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### MEETINGS:

Are held on the 1st & 3rd  
Wednesday of every month at  
Shipwright's Arms Hotel, 29  
Trumpeter St, Battery Point,  
Hobart.

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

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# Speleo Spiel No. 298

## June 1996

Newsletter of the Tasmanian Caverneering Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 416, Sandy Bay, Tasmania 7005  
*Foundation member of Australian Speleological  
Federation*  
*First Caving Club in Australia - Founded 1946*

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## *FORWARD PROGRAM*

### **Very Important Meeting(S) for ALL TCC Members**

**Where:** New Town ex-Squash Courts, Wilson Street, New Town, Tasmania 7008

**When:** 8PM Wednesday 4 September, 1996

#### **Meeting number 1 - Why:**

- Any vacant office positions must be filled if this club is to keep functioning with dignity and strength up to / through the proposed amalgamation.
- We need to discuss the organisation of TCC's 50th Birthday in November or it will fall onto the shoulders of one or two people, or worse still it may not happen.
- We need to discuss meeting structure, location and the implementation of a forward program if we are to be in existence by the next AGM.
- The proposed amalgamation needs to be discussed as there are too many unresolved issues.

**Motion on Notice:** "That the name of group following amalgamation be the Southern Tasmanian Caving Club." This motion will be discussed at the next meeting as above.

#### **Meeting number 2 - Why:**

- Combined meeting to discuss amalgamation issues still unresolved, viz Name of combined group, membership structure and Rules.

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### **Proposed Trips**

**Hairygoat Hole J1'15** - the rediscovery... This hole was found in 1970 and was explored to a fair extent at that stage. Since that time, it has disappeared, despite several fairly intensive searches. We WILL find it this trip! If you doubt that it ever existed I have photo's to prove that it was found and entered by caverhumans. Note that this trip will not be super fast. After all, discovery is an activity that takes a considered and careful approach in order to be successful (and the leader isn't very fit...)!  
**LEADER:** Stuart Nicholas - phone 002-283054 (AH) or email [stunich@ozemail.com.au](mailto:stunich@ozemail.com.au)  
**Date:** Sometime in September, dependant on the weather...

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## *EDITORIAL*

Funny how things that go around, come around. Some time in the not too distant past, I was the editor of the TCC magazine and guess what, I'm back. Only for a short time mind you.

The Tasmanian Caverneering Club has jumped through many hoops during its life and certainly more than a few of late, as many of you would know. At a meeting held on May 29, 1996 it was agreed by members of both TCC and SCS that a merger would take place. The time schedule for this was seen to be something like six to eight months, that is on or about the end of this calendar year.

The Tasmanian Caverneering Club is, this year, fifty years young. The club was founded at its inaugural meeting held on September 13, 1946. The founder was none other than

Professor Sam Carey and ironically the first official trip was to the Florentine Valley - the site of interest being Ross Walker Cave, now numbered JF63.

It would appear that this will be both a year of celebration and sadness as it will be the last year of existence of the Tasmanian Caverneering Club. The merger with SCS will entail a change of name for both groups, the proposed name of the new merged group being the Southern Tasmanian Caverneers.

The Tasmanian Caverneering Club has great heritage and history. The TCC was the first official caving club to be formed in Australia, and is one of the longer continuously functioning caving clubs in the world. During the last fifty years, The Club has been associated with many events now seen as being of historical significance at both a state and national level. At various times activities have included Royalty (in the form of a couple of State Governors) and several State Government politicians, the name appears in various State Government Statutes, we were instrumental in the formation of Tasmania Police Search and Rescue with whom we still have a very good relationship, and our members have pursued some of the hardest cave exploration in the country.

Is the loss of this heritage, in the form of the loss of the name, an acceptable scenario?

Stuart Nicholas  
(Temporary Editor - Tasmanian Caverneering Club magazine, Speleo Spiel)

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### **Thank you to Dean Morgan**

After the decision was made by both SCS and TCC to merge, Dean Morgan resigned from the positions of President of TCC and Editor of the Speleo Spiel.

