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President: Albert Goede, 8 Bath Street, Battery Point. Tony Culberg, 16 Nelumie Street, Lindisfarme, 7015 Secretary:

Editor Speleo Spiel: Laurie Moody, 13 Mason Street, Claremont. 7011 "Speleo Spy" Phone: 49 3316

FORWARD PROGRAMME.

Weekend Trip: Woodchop at Maydena on Saturday and a days November 8-9 caving at Beginners Luck on Sunday. A/Leader:

Sunday: Scrub-bashing in the Wherrett's Lookout area. November 9 Leader: Laurie Moody.

November 15 - 18

Exit by Invitation. Leader: Andrew Skinner.

Saturday: Ida Bay - Hastings area: Leader: Laurie Moody. November 29

General Meeting: Wednesday - St. Nicholas Night at the December 3

Goede's - 8 Bath Street, Battery Point.

Weekend Trip: December 6-7 Mole Creek - Croesus/Little Trimmer and Mersey Hill Caves. Leaders: Andrew Skinner and Albert Goede.

December 25 - January 1

Mole Creek/Loongana Trip.

- Committee 'leeting - Wollongong. January 26-28 Loongana Trip: Leader: Andrew Skinner. January 26-28

- Extended stay in Exit - exploration and survey work - see Early May 1976

Andrew Skinner or Laurie Moody if you are interested.

Editorial.

October was a fairly busy month with trips to a number of places. However, in most cases these trips were confined to the Wherrett's Lookout area near Maydena and to Hastings. So far efforts to penetrate the shafts below Wherrett's have yet to live up to expectations although one shaft has been explored to 55 metres but subsequently fizzled out. Efforts by a number of members have succeeded in making the Junee Homestead a home from home and their work is much appreciated. It is also pleasing to note that attendance at the November general meeting exceeded all expectations. It was the best attended meeting for some time. Keep it up! The November meeting also saw two new junior members and a senior member voted in. I cannot elaborate much further apart from saying that let's make November a month to remember - GO CAVING - FIND CAVES:

ACTIVE TRIP LEADERS.

It was decided at the November general meeting to publish a list of the more active party leaders and this list appears below:-

TCC - Andrew Skinner, Albert Goede, Laurie Moody, Tony Culberg, Brian Collin, Peter Shaw and Stuart Nicholas. TCC/Maydena - Max Jeffries and Phillip Voss.

NEW MEMBERS.

Congratulations are extended to the following new members. Welcome to the mob:
Pat Fullerton, 16 Nelumie Street, Lindisfarme. 7015 (F)
Bill Nicholson, 9 Heather Road, Risdon Vale. 7016 (J)
Grahan Harrington, 217 Derwent Avenue, Lindisfarme. 7015 (J)
Remember - "Non Insaniendum Sed Uyat":

NEW CAVE NAME.

TEECEES FOLLY?: Pothole near lanslip near Wherrett's Lookout. See trip report.

No number as yet.

TRAINING CAVES FOR SCHOOL PARTIES.

At the May, 1975 General Meeting the following caves were <u>suggested</u> as being suitable for use on trips with school parties. At the November, 1975 meeting it was asked that the list be published in the Spiel. (so here goes)

Ida Bay - Hastings Areas.

Wolfhole, Entrance Cave, Loons Cave, Bradley Chesterman Cave and Revelation Cave.

Junee-Florentine Areas.

JF I, Cashion Creek Cave, Junee Cave, Ross Walker Cave, Khazad-dun (top area only), Beginner's Luck and JF 59-60.

Mole Creek Area.

Wet Cave, Honeycomb 1, Scotts Cave, Baldocks Cave, Spider-Blackshawl Cave.

NEW TRIP LEADERS.

Congratulations to Stuart Nicholas on his appointment as trip leader with TCC. Max Jeffries and Phillip Voss were also elected as trip leaders for the Maydena Branch of TCC. Congrats to you blokes too!

SEARCH AND RESCUE.

