

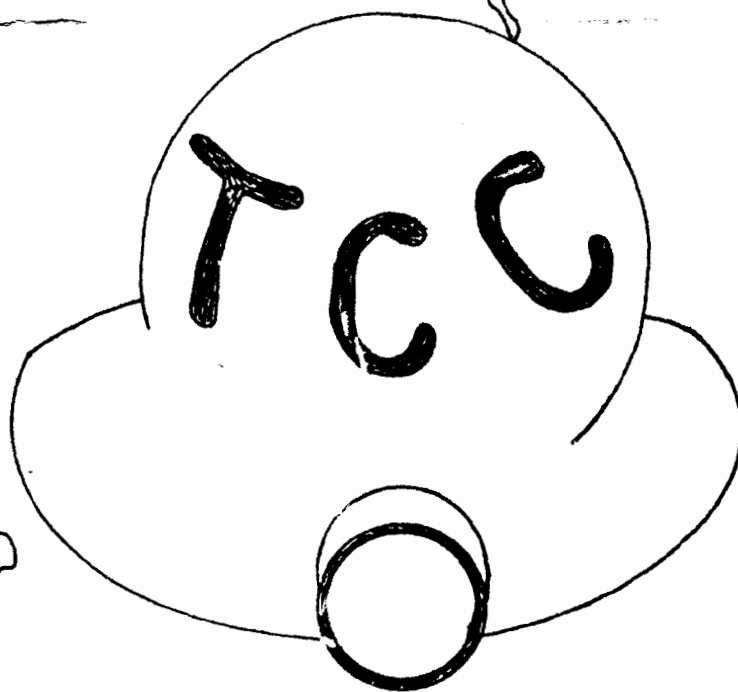
SPELEO SPIEL

NEWSLETTER of the

TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB

Oct. 1974

NO. 95.



T.C.C. Established 1946

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Annual subscription \$3.00. Single copy 30 cents.

President: Laurie Moody, 13 Mason Street, Claremont, 7011.

Secretary: Therese Goede, 8 Bath Street, Battery Point, 7000.

FORWARD PROGRAMME.

- October 26-27 - Weekend: Visit to Crack Pot at Mole Creek.
Leader: Andrew Skinner.
- October 27 - Sunday: Surface exploration in the Florentine
Valley. Leader: Laurie Moody.
- October 31 - Thursday: Surface exploration in the Florentine
Valley. Leader: Laurie Moody.
- November 2-4 - Long Weekend: Exit Cave with Northern Caverneers.
Leader: Andrew Skinner.
- November 6 - Wednesday: General Meeting, 8 Bath Street, Bat-
tery Point at 8 p.m. Slides and refreshments
welcome.
- November 9-10 - Weekend: Mole Creek. Leader: Andrew Skinner.
- November 16 - Saturday: Surface exploration in the West Flor-
entine. Leader: Laurie Moody.

EDITORIAL.

The annual dinner was very well attended and went off very well. It was pleasing to see so many old faces and also the large contingent of cavers from the northern clubs. Numbering and systematic recording of Tasmanian caves is proceeding very well and will pay dividends when future exploration is being carried out. A large number of trips have been made to the Florentine with several good new holes the result.

Peter Shaw.

New Member.

A cordial welcome to Pip Casey who was accepted as a junior member at the October general meeting. She has already been on four trips and has already made a ladder descent of Wolf Hole (without a single scream!). Her address is 2/24 Swan Street, North Hobart.

Change of address:

Peter Shaw and Yvonne Collin,
Postal address: P.O. Box 326, Sandy Bay, 7005.
Personal address: bottom flat, 169 Nelson Road, Mt. Nelson.

Incorporation of the Society.

At a recent meeting the feasibility of leasing Kubla Khan hill was raised. I offered to investigate the problem of incorporating the society, so it could take out the lease.

There are no major problems in doing this.

We will need to alter our constitution to comply with the model rules enacted by parliament. The changes in this are not many, and constitute mainly a tightening up of the rules. We will need to:

- 1) appoint a public officer, who is only a figurehead
- 2) appoint a licensed Company Auditor to check the books
- 3) advertise our A.G.M. in the "Mercury"
- 4) not flagrantly violate the rules.

