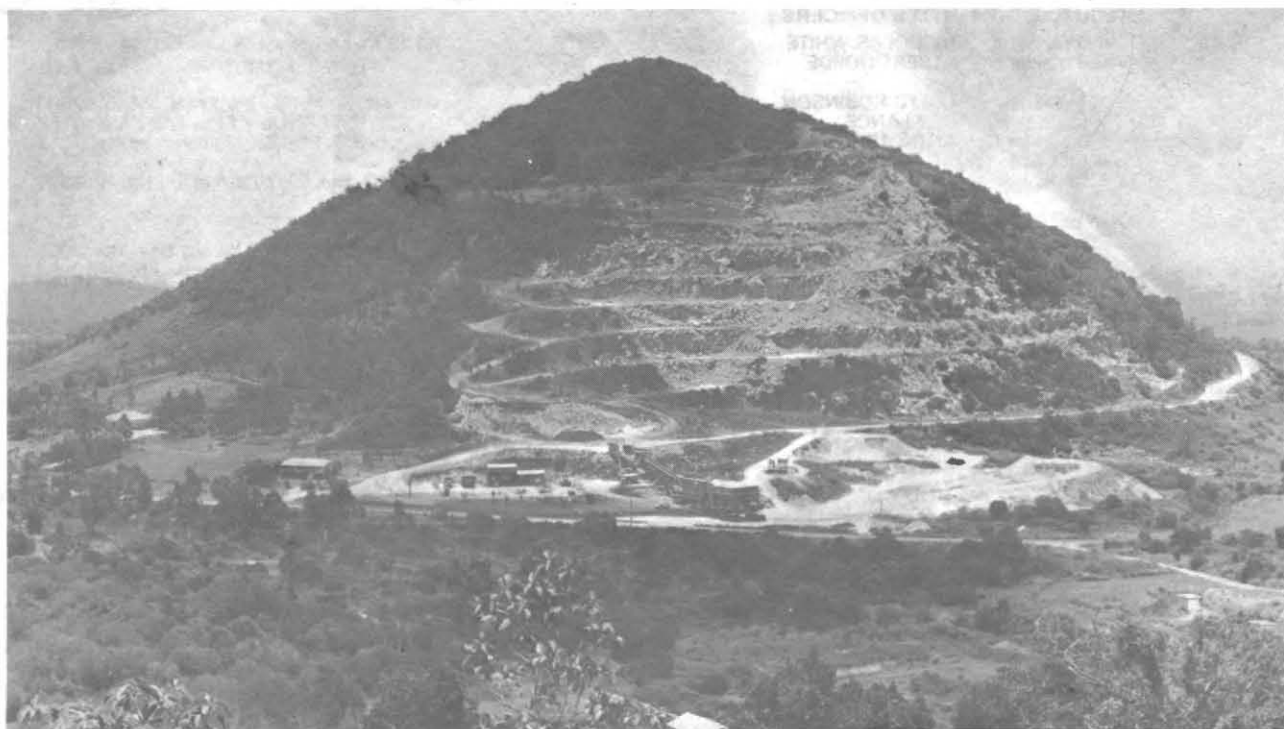


# ASF

# NEWSLETTER

Spring, 1978, No. 81



## THE AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL QUARTERLY

"Blast damage in Resurrection Cave, Mt. Etna, Qld. — stalactites impaled in the mud floor"

"Camm National Park"

Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a periodical — Category "B"

AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL FEDERATION  
P.O. BOX 388  
Broadway N.S.W. 2007

**50c**  
Recommended

ISSN. 0313 — 413 X

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CENTRAL Q'LAND SPELEO. SOCIETY  
UNI. OF QLD. SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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The Union, Uni. of Q'land, St. Lucia, Qld. 4067

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C/- South Aust. Museum, Nth. Terrace, Adelaide, S.A. 5000

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SOUTHERN CAVING SOCIETY  
TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB

Launceston, Tas. 7250  
P.O. Box 121, Moonah, Tas. 7009  
P.O. Box 416, Sandy Bay, Tas. 7005

#### VICTORIA :

VICTORIAN SPELEO. ASSOCIATION

G.P.O. Box 5425 CC, Melbourne, Vic., 3001

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SPELEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP, W.A.  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA SPELEOLOGICAL GROUP

P.O. Box 120, Nedlands, W.A. 6009  
P.O. Box 67, Nedlands, W.A. 6009

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P.O. Box 281, Campbelltown, N.S.W. 2560  
2 Synnot St., Nth. Geelong 3215  
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P.O. Box 198 Baulkham Hills N.S.W. 2153  
P.O. Box 52, Campbelltown, N.S.W. 2560  
C/- M. Pound, P.O. Box 3824, Port Moresby, P.N.G.

