

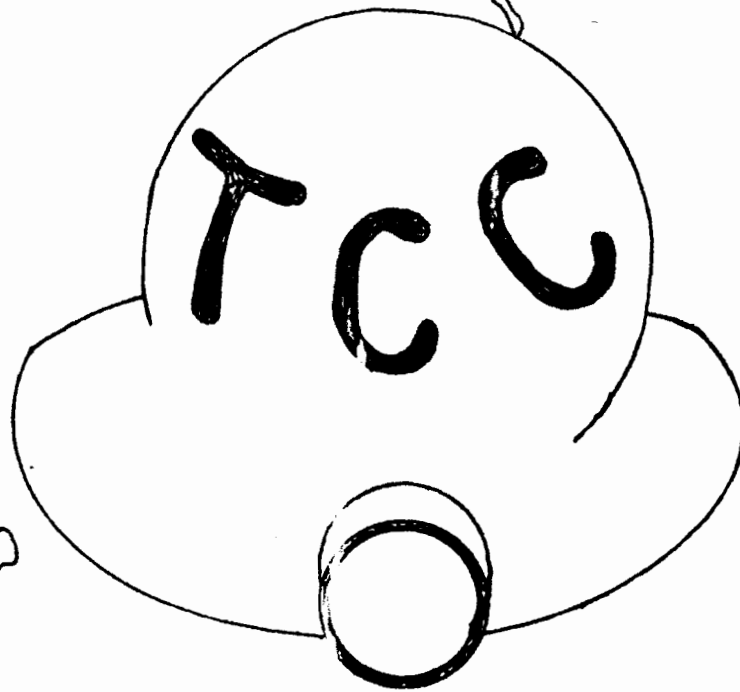
SPELEO SPIEL

NEWSLETTER of the

TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB

MAY 1974

NO. 90



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President: Laurie Moody, 13 Mason Street, Claremont, 7011...... Secretary: Therese Goede, 8 Bath Street, Battery Point, 7000.FORWARD PROGRAMME

- May 11-12 - Weekend: General caving and cave numbering in the Maracoopa area, Mole Creek. Leader: Andrew Skinner.
- May 18-19 - Weekend: Exit Cave. Exploration in the North West Creek area. Leader: Peter Shaw.
Friday night start!
- May 20 - MONDAY: Theatre party to the Uni. Revue - "Goughspell". A must for everyone. The best seats in the house have been obtained at the low price of \$2.90. Names to the secretary by the 16th please.
- May 22 - WEDNESDAY. WINE and CHEESE evening at 66 Wentworth Street, South Hobart. Bring some wine and cheese and help make it another typical uproarious affair!
- May 25 - Saturday: Junee area. Cave numbering and general exploration. Leader: Laurie Moody.
- June 1 - Saturday: Satans Lair, Junee area. An SRT trip to what was once Australia's second deepest cave at 450 ft. A good single rope trip without the arduousness or length of other Junee caves. Leader: Peter Shaw.
- June 5 - Wednesday: General meeting at 8 Bath Street, Battery Point, at 8 p.m. Refreshments and slides welcome.
- June 8 - Saturday: Surface exploration in the Junee - Florentine. Looking for the resurgence of Growling Swallet. Leader: Albert Goede.
- June 15-17 - Long weekend: Photography and surveying in Exit. Leader: Andrew Skinner.
- Dec.1974-Jan.1975 - Tenth A.S.F. Convention in Brisbane, Queensland.

EDITORIAL.

A quiet month with trips to Junee and Gunns Plains. The May general meeting was devoted to those hoary subjects, money and members, as if we were all paupers and there were only two members left in the club. If the club runs out of money we'll pass the hat around, and with our membership we hardly need a huge membership drive. It's not A.S.F. policy anyway. What we really need is a few caves to excite the imagination and get more people caving.

Peter Shaw.

New Members

The following new members were elected at the May general meeting: Robyn Smith, 6 Constance Ave., Glenorchy, 7010.

Noel Rawlinson, Guides Office, Jenolan Caves, N.S.W.

Andrew Davey, c/o Geology Dept., Uni of Tas.,

Bruce Chetwynd, (no fixed address)

Change of address:

Andrew Skinner, Flat 2, 213 George Street, Launceston.

UNI. REVUE - Please come - WE NEED YOU!

TRIP REPORTS.

Junee area - 13/4/74.

Party: Max Jeffries, Louise and Laurie Moody.

Our original intentions were to investigate further the area above Chrisp's Hut in another effort to locate this large, mystery outflow cave. However, Max suggested that we take a look at another area near the top of the Dewhurst Road. Realizing that a change was as good as a holiday, I agreed. After following a dry gully for a short distance, we emerged at the foot of some extremely high limestone cliffs. (An ideal place for SRT practice!) Several holes were noted of which two require further exploration. Neither of these were numbered. (Another job for someone).