Benefits

1) Each member has limited liability. That is, if the editor of the Spiel slanders anyone now he is currently liable. In future he won't be. If one of our functions loses money, members are now liable. In future they wouldn't be.

2) It costs nothing.

3) Our constitution gets a good look at.

Disadvantages.

- i) It means the club will have to appear to be run more tightly.
- ii) We will need to reprint our letter head - we could change the P.O. box at the same time and save money there.
- iii) Some form filling is necessary to start, but I could do that.
- iv) There is a slight change to our method of paying bills, but not of substance.

As one member said:

" If we participate in actions where we can be sued, we should have limited liability. We do, and we haven't, so we should incorporate".

Be sure to attend the next general meeting to ensure your opinion is noted.

T. Culberg.

CAVE NUMBERING.

Juneo Florentine

27/9/74 - Albert Goede and Andrew Skinner.

JF 63,64,65 - Ross Walker Cave: Small dry cave with large chamber and three steeply downward sloping entrances. Shallow pool of water at lowest point of cave. Cave is located close to crest of ridge NW of Juneo Cave(J).

30/9/74 - Albert Goede, Laurie Moody and Leonie Smith.

JF 66 - Pillingers Ck.Cave: Dry cave 99 metres deep; 52 metre pitch can be by-passed; dangerous talus; survey grade IV(J).

JF 67 - Deefour Pot: Pothole consisting of 40 metre pitch blocked at bottom; discovered 1960(J).

JF 68 - Unnamed pothole: Not yet explored. Entrance 1 metre across and vertical with drop of at least 30 metres indicated, probably with ledges. Located on eastern slope of Cave Hill not far from summit close to base of large dead tree(J).

JF 69 - Small unnamed cave taking some water from Khazed-dum creek on opposite side of doline from JF 4 entrance; short slope to four metre drop; no further description available(J).

6/9/74 - Albert Goede and party.

JF 70 - Small unnamed cave: Dry with inclined entrance leading to single chamber containing some formation. Located on eastern side of low hill west of Leo Thorns Road.

JF 71 - Medium sized cave with several chambers and narrow low-level passages containing deep pools with slight flow. Located on western side of low hill off Leo Thorns Road. At least three entrances but only largest one is numbered. Contains some good formation.

JF 72 - Small unnamed cave: Dry with inclined entrance leading to single elongated chamber with some formation. Short crawl at far end does not continue.

JF 73 - Small unnamed swallet at end of unnamed side road between Leo Thorns Road and Frizons Road. Number on dry entrance 5 metres upstream from swallet. Dry entrance soon becomes too tight. Wet entrance descended to depth of 9 metres but further progress blocked by rockfall.

Mole Creek.

28,29/9/74 - Andrew Skinner.

MC 2 - Crack Pot: (Black Hole of Calcutta) Pothole with steep slope down first 18 metres followed by 30 metre ladder pitch, blocked at bottom with steep slope ending in choke.

MC 3 - Unnamed cave: Located near Pyramid Cave. Entrance with 3 metre pitch situated on side of doline. Not yet explored.

- MC 5 - The Arch: Doline with entrance divided by natural arch with stream siphoning at both ends. Map CRG grade 5 on sheet 2 of Honeycomb Caverns.
- MC 16 - Glowworm Cave: Very short inflow cave on Sassafras Ck., 70 metres upstream from MC 17.
- MC 17 - Cyclops Cave: Resurgence on Sassafras Creek, downstream from MC 16, some formation; exploration unfinished.
- MC 18 - Soda Creek Cave: Resurgence east of Liena, possibly drains water from MC 6 and/or MC 10; situated downhill from King Solomon Cave; entrance flooded in winter.
- MC 19 - Pyramid Cave: (Spider Cave). Large cave with several entrances, much crawling, some decoration, floods after heavy rain.
- MC 20 - He Hi: Small pothole at top of Cheops Pyramid. Seven metre entrance pitch leads to small talus-filled chamber.
- MC 35 - Scotts Rising: Resurgence of Mole Creek. Not a penetrable system.
- MC 44 - Honeycomb 3: Small cave with deep pool at bottom with two small streams flowing into it, part of same system as other Honeycomb Caverns.
- MC 45 - Second entrance to Honeycomb 3 (MC 44).
- MC 46 - Pyramid Cave: (Cow Cave). See MC 19.
- MC 47 - Unnamed Cave: Small horizontal cave near MC 19. No running water.
- MC 48 - Second entrance to MC 47.
- MC 49 - Ho Hum: Cave with 12 metre entrance pitch; several short passages; small chamber with good formation has 40 metre long passage leading off.

