

Speleo Spiel 341

March – April 2004



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Front Cover:

Jeff Butt in KD serpentine passage (Photo by Arthur Clarke?)

Back Cover:

P-hanger testing can do strange things to a man, though some would suggest the strangeness existed well before p-hangers were invented! (Photo by Gavin Brett))

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



The Speleo Spiel

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The views expressed in the Speleo Spiel are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or of the Southern Tasmanian Caverneers Incorporated.

Issue No. 341, Mar. - Apr. 2004

CONTENTS

Regular Bits

Editorial	2
Forward Program	2
Stuff 'n Stuff	2

Trip Reports

King George V	2
Serendipity #2.5	2
Serendipity #3	3
Hobart Rivulet	5
Exit Cave	7
Tassy Pot P-Hanger Testing	7
Midnight Hole	8
Mystery Creek Vandalism	8

Other Exciting Stuff

Newdegate Cave Survey	9
Constitutional Changes	10
AGM Office Bearer Reports	11
<i>Jeff Butt Memorial Pages</i>	
Jeff the Caver – by Dave Rasch	19
Jeff Butt Photo Montage	22
A tribute to the Life of Jeff Butt – by Arthur Clarke	24
Current STC membership	29

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Editorial

My second spiel, out right on time to make up for the first one!

What can I say to adequately describe the recent events around STC regarding the death of our beloved club member and friend, Jeff Butt. I couldn't decide where to put the material relating to Jeff in the spiel (first, middle or last?), but eventually decided to take a lesson from Jeff's philosophy and diligently get the boring shit out of the way first and get to the good stuff once it was deserved. Arthur Clarke recently brought my attention to the coincidence (and some would argue 'synchronicity') of issue 341 being released at the time of his death, a number very close to some of Jeff's best work. Jeff, you were a good friend and a remarkable caver. We are all privileged to have caved with you.

Due to the above events, even I couldn't bring myself to put a picture of me on the front cover again. I suppose the back cover will have to do! Perhaps a motion needs to be discussed at the next meeting to control my spiralling ego.

Don't forget the great people at the Xerox Shop→→

Alan Jackson

Stuff 'n Stuff

MEMBERSHIP is now overdue and it is well understood that the Treasurer has a short temper (just ask Gavin). See Claire's wonderfully informative report on page 10 for justification of the importance of prompt payment. If you don't pay up then the Editor will personally see that you never receive another Speleo Spiel again.

Forward Program

General Meeting (Shippies).....	5 th May
Social Meeting (Shippies?).....	19 th May
General Meeting (Shippies).....	2 nd June
Social Meeting (venue TBA).....	16 th June
Riveaux (getting more exciting...).....	Ongoing
Actual Caving? – Gavin's always keen...	



H-216 King George V: 2 February 2004

Matt Cracknell

Party: M.Cracknell, J.Gardner

This is a cave that Jason and I regularly run trips into with groups of tourists along specific routes. We wanted to see some of the other areas that we hadn't seen. It is a Limited Access cave so we went through the proper channels to get permission. Even though we both have keys to the gate we don't want to be hypocrites.

Through the gate and down the ladder and straight to the 'Signature Wall' before we got too dirty. A fiddly boot change then carefully into the flowstone covered rift. Lots of speleograffiti (ACKMA journal No.35 June 1999) and a neat corroded mudmite. Back out with a boot change and down the main left hand passage. No water but lots of clastic with cricket holes.

Next stop was the Formation area on the southern end of the main streamway chamber. More changing of foot wear but not before a wash in the stream. Up on the bank there is a nice perspective of those long straws

and flows that had broken and been covered by more recent deposition several times over. Down off the formation for a little snack.

Next we explored up the main stream. In the far chamber the floor was covered in *Idacrabus* and hanging from the ceiling there were fine threads. We looked for the beasties that were making them but it was not spotted. Water was coming from several areas above us and there looked to be an upper level. Way too delicate to be clambering up the walls, enormous amounts of clastic with interesting layers of different colours, one distinct layer that was present in several places in the cave seemed to fluoresce under UV. We then got into a major side chamber that was very large and flat. Lots of mud. Scrabbled around in the trogged areas and found our way through the alternative crawl from the 'Beach' to 'To' n' Fro'. I was feeling a little kacky so we decided to leave. Out to the surface by 2130 having been underground for about 4.5 hrs.

JF-344 Serendipity # 2.5 "Short Cut to Nostalgia": 1 March 2004

Janine McKinnon

Party: Ric Tunney, Janine McKinnon

As the "young Turks" (Gavin & Alan) were unavailable for caving, we decided it might be a good time for a "return to the past" type trip. We had been members of TCC before the 3-club merger and that club had a long

and proud tradition of catastrophic light failures on trips (see old Speleo-Spiel trip reports, TCC Exploration Journal). As we have just bought some new lights (Novas) which use a single 5W LED and AA batteries, this seemed an excellent opportunity. We would re-create the past – for old time's sake.

You do need an excuse for a trip, so we cleverly decided that some surveying of passages in the upper levels of the cave that have never been surveyed (plus some poking about in the cave down to the second pitch) was an excellent cover. No-one likes surveying (well, we don't), so this way we wouldn't have to do something we don't enjoy.

We're a bit older and a lot wiser (or is that the other way around?) these days, so we didn't want to waste time and energy on actually going caving for several hours before we had our light failures. We are much more efficient these days. We would cut straight to the main event.

To this end, we entered the cave and Ric's light started flickering less than 20m into the cave (we did think we should get out of sight of daylight before our "event" – hence waiting more than 2 minutes before failure). The instructions with the new lights said that flickering meant "imminent light failure".

Now if we were really going to do this "old-style" we, of course, would have had no other batteries or back-up lights with us. But we were going to symbolically bridge the generation gap and do our light failure "modern" style. OK, time to change batteries. New set in, light still flickering. Fiddle with connections. Light still flickering. Spare spare set in. Light still flickering. Spare spare spare (!) set in. Light still flickering. Change over my set (working well) to Ric's light (and

vice-versa). Ric's going well, mine not flickering, just turning off (couple of seconds) and on again (micro second). Mine fails completely.

Assess situation: 4 out of 5 sets of batteries stuffed. One set good, but for how long? **Conclusion 1: battery charger stuffed.**

Still have back-up lights-a 3-LED ticker each.

The obligatory discussion on whether we should continue with what we had, at least to get something done, ensued.

Sensible to continue trip?

This is where reader participation comes in. Send your response, with reasoning for your decision, to the editor. All answers will be carefully ignored.

Having "covered all bases" for our historical re-enactment we headed out. So after 45 minutes underground, 30 of them spent sitting fiddling with batteries, we emerged from the cave. Mission accomplished. Who says you can't wallow in history sometimes.

P.S. Could this be a record for the shortest Serendipity trip ever? Is there a prize?

JF-344 Serendipity #3: 7 March 2004

Alan Jackson

Party: Alan Jackson, Gavin Brett, Ric Tunney, Janine McKinnon, Andras Galambos

Stage three of the Serendipity 'born again' saga! Theoretically it could be called stage four, but I don't think that the McTunney's last effort can be classed as a *stage* in the true essence of the word. That will teach them to pirate our ideas!

Organisation got underway at the AGM for a trip the following weekend. The recently returned Dave Rasch indicated an interest in joining the party of four, but later piked when it pissed down all day Saturday, citing some lame excuse about how long it had been since he last caved, blah blah blah... The freshly crowned STC president (El Presidenté), Gavin, was still entertaining the thought of earning brownie points and walking the Western Arthurs with Claire. Luckily for him it bucketed down on Saturday and the walk was abandoned, so he was able to come! And so there were five.

We got away at about 0730 and reached the cave entrance uneventfully. Gavin briefly entertained the idea of draining the traditionally boggy spot on the track before the Growling turnoff, but only achieved a poor result – no surprises here! We suited up and decided to see what the upper entrance was like for going down. Answer: crap! Gavin and I did a pendulum on Cathedral pitch to check out the large false floor/collapse half way down the pitch. The

others continued on. We weren't the first to do it, as obvious trogging was evident. We briefly explored and the only 'way on' was an upper level of the Castigation Crawl rift. There was one nice piece of decoration (a large stal about 6 or 7 inches in diameter). A mental note was made to return to the floor for photo opportunities as the image of a caver dangling on a rope surrounded by water spray and a backdrop of formation was stunning. We plummeted back out into the void with Tarzan cries and raced to catch the others.

We overtook Ric at the top of Deluge pitch and then Janine and Andras at the top of Phobos. Gavin changed the redirect on Deluge to a rebelay to see if it stopped you from a pendulum into the waterfall on the way out (it did help a little bit, but not as much as we had hoped). We also had a little re-rigging to complete on Phobos, as the rebelay loop at the first rebelay was a fraction short, but the second rebelay also needed untying to give enough slack to adjust the first one! It required an elaborate person shuffle but we managed it! I should mention rigging notes, as Janine didn't know what they were for her last trip report. After descending the first 10 or so meters we moon walk to a ledge and then traverse out along the rift continuation (the water goes straight down below the first belay and isn't seen again until the horizontal sections). Where the rift opens up again into a large chamber we wrapped a tape around an obvious and large projection on the left wall (left as you head out the rift away from the water), which gives a free hang for next 25 or so

meters. On this trip we added a second tape to stop the belay being pulled off when you are mucking around on the top section of Phobos. The last 7m pitch was rigged off a chockstone down to the boulder collapse and beginning of the horizontal.



Alan Jackson being 'one with the cave' – i.e. brown and wet, at the top of 'deluge' pitch. Photo Ric Tunney

From here we climbed down to the water fall and briefly considered heading through Conduit Crawl (I mean VERY briefly). This one looks wet! We instead headed along the dry fossil stream way and down to the -278m sump (check box one – deepest point). We poked around for a while and concluded that only Madphil could possibly have enough enthusiasm to push this one! We tried a few high level climbs in the general area but to no avail. Andras ('The Eel') disappeared up the streamway that joins at the last junction before the sump (which by the looks of it has never been surveyed, and also doesn't look like it is worth the effort), but as it was going up instead of down we canned that idea too. We then headed back up and noted the junction with the lower end of the Marmalade passages, but continued onto the Head Banger Series instead. This wasn't too bad going, but I couldn't imagine trying to survey it (I think Madphil would insert the word 'Nightmare' here!) It finally opened up into the small chamber at the French Connection. Ric turned back here to get a start on the vertical stuff, the other four of us climbed through the window and continued upstream. More serpentine and the novelty was starting to wear off. It was much easier going than the Head Banger section though. Another small chamber was encountered with a junction on the right hand side. Here I consulted the map to determine where we were. Gavin was adamant that I was deceived and that I clearly had no concept of space or time. It really can be hard work arguing with a bloody engineer! Gavin then thought that maybe he would take a look at the map too, and low and behold if he didn't now think that I was spot on with my suggested location! I repeat: it really can be hard work arguing with a bloody engineer! Fortunately I come from a long family line of engineers and I think I've got a handle on them now. A bit further and we hit Serendipity Chamber, at which point we all got a bit excited about all the space and simultaneously headed in opposite directions. Ultimately we found Pernickity

Drop and the upper level loop that rejoins again downstream. We decided to call it quits as it was about 1500 or something close. We returned via the upper level loop just for fun and back to the vertical stuff.

