

Newsletter of the Tasmanian Caverneering Club
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JUNE, 1985

PAY YOUR SUBS or NO MORE SPIELS after this one!!!!NEWSLETTER OF THE TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB

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PRESIDENT / QUARTERMASTER:

Trevor Wailes - 47 Waterworks Road, Dynnyrne, Tas 7005.

Ph 344862

SECRETARY:

Martyn Carnes - 8A Lambert Avenue, Sandy Bay 7005.

Ph 252659

TREASURER:

Mike Edwards - 334 Davey Street, Hobart, Tas 7000.

Ph 232520

EDITOR / TYPIST:

Stuart Nicholas - 7 Rupert Avenue, New Town, Tas 7008

Ph 283054

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A REPORT FROM OUR PRESIDENT.....

On the surface it looked like a very quiet, ordinary year for the TCC. But underneath things were stirring. The year started well with the discovery of extensive passage beyond the disappointing blank wall of Pendant Pot. This system was finally pushed and surveyed into the Growling Swallet system by diving a 15 metre long sump. This event was followed by the discovery of Intestinal Perfume and the superb 70 metre China Crisis pitch in the Ice Tube system. Udensala was pushed in a joint effort with SCS.

Activity at Ida Bay was continuous throughout the year. Chicken Bone Pot was discovered and pushed, as was Machete Pot (or Not Machete Pot, as the case may be) next to Mini Martin which offered good views of the main MM pitch. Many other caves in the area were discovered such as Yodelers Pot and Little Grunt.

The year was punctuated with the theft of over 1/2 kilometre of rope from the quartermaster's store. This seriously affected vertical caving for some months and is possibly a reason for the quiet second half of the year.

The TCC goes-overseas-club was in vogue with the "Cave Diving Group" visiting Mt Gambier and improving TCC's CDAA certificate count. Mexico was visited and the UK was also subjected to some Tasmanian techniques. The year finished on a high note with discovery of New Feeling in Growling Swallet which adds another kilometre and takes GS up to approximately 11 kilometres. Serendipity continues to grow although pushing new ground here is the challenge of Tasmanian caving.

Speleomania, the fifteenth biennial ASF Conference, came and went with the disappointment of so few active cavers. It seems only pretty caves hold the attention of most of the average Mainland Caving fraternity. [Ed note: Maybe the organisers should have organised more field trips as well....]

Our membership continues to slide somewhat but is probably due to the arrogance of the Major Clique! This is unfortunate but hopefully the coming year will see our eternal problem rectified.

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On behalf of the TCC as a club I would like to thank Prof Carey for his unselfish handout after hearing about the rope theft. Also very much deserving of our thanks are the staff of Australian Newsprint Mills for their patience and understanding, not to mention their donation to club funds - may the goodwill of both concerns continue to improve!! Thanks also to Ken Britton for welcome refreshments apres caving, and Roy for his early morning cheerfulness, coffee and rolls - we wish him well in his new venture. The staff of the Doghouse Hotel also deserve thanks for their generosity when subject to regular weekly invasions by our crew - unfortunately they are departing for quieter lives (I wonder why??).

Trevor Wailes

President Tasmanian Caverneering Club

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TRACK CUTTING IN THE MINI-MARTIN AREA

IDA BAY

March 19 - April 2, 1985

As part of a mapping/survey program for the Ida Bay caves, I proposed to run a new track above Roy Skinner's Exit track. Leaving from the saddle (behind Benders quarry) between Lune Sugarloaf and Marble Hill, it would follow the contact on the eastern side of Marble Hill contouring around and past Chicken Bone Pot (IB-27) etc. to the Mini Martin area. In this latter area there were several unexplored holes including a series of five "X" numbered caves (1000 - 1005) tagged by Gordon Taylor in summer of 1980, which I wanted to include in the current numbering system. Such a new route would, among other things, make MM more accessible. By studying a 1:5000 dyeline enlargement of the new 1:25000 Leprena map sheet, Tom deduced that an easier access to the Mini Martin area would be gained by still following Roy Skinner's track (marked with blue tape) for about 1000 metres to just past the second major creek bed crossing, 150 - 200 metres south west of the obvious rocky knoll along the way.

