

The New Committee.

The annual general meeting was well attended and seats and breathing space were in short supply. There was keen competition for positions on the committee and the following people were elected.

President: Albert Goede, 8 Bath St., Battery Point. Bus. 2 7741, ext. 415.

Vice-president: Brian Collin, 492 Sandy Bay Rd., Sandy Bay. Home 5 2096, Bus. 20551, ext. 463.

Secretary: Mrs. Joan Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley.

Treasurer: Peter Brabon, same address. Bus. 2 7511.

Quartermaster: Bill Hodge, 5 Bayley St., Glebe. Bus. 3 3781, ext. 9.

Committee: Mike Jagoe, Springvale Hostel, 2 Midwood St., New Town. Home; 8 1282, Bus. 8 0257.

Rodney Hughes, 2 Cane St., West Hobart.

Denis Reid, 47 Barossa Rd., Lenah Valley.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Many subscriptions are still outstanding. Peter Brabon will be only too willing to accept your cash and cheques. Be early this year and get your crisp new membership card! For details of subs. see your last Spiel.

Plans for the Coming Year.

It looks as if Exit Cave will still be the centre of attraction. A length of 3 miles has now been traversed and a lot more remains to be done. Aims for the coming year are to join Exit with Mystery Ck. Cave (Entrance Cave) and earn those bottles of beer; to find where part of the D'Entrecasteaux River goes underground and if possible to explore it and link it up with Exit; the third aim is to explore the potholes on Cave Hill and find the connection with Exit we know must exist.

We have just finished making 150' of ladder and when the ends are spliced we will have 270' of new ladder. Enough to satisfy the most ardent potholing enthusiast. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Denis Seymour for the use of his workshop and are also very grateful to the Seymours for the suppers provided for the hungry workers.

Peter Brabon is in the process of assembling a 30' climbing pole which will make a very useful addition to our range of equipment, while the photographers will be glad to know that Bill Peterson has nearly finished building a diprotodon (latest model) for use in cave photography. This will make it possible to photograph the big chambers in Kubla Khan and Exit Cave. We are also planning to buy some more rope during the year (just give us enough and we'll hang ourselves.) If you have any opinions on what is the most suitable rope - don't tell us - we've had to many already!!

Coming Publications.

If you want to be with it keep an eye open for the following articles being prepared for publication by leading members.

" My Life and Times in Exit Cave." by B. Collin, an exciting tale of adventure and romance.

" New Knitting Patterns For Use With Gypsum Needles." by Jeanette MacLaine. A must for all armchair cavers.

Cave Photography in Glorious Hodgecolour, by Quartermaster Bill. A milestone in cave photography.

" My Courlene Rope and I." by John Marshall. A tale of suspense beyond breaking strain.

" Up the Pole," by Peter Brabon. A technical guide to the manufacture of simple climbing poles for beginners.

We have also been notified by T.C.C.N.B. Press of the release of their latest book: Reminiscences of an Old Caver. Part 13. Childhood experiences with Casteret by R. Woolhouse. A moving story written by a man who has dedicated his life to teaching the wild tribes around the Tamar River the noble art of caving.

Change of address.

B. Collin, c/o Station 74, Exit Cave via Lune River, via Brooker Highway beyond the black stump(s).

TRIP REPORTS.

Exit Cave Track - Sat. 18 March, 1967.

Party:- Brian Collin, Jeanette Maclaine.

The trip to Exit Cave on the weekend 11/12 March '67 showed that the Exit Cave track had changed its general character from an area representative of the thickest scrub in Tassie to that of an open plain on which one could wander aimlessly absorbing the beautiful charcoal hues but only with some difficulty making progress towards Exit Cave - track remarking was self-evident.

The track has now been remarked with blazes and red and white cloth, no difficulty should be experienced in following the track even at night and as one member of the party said in a tired voice "If anyone passes a tree that hasn't got a blaze on it they're off the track." A few small patches of the original flora were mercifully spared by the fire as a reminder of the original 'glory' of this area.
B.Collin.

Exit Cave - 24-28 March '67. Easter weekend.

Party - Brian Collin(leader), Jeanette Maclaine, Allan Keller, Philip Collin(visitor from Sydney.)

The purpose of the trip was to continue the survey and carry out further exploration if time permitted. The following is unabridged and unaltered from the diary kept by one member of the party.

