

SPELEO - SPIEL.

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Secretary: Peter Shaw, 53 Lord Street, Sandy Bay, 7005.

FORWARD PROGRAMME.

- August 26 or 27 - Sat.or Sun. Prussiking practice. Leader: Phil Robinson.
September 2 - Saturday. Explorations in the Growling Swallet area. Leader: Peter Shaw.
September 6 - Wednesday. General meeting at the Meerding residence, 6 Gourlay Street, Blackmans Bay. Slides and refreshments welcome. Mystery raffle prize donated by Henk.
Sept.16 or 17 - Sat.or Sun. New members trip to Newdegate Cave. Leader: Noel White.
September 23 - Saturday: ANNUAL DINNER at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Hampden Road, Battery Point. Four dollars a head. Notification to Albert or Therese Goede by 15th September, write or Ph.23 0561 ext.415 (weekdays between 9 and 5 only). Payment to be made preferably before the dinner, if possible at time of booking.

EDITORIAL.

This month has been very quiet with nothing that really captures the imagination.

Exit Cave was visited twice with one new discovery in the offing but the amount of passages that might be discovered is probably limited.

Mole Creek yielded a few small caves and the survey of Gormen-ghast has been completed. Where are the great discoveries of yesterday?? How can I write raving editorials when there is nothing to rave about?

Peter Shaw.

Notice of motion:-

The following amendments to the constitution are to be discussed at the next general meeting.

Additional rules relating to branches will also be discussed.

(to be inserted after Clause 11 of present constitution).

BRANCHES

- (1) Where any number of club members exceeding ten wish to form a Branch they may apply to the club for permission and may be authorised to do so if approved by the Committee and by a three fourths majority at a General meeting.
- (2) Any Branch shall be subject to the Constitution, rules and policies of the Club.
- (3) A Branch shall elect from its own members a Branch President and Branch Committee of up to six other members.
- (4) The Committee shall determine which of the Club's powers and responsibilities shall be delegated to the Branch, the financial arrangements under which the Branch shall operate and any other matters relating to the conduct of the Branch.

CONDUCT OF BRANCHES

- (1) The Branch may approve for membership any person eligible under the Club constitution, subject to confirmation by the Club.
- (2) The Branch may conduct its own trips in accordance with the Club rules and constitution.
- (3) The Branch Committee may appoint suitable Branch Members as party leaders in accordance with the Club rules.
- (4) The Branch shall be responsible for supplying and maintaining its own equipment.
- (5) The Branch shall appoint a Record Keeper who shall keep all maps, cave reports and other such records of the Branch.
- (6) The Branch shall determine and collect from its members the Branch membership fee and any other fees, fines or moneys,

keep a full record of its financial transactions and shall be solely responsible for any debts it has incurred. Within three months of the beginning of the Club's financial year the Branch shall pay to the parent club the capitation fee determined by the Club for that year at a general meeting.

- (7) The Branch may submit names of caves or any other underground or surface features for approval by a general meeting of the Club.

TRIP REPORTS.

Exit Cave - 15,16/7/72.

Party: Bill Lehamnn, Peter Shaw, Jeanette Collin; (on Sunday) Noel White and Clive Boulter.

Another pleasant weekend in the spacious dry surrounds of Exit Cave. On Fridaynight we reached Camp 2 at 12.30 a.m. and the next morning headed for the western fissure. After lunch at the Acoustic Chamber, we headed around the Camp Pie Circuit to North-West creek and then down the creek, back through the cross-over to the western fissure and back to the camp where Noel and Clive turned up.

On Sunday we had a look at Conference Concourse and then headed home, arriving at the cars just on sunset.

Exit Cave - 22,23/7/72.

Party: Brian Collin, Peter Shaw, Lance Rutherford, Sally Morris, Phil Robinson and Bill Lehmann.

The swamp was awash and the stream almost bursting its banks as we approached Exit Cave. After a traverse on the rope only a few feet above the water, we camped the night in the Wind Tunnel. Overnight the water dropped by two feet and we used the high level route to cross the D'Entrecasteaux en route to Camp 2. After a brew-up we headed for the labyrinth area and trogged the northern wall of the main passage where we found a grotto of excellent gypsum formations. After a visit to Lost Squeeze passage and North-West creek, we headed for the downstream section of the passage. At the top of a 50 ft. drop we were confronted by a high passage with the stream flowing along it. A ladder would be necessary to reach the stream. By climbing down through the talus further back, we reached the stream but could not get through without total immersion and so turned back.

On Sunday some time was spent examining Entrance Creek passage with no major breakthroughs. On the way back Brian had a very lucky escape when he dislodged an estimated 1000 pound rock with which he dropped fifteen feet onto a rock pile. Fortunately he managed to reach the floor after the rock and escaped with minor cuts, a sprained wrist and bruised ribs. On the way out from Camp 2 the stream was much lower and we reached the cars at dusk.

Peter Shaw(both Exit reports)

Mole Creek - 29,30/7/72.

Party: Peter Shaw, Bill Lehmann and Laurel Norbury.

After leaving Hobart at 7.30 on Saturday morning, we dropped Laurel at the Maracoopa hut and drove around to Baldocks Cave. With Peter in a wet suit, we set off for Cobbler Cooler and quickly reached the stream which was carrying more water than usual. Some photos were taken in some very wet situations and then we headed for the sump. After a good deal of probing with the feet it was determined that the underwater continuation was an inverted keyhole at a depth of three feet. The shortage of air space made probing difficult. It could be worthwhile to return to the sump when the water is lower and with a crowbar and a cold chisel. A few more inches of air space would enable work to be carried out and it is possible that an air-space could be cleared.

After emerging from Cobbler Cooler we followed the western bank of Sassafras Creek down almost to Baldocks Cave finding a few small caves on the way.

On the Saturday night we attended the Northern Branch's Annual Dinner which went quite well despite the yokel masquerading as a wine waiter.

On Sunday we examined the hill at the back of Alec Martins house on the road to Baldocks. This yielded Fern Cave which had a small entrance followed by a steep mud slope which opened into a passage fifteen feet high and wide which continued for a hundred feet. Along this passage were some very beautiful helictites. A few small side passages completed the cave and we moved on along the hill. A pot over 60 ft. deep was found but not descended as we had no tackle with us. This had been covered with branches to keep out

animals. After lunch we investigated two other small holes with little success and then returned home.

Peter Shaw.

Gormenghast - 5/8/72.

Party: Peter Shaw and Bill Lehmann.

The weather was fine but overcast as we set off from the F 9 road at 9.30. Just before the turnoff to Gormenghast, we investigated a small stream that flows across the track and found that it sank ten feet from the track. After opening up the hole into which it was sinking, we found a body sized steeply sloping slot with 100 percent friction and no footholds, at which stage we realized that we were late for Gormenghast and had to go. Once inside Gormenghast we commenced surveying and after four hours had surveyed about a thousand feet and connected up with the previously surveyed section. After a brew-up at the sump we spent some time trying to open up the sump with no success. Climbing in the roof several hundred feet before the sump revealed a solution tube which appears to continue but which could not be reached. Bill's light was very feeble by this stage so we headed out reaching the surface at 6.30 with the survey complete. The talus seems to have stabilised a bit; there were no rocks dislodged this trip.

Peter Shaw.

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Send the following to Albert or Therese Goede to book for the dinner:

I wish to book a place at the dinner forperson(s).

Name:

I include payment at \$4.00 per head.(Cross out if not applicable).

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Please do not try and phone Albert at the uni. between 11th and 27th August, as he will not be there. Instead send your booking straight to 8 Bath Street, Battery Point, 7000.