About 20 - 25 metres on the Exit side of the obvious (usually dry) creek bed, a red-taped track leaves the blue-taped track and bears towards MM at about 230 degrees. It terminates at Big Tree Pot (IB-9), where it meets the old Kokoda Trail (the original Exit track from Mystery Creek Cave). Mini Martin is less than 5 minutes away and now only a 3/4 hour walk from the cars at the top of Benders Quarry. Club members are reminded that access through the quarry can be obtained through the quarry Manager (Mr Lindsay Rhodes) and usually there is no problem for weekend visits.

April 10 - With the arrival of caving visitors from VSA, our new red-taped track was upgraded and a yellow-taped branch track extended. Both tracks have since been slashed and chain-sawed to provide easier walking. The yellow-taped track provides access to cave numbers IB-35 to IB-38 and IB-49. The red-taped track includes access to the Kokoda Trail and IB-7, IB-8 (Mini Martin), IB-9 (Big Tree Pot), IB-31 (X-1001), IB-32 (X-1002), IB-33 (X-1003 - Machete Pot) and IB-34 (X-1004 - a draughting shaft at the base of a small doline downhill a short distance from Mini Martin).

Arthur Clarke and Tom Porritt

EASTER EXPEDITION INTO THE CRACROFT

April 5 to 9, 1985

PARTY: Lindsay Wilson, Andrew McNeill, Jeff Butt, Phillip Jackson, Sarah Boyle (all

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SCS), Martin ? and David ? (visitors), Chris Davies and Arthur Clarke (TCC).

The aim of this expedition was to survey some extensions in Judds Cavern, locate the "Red Route" and known recorded caves, and to generally explore the surface potential for further systems. Chris Davies wanted to check the headwaters of Burgess Creek and foothills towards Burgess Bluff from where several depressions have been reported. I intended to locate some data on the cave fauna in Judds, following on the work of Albert Goede and others in the 1970's. Due to the snow damage (from 1983 winter) to the access track from Farmhouse Creek, some track cutting / clearing was also on the agenda.

Good Friday - April 5, 1985

The track cutting team of Wilson, Jackson and Boyle attacked the route with the occasional whoosh and slice, from the first (roped) Farmhouse Creek Crossing. Due to its frequent use by Federation Peak bound bushwackers, the Forestry Commission had employed some track cutters late last year to remove some of the worst overhanging scrub. The SCS team attacked the track in earnest from where the Forestry crew finished, ie from 200 metres before the second Farmhouse Creek crossing and along to the Mt Bobs / Lake Sydney turnoff.

Chris went north from the Picton / Cracroft saddle to search for the elusive depressions while others went on towards the Cracroft. I had a brief look at Icebox (C-15, formerly known as Four Tape) then found the eastern end of the Red Tape Track.

The evening's exercise was a photographic / surveying jaunt into Judds from the campsite outside. Approx. 250 metres in from the entrance, a new high level passage called "Route 66" heads off to the south. This highly decorative passage varies in height from 2.5 metres at its northern end to 15 metres plus and 25 metres wide, and along its 210 metre length are numerous pools, false floors, moonmilk-like deposits, calcified mud, abundant straws and a pendulum chamber (nick-named "The Bowling Alley", though not as large as Exit's "Ballroom" specimen.....there are dozens of them). At its southern end there is a scree slope leading up to masses of tree roots and a narrow draughting passage which descends some 20 metres or more to a cliff-edged lake.

Saturday - April 6, 1985

The "Red Route" was located just south of the Judds Creek campsite. Following up a steep Karst ridge with rillen/karren features we headed for Matchlight Cavern. En-route we branched off to the north and bottomed a 13 metre shaft. This proved good measure for demonstrating the art of SRT for the uninitiated few. Below the pitch was a small chamber leading to another short (4 metre) drop. The cave was numbered C-16, this being duly engraved into ".....a humungous great Laurel" near the entrance and henceforth referred to as the "Humungous Laurel Hole".

