

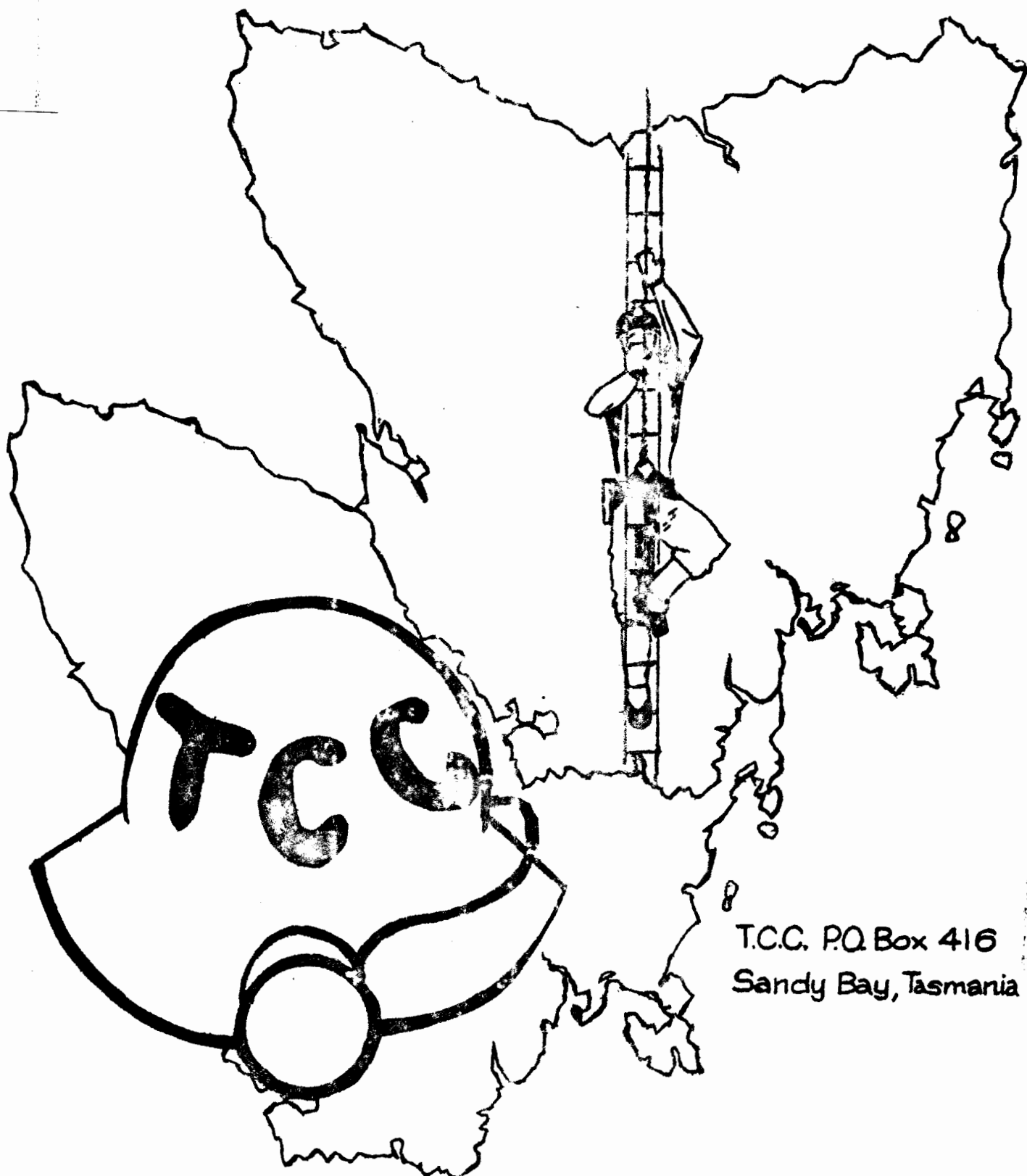
# SPELEO SPIEL

Newsletter of the Tasmanian Caverneering Club

MAY 1978 NO 134

T.C.C. Established 1946

Stuart Nicholas,  
7 Rupert Avenue,  
NEW TOWN, 7006.



T.C.C. P.O. Box 416  
Sandy Bay, Tasmania

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Newsletter of the Tasmanian Caverneering Club.

Annual subscription \$4.00.

Single copies 40 cents.

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FORWARD PROGRAMME.