Over quite a few years Dean has been a major stalwart of TCC and has held the positions of President and Editor since ????. His leadership was friendly, his editing added some spice to this esteemed publication.

I would like to express my thanks to Dean for his work over the last few years. I trust that you will remain an active caver and continue with the CLAG thing and all that that entails.

Taking over the reigns of this publication after Dean's editorship is something of a challenge, so I won't try to do anything dramatic.

Stuart Nicholas - Temporary Editor, Speleo Spiel.

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### **Bloody art critics, all of you...**

I tried to get Vincent Van Gough first - but couldn't find him in the phone book anywhere. Picasso was my next choice, but I was kindly informed that he had passed away. Salvador Dali? Sorry they said, he'd was also deceased. As for Jackson Pollock - dead too. That left Pro Hart for the job, but he was too busy and didn't have the time. Therefore, I had no option but to summon all my artistic flair and do the job myself. If your wondering what I'm on about, it's last month's Spiel cover of course!!!

Hours and hours it took me. Too many nights I was up burning the midnight oil 'till the wee small hours of the morning holding my thumb out at arms length like all good artists do. I even bought a beret to wear on my head, and a lovely white smock to protect my clothes, but what did I get in exchange from all you readers? Ridicule, that's what!!!

"Pathetic", you all said. "A 2 year old child could have done better", you all said. "Didn't look anything like them", you all said. "That couldn't really be Trevor, he's smiling!!!", you all said. *(I'll have to admit, you were all right on the last point. I did use a fair bit of 'artistic licence' on the bit with Trevor smiling.)*

Personally, I thought it was a brilliant piece of artistic genius. But then again I've got more taste than all of you readers anyhow. I suppose I'm just like Van Gough was - ahead of his time. I'm sure it will be appreciated in the years to come.

As a result of your vicious, horrid, nasty taunting - I'm never, *ever* going to put any of my artwork in the Spiel again. So there...

Dean Morgan  
Artistic Genius

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## Club Mitters

### Amalgamation

No doubt you have probably all heard by now, but an amalgamation between the Tasmanian Caverneering Club, Southern Caving Society, and Tasmanian Cave & Karst Research Group is happening, and the new name of the amalgamated club will be the "Southern Tasmanian Caverneers". Losing the TCC name had certainly upset a couple of people, but you can't keep all the people happy all the time.

A steering committee has been set up to achieve all that will be needed for the amalgamation to happen, and it will "officially" happen after the TCC's 50th dinner in November.

We will try and fill you all in as things happen.

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## SAREX '96

Quite an improvement on last year's poor caver effort that's for sure!

SAREX '96 happened on the weekend of the 25th-26th of May, with a good turnout all round. About 20 cavers and 15 police turned out for the event, and a successful learning experience was had by all.

The scenario we had was that there were 2 mainland cavers staying at the Lune River Youth Hostel, and they had gone out on the Friday morning to go caving and hadn't returned by Saturday morning. Caves they had mentioned interest in were Mini Martin, Old Ditch Rd, Big Tree Pot, Little Grunt, Hobbit Hole and Midnight Hole.

Parties of 3-4 people (*generally 2 cavers and 1 police*) headed out to scour the entire Ida Bay area in search of them. All holes had to be looked at as far as a pitch for any signs of cavers, and just as we were about to be called back to base when it was getting dark, the entrance to Revelation Cave was found with a rope rigged around the tree.

Three people went into the cave, with 1 person descending the pitch to find two cavers - one with a broken tibia, and both with Hypothermia. Two people were sent down to stay with the 'victims' and try to warm them (*with no resources but space blankets, and body heat*) and within 1 hour of finding the victims, there were around ten cavers, one ambulance paramedic (*trained in SRT use*) sleeping bags, stoves, ropes, rescue pulleys, etc, etc ready for action.

After the paramedic went in and the 'victim' was stabilised and the leg splinted (*there would be no hope of getting a stretcher out of the cave as it's too narrow*), the evacuation was commenced. Also during this time, a phone line had been layed into the cave to where the action was. The extraction was then commenced until the victim had been hauled up to the top of the pitch, where the exercise was called off due to the time being around midnight.