NEW NAMES.

(accepted at October General Meeting.)

Haile Selassie: (MC 10). - Small cave near King Solomon's Cave; explored TCC 1973; excellent decoration; small intermittent stream at bottom; approx. 30 metres deep; new side passage explored 10/5/74. Surveyed CRG grade 3 on 29/9/74.

He Hi: (MC 20) - For description see cave numbering section in this issue.

TRIP REPORTS.

Junee Florentine - 14/9/74.

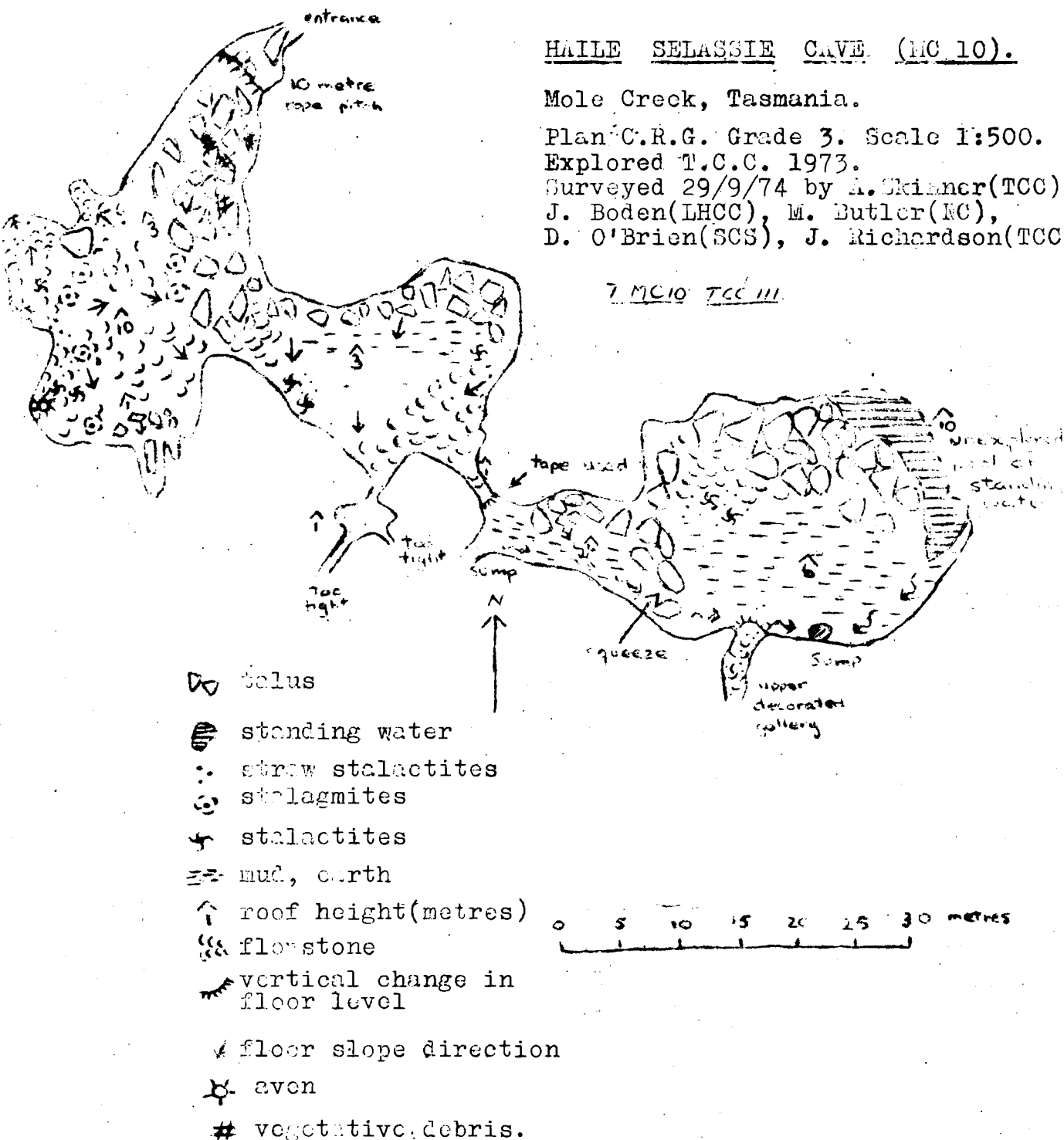
Party: A. Skinner (TCC), Bob Woolhouse, Jed Butler, Matthew van der Molten (Northern Caverneers), George Bamford, Ray Kearnes, Barry Jacobson, Robert Haakmeester, Jim Allenburger, Wayne Stephens (Launceston S.C.)

