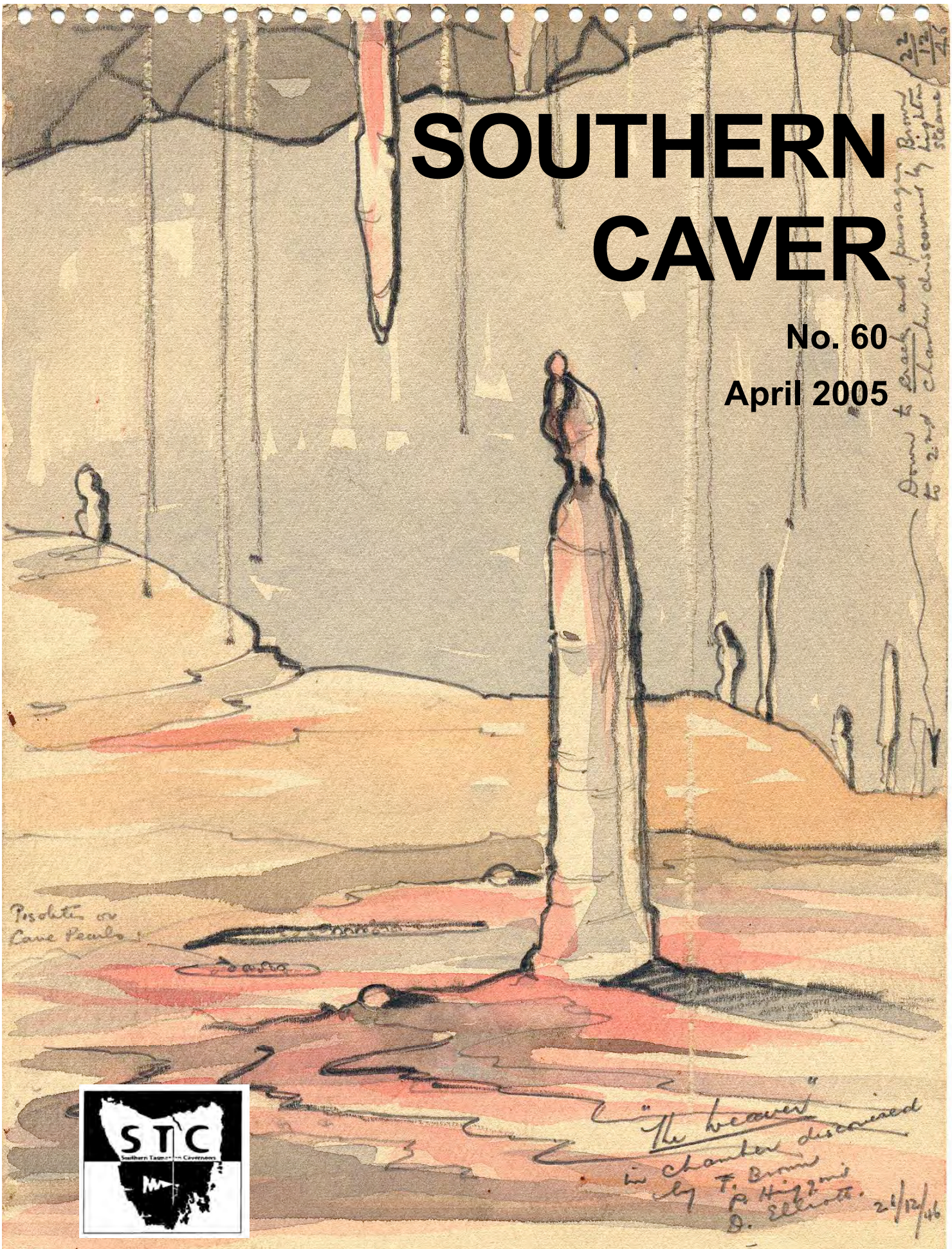
SOUTHERN CAVER

No. 60

April 2005



Watercolour by S. Ray Lighton, of 'new' chamber in Newdegate Cave, Hastings - December 1946

Occasional Journal of Southern Tasmanian Caverneers Inc.

PO Box 416 Sandy Bay, Tasmania 7006, Australia ISSN 0157-8464

Editorial – What is "Southern Caver"?

Southern Caver was the newsletter/journal of the Southern Caving Society, a group founded in Hobart on 7 April 1965. Volume 1, number 1 was issued in July 1967. The editor was not identified but a list of past editors in Vol. 10, no. 4, p. 25, indicates the first editors were B. James and R. Cockerill. The numbering system of 4 issues per volume continued until the fourth issue of Volume 12 in May 1981.

The magazine had never had a regular publication schedule but from No. 49 (December 1981), issues were allocated consecutive numbers and it formally became an "occasional publication" with issues being released when sufficient material was obtained by the editor (at that time, Stephen Harris). This arrangement continued until issue No. 59, published in August 1995 (edited by the late Jeff Butt). No further issues were produced before the society amalgamated with the two other southern Tasmanian caving bodies – Tasmanian Caverneering Club and Tasmanian Cave and Karst Research Group – in December 1996.

During the amalgamation negotiations it was agreed that *Speleo Spiel* (the original TCC newsletter, the first series of which commenced in December 1960) would continue as the newsletter of the combined group (which took the name Southern Tasmanian Caverneers) and *Southern Caver* would be the group's 'journal', to be issued as material of sufficient quality was produced. It seems that *Speleo Spiel* has been able to accommodate all material produced to date by STC and no further issues of *Southern Caver* have eventuated.

Certain material in the combined archives which has never been published but may be of interest to members and others has been brought to my attention by Arthur Clarke. A single copy of such material in one location is both difficult of access for members and in danger of being lost or destroyed. It has therefore been agreed that such material might be compiled and issued, occasionally, as further numbers of *Southern Caver*. This journal will not be printed (except for a few library copies) but will be made available in digital format (PDF) through the STC website.

This first issue of the revived *Southern Caver* carries material put together in the early 1960s for the 5th issue of the *Bulletin of the Tasmanian Caverneering Club,* which was never published. It has been edited only in relation to spelling and grammar. Some footnotes have been added. The letter from Norbert Casteret is an unrelated, unpublished item from the archives.

The editor would welcome correspondence from any person able to add to, or comment on, the historical material contained in this issue – or to provide more.

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Copies of *Southern Caver* in pdf may be downloaded freely from STC's website at www.lmrs.com.au/stc

Southern Caver

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Contents

STC was formed from the Tasmanian Caverneering Club, Southern Caving Society and Tasmanian Cave and Karst Research Group. STC is the modern variant of the oldest caving club in Australia.

CROESUS CAVE

30th January 1960

Author unknown

LOCATION

Croesus Cave is located on the bank of the Mersey River approximately two miles south of the township of Liena. The location is just upstream of the area of cultivation on the left bank of the river on the edge of the State Dedicated Forest on the right bank.

ACCESS

Access is by car along the Mersey Valley forestry road for four miles then by a two mile long logging road turning off at the mill. This road is unsurfaced and narrow but has a fairly easy grade which can be negotiated by a car even after fairly wet weather in its present unsurfaced condition. Vehicular access is to within fifty yards of the cave mouth.

