FUSSI



A rare public performance of the famous Tommy Gunyah Tyre Dance

A mouse bails up our intrepid explorers while 'Benji' awaits the call for help

Best caption wins a prize

Vol. 11, No. 2. 1999

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Flinders University Speleological Society Incorporated

WHO IS WHO IN FUSS

President.

Glenys Crane Unit 8. No. 87 Mary St UNLEY. 5061 (hm)8299 9317

Physiology Dept: 82# 5717

Secretary.

Kirsty Kitto. 44 Fedrick St., MAYLANDS. 5069. (hm) 8132 0091 Physics Dep't #12681

Treasuer.

Paul Waclawik, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (Hm)8278 4820

Safety Officer.

Marie Choi 75 Cappella Drive, HALLET COVE 5158 (hm) 8322 0895

Librarian.

Sofia Dodds, Unit 79/2 Ayliffes Rd, St MARYS. 5042 (hm) 8277 9524

Equipment Officer.

Debbie Callison, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820

Newsletter Editors.

Paul Waclawik, and Debbie Callison 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820

SA Speleo Council Rep.

Keven Cocks, 10 Sloan Road, HAWTHORNDENE 5051 (hm) 8278 3156

Australian Speleological Federation Rep.

Keven Cocks, 10 Sloan Road, HAWTHORNDENE 5051 (hm) 8278 3156

Clubs and Societies Rep.

Kitto Kirsty.
44 Fedrick St.,
MAYLANDS. 5069.
(hm) 8132 0091
Physics Dep't #12174

Meeting time.

FUSS meets the first Tuesday in the month at 6pm in the Tavern and 6.30 in the Kelly Morris Rm or other meeting room in the Union building.

FUSSI Mailing Address

Flinders Uni Speleological Society C/- Clubs and Societies GPO Box 2100 Adelaide. S. A. 5001

INDEX

Who is who in FUSS	p. 2
Secretary's Report	p. 3
Equipment Officers Report	p. 3
Treasurer's Report	p. 4
Safety Officer's Report	p. 4
FUSS Equipment List	p. 5
ASF Representative's Report	p. 10
Mavis Loves Ruth	p. 9
Glooping around the Murray	p. 10
Caving in the Flinders	p. 11
What's on	p. 12

Front Cover Photo:

Repairing the Fourth Flat Tyre. Tommy Gunyah Bore. Photographer: C. Buswell

FUSS Secretary's Report 1998

This year FUSSI has held numerous activities. We can classify these actibities into two major categories: training and fun.

Our training activities have included events such as:

- Regular meetings (1st Tuesday of each month), which generally involved a quick discussion of relevant business, planning for future trips and the education of members.
- Training days, where we learned and practiced skills required for competent caving such as rigging ropes and ladder work. These days predominately involved "bridge days" where we would meet at the Flinders Univeristy footbridge and learn how to "jump off it" as safely as possibile.

Our fun activitlies have on the whole involved caving trips to locations such as Yarrangobilly caves in the Snowy Mountains, Corra Lynn Cave on the Yorke Penisula, the Lower South East and the Flinders Ranges. We have attempted to hold at least one trip every two months, and the trips have ranged in duration from short day trips to week long epics! We hope to attract as many people, with as many different work/study commmitments as possible with this range of available trips.

In addition to these predominately club activities, we have participated in Clubs and Societies Fair Days, as well as external caving club organisational committes.

Kirsty Kitto

FUSSI Equipment Officers Report 1998

The following items were purchased in December 1998 from the Scout Shop.

Edlerid Ultralight helmets 2	1998	\$75.00 ea			
Kong straight gate snap. Blue	4	1998	\$14.00 ea		
Steel Maillon	2	1998	\$15.95 ea		
Kong eye rings 10mm	10	1998	\$1.40 ea		
Harness Vertical	3	1998	\$80.00 ea		
Purple and black 9mm dynamic rope for two sets of cows tails.					