Matchlight Cavern (C-2) was truly a photographers delight! Chris Davies without his cap lamp relived the pioneering discoverer's feat! Several of the floor collapses were investigated, a few showing promise for future descent. The red track was followed again out to a saddle where several shafts were seen, the most promising of which was re-taped and tentatively given the number C-10. (This shaft is one of several reported by the combined TCC/NUCC/UQSS trip into the Cracroft in 1980.) Heading west we located C-6 which, like Skull Cave (C-7), reportedly yielded Thylacine remains when first discovered. Continuing in a loop we passed C-5, C-4 and C-3 back to Matchlight, then onto the campsite via some superb views of sunset over Federation Peak and Mt Hopetoun.

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Saturday evening found us on our regular sojourn into Judds. Considering the number of caves and dolines to the north of the Judds Cavern system, we agreed to concentrate our efforts in locating extensions, if any, on the northern side (LHS on the way in). It was to be a night of several startling discoveries. Andrew McNeill discovered a narrow fissure climbing northwards in the C-2 (Matchlight Cavern) direction. Near the aven shown on the TCC / March 1974 survey, I found a fissure trending initially at 340 degrees into a tight rift 0.3 to 0.5 metres wide then at 010 culminating in gravelly streambed with a 20 cm air-blasted pop-hole encrusted with calcified clay. Through this blowhole could be seen an aven-like chamber littered with bones, but without some digging tool progress was halted. While investigating near a small side stream in the north-east passage of Judds, Sarah reported seeing what looked like a bat roosting on a wall. Following this chamber up a bank of fine red soil we found the remains of four bat skeletons of varying body length, plus the very dead one attached to the wall with fur still clinging to its bones.

We finished the evening with a brief look at the first siphon, then returned to the campsite to raid Jacko's wine cask!!

Sunday - April 7, 1985

Martin and David headed for home via Cracroft Junction but returned to the campsite after finding Mt Hopetoun was getting closer rather than further behind!! After numerous extra cups of tea, we all headed north passing a small pool with an underwater solution tube. We split into three parties..... or two and a bit. Jacko and Sarah went down the eastern bank of the South Cracroft looking for possible resurgences. Andrew, Lindsay, Jeff and Chris followed around the base of the limestone up a gully below and north of the "Red Route". The extra bit went north east and got bushed in some "humungous horizontal", then headed east from the dolerite back to the limestone and rotten log rain forest, rejoining the others. Jeff and Chris were yelling from one direction and Lindsay from the other. Something about shafts!!

After listening and timing the descent of odd cobbles and stones, some considerable discussion ensued as to how to determine the depth of a shaft given the measured time it took a descending object to stop (from falling!). Discounting the first formula, $S = V_0T + 1/2(gT^2)$, we opted for a simpler calculation. To cut a long story short, we reckoned we had a depth of between 40 and 60 metres in huge 8 metre by 2 metre fissure shaft, bounded on one side with a massive vein of calcite 40 cm wide, running full length of the fissure. We had found C-17. Heading south west some 60 metres we found Lindsay beside an equally impressive entrance shaft, possibly 30 metres deep, in a 14 metre long fissure rift with a rotten log bridge. Was this to be "Wally's Wallow"? The entrance was taped and given the number C-18. Why didn't we bring some SRT gear today??

The evening was spent watching Jacko bow-saw the pumpkin for dinner, then with bellies full trotting off into Judds again. Armed with a G-pick, Jeff, Lindsay, Andrew and myself went into the draughting "Blow-Hole Fissure". While Andrew surveyed the fissure, Lindsay tried in vain to keep his carbide alight as I enlarged the pop-hole, surrounded by "dancing" wettas. Once through we were at the base of a 15 - 20 metre cobble floored aven, strewn with bones literally forming a bed up to 15cm deep, mainly consisting of marsupial remains. One side of this "Cemetery Shaft" revealed a neat little heap of minute bones, skulls etc., most of which were incomplete, eg, the base and rear end of the skulls were missing. These mammalian remains belonged to rodents and the smaller insectivorous dasyurids, commonly referred to as "marsupial mice". Rodent species identified included the Swamp Rat (Rattus lutreolus) and the Long Tailed Mouse (Pseudomys higginsii). The dasyurid specimens collected were mainly Swamp Antechinus (Antechinus minimus) and one Dusky

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Antechinus (Antechinus swainonii). Larger bones from the marsupial "bed" were identified as belonging to the Red-necked (Bennett's) Wallaby (Macropus rufogriseus) and the Common Brushtail Possum (Trichosurus vulpecula).

