

SPELEO - SPIEL

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The last general meeting was held at the Geology Department on the 10th of May. About 15 members and prospectives attended. The main topics of discussion were the rejoining of the Australian Speleological Federation and the joining of the South West Committee - a committee formed to try to preserve the south west in its natural state. We hope that this will not prevent us from finishing the new track to Exit Cave. An animated debate followed on the best method of completing the track and as a result a new aerial reconnaissance is planned soon to locate the end of our track in relation to the cave. Smokebombs and volunteers are needed. ANY TAKERS! The meeting decided unanimously that we should rejoin A.S.F. and also that we join the South West Committee. The vice-president was appointed as delegate to the S.W. Committee.

Subscriptions:

Subs are trickling in slowly, these are needed and should be paid before the next issue of Speleo - Spiel if you wish to receive further copies of same. A membership list will be included with the next issue. Don't let your name be conspicuous by its absence.

Treasurer: Mr. Peter Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart.

New Members

A hearty welcome is extended to the following not so innocents Bill Hodge - 5 Bayley Street, Glebe.

David Pampton - 20 Paradette Avenue, Mt. Stuart.

Kenneth Ford - 30 Rosehill Crescent, Lenah Valley.

Gregory Rowberry - 26 Charles Street, Moonah.

Peter Harrold - 5-7 Colville Street, Battery Point, Hobart.

Michael Swanton - 311 Lenah Valley Rd., Lenah Valley.

Brian Sparkes - 86 Windsor Court, Harrington Street

Prospective Members

Brendon Moore - 7A Stoke Street, New Town

Anthony Moore - 112 Ring Street, Dynnyrne.

Rodney Nichols - Barclay Coffee Lounge, Elizabeth St., (if you can't beat 'em join 'em.)

Mike and Kerin Hall - c/o B.H.P. Office, 2 Patrick St., Hobart.

Brian Collin - 11 Bedford Street, New Town, Ph.8 1956.

Wednesday Natter Nites are still held at the Barclay from 7p.m. to 9p.m. every week. So if you wish to go caving come in and make arrangements.

TRIP REPORTS See over.

Hastings - 24 - 25 April.

1p.m. Party of five left Hobart for Hastings. Party consisted of R. Hughes, B. Hodge, P. Harrold plus two prospectives - R. Nichols, and R. Pfeifer. Arrived hut late Sunday: had meal, prepared gear, Slept?

Mon. 25th. 9.30a.m. Party left for Newdegate Cave. Checked with Guide. Entered Cave 10.30a.m. Took new bods through Binney intending ladder climb to Mystery Corner. Upon reaching top of ladder pitch discovered thirty foot shortage of ladder. Hughes breaks all records for out and back in with extra ladder. 50 minutes after leaving, 2 bods and Hughes are inspecting P.P. and other formations in Mystery Corner. 3.30 p.m. left cave for hut. New bods very pleased with trip, highly possible will apply for membership soon. 3.45p.m. Back at hut packed gear, had light meal, cleaned up, left Chalet at 4.20 p.m.

Fortunately there were no accidents on trip apart from a few skirmishes with leeches. The party suffered the usual Hastings weather but a good time was had all round. The three members were greatly surprised to find the active part of T.C.C., at the caves after the cancellation of the trip. Great minds etc.

Ida Bay. - 25th April.

Brian Collin and A. Goede made a grand tour of Entrance Cave and roamed from the upper level to the final siphon. The glow-worm display in the first part of the cave was particularly impressive - one of the best ever seen. Another look at the final siphon suggests that it should be possible to climb up above the siphon with suitable equipment. This should be tried as it may lead to a high level passage.

A. Goede.

Mole Creek - 7 - 8th May.

Arrived at Mole Creek hut 12p.m. to find most of the party around a roaring fire. The trip on the 7th was to have been to Kubla Khan but unfortunately the car carrying the gear did not arrive. A trip to Croesus was the next best thing so the party entered this beautiful cave at 11a.m. and had a general look at everything they could find. The water was a bit lower than usual and the Golden Stairway was dry. Party continued up through the talis as far as possible before returning to the entrance at 2.30p.m. The party consisted of P. Brabon (leader) followed by J. Brabon, M. Jagoe, M. Swanton, B. Collin, M. and K. Hall, J. Plaister, and D. Reid.

