

SPELEO - SPIEL

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FORWARD PROGRAMME.

- March 27 - 30 - Easter: Exit Cave (Labyrinth ~~area~~). Leader: T. Walkden-Brown.
April 1 - WEDNESDAY: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Anne and Terry's place; 8 BATH ST. BATTERY PT. 8p.m.
Ladies bring supper. Gents bring the grog.
April 4 & 5 - Weekend: Hartz - Cracroft reconnaissance. Leader: B. Collin.
13 - 19 - Weekend: Hole Creek. Leader: T. Walkden-Brown.
May 2 - 3 - Weekend: Maydena area.
6 - WEDNESDAY: General Meeting. 66 Wentworth St., S. Hobart.

EXIT CAVES.

Exit Cave has monopolised the last month's activities and another 1500 feet of passage has been found.

The gate at Exit is now locked and the keys are located as follows:

One outside the gate hidden on a shelf above a knot in the entrance rope some 18" from the eyebolt.

One inside the gate in an obvious position. LEAVE IN CAVE!!!

Two with Roy Skinner.

One in the letter-box at 66 Wentworth St., South Hobart.

Three with B. & J. Collin.

The club equipment is kept in the garage at 66 Wentworth St., S.H.

Key can be found in the letter-box.

High hopes are held that 1970 will see some interesting caving in the Cracroft River area.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on the 1st. APRIL 1970 at 8 Bath St, Battery Pt. All members are invited to attend and those with subscriptions are doubly welcome.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

As from March 31 all members will be unfinancial. Your subs. will be gratefully accepted as soon as possible.

Full membership \$2.50

Junior " " \$1.00

Associate ' ' \$1.00

If you forgot to pay last year, it's not too late to make amends.

CLUB NEWS

Bereavement.

The club extends its deepest sympathy to Sally and Clive Morris at the loss of Sally's Mother.

Tim Walkden-Brown is back from the icy confines of Macquarie Island and is determined to see a lot more of the underground world.

CLUE NEWS.

Alan Keller will be in N.S.W. for at least a month, perhaps longer but I'm certain he'll be around when the 'Big Hole' at Mt Anne is conquered.

ANNUAL REPORT 1970

During the past year, Ida Bay has once again received most of the attention, with some trips to Junee and Mole Creek areas.

Membership has remained much the same as last year, with the exception of a few prospective members who have been on trips during this year and seem very interested.

Exploration.

Some new pot-holes have been explored on the north side of Marble Hill, one being Hobbit Hole, which Allen Keller later suggested should be changed to "Horror Hole".

Revelation Cave, about 400 ft Sth. East of Hobbit Hole, was explored to a depth of about 450 ft. The dig was abandoned after a short distance.

Exit Cave : This year saw the construction and installation of a gate, which is now locked. Some surveying was carried out earlier in the year.

In Mole Creek, Kubla Khan was explored, and this year should see some markers placed to guide visitors to the best sections without damaging the formations.

Junee and Baydena saw a fair bit of activity with the discovery of new caves, which have been numbered 1 to 5.

A combined trip to Adamsfield last October failed to find cave reported in the area. A small cave was found at Lorinna. This part of the country is very interesting, but is slowly being ruined by the H.E.C.

Speleo Spiel.

The Spiel had another good year with the publication of issues 34 to 44. My thanks to Albert and Theresa Goede for the typing and printing and to my wife for their distribution. Thanks also to Jeanette Jollin and Ian Farley, who have taken over the Goede's job in their absence.

Search and Rescue.

T.C.C. participated in the unsuccessful search for John Boyle, who became separated from a small party looking for caves in the Mt Anne area.

John, a dedicated and competent caver, was liked by all and will long be remembered by club members.

The search was the largest of its kind ever conducted in Tasmania and was not called off until the lapse of nine days. My personal thanks to all who took part in the search.

Interstate Visitors.