I was granted permission to attempt a new rope speed record and headed out with no responsibilities. Gavin was also granted this permission, but couldn't bring himself to do it (he's just too nice a bloke, even if he is an engineer). I encountered a few problems at the rebelay between the 10m and 25m sections, as the large rebelay loop had become snagged about 6m horizontally along the rift, preventing me from changing over in a sensible fashion. I eventually gave up flicking the rope, chucked on a cowstail and climbed it. Probably not the safest option, but it was better than hanging off the rebelay indefinitely. I survived. I attempted to relay the importance of keeping the rope up to Gavin, but crashing water falls prevented any real level of understanding. I continued on with fingers crossed that they worked it all out. I was keen to get out and scratch around on the surface and passed Ric at the top of Deimos Pitch. He had encountered a few battery and light problems and had been farting around getting frustrated, in the semi dark!



Geoff Wise trying to work out how his Stop works at the top of 'cathedral' pitch. Photo Ric Tunney

On the surface I went up to the drafting doline that Gavin and I had found on the last trip. It was horribly loose and went in on a 45 degree rocky slope to a depth of about 6 or 7 meters and around a slight corner before choking out. Cave exploration can be very easy sometimes! I then bashed about up the valley but found nothing interesting. Back at the entrance Ric emerged feeling a bit cold after waiting at the top of Cathedral

for the others. I then went down the valley to the very impressive doline that must have once been the stream sink. It only goes about 6 or 7 meters before choking out too. A brushtail possum skeleton kept me entertained for a while. Back at the entrance there was still no sign of the others and I was beginning to think pessimistically. At one stage I was sure I heard Gavin uttering expletives, but he didn't appear, so I blamed the lyre birds. About 20 minutes later he emerged from the upper entrance complaining that he had failed to find the way through the boulder pile at the bottom

entrance (so I had heard him swearing loudly to himself!) The others were allegedly coming, and eventually they emerged. It was now about 1830, somewhere around 8.5 hours underground. We meandered out as equally uneventfully as we did in

Next trip we intend getting to the Big Room at the back of the cave and maybe Conduit Crawl if we get really inspired. Wow, what a long trip report.

Hobart Rivulet – Draining Under Hobart: 10 March 2004

Arthur Clarke

Party: Serena Benjamin, Gavin Brett, Arthur Clarke, Joe Farrell, Alan Jackson, Janine McKinnon, Greg Middleton, Heather Nichols, Steve Phipps, Ric Tunney, plus two more non members: Dave (?) and girlfriend and probably a few others!.

Wednesday night, March 10th 2004: I wasn't really expecting to write up this report, so my apologies to the two whose names aren't properly recorded or anyone else I've inadvertently missed. This trip had been previously announced by Steve Phipps and I had sent him an email detailing some of the "must-see" highlights of the Hobart Rivulet, also suggesting that cavers should wear gumboots because if the tide was low, we could exit in the Derwent River at Macquarie Point, giving people the choice of then being able to walk back over the hill, past the Cenotaph and into the city. Steve had planned this event as our (STC) nod to Hobart's bicentenary year, hoping we could think of it as an historical event, come appropriately prepared for the occasion and look out for evidence of Hobart's past and bygone times.

On the evening in question – a week after our AGM – Steve was proud to announce the night's activity as his first official club function in his role as the newly elected STC Social Secretary. Our scheduled meeting time was 7.30pm at the carpark in upper Collins Street, just east of the Transit Centre. While others climbed the fence down the ladder rungs and into the first open rivulet section around 7.45pm, Steve and I hung back, waiting for Joe Farrell. A few minutes later, we joined the others heading east towards the first covered section under Barrack Street. A short distance on, walking past (underneath) Harrington Street towards Murray Street (under what is now the Centrepont Walkway), we heard mysterious sounds of music – perhaps two centuries old – echoing along The Rivulet. Continuing east, we stopped to examine a few straws and read the "Cave Clan" graffiti covering the now floodlit sandstone wall section (under the Cat and Fiddle Arcade), then discovered Joe Farrell had emerged... playing some jolly and melodic tunes on his old tin whistle: perhaps an 1804 model!

Joe had also been down here on a previous occasion, so there were now two of us who knew the route. A short distance further on, we congregated underneath a

"look-up"... where people in Hobart city streets above would know of the "lookdown" located on the eastern side of the Hobart Mall outside the National Bank. >From underneath, you look up through the steel grating and you can see the Subway sign... I know this sounds peculiar, until you realise it's the place that sells "submarine" sandwich rolls. On the northern wall of the rivulet under the Liverpool Street end of The Mall, two pipes (about 5-10m apart) empty into the main rivulet; these pipe sections drain storm waters from Elizabeth Street and adjoining side streets. The downstream (easternmost) pipe leads into a low arch roofed convict built brick tunnel draining the lower eastern side of Elizabeth Street. Short retaining walls on the floor of this tunnel effectively create shallow dams of slightly odourous stormwater, so the few of us who didn't have gumboots made a hurried exit back to the Main Drain. I suggested to those people returning, that they might like to go back into the other westernmost concrete pipe and head north, meeting us at the first pipe junction where our convict drain eventually connects back to the western pipe, but apparently this instruction was misunderstood by one of us!



Steve Phipps marvels at the dramatic stormwater formation. Photo Arthur Clarke

This old convict brick section is quite interesting, if you take your time to look around. There are lots of invertebrates in there including a few cave-like spiders, snails, small fungus flies and glow-worms... and a few other highlights. Low down on the RHS, there is

another small brick tunnel that appears to drain out from underneath the “Which” Bank and a little further along on the LHS there is the now covered gutter drain outside Banjos Bakery, where in times past you could look up and see the lights of cars going past and have conversations with pedestrians standing on the side of the footpath. A short distance north, this brick tunnel ends up becoming another boring concrete pipe, but unfortunately, a narrow diameter pipe that requires a bit of stooping. Eventually we climbed over a small concrete parapet and stepped down into the main large Elizabeth Street pipe tunnel, waiting for the other non-gumboot people to join us. Phippsy pulled out some sparklers to add to our merriment (*and nearly asphyxiated us all! Ed.*), then handed round some sweet and sour jubes. A few folks ventured further north, but the monotony of the big tunnel soon lost its appeal.

Gathering back in the Main Drain near the lookdown (under The Hobart Mall), we soon discovered one of our number missing: where was Greg? A “Search and Rescue” was organised by Steve and Alan, who both headed back into the two northern drains, while Ric lead a party downstream. Eventually, we were reunited with Greg in the next open rivulet section beside Collins Street, behind the Royal Hobart Hospital. (Greg had misunderstood my directions and headed downstream, eventually finding the massive big concrete pipe that heads north underneath the Brooker Highway... and had also given that a miss as a monotonous exercise.)



Joe Farrel enlightens us with a little tin whistling.
Photo Arthur Clarke

We all headed east again, taking the northernmost of two low parallel flat roofed tunnels that run under Campbell Street then along under the lower (eastern) end of Collins Street until they open up into a massive dome roofed brick tunnel underneath the Brooker Highway, where the rivulet runs through a sand and gravel section. At this juncture, there is the huge concrete pipe on the LHS running north under the Brooker Highway. Heading east along the main rivulet in this wide and spacious dome roof tunnel, the gravel section gives way to gently sloping concrete banks on either side, where you see a few straw stalactites and flowstone. At least one of these flowstone deposits in blocked side drains at the base of the southern wall, has probably formed as a result of the washings from cement trucks in the Boral Cement batching plant. Heading further east, the water level starts getting deeper, the side banks get narrower and you see a few eels and fish. With rising water levels, we were soon wading along the side walls going through an unbricked section, where the tunnel has been blasted through dolerite rock under the Lower Domain and Cenotaph. The tide was now definitely coming in and the water getting deeper – soon over the tops of our gumboots – as we headed towards a distant glow: the lights of eastern shore houses reflecting on the rivulet waters in our darkened drain tunnel.

Emerging at Macquarie Point, we climbed the ladder wall rungs and stood on the grassy verge beside the cyclone wire fence surrounding the sewage plant, admiring the view across the Derwent River and emptying excess waters from our boots. Ric, Janine, Gavin and Alan opted to walk back over the hill, while the rest of us returned the way we came. At the point where we were back in shallow waters with wide concrete banks in the large dome roofed brick section, Steve suggested we have a break, turn off our lights and sit in silent reflection thinking about the old days. With just the soft gentle light from a solitary candle, the jolly jigs and improvisations emanating from Joe's old tin whistle, evoked times past and brightened up our spirits. While our minds were captivated, dreaming about yesteryear and bygone times two centuries ago – with Joe's wondrous impromptu concert – Steve passed the chocolate around, Arthur poured cups of coffee and Greg set up his camera tripod to photograph us all in the tunnel. It was fun! Half an hour later we met Ric and the others in the open rivulet section behind the hospital, then all emerged back at the cars around 10.30-10.45pm. A great evening was had by all... we agreed that we should do it again sometime... and looked forward to many more social events being organised by our new STC Social Secretary, when he returns from his study tour in Canada!

IB-14 Exit Cave: 18 March 2004

Janine McKinnon

Party: Dave Rasch, Matt Cracknell, Jason Gardner, Serena Benjamin, Ric Tunney, Janine McKinnon.

This was a purely “sight seeing” trip for Matt, Jason and Serena, who have never been into this spectacular cave. As Matt and Jason live down that way and work as tour guides at Hastings it seemed about time that they visited the major cave system “in their patch”. After some difficulties with getting the permit and key we finally got sorted and 9:45 A.M. saw us starting off from the cars. There have been only a couple of minor tree falls on the track since our track clearing exercise a month ago, so the walk in is easy for now.



Admiring the pretties. Photo Ric Tunney

We got underground at 11.30 A.M. and the river was pretty much at minimum level – a break from our previous “4 times inaccessible due to flooding” record.

As we had no specific intentions of getting to the “Grand Fissure” or other distant parts of the cave we wandered at a slow pace upstream generally just having a good look around and taking photos. As nearly all my previous trips to the cave have involved moving fast on a mission to somewhere or other it was very enjoyable to actually have time to wander and look at leisure. I saw all sorts of things I’ve never noticed before!

We looked up quite a few of the side passages, including to the base of “Mini-Martin”, enroute to our eventual turn around point somewhere in the smaller dimensioned streamway short of the Grand Fissure (how’s that for vague!). On the way out we visited “Camp 2” and went a short way up the Western passage as well as doing the high traverse from the “Old Ditch Road” entry through the “Ballroom”. Much camera clicking went on here.

We exited (*pardon the pun. Ed.*) after 5½ hours underground and were back at the cars at 6.30 P.M.

N.B Both Matt and I had “cave blaster” type super illumination lights and they were well worth taking in to view up avens and high level formations.