# ASF NEWSLETTER

Number 81, Spring 1978

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## EDITORIAL (SECRETARIAL)

Another year draws to a close, and another conference draws closer. In this issue you will find a list of positions vacant within the Federation. In addition to these, the Presidency and three Vice-President positions come up for election at the conference. Please discuss these positions within your club to make sure that the successful candidates will be able to lead ASF in the same way that the various retiring officers have done.

It is appropriate that we should thank the various retiring/resigning officers for their contributions to ASF.

Adrian Davey has rewritten the statement of duties of conservation secretary and has shown that ASF can produce well-reasoned, well-presented material for government inquiries. His work on the Nullarbor and Wyandene shows what trained enthusiasts can do and has set a professional standard for ASF to equal.

Robin Steenson has developed and refined the ASF Newsletter addressing system, which has been a considerable improvement. He has also provided valuable support to me, through his Sydney contacts.

Laurie Moody has produced a very high standard newsletter of which all members can be proud. I believe it is a reflection on the standard that two different clubs wish to take over the task of editing.

When something is worthwhile then people are keen to be involved. The fact that we have two offers to continue the task shows the esteem in which people hold the newsletter. I wish the next team all the best in maintaining the high standard.

On another tack, both Laurie and I thank all the contributors who have not only made this issue easy to produce, but have also provided half of Issue 82. Keep those contributions flowing in.

Tony Culberg.

\*\*\*\* - \* - \* - \*\*\*\*

DEADLINE DATE FOR ISSUE No.82 - 30th NOVEMBER - NEWS & SHORT ITEMS ONLY.

\*\*\*\* - \* - \* - \*\*\*\*

Editor ASF Newsletter: Laurie Moody, 13 Mason Street, Claremont, Tasmania. 7011 (002 49 3842)

Distribution: Tony Culberg, P.O.Box 36, Lindisfarne, Tasmania. 7015 (002 43 8546)

Back Issues: Robin Steenson, 10 Binda Street, Merrylands West, N.S.W. 2160

# WORLD LIST OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPELEOLOGICAL SERIALS : AUSTRALIA

G.J. Middleton

At its meeting during the 7th International Speleological Congress in September 1977 (Middleton 1978), the I.U.S. Commission for Bibliography resolved to prepare and publish a World List of English Language Speleological Serials. This follows the publication by the Commission of a list of French Language Speleological Serials (de Block, Chabert, Choppy & Gigon 1977).

As I was the only representative from Oceania present, I was asked to prepare the section on this part of the world. In practice this probably doesn't amount to much more than Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. However I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has any knowledge of speleological publications in English from any other parts of the Pacific (Fiji?).

Elery Hamilton-Smith prepared the first attempt at a comprehensive list of Australian speleological periodicals in 1966. This was revised and updated by Hamilton-Smith and Middleton (1971) and has been used as the basis of the following list. I have sought to check the information in this list with societies throughout Australia but unfortunately many have not replied. The list is now published, despite some obvious gaps and perhaps some omissions, in the hope that editors, librarians and other interested people will check relevant entries and advise the author of any necessary corrections or additions. I will allow at least two months after publication before forwarding the list to the I.U.S. Commission for Bibliography's President in Austria - so please communicate if you can help improve the accuracy or completeness of any entry.