Peter Watts is our new representative in this sphere and he would like all members to fill out yet another search and rescue form which appears on the last page. We have had trouble obtaining forms in the past but as this could assist you at some time, make sure that he gets yours. It doesn't take long to fill one out - get to it NOW!

CHANCE OF ADDRESS.

Fiona Skinner is back home at 12 Nixon Street, Sandy Bay. 7005. (P.S. A wee birdie tells me that it's Fiona's birthday on December 6th. Sweet eighteen. Old enough for full membership - Fiona!

OTHER NEWS.

The Blue Water rope is now owned by:- Peter Shaw, Peter Watts, Andrew Skinner, Albert Goede and Tony Culberg.

The club owns only one electric lamp and in future lamps will not be lent unless permission from owner is obtained. Club lamps will be available from Stuart Nicholas at a cost of 50c.

Winter issue of ASF Newsletter is in the post - I hope!

N.B. Typing error. Wolfhole in the above and subsequent reports should read Wolf Hole.

A RECENT HISTORY OF THE JUNEE HOMESTEAD.

by Therese Goede.

The homestead itself was first given "on loan" to the club just before the 1970 ASF Conference. Repairs to glassless windows were carried out by nailing a double thickness of heavy duty plastic across them. The few bullet holes in the tank were repaired and the spouting & guttering fixed up and things were "real beaut". The "Homestead" was much appreciated by those who went on the Conference Field Trip in that area. Unfortunately, after the thrills of Khazad-Dum & Dwarrowdelf were over, interest in the area waned and the "Homestead" was visited less frequently by club members.

Seasonal workers (blackberry pickers) were known to use the place but for the rest of the year, it was fair game for the vandals. The plastic was efficiently torn to shreds, bullet holes once more pierced the tank & also the interior wood-

work was being ripped off in places to be used as firewood.

When interest in the Junee-Florentine area was rekindled, members once more began to use the "Homestead" but by now it was less comfortable than a tent. Max Jeffries started salvaging various bits of furniture for the place but most of these were either smashed up or stolen and only the bunks & mattresses survived. Around this time (approximately twelve months ago) the place changed hands & Max approached the new owner, Jim Hall of Westerway, on behalf of the club. Jim has generously given us the "Homestead" on permanent loan & wishes us the best of luck in keeping the vandals at bay. In fact he will even give us a hand to do' this as was discovered by Therese when confronted by Jim toting a gun one Sat., while she was repairing the mantlepiece. It was debatable who was more surprised-Jim, on seeing a female waving a hammer around, or Therese at being confronted with a gun. After explanations, work continued & Jim returned to shooting rabbits.

The three best rooms are now tidied up for club use & it is hoped the "kitchen" will also soon be fixed up. Please steer clear of the "bathroom" as the baby swallows have just hatched.

Thanks are due to several people. The Salvation Army donated the furniture & carpet. The Sleep Shop (plastic for windows), Stuart & Mr. Nicholas, who spent the best of a day getting the furniture from the Salvoes and up to the "Homestead" and Max Jeffries for all the time and effort he has put in at the place. It is to be hoped that vandalism will be kept at a minimum by more frequent use of the "Homestead" and any damage (recent) should be reported to Max and if possible, repaired by persons using the place. The timber stacked neatly in the front room to the right of the fireplace is for shelving, please DO NOT use for firewood! Plastic for repairing holes in windows is on top of same cupboard and nails are in a green plastic container (use brick as a hammer). Anyone prepared to spend some time lining the water tank with cement will be welcomed with open arms (the Editor would like to make a commenton this one but he's not game. ED.) as we would like to be able to put it back into use.

Leftovers of light-coloured paint would also be appreciated. Keys to the place are held by Max Jeffries (Maydena) & the Goedes (Hobart). Anyone using the place are asked to leave it tidy & preferably leave sone kindling in the box next to the front fireplace for the next lot of visitors. There is no charge for using the "Homestead" but please wield the broom before you leave.

There's no place like the "Homestead":

FAMOUS AMERICAN CAVE SYSTEMS.

MAMMOTH CAVE.