- May 6 - Saturday: Wolf Hole. Leave Franklin Square 8 a.m.  
Leader: Albert Goede.
- May 14 - Sunday: Beginners Luck. Leader: Bill Nicholson.
- May 23 - Tuesday: Committee Meeting. 8 p.m.  
Meeting Room, Wheatsheaf Hotel.
- May 21 & 28 - Sundays: Proctors Road Quarry. Rope and ladder practice  
for H.M.C. cavers. Assistance welcomed.  
Turn up any time between 10 a.m. and dusk.  
Contact Bruce McIntosh for further details.
- May 25 - Thursday: 7.30 p.m. Slide night at Strato Anagnostis,  
756 Sandy Bay Road. Please bring along your  
slides and help make this night a success( B.Y.O.)
- May 27 - Saturday: OPERATION WOMGUANO. See separate item in Spiel.
- June 7 - Wednesday: General meeting. 8 p.m.  
Meeting Room, Wheatsheaf Hotel.
- July 15,16 - Weekend: S.& R. Seminar to be held at Waddamana.  
Contact Bill Nicholson for further details.
- Dec. 2,3 - Weekend: Kubla Khan. Photographic trip, expected dura-  
tion in excess of 16 hrs. Ladder and abseil work  
involved. Limit of 6 per party leader.  
Leader: Bill Tomalin.

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EDITORIAL.

As this is my first attempt at writing an editorial I hope you will  
bear with me.

The relationship between T.C.C. and S.C.S. has improved considerably  
over the last month. A combined Search and Rescue Exercise has been planned  
with the co-operation of the Police S. & R. Squad and the Ambulance Board.

As this is your newsletter I would like to receive more articles  
for publication by club members.

Caroline.

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Prospective nenber: Dave Barry.

New Members(Maydena Bch.)

Geoff Fisher, 115 Brooker Avenue, Glebe, 7000.

Sue Feeney, address as above.

Mr. and Mrs. Davies, 2 Eleanor Place, West Moonah, 7009.

Welcome to the club!

OPERATION WOMGUANO.

Date of Exercise: 27th May, 1978.

GROUPS: Police Search and Rescue Squad.  
Ambulance Board of Southern Tasmania.  
Southern Caving Society.  
Tasmanian Caverneering Club.

AIM:

To give the respective organizations the opportunity to gain knowledge and experience with problems and techniques involved with stretcher usage underground.

SITUATION:

Three persons have become immobilized by injuries received by a fall in "Beginners Luck".

CONDUCT OF EXERCISE:

Three weighted dummies will be placed together in 'Beginners Luck'. Depending on attendance there will be three main parties each of which will be split into two (a) stretcher parties, (b) relief parties. The stretcher parties will locate victim and whilst the victim is in the initial stages of removal, relief parties will be on the move. Each party will take their victim out through their respective exit, and rotate in shifts of 60 - 90 minutes.

DESCRIPTION OF CAVE:

'Beginners Luck' is situated alongside Settlement Road in the A.N.M. concession, west of Maydena. The cave will pose many problems in stretcher usage and involves 80% crawling. Duration of practical exercise will be approx. 4-6 hours. The system is centred in a small ridge, has six known entrances all of which are readily accessible. The furthest surface distance between two entrances would be approx. 60 - 80 metres. Length of passages would be in excess of 200 metres.

DEBRIEFING:

To be held as soon as possible after end of practical exercise.

EQUIPMENT:

Personal, normal tugging attire suitable for crawling,  
2 x 2.5 metre loop of tape or rope with padding and karabiner.

Club; Cavers, ladders.

Special; Police paraguard, drag mats, Neil Robbie stretcher.

WET WEATHER: No Change.

RENDEZVOUS: A.N.M. Barrier, Maydena.

TIME OF START FROM BARRIER (A.N.M.) - 8-15 A.M.

Members are urged to attend.

OPERATION WOMGUANO.

WHO'S WHO, IN CHARGE OF WHAT.

Bob Cockerill, Alex Terauds(S.C.S.), and Bill Nicholson(T.C.C.) will be in charge of each stretcher party underground. Their requirements will be followed through by Frank Brown - surface co-ordinator between the cavers and the police. Inspector Massie will be in charge of the S. and R. Squad on the surface.

The exercise is only on the Saturday but many people will be staying overnight at the Junee Homestead.

For Saturday, gearwise, those going underground - don't overdress, (e.g.) no waterproofs or thick woolie jumpers. Wear snag-free clothing if you haven't overalls. DO take a few sweets or chocolate underground - preferably Barley sugar. MOST IMPORTANT take a 2.5 metre (8 foot) length of tape or rope with padding for shoulder and karabiner. Also bring along your own food. Transport for those staying over weekend to be arranged within the club.

