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President: Albert Goede, 8 Bath Street, Battery Point, 7000.  
Secretary: Peter Shaw, 53 Lord Street, Sandy Bay, 7005.

FORWARD PROGRAMME.

July 19 - Wednesday. Robin Booth's slides of New Guinea at 66 Wentworth Street, 8 p.m. Bring refreshments.  
July 22,23 - Weekend. Exit Cave explorations. Leader: B.Collin.  
July 29 - Saturday. Surveying and exploration in Gormenghast. Leader: Peter Shaw.  
August 2 - Wednesday. General meeting at the Shaw/Norbury/Rutherford residence, 53 Lord Street, Sandy Bay. Slides and refreshments welcome. Mystery raffle prize provided by Delia. If you want a comfortable seat bring a cushion.  
Aug.5,6 - Day or weekend. Exit Cave. Leader: Albert Goede.  
September 23 - Saturday. ANNUAL DINNER at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Hampden Road, Battery Point. Four course meal, band, booze and congenial company all for \$4 a head. Early notification of your intention to attend would be appreciated, let either Albert or Therese Goede know if you are coming. Ph.23 0561 ext.415, 9-5 weekdays or leave a message with the secretary of the Geography Dept. for Albert.

EDITORIAL.JF 14 - 700 FT. DEEP AND STILL GOING STRONG!!

A gruelling fifteen hour trip in JF 14 has pushed the cave well into the ranks of Australia's deepest. A laddering nightmare, an abseiling and prussiking delight - this cave will probably not be visited again using conventional laddering techniques. Six hundred and ninety feet of ladder yielded 700 feet of cave with the bottom pitch (so far) over 180 feet deep, free hanging and wet. Compared with this cave, Khazad-dum is a picnic. For a full account of the trip see Phil's gripping article.

During the month the snows came to Mt. Field and every stream in Junee-Florentine was in full spate, causing over-wet conditions on trips to the area. Some amusement was obtained in JF 14 by comparing a Tasmanian "dry" cave with a mainland dry cave. "Well there isn't really that much water", said Phil.

Brian and Jeanette celebrated their wedding anniversary in Exit Cave by having what must have been the slackest trip on record. Their proportion of caving to sleeping and eating must be an all time low.

Peter Shaw.

New members

Welcome to the following prospective members.  
Alan Walsh, 152 Nelson Road, Sandy Bay, 7005.  
Paul Cairns, 10 Marine Terrace, Battery Point, 7000.

New Cave Numbers

JF 41 - Dry shaft near JF 3, blocked after 70 ft.  
JF 42 - Four foot diameter tube near JF 3; descends at 60 - 70 degrees for 60 feet.

Khazad-dum News

An underground camp is planned by Brian to take place in January, 1973 on the Australia Day long weekend. The cave will be laddered the previous weekend to enable the long weekend to be devoted to the camp. This is planned to take place despite any exploration carried out before then.

Andrew Pavey from U.N.S.W.S.S. is planning a lightning abseiling and prussiking trip to Khazad-dum on the Sunday of the same weekend so it could be quite crowded down there.

Rope Wanted

The club intends to purchase 120 feet of rope especially for practising prussiking. The rope is called Spinnaker Cord and is manufactured by Marlowe. Kernmantle (double sheath) construction about 13 mm. diameter. If you have the right sources and can get it cheap, we would be pleased to hear about it!

SOUTH-WEST DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS.

The South-West Committee, of which T.C.C. is a member, has prepared a draft submission for the future controlled development of the South-West. This submission is being presented to constituent clubs for discussion and comment. The full submission, 20 pages, and an accompanying map are available from our delegate, Brian Collin, for perusal. A brief outline of the proposals with particular reference to caverneering is set out below. It is hoped that T.C.C.'s attitude to the submission will be determined in the next month or two for relaying back to the committee.

