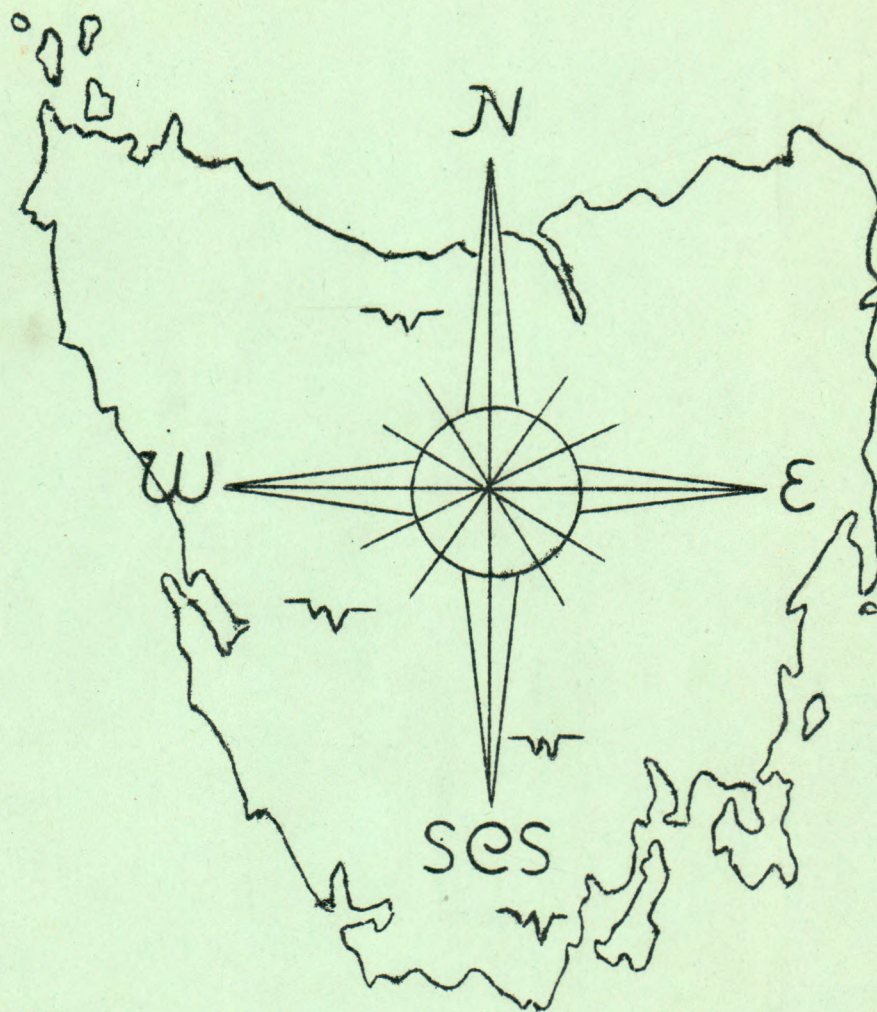


SOUTHERN



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SOUTHERN CAVER

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EDITORIAL

This is the first edition of the Southern Caver for 2 years but with the formation of a new Magazine Committee at the meeting on 21st January 1970 we hope the Southern Caver will come out regularly again.

The Committee is formed of four enthusiastic members with the power to obtain the services of other members if needed. The Committee members are David Elliott, Ron Mann, John McCormack and Kevin Kiernan.

The Committee would like plenty of material to print so here is your chance to see an article with your name on it in your own magazine.

RON MANN

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The postal address of the Society is now 4 SYME STREET, SOUTH HOBART, TAS, 7000.

EXECUTIVE 1969/70

President	:	Dave Elliott
Secretary	:	Ron Mann
Treasurer	:	Ron Mann

TRIP LIST

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Participants</u>
September	6 - 7	Mole Creek	4
	20 -21	Hastings	8
	28	Maydena	3
October	5	Maydena	4
	12	"	5
	19	"	6
	26	"	8
November	1 - 2	Mole Creek-Lorinna	4
	9	Maydena	4
	23	"	6
	30	"	5

TRIP LIST cont.

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Participants</u>
December	7	Maydena	6
	26 - 29	(Mole Creek	11
		(Darwin Plateau	3
January	1	Maydena	7
	4	"	3
	11	"	4
	17 - 18	Mole Creek	8

NEW CAVES

Mole Creek:	<u>Fuzz Pot</u> 120ft pot on Wet Caves Hill, no extension.
Hastings:	<u>Flag Locker</u> Small cave above Beattie Cave <u>Waterloo Swallet</u> A waterfall drops into Ladder Pitch - depth unknown. <u>Trafalgar Pot</u> Cave near Waterloo Swallet.
Maydena:	<u>Rescue Pot</u> Cave near Crisps Rod. 2 people were rescued from it on March 6th, 1969. 90ft pitch. <u>Owl Pot</u> 120ft pitch with passages and talus on F9 road. <u>Welcome Stranger</u> 2,200ft efflux cave with many side passages. Very well decorated.