Marmoth Cave, Kentucky, was officially declared a National Park in 1941. The park itself encloses 51,354 acres. The cave has long been considered as one of the Seven Wonders of the New World, with over 150 miles (240 kilometres) of explored corridors and with striking gypsum, linestone and onyx formations, deep shafts and lofty domes. Above ground, the park contains a wooded, rolling landscape, traversed by two forest-bordered rivers; these lands are steadily recovering from years of

MAMMOTH CAVE Cont;

mis-use to which they were subjected before the park was established.

The limestone in which Marmoth Cave is found was formed when Kentucky was submerged during the Mississippian Period (some 240,000,000 years ago). As the land rose slowly, the ocean waters receded. During the period of transition from ocean bottom to dry land, sand was deposited over the earlier limestone strata. Ground water then disolved the limestone along joint and bedding planes to form large rooms and passages. The water table dropped lower as the land was elevated. Very gradually, the Green River cut down the limestone and the caves were drained.

Underground tributaries of the Green, such as today's Echo River, flowing some 91 metres below the surface, modified the passageways in many places and ways. This first process left undecorated rooms and corridors, such as are still found in some sections of Mammoth Cave. Other sections, however, were beautified as water, heavily impregnated with line, flowed down walls and dripped from ceilings, forming lovely draperies, stalactites and stalagmites. White translucent crystals of gypsum on walls and ceilings add still further to the beauty in many parts of the cave.

Eyeless fish, found in some of the cave lakes, are one of the unusual phenomena associated with Marmoth Cave. In these same lakes are found crawfish (a cave type) and the cave cricket is also common. Bats also live in several of the caves.

National Park Service guides conduct groups through the cave on tours of varying length, for which guide fees are charged. One of these tours, lasting all day, proceeds along Echo River, past such places as - Black Hole of Calcutta, Rock of Gibralter, Grand Canyon and Grand Central Station - and past extraordinary gypsum and onyx formations. The largest of these onyx formations is called - the Frozen Niagara. Of the four entrances, three - Frozen Niagara, New and Carmichael - are man-made. Visitors may not enter any part of the cave without a guide.

The Green River follows a winding course across the park. The Nolin, a sizeable tributary, flows into it near the west boundary. Much of the land has been farmed indiscriminately prior to the park being established. Civilian Conservation Corps carps during the depression years (1930's) started the process of rehabilitation, halting erosion and planting eroded slopes and worm-out fields with native vegetation. The National Park Service has continued this work with great success in restoring the natural appearance of the land. The park forests, principally deciduous, cover about 60 percent of the watersheds of the Nolin and Green Rivers inside the park. There is a great variety of flora and fauna now that the ground cover has been restored.

Manmoth Cave was discovered in 1799, reputedly by a hunter named Houchin. During the war of 1812, saltpetre for use in making gunpowder for the American forces, was leached from cave deposits; the vats and other equipment used in the process are still to be seen in the cave. Through the years, Manmoth Cave became widely known and was much visited. In 1926, with support and encouragement from Kentucky, the Congress authorised establishment of the park, but required that the needed lands be donated. The Kentucky National Park Cormission and the people of the state, through the Marmoth Cave National Park Association, acquired the greater part of the necessary land.

Laurie Moody.

TRIP REPORTS (Belated)

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<u>HASTINGS AREA</u> - 23-24/8/75.

Party: Andrew and Ros Skinner, Ruth Stephenson, Peter Watts, Tony Culberg, Patrica Fullerton, Peter Green, John Wise and students of Geilston Bay High School.

Caves Entered:- Newdegate & King George V. This trip was too large for the purpose but was enjoyed by most of those present. No new things were found and in fact Sunday was spent getting Andrew some firewood and visiting Adamson's Falls.

TRIP REPORTS Cont;

MOLE CREEK - 27-28/9/75.

Party: Andrew and Ros Skinner, Tony Culberg, Peter Watts, Ruth Stephenson, Pat Fullerton and students of Geilston Bay High School, & Therese Goede.

On Saturday, incursions to Honeycomb I, Pyramid-Cow, Wet, Tailender I & II were made, as well as gathering some wood for the hut. Sunday was spent retrieving the scaling pole from Croesus. A better organised trip than the previous one.

