. (a) They will behave responsibly in environmental matters.
(b) They will endeavour to protect the caves in Australia.

CAMP GEAR

This is the name of a new camping shop at Norwood. The store is run and owned by David Gerner and Barry Murley, both of whom have had a great deal of camping experience.

However, what is of greater importance to you is that both men are past members of CEGSA, and are prepared to give a 10% discount on all goods to CEGSA members. So introduce yourselves when you go in.

CAVES OF GREECE.

Greece is a beautiful country, a land of limestone hills, majestic mountains and also quarries, which spoil the landscape. According to tourist propaganda, it has been estimated that there could be a possible 15,000 caves existing in Greece. So far only 6,450 have been located, half of which are on the island of Crete, and only just under 4,000 have been studied thoroughly.

Due to the lack of time to seek out members of the Hellenic Speleological Society and lack of command of the Greek language, my description of the two tourist caves I visited has to rely heavily on the guide books which I purchased at these caves.

The first 'speleo' I visited was just outside Peania, a village 17 km from Athens in the province of Attica. After receiving vague directions on how to get there and after waiting over an hour for a No: 44 bus to come along, I was on my way. (After travelling on Greek buses I know how a sardine feels in a John West tin!) Whilst en route, I found myself sitting next to a Cypriot family who were also planning to visit the cave and who offered to share their taxi with me from the village.

Koutouki Grotto is situated one-third of the way up the eastern slopes of Mount Hymettus, the rather impressive highest peak of the Ymittos Range. The entrance area is very drab and sterile looking and is made of plain concrete. This cleft cave was found in 1926 when a goat fell in, and a group of people organised a descent to rescue the poor animal, 38 metres down by ladder. For the tourists benefit a 19 metre tunnel was opened and in 1967 the first inrush of tourists began.

The cave itself is one large chamber and is very well decorated. Unfortunately, it has suffered from tourism as some decoration has graffiti on it and there is abundant algae activity present due to the artificial lighting.

After an informative half-hour tour, the narrative being mainly in Greek, I bade farewell to this subterranean phenomenon filled with 'phantasmagorical' scenery (that's what the guide book said) and began my 4km trek down the mountain to Peania.

My second, and last search for another tourist cave took me high up into the Pindus Mountains to Ioannina, a town 75km from the Albanian border. This town can be reached by road or by plane, which is the way I chose, and the flight over those mountains was unforgettable. Ioannina lies in a narrow valley by the side of Lake Pamvotis and is surrounded by the snow-capped Pindus Mountains.

Those of you who have read the book, or have seen the film, 'The Other Side of Midnight' will be acquainted with this area and the Caves of Perama. These caves are set under the Goritza Hill by the village of Perama, 4km from Ioannina. The village is very tourist orientated and little children rush forth waving chewing gum and postcards for sale under the tourists nose.

Perhaps what upset me most, however, was the way the caves were run, or were not run to be precise! The parties which visit are large and uncontrolled, people touch the decorations as they pass, they take shortcuts off the concreted path, and have the opportunity to have their picture taken standing in front of a large column (access to this is over rocks and decoration, of course)!

Most of the cave description was again in Greek, although I did have the Statue of Liberty, the Butchers Shop, Pluto's Palace etc. pointed out to me.

The cave was made known to Greek Speleological circles by the geologist, the late John Petrochilos, whose bronze bust can be found near the exit. He and his wife Anne initiated the exploration and opening up of the Caves of Perama, which occurred between 1953 and 1957. For the first time in Greece, a 72cm long tusk of a cave bear (*Ursus Spelaeus*) was discovered, and later the bones and teeth of a whole family of these bears was also discovered. Biospeleological research has found the following insects to live here - *Oligichetes*, *Arpacticide* (*Maraenobiotus Brucel Carpathicus* Chappuis), *Aselides*, *Isopodes Terrestres*, *Amphipodes*, *Diplopodes*, *Collembolus* and *Arachnides Acariens*.