GEOLOGICAL HISTORY

Very briefly the cave is located in massive, solid Gordon Limestone identical to the rock encompassing the other caves in the area. Croesus is a comparatively young cave which has developed to its present stage in about six to ten thousand years according to the Club's geologist, Mr. K. L. Burns B.Sc. The cave debouches onto an old flood plain of the Mersey River of approximately this age and the regular roof height and lack of steep grade to the cave creek all point to a geologically recent formation. The direction of the cave is controlled by the strike of the beds and the cave exhibits the typical "dog-leg" pattern common to most of the big cave systems in the Mole Creek area -consisting of a long, high passage along the strike of the beds followed by a shorter, lower passage where the cave crosses a stratum before repeating the long passage along the strike of an adjoining stratum. Structurally the rock is extremely strong and at no place in the cave is there any danger of a rock fall.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CAVE

The total length of the cave is between 5,000 and 5,500 feet, of which the first 4,000 feet are of interest for tourist development. The entrance is narrow and low with the stream occupying most of the passage so that it is necessary to crawl through the bed of the stream to effect an entrance. Immediately after the first crawl of ten feet the roof rises into a medium sized chamber with an average roof height of eight feet and dimensions of 70 feet by 40 feet. The chamber has an excellent sandy floor strewn with boulders of limestone and one cluster of stalagmites.

Leaving this chamber by a low passage approximately five feet long, one enters the next section of the cave. This section (known as "The Pipe") is a long stream passage corresponding to the strike of the rock; it contains some fairly good pieces of formation comparable to the poorer parts of Marakoopa and runs completely straight for 980 feet. The average roof height is between 10 and 15 feet and the average width is between 30 and 40 feet. At the conclusion of this section the creek is dammed by the first of a series of natural obstacles which results in the floor becoming a series of still pools varying in depth between two feet and twenty. These pools, held back as they are by crescent-shaped dams of formation, are one of the scenic features of this cave. In other caves these "gour pools" are pointed out by guides as formations of particular interest - in Marakoopa an artificial pool of this type is used as a reflection pool and in King Solomons Cave the formation known as the "Rice Paddies" is of the same type. In Croesus this type of formation covers the entire floor on a much larger scale.

Shortly after these dams commence the walls and roof of the cave become richly ornamented with the usual array of calcite

formations. The main impression gained of these formations is that of size, some of the flowstone formations on the walls are tremendous. One formation, known as "The Snow Bank" is 60 feet long and 25 feet high, it is composed of pure white calcite exhibiting a myriad of crystal faces which reflect light from their surfaces like a giant kaleidoscope. Time permits only the mention of some of the more spectacular formations like the "Red Shakoe" - a huge stalagmite coloured a rich chocolate and rising almost to the ceiling 40 feet above the stream. "The Zulu's Head" is also worthy of mention, this is a huge corrugated canopy which looms out of one wall and forms an arch 50 feet long and 20 feet high over the stream the gleaming moisture and rich colour making it look like the work of a skilled craftsman in bronze. By contrast the pale yellow symmetry of the 40 foot high "Tower of Hanoi", looking like a Chinese temple and entirely dominating the Oriental Chamber, resembles a huge carving in ivory. Further along the cave is "Tapestry Chamber" which possesses a natural stage for a party to stand on and watch the shawls being illuminated from the other side of the cave. These shawls used to number over forty but uninvited vandalism has reduced this to about thirty first class calcite draperies, some of which are almost as good as the magnificent shawl in the Gunns Plains Cave. Shortly beyond this chamber the easy part of the cave comes to an end with the Golden Stairway, a huge stepped formation in rich golden coloured calcite. The formation takes its name from the two or three foot high steps of formation up which it is easy to clamber the entire ninety feet of its height. This formation is the highlight of the cave and photos of it have appeared in several publications including a double page spread in "Walkabout"[1]. Beyond this point the nature of the cave changes completely and the rest of the journey alternates between scrambling through narrow passages in the talus and crawling in muddy passages where the head room is no mere than eighteen inches. The cave terminates abruptly in a lofty chamber with a small opening to the surface about 150 feet above the floor.

SUGGESTED DEVELOPMENT

In the preparation of this report the Club has consulted with such of its members and ex-members whose professional qualifications in the fields of mining, geology, construction and electrical installation would be of service. This report is a brief compilation of these people's opinions as submitted to the Club, the individuals would be available for private consultation should the need arise.

(1) EXTERIOR

The cave is situated on the edge of a plain in close proximity to the Mersey River where good fishing and boating is available. It makes a good starting point for tours of the Forestry roads at present under construction in the Mersey and Forth Valleys. It is a comfortable day's walk to the top of the Western Tiers. Within four hundred yards of the entrance to the cave there is a second cave debouching onto the Mersey River at the foot of a spectacular cliff.

In view of these potentialities it is suggested that a motel could well be built on the bank of the river adjoining the cave and possibly expanded to include a golf course and a riding stable. The amenities of the accommodation would provide an additional attraction to the area and the presence of the other cave (also worthy of development) would ensure the need of even further development. Once the road had been widened and surfaced the area would become readily accessible. If it was not thought desirable to build an extensive unit at first it would be quite possible, due to the isolation of the area, for the cave to be locked at night and for the guide to travel to the site each day as was done at Marakoopa for many years.

[1] *Walkabout*, (July 1953) Vol. 19, No.7. pp .22-23. A photo of the Golden Stairway also appeared on the cover of the May 1954 issue of *Walkabout* – GJM. [Photo. 1]