## REFERENCES

- de BLOCK, G., CHABERT, C., CHOPPY, J. & GIGON, R. 1977 Liste des Periodiques Speleologiques de Langue Francaise. Speleological Abstracts, Supplement No.2:17-28.
- HAMILTON-SMITH, E. & MIDDLETON, G. 1971 Speleological Publication in Australia. A.S.F. Newsletter, 54:4-11.
- MIDDLETON, G. 1978 Report on 7th International Speleological Congress, Sheffield, England, 11-16 Sept. 1977. J.Syd.Speleol.Soc., 22(2):39-43.

## AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL SERIALS - 1978

### AUSTRALIA (NATIONAL)

#### AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

P.O. Box 388, BROADWAY NSW 2007

Newsletter: Nos. 1-6 (1957-59) irreg., 4to/f'cap, dup.  
                   7-22 (1960-63) qtly, 8vo, dup.  
                   23-52 (1964-71) qtly, 4to, dup.  
                   53-56 (1971-74) qtly, 4to; offset  
                   67- (1975- ) qtly, A4, offset

Subscription 1978: \$2 per annum

(Index to Nos.1-30 pub. Jan. 1972 as appendix to Australian Speleo Abstracts 1971(1).)

#### Australian Bat Research News (pub. in conjunction with C.S.I.R.O. Division of Wildlife Research):

Nos. 1 - 6 (1964-66) irreg., 4to, offset  
                   7 - (1967- ) irreg., A4, offset

(Issued gratis, but not published since No.13, Nov. 1974)

#### Australian Speleo Abstracts - see NSW, Sydney Speleological Society

#### Australian Speleology (digest of the year's best articles):

1971 Pub. Sydney, 1973 A4, dup.  
 1972 Pub. Brisbane, 1976 A4. dup.

#### Cave Management in Australia (Proceedings of Cave Tourism and Management Conference):

1st Jenolan (NSW) 1973 Pub.1976 A4, offset  
 2nd Hobart (TAS) 1977 Pub.1977 A4, offset

WORLD LIST OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPELEOLOGICAL SERIALS: AUSTRALIA Cont;Proceedings of Biennial Conference (Pub. with host society):

7th Goolwa (CEGSA) 1968 Pub.1969 4to, dup.  
 8th Hobart (TCC/SCS) 1970 Pub.1972 4to, offset  
 10th Brisbane (UQSS) 1974 Pub.1975 4to, offset  
 11th Canberra (CSS/NUSS) 1976 Pub. 1977 A4, offset

## SPELEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL LTD.

P.O. Box 183, BROADWAY NSW 2007

Helictite (Published by E.A.Lane):

Vol.1(1) - Vol.11(4) (1962-73) qtlly, 4to, offset  
 Vol.12 (1974) one issue, 4to, offset  
 (Published by Speleological Research Council):

Vol.13 (1975) one issue, 4to, offset  
 Vol.14(1) - (1976 - ) bi-an., 4to, offset

Subscription 1978: \$6.00 per annum

AUSTRALIA (REGIONAL)AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

## CANBERRA SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

18 Arabana Street, ARANDA ACT 2614

The Very Latest (and other titles on early issues):

Vol.1(1) - Vol.1(60) (1960-65) irreg., dup.  
 Vol.2(1) - Vol.5(9) (1966-70) mthly, f'cap/4to, dup.  
 Vol.5(10) - Vol.8(4) (1970-76) irreg., A4, offset  
 Vol.9(1) - (1977- ) irreg., A4, offset

## NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CAVING CLUB

c/- Sports Union, A.N.U., CANBERRA ACT 2600

Newsletter: Vol.1(1) - Vol.3(4) (1964-66) irreg., f'cap/4to, dup.Name changed to Speleograffiti:

Vol.3(5) - Vol.8(2) (1966-71) irreg., 4to, dup.  
 Vol.9(1) - (1972- ) irreg., A4, dup.

## YARRANGOBILLY RESEARCH GROUP

c/- B.M.R., P.O. Box 378, CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Newsletter: Nos.1-3 (1974-75) irreg., A4, offset  
 (Publication status as at June 1978 uncertain)

NEW SOUTH WALES

## BERMAGUI SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 16, BERMAGUI SOUTH NSW 2547

Bermagui Caver: Vol.1(1) - (1973- ) irreg., 4to, dup.