Saturday night was spent at the hut playing cards and reading. All retired at 10.30p.m. to enable a good start in the morning. Slumbers however were disturbed by the very noisy arrival some time after midnight of three Northern bods. Let us hope that it will be the last of that kind of behaviour.

Mon. 8th. - Caveside - Party: Leader - P. Brabon followers - M. Jagoe, M. Swanton, B. Collin, M. and K. Hall, D. Reid, J. Plaister. Entered Cow Cave at 10.30a.m. Had a look at Cow Cave then pushed party through the Letter Box and out through Pyramid reaching daylight at 1.30p.m. Five of the party had not been in this cave before and were quite impressed.

P. Brabon.

Forward programme

May 21, 22. - Florentine Valley, leader Mike Jagoe.

May 25. - (Wed.) Committee meeting, 122 Augusta Road, Lenah Valley.

May 28, 29. - Track cutting to Exit Cave. Leader A. Goede.

June 7. - (Wed.) GENERAL MEETING. Geography Department, University of Tasmania. 8.00p.m.

June 11, 12, 13. - Long weekend to Mole Creek. On this trip we would like as many cavers as possible to come along as we are acting as hosts to the Geology Dept. Students Club, and will probably have to split the party. Some have never been caving before and who knows, we may get some new members.

Courtesy in a Tourist Cave.

We know you are cold, wet and fed up, but please stand back if a tourist party is approaching. Those few extra minutes may save trouble later.

CALL FOR HELP

Your quartermaster needs willing hands to help clean the gear. Who is going to volunteer?

Central Australian Tour 1967.

Three sun drenched weeks, camping tour of Central Australia. Departing for Melbourne on the P.O.T. mid July, travel to Bourke, Mary Kathleen, Mt. Isa, Darwin. Back through Tennant Creek, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock, Adelaide, Melbourne, Hobart. Approx. 3½ - 4,000 miles in 21 days. Equipment needed - own car - camping gear, etc. This tour, carefully planned can be inexpensive. Anyone interested contact Joan and Peter Brabon.

NEWS FLASHES

Clive Morris is reported to be heading this way soon. Let's hope he stays. Best of luck to brother Graeme on his recent engagement.

Edith Smith is recovering up north after a recent illness. Hurry up and get better Edith. Cave digging is at a standstill!

Our local press reports. "Cave dwellers shock crusaders in England. Two hundred student Christian Crusaders battling the invasion, of "The Troggs" in the cave-riddled peak district of Derbyshire, have found 12 year old girls living as "mock wives" of some of the hundreds of men hiding away permanently in the deep caverns.

The hidden life of the ostracised "Troggs", who have fled from society, was told yesterday by the director of the Evangelical Crusade Centre in Matlock, Derbyshire. A special Easter infiltration by the young crusaders into the dark hideouts of the Troggs found drug addicts, prostitutes, and young girls living with the men.

The Troggs - an abbreviation for troglodytes (cave dwellers) - had a strict moral code, he said. They held mock marriages with the girls before living with them. Few people know what conditions are like ~~xx~~ in the caves, because the Troggs will not let strangers enter. They are generally outlawed in the towns where cafes have signs "No Troggs Allowed", and these youngsters beg food from the cafe kitchens at night and resort to confidence tricks to get money".

Editors comment. Dear reader. Let us observe a minute's silence for these trogs. who according to the latest press reports are to be blasted out of their happy homes by the local council. Anyone who can live a life of sin in caves considerably colder than our own has our respect and admiration. What, no Tasmanian effect?

STOP PRESS: A report has just reached us that an undetermined number of members of the dreaded Mushawurdry Society (a code name for SMERSH?) have entered Tasmania undetected as a result of a failure in our early warning system (codenamed Box 641 G. G.P.O.). The object of the invasion is the infiltration of our mountains and cave systems. A former vice-president of our society (U.N.C.L.E.) is believed to be in league with the infiltrators as he has managed by devious means to retain one of the keys to our early warning system. The leader of this band of intruders is one George Hardingham, and he is a school teacher (unusual) from Wollongong. Any caverneer meeting this man should bring him in for questioning. Will Tasmania become a second Vietnam? Will our defences of bauera, horizontal, tea-tree, etc. repel the invaders? Will our numerous members in the C.M.F. "Intelligence" rally to the cause? Order your next copy of speleo-spiel now by paying your subs.

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

Let's have another working bee!!!!!!

All contributions for the next Speleo-Spiel - stories, poetry, handy hints etc. may be handed to the editors before or at the next general meeting.

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