

Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club, Box 641 G,  
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Secretary: Doug Turner, 79 Riawena Road, Rose Bay, Tas. 7015.

#### FORWARD PROGRAMME.

- Sept. 13 - Sunday: Track cutting in Weld River area to complete access track. Leader: Simon Stephens. Please note This trip has been brought forward one week to avoid a clash with the Annual Dinner.
- Sept. 19 - Saturday:- ANNUAL DINNER to celebrate the club's 24th birthday.  
The place: Kingston Beach Hotel.  
The time: Meet at 7p.m. Dinner at 7.30p.m.  
The cost: \$ 2.50 per head for a four-course meal.  
Don't be conspicuous by your absence at this event of the year and bring your friends. Please advise Fay Turner(Ph.43 9443) if you are coming not later than Saturday 13th. Payment before the dinner would be appreciated and money or cheque may be handed ~~in~~ or posted to Fay at 79 Riawena Road, Rose Bay. Cheques to be made payable to T.C.C.
- Sept. 26 - Saturday: Day trip to Junee area. Further exploration of a recently discovered swallet(JF x) already 200 feet down and going strong. Leader: Noel White.
- Oct. 3,4 - Weekend: Mount Anne. Sightseeing and track cutting to "Lake Timsk". Leader: Brian Collin.
- Oct. 7 - Wednesday: 8p.m. General meeting at 8 Bath Street, Battery Point.
- Oct.17,18 - Weekend: Junee area. Leader: Brian Collin.
- Oct.24,25 - Trip to North-East to visit old mines and prospect for cave crickets and minerals. Leader: A.Goede.

EDITORIAL. Things have happened since the last Spiel. JF 1 in the Junee area was further explored but petered out only 40 ft. below the point reached earlier. Most of the draught in this cave comes from a tight fissure in a talus chamber well above the lowest point. This could only be opened up with explosives. Full details of the trip can be found in Noel's trip report.(The editor takes no responsibility for the views expressed in this piece of prose - much less does he agree with them.)

Les Kermode was shown through Exit Cave on his recent visit to Tasmania, on the first photographic trip held for a long time. The same night he showed a very interesting collection of New Zealand slides at Roy and Pam's. We are grateful for their hospitality to a mob of dirty cavers. A brave attempt was made by Brian to show Les through Kubla Khan, Mole Creek, but the worst floods in 20 years in N.W. Tasmania stopped the party at the Stalactite Shuffle which was several feet under water.

In the Junee area bad weather prevented further exploration of JF 4-5 but Noel discovered a new, quite small swallet a few hundred yards to the west. A party of three descended to a depth of about 200 ft. until stopped at the top of a 50 ft. shaft. This cave looks very promising and could link up with JF 4-5 at a lower level as it swings in that direction. Keep tuned to the Spiel for further developments.

#### CLUB NEWS.

+ Sib and Keith Corbett have left our wet and chilly state for the hot, dusty north-west of W.A. They have joined Carpentaria Exploration Co., to prospect for a little more of Australia's mineral wealth. They also hope to do some caving there if the opportunity offers. All the best to you both. We are sorry to see you go but no doubt you will be back some time. Best of luck and happy prospecting.

+ New members: The following were accepted as members at the last General Meeting:

John Bluhdorn, 66 Wentworth Street, South Hobart. 7000.

Peter Henley, Fl.23, Princess Park Mews, Battery Square, Battery Point. 7000.

Welcome to T.C.C.

+ Prospective members:

Bill Lehmann, 29A Darcy Street, South Hobart. 7000.

Philip Robinson, 282 Sandy Bay Rd., Sandy Bay. 7005.

Philip has just come from Britain where he earned his caving spurs in Yorkshire. He must be feeling quite at home in our cool wet caves but is not yet quite used to logs and stumps that collapse at the slightest touch.

"Big Bill" must be Australia's tallest caver at 6' 7½". It is just as well we have caves to match because there is no keeping him out. He has done his three qualifying trips for membership in just three weeks - must be a record.

+ Noel White has recently analyzed rock specimens collected by Albert from Mount Anne and Weld River. Both proved to consist of fairly pure dolomite and contained no calcite. The rocks in these areas have always been referred to as dolomites but these are believed to be the first analyses to prove it.

A.S.F. Convention 1970.

The convention secretary reports that enrolments for the Hobart Conference and field trips have already started to pour in. So far 14 interstate enrolments have been received from N.S.W., Vic., and Queensland and another nine cavers have expressed their intention of enrolling. With another four weeks to go before the closing date we can probably expect a record enrolment.

TRIP REPORTS.

Saturday 15th August - Junee Area.

Party: Albert Goede (leader), Julie and Peter Henley, Noel White.