## BLUE MOUNTAINS SPELEOLOGICAL CLUB

P.O. Box 37, GLENBROOK NSW 2773

Down Under: Vol.1(1) (1969) one issueName changed to Oolite:

Vol.1(2) - Vol.3(3) (1969-72) irreg., 4to, dup.  
 Vol.4(1) - (1972- ) tri-an., A4, dup.

## COORANBONG SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

(Became defunct about 1963)

CSA Reports: Nos.1-3 (1957-59) irreg., 8vo(1&2)/4to(3), dup.CSA Newsletter: Vol.1 - Vol.4 (1959-61) c.mthly, 8vo, dup.Name changed to Caesar:

Vol.4 - Vol.5(7) (1961-72) c.mthly, 8vo, dup.

Annual Report: 1959-60 (only one issued)

## ENDEAVOUR SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 63, MIRANDA NSW 2228

E.S.A. News: Nos.1-4 (Nov.73-Apr.75) 2-3/yr, 4to, dup.

WORLD LIST OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPELEOLOGICAL SERIALS: AUSTRALIA Cont;

## ENDEAVOUR SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION Cont;

Name changed to Sevac:

Nos.5-7 (Aug.75-Apr.76) bi-an., 4to, dup.

Nos.8- (Jul.76- ) 2-3/yr, A4, dup.

## HIGHLAND CAVING GROUP

P.O. Box 154, LIVERPOOL NSW 2170

Calcite (originally The Caverneer):

Nos.1 - (1960-70) irreg., 8vo/4to/A4, dup./offset

Later issues were unnumbered; status as at June 1978 uncertain)

## ILLAWARRA SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 94 UNANDERRA NSW 2526

ISS Newsletter: Vol.1(1) - Vol.1(11) (1970-75) irreg., 8vo, dup.Yearbook: 1966-67; 1967-68 (only two issues)

## KEMPSEY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2 Albert Street, KEMPSEY NSW 2440

Trog: Vol.1(1) - (1960- ) c.mthly, 8vo, dup.

## METROPOLITAN SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 2, CROWS NEST NSW 2065

MSS Journal: Vol.1(1) - Vol.7(2) (1966-72) irreg., 4to, dup/offset

1973- (1973- ) annual, A4, offset

Newsletter: Nos.1 - 9 (1972-74) irreg., 4to, dup.

10 - (1975- ) bi-mthly, A4, offset

## NEWCASTLE SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

(Became defunct about 1971)

Information: Nos.1-10 (1967-70) irreg., f'cap, dup.

## NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(Originally Newcastle Technical &amp; Univ. College Speleological Society)

(Became defunct about 1972)

Cave: (unnumbered) (Jul.60-Nov.70) irreg., 4to/f'cap, dup.

Vol.9(1) - Vol.9(7) (1971) irreg., f'cap, dup.

Cave Annual: No.1 (1963) only one issue, 4to, dup.

## NEW SOUTH WALES INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

C/- The Union, P.O. Box 123, BROADWAY NSW 2007

Labyrinth: Nos.1 - (1973- ) irreg., A4, offset

## ORANGE SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 752, ORANGE NSW 2800

Central West Caver: Vol.1(1), (2) - Vol.2(1) (1961-62) irreg., 4to, dup.Descent: Vol.3(1) - Vol.7(1) (1966-70) irreg., 4to, dup.

Nos.1 - (1976- )

## PENINSULA SPELEOLOGICAL GROUP

(Became defunct about 1975)

P.S.G. Bulletin: Vol.1(1) - Vol.4(8) (1972-75) mthly, 4to, dup.

## RYDE SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

(Became defunct about 1961)

Newsletter: No.1 (Nov.60) only issue, 4to, dup.

## ST GEORGE AREA CAVING TEAM

C/- 1 Carrington Avenue, HURSTVILLE NSW 2220

Aragonite: Vol.1(1) - (1973- ) qtly, 4to, dup.

## SYDNEY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 198, BROADWAY NSW 2007

News Sheet: (unnumbered) (1954-57) irreg., 8vo, dup.Name changed to: News Bulletin:

(unnumbered) (May,57-Jul.59) mthly, f'cap, dup.