JF-223 Tassy Pot – P Hanger Testing: 24 March 2004

Gavin Brett

Party: Gavin Brett, Alan Jackson

The P-hangers that were recently installed in Tassy Pot as training for Alan and myself needed to be tested to see if our workmanship is up to scratch. After getting over this affront to our skills, Damian, our trainer, convinced us to go back, but at the last moment he pulled out and it would be just the two of us.



Gavin in his element brandishing a hammer drill at the head of the last pitch (Goodbye Chamber). Photo Damian Bidgood

There is not that much to say about the trip apart from all the P-hangers passed, I found the hammer Alan dropped on the last pitch and that you can test a P-hanger after 2 hours 45 minutes of gluing. We had to do this as the drill went flat half way through the last hole on the installation trip.

Alan and I want everyone to give thanks to us for installing the two rebelay P-hangers on the bottom pitch, they were very difficult to install and test, taking about 3 hours on the rope!

The following are some preliminary rigging notes for the cave, I hope to get back there soon and rig the cave as intended and check all lengths.

Preliminary Rigging Details

Pitch 1 / 42m - Tie off around the obvious tree (*sassafras! Ed.*) and scramble down the slope. A few meters down a flake out to your right (looking at the wall) is encountered. A P-hanger at about the same height on your left is also here. Use a short tape and the P-hanger to affect a Y-belay to the bottom.

Pitch 2 / 24m - Stay on the rope from the first pitch and scramble out the rift. Here you will find a P-hanger and a permanent SS bolt and bolt plate. Rig a Y-hang here down to the bottom. Remember to tie the end of the previous rope into this rope if not using a continuous rope. Also, leave enough slack in the first pitch rope so that people standing at the bottom of the first pitch can reach the rope without sliding down the muddy floor.

Pitch 3 / 18m - Climb down the rock pile a short way to a 1.5m down climb. Here you will find a large boulder wedged in the roof. Bang a tape around this and tie off. Abseil down about 4m where you will find a small ledge and a couple of P- hangers. Rig a rebelay with a Y - Hang down to the bottom.

Pitch 4 / 71m - This pitch can be found at a small obvious window in the Good-bye chamber. Tie back to the large boulder well back from the window and then set a Y - hang from the two P-hangers well out on the left side of the window. Abseil down about 10m and find a single P-hanger out to your right to set a rebelay

on. Continue down about 30m more until a rock ledge comes in under your feet. Here is another P-hanger rebelay about 25m off the bottom.



Gavin testing a P-hanger in Goodbye Chamber (it passed!). Photo Alan Jackson

IB-11 Midnight Hole – Beginner Trip: 27 March 2004

Alan Jackson

Party: Alan Jackson, Gavin Brett, Mick Bavea, Michael Conolan, Serena Benjamin

I'd managed to drum up some potential new members and after a quick midweek training session at Fruehauf Quarry we headed off to Midnight Hole. Gavin provided the transport and we amazingly made it all the way to Ida Bay without being impeded by a single other vehicle!

Nothing all that exciting to report. Everyone had fun, I think, and all the maillons are now attached to the wearing P-hangers. Only one remains 'un-maillonned' as it is unlikely to wear (2nd pitch). Note that care must be taken when threading the rope through the maillons such that any twisting of the maillons doesn't occur. We managed to do this on the 5th pitch and the rope got stuck and required ascending to un jam the ropes.



Matt Conolan et le frigo seems happy with the last pitch. Photo Gavin Brett

IB-10 Mystery Creek – Cave Vandalism: 5th April 2004

Matt Cracknell

On Mon 5/4/2004 J.Gardner and myself ran a trip into Entrance Cave and were appalled to find some recent vandalism in the immediate entrance. There was damage to moonmilk on the RH wall. Broken bits of moon milk had been used to write on the opposing wall, the name inscribed was 'HALTON 04. Also found were 2 empty beer cans (cascade draught) (*typical beer choice of uneducated lowlifes from the south – Boags Draught is a far superior beer for far superior individuals – Ed.*) in the streamway. The last time that we had been there was Fri 26/3/2004 and the incident had occurred some time between the two dates.

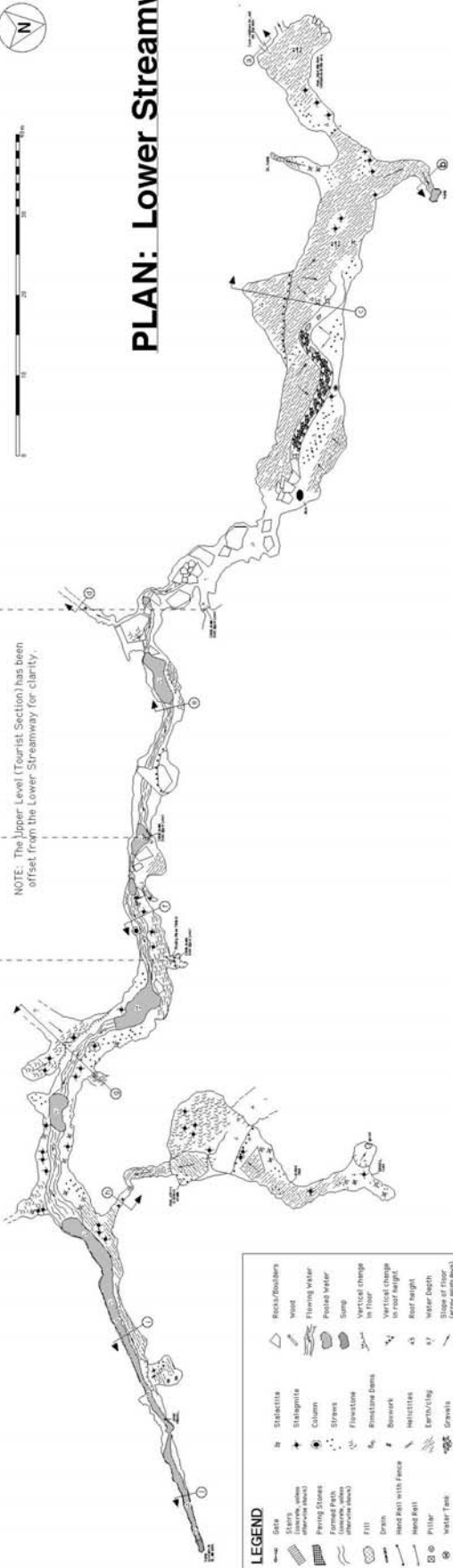


Damage to moon milk in Mystery Creek Cave. Photo Matt Cracknell

CROSS-SECTIONS
TOURIST SECTION



LEGEND



Here Yee, Here Yee, Announcing the Constitutional Change

Whilst this may not be the most interesting article in the Spiel, our constitution requires that all members are informed about changes to our club's constitution (so please Mr Editor don't bump this one) (*I can assure you, it's very tempting. Ed.*). An Extraordinary General Meeting was held on 7th April and was very well attended. After some discussion and debate, the four motions were passed. Here is a short summary.

Motion 1: That Article 8.4 of the Constitution be deleted.

This motion ceases the transfer of 10% of the club's income into the science account. Note: the science account will still receive interest.

Motion 2:

2.1. That the following be inserted as Article 5.12:

"Armchair Caver: Persons who have attained the age of eighteen years shall be eligible to become an Armchair Caver. They are entitled to receive free copies of any newsletter produced by the Organisation; however, they are not members of the Organisation. The procedure for the resignation or expulsion of an Armchair Caver shall be the same as for a member."

2.2. That the subscription for Armchair Cavers for the 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005 membership year be set at \$40.

This new armchair caver category will mean that members who no longer wish to cave can still have a formal association with the club.

Motion 3:

That Article 8.7 of the Constitution be replaced with the following:

"New members shall be entitled to pay subscriptions for their first year on a pro rata basis".

This change will mean that people who join in say November do not have to pay a full year's membership.

Motion 4

4.1 That a new membership category be inserted as Article 5.1.4 called "Student Membership".

4.2 That the following paragraph be inserted as Article 5.

"Student Membership: Full time students or those receiving a pension or social security benefits".

4.3 That the subscription rate for Student membership category be set as the same for junior membership ie \$90 or \$75 with discount.

This change will formalise our current practice of having concession members. The definition of "student" is borrowed from the ASF to give us consistency.

Win 1 million dollars

Yes, it is that time of the year when the treasurer starts hounding people for money. The new membership year has already begun - 1st April. In the past, the club has had a grace period of 3 months to pay our ASF fees. This is no longer the case. SO PLEASE cough up now, preferably at or before the next meeting (5th May). And there will be a random prize for our first armchair caver.

Claire Brett, Treasurer

PS I'm not quite sure of the relevance of the \$1m! (*Can the President please keep the Treasurer's sense of humour under control! Ed.*)

2003/04 AGM Reports (*I know everyone has been hanging out for these ones! Ed.*)

President – Steven Buntton

I have had quite a good year personally with some good caving trips particularly to two of my favourite caves Khazad-dum and Kubla Khan. In particular the Kubla trip with members who had not seen the cave before was quite satisfying. It has been good to see the club attracting new members but it is a pity that not quite enough of them stay around for long periods of time. I know that caving is not the most attractive of pursuits in this day and age but it seems we still need to find that missing ingredient that keeps the interest of the curious few. I know we have tried regular beginners' trips and there have been exploration trips, social nights and other strategies which have not really worked. I hope that for the long term future of the club we find some way to attract new members as a matter of priority.

In terms of big events for the year we have made significant progress on Riveaux Cave. Club members have respected the moratorium on visiting the cave, as they were asked to do by the land managers, Forestry Tasmania. This was in order to liaise with the Aboriginal community about surveying the area for the possibility that the caves were of cultural significance. They thought this matter over for almost a year and now the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land Council has carried out liaison with the club and together with Forestry Tasmania, have asked us if we would undertake a survey of the karst area and its caves. Funding for the project and various conditions are still being negotiated. If the area changes its land use then this will be a significant event. It will be the first significant piece of land reserved since the Regional Forestry Agreement, a process which was fundamentally flawed because it did not consider geodiversity values and was limited in its recognition of cultural values.

The management of the Hustling Creek and Blakes Opening Karst has been an interesting exercise with all three groups; the Aboriginal Community, Forestry Tasmania and cavers claiming some form of interest or ownership of the area. The fact that we can now hold fruitful negotiations and carry out meaningful discussions and systematic work with them assisted professionally by members of the Department of Primary Industry Water and Environment should be seen as a great step forward.

To me this issue is an indicator that the nature of our sport has changed as times and community attitudes have changed. No longer can we operate independently and in an ignorant and self-centred manner. In many cases we would be breaking the law and violating our own codes of ethics. I don't think it is, and certainly hope that it is not, all this so called "red tape" which is stifling caving as an interesting hobby.

The other major breakthrough this year has been the running of the Tasmanian Speleological Liaison Council. It was not until STC started to visit Mole Creek on a regular basis and we encountered various land management issues, that we realised the need for inter-club negotiations. Indeed the TSLC is meant to operate for the good of caving in the whole state, it's just that the majority of problems seem to be encountered in the North. The most notable success was the resolution of an access problem to caves via the South Mole Creek Road. Whilst the land tenure here is still problematical, at least the new rangers at Mole Creek Karst National Park are willing to enforce the law and assert public right of access. For this they are to be commended.