"The whole of the South-West is unique within Australia, possessing many features of considerable scenic beauty and scientific interest, and has long been valued by many as a remote area offering a stimulating and challenging wilderness experience which often involves severe weather conditions."

"The Committee is adamant that in the development of Tasmania's tourist assets, the greatest value will be gained by development that provides for remote areas as well as for intensively developed areas."

".... any development plan for the South-West area should not be based on the idea that the area is and always will be the province of a few". "The recreation potentials are outlined as car scenery, family camping, walking, caverneering, climbing, skiing, ski-touring, snow recreation, canoeing, motor boating, fishing."

"Within the South-West are many areas of limestone containing numerous caves including the largest known cave and also the deepest cave in Australia. Many of the limestone areas are inaccessible and there is scope for expedition type caving as carried out in Europe but not available elsewhere in Australia."

Standards and principles of construction of tracks, track marking and huts are defined. Each area in the South-West is discussed and its usage suggested. Caverneering is mentioned at Mt. Anne, Mt. Field and Exit Cave. At Mt. Field a graded track to the entrance of Khazad-dum is suggested. The development of Exit Cave as a tourist cave is proposed. A road down the Arthur Plains is opposed while the route down the Weld River is favoured for the tourist and forestry industries. Prospecting and forestry controls are outlined and the various hydro-electric schemes discussed.

OLD ROPES

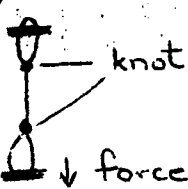

Philip Robinson.

Figures below are for nylon caving ropes tested at the Civil Engineering Dept., University of Tasmania.

No.3 nylon	3-4 years use.
No.4 nylon	3-4 years use.
No.4a nylon	"new", only 5-6 trips (including 180' Midnight Hole abseil).

The ropes had a 'uniform' worn appearance, i.e. no cuts.

Method

a/		breakage at knot.	
	No.3	1350 lb.	(bowlines)
	No.3	1350 lb.	(half hitches)
	No.4	1700 lb.	(bowlines)
	No.4a	1650 lb.	(bowline)
	No.4a	1750 lb.	(bowline/overhand)
	No.4a	2100 lb.	(overhand/figure eight)
b/		breakage on steel bar (same diameter as a karabiner)	
	double	No.3	2200 lb.
	steelbar	No.4	2550 lb.
	knot (fishermans)	No.4	2200 lb. (in centre of rope!!)
		No.4a	4250 lb.

New Rope

No.3 should be 3500 lb., No.4 , 4200 lb. i.e. without knots or over steel bars.

A bowline is supposed to reduce strength to 60%.

Comments

Assuming 60%, losses in tensile strength up to 36% have occurred. The erratic nature of these few results suggest some variation along the length of the rope. The "new" No.4a has surprisingly low strength after so few trips. This could be due to abseiling. The method of testing is also open to criticism. How does this relate to actual use? How strong should a caving rope be? Comments are welcome from anywhere.

Although not as high as expected, the results are not too discouraging. Considering caving ropes are nearly always used as top ropes or for abseiling, the sudden strain is never great. One will always suspect the human element, the life...liner.

TRIP REPORTS.

JF 14 - Saturday, 17/6/72.

Party: Phil Robinson(leader), Peter Shaw, Bill Lehmann and Ross Mansfield.

Burdened by enormous packs of ladders and ropes the four staggered up to the pothole. The 70' entrance pitch was rigged. Phil and Ross descended this and the next drop(85'). Peter and Bill followed with most of the tackle. Delay was caused by Peter's accumulator and carbide refusing to work. Ross' cell was hoisted up the 85' pitch. At last 4 bods, 3 lights and ( $\frac{1}{2}$  ton?) gear were positioned at the head of the "big" shaft. Rocks hurled down indicated depths between 150' - 300'. Three hundred foot of ladder was lowered through the narrow hole at the top of the pitch. Bill had flu, Peter a cold and no light, Ross no experience on ladders. Phil descended 200'. Down a boulder slope of 30-40' which led to the head of a further drop of approx. 80'. Yell . . . "Anyone else coming down??" Phil's suggested name for JF 14 is "Pikers Pot". No alternative but to return surrounded by a tangle of 300' of ladder on waist, legs and arms. Much swearing and good hauling later everything was back up the pitch. The gear was rolled and the 2 pitches ascended smoothly to the surface.