Exploring a connecting fissure and muddy stream passage, three of us (Lindsay, Jeff and myself) free-climbed the side of the aven from "Cemetery Shaft" up about 10 metres to walk into the base of an even bigger aven 10 metres wide and estimated in excess of 30 metres high. We found the complete skeleton of another "hopper" which also appeared to be a Bennett's Wallaby. The far side of this aven was bordered by a "canyon", 1.5 metres wide at its narrowest point. Bridging this, Lindsay and I found ourselves walking into yet another aven one side of which dropped off about 8 metres into sandy floored serpentine passage, which would need rigging to reach. Departing from this new extension, Lindsay and Andrew went out to help Jacko with some survey work, while Jeff and I continued upstream in Judds to the "Bat Passage".

Climbing a narrow chute out of the red soil passage, we found ourselves in a large breakdown chamber with many more bat remains. These varied in size and state of decay, some with fur and one (5 cm long) still in its roosting position on a wall. Doing a rough Suunto survey, we explored the various leads from this chamber below a small aven. One side passage was very decorative and as we crawled along its muddy floored base towards an aven in the direction of the main Judds Cavern streamway, we read an obscenity some previous visitor had inscribed into the floor. Perhaps that person has been disgusted with him/her-self for breaking some formation!! Back into the breakdown chamber we followed another lead back into the "bat passage" through a rockfall area. The third lead followed a muddy/wet floored passage past large collapse blocks into a spiralling phreatic tube (literally shaped like a corkscrew) with a ceiling of "fluted droops". Amongst the gravel slush were numerous small pieces of calcite and charcoal (??). This phreatic passage eventually narrowed into a muddied gravelly tube which then continued horizontally as a crawl. Being about 2 am we decided to give it a miss for the night, since our lights were dimming.

Amongst the fourteen plus bat skeletons found, three species have been positively identified. These include the Chocolate Wattled Bat (Chalinolobus morio), the Large Forest Eptesicus (Eptesicus sagittula) and the King River Eptesicus (Eptesicus regulus). Also in this area were numerous wetas and a Hickmania, which suggest the presence of organic material and some surface connection. Jeff, as a meteorologist, suggested doing some climatology readings in the near future to ascertain whether the air temperature in this area is warmer than normal.

Monday - April 8, 1985

An early morning start up to the C-17 / C-18 holes with SRT gear, survey gear and track marking tape. At the C-17 fissure, after a ground traverse from Matchlight Cavern, the pitch was rigged from the base of a 15 cm thick Celery Top Pine beside the calcite vein. The fissure was divided into two parallel pitches by a limestone arch. Jacko and Lindsay abseiled down the 46 metre pit, which lead off in two directions. The first winding passage lead to the sandy floored passage Lindsay and I had seen from the "Cemetery Shaft" region of Judds the previous evening. The other passage branched off to connect directly into Judds Cavern via the inclined fissure Andrew McNeill had been investigating. The base of the entrance pitch was investigated again and found to lead to another small pitch and passage heading towards Skull Cave (C-7).

We departed from the Cracroft in dribs and drabs, with plenty of eagerness to return as soon as possible. Between the first and second crossings of Farmhouse Creek we counted in excess of 350 logs that one had to make a conscious effort to either step or climb over!!

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Subsequent exploration by SCS has revealed that C-18 involves a 26 metre entrance pitch leading off to some 400 metres of stream passage running parallel to and north of Judds Cavern.

Arthur Clarke

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LOST POT

PARTY: Lee Douglas, Martyn Carnes, Nick Hume and Trevor Wailes

This was a trip to initiate a new member (!), remind Trev how to prusik, scare Nick Hume and sicken Martyn. Rumour had it that Lost Pot was a goer if somewhat loose.