A number of cavers and non-cavers have visited us during the year. They came from Qld, N.S.W., Vic., and S.A. and were all coming for the now-famous Exit Cave and from their reports we know they found the trip rewarding.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all members for their support during the year. Special thanks to my wife, Joan, who is now retiring after eight years as Secretary. Congratulations on a job well done .

Your President,
Peter Brabon.

RIP REPORTS

Exit Cave: 7-8-9- Feb.

Party : Peter and Carole Helman, Ian Barnes, Sally Morris.

Peter and Carole are now somewhere on the mainland, so just a brief summary of the trip.

A 1,000 ft of passages was found just off the outer base camp. Apparently, nobody has ever bothered to look in this very accessible area.

The Hammer passage was also visited with its usual interesting trogging but no new discoveries.

Exit Cave: 14 - 15 Feb.

Party: Robin Booth, Peter Brabon and party.

No trip report but apparently a very enjoyable weekend was spent underground.

Exit Cave: 21-22 Feb.

Party: Tim Walkden-Brown (leader), Wes Carpenter, John Taylor (V.S.C.) Steve Tickell (V.S.C.).

Our 9.45 Friday evening start from Hobart and an overgrown track due for a late arrival at Camp No.1. Consequently we didn't start the first caving session until 2p.m. Saturday. My immediate idea was to finish the Ribble System, mainly the two creeks flowing into the western side of the Patch Passage.

Both creeks had been looked at before but not pushed. The first creek rendered some interesting caving. About 100' from the Patch Passage there is a beaut squeeze best negotiated by standing upright and holding one's gut in. This passage then opened up being about 20' high and altogether 500' long, blocking off with an impassable squeeze. We returned, methodically investigating all sides, the best being about 200' long and joining up with the Patch Passage at high level. It was difficult but at least dry, although there is a 15' stepped mud wall to be climbed.

We had a quick look at the Devil's Stovepipe, followed by lunch. The second creek was then entered but narrowed down drastically. I had tried this squeeze 2 years, but failed, however, with considerable digging, pushing and grunting, managed to force it. The old hard luck story again; it blocked off after another 30'! We returned to Camp 1 after 10½ hours.

On Sunday we scampered up to the end of Entrance Ck. Passage to show John this interesting part of the cave. Wes was studying a pool here and happened to notice a 3" trout. It appeared only slightly interested in us. Most likely this fish had come in via Entrance Cave quite recently.

After 4½ hours we returned to the packs and were out of the cave by 7.30p.m. The walk out was most pleasant, with Reece's Bog the driest I have ever seen it .

Tim W. Brown.

Quartermisstress's Report

Most of the club equipment was extensively use throughout the year, except the scaling pole which is still in "as new" condition.

The jumas have been missing since the search and one alloy snaplink has disappeared. One 30' ladder was damaged by a falling rock and has been converted into two 13' ladders.

Two of the Club's three old ladders were taken out of service and one other is nearing the end of its useful life.

The Club's two unserviceable "Walkie-talkies" were sold.

On the credit side, one "butterfly" carbide lamp was donated to the Club.

The Club's equipment now comprises:

ITEM	NUMBER	CONDITION
30 foot ladder	8	good
30 foot ladder	1	poor
13 "	2	good
6 ft. wire headers	5	good
snaplinks: alloy	5	good
stuba	4	reasonable
scaling pole	1	good
ge tent	1	good
Almets	3	reasonable
carbide lamps: pinnacle	3	reasonable
butterfly	1	reasonable
ladder bags	3	good
ropes: nylon: 120'	4	good
60'	4	good
30'	3	good
coulenc 265'	1	(not to be used as safety rope)
Miscellaneous:		
3 lb. hammer	1	good
star drill	1	good
large cold chisel	1	good
small adze	1	good
3/8" eyebolts	3	good
1/8" tungsten tipped drill	1	good
100' tape (fibre glass)	1	good

A 360 foot coil of No. 4 nylon rope is on order.

J. Collin.