The whole problem of caves and land tenure reached the point where there was a Legislative Council Enquiry into Conservation on Private Land at which I gave evidence. Whilst the enquiry was meant to be more broad ranging, it was the issues surrounding caving at Mole Creek which precipitated the enquiry. Again the problems stem from issues to do with forestry and the limitations of the RFA and its impact on caves. The report from this process is yet to be published.

Whilst the aspect of cave bureaucracy is time consuming I feel it is a necessary part of our obligation as land users and we will need to do more of it in future if we are to remain as privileged visitors to the states subterranean wonders. I am therefore disappointed that whilst each club is entitled to two member representatives on the TSLC, no-one has been willing to join me on my migrations to Mole Creek which occur every four months.

Most of the rest of my time has been consumed on CaveMania. It is a pity that at this stage we can't get more people involved. At the moment I am almost running a one (old) man show! The advantage of this though is that most of the time I know what I am doing. With the help of Arthur Clarke and Robyn we have generated a lot of interest down at Dover and with the help of Steve Phipps we have produced a schedule of costings and registration forms should be available in Australian Caver #161. So far we have generated the initial publicity and this has contained some exposure for our few sponsors. Securing some sponsorship has been my major success. At this stage the concept of a conference at the end of the year is still a very abstract one. I hope that as the time draws closer more people will be involved in the concrete operational stuff needed to pull it off. I am confident it will be an outstanding success of which STC can be proud.

As usual the bulk of the running of the club has been done by the other office bearers and to them I give my thanks. Once again Ric Tunney has ensured that the Minutes have been taken and distributed, Steve Phipps has admirably dealt with the finances, Geoff Wise has published Speleo Spiel regularly and thereby kept the lifeblood of the club circulating

and Dean Morgan has most competently maintained and improved our website and also prepared the CaveMania website and its links. The minor office bearers have done their respective jobs also. Again most of the daily nuts and bolts stuff of the club has been done by Jeff Butt, this year under the difficult circumstances of his deteriorating health.

Jeff Butt has been the strength of the club ever since its formation and he has carried out surveys, kept the gear store, done the gear register and rope testing, charged the lights, run the bolting project, co-ordinated with the Police Search and Rescue, run the beginners trips, the training trips to Fruehauf Quarry and made his home available for the AGMs. Whilst he has now retired from active caving he has offered to continue in whatever capacity he can and has made arrangements to train people up to fill these roles. His retirement is a huge loss to the club and to Australian caving in general since I still believe that in Tasmania we are at the cutting edge of exploration and techniques (with the exception of those undertaken by scuba). I know every club member extends their sincerest thanks for the work he has done over the years and offer him their best wishes however inadequate these may seem. We all wish we could do more for Jeff and as much for the club as he has done over the last decade.

Members of the club were insistent that we recognise Jeff's special contribution in some way although most of us were unable to decide on any meaningful tribute that we could pay to him for his efforts. In the end I took the opportunity available in giving this report at the AGM to make a "special citation" to Jeff, for his service to the club, his hospitality, and his contribution to the fraternity of caving in Tasmania, Australia and abroad.

The immediate concern for the club are to fill the vacancies not just of those associated with Quartermaster, but those of President and Treasurer since these stalwarts are ineligible for their positions having reached their limit of three years as set out under the constitution.

The major item of unfinished business for the year has been that of amalgamating the club record keeping. Whilst the notion of an electronic archive sounds fantastic the concept is far grander than the club's ability to manage such a project. Many including myself were of the impression from last year's animated discussion that its production was imminent but things seemed to have stalled. At this stage the archive contains scanned copies of most Speleo Spiels. There are quite a number of cave maps which need to be scanned and records to be included but the mechanism for this is uncertain at this stage with Phil Rowsell informing me that he has withdrawn from the project he instigated. I appreciate the work done by all concerned on this noble project so far. The details of which records are personal, or belong to the club, stalled the production of the archive last year and it is an issue yet to be resolved with the appointment of a new Karst Index Officer at the last AGM.

The Australian Speleological Federation has claimed that it has made enormous breakthroughs with its record keeping through the auspice of the Australian Karst Index. Cave data is supposed to be entered on a state by state basis but this will still involve a huge commitment of time. If STC cannot find the time and energy to create its own records then we have no hope of entering data for ASF. With the stalling of production of the STC archive it may be better to concentrate on ASF Karst Index Data Base. Then again, if there aren't any new cavers to be inspired and we are not going caving and therefore not finding anything, it probably doesn't matter. I shouldn't be so cynical since I have hardly found time to get underground.

As promised I found I was able to dedicate my time to administration. Over the last three years I feel I have managed most of what has been required of me in my role as President. I have worked hard to achieve a number of goals and to some extent I have made progress. I realise there are still so many more to be achieved and I am sorry that at this stage in my life I cannot dedicate more time to cave exploration. I thank all those people who have assisted me with running of our club and hope that it flourishes again soon.

Secretary – Ric Tunney

The secretary is responsible to clear our post office box; answer correspondence; write official correspondence from the Club; take and publish minutes of our meetings; and apply for cave access permits. As I've been away a bit, I've missed a number of meetings and the taking of minutes has been done by one of the attendees, usually the President. Most of our correspondence has concerned conservation matters and Steve Bunton has kindly handled these. This has left me the minor task of occasionally writing for permits.

Another task I have been doing is running our two email list servers (the general STC list server and the Speleo Spiel notification list). I feel this task is more in the ambit of our web master and I recommend the new secretary investigates handing the task over. It's generally automatic and actually requires little work.

Treasurer – Steve Phipps

1. Overview

After the upheavals of the previous couple of years, it's been a welcome change to have a "normal" financial year. The club appears to be ticking along relatively nicely now, with a slight surplus being recorded during 2003. Now that the

public liability insurance crisis is behind us, it's particularly reassuring to note that the club's membership has stabilised (although I have a few more words to say about this below).

With less caving activity, income from the gear store was down considerably from the previous year, although it continues to make a net contribution to the club's funds. It is therefore proposed, once again, that the trip fee and gear hire charges remain unchanged. Thanks must go to Jeff Butt for his efforts as Equipment Officer, without which the gear store would not be such a success.

The electronic version of *Speleo Spiel* is becoming increasingly popular, with just 49 paper copies of each issue now being produced – down from over 100 three years ago. The cost of producing *Speleo Spiel* appears to have stabilised, with the estimated cost of supplying one year's worth of the *Spiel* increasing only marginally, from \$15.48 in 2002 to \$15.61 in 2003. Thanks to Geoff Wise for his efforts during 2003, not least for saving the club some money through creative uses of the resources at his disposal!

Looking forward to 2004, it comes as a great relief to be able to report that ASF fees remain at their 2003 levels. Despite this, I am proposing subscription rates that are slightly higher than last year. This reflects the fact that the General Account, which is the club's operating account, continues to run out of money. During 2003, it recorded a further deficit of \$124.70, indicating that subscription income did not fully cover the club's running costs. While the club as a whole recorded a surplus for the year, this was only because the Science Account gained \$390.62.

I feel that this division of the club's finances into separate General and Science Accounts is no longer desirable. The Science Account does not function as was originally intended, and the effect that it has on the club's subscription rates can no longer be justified. I therefore propose that, during the coming year, the General and Science Accounts be merged into a single operating account. It should be noted that, if this was already the case, then it would be possible to hold subscription rates at their 2003 levels, whilst still maintaining the current level of expenditure on scientific activities.

On a final note, I've greatly enjoyed my time as Treasurer. It's particularly rewarding to see that the club's finances are now so healthy, and I'm grateful for the efforts of all concerned over the past three years. I wish my successor well, and hope that they enjoy the job as much as I have.

2. Membership

After declining for several years, the number of subscription-paying members appears to have stabilised.

Unfortunately, however, this is only because of an influx of new members from Hastings. During 2003, 11 Prospective members joined the club, of which only 4 went on to become full members. All of these were from Hastings, and had been compelled to join STC; not a single Hobart-based Prospective member remained within the club. Furthermore, during the past two years alone, 15 full members have lapsed.

Clearly there is an ongoing need for the club to try harder to attract new members, and to ensure that existing members remain on board.

Number of Members	30 Sep 2000	30 Sep 2001	31 Dec 2002	31 Dec 2003
Household/Full/Concession	37	33	29	30
Prospective	1	6	1	1
Life	22	22	13	10
Total membership	60	61	43	41
Friends of STC	-	-	8	11
Total association	60	61	51	52

3. Proposed subscription rates for 2004

Subscription rates for 2004 are proposed on the basis that the General Account should break even.

Note that the estimated income below excludes subscriptions. The estimated expenditure excludes both ASF fees and the cost of supplying *Speleo Spiel* to subscription-paying members, as these items are considered separately.

3.1. Estimated income to General Account for 2004

	2001/2 actual	2003 actual	2004 estimated	Remains is General A/C
<i>Speleo Spiel</i> subscriptions	200.00	125.00	125	113
Light hire	624.00	408.00	459	275
Gear hire	314.00	118.00	192	115

Gear sales	749.00	156.00	402	362
Trip fees	519.00	339.00	399	360
CCMT interest	235.88	205.46	196	36
Bank interest	2.20	1.47	2	2
Sale of surplus items	45.00	31.50	34	31
Total			1809	1294

3.2. Estimated expenditure from General Account for 2004

	2001/2 actual	2003 actual	2004 estimated
Supplying <i>Speleo Spiel</i> to life members, Friends of STC, subscribers and exchanges (40 copies)			624
ASF fees for inactive life members	107.50	138.00	138
Gear purchases	1345.03	116.62	650
Bank charges	11.20	9.80	9
Audit fee	44.00	40.00	40
Fee for lodging annual return	42.00	43.20	44
PO Box rental	95.00	95.00	100
ACKMA membership	45.00	45.00	45
Insurance for gear store	50.51	31.88	32
Publication purchases	197.42	0.00	88
Other	60.20	0.00	27
Sub-total			1797
Add 10% contingency			180
Total			1977

3.3. Amount to be raised via subscriptions

The net amount which needs to be raised via subscriptions is \$1977 - \$1294 = \$683. In order to divide this cost amongst the club's membership, each member is charged the following multiple of a base fee:

Membership Category	Multiple
Household	1.5
Full	1.0
Concession/Junior	0.5
Prospective	0.25

Assuming that membership remains at 2003 levels, the base fee is \$25.53.

3.4. Proposed subscription rates

First, add the cost of *Speleo Spiel* to the base fee. The subtotal is then multiplied by 10/9 to allow for the fact that 10% of subscription income – excluding ASF fees – is transferred to the Science Account at the end of each financial year. ASF fees are then added.

The totals are then rounded to the nearest \$5 (with the exception of the fee for active life members).