After his trip with Simon Stephens the previous Tuesday to JF 1, Albert's imagination had time to run away with him, so when he found that there were actually a few people prepared to go out on Saturday there was no holding him back. We were all fired by Albert's report of what he had seen, and his assurances of all the favourable omens - geological structure of the limestone, geomorphological indications at the surface, and the superb quality of the enclosing slate, sorry, limestone. Add to this the incentive of getting into the Junee "caverns measureless to man" without falling down a hole at the top of the hill, or drowning in a siphon at the bottom, and no gullible mainlanders could resist. Just to clinch the deal, he assured us that the cave was DRY!!

We started out at the relatively civilized hour of 8a.m. and such was our enthusiasm that even the weather on a typical Hobart Saturday morning could not dampen our spirits. With the help of Peter's driving, and despite Albert's directions, we arrived quite early, and visited one of the quarries in the limestone. Here, Albert had assured me, could be found pyrite nodules in the limestone. As he had unfortunately neglected to mention that a dentist's drill would be needed to get them out, I did not manage to collect any for my analysis.

As the more time we spent elsewhere, the more of the cave we would have to leave unexplored, we soon hurried on. The cave was only a few minutes walk from the car, and the entrance was easily located. As we arrived the rain stopped coming down in separate drops and started to come down as continuous trickles, so we were pleased to get into a DRY cave. There was little difficulty getting down to the level where Simon and Albert had not been able to get further, with only a thin barrier of false floor stopping them. False floor!? - SOLID limestone!!! However, even that yielded to some of Albert's gentle persuasion, assisted by a geology pick. Once again the way was clear and we could go on, after, that is, muggins had gone back through cleft, rock fall, squeeze and ladder pitch to get the rope and ladder from our illustrious leader's pack, which our I.L. had left behind. However, these are minor inconveniences when you are exploring an immense new system. That is to say they would have been had it been an immense new system. No sooner was Albert down the ladder than we began to hear plaintive cries of "It doesn't look very promising..... It doesn't seem to go on..... It's a dead end.....!" So much for our glorious dream - a little chamber with a pool of water in it. One small hole was found on the way up with a strong breeze blowing from it, but explosives would be needed to have any chance. As for Albert's DRY cave, I think I would prefer a wet one. They are no colder and are certainly much cleaner. Where I come from a dry cave is one where you brush the dust from your clothes when you come out, not scrape off an inch

thick layer of mud.

Even Albert seemed disappointed by this cave - he must have believed his own propaganda. After lunching we briefly visited the Junee resurgence where we were torn to shreds by the blackberries and our clean dry clothing became wet and dirty. So much for bringing a change of clothes.

As the day was still young we paid a social visit on the Francombe's in Maydena, and so arrived back in Hobart at our usual time.

Noel White.

Exit Cave, Ida Bay - Saturday, 22/8/70.

Party: A. Goede (leader), Roy Skinner, Les Kermode, Noel White, Clive and Sally Morris, Bill Lehmann and Stuart Nicholas.

We left Hobart at 7a.m. (more or less) and met Roy at the new forestry road. The recent extension of this road cuts half an hour off the walk to Exit Cave but it took us a little while to locate the beginning of our track. The weather was kind to us but the track was still wet from recent rain and Reece's Bog was its usual sloppy self. On reaching the cave entrance we were pleasantly surprised to discover that Exit Ck. was low and no difficulty was experienced getting in. We made the usual tourist trip through the upper levels visiting the "Colonnades" and the "Pendulum" while cameras clicked and flashes were fired right, left and centre. We then went through the talus where Les took all the fun out of climbing Sally's Rock by finding an easy way around it. We also managed to lose Clive and Sally somewhere along the route but since they both knew the cave we were not unduly concerned.

On arrival at camp 2 we had lunch and then visited "Edie's Treasure" to have a look at the gypsum needles and helictites where more photographs were taken. Noel's keen geological eye spotted the probable source of the gypsum. He noticed a 1' thick band of shale outcropping in the wall and pointed out that all the gypsum formations appeared to occur below this level. The shale is now deeply weathered but was probably a pyritic shale originally with oxidation of the pyrite providing a source for the gypsum.

On the way out we met up with Clive and Sally who had missed the turn-off to camp 2 and realizing their mistake had headed back for the entrance. Not far from the entrance we stopped to have a look at the glow worm display which was quite reasonable considering the time of the year.

We reached the cars at about 6p.m. and went to Roy and Pam's where we dined on hot pies. Everyone was rather mystified by a blood trail from the restaurant to the kitchen until it was found that Stewart had been bitten on the leg by a large leech without realizing it. Not to worry Stewart, if you keep up caving your blood will soon be so diluted with water that no leech will look at you twice.

We had a most enjoyable evening with Les showing his caving slides of New Zealand. It was after midnight when we arrived back in Hobart from a very pleasant day's activities. We are looking forward to seeing some of the slides taken on the trip.