We assembled at the entrance to dress and gear up. Martyn and myself entered to start rigging while Nick took care of Lee in the new modified TCC fashion. A short climb down a steep mud bank led to a chamber where a handline was rigged for the 10 metre drop into another chamber. A stretch of narrow serpentine led onto the second pitch where Martyn and I waited for a hanger carried by Nick. We amused ourselves by throwing rocks into the chasm that was the big 3rd pitch - a continuation of the one we sat at the top of. This big pitch called "G Force" was 70 metres long and hence big enough to allow rocks to spiral and make a really great roaring sound before crashing into the depths below. Nick and Lee duly arrived and the second pitch was rigged to the spacious ledge overlooking G Force. As Nick rigged the pitch Martyn and I helped Lee into her prusik gear as this was as far as she would go. She had the option of waiting on the ledge for us or heading out on her own. She wisely opted for the latter as it could have been a long cold wait.

The pitch had a rebelay, and a knot 30 metres down. The rebelay out of sight round a flake of rock gave a freehang of about 67 metres with only the knot to worry about. Nick descended, straightening the rope as he went. The fourth pitch of 7 metres was rigged and descended and we dekitted next to the lake. The lake appears to be a suspended static sump of unknown depth or length, but with a turquoise hue looks deep. After ducking under the archway into the rockfall chamber we followed the route to the previous exploration limit in some alarmingly loose talus. As I squeezed through a slot into a talus chamber, I disturbed some significantly sized blocks which took to Nick like an old friend. The hole Nick was standing in was theoretically the continuation but he levitated himself and clung to the talus above him with what appeared to be razor-like claws similar to a cat. In the wet chamber there was little dust but when it settled Martyn and Nick looked quite crazed and deciding the lead wasn't worth dying for, we evacuated this rather unstable area. Nick and Martyn poked around in the rockpile some more while I prepared to return to the surface. The big pitch is incredible, the shaft perhaps 7 metres wide seems to ascend to the heavens, the rope hanging 1/2 metre from the wall affords a comfortable easy prusik with the top and base obscured for most of the ascent. At length I regained the surface and found Lee quite happy with what she had done. Martyn and Nick were left to derig and with time pressing, Lee and I set off for the cars. Rather than follow the taped route into the Serendip valley we struck out bush bashing towards Asteroid Pot, which after noting several new holes, we reached. On reflection our route back was not much of an advantage over the original track. It seemed a long time before Nick and finally a harassed Martyn emerged from the bush back at the cars.

This cave is worth a trip for the big pitch alone - it must be one of the best in Tasmania.

Trevor Wailes

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25 May, 1985

PARTY: Chris Davies, Arthur Clarke and Andrew Briggs

Ida Bay has lots of scope for good vertical caving and with the advantage of not having to rush back through "the gate", this makes for a relaxed day. While the shafts at Ida Bay might not have the depth or potential for long trips, they still provide good trips! This trip was to show Chris a promising shaft that Jeanine and myself had partly explored the previous weekend. On that trip I had run out of rope about 6 metres off the bottom of a forty metre hole. Although there appeared to be no further potential it was worth a return visit, even if just for the photos and the sport.

While trying to relocate this shaft, Chris and myself had found a further three entrances, one of which had a pitch of 20 metres. It was at this point that Arthur Clarke joined us, having heard that there was a trip on. He informed us both that two of the entrances we had found were already known. I then went down the 20 metre pitch to take some photos and survey the shaft for Arthur. The cave was duly numbered IB-39 and turned out to be 19 metres deep. The third hole was similar to JF-341 and after some persistent digging by Chris and myself, I was able to squeeze in the narrow fissure we had exposed. The cave choked off at 10 metres and is now numbered IB-40.

After a short adjournment for lunch I located the shaft found previously. We had to join a short rope to my 40 metre rope to enable the bottom to be reached. We all descended the pitch, the knot stirring memories of Mini-Martin. The hole was terminal with no further leads, although it is definitely worth the visit if only to see the mangled rat at the bottom! The pitch turned out to be 42.75 metres, the whole cave being about 45 metres deep. A 5 metre stal residing at the bottom made a prominent landmark for the survey. More photography ensued and we then made a hasty exit to avoid being gassed by the decomposing rat.