There were problems and faults in the process, and hopefully we shall all learn from them, but overall it seemed to go quite well.

A big thank you to all that attended. A bigger thank you to the semi-retired cavers who put in the effort to attend. And a huge thank you to the members of the Northern Caverneer's and Mole Creek Caving Club who put in the special effort to participate.

Lets hope next year's is just as successful.

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## Sex in caves!

I'm sorry everyone! I'm afraid this article is nothing at all to do with sex in caves - I just wanted to make sure that you started reading the article, so please continue...

Since being involved with the Tasmanian Outdoor Leadership Council and ASF-CLAG, I have learnt many protocols and best practices in regard to being a leader in the outdoors. A lot of them are only relevant to being a leader taking dependants, but there is one technique that I think would be valuable for any caving trip - Risk Management and Planning.

Do you plan for things to go wrong when you go caving? Suppose it *did* rain heavily outside the cave and you found yourself flooded in. Suppose you only took three lights underground between you and *all* of them failed (its nearly happeneed a couple of times on BIG trips... ED). Suppose there *was* an accident on your caving trip and someone was injured. Suppose you *did* need the Search & Rescue to come and find you for some reason? I could go on, but you should be getting the point by now - these things can and do happen, and you should be prepared for them. I have also been involved on numerous Police Search & Rescue operations over the years, and on every one of them it is quite amazing how little information is known about the 'victim' and how much time could be saved if more details were known.



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How can you best plan for the risks? That's easy! The method that I've adopted is filling can be a very quick and painless affair. The main purpose of a risk management form is.

- To make you think about the risks you may encounter and plan for them

- Finally - give some contact numbers for your partner etc to call if you *are* late.

Sound like too much hassle? Well it needn't be. You can have a standard form and just fill in the details, and it should only take you 5 minutes the night before, and could save your life. Below is a sample of what a form could look like:-

### **Risk Management Planning Form**

#### **Participants:**

*Garth Vader. 28yo male, experienced caver, trained in search & rescue, first aid, and outdoor leadership.*

*Drean Gorgan. 32yo male, experienced caver, trained in search & rescue, remote area first aid, and outdoor leadership.*

#### **The trip:**

*We plan on going into Black Cave, and hopefully doing the through trip into Dark Cave, also exiting through Dark Cave. We both know the caves well, but haven't been through the connection between them.*

**Main Risks:-**

**Getting lost** - *If we do get lost, we'll just have to wait for the rescue team. We have sufficient clothing and supplies to keep us warm(ish!) for a day or 2.*

**Floods** - *Same as above. If we do get flooded, the most likely place of entrapment will be in Matchbox Rift, so we'll make our way to Cathedral and wait for the water level to go down enough to make a safe exit.*

**Rockfall** - *There is a section of loose rockfall in Dark Cave, but it can be avoided via a side passage, so we will take that route.*

**Callout time:-**

*We would both expect to definitely be back to Hobart by 11:00PM. If we are not back or have not made contact by 2:00AM, then please contact S&R.*

**Contact Numbers:-**

*Tusart Salonich - 654321(H) 123456(W). Caving S&R coordinator. Knows who to contact, and knows the areas well.*

*Jaysteen - 654321(H) 123456(W). Knows the areas well, and where we were planning on going.*

*Melly Killer - 654321(H) 123456(W). Knows the caves well.*

*Police Search & Rescue 654321(W)*

As you can see, it should only take you minutes to fill it out, and could save your life - What a bargain! For those of you with computers, you only need to make up a template, and just fill in the details for the trip. How much easier could it be!!! It really is something you should all think about.

**[Note from Stuart Nicholas:** Being the prime recipient of many non-social late night telephone calls relating to S&R operations and having frequently been on both ends of the S&R thing, I wholeheartedly agree that some more detail on each trip would be a Very Good Thing, so long as the information is rapidly and reliably available to whoever coordinates the call out and any subsequent S&R operation. A note stuck to your fridge when there is no one at your house is not the best possible system.