The following items were donated to FUSS from two FUSS members:

Two pairs of overalls, one yellow gumby suit and numerous lengths of tube tape. I would like to thank John and Di for this donation. The following items were collected by Mavis in 1998:

- One gear box, a set of valves, a clutch and other useful engine bits out of Clare and Heiko's car.
- The air conditioning unit out of Jonathan and Sharon's fixed somewhere around Managatang on the way to Yarrangobilly caves.
- A radiator that worked from Ralph's 4wd as he crossed the Hay plains also on the above trip.
- A contraceptive device from Eric and Kylea resulting in pregnancy (Child due in June/July)
- The ability to walk on slippery rocks, causing a broken leg on a canyoning trip on which Clare and Heiko were present.
- It appears that no coffee mugs were stolen this year.

Deborah Callision, Equipment Officer 1998

Treasurer's Report 1998

Well, it seems that we spent slightly more that we received, but overall things are looking good for the account.

One thing is the fact that the tax we were charged was nearly four times the amount of interest we received! So much for encouraging saving by the government!

	Opening balance		1,782.83
Income			
	Grants	740.00	
	Memberships	350.00	
	Interest	2.00	1092.00
Expenditure			
		1186.40	
	Tax	7.00	1193.40
	Closing Balance		1681.43

Also, the treasurer has decided against doing a Skase and making for Majorca with the money due to a lack of significant zeros in the balance.

Paul Waclawik

Safety Officer's Report 1998

A quieter year than I hoped training wise. There were 2 official bridge days with the first one, having the best attendance. This included members from CEGSA, Scout Caving Group and a few visitors. The second bridge day was attended by FUSSI members and a group preparing for a canyoning trip. I have donated to the library a series of Caver Training Videos. I hope to run a joint training day practicing some of the English techniques. I also hope to run an advanced vertical rescue weekend with Dave Trehearne at Naracoorte later in 1999.

I am aware of three minor incidents that occurred this year. The first was at the earlier bridge day when the partner of a CEGSA member got her hair caught in her abseiling device. A pulley was lowered down that she attached to her harness, she was then hauled up enough to remove her hair and then continued her abseil. The second incident occurred on the Naracoorte caving weekend when exiting S102 a member of the group became tired a metre from the top of the ladder pitch and needed some assistance getting over the lip. The third and most serious incident happened in the evening at the scout hall when someone put too much chilli powder in the tofu and I thought my tongue would melt!

So remember: Long hair must be tied back.

Be careful when cooking with Chilli

CAVE SAFELY

Marie Choi. Safety and Training Officer 1998

FLINDERS UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY INC. EQUIPMENT LIST January 1999

	Item	Quantity	Year	Replacement Purchased	Comments cost. R/R
	HELMETS				
	Cassin	10	1990	\$60.00ea	9 red, 1 white Replace 96 No's 1-10
	Petzel Vertical	2	1992	\$70.00ea	Nos 11 and 12 (12 cracked)
	Edelrid Ultralight	4	2x94, 2x95	70.00ea	Colour: 3 green, 1 white Nos 13,14,15,16
	Edelrid Ultralight	2	1997	75.00ea	Colour: white: No's. 17 &18.
	Petzel Ecron Rock	1	1997	\$120.00ea	Red. No. 19.
	Edelrid Ultralight	2	1998	75.00 1 green & 1 White	No's 20, 21 Colour
	Bump	6	1989}	-	Redundant due to Safety
	Hard hats	13	1978-83?	\$30.00ea	Guidelines: - No points of attachment for chin straps.
	LIGHTS Petzel Zoom	2	1993	\$75.00ea	
	Petzel Zoom	1	1993	\$75.00ea \$75.00ea	
	Petzel Zoom	1	1995	\$75.00ea \$75.00ea	
	Petzel Zoom	5	1997	\$75.00ea	\$48.00 w/sale No's:5-9 all with inserts
Т	OTAL Petzels 9 INSERTS				
	Inserts for Petzels	3	1993/95		
		5	1997	\$15.00ea	
		4	1998	\$15.00ea	Spares
	TOTAL	<u>13</u>			
	OTHER LIGHTS	0	1000	Ф4 Г. ОО	
	Dolphin Torches	2 9	1983 1978???	\$15.00ea 1000.00	
	Carbide Lamps Carbide Rock	9	1970 : : :	\$3.50kg	
	Carbide Granules	20kg	1989	\$4.50kg Kevin Solly: 8201 2	In Physics store. Tel 167
	Carbide Light				
	reflectors etc.	10		1985	
	Carbide Jets	2 x boxes		.000	
	HELMET CLIP SETS	;			
	Helmet Clips	6xset of 4	1993/5/6	\$1.25 ea (per c	lip)
	Helmet Clips	5xset of 4	1997	\$5.95 set	
	_				