Membership category	Base fee	<i>Speleo Spiel</i>	Subtotal	Multiply by 10/9	ASF	Total
Household	38.3	15.61	53.91	59.90	121.50	181.40

Full	25.53	15.61	41.14	45.71	68.00	113.71
Concession/Junior	12.77	15.61	28.38	31.53	61.00	92.53
Prospective	6.38	3.90	10.28	11.42	20.00	31.42
Active life members	-	-	-	-	68.00	68.00

Membership category	2003 actual		2004 proposed	
	Full rate	Discounted	Full rate	Discounted
Household	165	150	180	165
Full	100	85	115	100
Concession/Junior	85	70	95	80
Prospective	30		30	
Active life members	68		68	
ASF-exempt Full	40		45	
ASF-exempt Prospective	10		10	

Southern Tasmanian Caverneers Incorporated
Financial Statement for year ending 31 December 2003

	2003	2002 ¹
	\$	\$
Income		
Subscriptions	2659.00	2025.00
<i>Speleo Spiel</i> subscriptions	125.00	200.00
Light hire	408.00	669.00 ²
Gear hire	118.00	326.00 ³
Gear sales	156.00	749.00
Trip fees ⁴	3369.00	519.00
Donations	248.30	258.00
Interest	208.57	239.84
Sale of surplus items	31.50	45.00
Science projects	0.00	224.87
Total income	<u>4293.37</u>	<u>5255.71</u>
Expenditure		
Printing and photocopying	542.40	977.23
Postage and phone	185.43	343.15
Stationery	29.85	62.88
ASF fees	2530.95	3319.25 ⁵
Gear purchases	116.62	1345.03
Bank charges	11.00	14.70
Equipment Officer Honorarium	281.40	139.80
Audit fee	40.00	44.00
Fee for lodging annual return	43.20	42.00
PO Box rental	95.00	95.00
ACKMA membership	45.00	45.00
Insurance for gear store	31.88	50.51 ⁶
Publication purchases	0.00	197.42
Death notice for Sam Carey	0.00	60.20
Payment of hire money to Jeff Butt	0.00	57.00
Science equipment	28.77	198.90
Science projects	0.00	29.00

Science publications	45.95	95.00
Total expenditure	<u>4027.45</u>	<u>7116.07</u>
Net surplus (deficit)	<u>265.92</u>	<u>(1860.36)</u>
Balance sheet		
Petty cash	20.40	19.95
General Account	538.07	570.97
Science Account	599.15	708.53
Cash Management Trust	5500.00	5000.00
Less unrepresented cheques	(110.50)	(18.25)
Total cash position	<u>6547.12</u>	<u>6281.20</u>
Account reconciliation		
Opening cash position	6281.20	8141.56
Add total receipts for the period	4293.37	5255.71
Less total payments for the period	(4027.45)	(7116.07)
Closing cash position	<u>6547.12</u>	<u>6281.20</u>

Notes

1. Figures for 2002 are for the fifteen months ending 31 December 2002.
2. Includes \$45 collected on behalf of Jeff Butt.
3. Includes \$12 collected on behalf of Jeff Butt.
4. Trip fee introduced on 7 November 2001.
5. Includes membership fees for 2001 and 2002.
6. Insurance for 2001/2 and 2002/3.
7. As at 31 December 2002, the Cash Management Trust held \$1000 on behalf of the General Account, and \$4000 on behalf of the Science Account. As at 31 December 2003, it held \$1000 on behalf of the General Account, and \$4500 on behalf of the Science Account.

Librarian – Greg Middleton

It has been a relatively quiet year in the library. Newsletters and journals are accessioned as they are received but the number of these has dropped off, perhaps due to a reduction in speleological output in recent times and to more newsletters going 'on-line'.

This year I have accessioned 142 new journals, bringing our holding to 3572; and 6 new books/monographs, bringing our holding to 154. There are also a series of binders containing reprints and photocopies of at least 216 cave-related papers and magazine articles. These are indexed in a database.

These holdings are shelved on around 25 m of shelf space.

The club now has a near complete set of all publications from TCC, SCS and TCKRG. It also has a large holding of other Australian and overseas newsletters and journals, including NSS Bulletins back to 1943 (incomplete). Lists of our holdings are available; members are welcome to borrow at no charge. Anyone who can contribute copies of journals that we are missing is very welcome to do so. The journals list also indicates duplicates of the Spiel and some other Australian newsletters which are available at negotiable prices. I can also provide access to my own extensive collection of worldwide speleological abstracts back to 1970.

The archives of the three constituent clubs are held in the library, in boxes. While I have prepared a database, these have not been catalogued or shelved. There continues to be little interest in this material.

Equipment Officer – Jeff Butt

It is pleasing to say that there have been no incidents over the past year.

A Caving Search and Rescue Exercise (CAVEX-2003) was held along the lines of a series of workshops through which participants rotated. Each workshop was designed to give emphasis to particular skills and background, such as: the methods used in setting up and co-ordinating a Caving Search and Rescue; searching an area, both above and below

ground; patient packaging and handling; transport of a packaged patient over rough terrain; setting up and using underground and surface communication systems; setting up and using a vertical rescue. All in all most thought the Workshop style worked really well.

Unfortunately my deteriorating health means that I am no longer an 'Active Caver' and so I feel I should pass this job onto an Active Caver; I am quite happy to assist with advice/training/co-ordinating SAR activities, but unfortunately this will be more of an advisory role.

Webmaster – Dean Morgan

The website was totally rebuilt during the year and there is little else to report! Any new ideas and material for the website are welcomed by the Webmaster. The webmaster is also the STC list server moderator now.

Karst Index Officer – Ric Tunney

The STC Karst Index Officer is responsible for:

Issuing Cave Numbers for Southern Tasmania

Issuing STC Map Numbers

Providing data to the ASF Tasmania Karst Index Officer for inclusion in the ASF Karst Index

Since I took over these tasks from Arthur Clarke last year, I haven't had to issue any cave numbers and have only issued three map numbers.

The data in the ASF Karst Index hasn't been updated for some ten years. ASF is still in the process of providing updating facilities, so there has been no activity on this from STC's side.

Editor – Geoff Wise

When I became editor at the last AGM the first thing I heard was someone comment 'you poor bastard'. Indeed the role of editor is seen by many as time consuming but I found that after one or two issues the Spiel doesn't take up much time. In fact the main challenges for the editor are finding photos for covers and folding and stuffing the Spiels into envelopes.

This year I concentrated on getting the Spiel back up to date, producing seven issues instead of the usual six. Several of these issues were quite thick, almost creating an envelope / postage crisis at one point. The number of paper Spiels has decreased (from 62 to 49) as the membership has fallen and other members deciding to go with the electronic version. It is estimated from the counter on the web site that around 60 copies of each issue are downloaded in electronic format.

I'd like to thank all the members who contributed, especially Phil Rowsell for doing the collation and initial layout of the Ida Bay Special articles in Spiels 335 – 337. It was good to see plenty of new exploration published including maps. The adages of survey what you explore and publish what you survey is an important one. I'd also like to thank those who offered their encouragement and creative criticism.

The Spiel is one of the most important parts of the club, recording our activities and keeping the club members and caving community as a whole informed of what the Southern Tasmanian Caverneers are up to. You don't have to be the trip organiser to write the report, it is always refreshing to get different perspectives so if you have never written a trip report or you haven't in a while, write one for the next trip you go on.

I won't be standing again for 2004. I've taken a job in the north of the state and feel that this important position requires someone who will have more involvement with the club than I can. I'll still be about and am willing to help out when it is needed. I'm sure that the next editor will receive the same support from the members that I did.

Statistics for 2003

Number of Issues	7 (#'s 333 – 339)
Number of Trip Reports	106
Number of Non-Trip Report Articles	22
Number of Maps Published	32
Number of Photos	49
Number of Envelopes Stuffed	371
Number of Folds Made	742

Search & Rescue – Jeff Butt

The Gear Store loans rate for the year was 72 loans, this is down a bit compared to normal (the five year average is 91 loans/year), largely due to the non-return of Phil Rowsell, who is a major gear user (and thus supporter!) of the gear store.

Trip fees (thanks Phil and those regular P-hangerers!) have continued to provide a steady stream of income.

No Annual Rope drop testing was carried out this year on account of me being away travelling, and then suffering from deteriorating health. However about 150 m of older rope (mostly 9 mm) has been retired due to age.

P-hanger work has continued; Khazad Dum has now been completed, both the main route and the Serpentine Route. Extra funding has been obtained from Wildcare for further P-hangering, and shortly Tassy Pot and Dwarrowdelf are to be done.

All gear is either present in the gear store, or accounted for in the Gear Loans book. Some 'highlights' in the various departments are outlined below.

Lamps/Charger

During the year three Oldhams failed, leaving us at this time with 11 serviceable lamps (10 Gell cells and 1 Oldham). There is a bit of lamp maintenance required to be done.

Helmets

We have 5 good Joe Brown fibreglass helmets. Some of the older Construction workers helmets were retired during the year; and the remainder are now 'past' their use by date; so will need replacing shortly.

Ropes

At present we have 1121 m of serviceable rope. Some of the longer ropes have been shortened to make them into more useable lengths. A table of our ropes is included below. We should not need to purchase any new ropes for the next one to two years.....unless a lot more caving starts happening! Rope requirements for the post-conference field trips for Jan 2005 should not present any undue problems, however we should reassess this later in 2004.

Gear Bags

We are down one rope-pack, and one of the SRT packs is on its last legs. I would expect us to need one new rope pack shortly.

Ladders And Traces

All ladders and traces are serviceable and we have more than enough for our needs. Indeed the ladders rarely get an outing; the traces get out more often, being handy for rigging.

SRT Gear

We have two complete SRT sets in good order. Occasionally there is demand for a third set; but buying and maintaining a third set for occasional use is probably not justified.

Bolting Gear/Power Drill

The power-drill has been used quite a bit to affix number tags; it is perfectly suited to this job.

Survey Gear

The survey gear has seen considerable use over the last year, and we are basically down to having three serviceable units (2 compass, 1 clino.). If the current level of surveying activity is to continue, then we can expect to have to buy at least one clino. in the coming year.

Dean Morgan donated his set of instruments to the club, which has assisted in us having enough instruments for just now.

The GARMIN GPS 12XL unit has been used sporadically; the external antenna never gets used.

Rope Protectors

We have more than enough for our needs.

STC Warehouse Sales

Due to the lack of demand, this venture has been scaled right down. The main demand is for dynamic rope for cowstails/safety attachment for the hand-jammer, and this service will continue.

