

SPELEO - SPIEL.

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CAVING IN THE DAYS OF YORE must have been really tough. A small book (Caves and Caving - by Marc Jasinski) tells of Martel going underground wearing a dress suit with a candle stuck in the hatband of his bowler. Those of you who have read any of Casteret's books know that he frequently stripped completely to push a siphon with the water temperature at 38° or less. Nowadays cavers seem to complain about the most trivial thing such as a ladder under a waterfall or rain, snow and hail, wet clothing, leaky boots - well you can always follow Casteret's example - strip.

How about it you laggards? The

weather is improving, the nights are balmy and we will soon have daylight saving, surely you can find time for a caving trip soon???

Pres: Peter Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, 7008.

Sec: Mrs. J. Brabon, " " " " " " " "

FORWARD PROGRAMME.

- October 18 - Saturday. Day trip to Exit Cave with two members of parliament and Roy Skinner. Good opportunity for photography. Leader: Brian Collin.
- October 18 - Saturday. Day trip to Adamsfield to locate and explore a new cave reported from this area. Four wheel drive vehicles will be used from the turn-off on the Gordon Rd. Leader: Albert Goede.
- October 18,19 - Surface exploration at Mt. Anne. Leader: Allan Keller.
- October 26 - Sunday. Surface exploration in Junee area. Leader: A. Goede.
- November 1,2 - Mt. Anne. Leader: B. Collin.
- November 4 - Tuesday. 8p.m. General meeting at 66 Wentworth St., South Hobart.
- November 8 - Saturday. Day trip to Bradley Chesterman Cave, Ida Bay. Leader: Robin Booth.
- November 15,16 - Mole Creek. Leader: P. Brabon.

Club News.

- + We welcome the following prospective members to the club; Col and Joyce Hocking, c/o A.B.C. Installations, Elizabeth St. Miss. Lee Dobson, 51 Davey St, Hobart.
- + Congratulations to Col and Joyce on the birth of Lynlee Joy, who arrived on the 10th of this month.
- + The cave naming and numbering system proposed by Albert was discussed at the last general meeting and was accepted. Albert was appointed as club representative with Allan Keller to act as his proxy during the first six months of next year when Albert is away on study leave. The proposals have also been accepted by S.C.S. and T.C.C.N.B. and Bob Cockerill has been appointed as S.C.S. representative. As soon as T.C.C.N.B. has appointed its member the new cave nomenclature committee will be inaugurated.
- + The Nomenclature Board of Tasmania has appointed a Cave Nomenclature Sub-committee to consider cave names already approved by the clubs and published in the A.S.F. Handbook. Members of the sub-committee are Ian Jennings (Convenor), Ken Newham and Albert Goede. The sub-committee has already met and has recommended many of the names listed for approval by the Nomenclature Board. Names not officially accepted fell into three categories:
 - (1) caves too insignificant to warrant naming officially,
 - (2) caves named after living persons,

(3) caves that can not be accurately located on a map.

This does not mean, however, that the clubs have to change these names. There is no reason why we cannot continue to use the names for our own convenience. Also the introduction of a cave numbering system will mean that there will be no need to name every little hole in future.

It has been pointed out to the cave nomenclature sub-committee that it is bad policy to use the plural "Caves" in a name used to indicate a single cave and also that the giving of an area name to one cave in an area containing a number of caves is an undesirable practice. The name "Ida Bay Caves" as applied to Mystery Ck. Cave (Entrance Cave) is a shining example of both.

+ Another letter has been received from the A.S.F. newsletter manager explaining further delays in the production of the newsletter. The biggest problems seem to be the production of the covers, the printing upside down of pages and unreliable secretaries who cut stencils in the wrong type and to the wrong format. However, the editors are still hopeful that the backlog of newsletters will be demolished slowly if not surely. (Makes us rather proud we have produced 40 issues of the Spiel without once slipping up. Experience makes perfect so keep up the good work chaps - Editors of the Spiel.)

+ The committee for the A.S.F. Convention 1970 has recently had another meeting. It has nominated three office bearers:

President: Rien de Vries (S.C.S., T.C.C.)

Secretary: Albert Goede (T.C.C.)

Treasurer: Bob Cockerill (S.C.S.)

The committee has requested the club to allow it to use its post box at the G.P.O. and this has been approved at the last general meeting. Mainland cavers requiring information about the A.S.F. conference should write to:

The Secretary,
A.S.F. Convention 1970,
Box 641G, G.P.O.,
Hobart, TAS. 7001.