TOTAL 11 x sets of 4

ROPES					
Bluewater 2 Static	1	1989	\$220.00ea	Cut in half in 19	995
Now 1x 26m and		1998	,	RETIRED	
1x15m lengths.		1998		RETIRED	
Bluewater 2+	1x50m	1991	\$220.00ea	Brown tag (ren	ew)
Bluewater 2+	1x50m	1992	\$200.00ea	Blue tag	
Bluewater 2+	1x50m	1995	\$200.00ea	Red tag	
Bluewater 2	1x10m	1994	\$50.00	For drag mat.	
Dynamic	1	1978	\$250.00ea Small le	Written Off.	
			Oman k	remains for	
			demons	tration	
Rope Protector			purposes		
Rope Protector	10	1993	\$5.00	Carpet	
Rope Protector red	4	1993	\$10.00ea	PVC	
Rope Protector green	າ 2	1995	\$10.00ea	Canvas	
Rope Protector					
White hose:	2	1995	donation	1.3m long ea	
Harness Rope					
Cows Tails 9m dynar	•				
Blue/Red fleck	4 sets	2x1994	\$10.00 ea	On SRT Kits N	o 1-4
dynamic rope	2x1995	\$10.00 ea			
Purple and black	0	01000	Ф4 Г 00 aa		
dynamic rope	2 sets	2x1998	\$15.00 ea	On SRT Kits N	0 5-6
Safety tails 9m dynamic rope	2 sets	1994	\$5.00 ea	Blue and Rec	l flook
dynamic rope	2 3613	1994	φ5.00 c a	Purple and B	
Total sets Cows tail	s 6				
Safety tails	2				
Kong eye rings 10mm	n 10	1998	R/R \$1.40.	For Cows tail	S
KARABINERS					
Screw-gates					
(In Green bag No. 1)					
S/Gate Stubai steel.		2	1989	\$25.00ea	Replace 2000
S/G Kong Coloured,		1	1990	\$16.00ea	Replace 2000
S/G Alum Alloy Cass	•	5	1992	\$15.00ea	-: (00
S/G Alum Alloy Kong (In Green Bag No. 2)	-	4	1995	\$12.50ea	were 5 in '96
S/G Alum Al DMM La		2	1991	\$25.00ea	3rd lost 95.
S/G Alum Al DMM M	_	2	1992	\$23.00ea	Replace 2000
S/G Alum Alloy Bluev		2	1992	\$12.50ea	Tieplace 2000
S/G Camp large gree		2	1997	\$21.95ea	
S/G Clog blue gate	_	<u>4</u>	1997	\$15.00 ea	
Total S/Gs		<u>24</u>		, , , , , , ,	
		_			