MAYDENA -4/10/75.

Party: Max & Tim Jeffries, Phillip Voss, Johnny Miller (Maydena) Tony Culberg and Pat Fullerton.

This was a quick trip to the new caves found last weekend by Laurie and Max at the top of the landslip under Wherrett's Lookout. The area is worth a visit even if only to see the landslip. Several holes were looked at and one entered. It slopes steeply, i.e. 15 metre ladder needed in entrance and becomes a series of steps 2-3 metres high and about 1 metre wide, with the slot about .6 metres wide.

Due to lack of time and lack of gear, only a brief exploration was made. A return is planned. Proposed name - Perforations. (this was rejected at the Nov. meeting. Ed.)

HASTINGS - 6/10/75.

Party: Andrew Skinner, Tony Culberg, Ruth Stephenson, Pat Fullerton, Peter Watts and Bill Nicholson (Geilston Bay High).

This was the long promised redescent of Midnight Hole. An early start (11.30 from the quarry) saw us at the entrance at about 12.45pm. I led down each pitch, a thankless job untangling the ropes, and we reached the last 55 netre pitch in reasonable time. Andrew celebrated this by dislodging a 10 kg rock which hit the bottom quite noisily. The squeeze was a little damp and we reached the daylight at about 5.30pm. There was no apparent wear or corrosion on the eye-bolts.

HASTINGS - 22/6/75 (now that's what I call belated! Ed.)

Party: Peter Murray, Tony Culberg, Ruth Stephenson, Peter Watts and visitor Gaynor Avery. Non-cavers but helpers - Albert and Therese Goede.

This was intended as a trip to introduce Gaynor to caving. She wrote to the club expressing an interest in caving and Wolfhole was selected for her debut. We entered via a ladder 2 metres too short and generally poked around in the cave. We found the lake, Peter found some new animal life and we all emerged after about $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 hours. It was still raining. I am not sure that this is a good cave for beginners as the ladder pitch is a bit nasty.

All the above reports were submitted by Tony Culberg who has been fairly busy it seems.

TRIP TO A WET & WELCOME STRANGER AND A WEEKEND "WHERRETTING".

JUNEE-FLORENTINE - 25/10/75.

Party: Mrx and Tim Jeffries, Peter Watts, Ruth Stephenson (TCC), plus visitors Peter Golden and Peter Nieuwendyk from SSS. Above ground: Stuart Nicholas and Therese Goede.

Heavy rain in the south-east precipitated a change of plans for the weekend. The planned excursion to Exit Cave by Therese with Roy Skinner was cancelled and

TRIP REPORTS Cont:

following the arrival of two cavers from SSS on Friday afternoon, a rapid arrangement was made to take them to the Junee-Florentine where it was hoped that there would be less rain. Departure time was supposed to be 8.00am but after querying each other's sanity and loading the cars with more material for the "Homestead", we finally left Hobart at 9.00am in teeming rain with the windscreen wipers working overtime. We also played doggens with the water-filled potholes between New Norfolk & Maydena and arrived at Max's in time for morning coffee at 10.15am.

Max and Tim decided to join us for a visit to Welcome Stranger, but first a fast and slippery trip to the "Homestead" to unload the building materials. The Junee River was high but not quite over the bridge. Then, through the barrier and up the ANM's roads to the cave. At this point, Stuart decided to join Therese and stay aboveground. The rest of the party trogged up and went under. At this point Ruth takes up the story:-

"All bar Stuart and Therese decided to see how wet Welcome Stranger really was. We had to get our feet wet (most of us) bar Max and Tim who cheated by wearing gum boots. The Sydney Peters took numerous photos and were quite impressed with the cave. A desperate attempt was made by some members of the party to keep their feet dry, however, only one succeeded - ask Peter. We emerged to find Stuart and Therese had got a roaring fire going and had loaded the cars with firewood for the "Homestead"." (end of Ruth's report)

As the underground party expected to be away for 3 hours or so, Stuart and Therese decided to put the time to good use. Firstly a quick walk down the road to retrieve some discarded wire mesh. Although some of this was rusty, it proved quite useful as will be read later. Therese then spent some time bug-hunting while Stuart pottered around with his VV. On noting several promising lumps of wood near the vehicles, the bug-hunting and vehicle pottering were cut short to indulge in the warning occupation of wood-cutting. Several hefty blows later, a neat stack of wood mounted up. This was loaded into the Renault and VW & the left-overs were used to light a fire for what was assumed would be a wet party emerging from Welcome Stranger. Four hours later, when they finally appeared, they proved to be fairly dry but the fire was still welcomed.

