

No. 443.

February, 1970.

Published monthly by the Tasmanian Cavermeering Club, Box 64IG.

G.P.O. Hobart. 7001.

Registered at the G.P.O. Hobart.

Annual subscription 60 cents.

Single copies 10 cents.

President: P. Brabon, 12/2 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, 7008.

Secretary: Mrs. P. Brabon.

FORWARD PROGRAMME.

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| February 15    | — Sunday: Leader: P. Brabon. Junee area   |
| February 21-22 | — Weekend: Leader: R. Booth. Exit Cave.   |
| Feb. — March   | — Long weekend: Leader: R. Booth. Longana.  |
| 28, 1 & 2      |   |
| March 4        | — Wednesday: General meeting at Brian and Jeanette's place; 66 Wentworth St. S. Hobart.             |
| March 14-15    | — Weekend: Hastings. Leader: P. Brabon.   |
| March 27-30    | — Easter: To be decided.  |
| April 1        | — Wednesday: Annual General Meeting at Anna and Terry's place (ex Goede's), 8 Bath St., Battery Pt. |

Editorial

No major discoveries were made in the last two months but some interesting caving was carried out. One of the intriguing features of the trips was the number of non T.C.C. participants

On the trips we had the Adventure Camp boys, visiting cavers from the mainland, members of the Climbing Club, non cavers from the mainland and a combined trip with S.C.S. members. Also one midweek trip was made to Exit by two members of the U.Q.S.S.

CLUB NEWS.

Albert and Therese are now in Valies after experiencing some invigorating weather in Holland; to quote:

"During the first week of our stay here, the night temperatures were of the order of 10 F, while during the day it managed to climb as high as 24 F." Further on in the letter I again quote: "the highest mountain around here is only 50 feet. It is known as Table Mountain and has a restaurant on top ———".

The track to Mt. ANNE is now finished, however, as it has been that the "Big Hole" trip will be a combined effort by the Climbing Club, S.C.S. and T.C.C., the date will probably be sometime in February.

Congratulations to Rodney Hughes on his recent marriage.

Clive and Sally Morris will be moving soon to their new house on the corner of Church and Auburn Rd., Kingston.

Peter and Joan will be resigning their posts on the committee this year due to homebuilding and are giving away free advice — if you buy a block of land, have it surveyed before clearing it.

Robin and Judy have moved to the "Caravans" Dodges Ferry and are giving away free sunbans to all visitors.

Fare well to Peter and Carole Helman who will be leaving for the mainland later this month. Good luck Peter and Carole, we hope you will return someday to continue exploration in Exit Cave.

To obviate the usual mumbled grumbings when gear is distributed at the beginning of the trip, the weights of selected items of equipment are listed below:

ITEM	POUNDS	OUNCES
30 ft. "Borwick" ladder	5	2
30 ft. T.C.C. constructed ladder	5	6
120 ft. No. 4 rope	6	2
120 ft. No. 3 rope	5	4
6 ft. headr	—	8
Karabiner ASMU	—	8
Pinnacle lamp (empty)	2	—
Cycle 22 cell torch with batteries	—	13
22 cell battery	—	6
Ladder bag	1	1
Helmet	—	13
Petrol primus (empty)	1	4
100 ft. tape	1	14
Geology hammer	1	14

## TRIP REPORTS

Junee Area - December 1969

Party: Anne and Terry Parkes

Cave number I discovered, initial exploration carried out, cave numbered. Report not available as yet.

Junee Area: - Sunday 21-12-'69

Party: Brian and Jeanette Collin, Wesley Carpenter, John Taylor(M.), Stephen Tickell(M.).

Preliminary exploration was carried out on the two caves recently discovered in the Junee area, a new cave was found and was also explored to the limit of available equipment. The three caves were numbered 2, 3 & 4

The weather was fine but previous rain had swollen the creeks flowing into caves 2 & 4 sufficiently to provide an interesting spectacle but wet trogging.

The creek entering No. 2 cave flows off the sandstone by way of a waterfall that extends directly into a sinkhole. The only feasible way into the hole is from the side onto a ledge some 120 ft. down, we had 110 ft. of ladder and John could only make an aerial appraisal whilst being showered with water. Further progress is likely to be wet.

Cave No. 3 (new find) is reasonably dry and is located on the sandstone/limestone boundary about 300 yds. west of cave No. 2. The 110 ft. of ladder again proved too short by an estimated 40 ft. This type of entry to the expected underground system is what is required and further exploration of this cave could be rewarding.

Cave No. 4 had a really good flow of water entering it but progress to the previous point reached, some 50 yds. in, was easily accomplished and a further 30 ft. covered. At this point the creek descends magnificently into a large hole. Air movement was inwards and some interesting trogging is assured.

On the way to No. 2 cave a good route was found and the trip took 1 1/2 hours, coming out I think we followed Albert's footsteps and it took a good 2 hours. A marked route to the caves is desirable.

A long day but rewarding caving.

Brian Collin.

Revelation Cave: Saturday 10-1-'70.

Party: - Brian Collin, Phillip Collin (Sydney); John TAYLOR (M.).

The unpromising dig was lengthened to about 15 ft. at which stage it was abandoned by common consent.