We did try a trip info thing via the gear loan book at one stage, but it lapsed through apathy... People also change their minds while chatting in the car on the way, at the local milk bar or at the end of the road, or don't really know what they are going to do anyway, all of which can add to the problems. We have had at least one operation which involved some detective work prior to leaving the cars - the only clue as to where the party had NOT gone was the quantity of rope still visible in their car...! Such is the joy of being S&R coordinator.

Despite all the above caveats, YES - PLEASE leave more detail of your trips in a KNOWN and EASILY ACCESSABLE place. I guess the ideal in this techno-info-age would be via a Web page, email to the local cavers, a local broadcast fax or something similar...]

Dean Morgan

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## 12th International Congress of Speleology

Feel like a trip to Switzerland in twelve months time? Why not go to the 12th UIS Speleology Congress? It is to be held in the small city of La Chaux-de-Fonds in the north west of Switzerland, just a short scamper from the French border. A very picturesque spot centrally located in a region rich in limestone and caves. Registration even includes a "...Howdy party in pure Swiss style...". Definitely a 'must go' with that sort of offer!

### Information

Dates: August 6th -> 10th: International Multi-media Festival for Speleology;  
August 10th -> 17th 1997: 12th International Congress of Speleology;  
August 15th -> 17th: 6th Conference on Limestone Hydrology and Fissured Aquifers.

Field trips: From July 27 -> August 30 both in Switzerland and elsewhere in Europe.

Cost: Registration only CHF 120 (until the end of this year; more after that), accomodation from almost free to CHF 150 per day.

More info: **Web site:** <http://www.unine.ch/UIS97/>  
You can preregister via this web site, plus find out about the town, the conference, field trips and so on. There is even a map of Switzerland!  
**Email:** [congress.uis97@chyn.unine.ch](mailto:congress.uis97@chyn.unine.ch)  
**Snail mail:** SubLime, P.O. Box 4093, CH-2304, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland.

Who's going?? Could be a very good opportunity to do some trips in the world's biggest and best caves and caving areas, as well as learn about the latest technology for cave exploration and mapping. The biggest plus with these events is the chance to meet cavers from everywhere, set up contacts for other trips and generally have the chance to do things which often cannot usually be done. A quick phone around some travel shops the other day indicated that the whole trip with extras could easily be done for about \$AUS4000 with the airfare being about \$AUS2500. Maybe one could also include a cycling tour or two around some of the wine districts of France as well... Easy!

Stuart Nicholas

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## A.S.F.-C.L.A.G. NEWS

### AGM Results - and the following "Cavefest" at Mole Creek.

The ASF-Caving Leadership Accreditation Group held it's 2nd AGM on 11th of May in Launceston. The newly elected executive consist of:-

- **Chairman/President** - Dean Morgan (TCC/SCS). The less said about me the better I think...



- **Treasurer** - Mick Williams from the Southern Caving Society. Mick can be contacted at PO Box 288 Geeveston, Tasmania. Or ring him on (002) 976368 H
- **Secretary/Librarian** - Andrew March from the Northern Caverneer's. Andrew lives at 5 White Street, West Launceston, or ring (003) 345567 H
- **Induction Officer** - Geoff Grossel from the Northern Caverneer's, PO Box 544, Gravelly Beach, Tasmania or ring (003) 943236. What is an "Induction Officer" you are probably asking? Well, this is a new position suggested by Jeff Butt. An Induction officer's role would be to monitor candidates and interested people in ASF-CLAG assessment, and to ensure they are told what is happening, where & when, and to keep tabs on their progress through the assessment ranks.

Not much else happened at the meeting, except that when it had finished, we then moved on to Mole Creek for the rest of the weekend for some caving.

The truly amazing thing about the weekend, was the fact that there were around 18 (*Yes, eighteen*) people caving!!! Trips went to Wet Cave, Honeycomb, Croesus, Lynd's Cave, Prohibition Cave, Marakooa 1, and Marakooa 2. There hasn't been that much caving activity in Tasmania for years that I know of! Around eight Northern Caverneer's were there, nine Southern Caving Society members, and Dean - the lonely TCC'ite...