Back to the "Homestead" for dinner and Stuart left for Hobart. A lazy night nattering and early to bed.

Next morning dawned bright and clear and the party had a hurried breakfast, having slept late and waited for Albert to arrive so Beginners Luck could be surveyed. When he was $\frac{1}{2}$ hour overdue, mutterings were heard and alternative plans were suggested. Finally it was decided to visit the holes near Wherrett's Lookout at the top of the landslip. Slogged up the slip and began by looking at the hole on which many hours had been spent diverting a stream which previously ran down it. Down went one - and stopped. The hole petered out at approx. 10 metres. It was choked with alluvium and the stream was re-directed back'into the holein the hope that the blockage would wash itself out, perhaps in one-two years it night go? Headed back to the other hole that takes water but even after some extensive gardening it was too tight. Returned to the little cliff line where we had started out and Peter N. had a look down one hole but it ended after 14 metres. Ruth had a look in a narrow little hole close to where the water comes over the cliff. It was very wet and muddy and got too tight after a short (At this point, the Editor apologises for the boo-boo that he has just realized that he has made. A slight interruption. Ruth compiled this report and it starts twelve lines up at "Slogged up the slip -". Editor can't be bothered to start again, sorry) Still a couple of hours to go before Therese was due to pick us up, so back towards the landslip and we found a hole which showed no signs of previous entry. It had three entrances, all close together. Peter W. went down the widest for 15 netres and then the other two Peters+Ruth It wound down at a steep angle and ended in a heap of bones at an approx depth of 55 netres. Some side passages were noted but were too narrow. Could climb up all but the last 15 metres although one person - ask Peter free-climbed the whole way! Back down the slip to find Therese waiting for us."

After the "Wherrett's" had gone up to the slip to ferret around, Therese returned to the "Homestead" to continue reparations. Material was now available

TRIP REPORTS Cont;

for a cow-deterent fence around one corner of the "Homestead", so the first hole was due for a post. Fortunately, at this stage, Max arrived to assist and he made light work of putting in the posts by belting them in with a sledge-harmer very effective, and much quicker than digging holes first. Then the cross-bars were put up and the fence was finished, slightly crooked but servicable. The mesh which we had found on Saturday, proved to be the right size for nailing over the windows which were still un-protected. While this was being done, Therese once again hit the wrong (thumb) nail and a short halt was called while stars were counted and then a light snack was had. After lancing the area around the nail, the blood build-up eased and stars disappeared. A tight bandage and back to work. Max offered some sherry for nedicinal purposes but this was refused on the grounds that more wrong nails might be hit as a result of the effects. mesh work was finished and then a piece of carpet was put down in the rear bedroom. This has been tacked on one side only, so please tread carefully until it has flattened out and been tacked down properly. It also has a reasonable sprinkling of pins still in it from the previous owner so tread warily. As it was nearing the appointed hour for the pick-up, a halt was called to the working bee and Max headed home while Therese once more headed back up the road to the Gap. The SSS Peters decided to spend another night at the "Homestead" and do a tourist trip of the Gordon River Road on the Monday. Peter Watts, Ruth and Therese enjoyed yet another 'cuppa' at Max's then headed back to Hobart arriving at approximately 10.15pm. after first running Ruth home. Despite the dismal start, a good weekend was had by all. Many thanks to Max for his help and hospitality.

Therese Goede.

ABSTRACT.

Australian Natural History. Special Issue - Australian Caves. Vol.18 No.6

Published by the Australian National Museum, Sydney.