A SUMMARY OF 1969

The year 1969 has been one of mixed fortunes for S.C.S. Quite a number of trips have been conducted to the established areas and the year has seen trips to a number of potential caving areas throughout the State.

In November, Larinna was first visited by an S.C.S. party. Only one day was spent in the district but this was sufficient to gain a realisation of its potential and as a result a second trip was arranged in January, 1970.

A SUMMARY OF 1969 cont.

Following reports by Mines Department and University geologists, two localities have been scrub-bashed. The Showground area has yielded numerous small dolines and an efflux too tight to negotiate and Limestone Creek yielded countless small caves that don't go and the efflux of quite a large stream, the entrance to which is unfortunately too tight. Much of this area will be flooded by the new H.E.C. Cethana Dam and not a lot of time remains to preserve anything of scientific interest before it is lost forever.

In April the first caving trip was made to the Mt. Mayday area. Although no caves were discovered, a number of dolines were found and future trips have been planned. There is not as much limestone in the area as was first thought to exist.

A party visited Trowutta at Easter but nothing was achieved. The same party spent a short time at Montagu. Both these areas are in Pre-Cambrian Duck River Dolomite.

Only one trip has been conducted to Mt. Ronald Cross over the past year and once again no new caves were found.

Of the established areas the Club fared best at Maydena. Rescue Pot was visited in mid-April. This cave came to light after the rescue of two people from it on 16/3/69 and was the deepest of the year's caves. It proved to be wet, cold, hairy and dangerous. The cave is situated behind Pygmy Cave and is the swallet of a small creek. It is approximately 350ft. deep and includes a 90ft. pitch. Don Francombe of A.N.M., Maydena, informed the Club that loggers had lost a tree into a hole in the F9 road area, so late in April a party set out to locate and explore the hole. While searching for the hole a small cave was discovered. This cave was named Three Falls Cave because three waterfalls coming over the edge of the doline sank into the entrance. Leaving this cave the party proceeded 150yds down the valley and found the hole they were searching for. The entrance is a large one in the side of a big doline only 50yds above the road near Tassy Pot. The cave was explored to a depth of 250ft which includes a 110ft ladder pitch. It has some decoration in the lower levels and was named Owl Pot.

The Club's greatest success of 1969 came in October with the exploration of Welcome Stranger. Once again this was as a result of information given by Don Francombe. Members were told of an efflux in the Westfield area. On the day we were shown the cave the water level was low. This was fortunate as a low crawl was encountered near the entrance and had the water been high enough to flow from the cave the crawl would have been flooded and it would probably have been passed off as yet another syphon. Beyond the crawl the cave opens out and the main stream passage was explored to the syphon, 2,200ft. from the entrance. On New Years Day, 1970 a doline swallowing a creek was found $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of the entrance. This may be the swallet of Welcome Stranger Creek but unfortunately the entrance is unnegotiable.

Other caves visited at Maydena over the past year have included Pygmy, Francombe's, Junee, Voltera, Growling Swallet and Bone Pit.

Despite a large number of trips to Hastings nothing new has been discovered. During the year however, a number of previously known caves were named. A hole found some three years ago was named Waterloo Swallet. This cave is on the upper reaches of the dolomite N.E. of Beattie Cave and is the swallet of a small waterfall. Entry is gained by a free ladder drop estimated at 100ft. The cave is as yet unexplored. A nearby 130ft deep pothole was named Trafalgar Pot. A small cave above Beattie was named Flag Locker. This cave is of similar dimensions to Beattie but there is no decoration.

Other caves visited at Hastings over the past year have included Beattie, Lyons Den, King George V, Wolf Hole and of course Newdegate.

Comparatively few trips have been made to Mole Creek over the past year. However, In May, members laddered a hole shown to them by Ernie Martin. It proved to be a single ladder drop of 120ft. with no continuation. It is situated between Georgies Hall and Wet Caves and is one of a number of such pots on the ridge. It was given the unusual name of Fuzz Pot.

Club trips have been to other caves such as Kubla Klan, Wet Caves, Georgies, Shishkabab, Pyramid, Cow, Lynds, Scotts and Honeycomb.

The year 1969 has been a busy year for the S.C.S. and the Society looks forward to 1970 with an air of optimism.

KEVIN KIERNAN.