WORLD LIST OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPELEOLOGICAL SERIALS: AUSTRALIA Cont;

## SYDNEY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY Cont;

Name changed to: Communications:(unnumbered) (Aug.59-Jan.61) mthly, 8vo, dup.  
Vol.5(2) - Vol.6(8) (Feb.61-Nov.62) mthly, 8vo, dup.Supplement issued under name of Stop Press:

(unnumbered) (May.62-Jul.63) mthly, 8vo, dup.

Stop Press: (unnumbered) (Aug.63-Nov.64) mthly, 8vo, dup.

(unnumbered) (Dec.64-Dec.66) mthly, 4to, dup.

Vol.11(1) - Vol.13(12) (1967-69) mthly, 4to, dup.

Name changed to: Journal of the Sydney Speleological Society:

Vol.14(1) - Vol.20(6) (1970-76) mthly, 4to, dup.

Vol.20(7) - (Jul.76- ) mthly, 4to, xerox

Communications (Annual): Vol.1, 2 (1956) only two issues, 4to, dup.Year Book: 1962- (1962- ) annual, 4to, dup.(Since 1971 published as March or April issue of J.Syd.speleol.Soc.)Occasional Papers: Nos.1-3 (1965-69) irreg., 4to, dup.

No.4 (1972) one issue, 4to, letterpress

No.5 - (1972- ) irreg., 4to, xerox/offset

Australian Speleo Abstracts: (Pub. in association with A.S.F.):

1970(1) - 1972(2) (1970-74) bi-an., 4to, dup. (indexed)

1973 - (1974- ) annual, A4, dup.

## SYDNEY UNIVERSITY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Box 35, The Union, SYDNEY UNIVERSITY NSW 2006

SUSS Circular: (unnumbered) (1956-60) mthly, dup.Name changed to SUSS Newsletter:

Vol.1(1) - Vol.10(9) (1961-70) irreg., 4to/8vo, dup.

Name changed to SUSS Bulletin:

Vol.11(1) - Vol.15(11) (1971-76) c.mthly, 4to, dup.

Vol.16(1) - (1976- ) c.mthly, A4, dup.

SUSS Journal: Vol.1(1) - Vol.7(2) (1950-68) irreg., 4to, dup.Yearbook: 1955-67 (1955-67) annual, 4to, dup.

## UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Box 17, The Union, Univ. of N.S.W., KENSINGTON NSW 2033

Newsletter: Vols.1 - 3 (1960-64) irreg., 8vo/4to, dup.Name changed to Spar:

Vol.1(1) - Vol.6(3) (1965-70) irreg., 8vo/4to, dup.

Nos.1 - 45 (1971-75) c.mthly, 4to, dup.

Nos.46 - (1975- ) mthly, A4, dup.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

## DARWIN SPELEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter: Details not available (No.3, Sep.62, f'cap)QUEENSLAND

## CENTRAL QUEENSLAND SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 538, ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700

The Explorer: Vol.1(1) - Vol.3(8) (1970-73) mthly, f'cap, dup.

Vol.4(1) - (1974- ) bi-mthly, f'cap, dup.

## CHILLAGOE CAVING CLUB

7 Martyn Street, CAIRNS QLD 4870

News Sheet: Nos.1 - (1973- )Tower Karst: (1976- )

## UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Union, Univ. of Queensland, ST LUCIA QLD 4067

Down Under: (unnumbered) (1962-68) irreg., 4to, dup.

Vol.8(1) - Vol.13(5) (1969-74) 5/year, 4to, dup.

Vol.14(1) - (1975- ) 5/year, A4, dup.

Subscription 1978: \$2.00 per annum

Conservation Bulletin: Nos.1-6 (1965-68) irreg., 4to/f'cap, dup.