Albert Goede.

Junee Florentine - Saturday, 29/8/70.

Party: Noel White (leader), Bill Lehmann, Philip Robinson.

As the proposed trip to Mole Creek was called off because of floods in the area, it was decided to go to Maydena instead. The area which we planned to examine occurs east of the Junee ridge, and north-east of Maydena. Examination of the aerial photographs of the area showed several places which might be of interest.

On Saturday morning at 7a.m. an unprecedented event took place in Hobart - a caving party set out on time. Little difficulty was experienced with flood waters on the way up, and after the traditional breakfast of cold pies we returned to the Tyenna road. We drove as far as we could and set out in a snow shower to walk up the Humboldt River. From the photographs it seemed possible that this river might cut down through the overlying Permian rocks and into limestone. We did not manage to test this theory as the river was in flood and could not be crossed. This area should be reexamined in the summer.

As the day was still young we then went to Maydena and tried to follow a road going up the wide valley just to the north of Maydena. Here we were stopped by flood-waters covering the road, however, nothing daunted we continued on foot. This valley has previous-

ly been mapped as being underlain by limestone, however, apart from the small Maydena quarry, we saw little evidence of it at first. We followed a road along the western side of the valley, then dropped into the nearest gully and commenced scrub bashing. Two creeks we examined both had strong surface flow although they tended to disappear from sight under a mantle of clay and plant debris. At this stage no evidence was found to suggest there was any limestone for miles. The rare rocks which were seen were sandstone from the overlying Permian, or dolerite. Finally after about three hours of scrub bashing, we decided to walk down the creek to the clear area.

Shortly after reaching where we started to walk up the creek, we found limestone, and the creek went underground - not far though. It flowed in a small tunnel about 15 ft. below the surface, with the roof broken in several places. One small chamber was found with no leads off it. It seems that the area of limestone here is smaller than was previously thought and there does not seem to be any possibility of significant caves.

As we still had several hours of daylight available to us it was decided to go and see the Junee resurgence. The Junee River was flowing very strongly and had flooded the road at the bridge. It could still be crossed however, and we waded our way to the cave. Rather than waste our time watching the water we spent an hour trogging around the dry gully above the resurgence in the hope that some hole might lead into the system beyond the siphon. One small hole was found which led into a small chamber with at least one glow-worm. We later learnt that this hole has previously been examined by Albert and Simon. There are a couple of small sink-holes in this area, but as usual they were blocked. It would be worthwhile to trog this area very thoroughly, however, the present thick cover of bracken makes it impossible until it has been burnt.

As a result of this trip we can only claim to know a few more places where it is not worthwhile to look. One positive result is that Philip has now been introduced to scrub bashing Tasmanian style - he seemed to find it quite a change from the tame country-side of Britain.

Noel White.

Junee Area - Saturday, 5/9/70.

Party: Albert Goede, Noel White, Bill Lehmann, Philip Robinson (and nearly Arthur Clarke).

We left Hobart at approx. 7.30a.m. from the usual gathering place at Battery Point. Since we had forgotten to ring ANM for permission to pass through the barrier we called at Don Francombe's after the usual visit to the "Cold Pie Shop". The Francombe's had gone away for the weekend but a visit to Mr. Molland was successful in acquiring the permit. We waited for half an hour at the barrier for Arthur but since he did not turn up decided to push on without him. On arrival at the usual parking spot the small mountain of gear was divided up between the four of us and we were off. The weather which had been reasonable up till now deteriorated and by the time we reached JF 5 it was snowing heavily. The creek running into JF 4 was flowing strongly and the normally dry JF 5 entrance also proved rather wet with water cascading down from the cliff above. Since none of us had been in the cave before we left our gear on the surface except for one rope tied to a tree at the entrance. The way through was easy to find as we could hear the distant roar of the creek. We reached a place where a ladder seemed desirable but Noel claimed it was an easy climb and proceeded to prove it and Albert followed. We ran out of rope just before reaching the top of the next pitch which had the creek roaring in from the left. It seemed that with so much water we would be battling to get as far as last summer's party let alone further. I left my carbide lamp and we climbed up again. This was a less happy experience as with the burning carbide lamp down below we could see just how exposed our climb was. Although the climb is not difficult a ladder should be used for inexperienced cavers. We went back to the surface for lunch where we huddled together under a log to escape the wet snow. Intrepid leader and Noel had by this time lost all enthusiasm for the cave in its present condition but Bill and Philip were keen to go back to look down the second drop and rescue leader's carbide lamp. Meanwhile Noel and Albert started scrub bashing towards the west to stay warm. Noel discovered a promising cave entrance in a dry valley and a small swallet a little further up stream. Numerous other less promising holes were also found. When Philip and Bill returned we shouldered our heavy packs to have a look. The cave entrance proved

LIST OF FINANCIAL MEMBERS 1970-71.