Friday 24th March 1967. Left Hastings at 8.20 a.m. arrived cave entrance at 11.20. Creek up considerably, went to entrance - flooded. Negotiated via emergency rope. Brian and Allan continued on to find their way across, Allan went through water - decided bridge was necessary - Brian and Allan went outside and cut down two small trees(no axe of course). Bridge was erected - the two went on to see what other crossings were negotiable. Water was beginning to fall quite rapidly. Packs hauled across first crossing. Second crossing manipulated. Third crossing relatively simple. Once past the D'Entrecasteaux branch creek very low and much warmer. Scree dealt with reasonably quickly. Camp site reached at about 7.00 p.m. (8 hours from entrance).

Great hoards of stuff around campsite. Cup of chocolate and rum.

Meal 1. Rice, onions, steak & onions, peas, curry powder cooked by Brian. Meal and bed 8.30p.m.

Alarm went off at 4.00a.m. Meal 2. breakfast of apple/apricot & rice bubbles. 4.45a.m. began survey of side passage from station 73 to station 14. Meal 3. at 9.30a.m. - stew cooked by Allan. After meal 3 Brian and Allan began return to cave entrance in order to contact Mike and boys. Phyl and myself finished survey tags and had a quick look over the helictites chambers(photos) back at camp at 11.15 a.m. 12 noon, two arrived back, creek way down, no sign of Mike, 12.30 snack - sandwiches and biscuits. Bed.

5p.m. Saturday - got up. Meal 4. (spag. and meat/instant pud.) at 6.00p.m. Left camp at 6.30 p.m. to continue traverse of side passage off campsite from station 15 to 37. Arrived back at 12.30a.m. Sunday morning, left again at about 1.00a.m. to traverse Big Log Hole, arrived back at about 3.20a.m. after interesting scrambling through passage mazes by Brian and Allan. Photographs of camp site and of needles. Camp site at 3.45 a.m. Meal 5. at 4.00a.m. of tomato soup, bread. Meal 6. Solid type stew at 2.00p.m. Sunday Phyl off colour. Left at 3.30 for survey until 1.00a.m. Meal 7. at 2.00 a.m. Meal 8. at 10.00a.m. 10.30a.m. Allan left to return to Hobart accompanied by Brian as far as the entrance. Back by about 12.00 noon. Left camp site at 3.00p.m. for formation chamber and short survey of Entrance Creek passage. Back to camp at 7.15p.m. Meal 9. 7.30p.m. soup and Ry-Vita. Woke up at 2.00a.m. Back to sleep. Woke up at 6.55a.m. Cup of coffee and rum. Breakfast at about 8.45a.m. then began breaking camp."

The above emphasises the rotation of work, food and sleep and also graphically shows the decreasing work output and increasing time of sleep as time went on.

Technical.

Estimated flow at entrance of cave 100 cusecs.

Estimated flow after the D'Entrecasteaux passed, under 5 cusecs. Traverse completed $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Method of traverse, prismatic compass and 100' tape, elevations estimated, back bearings not taken. Some 73 permanent stations installed and some 54 temporary stations used.

Duration of stay underground 4 days and 3 hours.

Exploration.

New fissure passage 50' high and 30' wide found above creek approx.

1,000' West of the 'grand' chamber, station 101. not explored but running water could ~~xxxxxx~~ be heard. Great possibilities as this new discovery is in the 'break through' area.

General.

101b. carbide, 3 pints petrol and food for approx. 10 man days has been left at the two inner camp sites. No cooking facilities or sleeping gear has been left.

3 miles of passage have now been explored and traversed and at least a further 2 - 3 miles of passages have been explored.

B.Collin.

Exit Cave - 8-9 April '67.

Party - Brian Collin(leader), Jeanette MacLaine, Frank and Peter Brown, Donald Fraser, John Marshall.

Purpose of trip:- General reconnaissance of Cave Hill. The party divided into two on Saturday morning, Frank, Peter, Donald and John to explore Exit Cave and Brian and Jeanette to reconnoitre Cave Hill.

Surface party:-

Sat: The route taken was from the 'new' quarry to the saddle South of the 'new' quarry RL.850; then on contour around southern side of the hill at RL. approx. 1,000 for half a mile then down a creek carrying a trickle of water from recent rains to RL. estimated 700 and then up another creek to the summit thence along a ridge Easterly to the saddle above the 'new' quarry.

Findings: (1) Several holes up to 50' first drop immediately south of the 'new' quarry.

(2) Sandstone above RL. approx. 900'.

(3) No sign of creeks followed South side entering any sink holes.

(4) The top of Cave Hill easterly has been burnt out.

Sunday:- The route taken was from the 'old' quarry up the Moonlight flat track to Moonlight flat and return the same way.

Findings: (1) Limestone appears to stop at approx. 800 RL. and is overlain with sandstone.

(2) Several holes found adjacent to track within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of 'old' quarry.

Conclusion:- (1) Future surface exploration best carried out from the Exit Cave camp site as a base.