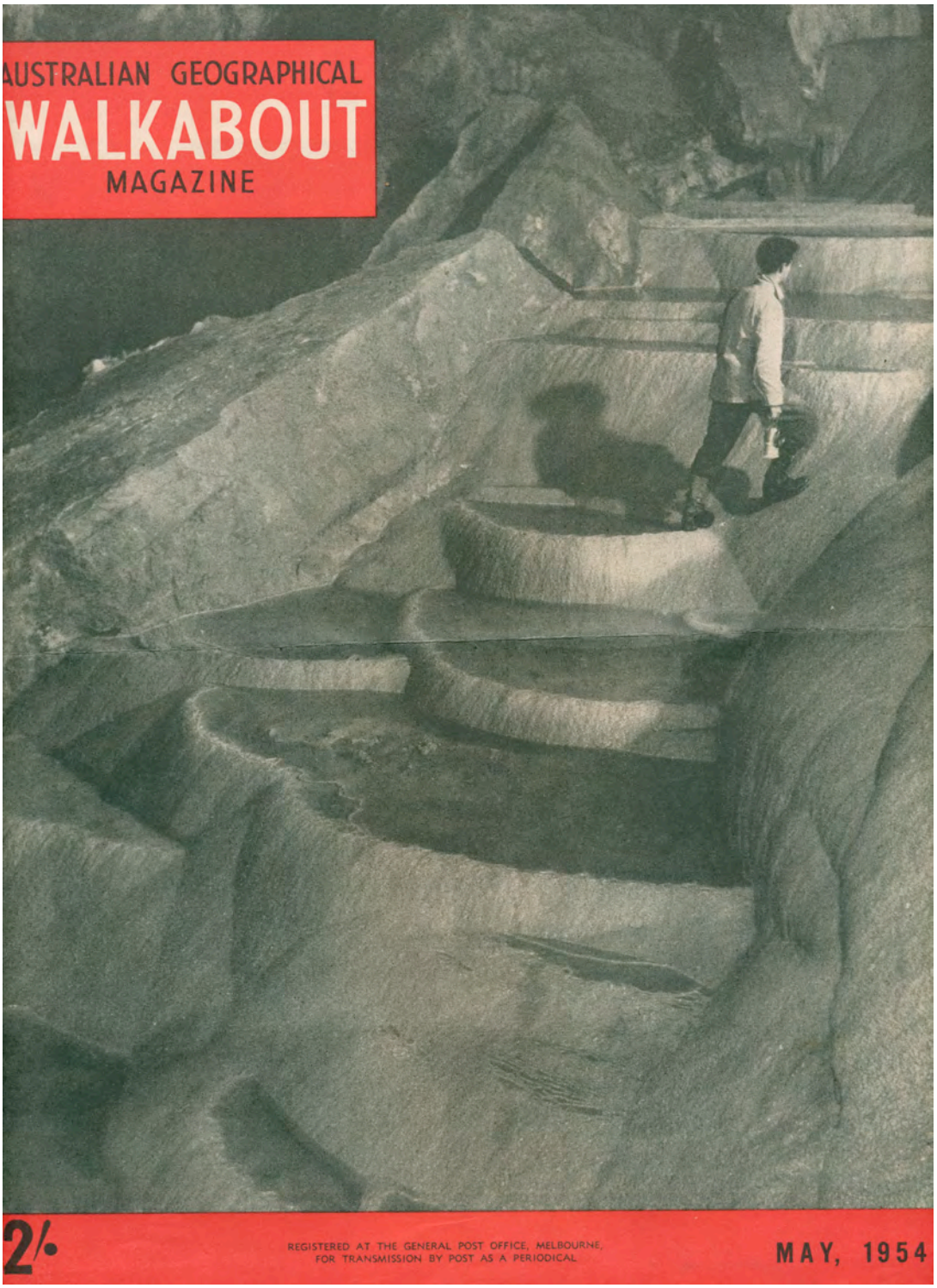


Photo. 1. The Golden Stairway, Croesus Cave. Photo by H. Fairlie-Cuninghame. From cover of "Walkabout", vol. 20, no. 5, May 1954.

(2) INTERIOR

Only in two places in the entire cave would it be necessary to raise the roof height in order to allow easy access. At the mouth of the cave a distance of 12 feet would need tunnelling out to a height of six feet and at the point where access is now gained by crawling from the first chamber into "The Pipe" another tunnel approximately 10 feet long would be required. At no other part of the inspection is there any need to be concerned with roof height. Transport within the cave is a problem to be contended with since many tourists would be incapable of walking the 3/4 mile each way. This could be overcome by the installation of a narrow gauge railway powered by electricity. This could be used for about half the distance, at which point a

small dam three feet in height and fifteen feet in length would raise the level of the river sufficiently to enable a boat to be used for about three hundred yards. The final four hundred yards through Tapestry Chamber to the Golden Stairway could best be seen on foot. The cave is almost entirely level, the greatest angle of elevation measured being less than 1° along the bed of the stream. This would enable a small electric train to effect the journey easily. In the interests of safety, in the event of a power failure an auxiliary petrol motor would take the train down grade to the mouth of the cave, the natural ventilation is more than ample to remove any traces of exhaust fumes. Boats have been used in tourist caves quite extensively in other parts of the world but the novelty of the train would prove a great draw for tourists since this mode of travel is not used in any other tourist cave in the world.[2]

LIGHTING

The problem of lighting any cave is extremely difficult. In Croesus we feel that considerable use should be made of side and back lighting to give depth and perspective to the formations. The sparkling effect of the crystal formations can only be seen if the light falls on the object from the side. Providing this type of lighting and the switch circuits to control the lights means an extra outlay during installation but we feel that the added aesthetic appeal of the cave as compared with flat frontal lighting would amply repay the additional expense. The type of lighting plant now in use generally seems to be quite satisfactory but sufficient power would have to be supplied to enable the train to be used at the same time as the normal cave lighting plant.

PRESERVATION

Some years after the discovery of the cave by members of the T.C.C. the committee, becoming afraid that the number of people visiting the cave without the official knowledge of the Club would result in damage to the formation either by misguided souvenir hunters or outright vandals[3], made a strong suggestion that the cave be given effective protection. After several years of negotiations with various departments it was finally decided to erect a barrier and grille at the entrance. The Club had previously suggested this, and offered a suggestion that the best protection was concealment. We suggested that the people building the barrier should adopt the plan used by previous Club parties and not approach the cave from the same direction more than once. We further suggested that the grille be erected inside the cave at the end of the first crawl so that it would not be seen from the outside and so that a person trying to make an illegal entry would be unable to apply any force to the gate. However a road was bulldozed to within fifty yards of the entrance and a barrier was erected outside the cave. This combination of a road, a track and a barrier only served to whet the curiosity of visitors and assure them that a previously unimportant crack in the rock was worthy of investigation. Within a month the barrier had been forced and since that time the flow of illegal visitors has increased and with this increase there has been an increase in senseless vandalism and wanton destruction. ■

Editor's Note: This article reflects attitudes at the time it was written. It is most unlikely that the development proposals outlined would find any support among Tasmanian cavers in 2005 – GJM.

[2] A train has carried tourists about 3 km into Postojna Cave in Slovenia since 1872 – GJM.

[3] A hand written note with the original typed manuscript continues at this point: "This unfortunately happened and the original gate proved ineffectual, being placed at the entrance (and was easily forced) however thanks to the Minister for Public Works, the Hon. D. Cashion, and the Minister for Tourism, the Hon. A. Atkin who personally accompanied the Club along with senior officers of the Tourist Dept., the Club was engaged to build and place a gate inside the first crawl. This has been done. The upper entrance and new entrance were found by the Rover Scouts of Launceston."

ACCURACY IN CAVE SURVEYING

For the beginner

M.H. de Vries B.A.

During the 19 years or so of the Club's existence, many of its past and present members have voiced their opinions on why and how caves should be surveyed.

EXISTING SURVEY TYPES

At the present moment we produce three main types of surveys, the types being determined by reason of survey which, in turn, determines the degree of accuracy required.

1. Magnetic bearings by handheld prismatic compass (mean error 5°), pacing (mean error ±10%), no elevations.
2. Compass and Abney level on camera tripod (mean error ±2%), distance - fibreglass tape (mean error ±1 foot).
3. Artillery gun Director Unit on camera tripod (mean error, theoretically, elevations 0°5', turned angles 001'), distance – fibreglass tape (mean error 0.5 feet).

WHY SURVEY CAVES?

There does not appear to be any constantly applied rule for determining what cave is to be surveyed and what method is to be used. Let us then recapitulate on some of our principal reasons for cave surveying.

1. To obtain some graphical record showing the general outline and size of the cave.
2. To obtain a map of the cave on which one may plot data such as location, extent and type of formations, river levels, structural details, (eg faults, joints, etc).
3. To determine whether a point X inside a cave is located under or beside a point Y on the surface, etc.

No doubt one could think of many other reasons. It is felt that the above three examples will prove an invaluable guide when determining the question of mean error to be allowed.

The previously mentioned three main types of survey will be found to coincide approximately with the three examples above. Thus we have the use of hand held prismatic compass and distance by pacing for obtaining a rough record showing the general outline and size of cave. It is only with the third type of survey where we have troubles which have to be solved if we wish to preserve the stated accuracy of the instrument used. Experience has shown these troubles to be of the following kinds:

a. Incorrect placing of instruments.
b. Incorrect placing of sighting lights.
c. Incorrect manipulation of instrument.
d. Incorrect notation of data.
e. Incorrect handling and reading of tape measure.

Again, experience has shown that these problems can be minimised if the following points are kept in mind:

1. Reason for accuracy

Every member of the team must realise that accuracy is of the utmost importance when using an instrument which gives turned angles only. It is true that on our maps one cannot draw an angle of 0°01' [one minute] or significantly show an altered depth of 0°05' [a vertical angle of 5 minutes], or a corrected distance accurate to one inch.

The criterion of accuracy is to determine whether the hypothesis, that point X inside the cave coincides with point Y on the surface map is true or false. This can be proven trigonometrically without the need to draw a map at all. Hence, *all readings must be logged correctly,* not rounded off to the nearest figure.

One must remember that an error made, say, on station 7 will throw all subsequent readings out of accuracy. This was illustrated in the Croesus Cave survey and again in the Wet Caves where parts of the cave had to be re-surveyed.