Clip-gates (White cloth bag)			
Snaps Red	5	1978	\$11.00 Replace 92
Silver Clog	1		
Description of Clip Gate karabiners or	n cow's tails		
Kit No 1: Stubai. black gate	2	94/95?	\$10.00 ea
Kit No 2 : Kong (green)		2	1996\$10.00 ea
Kit No 3: Clog silver	2	94/95?	\$10.00 ea
Kit No 4: Clog silver	2	94/95?	\$10.00 ea
Kit No 5 Kong Blue with silver gate	2	98	\$14.25 ea
Kit No 6 Kong Blue with silver gate	2	98	\$14.25 ea
Description of Clip Gates on Safety T			
Kong (green)	2	1996	
HB Wales Purple gate <u>4</u>	1997	14.25 ea	
Total C/Gs	<u>24</u>		
Maillons			
Maillon Rapide Alloy 10mm D.	2	1992	\$18.65 ea
Maillon Rapide Alloy 10mm D.	2	1995	\$18.65 ea
Maillon Rapide 6mm wide mouth	4	3x'93,	
•	1x'95	\$6.50 ea	get 2 engraved
Maillon Rapide Steel 10mm D	2	1998	\$15.95 Not engraved
Total Maillons	<u>10</u>		
HARNESSES			
Spelean Multifit	2	1991	\$34.00 ea Replace 98
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red)		4	\$34.00 ea Replace 98 1994
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3	1998		
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses		4	
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS	1998 <u>9</u>	4 \$97.00 ea	1994
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley	1998 <u>9</u> 2	4 \$97.00 ea 1989	1994 \$25.00ea Replace 95
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS	1998 <u>9</u>	4 \$97.00 ea	1994
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley Rescue system Pulley Blocks	1998 <u>9</u> 2	4 \$97.00 ea 1989	1994 \$25.00ea Replace 95
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley Rescue system Pulley Blocks Marine	1998 9 2 3	4 \$97.00 ea 1989 1993 1996	1994 \$25.00ea Replace 95 \$36.00ea
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley Rescue system Pulley Blocks Marine Pulley cord	1998 9 2 3 2 6mx8mm	4 \$97.00 ea 1989 1993 1996	1994 \$25.00ea Replace 95 \$36.00ea
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley Rescue system Pulley Blocks Marine Pulley cord Prussik cords	1998 9 2 3 2 6mx8mm 3x 1/2m	4 \$97.00 ea 1989 1993 1996 1996	1994 \$25.00ea Replace 95 \$36.00ea
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley Rescue system Pulley Blocks Marine Pulley cord Prussik cords Prussik cords	1998 9 2 3 2 6mx8mm	4 \$97.00 ea 1989 1993 1996	1994 \$25.00ea Replace 95 \$36.00ea
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley Rescue system Pulley Blocks Marine Pulley cord Prussik cords	1998 9 2 3 2 6mx8mm 3x 1/2m	4 \$97.00 ea 1989 1993 1996 1996	1994 \$25.00ea Replace 95 \$36.00ea
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley Rescue system Pulley Blocks Marine Pulley cord Prussik cords Prussik cords BELAY DEVICES	1998 9 2 3 2 6mx8mm 3x 1/2m 1x1m	4 \$97.00 ea 1989 1993 1996 1996 1996	\$25.00ea Replace 95 \$36.00ea \$70.00 Glass Craft
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley Rescue system Pulley Blocks Marine Pulley cord Prussik cords Prussik cords BELAY DEVICES Stitch plate (Salewa)	1998 9 2 3 2 6mx8mm 3x 1/2m 1x1m	4 \$97.00 ea 1989 1993 1996 1996 1996 1996	\$25.00ea Replace 95 \$36.00ea \$70.00 Glass Craft \$30.00ea Replace 92
Spelean Multifit Wayatt's Harness (red) Vertical Flashpoint 3 Total Harnesses RESCUE PULLEYS Riley Rescue system Pulley Blocks Marine Pulley cord Prussik cords Prussik cords BELAY DEVICES Stitch plate (Salewa) Stitch plate (Cassin)	1998 9 2 3 2 6mx8mm 3x 1/2m 1x1m	4 \$97.00 ea 1989 1993 1996 1996 1996 1996	\$25.00ea Replace 95 \$36.00ea \$70.00 Glass Craft \$30.00ea Replace 92

