

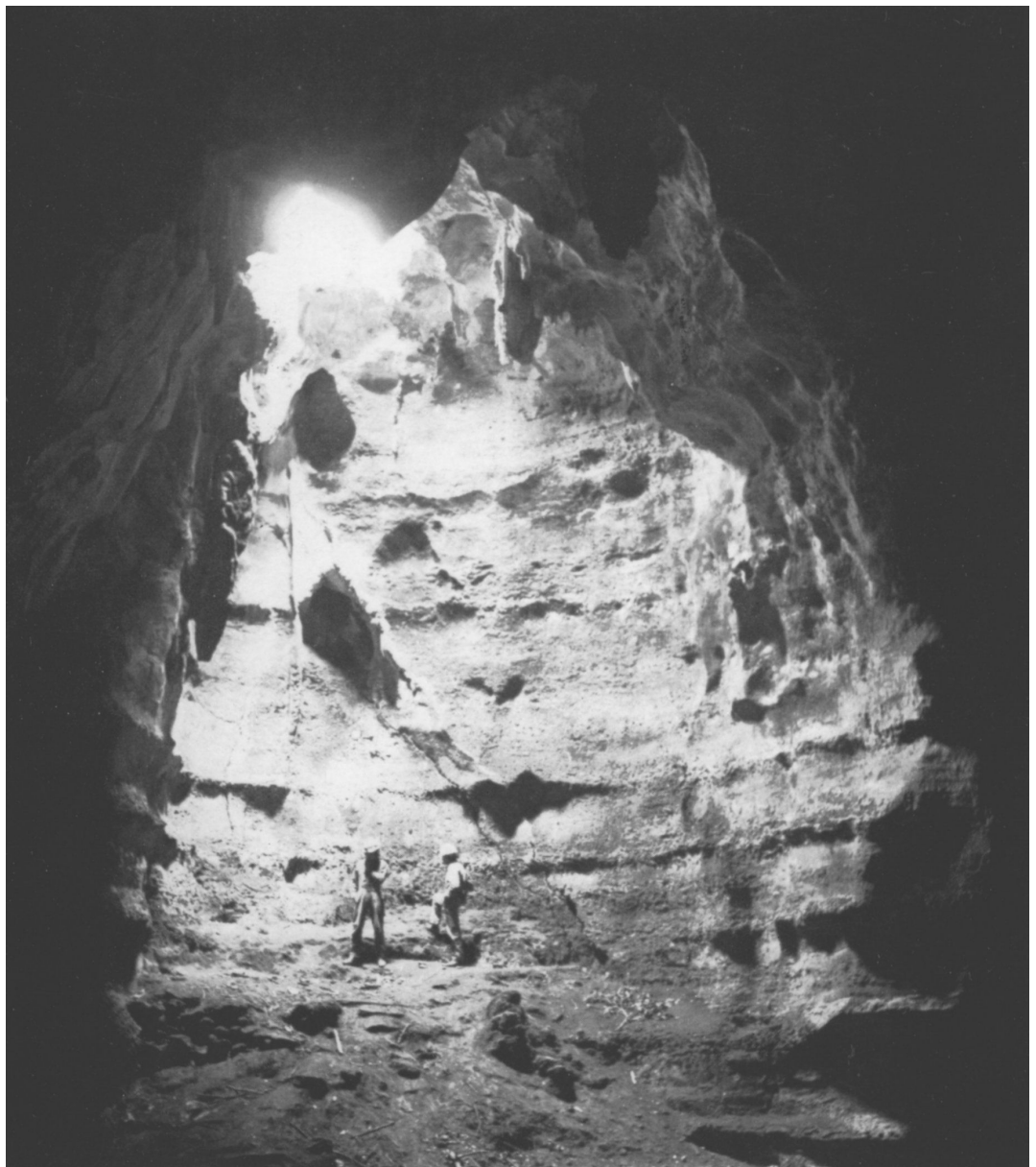
CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

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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THE COVER

Photograph of the entrance chamber to Cathedral Cave, Naracoorte, was supplied by Gordon Peterson.

This Newsletter is Registered for Posting as a Periodical, Category B.

Editorial

In this issue of the Newsletter we have a 'Guest Editorial' written by one of our members on a subject that is not only interesting in its text but one that also offers food for thought and, perhaps, some new ideas on how to structure Membership Fees.