It was unfortunate that photography is not allowed in the caves and the only records that I was able to obtain were the two guide books. However, I made up for this by taking numerous photographs of limestone formations on the surface, much to the amusement of the locals. They couldn't understand why that mad Englishwoman was taking close-up pictures of bits of rock!

In conclusion, I feel disappointed in the management of Greek tourist caves and feel that the National Organisation of Tourism in Greece, the managers, are more interested in making money than preserving the caves. As to the speleological potential of the country, in my own opinion, there is plenty of caving and research to be done for many years to come.

LINDA WHALEY

HUT VANDALISATION.

During the Easter weekend several display helmets were stolen from the hut. These were placed there to remind people that helmets were not the complete answer to safety especially when they are old and appear to be okay. A notice warning people about a hazard existing in Cathedral Cave was also removed from the blackboard. The only people, using the Hut were CEGSA and VSA guests. No hut fees were, paid for use of the hut during this period.

Any vandalism or wilful damage to hut facilities, safety notices or displays makes a mockery of the efforts of the Safety Officer and could lead to a serious accident through people not being aware of hazards.

KEVIN MOTT.

Quartermaster and Safety Officer.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear Sir,

It has been apparent recently that a few well intentioned people in South Australian Caving Circles have become increasingly critical of cave diggers. Indeed your April 1978 editorial itself is far from complimentary in its references to the role of digging and digging aids in the history of achievement of our Group.

As one of CEGSA's numerous reprehensible cave diggers, indeed perhaps as a ringleader and prime bad example to those young and impressionable associate members who continually flock to our doors, let us suppose for a moment that I am now being overcome by intense remorse at the realization of the error of my ways, and that I resolve to make amends for past transgressions by restoring conditions as near as possible to those existing before I started serious digging in the early sixties.

So much has happened over those years that it is hard to know where to start, and of course just about all my digs have been team efforts, so of course it is only proper that the restoration work be a team effort also.

Why not start with S102? Those who have been through the rockpile beyond the first lake in S102 will no doubt realize that everything seen beyond that point was gained only by the prolonged and dreadful digging of CEGSA wombats, helped in the final breakthrough by the dedicated support of a couple of enlightened VSA heavies, (Bam-Bam and Pebbles). It is possible that we could approach the owners to see if they would permit us to block the cave off again for all time, in the interests of protecting it from cavers.

Next we could ask National Parks if they would agree to shutting down the Fossil Cave and all the far extensions of Victoria Cave, and demolishing the new interpretation centre and bone room. Road blocks could be built to return tourist traffic to its former level, and CEGSA could repay all the money it received for its involvement in digs for the new entrances and associated tunnels. Admittedly it was only a relatively short dig to start the whole business off, but principles are principles and we should not compromise just because we've spent all the money already.

What about Blackberry Cave? Perhaps it would be better to close all the new Blackberry extensions up and forget their existence until heavy Woods and Forests Department equipment accidentally plunges through the roof of one of the large chambers one day and impales itself on the five metre straw.

Most of Wombat Cave, most of Sand-funnel Cave, and a fair amount of Sand Cave by no means conclude the list of notable additions to the Naracoorte scene over the last fifteen years. If we wish to delve a little further back in history we would note that Alexandra Cave was discovered by digging, and that the original entrance which was once re-blocked is now disgorging fifty tonnes of earth daily in the interests of improved flow of the large parties of visitors now pouring through the caves each day.

Looking elsewhere, CEGSA can one day write to the ASF Commission on Longest and Deepest Caves to report that Corra-Lynn has Mysteriously shrunk from about 8km in length to only about 1km, and moved from 3rd in line to about number 96. Sellicks Hill Cave could be restored to being a 15cm wide slot 30cm deep instead of 65 metres deep, created when the Highways Department shifted millions of tonnes of hillside and CEGSA shifted a few hundred-weight more.