We had a guided tour of the Exit Hill by cap lamp and after reaching the Quarry a visit to Entrance Cave was in order. A grovel in the mud and a quick inspection of the inner entrance was a good way to finish off the day. Arthur went home to get some surveys and photos while we waited in the Dover Pub. His return revealed that the shaft we had called Ratsac Pot was none other than Holocaust found by Stefan and Rolan in 1981. It is now numbered IB-45. A good day was had by all!!

Andrew Briggs

COSMIC EXPERIENCES BEYOND THE ASTEROIDS

30 May, 1985

PARTY: Martyn Carnes and Nick Hume

We visited "Asteroid Pot" to show Martyn the results of digging performed by Rolan and myself some two weeks prior. Then followed the pink tapes up to "Rolan's Hole", that promising shaft that bottomed out at 80 or 90 metres on the same trip. Continuing further up the valley we (blue) taped up to Lost Pot in search of Trev's, quote "...respectable ten metre shafts...". These, quote "...respectable ten metre shafts..." turned out to be piddling slots that could be freeclimbed to unwilling old chokes at all of 5 metres from the surface!

We systematically combed the hilltop and slopes north of Lost Pot, amongst

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otherwise interesting limestone bluffs, to the ridge above Slaughterhouse Pot and Trapdoor Swallet, probing a few more piddling holes.

Taking a south-west bearing, starting just above "Rolan's Hole", we headed off towards Growling for yet more bush-bashing. A hundred metres on we encountered a choked doline that held a ten metre shaft on its slopes. This was checked by Martyn while I snoozed! An initial ten metre pitch into an enlarging chamber led directly to a second similar drop into choked rift. Climbing into the rift revealed a large flowstone chamber probably located below the bottom of the doline. No further leads were forthcoming.

We eventually joined McCallums Track near the "bridge" below Growling and decided to check the fossil valley that used to take the Growling stream so many moons ago. Trev had opined "...There's something big down there..." and indeed we did find big log chokes, but nothing else. We escaped "The Valley" to do something useful with the rest of the day.

Nick Hume

[illegible]

SERENDIPITY

9 June, 1985

PARTY: Trevor Wailes, Stefan and Rolan Eberhard, Martyn Carnes and Nick Hume

Five of us headed off to Serendip on the Sunday, for want of something better to do. Trev had arranged a late permit, but even so, we still only had time to do the downstream leads.

Rigging went fairly smoothly, carried out by Stef, Martyn and myself, while Rolan and Trev followed behind doing some photography. Our recurrent nightmares of that slab above pitch two peeling off, fortunately (again) didn't come to fruition. Trev took a little time crossing a knot that was annoyingly unavoidable near the bottom of the last pitch. I tied Trev's long lost Tekna to the bottom of this pitch, a practical joke that he took some offense at. We headed off as a group.

Stef checked the wet tube that takes the pitch series water. This led to an intersection where downstream he found a side lead containing some two hundred metres of previously unknown passage. Further downstream the water disappears into a tight tube that he reported as being quite terminal.

Meantime the rest of us photographed our way to the separate stream junction, then downstream towards the sump. A tube on the left wall taking a considerable draft eventually reconnects upstream near the French Connection. We went up this tube for some 60 metres to a rockpile on the right hand side. Here we checked a lead that I had seen on a previous trip. Squirming through the blocks led us to solid wall but a narrow rift continued on. Rolan checked this but found it blocked with mud after a short distance.

Leaving we continued on downstream for a look, as water levels were very low. The streamway gets suddenly smaller and I ended up crawling along a tight uncomfortable flattener to a point where I could see a shallow sump pool. The angled bedding plane roof reaches the water level at this point. A remote possibility as a dive, though it would be particularly nasty.

The others checked some small leads while I looked at a previously explored wet aven. Climbing up quite high I was stopped by an overhanging tight inlet rift that was issuing a few measly drops of water. Returning, I took a nice little screamer

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in the rockpile below the bottom pitch - a good buzz!!

We collected Stefan and headed out, doing the usual horrible derigging thing on the way. Stef checked a lead immediately after (on the way out) Castigation Crawl. This "ox-bowed" back to the stream passage near the second pitch and may be a preferable route in future, as it bypasses most of the worst of "Castigation".