At its last meeting the committee after investigating a number of possibilities suggested that the Hutchins Boarding School offered the best accommodation at very reasonable cost. It also has the advantage of being close to the university where conference space could be made available. Also it is next door to the Sandy Bay Caravan Park.

TRIP REPORTS.

The Facts.....

Mt. Anne - 4,5 October, 1969.

Party: Brian and Jeanette Collin, Albert Goede, Henk Meerding and Wes Carpenter.

A very enjoyable combined working and tourist trip with ideal weather conditions. The route from the creek base camp up the hill through the horizontal scrub section was opened up with the aid of a chain saw. Unfortunately time did not permit any work being done on the scoparia section near the top or in establishing a top base camp. However, more track markers were fixed in this area.

The most enjoyable part of the trip was the few hours spent on the dolomite ridge sliding on the snow drifts, admiring the scenery and soaking up the sunshine. Thoughts of descending the 300 footer seldom entered our heads but one thing is certain it will not be an easy project due to terrain and climatic conditions.

Albert spent some time in a small cave near the camp site but further volunteers to help collect cave crickets were put off by Albert's general wet and muddy appearance.

Before the track is ready for heavy pack carrying some further work on the top section of the track is required. Some thought is being given to making a deviation from the track direct to the 300 footer thus saving about 500 ft. of climbing.

Brian Collin.

The Impressions.

As it was my first trip to Mt. Anne I would like to give readers of the Spiel some of my impressions. Our party of five left Hobart at 7a.m. in Henks comfortable car and at 9.30a.m. we started our trek across the buttongrass. The day was cool with intermittent showers but ideal for walking. On arrival at Sandfly Ck., the chainsaw was brought out to cut down a suitably leaning tree and we soon had a natural bridge. At lunchtime we arrived at our base camp at the foot of the ridge - a magnificent spot with mighty myrtles and spectacular man ferns although a little damp underfoot after the recent rain.

After lunch Wes and I took equipment up to the small cave across the creek and I went down to hunt for cave crickets. Half an hour later I emerged rather muddy but with six specimens to show for it. The cave is rather interesting in that it seems to drop below creek level. At the bottom I climbed up through a fissure and found a 15' drop leading to a lower level. Not being properly equipped I did not investigate but it ought to be looked at some time. There was no draught so it may not go very far.

Afterwards Wes, Henk and I followed Brian and Jeanette up the hill and we soon found ourselves battling through the horizontal with Brian doing a stirring job with the chainsaw. Although we seemed to have gone a long way it took us only 20 mins. to walk back to camp. After a meal some of us huddled around the fire to dry wet clothing. Then followed a cold night for those of us who did not have the benefit of an arctic sleeping bag. Next morning we were only too keen to start the days work if only to get ~~warm~~ again. After some more track cutting we abandoned the chainsaw and made for the top of the ridge in what looked to be a pleasant sunny day. We soon found ourselves in a prehistoric-looking King Billy Pine forest with an undergrowth of pandani. As we climbed higher we got into a belt of dwarf myrtle and King Billy with a generous sprinkling of scoparia interspersed with some deep snow drifts. Cliffs of conglomerate had to be skirted. At the base of one we looked in wonder at small bushes draped with icicles from water that had dripped down the cliff face during the night. Finally the last climb and as we trudged across a snow bank up the ridge the majestic peak of Anne rose before us covered with a fair sprinkling of snow. We had lunch on a rocky look-out point overlooking the deep valley between Lot's Wife and ourselves. Way below us we could see the still waters of a large lake. Next we made our way to the lookout point above the large hole. The dolomite has given rise to some incredible country - knife edges and jagged peaks of rock separated by deep chasms and potholes. All of it covered in a dense growth of mountain scrub. We reluctantly turned our backs to head for home. Back to base camp for a quick meal then we shouldered our packs for the long haul across the plains. The last mile seemed unending as we trudged along the old dozer track. The sun had just disappeared behind the western mountains as we reached the car. My blisters were soon forgotten as I changed into dry gear. Soon we were on our way with the heater going full blast. Jagged peaks stood out against the darkening sky as we raced along. Those who smoked celebrated a successful trip with some of Henk's dutch cigars while plans were made for future trips.

Albert Goede.