If not already dreadfully obvious, a total condemnation of digging is an absurd proposition and potentially dangerous. What may be applicable to Eastern States caves may not be true for South Australia, because of vastly different cave forms and limestone types. It can be demonstrated fairly easily mathematically that substantial enlargement of a hole in a cave wall which is big enough for any sort of breeze to pass through in response to the mild pressure gradients produced by diurnal and meteorological barometric variation, will not affect the cave climate one scrap. The opening of totally new entrances which could create new through drafts is potentially devastating, and should be strictly controlled to necessary cases only, with airtight doors fitted as appropriate. On the other hand, normal widening of existing digs with airspace and breezes into potentially uncharted and unknown caves, can do no harm whatsoever to the cave meteorology.

Those who would argue that digging is alright but we should not use jackhammers or gelignite might as well argue that going to Naracoorte is alright, but we should only walk and not use labour saving devices like cars for our transport. While those who don't know much about it might get pretty emotional at the very mention of the word 'gelignite', it should be emphasized that the stuff can be used very effectively and cleanly in amounts as small as one quarter of a stick at a time. Strict safety precautions are of necessity involved in its use, and provided it is restricted to locations where the fumes will clear reasonably quickly and will not cause distress to cave fauna, properly prepared charges can even be detonated in moderate proximity to cave decorations without damage. Gelignite is NOT synonymous with vandalism, and may be particularly useful for fracturing rocks in the floor too large to remove in one piece.

Despite the stir, I believe it is not possible for those in CEGSA opposed to cave digging to demonstrate a nett negative influence accruing from digging so far. Many of their footprints may no doubt be found in regions made accessible only through cave digging. Apparently it is acceptable to enjoy the fruits of someone else's labour while still making derogatory remarks about it.

Cavers have benefited from digging in South Australia, and cave tourism has also benefited. In turn the new awareness of caves ensuing from this is a positive force for conservation action. About the only sufferers in the whole business have been our cave surveyors, who continually complain that the new cave discoveries always run straight off the edge of the mapping sheet.

It is difficult to come to the conclusion that digging in South Australia is a problem at all except in the minds of one or two purists who may not even have been aware of just how much of our spelean heritage we owe to digging.

By all means advise the Group of intended new digs, and be receptive to advice on their merit and best method of approach. That is only common courtesy after all. At the same time let us avoid like the plague the ridiculous business of seeking permissions and filling out tonnes of forms in triplicate to control a problem which doesn't exist. If any positive action at all is needed it should perhaps be that the Group issue guidelines for the assistance of neophyte diggers in assessing the merit of possible digs.

Keep those beautiful cool breezes coming folks, but watch out for the hot air.

GRANT GARTRELL.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are due to those who left the hut in such an immaculate state on the May long-weekend. To mention names would be to shock you into a state of disbelief. Isn't it ob-V-S-A?

A COMMENT ON A SERIES OF LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,

I assume that it is the editor's responsibility to all of his fellow members to write and edit in such a manner as would demonstrate a fair opinion of the group - and not a bias towards certain sections of the group as was implicit in the whole idea of the February cover and explanatory notes.

Are you going to dabble in racism next?

Quite honestly, if it had been a female who had edited the newsletter in a similar manner subjugating men I would have cringed at their lack of maturity.

Turning to Brian Franz's letter in the May newsletter - wouldn't women get a few heads rolling if they started to place men in the types of categories into which men are more than eager to place women?

- Category
- I.- those men who make no contribution to the group.
 - II.- those men who have no other interest than caving.
 - III.- those men who drift in and out of the club taking other members with them.

Sickening eh? Just as nauseating for men to do this to women. People just don't fit into ONE category. Also when you expect and reinforce certain behaviour you are more likely to see it exhibited.

Women have heard it all before: "Women do not make as good cavers as men"; "Women are attracted to male dominated clubs to seek a marriage partner" Ooooooh!!

However, I can see a point which Brian is making - there are female members of clubs (CEGSA included) who do behave (male grab) in this manner - no need to name names - most of you fellas already know addresses and phone numbers!!