A tourist trip was held to the "dry" sections of Khazad-dum. We entered the cave with an invigorating shower under the waterfall and proceeded to climb the scaling pole pitch, en route to the 28 metre free-hanger and the near-by waterfall. Several of the party visited the start of the Serpentine Passage. The visitors were most impressed with the cave. We also had a brief trip to the Junee Rising, before departing to the TCC dinner in Hobart.

15/9/74 - Party: Andrew Skinner, Bob Woolhouse, Jed Butler, Max and Tim Jeffries, Ros Skinner.

With the "weaker" members of the party weeded out by the dinner the night before, we headed for Maydena, arriving at the outrageous hour of 11.30 a.m. With a heavy snowfall the night before streams and rivers in the area were high. We attempted to visit Welcome Stranger, but the stream had a metre of water surging through so we spent the afternoon photographing the high level areas. A disturbing aspect of the trip was that the reflector markers had been carelessly trampled in places.

Andrew Skinner.



Exit Cave, Ida Bay - 21,22/9/74.

Party: Albert Goede(leader), and John Richardson.

We left Hobart early on Saturday morning and found the Exit track extremely wet. We entered the cave at 11 a.m. and had to use the entrance traverse and the bridge as the water was fairly high but we were still able to wade the stream where the D'Entrecasteaux River enters. Having set up camp at Camp 1 we headed for Conference Concourse which neither of us had seen before. It took a little time to find our way through but having done so we found the map an excellent navigation aid. We failed to penetrate the rockfall near "the Last Straw" but continued as far down stream as Talus Chamber. The

Concourse proved to be a very interesting piece of cave. Many of the passages occur in clean massive limestone and have well-developed solution features. There is also some quite good decoration and we took a number of photographs. We arrived back at Camp 1 at 6.20 p.m. and after a good meal had an early night and slept for 13 hours.

The following morning we experimented with the Diprotodon(Poulter model) which did not work as well as we had hoped but nevertheless turned the cave into broad daylight at times and made us appreciate its enormous size. We then visited the upper levels to look at the formations. Following lunch we walked out in intermittent rain.

Albert Goede.

Junee Area - 27/9/74.

Party: Albert Goede(leader), and Andrew Skinner.

The morning was spent making the usual fortnightly measurements and taking water samples at Junee Cave. The conductivity recorder was also installed. The flow of water was quite high and had obviously been higher.