Nick Hume

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CAVE NUMBERING IN THE FLORENTINE VALLEY

The following caves were numbered on June 30, 1985 (a particularly wet and unpleasant day) by Rolan Eberhard and Adrienne Van Schie. In addition a surface survey connecting Asteroid Pot, The Dungeon and Armadillo Pot was undertaken. All caves are roughly in the vicinity of Serendipity, spread from Asteroid Pot near the turn-off from the packhorse track, to Punishment Pot and others at the upper limit of the limestone. The depth potential of the area is excellent and a connection with Serendipity is an exciting possibility. Unfortunately the majority of entrances are choked at relatively shallow depths; digging has been resorted to at some sites although without significant results to date. There is still much to be accomplished with surface surveys and pushing of known caves, as well as locating new ones. At least as many caves again still require tagging, and this project should be maintained.

Accompanying the list of numbers below is a brief description of each cave. Most of this information has appeared in past issues of Speleo Spiel (abbrev. SS), and for these a reference is given. Precise entrance locations are not included - in some cases providing this information would severely tax the author's descriptive ability! However, many entrances have been plotted (with varying degrees of accuracy) on a 1:2000 scale topo. map.

JF-366: ASTEROID POT. There are two entrances in a shallow depression, one a small tube formed initially in clay. The tag was placed on a rock face in the other (northern) entrance. Both entrances are blocked only a few metres below the surface (see trip report in this issue).

JF-367: THE DUNGEON. This cave was originally explored in the late 1950's by TCC, and only recently relocated. It consists of a 6 metre pitch followed by a short climb to a dead end at a depth of roughly 8 metres. The tag was placed on a rock face 2 metres below the lip of the shaft.

JF-368: ARMADILLO POT. A spacious shaft with a 50 metre pitch leading to a large chamber. Estimated total depth is 60 metres (see survey this issue). The tag was placed on a rock surface beside a cairn near the lower edge of the pit.

JF-369: Unnamed cave. A small rift-like entrance a short distance downhill of Lost Pot. A 6 metre handline is needed at the entrance. Total depth around 10 metres.

JF370: MONGREL POT. This entrance had previously been given a temporary identification with red tape numbered HH-01 (see trip report - 7 October 1984, SS 202). The cave becomes too narrow below a 15 metre entrance pitch.

JF-371: FLORENTINE POT. This entrance is 2 metres in diameter and the tag was placed on a tree at the edge. Exploration in September '84 (see SS 201) revealed a 45 metre pitch into an impressive chamber, followed by a second pitch of 15 metres.

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This cave is colloquially referred to as Mick Flint's hole.

JF-372: SLIMY SLOT. This cave terminates at an estimated depth of 37 metres with a single pitch of metres. The distance between Slimy Slot and Benson Pot is probably exaggerated on a surface map in SS 185 (a grade 2 survey of Slimy Slot is also included).

JF-373: PUNISHMENT POT. This entrance is a small amphitheatre where a stream showers down a cliff onto boulders. Excavation attempts have so far failed to penetrate this promising system (see trip report September '84, SS 202). The tag was placed on a rock face beside the waterfall.

JF-374: Unnamed cave. A shaft 6 metres in diameter, blocked at a depth of 15 metres. It is very close to Punishment Pot. The tag was placed on a tree beside the entrance.

JF-375: SERENDIPITY. This upper entrance was dug out in September '84 (see SS 202). It is slightly higher than the wet JF-344 entrance, and gives the cave a total depth of 282 metres.

Rolan Eberhard

PAY YOUR SUBS NOW..... OR YOU WILL BE DELETED...

STOP PRESS: ANNUAL DINNER - FRIDAY NIGHT SEPTEMBER 27

Venue uncertain at this time, but most likely the usual place for these extravagant happenings of late, ie

THE GOOD WOMAN INN, ARGYLE STREET

THERE WILL BE ANOTHER SPELEO SPIEL OUT SHORTLY AFTER THIS ONE,
SO CHECK THAT FOR FINAL DETAILS, OR PHONE TREV (344862 ah)