Jan Peterson.

IS THERE AN IDEAL MEMBERSHIP FEE.

Every organisation and group has at sometime in its career faced the dilemma of fee structure. How much should it charge its members and how much should it pay to national bodies for membership or affiliation.

Membership fees are usually structured to cover expected administrative costs, newsletter production, maintenance of equipment and rental of premises. Sometimes the newsletter is treated as a separate entity with subscription being separate from membership fees. This means a person can personally decide whether or not they want the newsletter. If a person displays enough interest to join a group then surely receipt of a newsletter to remain up to date with events is no great burden. Newsletter fees are thus best incorporated within the general fee structure.

A joining fee is sometimes charged when initially joining some groups to cover administrative costs of enrolling such members. More often than not, the cost of initial enrolment differs little from that of renewing membership. This is often just a revenue booster. Every society has problems getting members to pay their membership fees on time. One suitable inducement may be to provide a two month grace period between end of the old year and the start of the new year then charge a joining fee for membership renewal that is received late.

Membership within organisations usually follows a tiered structure. The apex consists of a small number of heavily involved members; degrading to a wider base of inactive members. Inactivity can be caused by numerous factors, often outside the control of members. Reasons may include apathy, personal and financial commitments, business, study and location. A means of encouraging commitment from members may be to relate membership fees and activity. The greater the amount of activity in group functions, apart from executive activity, the greater the rebate allowed on membership fees. Fees may also be scaled down for those studying, living in an area remote from centres of activity, wishing to belong as a family, or under financial stress.

Charges for group facilities should be made as nobody can reasonably expect groups to be charitable organisations. Charges should be on a flexible basis such that although a set fee may be charged, a minimum fee will apply.

The same principles can apply when considering membership of societies in national bodies. Societies should pay fees to national bodies according to their membership numbers. Newsletters of national organisations should follow the same principles of State societies; viz. be included in membership fees.

The standard of newsletters can only be good if members are willing to present a good newsletter by contributing to it.

Every person is an individual and so the more people you collect together the greater the range of views. There is then very little chance of finding a fee schedule to suit everyone so we must follow what we have or find that which displeases the least number of people.

Perhaps the principle outlined above could be the answer - perhaps not.

KEVIN MOTT.

THIRD CAVE TOURISM AND MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The Conference ended up with \$228.85 surplus funds and this has been paid over to the Australian Speleological Federation Commission on Cave Tourism and Management as directed by the May General Meeting.

GRAHAM PILKINGTON.
Conference Treasurer.

C.E.G.S.A. POSTCARDS FOR SALE

The Group has produced postcards from six photographs of the C.E.G.S.A. Naracoorte Slide set. Loans from members totalling \$1,200.00 were raised to help finance the project. The Group must thank those members for their assistance and also thank Pendragon Printing Co. for its generous quotation and help.

These postcards will be on sale at Naracoorte but members may obtain copies through C.E.G.S.A. for 10¢ each.

GRAHAM PILKINGTON.
Slide Account Operator.

CORRECTION TO NEWSLETTER

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The Minister for the Environment Dr. John Cornwall, not Dr. John Cornish, opened the Naracoorte Caves Interpretation Centre on Sunday, 13th May, 1979.

We apologise for any embarrassment or inconvenience that may have been caused by the misspelling of Dr. Cornwall's name.

KEVIN MOTT.

Trip Reports

MOUNT GAMBIER:

28th - 30th April, 1979.

PRESENT: G. Pilkington, D. Arnott, T. Colhoun, F. Aslin and K. Mott.

Having been inspired by the success of the Naracoorte relocation programme and knowing that a vast amount of Lower South East data is not recorded, it was thought opportune to commence a relocation programme for the Lower South East. The weekend also provided a good opportunity to attend the opening of the Cave Tourism and Management Conference.

After spending Friday night in the Naracoorte Hilton, Dale, Graham and myself finally arrived at Fred's about midday where we were joined by Tony. The weekend's activities were centred around the Caroline as the fire last December had destroyed many hectares of pine forest making cave searching and locating a lot easier. Most of us were covered in soot by the end of the day. As the pines will be bulldozed to clear the way for new plantings, an accurate fix to the caves is needed to enable them to be relocated within the new compartments. A magnificent side effect of the days activities was the bountiful supply of mushrooms gathered by Dale.