2. Placing of instruments

So far we have always mounted the Club's Gun Director Unit, weighing several pounds, on a lightweight aluminium Linhoff camera tripod. This has ruined the tripod which cost over £20 and caused the instrument to fall over several times resulting in temporary damage. Accuracy was out of the question most of the time. A firm wooden tripod and suitable swivel mountings must be procured so that the instrument can be given a stable base. (Subsequently a proper instrument tripod was purchased.)

Furthermore, a line and plumb-bob should be used to make sure that the instrument is directly over the station, not 6 inches away.

3. Placing of sighting lights

When selecting survey stations, *please* keep in mind that there must be sufficient room around the station for the tripod *and* the operator. Very often the next station on the cave floor cannot be seen through the telescope. Standard procedure is to place the sighting lamp several feet above the station, usually at "chest height". This naturally leads to errors. e.g. displacement of lamp from station, variable vertical distance of lamp above station (see Fig. 1). This can be satisfactorily overcome by fastening a small one-cell torch on a bracket which can be clamped against a 5 foot pole calibrated in inches (see Fig. 2). Vertical displacement is controlled by a liquid level fastened onto the pole. Thus, if instrument height is 4' 7", then the forward chainman fastens the sighting lamp at 4' 7", creating a sighting line which runs parallel to the actual line between stations.

4. Manipulation of instrument

When setting up the instrument on a new station, the following drill is recommended:

a. Set vernier on 0° 00' (below eye piece), set azimuth scale on 0°. Therefore the reading directly below the front of the telescope is 180°.

b. Level instrument (bubbles) and check line for displacement.

c. Note instrument height.

d. Swing complete unit onto previous station, lock main controls, check instrument level.

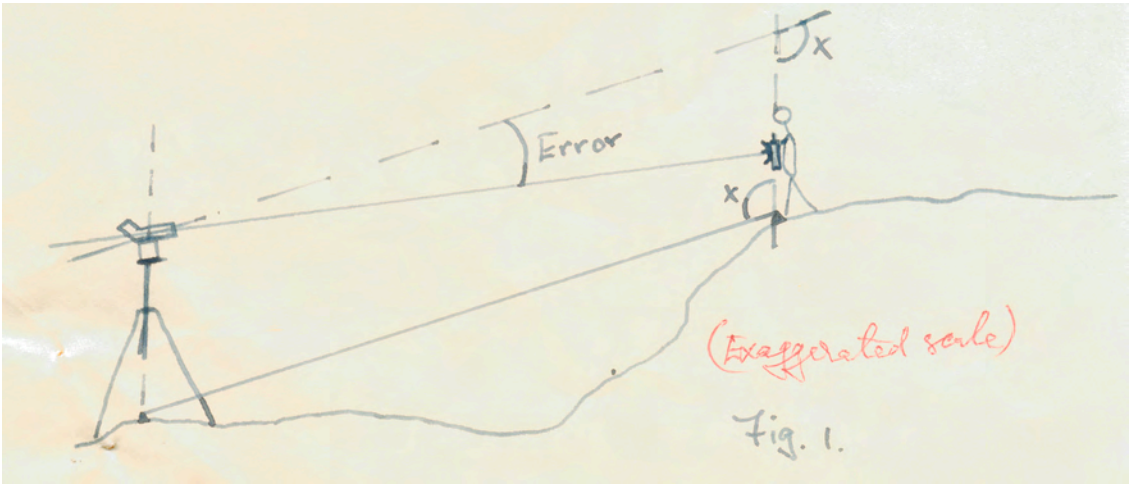
e. Traverse telescope onto forward station, check instrument level.

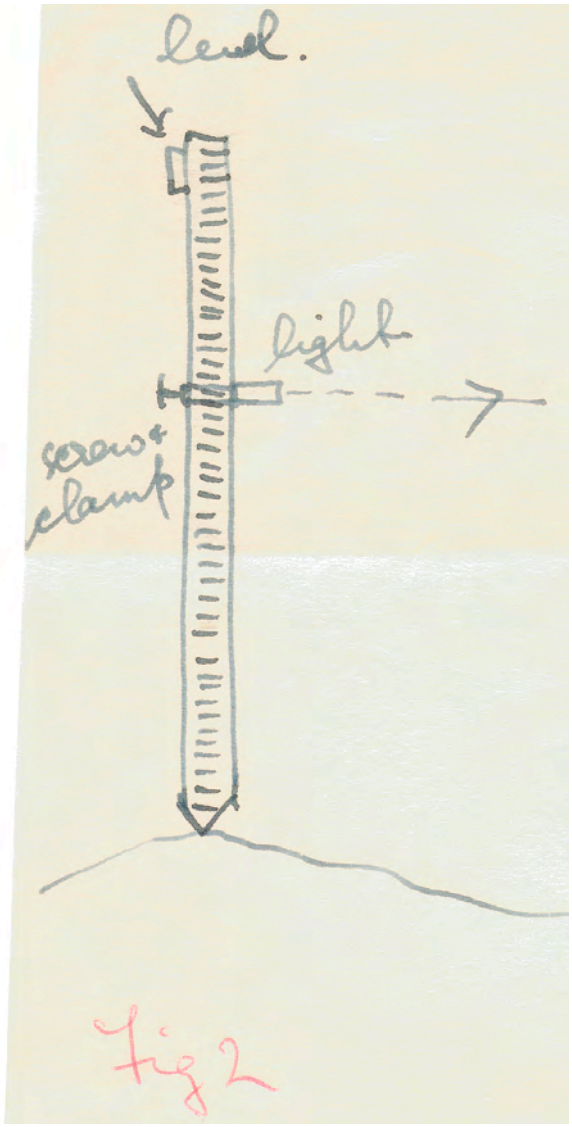
f. Take readings.

5. Logging of data

a. Field Book – record distance, elevation, turned angle in centre column. Other details in outside columns.

b. Field Plot – to be drawn to scale, record outlines and features; show station numbers, offshoots. Ballpoint pens of various colours are helpful.





6. Handling of tape measure

The fibreglass tapes now in use are quite accurate and ideal for cave surveying. Note: They are NOT flameproof! Usual practice is for the forward chainman to run out the tape, the recorder taking the readings. The tape must be free from all objects, held as taut as possible and true distance read to nearest inch. Over distances in excess of 50 feet one may need to correct for slack tape.

We now come to the final stage of the survey – that is, the trigonometric calculations.

We wish to show that point X (station 6) coincides with point Y on the surface map. To do this we need to calculate the distance between stations 1 and 6 in a straight line on an imaginary horizontal plane, and the bearing of this line. We can also determine the vertical difference between X and Y (see Fig. 3).

1. Convert all inches to decimals of feet. (1in. = 0.083 ft.)
2. Resolve all tape readings to horizontal and vertical readings (Fig. 3a). E.g. station 1 to 2. d = 37'2" = 37.166'. Inclination = +12°15'.