It was a truly a top weekend, and we should all organise more "Inter-club Cavefest's" for the future!!!

Dean Morgan

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### Caving Gear For Sale...

The following gear is currently up for sale. I have been informed that it has never been used underground, as it has only been used on Rosny College Outdoor trips. Gear includes:-

- 2 CMI ascenders.
- 5 screw gate karabiners.
- 1 snap link karabiner.
- home made tape harness with buckles an everything.

Price \$200 ono for the lot. Interested? Contact Bruce Drake on telephone (03)62235289.

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### NOT-Caving Gear For Sale...

- Streule 190cm Mountaineering skis and lockable Tyrolia bindings, complete with skins and poles.
- Koflach plastic boots with vibram soles - size eleven (to fit above bindings). The gear above enables you to skin up 30 degree or steeper slopes, as well as mix it with hoardes on the downhill pistes. Both of above can be had for the very reasonable price of \$450.00 the lot.
- Black Diamond ski gloves - THE mountaineering / skiing gloves - \$45.00

- Many **cave related books** also for sale, ranging from maps to diving manuals to Karst Geomorphology texts. You may have to be quick for some of these...

Contact **Nick Hume** on **210379(w)** or **310348(h)** for these great specials.

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## **Cyber-caving/politics Via OzCavers**

Those of you with internet access and who subscribe to Ozcavers would have seen some healthy discussion recently about the condition of the Australian Speleological Federation (perhaps that ought to read 'the condition called the Australian Speleological Federation'). There have been some good comments and suggestions on changes that could be made to the ASF. It'll be interesting to see what comes of and from the discussions. (Is this an example of that new found very real phenomenon referred to as virtual politics?)

Email, and specifically Ozcavers forum, really is a great thing for caving in Australia (*and the world!*). There would be no other way to hold the kinds of 'forums' that happen via Ozcavers, and you can learn about new discoveries *when they happen!* With the digital mobile office revolution happening, we can soon log into the 'Net and report our trip right from the car at the end of the trip, or even from the cave entrance... Roll on Virtual Reality caving trips!!

Ozcavers really is a great forum for discussion on caving related issues, and a great place to 'meet' other Australian cavers. I would thoroughly encourage anyone with email access to subscribe and participate. If you do have WWW access and you don't subscribe, then fill in the form located at: <http://techpkwa.curtin.edu.au/interests/Speleology/form-ozcavers.html>

If you only have email access, then email Rauleigh Webb at [rauleigh@osi.curtin.edu.au](mailto:rauleigh@osi.curtin.edu.au) and I'm sure he'll put you on the list if you're really nice to him!

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## **TRIP REPORT!!!**

Welcome Stranger JF229

29 June 1996

Party: Kelly Miller and Tore Bengtsson

Email is a wonderful thing. People from the other side of the world (Sweden) can send out requests to places they are about to visit, saying "I want to go caving". And we have the technology, and the caves. Unfortunately, we don't really have the cavers (subtle dig to all those people I tried to get for this trip).

Sweden apparently is not big on limestone caves. Freeze-fracture has created some caves, but of a different nature. Welcome Stranger is big on limestone and big on formations. And it wasn't going to be too hard for me (having caved once in the past six months).

We looked around for a couple of hours. Tore thought he had discovered a promising lead, only to find himself back at the entrance gate. Some of the track markers in the upper level are a bit muddled and indistinct. Rolan Eberhard's report for the Forestry Commission 'Inventory and Management of Karst in the Florentine Valley', S track marking and cleaning would be desirable at some stage. Perhaps this could be a club mini-project??

Following this taste of 'wild caving', we wandered along to the entrance of Growling. Water levels were not really high, but Tore was impressed nonetheless. He had trouble with the name though, eventually settling on 'Gurgling Grollet'.

We had fun, and we were home in time for dinner.