The neighbouring wet squeeze was successfully negotiated and further progress made for some 6 ft. At this point a "flattener" about 6" high was encountered. It would be possible to dig through this with considerable difficulty, but as there was absolutely no air movement all participants agreed it would be more rewarding to find another cave.

Revelation Cave descends at about 45 degrees to a depth of about 450 ft. in a fissure system. The fissures are at least 100 feet high but near the end of the cave the floor levels off and the creek disappears under solid rock as described earlier.

B.R. Collin.

June Area:-

Sunday II-I-'70

Party; Allan Keller, Brian Collin, Bob Cockerill(S.C.S.), Gray(S.C.S.), John Taylor(Melbourne), Paul(C.C.T.) and Lesley(Vic.). A truly combined trip.

In the absence of a report from Allan, a brief summary will have to suffice.

Caves numbered 2, 3 and 4 visited. Cave No. 5 discovered. This cave is a fissure type some 100 yds. S.E. of No. 4. Cave No. 4 entered to top of first waterfall. Cave 5 entered by two 60 ft. pitches to bottom of first waterfall in No. 4 cave. Further progress stopped by more waterfalls. Cave 3 bottomed at 160 ft., dead end. Cave 2 looked at from the top.

Of note:- 7 people, 300 ft. of ladder, 1½ hours rough walking through bush. IT CAN BE DONE!

B.R. Collin.

Hastings Area(Wolf Hole) - I8-I-'70

Party; Peter Brabon, Bill Hodge, Bernard Howe, Robin Booth, Peter Helman and 21 Adventure Camp boys.

Bill, Rodney(Bill's younger brother), and I left Hobart Saturday afternoon via Blackmans Bay to pick up two-way radios from Henk Meerding which we were to use on Sunday for the ladder pitches.

On Saturday evening we pitched the 4 ladders at the Wolf Hole.

At 10.30 A.M. on Sunday, the first of the party of 10 boys(I4-I6) started to descend the ladder, the remainder were to follow at 12.30. The descent was slow and tedious and some boys speeded things up by abseiling down.

I had three trips to the lake during the day - no chance of getting lost now, and was then relieved by Peter Helman.

With boys coming up and down the ladders all day(27 in all used the ladders), the radios were invaluable and Bill did a sterling job as operator.

There were no mishaps and I think the boys will remember the ladder drop for some time.

Peter Brabon

Exit Cave: Weekend 24-25 Jan. 1970.

Party: Brian Collin, Peter Helman, John Taylor, Coralie Eglington(N.S.W.) and the Adventure Camp party: Byron, Peter, Barry, David and Robert.

Mainly an introductory and sightseeing trip but with some interesting exploring carried out by a party of three headed by Peter Helman. In a new passage they discovered near the first base camp. After negotiating a small squeeze which had considerable air movement they proceeded for several hundred feet.

The air movement indicates a larger extension than so far found and I suspect Peter will have another look during his extended stay underground as another Adventure Camp party were to enter Exit on Sunday evening and come out on Tuesday.

Of interest were the high water marks left from the rains during December; at least 20 ft. over the normal creek level near the inner base camp & 2 ft. over the first base camp.

An enjoyable trip with an enthusiastic and capable party.

B.R.Collin.

Lorinna Area: Long Weekend 24, 25 & 26 Jan. 1970.

Party:-Peter & Joan Brabon, Robin & Judy Booth plus baby Greg, Clive & Sally Morris plus baby David, Bernard Howe, Wayne Turner and Patricia and Howard Ashcroft.

Robin & co. left Hobart Friday afternoon en route to Lorinna via Ulverstone (lost again) arriving at Lorinna in the early hours of the morning. The 3 cars that left Hobart on Saturday morning arrived at Lorinna showground on the Forth River at 2 p.m. and found no difficulty in finding the camping spot due to large number of tents already pitched.

After lunch, some of the party set out to see what caves could be found and after walking downstream for a  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile found a creek flowing into the Forth. The party walked upstream through blackberries etc. but the only hole found was just big enough for a head. As the weather was hot, the party returned to camp to refreshen.

On Sunday morning another expedition set out to the other area of limestone. After walking up the road out of the showground to the Lorinna road we turned right and walked down until we reached a bridge with a creek flowing towards the Forth river. As blackberries prevented any chance of walking along its banks we headed downstream in the creek itself & after 15 minutes getting around water hazards logs etc. we came across some limestone cliffs with some small holes from which water flowed out here & there. The only cave found in this area was at the base of a 30 foot cliff. With the aid of a torch I bent over the entrance only to drop my cigarettes out of my top pocket down about 10 feet onto the floor which appeared to be a small chamber about 10 feet square. I went down to investigate and after retrieving the cigarettes the rest of the party followed. There was a shaft to the left which went down 30 feet to a choke with water at the bottom. Some formation was seen also two cave spiders complete with egg sacs.

After leaving the cave we headed downstream but nothing else was found. The creek eventually took us more or less back to camp.

As Robin & Clive had to work Sunday evening they headed back to Hobart (about a five hour drive) followed later by Peter & Joan. Bernard & Wayne decided to stay Sunday night.

A very enjoyable trip with good weather and the spectacular scenery was taken in by all. The road back to Gowrie Park was full of interest with remnants of mining days gone by.

Peter Brabon.