SUMMARY

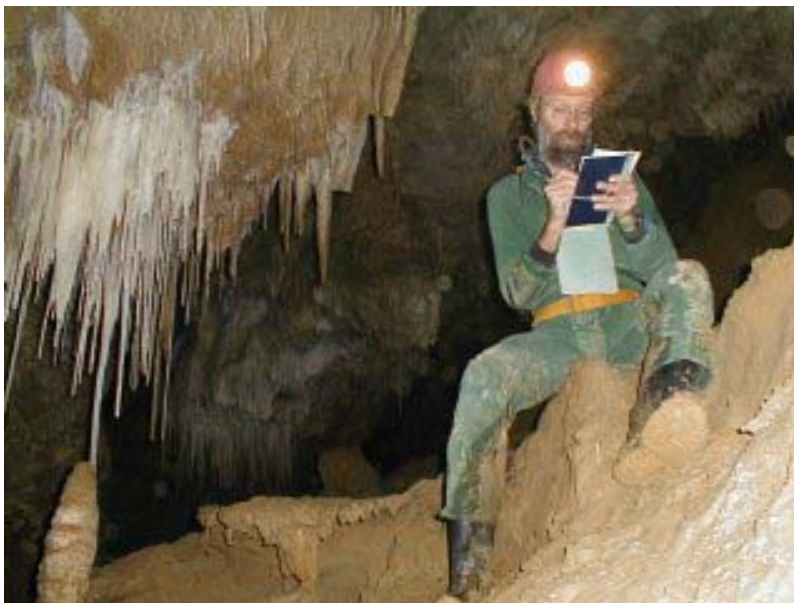
The club equipment (a complete inventory follows) is reasonably well maintained and the Equipment Store remains in a well organised state. An inventory of our gear follows; it is likely that this will remain fairly constant from now on, with items just being replaced as they are retired.

Unfortunately my deteriorating health means that the amount of time and energy I will have available to run the gear store in the future is low and over the next few months I would like to pass on the wealth of experience and knowledge to a new Equipment Officer, even if the gear does remain at this location. Guess we can talk about this at the AGM.

Jeff Butt Memorial Pages

Jeff the Caver

By Dave Rasch



I was Jeff's caving buddy for about 12 years. I will remember Jeff as being one of the very best cavers that Australia has produced.

From memory, Jeff initially joined the Tasmanian Caverneering Club (TCC) around 1983, and also joined the rival Southern Caving Society (SCS) club a few years later. Back then the SCS club did not have much expertise in cave rigging. We tended to abseil on 11mm ropes often hung over lips, using rope protectors which sometimes stayed in place. I also remember numerous occasions when the rope would not be long enough to reach the bottom of the pitch, and there would be chilly waits at the top of pitches while some poor sod in cotton overalls would inch their way back up the rope with the bad news. There were also tales of people ascending ropes to discover the rope chewed 90% through...

During the early/mid-80s, there was a progressive shift by Tasmanian cavers to European style rigging and Jeff helped to bring this change to the SCS club. Even though the TCC and SCS caving clubs were (supposedly) rivals, Jeff would go on TCC trips and transfer knowledge he obtained across to the SCS. Later, through overseas caving jaunts to the UK, NZ, Switzerland and the US, Jeff refined his knowledge of caving techniques to world class standards and continued to pass on this knowledge - to the club's continued benefit.

Jeff's Amazing Teaching:

Jeff was always researching and questing for "best practice" techniques in caving.

This is well illustrated by his recent 'P'-hanger project. Jeff labored for more than a year researching bolting practices worldwide, then went ahead, located and purchased the best kind of bolts, the best kind of glue, refined his techniques for bolt installation and - possibly a first for Tasmanian caving - arranged and ensured that all bolts were load-tested with a commercial testing rig after installation.

Jeff used to teach us about caving in several ways.

Firstly Jeff always made sure he was accessible to anyone who wanted to talk about caving. Progressively through information sharing, he became a fount of knowledge. For example, Jeff introduced to Tasmania a European technique of using belayed redirects to assist with manoeuvring a stretcher through difficult passage during vertical cave rescue lifts. This was used to good effect during the practice rescue at Mystery Creek a few years ago.

Secondly, Jeff was always a role model: He always “practiced what he preached”: always carried three sources of light, always carried personal survival gear, always employed safe rigging practices...and, by constantly gauging his own and other people’s level of comfort or tiredness, knew when to stop, turn around and head out of the cave.

Thirdly, by a technique I would describe as “gentle correction”: Jeff would often travel “second” in the caving party, encouraging others to go ahead and try their hand at rigging the cave. He would then quietly follow along, adjusting and correcting the mistakes according to his understanding of “best practice”. He would re-dress Figure-8 knots or shorten an unnecessarily lengthy loop, find an extra hidden rock knob to use as an anchor, add a deviation to eliminate a rub point, or adjust the length of slings to optimise load-sharing between anchors. On the way back out of the cave, the other cavers would then progressively get a rigging lesson - as they discovered the modifications Jeff had made and understood the reasons for his changes.

Jeff’s Amazing Preparedness:

Once, several hours into a deep cave, I had two light bulbs fail in quick succession and I had no spares. Jeff searched his pack and produced a bulb with the right voltage rating and of the kind that I used but (and this is the point) of a kind that he DIDN’T personally use! Was it luck I wonder or had he planned ahead for his buddy?

Halfway up a 14metre climb once in Niagara Pot, it was discovered that Damian Bidgood was gushing blood from a wound in his leg. Jeff produced the appropriate dressings and bandages and dressed Damian’s leg - halfway up the climb.

Jeff ensured he always followed the ASF Code of Conduct and Minimal Impact Caving code. He always carried route-marking tape and a marker pen to place tracks in the cave if needed. In delicate parts of the cave he would often cordon off the area in question, leaving a message on the tape with alternate route information. Some of these installations have yet to be discovered by other cavers, because Jeff would often do this on his first exploration trip to the cave. How many of us can claim that we regularly do this? Sometimes I would visit a cave to discover that Jeff had returned at some stage previously and installed laminated signs.

Jeff always carried three sources of light, spare batteries and bulbs, first aid equipment, a space blanket, candle and matches, rescue pulley, spare food and warm clothing...and somehow managed to pack it all into a tiny volume at the bottom of his pack. I still haven’t figured out exactly how he managed to do this.

After organising and conducting club SRT training evenings at Fruehof quarry on some Wednesday evenings, Jeff would sometimes spend some time with me on the cliff, making sure he and his buddy were both familiar and practised with techniques for rescuing an unconscious caver from a rope. I would encourage all vertical cavers to make sure they are familiar with these techniques, and to carry the equipment necessary to effect such as rescue. Jeff has also conducted numerous training trips with the Police Search and Rescue Unit in cave rescue techniques and offered guidelines in the placement of bolts for stretcher lifts.

Jeff’s Amazing Metabolism:

In some ways Jeff was born to cave because he was blessed with an amazing metabolism. We all remember Jeff getting around in shorts and T shirt at home, even in cold weather. Well, at the end of a long day’s caving, sometimes after midnight, Jeff would change out of his caving gear back into the shorts and T shirt and then drive the hour and a half in the Orana back to Hobart from Maydena with the window fully down and the near-zero Tasmanian air blowing all around the car. He said that he did it to keep him awake, but I couldn’t help noticing that he wasn’t shivering the way I was!

I also remember catching up with him once in a cave that had a wet entrance. After an hour of caving I was still dripping wet and remained so all day...but Jeff had completely dried out from his body heat.

There was only one disadvantage I could see for Jeff having such an amazing internal furnace, and that was that his glasses kept steaming up...so now you know the secret of how I managed to keep up with him when we went caving together!

Jeff’s Amazing Precision:

Something quite remarkable I remember about Jeff is that I never saw him fall, trip or even stumble once in a cave. Not once over 15 years. Also, when climbing loose scree slopes, he never ever let a rock roll onto me accidentally. After a few times I got quite comfortable climbing below him because I knew he never would drop a rock on me. I also don’t remember him ever breaking a straw. Also, I don’t remember him ever starting up a climb, make it halfway and have to give up.

Jeff’s Amazing Determination:

To illustrate this, I know that in one year Jeff did 33 survey trips into the same cave. I know this because I accompanied him on 30 of those. Jeff stressed the need to survey what we explored, and not to give in to the temptation of just going

to see what was around the next corner. In this way, the cave always remained “fresh” because each survey trip we were breaking new ground.

Despite all his care and preparation, Jeff had one notable caving accident about six years ago in Flick Mint’s Pot: A rock about head-sized that was being used as one of two anchors for the abseil rope broke off and fell about 8 metres onto his head, punching a hole through his helmet, hitting him on the head, also injuring his right leg and left hand to the point of being useless. And his glasses smashed. Basically after 20 minutes, Jeff picked himself up and self-rescued himself for two hours through two tight squeezes, several free-climbs and numerous vertical pitch ascents - with the rest of us hard-pressed to keep up. It wasn’t till he made it to the surface that he required assistance to walk along the track back to the car.

Jeff’s determination and courage were also plainly visible during the onset of his disease. He remained stoic to the end, and never publicly complained about his unfolding tragedy.

Jeff’s Amazing Memory:

Jeff and I went caving in the Weld valley one Easter long weekend. (I remember he found a tick lodged firmly in the end of his oldfeller - but that’s another story). Jeff and I were walking out on the last day and he was recounting to me all the twists and turns and all the various passages that might have leads in them in the 13 caves that we discovered. I have to admit that after visiting the third cave on Day 1, I had already forgotten what Cave 1 entrance even looked like!

There are many more descriptions of Jeff that I could mention: magazine editor, principal article contributor, cave surveyor and mapper, office bearer, gear store manager, cave pack constructor, equipment safety tester, light hire and repair...the list goes on.

Jeff’s Amazing Love:

We know that Jeff loved caving. And I have already spoken about the care that Jeff exercised at all times in the caves he visited. This is a manifestation of his love for the caves themselves. Also and most importantly, Jeff cared for every person that he met. Any new prospective caving club member, Jeff would organise training trips for them. Any overseas caver visiting, Jeff would offer trips and extend an invitation to stay at his house. I believe that it was because of Jeff’s love for everyone in his life that I never heard him blurt anything hurtful that he later regretted. Jeff always considered his words and he always spoke his truth.

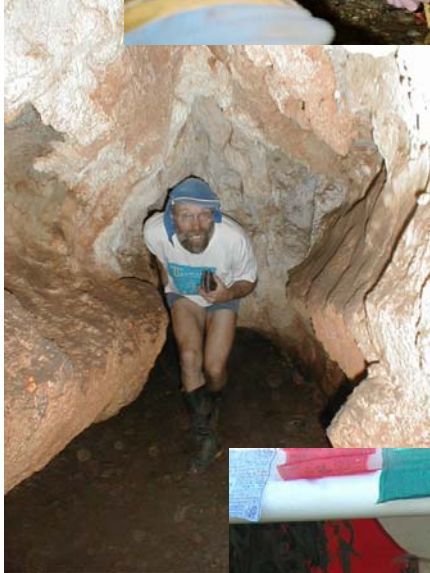
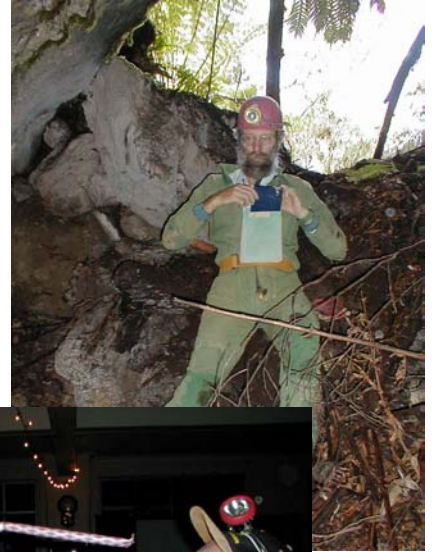
Jeff’s Amazing Legacy:

Firstly with regard to safety: I believe that the excellent safety record enjoyed by Tasmanian cavers over the last 15 years is in large part due to Jeff’s efforts such as maintaining records of rope wear, regular bolt monitoring and replacement, testing caving equipment regularly and encouraging others to do the same and his regular practice sessions at the quarry.