Kelly Miller

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### **The Last Straw...**

- Caving is definitely the flavour of the month... It was recently featured, somewhat over-dramatically, on Mike Whitney's TV show, *Who Dares Wins*. A young woman was 'coerced' into a short abseil into a cave at Bungonia in NSW, then proceeded to crawl along a 150 metre rocky tube, followed by a belayed ladder climb back to 'civilisation'. She did very well, under the duress of commentary such as 'the rock was pushing against her chest' and such like stuff. The unmentioned camera+sound person had to get through there as well, complete with attached techno-accessories just to make the thing possible - maybe the story should have featured that person instead. Of well, they did emphasise the overall risk thing as well as some conservation issues - not all bad I guess. I heard that the program originators earlier had phoned someone here with regard to doing the same thing.
- Other current uses for cavers and caving include the advertising of tooth brushes by a cartoon character depicting a caver, complete with rope wrapped around his shoulder, helmet and cap lamp. Maybe we should be searching for the Tooth Fairy rather than the long lost Troll Princess...
- On the subject of things dental, "The North Ridge of Mount Anne is something like the jaw of a long dead dragon suffering from dental caries" is a quote from an older Australian caver. With quotes like that and the use (per above) of our caricature, maybe we should abandon the above mentioned Tooth Fairy and the Troll Princess and turn our attentions towards an Advertising Guru instead...
- Recent ABC staff industrial action led to the non-showing of the 7.30 Report one night. In its place, however, was a 30 minute doco. on the Undara Lava Caves in Northern Queensland and the work of Anne Atkinson in studying and documenting the area. Great stuff.
- Stephen Bunton was recently invited by local ABC radio station 7ZR to do a 15 minute 'live to air' interview re the 50 anniversary of TCC and related caving matters. This also was delayed by the ABC industrial action, but finally went to air on Monday 22 August. In 1946 following the formation of the club, a similar interview was conducted by ABC radio, with Prof Carey and Ken Iredale doing the talking on behalf of the then recently formed club. It is understood that the ABC is keen to pursue the historical commentary on our club; stay tuned to the radio for more oral history of TCC.
- Further to the 50th Anniversary publicity machine, The Sunday Tasmanian is doing an article on the Club, its history and all that stuff. Should be great stuff.

## GORMANGHAST 1&2

Gormanghast 1, July 14th 1996

Cavers - Kelly Miller and Leigh Douglas

After forgetting the key, forgetting our rigging gear, blowing a main globe in my light before even getting underground, and doing a face plant in the cave because I was caught by the reinforced seating of my trog suit half way down a climb, we were beginning to wonder if we were meant to be caving this day. Were the Gods against us?

The predicted torrential rain and snow were no where to be seen the further we drove toward Maydena. It still wasn't raining as we trogged up and headed up the McCallum track. In fact Dean and Nigel who piked at the last minute missed a beautiful day up the valley.

After dealing with the blown light globe, we went underground. The boulders at the entrance of the cave look as if they are perched on rapidly eroding clay. We carefully moved over these and made our way through the entrance series of small climbs and grovels. My back up light (which was my main light source) was quite dull and made small climbs look like pitches. Kelly's Zoom faired better. Even so our progress was leisurely and it was Kelly's first visit.

We continued on until we came to a phreatic passage. We continued up instead of down and came to what looked like a pitch. We could go no further for the day as we had used the little rigging gear we had on earlier climbs ( which we didn't end up using). Also we wanted to walk out in a day light, so our retreat began.

Surprisingly, what took two hours in, took 45 minutes out, even so, we were satisfied with our day. Above ground it still wasn't raining. It was very relaxing and pleasant walking back to the cars through the sunlit rainforest.

Driving back to Maydena for a hot chocolate and chips from Harry's, the Gods made it up to us by displaying a hot pink sunset over Mt Field and the South West.

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Gormanghast 2, 20th July 1996.

Cavers - Kelly Miller, Dean Morgan, Nigel Williams, Greg Garnham, Leigh Douglas.

Dean wanted to take photos, Greg wanted a caving experience, Leigh and Kelly wanted to know what was on the other side of 'that' pitch and Nigel was just there. We motored up the valley road to tempt the 'Gods' for a second weekend in a row. Only this time it was raining!