1. abcdef on one horizontal plane.
2. d is true distance measured.
3. turned angles known at 2, 3, 4, 5.
4. elevations (x°) known

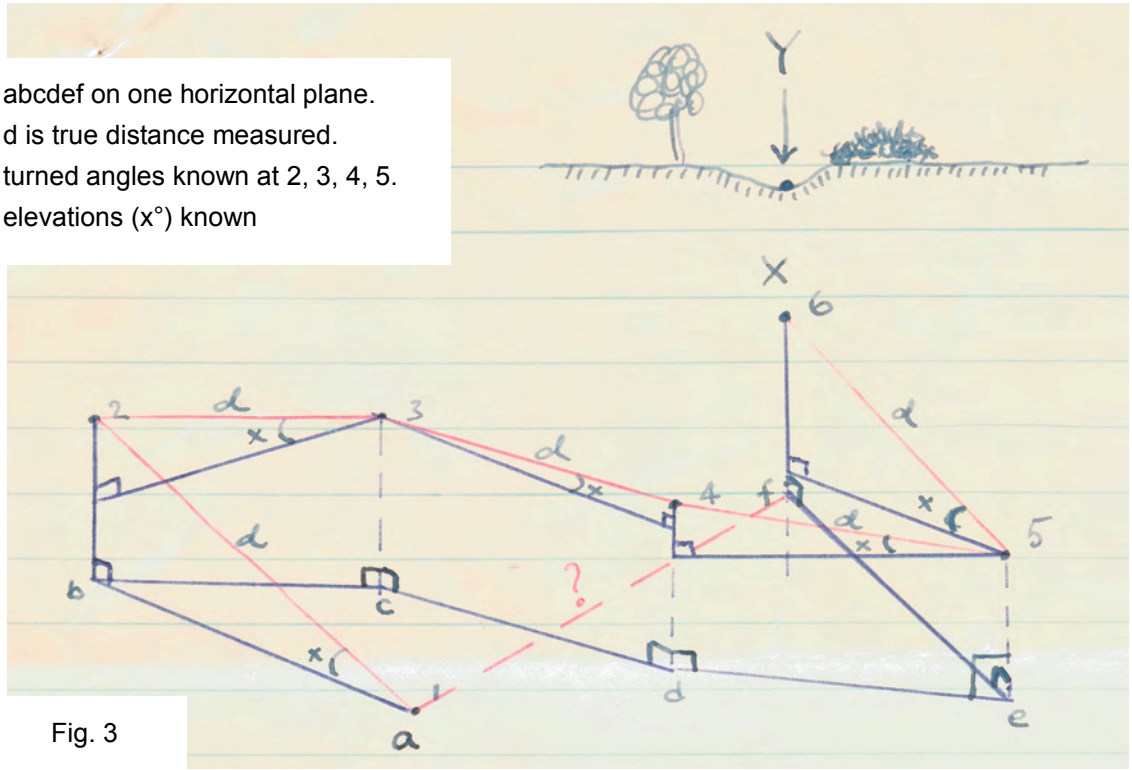


Fig. 3

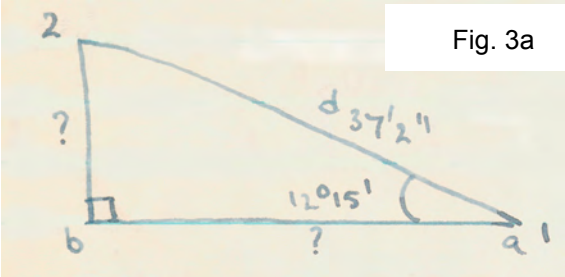


Fig. 3a

ab = 37.166 x cos 12°15' = 36.33'.

2b = 37.166 x sin 12°15' = 7.866' + [?]

3. Calculate height of station 6 above station 1. i.e. 2b – 3c + 4d – 5e + 6f = ……. feet.
4. Prepare rough sketch of plane abcdef (see Fig. 4). On this show all available data. The vertical lines can correspond with magnetic N-S line, the angle from a to be being magnetic bearing.
5. Resolve all turned angles to obtain x angles.
6. Calculate horizontal components and add (-p+q+r+s-t = Y). Calculate vertical components and add (+i+j-k+l+m = Z).
7. From Y and Z calculate distance a to e and angle, from which the bearing can be obtained.

This data (7) can then be transferred to the surface map to test the hypothesis. If a map of the cave has been drawn one can use the data (7) to check the accuracy of the plot which shows up as the degree of displacement of station 6 from point e. ■

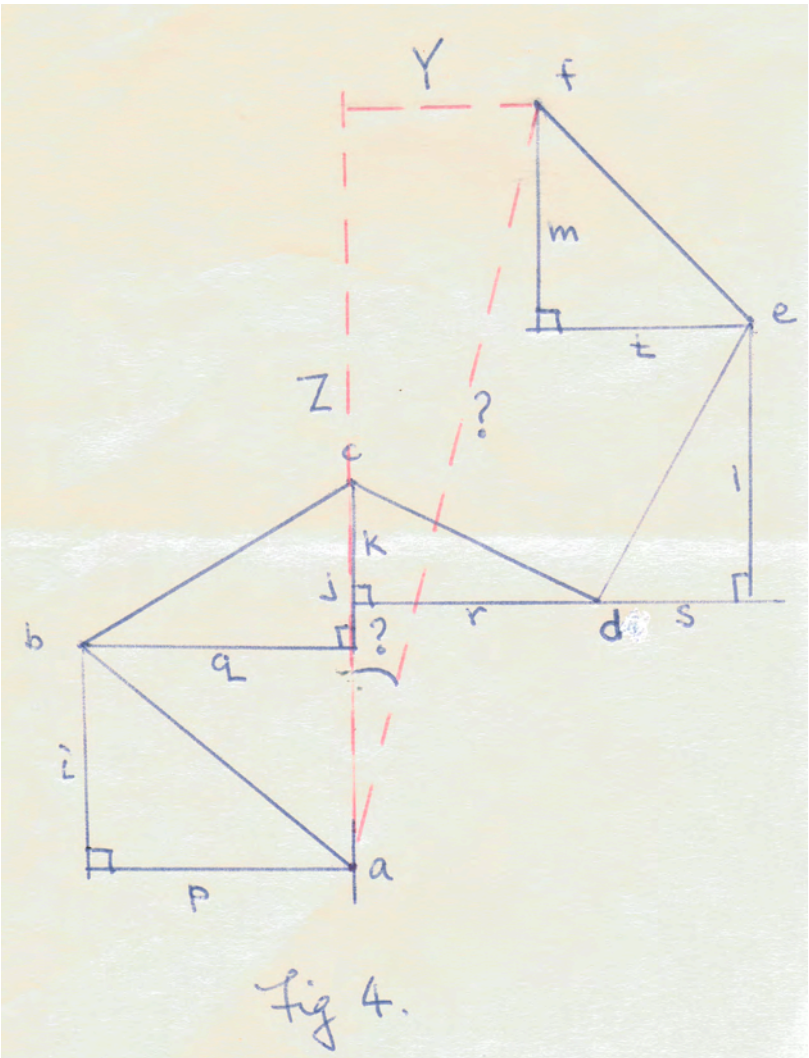


fig 4.

About the Author


Photo: G. Middleton

M.H. (Rien) de Vries joined TCC in 1956 and took on the positions of Quartermaster and Keeper of Archives. He became Hon. Secretary in 1958, Vice-President in 1959, President in 1960 and held other offices subsequently.

Rien saw the need to document caves and took a particular interest in surveying. He helped cut the first track to Exit Cave from the Lune River quarry. He continued caving into the 70s and retains an interest in caves. He will shortly move to his new property at Collinsvale which he has named "Croesus" after one of his favourite caves.

REPORT ON PYRAMID CAVE [Mole Creek]

R. P. Webb

Editor's Note: Unfortunately the map referred to in this paper was not kept with the manuscript and has not been able to be located in STC's map archives in 2005. If it turns up at a later time, we'll publish it. - GJM

DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION

I discovered the entrance to this cave quite by accident whilst searching for Honeycomb 2 on 26th December 1961. I found a sink hole with an opening in the side and, entering this, crawled along a low wide cave for a hundred feet to emerge in an adjoining doline. On the other side of the doline was a large cave mouth (point 1 on the map). I called to my family who were waiting nearby and we went in. We saw enough to suggest that this was a new and quite extensive cave and that night Pat and I returned to explore it. We penetrated as far as points 8 and 10 on the map and surveyed as far as we had explored. Our hope for further exploration lay in the pitch at point 8 and the crawls beyond point 10.