(2) Drainage east of Exit Cave may be surface.

(3) Limestone appears to stop at approx. RL. 900 and is overlain with fine sandstone containing numerous well preserved fossils. Underground Party: Entered cave as far as 'Base' camp, separate report by Frank Brown.(Not received.)

B.Collin.

Auditor.

This year our books were audited by Frank Herington who has consented to do them next year as well. Many thanks to Frank for this kind gesture, we appreciate it very much.

TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS.

Period 1.4.'66 to 31.3.'67.

RECEIPTS.

Bank Balance 31.3.'66	\$ 263.93
Annual Subscriptions.	
Full members	57.00
Junior members	21.00
Associates & Mail List	5.22
Donations	32.00
Sale of Badges	18.00
Bank Interest	8.66
Sale of Hand Books	4.95
Equipment fees	21.85
Annual Dinner	67.00
	<u>\$ 499.61</u>

PAYMENTS.

Postage	\$ 23.94
Publications	29.87
P.M.G. Box	6.00
Purchase of Badges	61.88
Films	4.30
Hec.Mole Creek	13.00
Donations	66.40
Equipment	128.17
Cheque Book	1.25
Annual Dinner	73.60
Bank Balance 31.3.'67	91.20
	<u>\$ 499.61</u>

RECONCILIATION STATEMENT.

Balance as per Bank Statement.

\$ 90.95

Add cash not banked.

3.95

94.90

Less: Unpresented Cheque.

3.70

Cash Book - Balance 31.3.'67

\$ 91.20

Hon.Auditor. J.K.Herington.

Hon.Treasurer. P.A.D.Brabon.

Forward Programme.

- April 22 - 23 - Exploration of pots on Cave Hill, Ida Bay. Leaders
A.Goede, B.Collin.
April 30 - Sunday. Rock climbing practice at Rocky Tom. Leave
Franklin Square 10 a.m.
May 2 - Tuesday - 8p.m. General Meeting, 8 Bath St, Battery Point.
Be present at the first test firing of the new
Diprotodon.
May 6-7 - Mole Creek. General exploration. Leader. P.Brabon.
May 10 - Wednesday 8p.m. Committee meeting at 5 Bayley St., Glebe.
May 20 - 21 - Trip to Maydena - Florentine area. Leader.B.Collin.
June 6 - Tuesday 8p.m. General Meeting. 8 Bath St., Battery Point.
June 10-12 - Mole Creek. Leader: P.Brabon.

Names are needed for new formations in Kubla Khan and to help those who have seen the new section, have a tourist guide's imagination and time, we are publishing here the poem so that you may be filled with inspiration and come up with some good names.

KUBLA KHAN.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

In Xanadu did Kubla Khan
A stately pleasure-dome decree:
Where Alph, the sacred river, ran
Through caverns measureless to man
Down to a sunless sea.
So twice five miles of fertile ground
With walls and towers were girdled round:
And here were gardens bright with sinuous rills,
Where blossomed many an incense-bearing tree;
And here were forests ancient as the hills,
Enfolding sunny spots of greenery.
But oh! that deep romantic chasm which slanted
Down the green hill athwart a cedarn cover!
A savage place! as holy and enchanted
As e'er beneath a waning moon was haunted
By woman wailing for her demon-lover!
And from this cavern, with ceaseless turmoil seething,
As if this earth in fast thick pants were breathing,
A mighty fountain momently was forced:
Amid whose swift half-intermitted burst
Huge fragments vaulted like rebounding hail,
Or chaffy grain beneath the thresher's flail:
And mid these dancing rocks at once and ever
It flung up momently the sacred river.
Five miles meandering with a mazy motion
Through wood and dale the sacred river ran,
Then reached the caverns measureless to man,
And sank in tumult to a lifeless ocean:
And 'mid this tumult Kubla heard from far
Ancestral voices prophesying war!
The shadow of the dome of pleasure
Floated midway on the waves;
Where was heard the mingled measure
From the fountain and the caves,
It was a miracle of rare device,
A sunny pleasure-dome with caves of ice!
A damsel with a dulcimer
In a vision once I saw:
It was an Abyssinian maid,
And on her dulcimer she played,
Singing of Mount Abora.
Could I revive within me
Her symphony and song,
To such a deep delight 'twould win me,
That with music loud and long,
I would build that dome in air,
That sunny dome! those caves of ice!
And all who heard should see them there,
And all should cry, Beware! Beware!
His flashing eyes, his floating hair!
Weave a circle round him thrice,
And close your eyes
With holy dread,
For he on honey-dew
hath fed,
And drunk the milk of Para-
dise.