At lunchtime we passed through the barrier and after seeing Don Frankcombe we drove down to the Junee Quarry where we had some lunch. The afternoon's aim was to number Ross Walker Cave and we headed straight up the hill behind the quarry. This proved to be a mistake as masses of thin fallen stems of dogwood killed in a fire in 1966 made progress extremely slow and awkward. We eventually reached the dry valley and slanted up the steep but much more open west-facing slopes towards Ross Walker Cave. The cave has quite a sizeable chamber with three downward sloping entrances. The western one(JF 63) gave us a perfect view of snow-covered Tyenna Peak while the southern (JF 65) gives a bird's eye view of Maydena. The cave contains some reasonable formation and there is a shallow pool of water at the lowest point. Entrance JF 64 faces more or less east and was very steep. Having done our numbering we headed back to the car making a bee-line for the hut at the lower end of the quarry. This proved a rather easier route. The cave is well worth a visit and the entrances are really spectacular.

Albert Goede.

Mole Creek - 28,29/9/74.

Party:(Sat) - Andrew Skinner, John Richardson,(TCC), and John Boden (Latrobe High Caving Club).

The aim of this trip was to number caves in the Honeycomb-Scotts Rising Area. Several tags were affixed but due to difficulties in identifying some caves from descriptions, many others were left until more detailed information is available from Northern Caverneers. A small pot(MC 20) was numbered near the top of Cheops Pyramid. We assumed this to be Ho Hum but another pot was found near the bottom of the hill. This was also numbered and after lunch a visit was made to the second pot to determine which was the real Ho Hum. After Ho Hum's bona fides were established it was surveyed.

Party:(Sun) - Andrew Skinner, John Richardson(TCC), John Boden(LHCC), Jed Butler(MC), and David O'Brien(SCS).

In the morning Crack Pot was located and numbered. A visit was made to Cheops Pyramid to explore the mysterious MC 20. After carting mountains of gear up the hill, it was confirmed that the hole blocks off at 7 metres. Suggested name is He Hi. A stream sinking into a blackberry-infested doline was bravely explored by Jed and John R., but no passage eventuated. The sink was numbered MC 50. After lunch MC 10 was visited. A CRG Grade 3 sketch was drawn of the cave and side passages were systematically pushed. Little new chamber was found in the upper part of the cave, but David pushed some talus and was able to look down ten metres into a large pool of standing water. It is planned to explore this using a ladder on 5 October, 1974. The suggested name for MC 10 is Haile Selassie Cave.

Andrew Skinner.

June Area - 30/9/74.

Party: Albert Goede, Leonie Smith and Laurie Moody.

After a somewhat casual start, (probably due to Mandayitis) we passed through the ANM barrier about 10.45 a.m. The object of this weekday trip was to locate and number several known caves, namely Pillingers Creek Cave and Deefour Pot. After a bit of head-scratching, we followed up Jubilee Road as far as the quarry. From here on a track wound its way up the valley. Originally the track itself was a railway line on which timber was carted to Maydena. After removing a limb that was barring progress, we decided to drive as far as possible in an effort to reduce walking. However, after covering only a short distance a halt was called. This was due to the fact that both myself and my car were somewhat reluctant to proceed on the moss-covered surface. Leaving the vehicle, we pushed ahead on foot and after covering a kilometre or so, eventually decided that we had missed a turn somewhere along the way. This was summarised a short time after the uphill gradient had increased to the stage that only an Abt cog railway system could hope to handle it. Retracing our steps several hundred metres, we located our error and pushed ahead through thick regrowth and eventually located the large impressive entrance to Pillingers Ck. Cave. This was duly numbered JF 66 and after several photos we returned to the car and a late lunch.

Lunch completed we set out for Chrisps' Road and on arrival, immediately set off up to JF 58 in an effort to locate the missing tag - JF 60. Alas, it was not there. Albert then returned to the track for the numbering gear after arranging to meet Leonie and myself on the track to Rescue Pot. After a fruitless bit of "scrub-bashing", we all met up again at the unnamed swallet east of Cave Hill. It was then decided to push west from here in an effort to re-locate Deefour Pot, which was originally found and explored by Albert in 1960. In a matter of minutes, so to speak, I located the gaping shaft and Albert confirmed that it was definitely Deefour. Apparently SCS were fairly sure that this cave had already been numbered by one of their parties but a search of the cave area failed to yield any number. Consequently, Deefour was duly numbered JF 67.