It was not until Easter 1962 that we again entered this cave this time accompanied by Frank Brown, Graeme Wilson and three other club members. We laddered the pitch and explored the maze of phreatic passages and water filled rifts on the lower level. This portion of the system is not shown on the map as it has not yet been surveyed. No great distance was achieved on the lower level as water barred progress in every direction.

On the evening of 20th April Pat and I and Graeme investigated the crawls beyond point 10. I penetrated as far as point 38, though below it, missing the lead to the upper level and returned convinced that we had reached the end of the cave.

The following day, tracing the direction of the cave on the surface Graeme Wilson and I came to a deep doline with two small cave entrances in the side. These correspond with points 34 and 36 on the map. We penetrated as far as point 22 and returned for the rest of the party, not realising that this cave was in any way connected with our earlier discoveries. That night we established the connection with point 7 and explored to the known limit of the cave at point 33. The other ramifications were subsequently explored and the cave surveyed with metallic tape and prismatic compass.

DESCRIPTION (All numbers refer to location points on map.)

Entering the mouth of the cave at 1 you walk along a dry stream bed with a considerable amount of flowstone either side as far as 2. Here you drop down a steep mud slide for 20 ft, duck under a hanging wall and climb up a corresponding mud slope on the other side. This section was obviously a siphon at one time and there is evidence to suggest that it may still fill up in wet weather. From 4 to 5 the dry stream passage continues but the roof gets lower and lower until you are forced to emulate the proverbial drinking lizard. At 6 you emerge into a high rift. To your left a crawlway leads for some hundreds of feet eventually rejoining the main cave. Above an inaccessible (from here) hole in the wall, is point 35 on the upper level. Opposite, once again in the lizard position, the cave continues.

To your left a washaway appears in the floor and this direction leads to the pitch and lower levels described above. Half right a low muddy crawl ends in a rift which opens to the surface between 12 and 13. Through some talus, a low muddy corridor and once again man-sized cave.

From 15 to 19 you are walking through a cave of ever increasing dimensions. At 17A the upper level appears 15 feet up on your left and there is a skylight in the ceiling. At 21 you crawl under a hanging wall and find yourself in a large chamber the floor of which is strewn with large blocks and a heap

of talus chokes each end. Climb up the right hand side of the talus to your left, then bear left then right and wriggle down between two blocks and you appear at the top of a scree slope thirty feet above the floor of the cave (point 25). From here it is just a stroll through a dry stream passage the size of an underground railway tunnel until the boulder choke at 33 is reached. This is the most picturesque portion of the cave from the point of view of formation, though the cave is well decorated throughout.

GEOGRAPHY

From the northern entrance of Honeycomb 2 to the southern entrance of Pyramid Cave there is a continuous line of sinks and dolines. Tracing the cave on the surface places point 33 very close to Mouse Hole[4] and in wet weather a stream can be heard at this point.

Pyramid Cave is an old system which has been silted, rejuvenated and has now lost its stream again. The indications are clear that this is an old dry level of the Mole Creek. What is not yet clear is where the creek is now.

In the lower levels all the water seemed to be still and gave the appearance of being a local water table. However the rift adjacent to 15-16-17 flowed vigorously after heavy rain and may constitute a flood passage. This suggests that perhaps the Mole Creek itself is not far away.

FUTURE EXPLORATION

Since the known portion of the cave is an old dry level it would seem to hold most promise in the downward direction. Quite a bit of time has been spent on the level below the pitch at 8 but there could still be a passage which has been missed. The rift adjacent to 15 and that which leaves the main passage at 25 may produce results. Alongside point 16 is a hole in some talus which goes down and a stream could be heard here in wet weather. Similarly the talus at 33 if forced will undoubtedly lead to more cave. The known portion of the cave is quite extensive totalling over 1800 feet in length and since only about 100 man-hours, including the survey, have been spent in there all told, there must be many more possibilities.

CONCLUSION.

Pyramid Cave has filled in an important blank in the Mole Creek system and it may well lead to more important discoveries including the precise location of the existing stream bed between Honeycomb 2 and Mouse Hole. There is little doubt that more time in this cave would prove profitable.

About the Author
Rolley Webb was a Canberra-based caver who occasionally caved in Tasmania in the 1960s – see, e.g. *ASF Newsletter,* No. 12 (June 1961), p. 2.

[4] 'Mouse Cave' is a still-unnumbered cave at Mole Creek: MCX42 - GJM

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** Indicates a copy is held in the Southern Tasmanian Caverneers Library, March 2005.*

About the compiler

Photo: Arthur Clarke

Albert Goede joined the Tasmanian Caverneering Club in 1954 and was elected Honorary Treasurer in the same year. He was made an Honorary Life Member in 1958 and was later Keeper of the Archives. He was involved in early exploration of Exit Cave, Wolfe Hole and Kubla Khan. Later, he edited *Speleo Spiel* and was President of TCC for seven years. He was involved in further exploration of Exit Cave, Kubla Khan and Khazad-dum. With his first wife Therese, he became involved in the collecting of cave invertebrates - one genus and several species were later named after him.

During the mid 1970s he became more interested in karst hydrology, the stratigraphy of cave bone deposits and later in the use of speleothems to study palaeoclimates using variations in stable isotope ratios and trace element compositions. In 1985 he founded the Tasmanian Cave and Karst Research Group with Arthur Clarke and Petrina Quinn and in the following years a number of science-oriented newsletters were published. In 1985 he was awarded the Edie Smith Award for services to cave exploration and the scientific study of caves. Subsequently he took a leading role with Arthur Clarke and Jeff Butt in encouraging the amalgamation of the three caving societies in southern Tasmania into the Southern Tasmanian Caverneers. In 1998 he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by the University of Tasmania on the topic of "Quaternary Studies of Caves and Coasts". He has now retired from active caving but continues to hold the position of Science Officer in STC.

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T.C.C. LIBRARY STOCKLIST FEBRUARY 1963

(with some updating to 1966) Compiled by A. Goede, Keeper of Archives

In this stocklist,, publications are listed under their countries of origin and subdivided into:

(A) Journals
(B) Books
(C) Pamphlets and papers

Items highlighted in blue type are those that remain in the STC Library in March 2005.

I. BRITAIN

(A) Journals

(1) *Caves and Caving* – Vol. 1, No. 1 (June 1937), Vol. 1. No. 3 (Jan. 1938)

(2) British Speleological Association.

Cave Science Vol. 4, No. 26 (Jan-Apr. 1956), Vol. 4, No. 30 (May 1960)

(3) Cave Research Group

(a) *Transactions* Vol. 1, Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 3, Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 4, Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 5, Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 6. Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 7, Nos. 1 and 2.

(b) *Newsletter* Nos. 27, 29, 32, 39, 48, 49/50, 51, 52, 53/54, 55, 56/57, 58/59, 60/61, 63/64, 65, 68/69, 70/71, 78, 79/80, 81, 87, 89, 93, 94, 100

(c) *Biological Supplement* – Parts I, II (2 sections), III, IV, V

(d) Publications – Nos. 1 (Part 1), 7, 8, 10

(e) Occasional Publications – Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

(B) Books

(1) *The Mendip Caves* – H.E. Balch (3rd Edition, 1947)

(2) *Knotting and Splicing ropes and cordage* – Paul N. Hasluck

(3) *My Caves* – Norbert Casteret (1947)

(4) *The Darkness under the Earth* – Norbert Casteret (1954)

(5) *Ten Years under the Earth* – Norbert Casteret (1943)

(6) *One Thousand Metres Down* – Jean Cadoux (1957)

(7) *Seven Caves* – Carleton S. Coon (1957)

(C) Pamphlets

(1) Geology of North-Eastern England – G.G.A. Hickling and T. Robertson

(2) Faunarooska Cave, Co. Clare, Eire – T.R. Shaw and O.C. Lloyd (1959, reprint)

II. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

(A) Journals

(1) National Speleological Society.