A concise, enlightening publication on Speleology in Australia, without the usual commercial frills. Nine articles on such diverse subjects as "The Fornation and Development of Australian Caves" to "The Heavy Hand of Modern Man". Notable speleological personnages such as Joe Jennings, Julia James and Andrew Pavey are amongst the authors.

This publication is magnificently illustrated with appropriate photographs, colour as well as black and white. Exit Cave features on the front cover.

Copies of the above may be obtained from Tony Culberg at the neasily price of approx \$1 (they should arrive soon) and should you wish to view before you make your purchase, ask the President for a look at his copy.

"Arn Tee"

Fan.

Fan.

Full.

Full.

Hon.

Fan.

Full.

J.

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LIST OF FINANCIAL MEMBERS 1975-76.

BOULTER, Clive and Dot, Il Sheldon Place, West Hobart, 7000.
BRABON, Peter and Joan, P.O. Box. 74, Lindisfarne, 7015.
BROMFIELD, Michael, C/o P.O. Maydena, 7457.
BROWN, Frank, 68 Carella Street, Howrah, 7019.
BUTLER, Michael (Jed), Ringarooma Road, Scottsdale, 7254.
CAREY, Prof. S.W., 24 Richardson Avenue, Dynnyrne, 7005.
CASEY, Pip, 2 Pirie Street, New Town, 7008.
COLLIN, Brian and Jeanette, 66 Wentworth Street, South Hobart, 7000.
CULBERG, Tony, 16 Nelumie Street, Lindisfarne, 7015.

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CUMMINGS, Nick, 115 King Street, Sandy Bay, 7005.	Full.
DAVEY, Andrew, C/o John Fisher Hall, Dynnyme, 7005.	Full.
ELPLEY, Ian and Stella, P.O. Box 24, Margate, 7153.	Fan.
FRANKCOMBE, Don, 94 Parkview Crescent, Maydena, 7457.	HonA.
FULLERTON, Pat, 16 Nelumie Street, Lindisfarne, 7015.	Full.
GAMBLE, Stuart, C/o P.O. Box, Dover, 7116.	Full.
GOEDE, Albert, 8 Bath Street, Battery Point, 7000.	Hon.
GOEDE, THerese, " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	FuII.
GRAUW, Robert, Hastings Caves via Lune River P.O., 7116.	HonA
HERINGTON, John, 24 Balaka Street, Rosny, 7018.	$\operatorname{Hon}\Lambda$.
HARRINGTON, Graham, 217 Derwent Avenue, Lindisfarme, 7015.	${\bf J}_{\bullet}$
JAGOE, Mike, Springvale Hostel, 2 Midwood Street, New Town, 7008.	Full.
JEFFRIES, Max and Tin, 66 South Avenue, Maydena, 7457.	Ass.
KELLER, Allan, C/o B.H.P., Darwin, 5790.	Ass.
LEHMANN, Bill, C/o 66 Went orth Street, South Hobart, 7000.	Full.
MANSFIELD, Ross, 77 Calabria Road, Islington, London, N5 England.	Full.
MEERDING, Henk, 7 Gourlay Street, Blackmans Bay, 7152.	Full.
MILLER, John, C/o Maydena P.O., 7457.	Full
MURRAY, Peter, C/o Dept. of Anatomy, Uni. of Tas., Sandy Bay, 7005.	Full.
MOODY, Laurie and Sue, 13 Mason Street, Claremont, 7011.	Fam.
MORRIS, Clive and Sally, 11 Church Street, Kingston, 7150.	Fan.
MICHOLAS, Stuart, 7 Rupert Avenue, New Town, 7008.	Full.
NICHOLSON, Bill, 9 Heather Road, Risdon Vale, 7016.	J.
PETERSON, Bill, 12 Auvergne Avenue, New Town, 7008.	Full.
POULTER, Norm, P.O. Box 120, Nedlands, Western Australia, 6009.	" Ass.
RAWLINSON, Noel, C/o Guides Office, Jenolan Caves, N.S.W., 2786.	yaa.
RICHARDSON, John, R.D. 681, Latrobe, 7307.	Full.
RICHARDSON, Tory, Mole Creek, 7304.	HonA.
ROBINSON, Phil, C/o Geology Dept., Uni. of Tas., Sandy Bay, 7005.	Full.
SHAW, Peter, P.O. Box 326, Sandy Bay, 7005.	Full.
SKINNER, Roy and Pan, 12 Nixon Street, Sandy Bay, 7005.	HonA.
SKINNER, Fiona, 12 Nixon Street, Sandy Bay, 7005.	${f J}_ullet$
STEPHENSON, Ruth, 35 Tophan Street, Rose Bay, 7015.	Full.
VAN TWILLERT, Henk, 633 Mt. Nelson Road, Mt. Nelson, 7007.	Ass.
WALTON, Dave, 3 Kairi Street, Rotorua, New Zealand.	Full.
WATT, Graene, 16 Pottery Road, Lenah Valley, 7008.	Ass.
WATTS, Peter, 22 Raymont Terrace, Mt. Stuart, 7000.	Full.
WHITE, Noel, Geologist, C/o B.H.P., G.P.O. Box L923, Perth, W.A., 600	
RUSHTON, Graham, Hastings Caves, via Lune River P.O., 7116.	Ass.