Even greater than this legacy, Jeff has shown us, by example, the extent that it is possible for one person to change the world around them. Jeff has gone and he is irreplaceable...but he has left us with a challenge: Is it possible for those of us still around to pick up and continue his good work? Even if we work collectively, the task is huge.

Jeff Butt Rest in Peace. 13 April 2004.

I hope you are out there exploring your biggest and best decorated cave yet.





A tribute to the life of Jeff Butt

Arthur Clarke

Jeff Butt died at home (in South Hobart, Tasmania) on Tuesday 13th April 2004, around 6:30am. As many of you know he had been courageously battling an aggressive cancer for just on three years. His funeral service took place on Monday, April 19th and many attending cavers – some who also acted as pall bearers – were dressed in full caving attire with harnesses and SRT gear. A memorial service dedicated to the memory of his life took place in *Newdegate Cave* on Saturday May 1st with a celebration of his life following on at the Thermal Pool.

A little over a month ago (on Friday March 12th), Jeff married Sarah Boyle - his loving partner of many years - in a most memorable wedding at the old Springs Hotel site on Mt. Wellington, overlooking Hobart. They arrived at the wedding venue circling above the trees in a Police Search and Rescue helicopter... believed to be the last time a helicopter would will be permitted to land on Mt. Wellington, following the implementation of the mountain park management plan... and consequently indicative of the respect and standing Jeff held within the community, particularly in regard to his contribution to search and rescue and the State Emergency Services. Jeff will be sadly missed by his loving wife Sarah and the many others who knew him through caving, sea canoeing, cycling, rogaining, orienteering, bushwalking and the State Emergency Services... to name just a few of his many outdoor involvements.

Jeff has contributed so much to our knowledge of caves, caving and speleology in Tasmania and around the world. He spent time working as a volunteer in the USA, including a stint at Carlsbad (New Mexico) when he was privileged to visit *Lechuguilla Cave* and has taken part in many overseas and mainland (Australian) caving expeditions and ventures.

I would like to mention a few of the numerous contributions Jeff has made to the quality of our lives (and our safety) as cavers. His contribution to caving, cave safety standards, cave leadership standards, caving skills instruction, cave conservation, P-hanging of regularly used Tasmanian caves, cave exploration, documentation and his levels of excellence in cave surveying and draughting of survey maps are just a few of the so many attributes which he has contributed to Tasmanian and Australian speleology. With cave safety in mind, he organised numerous CAVEX: Cave (Rescue) Exercise scenarios in Tasmania and always regularly conducted a safety audit of all our caving club SRT ropes. (Realising that rope testing could become a tad tedious - apart from the fun of watching a heavy weight drop from a reasonable height to test a rope's strength - Jeff always had a diversion on hand: his freshly baked scones with homemade strawberry or raspberry jam from his garden produce at the ready.) His unconditional commitment to SRT rope skills and SRT practice sessions at the Fruehauf Quarry cliff faces enabled newcomers to feel safe in pushing their limits. In addition to SRT Skills training, he often ran caving beginners trips, always promoting cave safety, good balance and climbing techniques when on slopes or in rock piles and promoted the use of handline ropes where beginners felt unsure about their own capabilities. He always carried a first aid kit on all caving trips and advocated this practice to other cavers, including beginners, suggesting that amongst other items your first aid kit should always contain a space blanket (to ward against hypothermia) as well as necessities such as spare light globes, a candle and matches.

Jeff always led by example and one thing he taught many of us... was the way to cave leaving as little impact as possible. In fact some cavers thought he took minimal impact caving to the extreme... placing his large rubber gloves down on his lap to catch the bread crumbs, so they wouldn't create an artificial (introduced) food source for cave life. Although Jeff always went caving following the principle of "taking nothing but photographs and leaving nothing but footprints", he was strictly mindful that as cavers, we needed to minimise the impact of our feet in caves... by walking along the same path, keeping within any stringlined routes (some of which he helped position), placing our feet where we would avoid trampling on flowstone or precious cave sediments. Again, leading by example, Jeff was mindful of where he placed his feet and, where possible, did not walk in cave streams... also being careful not to brush his dirty overalls against cave walls. I remember him as always being self-sufficient in a cave, ensuring that he had screw-top containers or plastic bags to carry out any human waste, food scraps or discarded items. Jeff was a great advocate for the use of electric lighting by cavers, because of the inherent problems of removing spent carbide from a cave when using acetylene generated carbide lighting. As many of his friends will remember, his attitudes towards minimal impact caving were an extension of his life: looking after our environment, self-sufficiency and his philosophy of recycling. Jeff was one of the very few people I knew who washed and cleaned any tins, plastic drink containers and cardboard milk cartons before neatly crushing or compacting them for placement in recycling bins.

As a caver, Jeff was gently mindful of everyone's' qualities and abilities in the most technically difficult vertical caves (e.g., *Anne-A-Kananda*), in the most severe of our long, cold and wet stream cave systems (e.g., *Growling Swallet* and *Exit Cave*) and in our most pristine caves where conservation values were paramount (e.g., *Three-Forty-One*). As mentioned by Dave Rasch at the crematorium service, it should be noted that Jeff undertook some 33 caving trips devoted to surveying, restoration and track marking in the *Rift Cave* - JF-341 system and a copy of the first compilation

of the JF-341 cave survey was draped over his coffin at his funeral service and cremated together with his multi-patched and lovingly repaired caving overalls. Interesting timing too Jeff, because this is also *Speleo Spiel* issue # 341.

More recently, he paved the way for installation of P-Hangers in some of our more heavily trafficked vertical caves, after developing some rigorous testing procedures in the abandoned Benders Quarry at Ida Bay, before the first hangers were installed at *Midnight Hole* in September 2001. He personally selected the optimal position for placement of hangers at pitch heads and these rigorous hanger testing procedures were continued in the caves. As an adjunct to these testing procedures, Jeff promoted the installation of a permanent log book situated at the bottom of *Midnight Hole*, in order to monitor the frequency and intensity of the new P-hanger usage.

When I first knew Jeff in 1984 ... at a time when I was still living at Dover, he was working at the Meteorological Bureau in Hobart and living at Facy street in Bellerive with “Jacko” (Philip Jackson) and Sarah was a regular visitor even then... but that’s another story! Before coming over to Tasmania, Jeff had been at ANU in Canberra doing a PhD on weather forecasting, but had not completed his degree when the job as forecaster came up in Hobart. Prior to going to ANU, he did his under-graduate degree at Monash University in Melbourne.

As a weatherman, Jeff was a handy companion to have on caving trips, especially extended overnight or expedition trips when you knew that he had chosen a time when the weather would be pretty stable. Whenever I was staying at Dover and Jeff intended making the journey south to Ida Bay, he would always call to enquire on the recent rainfall figures and current conditions. (Interestingly, the weather was perfect on the day of both his wedding and his funeral!) His interest in meteorology extended underground as well, where he regularly noted or recorded cave air and water temperatures, monitoring the meteorological conditions in caves at Ida Bay and in the Junee-Florentine.

Some of my more memorable early caving adventures with Jeff included the time we shared a tent together during the SCS Easter 1985 Cracroft expedition: doing a re-survey of *Judds Cavern* (now *Wargata Mina*), travelling in and out on numerous occasions without ever noticing the hand stencils on the opposite wall. We found numerous extensions in the cave including *Blowhole Fissure* where we even broke into another parallel cave system north of Judds Cavern, where there were several vertical entrances. We successfully relocated a few of these entrances on the surface including the massive 46m deep entrance rift (*The Propylaeum*) and Jeff was the first to descend this new feature. On another occasion in 1985, we camped together in *Crystal Palace* on Mt. Weld during the early days of exploration there before the re-discovery of *Arrakis* and struggled to get a good night’s sleep with the cave crystal floor poking through our flimsy close cell foam sleeping mats! A few years later, there was the December 1988 expedition to PB (Precipitous Bluff), during which time Jeff encouraged me to bring in an extra 20litre PVC drum (for food supplies) at our campsite in the myrtle rainforest near *Damper Cave*, so I could use the container to make up a home brew stout for the expedition. In the preceding and subsequent years, Jeff assisted me with many of the overland Suunto and clinometer survey traverses at Ida Bay locating access tracks and cave entrances, plus surveying caves, including many repeated trips in the western passages of *Exit Cave*. More recently (in November 2001), we re-surveyed *Newdegate Cave* together and Jeff drew up the map, so it seems particularly fitting that his memorial service was held here.

Prior to the formation of our club: Southern Tasmanian Caverneers (STC), Jeff was President of the Southern Caving Society (SCS) and for nearly ten years or more, the Editor of *Southern Caver* (the newsletter/ journal for SCS). Jeff was one of three of us: Dean Morgan (for TCC) and myself (for TCKRG) who were in that same role as President/ Editor carrying the can for our respective clubs here in southern Tasmania, when we decided to amalgamate to form STC. Then along with becoming the STC Quartermaster and foundation Treasurer, Jeff was enormously helpful and supportive to me in my role as foundation President for STC. Before STC came into existence, Jeff had also been the Treasurer of TCKRG, Search & Rescue co-ordinator for SCS, Quartermaster for SCS and ran the SCS website (the forerunner of our present STC website), headed up ASF-CLAG Cave Leadership Accreditation Group (Tas.): probably the first effective group of its kind in Australia and represented cavers on the Tasmanian Outdoor Leadership Council. Together with his involvement in the documentation of Tasmanian caves, he used the Tasmanian caving experience to develop the first national model of Cave Safety, training procedures and cave leadership skills and together with Dean Morgan, compiled the first national “*Caving Safety Course Manual*”.

Since the formation of STC in December 1996, Jeff has consistently been a driving force within the club, at the forefront of new cave exploration in Tasmania and the mapping of known cave systems. As already mentioned, he was our foundation Treasurer and our Quartermaster; he was also actively involved as the STC liaison officer for Tasmanian Police Search and Rescue co-ordinating callouts whenever required. Devoted to maintaining the STC gear store and equipment, Jeff ensured that all our caving lights were charged and at all times, replacing light globes as necessary and having lights (and helmets) always at the ready to hire out to STC members and other outside caving groups. In fact, his efforts in organising light hire to other non-STC people has always provided a major component of our STC income. In another example of his innovative income raising for the club, Jeff devised all sorts of novel and ingenious ways of disposing old redundant or retired 9mm and 11mm caving rope: making up floor mats, cat scratching poles and selling it

off to yachties. In addition to maintaining our club equipment, he regularly published an inventory of all our equipment, making timely recommendations regarding the purchase of new or replacement ropes and other caving equipment. The STC gear store – located behind his house in Clutha Place – became the regular meeting place for us where we held our Annual General Meetings. (Jeff figured it might be the only occasion each year when some less active STC members would have the opportunity to see what gear or equipment the club has.)