It was then decided to "scrub-bash" that well-known SCS landmark, Cave Hill. After reaching the ridge just below the summit, we headed back down in an easterly direction and shortly, located an un-numbered hole which appears to be quite deep. It is located at the base of a large dead tree and awaits further investigation. This "find" was numbered JF 68.

As it was now late afternoon, we headed back to the car for the homeward trip. However, after some discussion, we decided to take advantage of the beautiful weather and number the cave on the creek above Khazad-dum. The walk in took around twenty minutes and while Albert affixed yet another number (JF 69) Leonie and I set off down the Serpentine Passage as far as the Cascades. Deciding to return at a later date, we emerged to find Albert apparently shocked at finding us back so soon. After calling in on Max for a cup of coffee, we headed back to Hobart, arriving about 9p.m.

Laurie Moody.

Florentine Valley - 6/10/74.

Party: Albert Goede (leader), Roy Skinner, Fiona Skinner, Pip Casey, David O'Brien, Andrew and Ros Skinner, Max and Tim Jeffries.

We left Hobart at the rather latish hour of 8.30 a.m. calling in on our president on the way. Rudely awoken, he informed us that he had not been to the Florentine the previous day and that the new cave finds were still to be explored. In Maydena we called in to see Max and soon were on our way. The weather which had been fine now deteriorated and light rain was falling by the time we reached our objective near the end of Leon Thorns Road. The first cave (numbered JF 70) consisted of a sloping entrance leading to a single chamber and was located on the east-facing side of a low hill. The next cave entrance worth numbering (JF 71) is only a short distance away on the

opposite side of the hill. The entrance slopes steeply downward and two daylight holes can be seen on the left. This proved a much more extensive system with several chambers and some good formation. The cave led down to the water table with narrow passages containing deep pools of slowly moving water. This would be worth another visit during a dry summer. The next cave to be visited (JF 72) is a short distance south from the other two and also has a sloping entrance into a single chamber containing some formation. A crawl leading off at the far end petered out after less than 10 metres.

While Andrew and David went back to complete the exploration of JF 71, Max and I tried to locate a small cave nearby recently numbered JF 62. The undergrowth had just been felled making our task quite impossible. Back at the vehicles for lunch we discovered that Andrew and David had added quite substantially to the extent of JF 71, the most extensive system we had found for some time.

Next we went to Frizons Road to check the map locations of JF 48, 49 and 50. Road construction had dammed up the water and at least one of the numbers was under water. Lots of logs and branches had been bulldozed over the top of the entrances. Another small cave (JF 260) recently numbered by SCS was observed a little further south along the road.

Then we visited an unnamed side road between Leo Thorns Rd. and Frizons Rd. at the end of which is a small swallet. A dry entrance 5 metres upstream from the swallet was numbered JF 73. It soon became too tight. After a little stream diversion the wet entrance was investigated by Andrew and David who explored downwards for about 9 metres but were soon stopped by loose talus. Next was a quick visit to the entrances of JF 59 and 61 for the purpose of map location and finally a visit to the Lawrence Creek Rising. I had not seen it before and it was a most impressive sight rivalling Junee in size. We stopped off at the Jeffries' on the way back and were generously supplied with coffee, tea and cakes by Max who found his kitchen rather crowded. All in all, a very pleasant and profitable day.

Albert Goede.

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Launceston Speleo Club 1st Christmas Dinner!

The Launceston Speleos are holding there first Christmas Dinner on the 7th of December, and have cordially invited interested members of T.C.C. to attend and help make it a really great occasion. Accommodation can be arranged for those wanting to attend. Cost of the dinner is \$4.50 per. pers. and a deposit of \$2.00 would be appreciated. Bookings can be made with the organiser, Ray Kearnes, 16 Humphrey St., Waverley, TAS. 7250. Please book before November 2nd. A caving trip in conjunction with the dinner can be arranged for either the Saturday or the Sunday.