SPELEO SPIEL SUBSCRIBERS.

DYKES, Peter, 538 Port Hacking Road, Caringbah, N.S.W., 2229.

ELLIS, Ross, 14/10 Fourth Avenue, Campsie, N.S.W., 2194.

HAMILTON-SMITH, Elery, P.O. Box 36, Carlton South, Victoria, 3053.

HANDFIELD, Carey, 259 Drumond Street, Carlton, Victoria, 3053.

HICKSON, Neil, 13 Waratah Road, Turramurra, N.S.W., 2074.

HOBES, Roger, C/o Geoterrex, 613A Elizabeth St; Redfern, N.S.W., 2016.

MARTYN, Mike, 30 Maple Crescent, Lithgow, N.S.W., 2790.

MATTHEWS, Peter, 66 Frognore Crescent, Park Orchards, Victoria, 3114.

MELVILLE, Gary, King Solomon Cave, Mole Creek, 7304.

NIEUWENDYK, Peter, 94 Durham Street, Hurstville, N.S.W., 2220.

REDMAN, A., P.O. Box 83, East Devonport, 7310.

ROBINSON, Lloyd, 167 Mt. Keira Road, Mt. Keira, N.S.W., 2500.

SHAW, Chester, King Solomon Cave, Mole Creek, 7304.

VOSS, Phillip, Main Road, Maydena, 7457.

If, for some reason your name does not appear on this list please get in touch with the Editor or the Secretary/Treasurer and we shall try to establish why!

Regards to Ross Ellis - just love your mag.!! I could do with a co-editor!LEM.

SEARCH AND RESCUE LISTING.	TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB.
NAME. ADDRESS TELEPHONE NUMBERS: HOVE BUSINESS	
NOTE: If telephone contact at home or work is not nor used in an emergency only - please state here:-	
DO YOU WISH YOUR EMPLOYER TO BE CONTACTED IN ADVANCE TO POLICE FOR POSSIBLE SEARCHES OR RURAL FIRES BOARD FOR IF YES - STATE NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON TO BE CONTACTED.	FIRE FIGHTING? YESNO
CAR MAKE AND TYPE (e.g. Holden Sedan) CAPACITY- DRIVER + PASSENGERS + TENT TYPE	••••••
- at any time for extended periods - for weekends only State notice required (e.g. 2-3 hours, 1 day What areas do you know best?	YES YES etc)
CAVING Are you available for search? YES NO If YES - at any time for short periods - at any time for extended periods - for weekends only State notice required (e.g. 2-3 hours, I day et Which areas do you know well? (cave location, periods and previous search experience?	YES YES roblens, etc)
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DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE THAT WOULD HELP (e.g. First Aid Cert., Wireless Operation,)	•••••
ANY OTHER REMARKS THAT MAY PROVE OF ASSISTANCE:	