(a) *Bulletin* Nos. 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 21 (Parts 1 and 2), 23 (Part 2), 24 (Parts 1 and 2), 25 (Part 1), 26 (No. 3)

(b) *NSS News* Vol. 15, Nos. 8-12; Vol. 16, Nos. 1-12; Vol. 17, Nos. 1-12; Vol. 18, Nos. 1-12; Vol. 19, Nos. 1, 3-12; Vol. 20, Nos 1-3, 9-12; Vol. 21, Nos. 1, 3-4, 6-12; Vol. 22, Nos. 1-4

(2) Cave Research Associates

Cave Notes Vol. 1, No. 2 (Mar/Apr. 1959)

(B) Books

(1) *Caverns of Virginia* – William M. McGill (Virginia University, 1933)

(2) *Pennsylvania Caves* – Ralph W. Stone (1932)

(3) *The Caves of Maryland* – William E. Davies, Dept. of Geology, Mines and Water Resources, Bulletin 7 (Baltimore, Maryland 1950)

(4) *N.S.S. Speleo Digest 1956*. Published by Pittsburgh Grotto.

(C) Pamphlets

(1) Aragonite speleothems as indicators of palaeotemperature – George W. Moore

III. NEW ZEALAND

(A) Journals

New Zealand Speleological Society

NZSS Bulletin Nos. 1-4, 9-16, 18-21, 24-29, 31-35, 41, 42, 47, 48.

(C) Pamphlets

(1) Revision of the Rhaphidophoridae (Orthoptera) of New Zealand – Dr Aloa Richards (Parts I, IV, VII)

(2) Notes on behaviour and parasitism in *Macropathus filifer* – Dr Aola Richards

(3) Notes on food and cannibalism in *Macropathus filifer* – Dr Aola Richards

(4) The systematics and ecology of the genus *Macropathus* – Dr Aola Richards

IV. AUSTRALIA

(A) Journals

(1) Australian Speleological Federation

ASF Newsletter Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17

(2) Tasmanian Caverneering Club

(a) *Bulletin of TCC* Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4

(b) Occasional Publication – No. 1 (Information Sheet)

(3) Sydney University Speleological Society

(a) *SUSS Journal* Vol. 1, Nos. 1 and 3; Vol. 2, Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 3, Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 4, Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 5, Nos. 1 and 2; Vol. 6, Nos. 1, 2, 4.

(b) *Yearbook* 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962.

(c) *SUSS Newsletter* Vol. 6, Nos. 1 and 2

(4) Sydney Speleological Society

(a) *Communications* Vols. 1 and 2, 58:10, 59:2-4, 59:11, 60:3-11; Vol. 5, Nos. 2-4; Vol. 6, No. 5

(b) *Yearbook* 1965-65

(c) *Stop Press* April 1965, May 1965, May 1966.

(5) Cooranbong Speleological Association

(a) *CSA Reports* Nos. 1 and 2

(b) *Caesar* (newsletter) 61:1, 61:2, 61:3

(6) Canberra Speleological Society

Circular Nos. 2, 7, 49, 52

(7) Cave Exploration Group (South Australia)

Occasional Paper No. 1 (1958)

Newsletter Oct-Dec. 1960

(8) Newcastle Technical & University College Speleological Society

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(9) Kempsey Speleological Society
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(10) Victorian Cave Exploration Society
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(12) Western Australian Speleological Group
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(B) Books
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(2) Limestones in Tasmania; *Geol. Survey Min. Resources* No. 10 – T.D. Hughes (1957)
(3) Notes on Survey Investigation – R.W. Willis (1945)
(4) *Technical Reports* No. 8 (1963) – Tasmanian Dept. of Mines
(5) *Notes on collecting Australian Cave Fauna* – E. Hamilton-Smith (1962)

(C) Pamphlets
(1) Scenery Preservation Board of Tasmania
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(c) Statutory Rules
(2) *Aboriginal Words as Place Names in Tasmania* – J.A. Fletcher (1953)
(3) *The caves of the South-West* (W.A.) – tourist folder
(4) *The Story of Yanchep* – tourist folder
(5) *Naracoorte Caves, S.A.* – tourist folder
(6) *All About Jenolan Caves* – booklet
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(8) *Buchan Caves National Park* – tourist folder
(9) *Yarrangobilly Caves, NSW* – tourist folder
(10) *Jenolan Caves* – booklet
(11) *Jenolan Caves* – tourist folder
(12) *Wombeyan Caves* – tourist folder
(13) *Tasmania's Caveland* – tourist folder
(14) *Caves Country of Western Australia* – tourist folder
(15) *Caving in Australia* – Australian Speleological Federation.

V. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

(A) Journals
South African Speleological Association
Bulletin 1960, Parts I, II, III; 1961, Parts I and II
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Bulletin Vol. 3, Nos. 1, 2, 3; Vol. 4, Nos. 1 and 2

VI. ITALY

(A) Journals

Rassegna Speleologica Italiana

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(C) Pamphlets

(1) Notiziario, Estratto da Rassegna Speleologica Italiana, 1954

(2) Entita del Movimento Speleologico in Italia. E.R.S.I., 1954

VII. POLAND

(A) Journals

Grotolai Mag. Krakow, Cherwiez, 1957

VIII. HUNGARY

(A) Journal

Karszt-es-barlangkutatasi, Tajekoztato – Dec. 1960; May 1961

(C) Pamphlets

(1) Das Aggteleker Höhlengebiet (Nordungarn)

(2) A barlangi arvizekrol – Jakucs Laszlo (1956)

(3) Ismerjuk meg a barlangokat (+ 3 reprints of articles)

IX. CUBA

(A) Journals

Revista de la Sociedad Cientifica de Espeleologica

Ano 1, No. 1 (April 1957)

Inra Magazine

Ano 1, Nos. 5, 7; Ano 2, Nos. 3, 6

(B) Books

(1) *Geologia de Cuba* – Furrazola-Bermúdez, Jimenez et al.

(2) *Un ano de Liberacion Agraria* – Antonio Jimenez

(3) *Asi es mipais (Geografia de Cuba)* – Antonio Nunez Jimenez

X. CZECHOSLOVAKIA

(B) Book

Slovensky Kras (Sbornik Muzea Slovenskeho krasu)

XI. BELGIUM

(A) Journal

Bulletin du Speleo-Club de Belgique – March 1961; June 1961

XII. FRANCE

(A) Journal

Fédération Française de Spéléologie

Spelunca Journal Vol. 2, Nos. 2 and 4; Vol. 3, Nos. 1-4; Vol. 4, Nos. 2-4; Vol. 5, Nos. 1-3

Editor's Note: While it would appear that a great deal of material has been lost from the library over the past 40 years, Rolan Eberhard advises that due to storage problems some years ago a number of boxes of older publications were transferred to the Australian Speleological Federation library – GJM.

A LETTER FROM FRANCE

Norbert Casteret

[The Tasmanian Caverneering Club must have written to French caving legend Norbert Casteret late in 1954 or early 1955, for on 12 April 1955, he replied and forwarded a packet of 14 of his own black and white photos showing some of his exploits. The letter is reproduced below, followed by a rough translation into English and the 14 photographs, with a table indicating where some of them have been published – Editor.]