F	ASCENDERS Jumars Expedition Petzl	1 set 2	1978 1992	\$180.00 setReplace 93 \$70.00ea 1xLH&1xRH
	Chest Ascender (Croll)		4 \$50.00ea	3x92/1x95
	TAPES			
	Brown 50mm x 5 metre	.	2	1993
	Black 50mm x 5 metre	\$2.00/metre	4 Replace 98	?? \$2.00/metre
	Black 50mm x 2 metre		3	?? \$2.00/metre
	Black 50mm x 3 metre	4	1	\$1.50/ metre
	Tube Tape blue 1" x 6m	1	1992 Replace 98	\$1.50/ metre
	Tube Tape red 1" x 4m	2	1993	\$1.93/metre
	Tube Tape red 1" x 3m	1	1993	\$1.93/metre
	Tube Tape purple 1"x 3m	3	1993	\$1.93/metre
	Tube Tape purple 1"x 4m	4	1995	\$1.93/metre
	Tube Tape purple 1"x 7m	1	1995	\$1.93/metre
	Tube Tape Orange 1"x 3m	4	1998	Donation As New
	LADDERS			
	20 feet	1	1978	\$88.00
	50 feet	1	1992	\$130.00
	20 feet	1	1992	\$88.00
	Traces 8 feet	2	1990/2	\$11.95ea
	Wooden cable holder	1	1996	* · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	SURVEY			
	Compass Suunto	1	1992	\$159.50
	30m fibreglass tape Komelon	1	1996	\$40.00
	Wooden pegs	11		
	GEAR BAGS			
	Spelean gear bag large		1	1992\$89.00
	Backpack canvas small grey		1	1978
	Blue carry bags	2	1987	\$40.00
	SRT kit bags	4	1996	\$20.00 Grey
	Karabiner Bags	2	1995	donation green
	Small carry bag	1	1997	donation red

MISCELLANEOUS				
Blue Tarp.	1x6'x6'	1996	\$15.00	
Plastic Crate (brown)	1	1987	\$10.00	
Wooden Crate	1	1976	\$50.00	
Leather Gloves		1990	\$12.00pr	
Bib and Brace overalls		1	1994	
Boiler suit overalls	3	1998	Donation	
Plastic Oversuit	1	1994	\$90.00	
Plastic Oversuit	1	1998	Donation w	/ell used
Caver Impact kits	3	1991		
Soccer ball				
Loo brush				
CAMPING				
CAMPING	4	1001	#00.00	
25lt water Containers	4	1991	\$20.00	
Drag matt Foam Mattress	1	1989 1992	\$50.00 \$15.00ea	
	2	1992	197?\$20.0	^
Electric Lights camping	3	1995	\$0.50	U
Wooden spoons	1	1995	φυ.ου	
Egg flip	ı			
FUND RAISING AND ADVERTISING	ì			
FUSSI Banner	1	1989	Cloth	
Silk Screen	1	1989	\$50.00	With Club
Malian Band	41 014000	# 00.00		logo.
Notice Board	1x4'x3'1989		40.50	
Plastic Buckets	2x4gal	1995	\$0.50.ea	
Chamois	4	1995		Car washing
Signs: 'car wash'	2	1995		
FIRST AID KIT	2	1x'88. 1x'96	\$60.00ea	Maintain
				at
			\$50.00 per yr	
			P-0. J.	

Flinders Ranges. Easter. April 2-5 Wilkawillina Gorge, Eyrie, The Skull, Stockman's Cave.

Members Present: Clare Buswell, Heiko Maurer, Kevin Cocks, Paul Gardener- Stephens, Ruth Lawrence, (VSA). Carol and her dog.

Plus: One huge Ford station wagon - early 1980's model, 1985 New bits are missing Colt, Commodore sedan, mid 1980's known as the station wagon, as it fitted in the dog, three people and camping gear and food for two weeks (no roof rack).