B.N.

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SEARCH AND RESCUE SEMINAR.

DATE: July 15/16.

PLACE: Waddamana Village.

COST: "Chalet Style" Accom. \$ 7 (bring your own sleeping bag.)  
Camping accom. \$ 5. (Hall is available - hard floors.)

MEALS: Saturday dinner and Sunday's breakfast and lunch are included in above costs. Your own lunch for Saturday is required or it is counted as an extra day, almost doubling above costs.

Practical and theoretical work involved.

All Federation clubs will be present, e.g. Climbers Club, Hobart Walking Club, etc. plus Police.

Come if you can - topics will include cliff and cave rescue.

Contact Bill Nicholson for further information.

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Quotes from "Trampled Wilderness"(pages 142-144).

".... the precipitous western face of this mountain(Mt. Field West) descends into the valley of the Florentine perpendicularly for over one thousand feet. Messrs. Atkins and Timbs ascended this mountain from the Florentine Valley. At about four hundred feet above the Humboldt Divide they discovered an enormous cave in the Ordovician limestone. This cave is the size of a large building, and a river as large as the Junee pours into it . . . . The cave is a stupendous natural feature which, though without the attractions of stalactites, will inevitably draw the attention of tourists once a track is established." (Growling Swallet ?).

"Other features recorded by Twelvetreets make this report of special interest. He describes Frodshams Cave in the Florentine Valley:

. . . . . east of the Florentine River. It is a small natural excavation in limestone near Frodshams Track, about ten feet wide at the entrance and four feet high, sloping down for twenty feet at a low angle into the water. The roof shows the rather thinly bedded limestone striking about N 10°E, and dipping north-westerly."

He also gives a fairly full description of the Junee Cave, and it

is noted that, even in those days,

"..... inside a few stalactites still depend, but the larger ones have been removed by visitors and others have been defaced."

Bill Nicholson.

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### TRIP REPORTS.

#### Mole Creek Social Weekend(Some time ago - 1,2/4/78)

A Kombi full of troggers, bean bags, mattresses, food, teddys and groans arrived at the Mole Creek Hotel late Friday night. Nine cavers fell out of the Kombi and into the caberet room where Bruce and his students were quietly enjoying themselves. After some harmless hassling we retired to the hut and slept. Early Saturday morning we woke up to a paddock of young, enthusiastic, soon to be, cavers at 10.30 a.m.

Bruce took half this group(all boys) to Croesus, while I took the other ten(mainly girls) to Lynds. Lynds Cave, downstream from Croesus and prone to flooding is an exciting beginners cave for wet caving enthusiasts. It's good stuff, a waterfall climb, and general walking and climbing. Large, high chambers, beautiful flowstone and formation, and most important, it's wet!

A student lost an instanatic camera and another showed signs of becoming rather cold, so a portion of our group left the cave and those remaining spent a little time photographing.

Honeycomb Cave was also visited by some.

On Saturday night the usual convivialities were indulged in and a pleasant time was had by all(I hope).

We opted out of going to Genghis Khan on Sunday and instead drove to Mangana to pay a visit on Mike.

Due to one vehicle having problems, the Kombi didn't get home till 1.30 a.m. - Monday! Ah, a great weekend!

Bill Nicholson.

#### Beginners Luck.

The past couple of weeks have seen three trips to Beginners Luck. The first was with Bob Cockerill, Alex Terauds and Peter and Margie Russell of S.C.S. plus myself. That trip was the first time I have been in that area for 12 months which resulted in driving on wrong roads in the wrong direction. The aim of that trog was to find out the suitability of Beginners Luck for the May cave search and rescue exercise; after 5 mins. in the system we found it was suitable, we also found the remains of Anne Parker's beanie - a ball of fungus.

The second was on a Sunday with Bruce Mac. and students from H.M.C.C.G. The party proved a little large but apart from the sore knees everybody enjoyed it, I think?

On the Monday Bob Cockerill, Alex Terauds and myself escorted the Police Search and Rescue Squad through the same cave. Much fun was had and a lot of 'farting' around was done. Three days later the squad was still complaining of sore muscles and knees.

On Sunday the 14th I'm scheduled back to Beginners to take Frank Brown through for a geezer.

Any offers regarding stuffing dummies will be gladly taken. Also any worn out overalls - I need two.

After May 27th - to hell with Beginners Luck!

Bill Nicholson.

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Trip reports have also been received from Max Jeffries and Anne Parker. These will be edited and published in the next Spiel.

PLEASE detached page five of this Spiel and place it somewhere sensible.