N. Casteret
à St Gaudens
(Hts Garonne)

12 avril 1955

Chers Collègues,

Votre lettre et votre aimable envoi de diapositifs en couleurs me parviennent avec un long retard.

Je vous en remercie bien vivement, de même que je vous félicite de votre activité et de votre dynamisme. Je suis charmé d'apprendre qu'aux antipodes de la France il existe des spéléologues se livrant aux mêmes activités que nous.

Vos clichés en couleurs m'ont intéressé, surtout ceux représentant des stalactites couleés géométriquement. Je ne connaissais pas cette variété. Vos longues stalactites sont également intéressantes. En France nous les appelons des "macaronis"; elles y sont assez rares mais connues toutefois.

Je regrette beaucoup de ne pas vous envoyer des diapositifs en couleurs, mais je ne fais pas de photos en couleurs. J'en suis réduit à vous adresser un lot de photos ordinaires parmi lesquelles quelques photos de grottes glacées que j'ai découvertes dans les Pyrenées à près de 3000 mètres d'altitude.

Je rentre d'une campagne d'un mois en Yougoslavie qui est je crois le pays le plus caverneux du globe. Les cavernes, les gouffres et les rivières souterraines y existent par milliers et de grandes dimensions. Ce voyage m'a mis fort en retard pour mes travaux et mon courrier – je suis un peu débordé et je m'excuse de ne pouvoir vous écrire plus longuement cette fois-ci.

Donnez mon confraternel souvenir aux membres du Tasmanian Caverneering Club et croyez à mes plus cordiaux sentiments.

Norbert Casteret

Puisque vous avez en certains de mes ouvrages traduit en anglais je vous signale que la libraire Dent de Londres, achète en ce moment droit d'éditer mon dernier livre "Trente ans sous terre".

N. Casteret [translation]
à St. Gaudens
(Hte. Garonne)

12 April 1955

Dear colleagues,

Your letter and your nice consignment of colour slides have reached me after a long delay.

I thank you very warmly, and also I congratulate you on your activity and dynamism. I am delighted to know that in at antipodes of France there are speleologists committed to the same activities as ourselves.

Your colour slides interested me, especially those showing stalactites growing geometrically. I do not know this variety. Your long stalactites are equally interesting. In France we call them "macaronis"; they are rather rare, but they are known, nevertheless.

I am very sorry not to be able to send you any colour slides, but I do not take photos in colour. I am sending to your address a packet of ordinary photos among which are several of ice grottos which I discovered in the Pyrenees at an altitude of about 3000 metres.

I have just returned from a month's trip to Yugoslavia, which is, I believe, the most cavernous country on the globe. Caves, pot-holes and underground rivers exist there by the thousands and are of large dimensions. This trip has set me back very much in my work and correspondence. I am a little "hard put to it" and would excuse myself for not being able to write to you at greater length this time.

Give my fraternal greetings to the members of the Tasmanian Caverneering Club and believe in my heartfelt sentiments

[signed] Norbert Casteret

As you have read certain of my books translated into English, you may be interested to know that Dent's Book Company of London are at the moment finishing editing my last book "Thirty Years Under the Earth."

1. Casteret emerging from a squeeze. His caption translates as: "Crawling: usual exercise of cavers"

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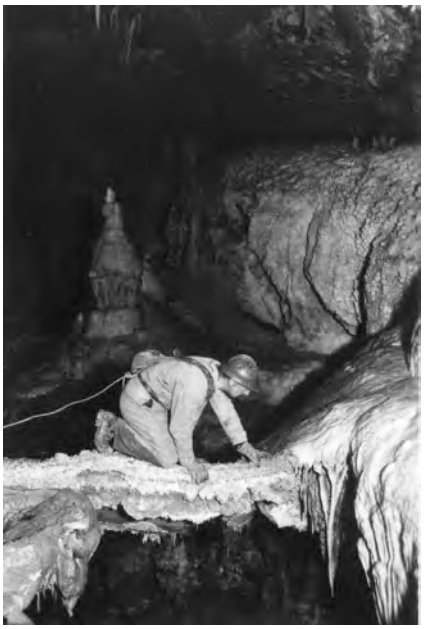
Table 1 (following) gives a translation of Casteret's hand-written captions on the back of each of these photos, together with information about where some of them have been published.



9.

10.

11.

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13.

Photograph by H. A. V. Coles, © Illustrated London News

READY TO REPEAT THE DARING FEAT THAT LED TO A GREAT ARCHEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY

Norbert Casteret in the subterranean stream through which he swam to explore the Montespan Grotto. At several points, although he did not kn whether there was an open surface beyond, he dived through siphons where the water rose to the roof (see sketch, page 150).

14.

No.	Casteret's caption	Where published and caption
1.	Crawling: usual exercise of cavers	*My Caves*1947, opp. p.57: "Getting through a cat-run". [Doubtless also used elsewhere.]
2.	Subterranean iceberg	*The darkness under the Earth* 1952, opp. p. 25 "A subterranean iceberg" – the discovery of this is recounted on pp. 26-28.
3.	Climbing a cascade of ice in the Grotte Casteret	*The darkness under the Earth* 1952, opp. p. 33 "Climbing a frozen waterfall". Casteret called this one of the Caves of Chamois in the Upper Aragon, Spain.
4.	Climbing the 'Frozen Niagara' in the Grotte Casteret	*The darkness under the Earth* 1952, opp. p. 22 "Maud Casteret descends 'Niagara'."
5.	The transparency of some ice tongues is ideal [perfect?]	*The darkness under the Earth* 1952, opp. p. 19 "A stalactite of purest ice" – in a cave on the Gavarnie Massif in the Spanish Pyrénees.
6.	Entrance of the Grotte Casteret ice cave, Gavarnie Massif.	Not known if published (though other photos of this entrance have been).
7.	The ice caves of Marboré (Gavarnie Massif) are the highest in the world.	*The darkness under the Earth* 1952, opp. p. 13 "The level surface of an ice river".
8.	On the subterranean glacier of the Grotte Casteret.	*Tenebres.* 1952, p. 274 [French edition of *The darkness under the Earth*] "Une salle de la Grotte Casteret".
9.	Crossing the Devils Bridge in Gouffre d'Esparros (High Pyrénees)	*The darkness under the Earth* 1952, frontispiece "Crossing a bridge of ice". This is obviously not correct – the 'bridge' is of flowstone; perhaps the publisher wrote this caption.
10.	Scaling a waterfall on a metal pole in the Grotte de la Cigalère (Ariège).	*Ten years under the Earth* 1940, after p. 208 "Climbing cascades, Gouffre Martel". This ascent is described in detail on pp. 149. Climbing 32 feet up a 2.5" pipe under a waterfall is no mean feat! - but one of these captions must be wrong.
11.	Subterranean decoration in the Gouffre d'Esparros (High Pyrénees)	*Paysages Souterrains* [by Casteret and Germain Gattet], 1943, p. 43 (French edition) "Contemplation, Esparros"
12.	A swarm of bats on the ceiling of a cave	*Mes Cavernes,* 1942, p. 255 (Ouvrage couronne par L'Academie Francaise. Librairie Academique Perrin Editeur: Paris.)
13.	Helictites in the Gouffre d'Esparros	*Paysages Souterrains*, [by Casteret and Germain Gattet.] 1943, p. 66. The photo, captiopned "Excentriques, Esparros", shows just the helictites, Casteret having been cropped out.
14.	Walking alone in a subterranean river	As this was taken by an *Illustrated London News* photographer, this photo probably appeared in that publication. This appears to be the only photo in the collection which is not an original print.

Table 1. Casteret's captions for his photos and details of publication for some.
[Translations and notes on publication by Greg Middleton.
Thanks to Ross Ellis for assistance in locating the published photos.]