

SPELEO - SPIEL

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Secretary: Mrs.J.Brabon,122 Augusta Road,Lehah Valley, Hobart.

Twentieth Birthday - Annual Dinner.

The dinner will be held at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, September 17th at the Marquis of Hastings, Cnr. Hill and Brisbane Streets, West Hobart. A 4 course dinner will be served at a cost of only 2dollar 20 cents per head. If you intend coming your acceptance slip at the bottom of this circular should be returned to the secretary not later than September 10. Your contribution can either be included with your acceptance or can be made immediately on your arrival at the hotel. This is a very special occasion and we are hoping that all members will be able to attend. Members of other caving and walking clubs are invited. The hotel has a late licence and a cabaret starting at 8 p.m. so dinner will be served at 6.30 p.m. sharp.

Equipment for Hire.

The quartermaster now has a number of helmets and carbide lamps for hire at the very reasonable rate of 15c. per weekend. The money will be used to supply free carbide on club trips.

Carbide lamps.

A carbide lamp is a caver's best friend and should be treated as such even if they are club property. The club has just spent several pounds purchasing missing parts for club lamps. Here are a few don'ts.

DON'T - forget to empty water and carbide from your lamp at the end of a trip. Spent carbide left in the lamp sets almost as hard as concrete and is very difficult to remove.

DON'T - tip out the water director and perforated tube when you empty out the carbide. Although a lamp will work without them it burns better and lasts longer with them because they prevent clogging up of the needle valve and gas outlet and allow water to get at all the carbide.

DON'T - drop your carbide lamp down a shaft. It doesn't improve the reflectors and can be very unhealthy for anyone standing underneath. Before tackling any ladder pitch make sure that the lamp is safely secured.

DON'T - carry a burning carbide lamp on your belt while climbing a ladder. A fire is difficult to distinguish when you are spinning around in the middle of a shaft.

DON'T - dump carbide in caves or paddocks. Cows have a curious liking for spent carbide but it doesn't improve their health nor does it improve relations with the beast's owner.

DON'T - use any other fluid than water to fill your carbide lamp except in the direst emergency. ~~When~~ Underground friends can be more important than a burning lamp.

A carbide lamp is like the female of the species. She is temperamental and easily ignited but can give you many years of faithful service if treated with respect.

New Battery Cases.

Bill Peterson has just produced the prototype of a new battery case designed to replace the 6 - volt lantern battery. Lantern batteries frequently fall to bits when wet and muddy and are awkward to carry. The new case is a steel tube which takes four torch batteries - considerably cheaper than one lantern battery. The new case can easily be water - proofed and is almost indestructible. Editors comment: Guaranteed to last a life-time and comes in attractive rust-proof baked enamel finish. Large parties can join their battery cases together to make a climbing pole. Cases could be supplied in six attractive colours.

pitch black - to blend with your surroundings.

twilight grey - for those who intend coming on a trip soon but never do. Cardboard replica available at half price.

stalactite white - for the pure of heart.
dragon's blood red - a must for the daring and foolish.
virgin's blue - for innocent girls who get talked into caving.
Can be traded in without extra charge for twilight grey at your wedding!!
Hasting's brown - a particularly striking colour specially designed for those who go caving at Hastings to harmonise with the muddy surroundings.

End Comment.

BUY ONE NOW. TODAY. IMMEDIATELY!!!

NO TRADE - IN

NO DISCOUNT

NO CASH - NO CASE.

New Members:

Andrew Skinner - Chalet, Hastings. (J)
Ted Todd - "Kenham", 174 Rokeby Road. (A)
Pat Wessing (Mrs.) - 89 Lansdowne Cres., West Hobart (A) rejoined.
Roland Wallace - 18 Cheverton Parade, Sandy Bay. (Prospective)
Donald Fraser - 1 Woolton Place, Sandy Bay. (Prospective)

New Club Badges.

