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SPELEO -- SPIEL

No.4.(N.S.)

July, 1966.

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club. Est.1946.)

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Next General Meeting.

Tuesday, August 2nd, at 8p.m. in the Geology Department, University of Tasmania. You would like to see YOU there next month.

Twentieth Birthday Dinner.

The club will be celebrating its twentieth birthday in September. The dinner will be held on Saturday night, September 17th. This is a very special occasion and we expect a record attendance. Make it a date. Further details will appear in the next circular.

A.S.F. News.

We are still searching for a club member who wants to go to the next A.S.F. conference and act as our delegate. Doesn't anyone want to see some caves in the North Island of Australia? For details see your last Speleo -- Spiel. (No.3.)

So far only seven members have subscribed to the A.S.F. Newsletter. Four issues a year are well worth your 20c. A subscription drive will be launched at the next general meeting.

Queenstown Dinner.

The secretary reports: "A good time was had by all at the W.C.O.C. dinner. It was attended by T.C.C. members Joan and Peter Brabon, Sally Sælier, Doug Turner and Del Latham. On Sunday morning we were taken on a tour of the Open Cut and smelters. The brisk wind blew away most of the hangovers. I was very attached to mine so I brought it home with me."

Joan Brabon.

Apologies.

Our apologies to T.C.C.(Northern Branch) for our absence at the Mole Creek dinner. A party was planning to go there but arrangements fell through at the last minute. We hope you didn't mind too much. Just think, you would have had to share all those pretty nurses with the Hobart mob!!!!

National Fitness Reunion.

The Adventure Camp Committee is holding the second Camp Reunion of Adventure Campers on July 30 and any of our members either connected with or interested in the movement are invited to attend and meet the boys. The reunion is being held at 8p.m. in the C.W.A. Centre, 16 Criterion Street, Hobart. Anyone who wants to attend should let the Adventure Camp Committee know by July 25. The address is G.P.O., Box 440 E, Hobart.

Ladder Making.

Our ladder making programme is off to a good start. One 30 ft. length has already been made and we hope to produce at least another four lengths soon. Thanks are due to Peter Brabon, Denis Seymour, Bill Hodge and Rodney Hughes who did all the hard work. More volunteers are always welcome.

Caving Visitors Coming to Tasmania.

August 10 - 24, David Heap and Jim Coulton. David is an English caver at present in Adelaide who has had most of his caving experience in the wet and deep holes of Yorkshire while Jim is a member of the Canberra Speleological Society. They would like to hear from anyone who wants to join them. Contact Albert if interested.

October 10 - 24, Neil and Carol Anderson also from the Canberra Speleos. Neil is the secretary of C.S.S. and they are both very active cavers.



October - November, Dr. Aola Richards from the University of New South Wales will be coming over to have a look at our glow - worms. She is also very interested in other cave life and has described and named two species of Tasmanian cave wetas.

January, 1967, A caving and walking party from S.U.S.S., led by A.S.F. secretary John Dunkley.

March 4 - 25, 1967, A caving party from S.S.S. led by Brian Garrington will visit Tasmania for three weeks.

#### A New Theory of Cave Formation.

S.U.S.S. in a review of an American caving magazine reports that "caves in the Arctic Circle are thought to have been formed when the land lay under an ice sheet". Quite a lad! He must have been a cool customer!!

#### Trip Reports.

Track cutting to Exit Cave, Sunday, July 3.

Allan Russell (a "former" friend of Brian Collin) and Albert Goede left Hobart at 6.30 a.m. arriving at Hastings at 8.45 a.m. in pouring rain. We were met by Bill Hodge who had taken rather drastic measures to stay out of the track cutting party. He had tripped and damaged his leg on Friday afternoon. Brian Collin, Andrew Skinner and Rodney Hodge had already left. Allan and Albert set out in pursuit encouraged by the fact that it had almost stopped raining. They did not catch up with Brian and party until 11.45 a.m. Brian had already reached our so called "buttongrass" plain - no doubt it was the tallest buttongrass in Tasmania - consisting mostly of 8 - 10 foot high tea tree with a generous sprinkling of lesser pests. Slow but steady progress was made cutting a track through the stuff. We were encouraged by the sight of the Exit Cave ridge up ahead. The first time we were able to cut without using a compass. Another 250 yards was added to the track making it nearly a mile long. Peter's sword proved itself a mighty weapon when cutting tea tree. Allan said that only a bunch of madmen could have cut a track where we did.

Pat Wessing has given us a large supply of rags for the next track cutting trip. Any volunteers?

A. Goede.

Mole Creek, July 9 - 10th.

The New Town High contingent consisting of Mike Jagoe, John Plaister, Denis Reid plus two prospective members Rex Sargeant and Kim Nicholas arrived at the hut around 10.45 p.m. Friday, to find the West Coast division consisting of Ron and Kate Kent, Kent junior (Bruce) and Sue Banefield, well intrenched. The Hobart group was soon reinforced by a blue VW containing our Secretary and Treasurer, Joan and Peter. "Early" on Saturday the group dragged themselves out of bed and then waited until 10 a.m. for the arrival of Bill Surtees and friends Anthony and Yvonne Crosswell. When they didn't turn up the party departed to examine some new holes on Ken Miles' property near the Alum Cliffs - passing Bill Surtees' yellow VW enroute. The entire party located the farmer and holes, one of which was descended by the Vice-Pres., who reported 100' of broken bottles and tin cans plus one very dead animal - believed to have once been a cow. The hole ended blind at 100'. The party then moved to Pyramid Cave where an interesting couple of hours was spent.

Bill Surtees and party then departed and the rest of the party returned to the hut.

On Sunday the Kents moved out to visit friends in the area, while Peter led the N.T.H. mob through Little Trimmer Cave spending 1½ hours caving and returning to the hut for an early lunch. After lunch Peter and Joan returned to Hobart and just as the N.T.H. group was leaving the Secretary of the Northern Branch arrived on a motor bike to inform us they had rented a farm house about a mile away, so a detour via the farm was arranged. The Northern boys have made an excellent job of the farm; stove, frig and bar now installed.

Mike Jagoe.

July 17th. Track cutting - Exit Cave.

WASH OUT!!!!!!



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Forward Programme.

- July 23, 24 - Hastings - Ida Bay. Leader Rodney Hughes.  
August 2 - General Meeting. Uni. of Tas., Geology Dept. 8 p.m.  
August 6 - 7 - Florentine. Leader: A. Goede.  
August 20 - 21 - Mole Creek. Leader: P. Brabon.  
September 3 - 4 Official opening of the Brooker Highway to Exit Cave. Leader: A. Goede. (Bring your own ribbon, scissors and champagne.)  
September 17 - Annual Dinner.  
September 6 - General Meeting, Uni. of Tas., Geology Dept.

Famous Last Words.

We've nearly reached the buttongrass!!!

STOP PRESS. 17/July, 4.30 p.m.

Brian Collin has just returned from Hastings and reports that he and a friend Reg Williams managed to cut another 830 yards and have nearly reached the cave. After cutting 330 yards through the tea tree they found themselves in fairly open tree country with a few fallen logs but no undergrowth. Soon after Reg found the creek and followed it up approx. 200 yards. It's easy going now so all you chicken hearted anti - track bashers come along for a grand tour of Exit Cave next trip.