I was assured by the Fuss Equipment Officer, Deb Callison that Mavis would be locked in a cupboard for all of Easter and that we had no reason to lock away our coffee cups, pocket knives and other sundry items that Mavis loves. So, with such an assurance Clare, Ruth and Heiko converged at the appointed meeting place around lunch time on Good Friday. After discussing the usual travel stories, (number of Kangaroos on the road, lack of open petrol stations between Broken Hill and Wilpena Pound etc) we set forth for the Tommy Gunyah Bore camp site. The first check on proceedings was a two foot deep and three foot wide gutter on the left hand side of the one car only track into the bore. We could pretend that our cars were as good as any four wheel drives and drive up the very steep embankments either side of the gutter or that a little road repair was required. After some scouting around to find any possible alternatives we got out the pick and did some very fancy earthworks. The result was a reasonably stable, less deep hole in the road.

Camp was set up, a long yarn about boilers and the Dargo River in Victoria ensued followed by a walk up Wilkawillina Gorge to meet up with Kevin and the crowd.

Great plans were hatched on Saturday morning as the billy boiled for the third or fourth cup of coffee or tea. Our major priorities were to find what was known as 'Stockman's Cave' by the local land owner, take a trip out to the Skull, check out the limestone in Wilkawillina Gorge and to consume 2 litres of cream over the weekend. The latter was to present a major challenge. At this point in the proceedings Clare decided to find out if she had asbestos hands and proceeded to pick up the just boiled billy. This needless to say, resulted in a severe burn to her hand and general mayhem in camp. (See separate article in this issue of FUSSI).

Thus it was decided that a trip into Wilpena Pound was required as we could pick up some extra water, get some instant freeze or equivalent for Clare's hand and come back via the Skull. A few kilometres out of Wilpena on badly corrugated dirt road, Kevin says "I think I hear a flat tyre". The Ruth mobile (the Ford station wagon with heaps of room), comes to a halt and sure enough the drivers side back tyre is flat. This is a simple process. Put on the spare and off we go. (Technical aside for petrol heads: Total tyre changing time; 2 mins. This included unloading the boot of the station wagon of all gear as well as changing the tyre itself and reloading.)

Wilpena Pound it seemed was populated by half of Adelaide and the tyre fixing guy was just down the road having a quite day and would be an hour of so. No problem for we sloth ridden FUSS members. Two hours later the tyre was fixed, ice was procured along with half a dozen beer and Clare's hand was wrapped up in an instant ice pack. So there we were driving along the track out to the Skull about 16km from the Pound and Ruth says, "We've got a flat tyre". Out we all pile and sure enough the drivers side front tyre is very intimately connected to the ground. We all shake our heads in dismay and mutter the word "MAVIS"! As we stand there looking at the front tyre a hiss is heard and we discover that the just repaired back tyre has a leak coming from the valve and a very nasty bulge in its wall. The situation is now serious as we only have one spare tyre. With FUSS efficiency we decide that the back tyre will hold up until we get back onto the main road and that a quick tyre change on the front is needed. This done, (technical aside: time taken 45 secs) we drive very slowly back to Wilpena hoping that we don't blow the back tyre on the way. Needless to say various plans are hatched on the way, mainly revolving around knocking off the spare tyres of any passing cars.

We return to Wilpena, repair two tyres and head to Hawker to replace the tyre with the damaged wall. At around 4 pm we are on our way back to camp at the intersection of the road out to the Skull and Ruth say's, "We've got a flat tyre." Groans and "it can't be" type statements are heard. Out we all get and sure enough the back drivers side tyre is flat. At this point Ruth runs away and another tyre change takes place. (This one took 15 secs.)

We arrive back at camp and Carol asks how the caving went. "Caving' the word is uttered with fond memories attached. 'No, we didn't do any caving. That was not on the agenda at all. No, we spent the day watching Mavis fall in love with Ruth!'

EASTER 1999

The crew of Clare, Heiko, Paul, Kevin and Ruth, with Carol left in charge of Mavis decoy tactics back at camp.

After spending the morning doing the tyre repair course 101A we decided that a walk down Wilkawillina Gorge was in order. So on with the car shuffle and an hour or so later saw us in the Gorge proper. After a good look at the geology map we wondered up the gorge and checked out a couple of good prospects on the cliff face.