WORLD LIST OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPELEOLOGICAL SERIALS: AUSTRALIA Cont;SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

C/- South Australian Museum, North Terrace, ADELAIDE S.A. 5000

Newsletter: (unnumbered) (1955-66) qtly, f'cap, dup.  
 (unnumbered) (1967-73) qtly, 4to, dup.  
 Vol.18(1) - (1973- ) qtly, 4to/A4, dup.  
Annual Report: 1957-73 (1957-73) annual, 4to, dup.  
 1974- (1974- ) annual, A4, dup.  
Occasional Papers: No.1 (1958) one issue, 4to, offset  
 (No.5, 1976, A4, offset)

TASMANIA

## NORTHERN CAVERNEERS

(Name changed from Tasmanian Caverneering Club (Northern Branch) in 1973)

Troglodyte: Nos.1-10 (1966-67) mthly, 4to, dup.

## SOUTHERN CAVING SOCIETY

P.O. Box 121, MOONAH TAS 7009

Southern Caver: Vol.1(1) - (1967- ) qtly, 4to, dup.  
Subscription 1978: \$3.00  
S.C.S News: Nos. 1 - 9 (1971-73) irreg., f'cap, dup.

## TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB

P.O. Box 416, SANDY BAY TAS 7005

Bulletin: Nos. 1 - 3 (1957-59) annual, 4to, dup.  
 Vol. 2 (1960) one issue, 4to, dup.  
Speleo Spiel: (unnumbered) (1961-62) irreg., f'cap, dup..  
 Nos. 1 - 75 (1966-72) mthly, f'cap, dup.  
 Nos. 76 - (1973- ) mthly, A4, dup.

VICTORIA

## VICTORIAN CAVE EXPLORATION SOCIETY

(Incorporated into Victorian Speleological Association in 1967)

Circular: (Dec.57-62) irreg., f'cap, dup.  
Name changed to Newsletter: (Nov.62-Dec.66) irreg., 4to/f'cap, dup.

## VICTORIAN SPELEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

G.P.O. Box 5425CC, MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Nargun: Vol.1(1) - Vol.10(2) (1968-77) mthly, 4to, dup.  
 Vol.10(3) - (1977- ) mthly, A4, dup.  
Subscription 1978: \$5.00  
Annual Report: 1967/68 - 1972/73 (1968-73) annual, 4to, dup.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## SPELEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

P.O. Box 120, NEDLANDS W.A. 6009

SRGWA Newsletter: (unnumbered) (Jun.73-May,74) irreg., 4to/f'cap, dup.  
Name changed to The Cavers Chronicle:  
 (unnumbered) (1974) two issues, f'cap, dup.  
 Nos.3/74 - 7/75 (1974-75) irreg., f'cap, dup.  
 Vol.4(1) - (1976- ) bi-mthly, A4, xerox  
Occasional Paper: No.1 (1976) one issued, f'cap, offset

## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL GROUP

P.O. Box 67, NEDLANDS W.A. 6009

Journal: Vol.1 (1962) one issued, 4to, dup.  
The Western Caver: Vol.1(1)- Vol.3(2) (1961-63) irreg, 8vo, dup.  
 Vol.3(3)- Vol.4(9) (1963-64) irreg, 4to, dup.  
 Vol.5(1)- Vol.13(6) (1965-73) bi-mthly, 4to, dup.  
 Vol.14(1)-Vol.15(4) (1974-76) qtly, 4to, dup.  
 Vol.16(1)- (1976- ) qtly, A4, dup.



WORLD LIST OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE SPELEOLOGICAL SERIALS: AUSTRALIA Cont;AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS - CLASSIFIED SUMMARY