F -	full member.	J -	junior member.
A -	associate member	HA -	honourary associate member.
P -	prospective member	LM -	life member.
BLUHDORN, John	66 Wentworth Street, South Hobart, 7000.	F.	
BRABON, Joan	122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, 7008.	F.	
BRABON, Peter	" " " " " "	F.	
BROWN, Frank	15 Harrington St., Hobart. 7000.	F.	
BJORKLUND, Carl	30 Reynolds Court, Dynnyrne, 7005.	A.	
CAREY, Prof. S.W.	24 Richardsons Ave., Dynnyrne, 7005.	LM.	
CARPENTER, Wes	20 Wellesley St., South Hobart, 7000.	F.	
COLLIN, Brian	66 Wentworth St., South Hobart, 7000.	F.	
COLLIN, Jeanette	" " " " " "	F.	
CORBETT, Sib	Carpentaria Exploration Co., 55 Colin St., West Perth, W.A. 6005.	F.	
DE VRIES, Rien	Ringwood Rd., New Norfolk, 7450.	A.	
ELLIS, Ross	52 Bundock St., Randwick, N.S.W. 2031.	A.	
FARLEY, Ian	49 Wells Parade, Blackmans Bay, 7152.	F.	
FARLEY, Stella	" " " " " "	F.	
FORSTER, Tom	11 Cedar St., Lindisfarne, 7015.	P.	
FRANCOMBE, Don	A.N.M. Maydena, 7457.	HA.	
GOEDE, Albert	8 Bath Street, Battery Point, 7000.	LM.	
GOEDE, Therese	" " " " " "	F.	
HERINGTON, J.	24 Balaka Street, Rosny, 7018.	HA.	
HOCKING, Col.	20 Banawarra Rd., Geilston Bay. 7015.	F.	
HODGE, Bill	5 Bayley St., Glebe, 7000.	F.	
HOLLOWAY, Kerry	36 Lochner Street., West Hobart, 7000.	A.	
HOWE, Bernard	7 Hickman St., New Town, 7008.	F.	
LEHMANN, Bill	29A Darcy St., South Hobart, 7000.	P.	
MALONEY, Anne	16 Second Ave., Springfield, 7009.	J.	
MALONEY, Delia	" " " " " "	J.	
MEERDING, Henk	6 Gourlay Street, Blackmans Bay, 7152.	F.	
MORRIS, Clive	11 Church Street, Kingston, 7150.	F.	
MORRIS, Sally	" " " " " "	F.	
PETERSON, Bill	12 Auvergne Ave., New Town, 7008.	F.	
PLAISTER, John	4 Central Ave., Moonah, 7009.	F.	
RICHARDSON, T.	Mole Creek, Tas. 7257.	HA.	
ROBINSON, Lloyd	167 Mt. Keira Rd., Mt. Keira, N.S.W. 2500.	A.	
SEYMOUR, Denis	4 Clarke Ave., Battery Point, 7000.	F.	
SKINNER, Roy and Pam	"The Chalet", Hastings, Tas. 7116.	HA.	
STEPHENS, Simon	43 Seaview Ave., Tarooma, 7006.	F.	
TURNER, Doug	79 Riawena Rd., Rose Bay, 7015.	F.	
WALKDEN-BROWN, Tim	76 View St., Sandy Bay, 7005.	F.	
WALLER, Rosanne	313 Lenah Valley Rd., Lenah Valley, 7008.	P.	
WHITE, Noel	Hytten Hall, Uni. of Tas., Sandy Bay, 7005.	F.	

(June 5/9/70 cont.)

to be a sloping tunnel rather like JF 1 on a smaller scale but was blocked about 50 ft. down. Next we turned to the swallet with a small waterfall disappearing into a flat bottomed 20 ft. hole. Leader confident from long experience that the hole wouldn't go stayed on top while Noel, Philip and Bill descended. A little later came the request for another ladder than 1½ hours of silence while leader jumped up and down and wandered around the bush to stay warm. The party returned in high spirits although rather wet and a little the worse for wear reporting that they had reached a depth of about 200 ft. before turning back at the top of a 50 ft. shaft. As it was too late to return to the attack we headed back for the cars following the western side of the dry valley rather than the bottom. Most of this proved quite good going. Back at the cars at 5.30p.m. and a quick dash to our favourite pie shop at Maydena for a meal of pies, pasties and milk shakes. A most rewarding day in retrospect.

According to Noel the underground course of the new swallet swings towards the east and there is a good chance that it will eventually join the JF 4-5 system so further exploration is certainly worthwhile. The new swallet has only a small creek running into it which would probably dry up during the summer.

Albert Goede.