Most were small vertical slots going up a couple of metres with a depth of a metre or so. Some contained a small number of speleothems and on the outside wall some eroded decoration was also noted. The largest of the vertical slots that occurred in the cliff face was some ten metres high, one metre wide going back in depth by five metres. The slot angled into the cliff line by about forty-five degrees. The roof of this slot also had speleothems, (around 10 cms in diameter and half a metre in height) which meet up with the sloping wall. It showed some promise of a lead or two but the lack of equipment and time was against us. Further along the gorge another opening was found and photographed but checking it out will have to wait until next time. It appears from this very brief sojourn that a couple of days spent camping down in the gorge itself could prove useful in allowing enough time to be had for a thorough look see.

On a previous trip to Wilkawillina a couple of hours of scrambling up a gully produced similar results with lots of eroded calcite formations on the cliff face suggesting that at least some cave systems were present here. The issue now is if anything substantial is left.

The next day saw a good walk out to Eyrie Cave via an impressive little canyon with, shock, shock, a pool of water in it. This water was lime green in colour but a couple of frogs and the odd gecko scampered around its edge. The local land owner had asked us to check out the area around Eyrie for a cave known as Stockman's cave. I had remembered on my last walk out to Eyrie a large overhang and thought that this may be it. A bit of walking further up the canyon and then up a hill or two found us looking back on this very rock overhang. Paul, now known as the goat, due to his possession of the young and fit bit that certain other members of the party had left at camp, was sent on the search mission to check it out. He reported that the overhang sheltered the odd kangaroo skeleton and had a sloping floor of 30 degrees with boulders on it. The depth of the overhang was about ten metres and a metre to a metre and a half in height. At the back of the shelter a chamber is found with the odd straw hanging from the ceiling. What is really interesting about this over hang is the massive collapse outside and the eroded speleothems on the surrounding low cliff walls. It is obvious that a large chamber once existed here and the roof of it has collapsed.

Getting back to whether it is the Stockman's cave mentioned by the landowner, it seems not, as it is not all that accessible for a stockman and a horse, because it is high up on the hillside with a difficult access for a horse. Looking at the GPS location for it, CEGSA has not designated it as Stockman's cave, titling it as Unnamed. I think that a longer talk with the land owner is needed!

We then climbed our way onto Eyrie and Paul had the opportunity to go underground. A hand line was rigged around a boulder and off we all went to experience the very old decorations and the dusty floor. Lots of photos were taken and Heiko suggested that dig might be in order 'just at the end of that little crawl, Paul.' Umm, beware of the jabberwock - older caver!

Thus ended, after a long walk back to camp and a drive back to Adelaide which did not involve any flat tyres, an eventful exploration trip that left an appetite for more.

WHAT IS ON FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS

Sun 2nd May 11am-4pm Bridge Training Day

All S A caving clubs invited.

Mon 3rd May 7.30pm **South Australian Speleo Council Meeting.**

Maid & Magpie Hotel, Norwood.

Tue 4th May 6.30.pm **AGM** Time and place to be announced.

Planning for the next trip will occur at

this meeting.

Sat/Sun 8-9 May. Upper South East.

Kevin Cocks Co-ordinating: 8272 3156

Tue 8th June 6.30pm **General Meeting. A Batty Night.**

Planning for the bat count and a bit of

Nullarbor Planning

Sat-Mon 12-14th June Bat Count. Upper South East.

Great weekend of caving counting bats and catching

up

with lots of other cavers in the state.

Marie Choi co-ordinating.

Tuesday 6th July 6.30pm General Meeting. Nullarbor Planning

July 5-26 Mid Year Break

July 16-25 Nullarbor.

Kirsty, with lots of help from everybody, will

co-ordinate.

August Date TBA 11 am Bridge Training

Sept Date TBA Flinders Ranges Trip.

Exploration in Wilkawillina Gorge Clare Buswell Co-ordinating:

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE. STUDENTS \$20.00 EVERYBODY ELSE \$30.00