On Sunday we continued the programme in the Caroline area. Just prior to lunch however, I, in my exuberance, stuck my foot in a hole while running across a paddock. The result was a torn ligament and a somewhat quieter Mott. Dale relished the idea of guiding Claude through the numerous forest tracks.

As I was still hobbling around on Monday morning it was decreed that I would visit casualty at Mt. Gambier hospital to determine the nature of the injury. After being 'lost' several times I eventually found out 3½ hours later, that it was only torn ligaments and it needed rest. Although I missed the opening of the Conference I reckon I became fairly proficient at doing wheelies in a wheel chair.

The trip culminated in a wine and cheese tasting at the Eight Mile Creek Cheese Factory and Coonawarra.

Results of the trip were:

Existing caves located - L112, L134, L174 and L175.

New numbers allocated - L179, L180 and L181.

New features: - 5.

Tagged: - L112, L134, L179, L180.

All except L134 and L175 were photographed.

It is recommended that the name of L134 be changed to 'Kongorroo Cave' as this is the original recorded name for the cave.

KEVIN MOTT.

MOUNT GAMBIER:

19th - 22nd May, 1979.

PRESENT: K. Mott, A. Bates and F. Aslin.

The purpose of this trip was to finish relocating caves in the Hd of Caroline. There also being a trip to Naracoorte the same weekend, everybody gathered at the Naracoorte Hilton. Needless to say it wasn't until the wee small hours that the last eyelid collapsed and sent the recumbent owner into a deep somnial state. We went to sleep. Next morning after an exchange of gear so that Dale's party could start a survey of U4, I relocated Victoria Quarry Cave (U59) prior to setting out for the Mount. The trip to Mount Gambier was temporarily delayed as Annette was declared a chattel and put up for auction. Ensuing bidding was lively and Annette was finally declared sold for \$45.00. Showing a degree of strong willed individualism she eventually absconded from her master, R. Hutchins Esq., to Mount Gambier.

Saturday and Sunday were spent on cave locating in Hds Caroline and Blanche. A visit to Circuit Sinkhole revealed that in the last 4 years the cave had been subject to organised vandalism with at least 20 car bodies inside, all clearly visible in the carnage spewed into the sinkhole. A formal complaint to the Woods and Forests over the dumping of rubbish should be made by C.E.G.S.A.

One of the caves located on the previous trip was found by reference to a P.M.G. pole. The row of poles was found to have been removed during this trip. It is circumstances such as this that make it imperative that we accurately locate our karst features while we can. L114, L176 we located on the return to Naracoorte on Monday.

Tuesday was spent talking to Police and Ambulance officials about the August exercise and relocating U49, U50 and U51.

Caves located on this trip: L19, L30, L114, L175, L178, U49, U50, U51, U59.

New numbers allocated: L182 and L183.

Unnumbered features found: 4.

KEVIN MOTT.

RIVER MURRAY:

24th June, 1979.

PRESENT: N. Smith, M. Rochler, M. Reardon, T. Reardon, B. Whittle (visitor) and K. Mott.

As this trip started off with all the earmarks of a Lewis trip and we felt he was present in spirit we declared him to be "Honorary Trip Leader" (in absentia) with the title of the late I.D.Lewis. This being no reflection on his apparent physical and or metaphysical status.

The proceedings commenced with a short delay while Neil's alarm clock finally decided not to function. After eventually collecting the various Reardon clan members and Michael we managed to head off for Blanchetown.

This delightful rural village has nothing to do with the day's events except to provide a meeting place and brunch stop. Very tasty toasted sandwiches. They even asked whether I wanted the onion on toasted cheese, tomato and onion toasted sandwich cooked or raw. Their being no third choice I opted for the latter. On the travelling cavgourmologist scale this place would rate as 7.

With many people obscenely and grotesquely devouring a varied fare of foods we proceeded on the final leg of stage 1; viz. the journey to the cave. As we neared our elusive destination the all searching, powerful, patented Mott cave locator and direction finder, due to confusion and overwork, blew a valve and failed to function properly. Following directions from the owner's son we finally found the track leading to the river. It being generally agreed that this would make an ideal camp site Terry commenced a brief display in the finer points of Frisbee throwing. Neil not to be outdone, delighted us with a fine rendition of his impersonation of a koala climbing a tree. This was fine till a branch jumped out and sconded him.

We then set off along a well defined footpath in search of the cave. Several small caves were seen, the longest being about 15m, before we finally achieved our goal.

The entrance to the cave is an opening in the cliff some 8m x 2.5m and 2.5m above the river. The cave trends approx. 110° and follows an enlarged joint with the typical cross section being keyhole shaped. Average width is 1.5m and average height 0.4m. The floor is layers of cracked mud becoming wetter the deeper into the cave you penetrate. The limestone appears to have suffered from the flooding in that all the phreatic knobs are easily broken due to their being soft and still saturated. Total length of the cave explored is 55m; the last 10 being the result of digging, i.e. removing mud from the floor. Michael was the only one to fit into the last section. The joint continues on but is too small to negotiate. A small breeze was blowing out of the cave. The cave was surveyed to ASF 3.3 on the way out.

After removing the majority of mud from ourselves the unanimous verdict was to raid the Swan Reach general store on the way home. This we duly did, completely exhausting their supplies of award winning pies and pasties. On the travelling cavgourmologist scale of 1-10, they rate as 9. 10 does not exist as nobody is perfect; trip leader excepted of course.

A brief sojourn at the Inglewood Inn completed another successful trip to the "caving area of the future".

KEVIN MOTT.

PROPOSED-TRIP NOTICE

NULLARBOR:

Harvey Cohan will be visiting the Nullarbor late December to early January to do a gravity survey over Mullamullang.

Anyone who has access to an auto level or gravity meter or is interested in going should contact K. Mott for further information.

PRESENT: G. Pilkington (L), Max Meth, Terry Reardon, Frank Hendriks and family, Stuart Hill, Martin Carnes and visitors George Parker, Stan Flavel, Martin Webb and Kathy Haskard.

For some of the team this was their first Corra-Lynn trip and for most their first trip to the southwest sections, but I still got hints that people preferred shivering in sleeping bags to starting on a trip of air-conditioned comfort. Maybe it was the thought of the floor and roof discomfort. Frank was left behind on the surface even though the rest would have liked to watch him suffer like everyone else. He used the time-honoured trick of arriving after we were below. He reckoned his broken ankle slowed him down.

The main purpose of visiting the Skeleton Maze and Limestone Bridge areas was to find and commence to shift a suitable easy-to-remove blockage leading to passages north of the Skeleton Crevasse, if such exist. By early afternoon, we all exited as a break from the sweaty steam-filled atmosphere and to collect Frank. The afternoon shift was more of a reconnoitre of better, that is, easier, dig sites, but none were found.

Sunday was a unique experience. While the more down to earth trogs - Max, Stuart, Kathy and myself - went surveying near Dick's Extension, the others entered and left Corra-Lynn without leaving daylight. But they did leave the ground. Terry held a training exercise on single rope techniques. Has anyone absided into or prusiked out of Corra-Lynn before?

At midday we left for Y21 and was readily given permission to enter the cave. However, the owner forgot to mention that the cave entrance had recently been covered WITH A DEAD COW! The smell wasn't too bad until we tried to shift it and it fell apart. DILEMMA. SOLUTION - a new entrance! Another section of the rubbish filled fissure was cleared and Max, Martin C and myself descended with baited breath. What would the smell be like in the cave? Was the entrance pitch, which lies below the carcass, littered with maggots and rotting meat? SUSPENSE. Then a flat nothing. The cave was breathing out and the pitch was clean!

It was after five before we left the cave. And how tempting it was to continue our long dig. We are now in sight of the top of a narrow fissure from which the gale blows through two small rock windows. However, the direction of the wind was now in .. IN! The smell in the cave (12m below surface and 13m long) had to say the least, become u-n-p-l-e-a-s-a-n-t on emerging we found out why the odour level was so high, the others had kindly moved the corpse to a stone pile a hundred metres downwind but released trapped fetid air in the process. They didn't like it either.

The next trip here should see the descent of the enticing fissure just beyond present reach.

GRAHAM PILKINGTON.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Heard at Naracoorte during a discussion about smoking.

Dale Arnott: "I couldn't kiss a smoker"

Phil Skeene: "It would be like kissing an ashtray:"

PRESENT: Graham Pilkington and Max Meth.

The trip a week before had keyed us up to get into the fissure beyond the windows in Y21. By this time the stench of rotting meat had become bearable.

We prepared for a gruelling weekend. Permission was obtained to camp at the cave while every conceivably useful implement was taken. The most useful article of the trip was a small boat of Max's - enabling two people to move tonnes of dirt in a short time.

A few hours work quickly showed that there was no easy path to the fissure through either of the two small rock windows - they WERE two small rocky windows. The rock is hard. Did we give up? Never! Mind you, it was midnight by the time we left the cave Saturday, successful. The trick we adopted was simply to dig down the wall under the exposed windows until we found a tunnel we could fit through. Luckily that was only 1.5 metres down necessitating about 4 more tonnes to be shifted, including an access ramp and the originally filled tunnel. This tunnel came out at the bottom of the fissure.

Unfortunately, the breeze could only be followed another 4m. It comes from a passage 0.3m diameter and about 6m long. The floor is a series of slots. We did get 2m along the start of the passage where it is 0.4m wide, to the third floorhole. This is where the entrance dirt sinks after travelling along a sub-level 0.5m below the open one. The sub-level is excavatable to manoeuvrable dimensions but the dirt has to be taken back to the entrance chamber and was more than the two of us could handle.

Sunday we went to Corra-Lynn to get help for our dig from the Scout group caving there. No luck. They were leaving for Adelaide at noon. "Oh well, since we're here, we might as well continue one of the numerous Corra-Lynn digs".

We chose the one started last year in a tight Lower Level tunnel 10m NE of the entrance water sink past the Cauldron. This passage is about 1m higher than the sink. By 2 pm we had cleared the working face which was 5m in at a dirt-filled blocking fissure, and had tunnelled through the dirt and rubble to a rock wall 1m away. By 3.30 pm our hopes were high. Max had uncovered an open 0.2m wide crack leading through the opposite wall and could see passage 1m beyond. Examination of the "wall" we had initially found showed that it was a fallen block with a crumbly slaty layer 0.25m thick on top. By 4 pm this layer had been removed in a wide enough strip to get through to the tantalizing passage running parallel with the blocking fissure. On the other side was a second fissure going both up and down. The up and along parts were not explored due to lack of time but the down way dropped 2m below the entrance passage, ONE METRE BELOW the water sink. This led to a ramp going down at least ANOTHER 2m which had flood marks at the bottom. Another passage went off at about SE for approximately 10m before being stopped by a magnificent crystallised dirt blockage. Hopefully no-one will disturb it.

The breakthrough was doubly significant even though small, in that it might lead to cave levels below the Lower Levels (we reached -3m with a small hole going deeper and a possible breeze leaving it) and it's the first discovery to break the south-east "barrier" (a mythical line along which every southern passage on all levels end).

GRAHAM PILKINGTON.

PRESENT: Doug Whitfield, Peter Jones and two visitors.

Friday night we started the weekend as usual by erecting the tents in pouring rain and gale force winds, bending tent pegs and finding out just what had been forgotten to be packed.

Saturday, after hearing so much about Bandicoot Bypass it was decided that it would be a good venue for experience. Joke of the day; now we know better! A look around Skeleton Crevasse and Skeleton Maze however, provided a worthwhile lesson as it proved that just because the map says "Big, wide area" it does not mean "suitable for human habitation". So with battered elbows, knees and a flagon of port we settled down for a night of comfort.

Sunday - now this was another day, with a trip to Gravity Cavity on the books and more lessons in the art of ground worming.

Whilst pushing my hat in front of me (we all know that you cannot walk in Corra-Lynn) it sort of disappeared from sight, followed by a lot of clattering. Not wanting to lose a new helmet there seemed only one thing to do, go after it, but, not being very smart, I descended into this hole, hot on the trail of the helmet. Well, I got my helmet back again then found out the bad news, there was only way into (or out of) this hole!

Even lunch was full of events. A visiting youth group from Clare had been informed as to the whereabouts of the caves, so a "few" of them made a day trip out of it. About 30 of them got out of their cars in new jeans, sneakers, high heels - Sunday best you might say. Doug and I greeted them dressed casually in an inch of mud. "We have come to go for a walk in the cave" they said. "Good", we replied and promptly went back to what was left of lunch. You see, the local residents had thrown a party the night before on our food supply.

Half an hour later we decided to see how they were getting on. Well, scarcely 100 feet in and we were trampled to death by 10 of them playing hide and seek. Grand Central was living up to its name with more people yelling and shouting than you would get at the footy. Continuing our quest for more people we found a large hole in the ground complete with trapped specimens of the homo-sapient species. A rather largish girl had gotten half-way up and was firmly wedged in place with the others shoving from below. Doing our good deed for the day we helped them from their unfortunate position to freedom. Unable to persuade them to leave this subterranean heaven, a hasty retreat out of this mad house and back to the rat race was our only sane outlet.

PETER JONES.

IN OTHER WORDS

"Lease holders, sub-tenants, heads of families and other persons currently in occupancy of residential units assembled from prefabricated vitreous modules are advised herewith that participation in activities involving the projection by manual or mechanical means of mineralogical or geological specimens represents a violation of the Maintenance Code of Federal Housing Act and offenders are subject to prosecution."

In other words: "People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones".

By courtesy: Public Service Board Bulletin - April/May, 1979 per KEVIN MOTT.

Other Articles

A VISITOR

On 6th February, 1979 I was host to a visiting German Karst worker. He was Professor Dr. Franz-Dieter Miotke of the Geographical Institute, University of Hanover. He was on a flying (literally as well as figuratively) visit around Australia following a two month field session in Antarctica. Genuine Karst workers (usually academic) are few in number, and we in the South East see even less of such people than do city folk, so it was doubly rewarding to have one come and seek us out.

After a brief office introduction to the area, its geology, hydrology and the literature pertaining thereto, we set off on an 8 hour tour of the district. Franz spoke reasonable English and discussion and debate came easily. It quickly became obvious that my understanding and explanation of the local Karst processes fell in the middle of the road as far as current world theory on such matters stands. This surprised me considering my isolation.

His personal interests are in the field of chemical dissolution processes and water tracing, but he teaches a much wider discipline and was at pains to emphasise the interactions of rock, water acidifying agents, man and time. Along with other recent workers he was emphatic that pH plays (and has played) a very significant role, not only in dissolution but also in deposition, a role perhaps far greater than many would credit.

He took a large photographic record of his visit with him, and arranged for literature purchase and exchange. Our Karst will be more widely known as the result of his visit.

A day well spent.

FRED W. ASLIN.

C.E.G.S.A. - V.S.A. ANNUAL DINNER - 1979

Despite the various governments adding confusion by throwing a long weekend into the midst of this gala event, attendance was quite reasonable. Approximately 35 Victorians and 25 South Australians turned up at Naracoorte. The South Australian contingent at the dinner was 20½. Overall the evening was successful and the frivolities and festivities were not allowed to be marred by the absence of a meal.

The soccer match scheduled for Saturday went ahead as planned with simulated S.A. and Victorian teams. The first half was closely fought with both sides scoring 1 goal each. The S.V.T. ran away in the second half and scored another 5 goals and in the fading light were declared the winners. Next year it is suggested we play the match under lights i.e. helmet carbide lamps. We must thank the Naracoorte Soccer Club for making their grounds available to us.

During the weekend various surveying trips to Blanche, Victoria Fossil and surface features of the reserve were run. Tourist trips to Wombat, Fox and VDC were also arranged.

After the dinner many people took the opportunity to visit Mt. Arapalies for climbing or Caves Ridge for further caving.

KEVIN MOTT.

HELP WANTED

Neil Smith and Dale Arnott have recently made a survey of the back issues of the CEGSA Newsletter which the Group is currently holding. The object was primarily to ensure that we do have a complete set for Records, and secondarily to attempt to build up other sets to be bound and lodged in the Library for routine borrowing purposes.

We are in the fortunate position of indeed having at least one of each issue, but we can't make up another set, except by photocopying. The genuine article would be preferable, we feel, hence this appeal to anyone who may have any of the following old Newsletters on hand and who would be willing to donate them.

Vol. 20 No: 1	(May 1975)
Vol. 19 No: 2	(Aug 1974)
April-June	1969
May	1967
February-April	1966
March-July	1965
April-June	1963
February-April	1963
November '62 - January	1963
Anything before November 1962.	

We also have on hand quite large numbers of most issues back to about 1968. If any other caving clubs wish to fill in gaps in their sets it would be worth contacting us.

NEIL SMITH.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The article that appears on the following pages was donated by Kevin Mott. It deals with the discovery of a large cave on Lot 2708 Nullarbor Plain in the year 1892 by R. McCullough.

We regret that we could not publish the complete text in its original state as it is beautifully handwritten but we have published the front page of the report for your interest and the original report has been typed for this magazine.

No 4985

1892.

Engineer-  in-Chief's

Department.

From *R. M. Cullough*

Subject *No 5 Bore Nullarbor
Plains*

*Particulars re large
Cave on lot 2708 5 miles
west of Gumerango Shed*

Enclosures

Dated ...	5 9 92	Acknowled.		92
Received	14 9 92	Answered	23 9 92	

Vide *Preservation*

9.92
SEP 92

*Also, then very
replete & interesting
report & volume to me*

24/9/92 M. M. in Ackd on

No: 5 Bore Nullarbor Plains.
September 1st 1892.

The Conservator of Water,
Adelaide.

Sir,

I have the honor to report re large cave on lot 2708 Nullarbor plain. I herewith forward sketch showing position of cave on lot. It is situated five miles West from Guinewarra Rain Shed along telegraph line and three miles North of that point is the approximate position of cave -

I also forward rough sketch showing opening to cave vertical depth and other heights they are only approximate. The conservator is aware that there is no surface rivers in this part of the country, storm water is carried off surface by caves and blowholes the later are numerous and vary in size from 2 inches to 6 feet. The cave under Notice has been a blowhole and served as a means for carrying of a large quantity of storm water which has washed subterranean passage out, passage of the same sort are likely to be found at other blowholes if the opening were large enough to get down. The surface drainage I estimate at 2 miles East and West and I believe it is much more North and South with a fall of at least 15 feet in that distance towards mouth or opening to cave. The opening to cave is 200 yds circumference of oval shape. This 200 yds circumference has fallen down about 60 feet. Trees are growing in bottom same as on surface. The East side overhangs and there is a round hole up through the solid crystalline limestone as shown on sketch. The cave is entered at surface on South West side. A bar made fast with about 50 feet of rope attached is the safest way to get down.

It is possible to get down without a rope I consider it dangerous to do so. When landed of first ledge you make your way to North West corner. Among some large boulders an opening is found into the subterranean passage. With a bit of scrambling among large boulders and down steep places you get to the Amphitheatre like place which I marked on sketch. At noon the suns rays penetrate between the large boulders at entrance to subterranean passage and light up this vast chamber showing Dome and all surroundings with Grand Effect. At this point the subterranean passage divides to right and left the left branch I have not explored very far. Turning to the right over and among some large boulders a passage is found about 70 feet wide by 50 feet high the floor having a gradual descent. A dry water course is clearly visible winding in river like fashion among large boulders and rises in its course until water on right hand side is reached. It is dark in this passage holding up lights and looking across this water a large dark Arch Way is seen. Turning from this water over some rises strewn various coloured flints a distance of about 4 chains another separate lake of water is met with. Up against lefthand wall the water is about 6 feet deep and very clear holding a light over water the bottom is Very Clearly Seen. A fission or a clearing or splitting in the bed of water is seen about 1 foot wide and like a black band running across it. At this place I stayed about 2 hours but could not detect any rise or fall in water if it does rise which I doubt it must be very little. The rise and fall at cliffs about 13 miles distant is not much. There is no support for roof of cave between these two waters which is 6 or 7 chains. The salt like substance found round the edges of these waters, a sample of it was taken to office by Mr. Herman appears to me more like saline substance washed from the surface and as the storm water drains away is left round edge. If storm remains on surface a substance some similar is seen on ground when it dries up. Temperature on surface 60° at bottom of cave 65°. The Thermometer used was an American one with storm glass attached I noticed when at bottom of cave the substance in storm glass would not settle but floated about in feathery like particles to top of glass. The opening is too large to say whether air passes up and down the cave but there can be no doubt about it as it passes up and down all surface holes according to weight of atmosphere.

The Strata passed through in Boring is clearly seen in cave especially the various coloured flints, the lower floor is strewn with them and where the roof is white they can be seen peeping out like stars. Those on the floor are about the size of a flour barrel and cased in a white chalk like substance, others shattered and broken in fall. Portion of roof appears to have lately fallen in. Band of flint about 3" thick run horizontal and appear fractured. I didn't see any stalactites in cave, there is a peculiar lime-like dust might be called stalagmite.

Water in cave Hydrometer register over 3 -

From what I know of these plains I am of opinion that there is a very poor prospect of getting water suitable for stock at a shallow depth I mean first water met with and West of Bight.

Mr. Brown of Messrs. Willis Bro. & Brown has had man going over his run with a Divining Rod and hear it said he has chosen some 20 sites for wells which he says good stock water will be met with and I believe guessing depth ... one of these sites is in an old shaft some 3 miles north of Roberts Well. A Soothsayer or Augery Man I don't believe, I hope Mr. Brown will try as one trial is better than a great many opinions.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. McCullough.

P.S. If you have not already realized which cave this is, the article you have just read has been describing "Koonalda Cave" (5N4.)

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

The contributions to the last two Newsletters have been rather 'skinny', more articles are needed to keep the standard high as in previous issues, so come on Cegsarians, get those pens moving and let me have some really good articles to publish. The 'Spirit' has been particularly noticeable for his absence. I have also completely run out of cartoons and quotes.

If it is any incentive, the next and successive issues of the Newsletter will be printed professionally from plates and not stencils, and provided that you can supply me with a CLEAN, clear photocopy ready article on an A4 size sheet of paper, we will be able to publish it. This will be ideal for crossword puzzles, cartoons, technical drawings etc., even photographs (but see me first re these). The manner in which to submit these particular articles is to first draw a very faint 1" margin completely around an A4 sheet of paper then proceed with your article keeping completely within these margins. All other articles will still be typed in the usual manner.

The closing date for articles for the next issue of the Newsletter will be the 31st October, 1979. Please send them to:

P.O. Box 124, Hahndorf, 5245.

If you have any queries re Newsletter articles you may contact me by phone on 388 7536.

JAN PETERSON.

Letters To The Editor

Against my better judgement - printed herewith a letter received from the Victorian Speleological Association dated 6th April, 1979. 'Sour grapes' and idle threats are really not my scene but perhaps some witty Cegsarian may feel inclined to answer the printed matter below.

EDITOR.

Dear Editor and Cegsa,

We have recently perused your latest Newsletter and Annual Report and find them both to be publications of a reasonable standard. For this we convened our Mid-Western Branch.

However it does seem that you are suffering a bit of an identity crises, you feel that you have to prove yourselves by attempting to denigrate your betters.

You should not have to do this. We don't consider you inferior, just not quite as good as us. Just to put the record straight here is what really happened over Christmas:-

- Darts - Narrow S.A. victory over the Victorian Reserve Team
(Brian was drunk anyway).
- Squash - Only a small, unrepresentative group of two Victorians were
available for selection. Not counted. The women won anyway.
- Cricket - When S.A. were finally forced to stop running away and play
Victoria, we of course had a resounding win.
- Speleo - Though the Vic. Team had a slow time they showed what
Sports true speleologists they were by surveying the course.
- Pool - The only big wins S.A. had were when they played themselves. The
mighty Vics decimated the opposition.
- Table - No problems encountered.
Soccer

If it still worries you that we are vastly superior in all respects, we might allow you one small victory in something unimportant next time.

Yours in Speleology,
Your Betters,
THE V.S.A.
(Very Superior Assoc.)

P.S. If you don't publish this, we will.

Programme

SEPTEMBER:

12	Committee Meeting	90 George Street, Norwood.
16	Town Cave	T. Reardon.
22, 23	Naracoorte - Exploration	N. Hallett.
26	General Meeting - R. Sinclair-Wood, Hiking in the Gammon Ranges	
29, 30	Corra-Lynn - Exploration	G. Pilkington.

OCTOBER:

6, 7, 8	Annual CEGSA Ski Trip - Location dependent on Snow.	K. Mott and J. Cundy
10	Committee Meeting	66 Eyre Crescent, Valley View.
14	S.R.T. Practise - Norton Summit	N. Smith.
20, 21	Naracoorte - Photography and High Grade Surveying	J. Cundy and K. Mott.
24	General Meeting	

NOVEMBER:

14	Committee Meeting	5 Loxton Court, Hope Valley.
17, 18	Naracoorte - Exploration of infrequently visited caves.	G. Pilkington.
25	Swan Reach - Rubber rafting to find new caves	M. Reardon.
28	General Meeting	

DECEMBER:

7	Annual Dinner
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