Jeff Butt has been devoted to caving for two decades in Tasmania and many people all around Australia and overseas will know and remember him for the numerous home-made "manufactured" items (and repairs) amongst their gear: trog suits, caving sacks, caving harnesses, cows tails, caving slings, cave number tags, caving lights (waterproof sewer lights or recycled Oldham miners lamps converted to 6volt gel cell systems), battery chargers and hand-held battery operated floodlights. His numerous paid positions and/ or voluntary contributions to caving and speleology on a local, national and international level are almost too numerous to describe in a short (?) dedication such as this. During his time in hospital (in the Whittle Ward) and some time later when he was back home, Jeff told me that he was bequeathing all his caving equipment, gear, lights, books, survey maps and associated data to STC... and now we learn that his generosity has been extended even further, specifically requesting an amount from his estate to pay for his celebration wake at the Hastings Thermal Pool, including the donation of his wine cellar.

Finally, I would like to emphasise my/ our appreciation of Jeff Butt's contribution to the thorough and meticulous exploration, number tagging, surveying, mapping and documentation of the numerous horizontal and deep vertical cave systems in many karst areas of Tasmania which should not go unrecorded in this dedication to Jeff: e.g., especially his efforts in the Cracroft, Hastings, Ida Bay, Junee-Florentine and Precipitous Bluff karst areas of southern Tasmania. He will be particularly remembered by many for his diligence as a cave surveyor and for the accurate production of so many cave surveys with modern surveying methods, checking the results and adjusting the survey details of known caves, correcting the errors of past mistakes produced by more primitive methods. He was at the forefront in the exploration pushes of many of our deepest and most challenging or technically difficult vertical caves, e.g., his endeavours in the alpine karst at Mt. Anne and in the Junee-Florentine valley, where he pushed the limits of human endurance and challenged his own limits of fear. The latter is exemplified twofold by some of his endeavours in the Junee-Florentine karst. Firstly, consider his assisted self-rescue following an accident in *Flick Mints Hole*, when he was suffering from shock, a head injury including loss of his spectacles and injuries to his arm and leg. And secondly, consider his more recent exploration work in *Splash Pot*, where Jeff described the fear of being in a cave where rescue would be impossible, relating his fear of getting stuck while entering the cave or not getting back out again... a cave where he had almost a dozen trips that all involved access via narrow passage rifts, including a hip grinding, spine and chest abrading vertical squeeze!

For the last decade or a more, I had known Jeff as "JB". However, despite being JB to me and probably several others, Jeff had always been much his own person, a "gentleman caver" and not one to blow his trumpet. Whilst knowing the limitations of caving, JB helped us to develop our passions with humour and light heartedness. He was truly one of nature's gentlemen... always looking out for others, with a generosity of spirit that stemmed from a genuine love of individuals, humanity and the environment. Jeff trod lightly on the earth, always conscious of the impacts we impart on our surroundings, but on the other hand always checking that we were all well and safe in our respective endeavours. JB: you have left us (and STC) with an exceptional legacy of values and commitments to which we can only aspire, but on which we can also build our futures, perpetuating the memory of your life's work in our continuing lives.

Tears...

Arthur Clarke

Current STC Membership

Given name	Family name	Expiry date	Postal Address	Phone (H)	Phone (W)	Mobile	E-mail
Members							
Yoav	Barness	8 Jul 2004	14a Smithurst Ave, South Hobart 7004	62238898	62267611	0413926353	redpanda@fastmail.fm
Serena	Benjamin	21 Jul 2004	33 Coolamon Rd, Taroona 7053	62278338		0404424363	serenab@utas.edu.au
Damian	Bidgood	31 Mar 2004	c/- Police S&R, 76 Federal St, North Hobart 7000		6230 2267		damian.bidgood@police.tas.gov.au
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Gavin	Brett	31 Mar 2005	4 Clutha Pl, South Hobart 7004	6223 1717			gavin@keypoint.com.au
Andrew	Briggs	31 Mar 2004	2/28 Sawyer Ave, West Moonah 7008	6228 9956	6220 3133		andrew.briggs@hobart.tased.edu.au
Kathryn	Bunton	31 Mar 2004	PO Box 198, North Hobart 7002				
Stephen	Bunton	31 Mar 2004	PO Box 198, North Hobart 7002	6278 2398	6210 2200		sbunton@friends.tas.edu.au
Jeff	Butt	31 Mar 2004	22 Clutha Pl, South Hobart 7004	6223 8620	6223 8620		jeffbutt@netspace.net.au
Liz	Canning	31 Mar 2004	124 Wentworth St, South Hobart 7004	6223 7088	6233 6176		Elizabeth.Canning@dpiwe.tas.gov.au
David	Chiam	31 Mar 2004	40 Wyett St, West Launceston 7250	6331 1653			davidchiam@dodo.com.au
Arthur	Clarke	31 Mar 2005	17 Darling Pde, Mt. Stuart 7000	6228 2099	6298 1107		arthurc@southcom.com.au
Matt	Cracknell	31 Mar 2005	PO Box 14, Geeveston 7116		6298 3209	0409 438 924	crowdang@yahoo.co.uk
Geoff	Crossley	31 Mar 2004	44 Pradham St, Farrer, ACT 2607	02 6286 1113		0417 437 931	gkcrossley@bigpond.com
Gerry	Doherty	31 Mar 2004	PO Box 315, Geeveston 7116	6297 6219			gerdoh7@iprimus.com.au
Rolan	Eberhard	-	18 Fergusson Ave, Tinderbox 7054	6229 3039	6233 6455		rolane@dpiwe.tas.gov.au
Stefan	Eberhard	31 Mar 2005	2 Churchill Ave, Margaret River, WA 6285		08 9757 7411		scientist@westnet.com.au
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Jason	Gardner	31 Mar 2004	5233 Huon Highway, Geeveston 7116	6297 0070	6298 3209		
Albert	Goede	-	69 Esplanade, Rose Bay 7015	6243 7319			goede@tassie.net.au
Anna	Greenham	31 Mar 2004	57 Quayle St, Battery Point 7004	6224 7566		0408 639 132	annagreenham@doctors.org.uk
Kent	Henderson	31 Mar 2004	PO Box 332, Williamstown, VIC 3016	9398 0598	9398 0598	0407 039 887	kenthen@optushome.com.au
Andrew	Hogarth	31 Mar 2004	PO Box 21, Lune River 7109	6298 1771			
Alan	Jackson	31 Mar 2005	207 Albion Heights Drive, Kingston 7050	6229 8365	6231 5474	0419 245 418	ajackson@lmrs.com.au
Max	Jeffries	-	18 South St, Maydena 7140				
Sarah	Joyce	31 Mar 2004	PO Box 350, New Norfolk 7140	6261 1864		0438 255 259	sjoyce@postoffice.utas.edu.au
Ron	Mann	-	10 Swinton Pl, Rose Bay 7015	6243 0060	6220 5246		
Janine	McKinnon	31 Mar 2005	PO Box 1440, Lindisfarne 7015	6243 5415			jmckinnon@tassie.net.au
Greg	Middleton	31 Mar 2005	PO Box 269, Sandy Bay 7006	6223 1400	6233 2336		ozspeleo@optusnet.com.au
Dean	Morgan	-	15 Cades Dve, Kingston 7050	6234 3113	6234 5061	0438 294 405	dmorgan@tesa.com.au
Dave	Nichols	31 Mar 2004	1/2 Excell Lne, South Hobart 7004	6224 4737	6226 1831		D.Nichols@utas.edu.au
Heather	Nichols	31 Mar 2004	13 Willow Ave, Kingston 7050	6229 4362		0414 294 362	nichols5@iprimus.com.au
Steve	Phipps	31 Mar 2005	133 Waterworks Rd, Dynnyrne 7005	6223 3939	6226 2251		sjhipps@utas.edu.au
Tom	Porritt	31 Mar 2004	PO Box 60, Millaa Millaa, QLD 4886	07 4056 5921			
Dave	Rasch	31 Mar 2005	25 Delta Ave, Taroona 7053	6227 9056			dave_rasch@hotmail.com
Helen	Roberts	31 Mar 2004					helenmroberts@yahoo.com
Phil	Rowsell	31 Mar 2004	c/- 22 Clutha Pl, South Hobart 7004				pj.rowsell@virgin.net
Chris	Sharples	31 Mar 2004	GPO Box 1941, Hobart 7001	6239 6669	6239 6669		chris@sharples.com.au
Aleks	Terauds	-	60 Belair St, Howrah 7018	6244 3406	6244 3406		
Richard	Tunney	31 Mar 2005	PO Box 1440, Lindisfarne 7015	6243 5415			rtunney@tassie.net.au
Keith	Vanderstaay	31 Mar 2004	754 Hastings Caves Rd, Hastings 7109		6298 3209	0429 983 209	hastings.caves@bigpond.com
Trevor	Wailes	31 Mar 2004	214 Summerleas Rd, Kingston 7054	6229 1382	6229 1382		trite@ozemail.com.au
Mick	Williams	31 Mar 2004	PO Box 288, Geeveston 7116	6297 6368			
Geoffrey	Wise	31 Mar 2005	117 Upper Maud St, Ulverstone 7315	6425 3645		0408 108 984	Geoff.Wise@don.tased.edu.au
Friends of STC							
Bob	Cockerill	-	14 Aruma St, Mornington Heights 7018	6244 2439	6233 6832		
Mike	Cole	-	1/17 Twentysecond Ave, Sawtell, NSW 2425	02 9544 0207		0408 500 053	mikecole@tpg.com.au
Brian	Collin	-	66 Wentworth St, South Hobart 7004	6223 1920			
Chris	Davies	-	3 Alfred St, New Town 7008	6228 0228			
Therese	Gatenby	-	PO Box 153, Orford 7190			0428 391 432	pelicansrest@yahoo.com.au
Steve	Harris	-	17 Derwentwater Ave, Sandy Bay 7005				
Nick	Hume	-	8/71 Mt Stuart Rd, Mt. Stuart 7000	6231 0348			
Phil	Jackson	-	8 Malunna Rd, Lindisfarne 7015	6243 7038			
Barry	James	-	52 Edge Rd, Lenah Valley 7008	6228 4787			
Kevin	Kiernan	-	FPU, Royden House, Patrick St, Hobart 7000	6239 1494	6233 7716		Kevin.Kiernan@utas.edu.au
Stuart	Nicholas	-	PO Box 24, North Hobart 7002	6234 3799		0409 781 248	stunich@pin6.com.au
Armchair Cavers							
Robyn	Claire	31 Mar 2005	c/o 17 Darling Pde, Mt Stuart 7000	62282099	62981107		c/o arthurc@southcom.com.au

All membership enquiries should be addressed to the Treasurer. Current as at 21/04/2004.