Metal club badges will be on sale in the near future at 75c each. Please wear one to the club dinner so that you may be identified after the party.

Warning to Smokers.

Did you know that in October, 1965 a 15 year old boy in Medina (Ohio) was trapped for 26 hours after he went into a cave to sneak a smoke. "I feel fine" he told rescuers, when he was pulled out after having been wedged in a crevice head-down since the previous afternoon. He said that he was not giving up smoking but did not plan to visit any caves again, "at least for a long time."

Trip Reports

Sunday 24th July.

Party consisted of Albert Goede, Brian Collin, Reg Williams, Donald Fraser and Roland Wallace.

The party left Hobart at approximately 7 a.m. after some delay while Reg looked for a lost wallet, and Albert discovered that he had left his boots behind. We finally arrived at our parking spot at about 9.30. The Catamaran road is as bad as ever and very slippery and muddy as the Forestry Dept. have now started work on the new road. There had been heavy rain the day before and water on the track was almost ankle-deep in places. Perhaps we should have named it the Panama Canal instead of the Brooker Highway. After crossing the "button grass plain" we followed Reg's blazes until we reached Exit Cave Creek. The creek was flowing strongly - the flow being estimated at about 60 cusecs. We followed the bank of the stream until we came to an old tramway bridge which is in a state of collapse. Here we made a precarious crossing of the stream. After some beating about the bush we reached the cave at 12.40 p.m. It was decided to have lunch first and then make a quick trip into the cave. Donald spoiled everybody's appetite by attempting to eat a tin of cold meat and vegetables. When we reached the cave entrance we found ourselves standing on the edge of a 10 foot deep lake which effectively blocked further progress. It appears that the dam which blocks off the lower part of the cave entrance only has a small outlet at the base and as soon as the flow increases past a certain point the water builds up in the entrance chamber until it spills out over the top of the barrier.

The party retreated and spent some time cutting a track from the cave back to the end of the track. The route was shortened by following the old tramway for some distance. We completed the Brooker Highway but there is still plenty of scope for improvement to make it a better walking track. The party reached the cars at 5.30 p.m. and dropped in on the Skinners before returning to Hobart.

A. Goede.

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Weekend, 6,7th August.

Brian Collin and Reg Williams made a weekend trip to Exit Cave. Nine hours were spent underground, two of which were spent rigging up a "flying fox" to bypass deep water in the entrance chamber. Stream was lower than on previous trip but still difficult to cross. The party "lost" the main stream and followed up a tributary system. Some good formation was found. On the track on the way out two members of the lonely hearts club were met.

Sunday, 14th August.

This trip was arranged as a final trip for the two prospective members so that we could make them junior members at the next general meeting. However, permission to enter the Florentine Valley could not be granted as the only people who could give permission were away (in the valley). Result was a trip to Junee. It was discovered with great delight that the area above Junee was completely burnt out and this made looking for holes extremely easy. One hole worth further investigation was found, but a big "search party" is needed. Party then had lunch and retired to Lake Dobson where the two pros. managed to drown themselves in the snow. Warning: Someone has fouled up the Junee road.

Forward Programme.

August 20,21 - Exploration weekend at Exit Cave. Camp at the Cave.
Leader Albert Goede.
August 24 - Committee Meeting, 122 Augusta Road, Lenah Valley.
September 3,4,- Official opening of the Brooker Highway to Exit
Cave. Leader Albert Goede.
September 6 - General Meeting. University of Tasmania, Geology
Dept. 8 p.m.
September 17 - Annual Dinner. Marquis of Hastings. 6.30 p.m.
September 24,25 - Mole Creek. Leader - Peter Brabon.

Marquis of Hastings - September 17. 6.30 p.m.

20th BIRTHDAY - ANNUAL DINNER.

Name;-

No. of persons.(self included)

Dress informal.

Contributions \$ 2.20
per head.

R.S.V.P. - September 10.