After lunch we moved along to the Chrisp's Road area and had a brief look at the entrance to the Bone Pit. It was then decided to try and relocate the track to Rescue Pot, which Max had assisted in cutting at the time of the accident. Eventually, we located the track and the entrance was duly observed. However, much of the track is gradually being overgrown and several trees are strewn across it in places.

A doline was observed and investigated close to where the Rescue Pot track commences but despite an intense search, which was heightened by the presence of a series of strong draughts issuing from several small holes, a way in was not located. (Anyone for a dig?)

Several hundred metres south-west of this doline, there are reputed to be two shafts on the ridge overlooking Chrisp's Road and due east of Cave Hill. As it was late afternoon, we decided on a quick search and in ten minutes or so, had succeeded in locating one of these shafts. It was un-numbered and later information kindly supplied by Kevin Kiernan, implied that it may possibly be Anti-Climax. However, I intend to lead another trip to this area within the next few weeks and interested members are asked to participate, especially SRT exponents.

Finally, I would like to thank Max for the use of his ute and the late afternoon tea. Special thanks are also offered to Don Frankcombe who kindly supplied me with a map of the Junee area.

Laurie Moody.

The Rise and Fall of the Scientific Method in Detecting Caves.

Tyenna River, 20/4/74.

Party: Albert Goede, Laurie Moody and Kevin Kiernan.

No doubt Spiel readers will want to know whether we managed to detect those resurgences under Tim Shea which I so confidently predicted as a result of the March trip down the Tyenna River. Well, it didn't quite work out that way but here's our story anyway.

The three of us left Hobart at 8.15 a.m. and at 10.30 left the car on the Gordon Road below the Needles to follow a creek down towards the Upper Tyenna. The going was easy as the creek bed was fairly open. Further downstream an open buttongrass plain appeared on our left and we cut across it to reach the main stream at 10.50. This was probably a mistake as by doing so we missed two tributaries draining the main dolomite face on Tim Shea, and joining the river just a little further downstream. Water sample TY 5 was taken where we reached the river. Following it upstream we found a small tributary coming in from the north at 11.30 and this was also sampled (TY 6).

We continued on our way along a surprisingly open river bed until at 11.50 we found a sizeable tributary coming in from the south. The sample taken here was TY 7. The going now became much more difficult due to the denser vegetation and the fact that the

river flowed across almost vertically dipping thinly bedded quartzites and black slates. At 12.10 a small tributary from the south was found but not sampled. We stopped for lunch between 12.50 and 1.10 on a small sandy bar. At 1.15 we came to the junction of two small creeks - all that now remained of the river and decided to take the right hand branch. The vegetation got more and more difficult with abundant cutting grass, tea tree and bauera. When we finally got a view we realized we were much further from Tim Shea than we anticipated. The tributary - now little more than a trickle - was abandoned at 1.35 after taking a last sample, (TY 8). Twenty minutes later we were back on the Gordon Road after a hectic bit of scrub-bashing.

Since I had lost my thermometer in its wooden case between sample locality TY 7 and our lunch spot Kevin and I spent a futile two hours looking for it discovering in the process a surprising number of branches that looked just like the thermometer case.

Well, I thought we could explain our failure to find resurgences. Obviously the hard water was coming from the two tributaries from under Tim Shea which we had missed sampling because of our short-cut across the button grass. Clearly the samples I had taken would prove to be soft water when tested in the laboratory.

Unfortunately, for this theory the results were as follows:

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Calcium hardness</u> (p.p.m.)	<u>Total hardness</u> (p.p.m.)	<u>Conductivity</u> (micromho/cm)
TY 5	100.5	192.5	300
TY 6	106	191.5	325
TY 7	17.5	39.5	75
TY 8	107	282	430

With the exception of TY 7, which is from a tributary coming down from the Needles, the analyses indicate very hard water, yet the Upper Tyenna appears to be fed only by dispersed seepage and not by distinct risings..

There is still a possibility that the two creeks coming from below Tim Shea are supplied by risings in the dolomite. They are most easily approached from the Gordon Road following the same route we took. It's worth another trip but this time I am not making any predictions based on scientific methods!

Albert Goede.

STOP PRESS.

Exciting new finds above Exit Cave.

One shaft is reputed to have been explored to an approximate depth of 300 feet and still goes. Just before darkness fell a HUGE doline was discovered but has still to be explored.

SRT has gained another trained monkey - the Chief Hairy Goat.

Congratulations to Arthur Clarke and Jeanine, who are to be wed on Sat. 11th. Their humble abode at Francistown is to be used for the reception. All welcome but B.Y.O.