The big pitch is the easiest 200' imaginable. Against the wall, split by numerous ledges of 2' - 10', (this was the cause of the ladder snagging during derigging). "Pikers Pot" is now 400' deep with an undescended pitch of approx. 80'. It must surely reach down into the Khazad-dum system.

Philip Robinson.

Mole Creek - 24,25/6/72.

Party: Peter Shaw, Bill Lehmann, Delia Maloney and Sally Morris.

A rather unprofitable weekend was spent looking at holes in the right hand valley above Maracoopa. On Saturday we set off to do a dig, but couldn't find the hole and found another small cave instead. This cave yielded about a hundred feet of small passages. A hole with a draught was discovered in the hill above Atlantis Cave, but was too small to enter without structural alterations. A short dig in our original objective accomplished nothing and we returned to the hut. On Sunday we set off for the hole with the draught, armed with hammer, cold chisel and geology pick. An hour's work allowed us to enter a small cave with quite a lot of formation. The draught was coming from a very small, hopeless passage, so we retired to the surface for lunch. After lunch Delia and Sally went to Atlantis Cave while Bill and Peter searched for holes in the hill above. After a brief look at Devils Pot, we returned to Atlantis Cave to find that Delia and Sally had passed the dig and reached a small chamber. After some more digging in the chamber we gave up. On the way out, Bill climbed a precarious mud slope to find himself ten feet short of a route into some upper levels. A scaling pole could be useful here.

Peter Shaw.

Florentine - 2/7/72.

Party: Peter Shaw, Bill Lehmann and Wes Carpenter.

The aim of the trip was to complete the surveying in Gormenghast and also to do some exploration. After leaving Hobart late, we reached the F 9 road at 9.45a.m. The weather was very overcast with periodic showers. A big surprise came when we reached the entrance of Gormenghast. What is normally a small, mild stream had trebled in volume. The survey was commenced but abandoned almost immediately, when we realised that surveying under such conditions would be almost impossible. Good for a sporting trip but no good for surveying.

Trapdoor Swallet was suggested as an alternative. After admiring Growling Swallet which was taking quite a bit of water, we moved up the valley to Trapdoor Swallet, which understandably was also taking more water than usual. Some good work by Bill resulted in the removal of the trapdoor leaving the passage below open. Unfortunately the trapdoor hole, which was previously dry, was taking quite a bit of water and further exploration was postponed by mutual consent.

Rather dispirited by the water everywhere we decided to go home. In a nearby doline, I pointed out a hole which was draughting but too small to enter. Bill discovered a small hole in the side of the

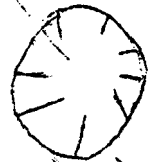
RIGHT HAND VALLEY ABOVE MARACOOPA.

↑ TO MARACOOPA



→ TO DEVILS POT  
+ DEVILS SEWER

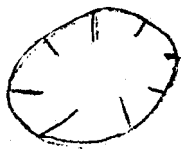
LARGE  
DOLINE



CAVE WITH  
DRAUGHT. 100'

ATLANTIS CAVE →  
850'

SMALL  
CAVE. 100'



INTERMITTENT  
SWALLOW

SMALL CAVE  
WITH DIG. 30'

Peter Shaw.

doline and crawled in. The hammer removed a few obstacles and after about 80' a chamber was reached bounded by talus on two sides. No routes on, except for a small hole in one corner, which opened into a deep wide shaft down which large numbers of rocks were thrown. Estimated depth is 80' - 140'. With no tackle we were powerless to continue and returned to the surface.

From here we crossed the hill above Growling Swallet westwards to reach the track, finding only one small hole on the way. Walking back along the track, we discovered a small swallet in the next valley to the south of Gormenghast. A very small entrance would require some major work before it could be entered. We reached the car at sunset after a day's caving of mixed fortunes. Peter Shaw.

JF 14 - Saturday, 8/7/72.

Party: Philip Robinson, Peter Shaw, Brian Collin, Albert Goede, Ross Mansfield and Graeme Watt.

Seven o'clock start from Hobart led through to a beautiful crisp, blue sky, sunshine and snow - an ideal weekend! Ideas of skiing and climbing on Mt. Anne were lost as we headed into the forest. The usual mess of gear; this time 670' of ladder, 860' of rope - enough to crack anything!? Down JF 14; 70', 90', 200', 120', 180' + ? pitches later we were 700' underground and still not at the bottom.

Manhandling that amount of gear up and down such pitches is an old story. A cold shower of water throughout added to the misery. Abseiling the first three pitches provided some excitement. Albert and Brian stayed as belay men at the first 200', Peter at the 120'. This was the start of new exploration.

Graeme, Philip and Ross gathered at the head of the next pitch. 180' of aqueous, free hanging, ladder later Philip was still dangling in space. Visibility through darkness and spray was only 20 - 30'. The bottom could not be seen. Next move. UP! Help from Ross and Graeme was well appreciated by a rather unfit Phil. Rocks were again dropped, 5 secs.? (180 - 400').

The long haul back to the surface was frustrating. With pitches one on top of each other, falling stones a menace. Often 2-3 people could do nothing except wait (and shelter). Trip lasted 15 hours. It will be some time before JF 14 is further explored. Few people are willing to tackle 200' and free hanging pitches 500' underground. Single rope trainees have just started. It is an ideal pothole for such descents.

Philip Robinson.

List of Financial Members 1972-1973.

AKHURST, Ron	26 Granville Ave., Geilston Bay, 7015.	J
BLOOMFIELD, Richard	4 Wentworth Street, Bellerive, 7018.	J
BELL, Ros	40 Grove Road, Glenorchy, 7010.	P
BOOTH, Judy	P.O. Box 339, Madang, Terr. Papua and New Guinea.	A
BOOTH, Robin	" " " " " " " "	A
BOULTER, Clive	32 Sixth Ave., Springfield, 7010.	F
BOULTER, Dot	" " " " " "	F
BRABON, Joan	Old Beach Rd.,/P.O.Box 74, Lindisfarne, 7015.	F
BRABON, Peter	" " " " " "	F
CAIRNS, Paul	10 Marine Terrace, Battery Point, 7000.	P
CAREY, Prof.S.W.	24 Richardsons Ave., Dynnyrne, 7005.	LM
CARPENTER, Wes	20 Wellesley Street, South Hobart, 7000.	F
CLARKE, Arthur	"Blubberhead", c/o P.O., Dover, Tas. 7116.	F
COLE, Michael	66 Carlton Street, New Town, 7008.	A
COLLIN, Brian	66 Wentworth Street, South Hobart, 7000.	F
COLLIN, Jeanette	" " " " " "	F
CRIPPS, David	442 Elizabeth Street, North Hobart, 7000.	J
CULBERG, Anthony	13 Neville Street, Oatley, N.S.W. 2223.	A
CUMMINGS, Nick	c/o Hytten Hall, Uni.of Tas., Sandy Bay, 7005.	F
DONNELLY, Joe	3 Marine Terrace, Battery Point, 7000.	F
ELLIS, Ross	52 Bundock Street, Randwick, N.S.W. 2031.	A
FARLEY, Ian	49 Wells Parade, Blackmans Bay, 7152.	F
FARLEY, Stella	" " " " " "	F
FRANKCOMBE, Don	94 Parkview Crescent, Maydena, 7457.	H
GAMBLE, Stuart	c/o P.O., Dover, 7116.	P
GOEDE, Albert	8 Bath Street, Battery Point, 7000.	LM
GOEDE, Therese	" " " " " "	F
HARRIS, Chris	44 Clydesdale Ave., Glenorchy, 7010.	A
HENLEY, Peter	139 Alfred Road, Mt.Claremont, W.A. 6010.	A
HERINGTON, John	24 Balaka Street, Rosny, 7018.	H
HIRST, Anne	c/o St.Johns Park Hospital, New Town, 7008.	A
HODGE, Bill	5 Bayley Street, Glebe, 7000.	F
HUGHES, Rodney	2/54 St.Georges Terrace, Battery Point, 7000.	F
JEFFRIES, Max	66 South Avenue, Maydena, 7457.	H
KAVALIERIS, Laimonis	4 Ellerslie Road, Adamstown Heights, N.S.W.	A
LEHMANN, Bill	29A D'Arcy Street, South Hobart, 7000.	F
LOWE, Sally	15 Parliament Street, Dynnyrne, 7005.	P
MALONEY, Delia	c/o R.H.H. Nurse's Home, Campbell St., Hobart.	J
MANSFIELD, Ross	280 Park Street, North Hobart, 7000.	F
MEERDING, Henk	6 Gourlay Street, Blackmans Bay, 7152.	F
MOLLAND, B.G.	87 West Street, Maydena, 7457.	H
MORRIS, Clive	11 Church Street, Kingston, 7150.	A
MORRIS, Sally	" " " " " "	F
MORRIS, Sue	4 Summerdale Road, Claremont, 7011.	P
NICHOLAS, Stuart	7 Rupert Avenue, New Town, 7008.	J
NORBURY, Laurel	53 Lord Street, Sandy Bay, 7005.	F
PETERSON, Bill	12 Auvergne Avenue, New Town, 7008.	F
POULTER, Norm	P.O.Box 120, Nedlands, W.A., 6009.	A
RATHBONE, Chris	76 View Street, Sandy Bay, 7005.	P
REID, Robert	c/o 20 Reids Road, Fern Tree, 7101.	P
RICHARDSON, T.	Mole Creek P.O., Tasmania, 7257.	H
ROBINSON, Lloyd	167 Mt.Keira Rd., Mt.Keira, N.S.W., 2500.	A
ROBINSON, Philip	5/282 Sandy Bay Rd., Sandy Bay, 7005.	F
SHAW, Peter	53 Lord Street, Sandy Bay, 7005.	F
SKINNER, Andrew	21 Kelly Street, Battery Point, 7000.	F
SKINNER, Roy and Pam	Hastings Caves, via Lune River, Tas.7116.	H
HAMILTON-SMITH, Elery	P.O.Box 36, Carlton South, Vic.3053.	H
SPRENT, Tony	21 Weld Street, South Hobart, 7000.	P
STEPHENS, Simon	43 Seaview Avenue, Tarooma, 7006.	F
TURNER, Doug	79 Riawena Road, Lindisfarne, 7015.	F
WALSH, Alan	152 Nelson Road, Sandy Bay, 7005.	P
WATT, Graeme	16 Pottery Road, Lenah Valley, 7008.	F
WATTLE, Michael	c/o 5 Bayley Street, Glebe, 7000.	P
WHITE, Noel	c/o Hytten Hall, Uni.of Tas., Sandy Bay, 7005.	F

LM - life member

A - associate member

F - full member

J - junior member

H - honorary associate member

P - prospective member.

S T O P P R E S S.

The skeleton of a thylacine was found in Zulu Pot, (Florentine) on 16/7/72, by two S.C.S. members Lee Gleason and Graeme Watt. The skull was brought out for identification purposes. What a find!