Kelly and I waited at the 8 road, Dean and co waited at the 9 road. Not a good way to begin a caving trip, considering Dean had to be home for tea. We finally got ourselves organised, got trogged up in the drizzle, then headed up the McCallum track to Gormanghast.

Even though the group was larger, we were moving through the cave much quicker than the week before. We were soon at the phreatic passage where you could go up - to Kelly's pitch, or down - a short climb. A few of us poked around up top while Dean waited at the bottom of the climb. It was decided not to rig the pitch as the rock was too soft and there really wasn't a good enough place to rig. Besides, if Dean was waiting below, then it made sense to go on. From here on, the cave became restricted with phreatic passages and low tight crawls through water cobbles (ouch on the knees). After Shrimp squeeze there was quite a lot of decorative passage, the cave became wetter and the stream bigger from inflowing water. Very soon we were at the sump. I was quite surprised as I don't remember seeing the sump on my previous trips, but then I don't usually remember one cave from another, as they all blur into rock and water. A guideline from previous dive trips was still in place indicating the cave still went on - underwater.

So began two more hours of bashing ourselves against rock as we retreated out. A refuel stop on snakes, wet pikelets, bikkies and squashed mandarin enabled me to stumble wearily to the surface.

Another good day had in the Valley.

## **The Tasmanian Caverneering Club 50th Anniversary Weekend**

### **50 Years Underground - The Tasmanian Caverneering Club Annual Dinner**

The Tasmania Caverneering Club is celebrating its half century this year. Founded in 1946, it is Australia's oldest caving club and one of the oldest continuously functioning caving clubs in the world. Throughout its history the club has been at the forefront of exploration of a number of significant Australian caves, including Exit Cave (formerly Australia's longest cave), Growling Swallet, Khazad-dum Ice Tube, Annakananda and Niggly Cave (each in turn the deepest in Australia), and Kubla Khan, one of the country's most spectacular. TCC members have also been involved in a number of overseas expeditions, notably to Papua New Guinea and Mexico. In 1964 one member, Frank Salt, as involved in the initial exploration of the Gouffre Berger in France and reached the -1122 sump.

Celebration of this event will involve a weekend get together of currently active and older members, plus any other interested people, at Tyenna Lodge at Maydena, the town at the end of the Florentine Valley in which many of the above caves are located and epic trips have occurred. The event will take place over the weekend of November 16-17, 1996. Activities are to include barbecues, socialising, talks, an annual dinner and slides, all in a rather informal conference style. There may even be caving trip or two for some of the keen types... Hopefully we can also get people to pose for an archival club photograph in caving gear at the entrance of a cave!

Please turn (the page) over...

## **The Tasmanian Caverneering Club 50th Anniversary Weekend**

**Date:** Saturday November 16 and Sunday November 17, 1996

**Venue:** Hostel at Maydena

**Format:** A laid back weekend of reminiscing, nostalgia and tall / deep stories. A dinner of some sort will be organised for the Saturday night. Accommodation of various sorts will be available. More information will be sent in due course. The overall format depends to some extent on the numbers attending. Activities, group photo sessions, and some memorabilia will happen and be available. In true Maydena style, the weather may even be wet, just to add that touch of realism...

### **Expression of Interest**

In order that we can have some fair idea of the numbers attending, we must get your input. To this end, please fill out the form below and send it (or the required info at least) via any of the following means as soon as reasonably possible.

Mail: TCC 50 th Anniversary  
PO Box 416  
Sandy Bay  
Tasmania  
Australia 7005

FAX: 03-62369153, marked to the attention of Stuart Nicholas.

email, either: stunich@ozemail.com.au (Stuart Nicholas)  
OR sbunton@postoffice.friends.tas.edu.au (Stephen Bunton)

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### **TCC 50 th Anniversary - "Yes I'm Interested in Attending" form**

Name: .....

Postal address: .....

.....

..... Post Code: .....

Telephone: .....(w) .....(h)

Probable number of people attending: ..... (Please add names below)

Attendance: Saturday / Sunday / Both (overnight) - Please circle as appropriate.

Approximate years / dates of TCC involvement: .....

Names of others possibly attending apart from yourself:

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