I am uncertain whether Brian and other VSA and CEGSA members have been left on the shelf, bypassed by some of the cave nymphs. Eat your hearts out! Oh! So you're not interested in being snatched up? Nevertheless you blame some women for taking away some members - were they taken away against their will? - they must be pretty weak if they left the club only because it was the partner's idea. Anyway, why are you so keen to 'blame' ONE of the parties involved, and why always the woman?

As for another point that grinds at my soul - how about offering honorary life membership to some of the women who tend to be forgotten - like those who slave over their children (sons), cooking, washing, cleaning etc., so that they may have free weekends.

Let us hope there is not a new generation of female slaves. Although we admire their devotion, we admonish them for hovering over a fellow human being in such a servile way - just because he is a male. How many other women are there who are left at home, cleaning up after the last weekend when their males went off enjoying themselves? Another reason for a so-called lesser speleological knowledge? Yes indeed! How can you learn if you don't participate? How can you feel good about trying if everyone presupposes you're hopeless or refuses to take you. seriously? I'm being negative? No. I'm putting down the negative feelings and thinking positive, at least for myself.

MEREDITH REARDON.



I hear your first rappel rack abseil was a ripper!

PROGRAMME

JULY

1st - 2nd	Corra-Lynn - surveying	K. Mott
Wednesday 5th	Mapping Standards Evening	23 Harcourt Road, Payneham
Sunday 9th	Swan Reach Introductory Trip	T. Reardon
Wednesday 12th	Committee Meeting	66 Eyre Crescent, Valley View
Wednesday 26th	General Meeting - Cave diving, talk and slides	S.A. Museum Lecture Room
29th - 30th	S. & R. EXERCISE	K. Mott

AUGUST

Wednesday 9th	Committee Meeting	2 Boorman Avenue, Pasadena
19th - 20th	Corra-Lynn Introductory Trip	G. Pilkington
Wednesday 23rd	General Meeting - Neil Smith, a rock climbing talk	S.A. Museum Lecture Room
26th - 27th	Naracoorte Introductory Trip	T. Reardon

TRIP CONTACT LIST

K. Mott,	23 Harcourt Road, Payneham	(w) 227-2704 (h) 42-5540
T. Reardon,	5 Loxton Court, Hope Valley	(w) 79-7901 ext 226 (h) 263-4879
G. Pilkington,	66 Eyre Crescent, Valley View	(w) 272-5711 ext. 87 (h) 264-2598

DUE DATE FOR VOL. 23 NO: 3

All articles must be submitted by Wednesday the 2nd August, 1978.

C.E.G.S.A.

S& R EXERCISE

Naracoorte

29 - 30 July 1978



A S.& R. exercise will be held at Naracoorte on July 29th, 30th, to enable cavers to learn more about rescue techniques and to appreciate the difficulties involved. Participants

should have caving experience.

Upon arrival at the area participants should check in at the Naracoorte Hut.

Saturday will begin at 8.00 a.m. with a briefing, then each team will undertake three exercises. There will be half hour between exercises with an hour for lunch. Exercises will involve horizontal carry with and without stretcher, vertical lift and locate and rescue. A debriefing will be held on Sunday.

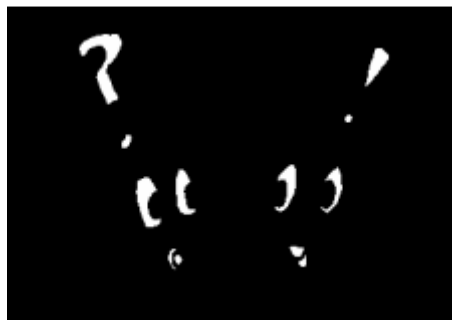
Bring your caving gear and tent as accommodation in the hut will be limited.

Services in attendance will include:-

1. S.A. Police Force.
2. St. John Ambulance.
3. National Parks and Wildlife Service Officers.

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ught you had the spare torch.



To facilitate organisation please complete the attached form and mail it to Kevin Mott, 23 Harcourt Road, Payneham, S.A. 5070 or phone Kevin Mott on 42 5540 by 14th July, 1978.

S & R. EXERCISE 1978

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE