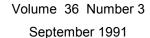
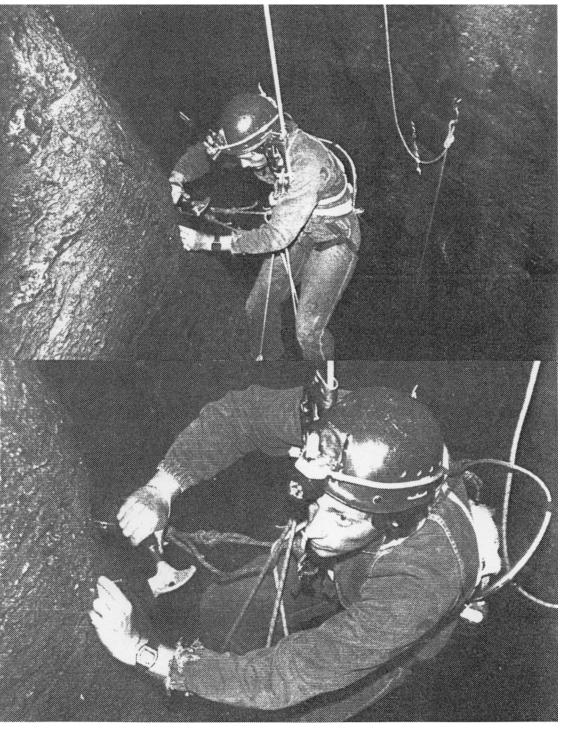
CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

P O Box 144 Rundle Mall, Adelaide 5000





N Ε W S E T T E R



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CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP SOUTH AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

meetings held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm for 8:00 pm in the Royal Society meeting room, South Australian Museum.

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POSTAL ADDRESS:

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FRONT COVER: Found hanging around in Y2 Town Well Cave, Yorke Peninsula, one of the Notorious Bolt Fairies.

DEADLINE for articles for Volume 36 Number 4 is Wednesday 24th OCTOBER, 1991.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of individual authors and not necessarily those of the Cave Exploration Group (South Australia) Inc. nor its Committee.

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EDITORIAL

It is important to keep safety in mind, no matter what activity we undertake. If the proper safety measures are taken for any given activity, such as caving, then the associated risk can be reduced significantly.

Assuming that we do all take the appropriate safety measures when we perform a given activity, such as caving, then we would find that the biggest risk that we face is not the actual activity itself, but that of travelling to and from the given activity.

When we all go caving, we usually concern ourselves with the problem of entry into and exit out of a cave system, but do we ever consider the "what if" situation of an emergency. Would we have sufficient equipment, knowledge and experience to render assistance or assemble sufficient help to deal with the emergency.

As some caving areas are so remote, it would be impractical to rely on assistance, but instead we would need to be self-sufficient and perform any rescue ourself.

One needs to constantly ask oneself questions such as could I perform a simply self-rescue from a cave, could I deal with an emergency situation within a cave environment, who would I contact for assistance in the given cave area?

I believe that preparation such as this is as important as the actual activity itself.

Safe Caving

Mark Thiselton

There has been some problems associated with the distribution of recent editions of the Newsletter and the 1990 Annual Report, so if you have not received Volume 36, Numbers 1, 2 or the 1990 Annual Report please contact me to make sure you do receive your copy. (Please note that I will be unavailable during the first two weeks in September).

Many thanks to those of you who have contributed articles for inclusion in the newsletter, although I have not included all the items given to me they will be used in future editions, and if anyone else has articles of interest, please give them to me and share your caving experiences with others.

TRIP REPORTS

NULLARBOR PLAINS

20th JUNE to 16th JULY 1990

Party: David and Debra McIntyre, Jason and Tina McIntyre,

Fern Raintree, John Meikle and Paul Harper.

Caves Visited: N1, N3, N83, N132, N165, N360, N63, N137, N37

N73, N40, N70, N46, N62.

This is a belated report of a trip to the Nullarbor Plains. The main aim of this three week trip was to visit the better known caves and have a relaxing holiday. (Is that possible?)

We left Adelaide in a convoy of three vehicles, taking two days to reach Weebubbie Cave, where we spent the night. The next morning saw us having a swim before heading off to Abrakurrie Cave, where we met up with an "OSPREY TOUR" who were also having a look at the cave.

We then went on to Mundrabilla Homestead to say G'Day to the owners before heading off to Old Homestead Cave, arriving late in the evening. The hut was still in one piece and the water tank was full and undamaged. By the number of names and comments on the walls it appears as if the hut has been well used and appreciated by all. We stayed a week in total at Old Homestead Cave, spending two days in the North Cave, one day in the South Cave and one day in the Spring Series. We experienced quite a bit of rain while in this area making the tracks very muddy.

Next we travelled on to Thampanna Cave via the Mundrabilla Roadhouse to stock up on junk food. (Paul your reputation is exceeding your again. Ed.) As we arrived in the Thampanna area in darkness and had trouble locating the entrance, we ended up camping some three kilometres from it. We visited Thampanna Cave the following morning.

The day after saw us visiting Webbs Cave, Kelly Cave and N360, while on the following day we visited Thylacine Hole. On the next morning we spent some time (How Long? Ed.) Digging in N137 un-named Doline, where there is a strong breeze coming out of the rocks, but we ran out of time.

We then headed to Mullamullang Cave via Madura Petrol Station to see the manager of Madura Station and have a hamburger and chipeating contest. (Now let me guess who won. Ed) We arrived late, setting up camp some 500m from the Doline. During the next day we visited Camp One Blowhole, it is 18m deep and has a very loose pitch, for which I would recommend that only one person at a time enters the blowhole as there is nowhere at the bottom to hide from any falling rock.

CEGSA NEWSLETTER

The following day saw us entering Mullamullang Cave as far as Camp One, where John, Fern and I stayed the night, while the others returned to the surface. The next morning we moved to the Dome and back to Camp One picking up our packs and rejoined the rest of the party on the surface.

The next day we visited Kestrel No.1 and had a look at the entrances of Kestrel No.2 and Spider Sink. We then headed off to Fire Stick Cave on the way passing a doline, which we later found out to be N36 Erosion Blowhole, which is a large depression having a small cave at one end. This cave was a narrow crawl 10m long with very strong breezes coming from both ends. The breeze was coming out from between rocks on the floor at one end just below where someone had written U.N.S.W.S.S. on the ceiling with a carbide lamp. We started digging here and in a short time had broken through into a huge expanse of cave that went down at an angle of 60 degrees to a beautiful cracked mud floor, but alas we didn't find any passages leading off from this mud slope. We spent several days here exploring N36 and also visited Fire Stick Cave that was close by.

We then visited Madura South Cave and Nurina Cave. On the way home we did a little beach combing.

We ended up spending over 90 hours underground, which for the 21 day trip averages out to over 4 hours a day; not bad for a relaxing holiday.

Paul Harper.

YORKE PENINSULA

21st July 1991

Party: Paul Harper, Sue McCormack, Fern Raintree, Jay Robinson,

John Meikle and Ian Charlesworth.

Cave visited: Y1

We all arrived late and after getting the key from the owner, we trogged up and went for a quick look at the old section. After having lunch we headed to "Dreamland", but unfortunately we were not all able to climb the "Portal" giving access to "Dreamland", so we were forced to change our plans and headed back into the old section. Although we used a handline with footloops a proper ladder would be more advantageous on future trips. We finished the trip at the Curramulka Pub.

Paul Harper

FLINDERS RANGERS

28th to 29th December 1990

Party: David and Debra McIntyre, Paul Harper and

Armando Arcidaco (N.U.C.C.)

Caves visited: F1 and F20

A friend of ours having travelled from Canberra for X-mas, wanted to go caving, so we decided to take him to a couple of features that we had not visited before.

On Friday we visited F20 Orroroo cave, the entrance to which is tight and awkward, before dropping 2.5m to a 3m long ledge and a further 10m pitch, which we all abseiled. I went down last to find the others busily discussing the movements of a large brown snake at the bottom of this pitch.

F20 is a small cave with tight passages and a few easy climbs leading to some upper and lower passages that don't go on. It is very hot and humid with no breezes detected.

While you could easily see the cave in 30 minutes, getting in and out adds considerable time.

As the day was still young, we decided to visit F1 Mount Remarkable Blowhole, so that on the following day we could go straight to it. We ended up wasting two hours looking on the wrong hill. We finally found the correct hill and the cave.

On Saturday we went straight to the entrance of F1, and after debating about which tree to use as a belay point, we decided to use the tree to the east of the entrance as it happened to be over a back up belay point in the form of a rock projection nearby.

F1 is a 50m deep blowhole, the first 40m being a single pitch and the last 10m being an easy climb. The main problem that we found while using SRT, was the large number of rub points due to the number of ledges. We were forced to use a total of seven rope protectors, but we could have used more.

As there are no natural belay points on the pitch for redirection or re-belay points, we felt that there was a good job for the "Bolt Fairy" to place some mechanical belay points, this may make this cave a good venue for SRT training.

At the bottom of the 40m pitch, one finds themself in a chamber 8m long by 4m wide, from here the easy climb takes you down the 10m slope to the short crawl leading to the watertable. The first person in managed to see a frog. On the way to the watertable it is wise to stay in a small alcove half way for protection as rocks tend to be dislodged when negotiating the lower pitch.

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I would recommend this cave as a day trip from Adelaide, but feel it is better to make a weekend of it and explore other features within the area according to Stan Flavel.

Paul Harper

YORKE PENINSULA

16th to 17th February 1991

Party: Lance Hoey, Paul Harper, John and Martin Miekle, Nigel Dobson-Keeffe and four of his friends.

Cave visited: Y1

We spent Saturday afternoon digging in "Goes Off North" passage, adding a further 2m to its length. We retreated to the Curramulka pub for a counter meal and a few ales before camping overnight near the entrance to Y1.

Sunday saw Nigel and his friends arrive and the group spent a good part of the day touring different areas of the cave because a few of the party were unfamiliar with Y1.

Paul Harper

GLORIOUS KANGAROO ISLAND (See Volume 35 Number 1)

One the recent trip to Kelly Hill in may, one of our main objectives was to relocate the site of photographs appearing in a 1915 publication "Glorious Kangaroo Island".

Twelve photos appear in the book and up until this trip we had only been able to relocate nine photos, all of which were found in Midnight Cave and just outside the window on the tourist path.

During this trip we located one more photo in "Trogs". This leaves only two remaining photo's to locate, both of which were taken in "Dentist's Hall-Midnight Cave".

So far only Colour photo's were taken by us on this trip, although our aim is to take black and white photo's and to duplicate the photo's exactly as they appear in the original book for comparison purposes, but time was not on our side this time, maybe next time.

Paul Harper

KANGAROO ISLAND

18 to 21 May 1991

Party: Lance Hoey, Ian Charlesworth, Eddie Rubessa,

Garth Jackson and Paul Harper.

Caves Visited: K1, K9, K10, K11, K13, K46, K52, K69, K70, K74,

K75, K88.

We travelled across on Friday night meeting Garth and Ida at Kelly Hill.

Saturday morning saw us meeting the new Ranger Robert Ellis, then after a lazy lunch we went off with Robert to visit K11 Frosted Floor Cave and K88 Long Drop Cave. As it was getting late we retreated back to the campfire.

The next morning saw us heading off without Robert to K52, K9 and K69, returning to camp for lunch. In the afternoon we visited K70, K74, K75, K10, and while looking for K84, we stumbled on K7. (should that have been stumbled in ?..ED). As it was getting dark we madly bush bashed back to camp. That evening we visited the Tourist Cave to relocate where some old photographs were shot from. (See separate trip report)

On Monday, Robert joined us again and we headed off to K46, after which we visited K51 Twin Pits; on the way, Rugby Wilson a cave guide joined us. While we were at K51 Robert was injured by a falling rock and we were involved with the 3½ hour rescue to get him out of the cave. (See separate report) After Robert was flown back to Adelaide by helicopter, leaving Garth and Ida at Kelly Hill, we took Ian back to Penneshaw to catch the ferry home that night, while Lance, Eddie and myself enjoyed a counter meal and stayed overnight in the Hostel.

The next morning saw us at Kelly Hill again, this time to give a statement of the accident. We then had a look at K13 Porky Flat Cave on the way back to Penneshaw and home.

Paul Harper

QUOTE

On a recent trip to Kangaroo Island where this group were relocating where photographs from an early 1900's publication were taken from, Ian Charlesworth was heard to say "We should come back here in the daytime, we will see more!"

KANGAROO ISLAND ACCIDENT REPORT

20th May 1991

The following is my account of the caving accident that occurred in K51 Twin Pitts on 20th May 1991, at Kelly Hill Conservation Park on Kangaroo Island, South Australia.

The Members of the party were as follows;

Paul Harper CEGSA Trip Leader

Ian CharlesworthCEGSALance HoeyCEGSAGarth JacksonCEGSAEddy RubessaCEGSA

Robert Ellis NPWS Cave Manager Rugby Wilson NPWS Cave Guide

K51 Twin Pits is a 5m deep hole with dimensions of approx. 3x2.5m, and has no dark zone.

We arrived at Twin Pits around 11 am, at which time I walked around the entrance looking for the best way of setting up our gear, having selected a sturdy tree, 4m away from the edge as the belay point. The pitch appeared as a solid rock face with two protruding knobs, approx. 300mm high and 300mm wide at the top, which I proceeded to set up around. A canvas bag was placed between the knobs, with the rope running over the canvas bag.

Around 11:15 am, Robert abseiled into the hole, detached himself from the rope and started to inspect the bottom of the hole when it soon became obvious that there was no dark zone. We proceeded to lower a ladder and rigged up a belay line for his exit.

As Ian had not abseiled before, I decided that this would be a good feature to learn in. As Ian prepared to abseil, I had him attached to a belay rope while I was attached to a safety line as we both stood on the edge of the entrance.

Robert was still at the bottom of the pitch, but standing to one side. I was not concerned with this as there were no loose rocks on the pitch as it appeared as a solid rock face. I belayed Ian as he abseiled into the entrance, where he then detached himself from the rope. Robert then attached his harness and figure eight onto the rope and told me to pull it up and give it to Rugby as he wanted him to have an abseil.

I asked Rugby if he had abseiled before and he replied that he hadn't, so Eddy helped him into the harness. Eddy and I then began to explain to him how to abseil. With Rugby on belay and Eddy and I both standing at the edge giving Rugby his final abseiling tips.

With Ian standing to the left of the pitch and Robert still standing to the right leaning against back against a wall preparing to take a photograph of Rugby as he abseiled down.

Rugby was about to abseil down the pitch when I put my foot on the right hand knob. The knob and part of the cliff face below immediately fell away as a single slab slightly to the right of the pitch. The slab, although irregular in shape, measured approximately 1.2 x 1 x 1m. I was able to yell out below as soon as the rock fell, watching Robert move to his right before he was struck. Rugby and I moved back from the hole fearing more collapse. Robert had left a hand held radio on the surface, allowing Rugby to call Kelly Hill Base for assistance while Ian who was also in the cave supported Robert who was learning against the cave wall in a sitting position. Ian checked Robert and relayed to us that he was breathing, conscious and not bleeding, but was in severe pain and had trouble breathing.

We decided to send a runner back to Kelly Hill Headquarters, for which Rugby volunteered and I went with him to ensure that he found the track. After running the 250m through the bush to the track, Rugby kept running to the HQ 1.6km away.

At the turn off to Twin Pits, I tied my map case on a tree and left my map and compass on the track with an arrow pointing the way as well as written instructions stating bearings, distance and location. I then ran back to the cave. By this time Eddy and Lance had been talking to Kelly Hill HQ on the radio and had lowered our space blanket and first aid kits down the pitch.

Ian had wrapped a space blanket around Robert and was supporting him while also checking Robert for other injuries, and noticed that Robert had a chest injury and could hardly breath and was complaining of severe pain in the chest, back and neck as well as suffering from amnesia. We continued to take note as Robert's condition changed. Garth had move out to the track to quide other people to the cave.

Viv, a cave guide from Kelly Hill, soon arrived and being an exnurse, was lowered down the pitch to assist Robert. Rugby returned with a stretcher and went down the hole. At about this time, two members of the local response group arrived, one of them was a park worker and he took over control of the radio. Two ambulance officers arrived and an oxygen cylinder was lowered into the cave. Contact was made with a doctor in Kingscote, with Robert's condition described to him. We lowered the stretcher down the pitch and they were able to sit Robert on it but could not get him to lay down, so a folding stretcher was brought to the cave from the waiting ambulance parked at Kelly Hill. Two more members of the local response group arrived at the cave, one of these went into the cave with a muscle relaxant injection sent by the doctor in Kingscote.

CEGSA NEWSLETTER

A local doctor who by luck was visiting the tourist caves at Kelly Hill also arrived at the cave and was lowered down the pitch to examine Robert and gave him some painkillers.

A short time later and they asked for the folding stretcher to be lowered down the pitch.

We attached a pulley system to the stretcher with three attachment points, using doubled up 1 inch tubular tape and this was attached to the 11mm static rope with a 10mm steel rapide. We selected a flat wall (not the same one that caused the accident) that provided a suitable belay in the form of a tree 5m from the edge of the pitch, to which we attached a 4 to 1 advantage pulley system.

The people in the cave strapped Robert to the stretcher in an upright sitting position with the back of the stretcher against the wall, the idea being to allow the wheels of the stretcher to roll up the wall. Two ropes were tied to the bottom of the stretcher and two to the top, one on each side to guide the stretcher as it was being pulled up and out of the cave.

The medical retrieval team from the Royal Adelaide Hospital arrived and the people in the cave said that they were ready so we started to raise Robert out of the cave. The stretcher rolled up the wall very easily, requiring only two people to pull on the rope, but 3/4 of the way up, the rock wall ended and the wheels on the stretcher soon became bogged on a sandy slope.

Around this time we saw the State Emergency Group and local Police arrive and they helped with the guide ropes. Lance who was on a safety line, using a long handled shovel, prized the back of the stretcher out of the sand and by doing this we slowly pulled Robert out, but we now required five men to operate the pulley system.

The retrieval team went to work on Robert and we packed up our gear. We then helped to carry Robert back to Kelly Hill HQ, where the ambulance took him to a nearby field for the rescue helicopter to fly Robert back to the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Robert spent some 3½ hours in the cave.

POST SCRIPT

Robert's injuries included 3 or 4 broken ribs, broken sternum and bruised lungs. He stayed at the Royal Adelaide Hospital for 1 week then was transferred to the Kingscote Hospital for another week.

Paul Harper

TECHNICAL & OTHER ARTICLES

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting is to be held at the Deacons Tavern, 18 Coromandel Place, Adelaide. Ph. 223 3300.

The reason for this change in venue is due to the fact that our usual meeting place is unavailable for the month of November 1991.

The Deacons Tavern is available for meals and the Committee is suggesting that those of you interested in eating should gather around 6.30pm, the meeting will start at 7.30pm. Food orders should be placed with the Tavern direct, see the menu included in this newsletter.

If you are talking to other members make sure that they are aware that the November meeting venue is different to normal.

VSA DINNER

Yes it's on again this year, the annual CEGSA/VSA Dinner. Mark Sefton is taking bookings for the Dinner to be held on Saturday the 16th of November 1991. So please contact him.

AUSTRALIAN CAVER

Clare Buswell is the editor of The Australian Speleological Quarterly, Australian Caver, and as such is looking for articles and black and white photographs for inclusion in future editions. (so am I.!... ED)

ROMP THROUGH RECORDS

Due to popular demand (or was that dire need.!... ED) Stan Flavel has decided to hold another Records Day at Murray Rd, Inglewood on the Saturday, 26th October. So those who missed the previous activity or who enjoyed themselves so much, will be able to help out again or simply be involved in a BYO BBQ, contact Stan for more information and to indicate your intention.

AUCTION and BARBECUE

On Saturday the 30th of November 1991, an Auction will be held at 2pm at Mark Sefton's home, in order to raise money for the club. So come along and find something of value to buy or simply be involved in a BYO BBQ afterwards. Contact Mark Sefton for more information and to show your intentions.

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP Of SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PO Box 144 Rundle Mall, Adelaide, 5000

The General Meeting to be held on Wednesday the 27th of November 1991 is to be held at:

Deacon's Tavern,

18 Coromandel Place

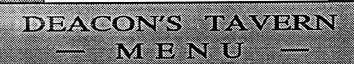
Adelaide

Ph. 223 3300

Meals are available and the Committee is suggesting that those interested in eating at the Tavern should gather around 6.30pm.

Food orders should be placed with the Tavern direct, see the menu on the reverse side of this sheet.

The General Meeting will start at 7.30pm.



STARTERS AND PASTA	Entree	Main
Cabbage Rolls	\$3.50	\$5.25
a minced beef, bacon garlic and rice Mexican Meat Balls	\$3.50	\$5.25
spicy, on a bed of rice, with mexican sauce Pate	\$3.50	\$4.95
 Deacon's own special pate and salad garni Sqid Salad 	\$4.00	\$6.00
marinated in chilli, lemongrass & corriander Spicy Plum Prawns prawns wrapped in pastry, deep fried, and	\$5.50	\$8.90
served with a plum sauce Pasta Bolognese pasta with a home-style bolognese sauce	\$3.50	\$5.95
Lasagna	\$3.75	\$6.55
 lasagna as only Deacons can make it Pasta Marinara pasta and selected seafood in a garlic-cream sauce 	\$3.95	\$6.95
MAIN COURSES		
Cottage Pie		\$5.50
 traditional cottage pie topped with a potato crust Fish and Chips beer batter, deep fried & served with lemon & tartare sauce 		\$5.95
Roast of the Day		\$6.50
selected roast of the day, cooked in the traditional way Schnitzel & Sauce		\$6.00
your choice of mushroom, pepper, Italian on spicy plum sauce Chicken Parmagana		\$7.25
 crumbed chicken, topped with ham, Italian sauce & cheese Scotch Fillet cooked the way you like it with a sauce of your choice 		\$10.50

A LIGHT TOUCH		
Garlic Bread	\$0.90	Desserts of the day are listed on
Soup of the Day	\$2.60	the board by the bar
Hot Chips	\$2.60	
Toasted Sandwiches	\$3.90	All main courses served with salad
Deacon's Burger	\$4.95	and potatos
Ploughman's Lunch	\$4.95	

CEGSA NEWSLETTER

PROGRAMME

August		
31	Murray Plains	Stan Flavel
September		
1	Yorke Peninsula	Graham Pilkington
7/8	Lower Southeast	Stan Flavel
11	Committee Meeting	
14/15	-	
21/22		
22+	Australian Expedition to Old Homestead Cave, Nullarbor Plain, 2 weeks	Graham Pilkington
25	General Meeting - Mystery slides/Video	Stan Flavel
28/29		
October		
5/6		
12-14	Flinders Ranges	
19/20		
23	Committee Meeting at 6:30pm before GM	
	General Meeting - Snakes	Dr Julian White
26	Romp through Records	Stan Flavel
November		
2	SRT Tree Session	Steve Milner
9/10		
13	Committee Meeting	
16/17	Western Victoria - joint CEGSA/VSA; includes Dinner	Mark Sefton
23/24		
27	General Meeting - Old Homestead Cave report	Graham Pilkington
	*** Different Venue for this Month ONLY: Check Article in Newsletter ***	
30	Auction and BBQ	Mark Sefton
30		Mark Sefton Nigel Dobson-Keeffe
	Auction and BBQ	
????	Auction and BBQ Corra Lynn	Nigel Dobson-Keeffe