CATEGORY	ACTIVE (Published in 1977-78)	PUBLICATION CEASED OR SUSPENDED
Journals, newsletters & magazines	Aragonite (GSACT) ASF Newsletter Bermagui Caver (BSA) CEGSA Newsletter Descent (OSS) Down Under (UQSS) Helictite Journal of the Sydney Speleological Society Labyrinth (NSWITSS) MSS Journal MSS Newsletter Nargun (VSA) Oolite (BMSC) Sevac (ESA) Southern Caver (SCS) Spar (UNSWSS) Speleo Spiel (TCC) Speleograffiti (NUCC) SUSS Bulletin The Explorer (CQSS) The Cavers Chronicle (SRGWA) The Very Latest (CSS) The Western Caver (WASG) Tower Karst (CCC) Trog (KSS)	Aust. Bat Research News Calcite (HCG) Cave (NUSS) Cave Annual (NUSS) Central West Caver (OSS) Chillagoe Caving Club Newsletter Communications (SSS) Conservation Bulletin (UQSS) C.S.A. Newsletter C.S.A. Reports Darwin Speleological Group Newsletter E.S.A. News Information (NSA) ISS Newsletter NUCC Newsletter PSG Bulletin SCS News SSS News Bulletin SSS News Sheet Stop Press (SSS) SUSS Circular SUSS Journal SUSS Newsletter TCC Bulletin Trogodyte (TCCNB) UNSWSS Newsletter VCES Newsletter WASG Journal YRG Newsletter
Yearbooks, Monographs, Miscellaneous	Australian Speleo Abstracts (SSS/ASF) Australian Speleology (ASF) CEGSA Occ. Papers SSS Occ. Papers SSS Yearbook (see J.SSS) CEGSA Annual Report	CSA Annual Report ISS Yearbook SUSS Yearbook SRGWA Occ. Papers VSA Annual Report

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## OBITUARY - Emily (Pem) Skinner

It is with deepest regret that we announce the death of Emily (Pem) Skinner after a short illness. Emily and her husband Roy were associated with the Tasmanian Caverneering Club for many years and were well known not only to most Tasmanian cavers but to many mainland speleos as well. They moved to Hastings Caves in the early 1950's when Roy became cave guide there and later superintendent while Emily took charge of the restaurant at "The Chalet" and subsequently in the new building. Their stay at Hastings was the beginning of a period of close association with the caving fraternity.

Some years ago, after Roy Skinner won a Churchill Fellowship, he and Pem were able to travel around the world and see tourist caves and their management in many far away places. It was a period when they found many overseas friends.

When forced to move to Hobart about four years ago for health reasons they maintained their close links with cavers. Many TCC club meetings were held at their home and Roy maintained an active interest as a cave guide by organizing summer wilderness excursions to Exit and Croesus Caves.

We will always remember Pem for her warm personality, her interest in young people and her ability to make visitors feel welcome and at home. She will be sorely missed. ASF extends our sympathies to Roy and their children, Andrew and Fiona.

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Mr. L. Moody,  
ASF Newsletter Editor,

Dear Laurie,

For some time now I have pondered over where to publish an article, at club ASF or WACCON even, calling for a change of attitude by ASF members, in response to a changing speleological scene. The comments made by Elery Hamilton-Smith in Committee Meeting Reflections have caused me to publicise my points briefly below.

It seems everyone is aware of the "NSW problem" except people in NSW. This paranoia seems to be the product of the imaginations of people outside NSW. Elery has probably been able to perceive this by virtue of the fact he is not from NSW either. If a NSW problem does exist in the minds of others then NSW can hardly be held most part responsible as he would suggest. My belief is that the NSW delegates who are the more senior members of the caving fraternity and not as active in caving as many others, do however, represent more mature views and more unified views on Australian Speleology. I guarantee they consider the interests of Australia more important than inter-society squabbles within their state. It is a pity other states don't consider Australia more important than their state, an attitude the afore-mentioned paranoia is symptomatic of.

I would like to agree with Elery in saying that "the increasing number of NSW societies and the voting structure of the Federation are NOT the real issues"\* but I challenge his perception of what the problems are. It may be true in other states that there are too many cavers and too few caves and I admire the conservationist motive which underlies such a statement but in NSW this is not really the case (yet).

If the number of cavers in NSW is increasing then it is not through the expansion of ASF societies but through the expansion of non-affiliated activity and youth groups or the proliferation of new clubs some wishing to join the federation. I believe it would be better to allow such new groups to join.

I can understand how the increase in the number of NSW societies could upset cavers from other states especially those like Victoria with a well-oiled unifying machinery which (unfortunately) only yields them 1 vote. I am not implying the Victorians are wingeing in fact I compliment them on their organisation and ability to overcome what I see as a problem NSW societies can't overcome!

If there is a NSW problem it is this:

There is absolutely no reason why any young, active, aspiring caver would want to join an ASF society despite the obvious benefits we can see for him. He would rather cave with friends, learn from his own experience and not commit himself totally to long, tedious scientific studies of caves when a large part of his interest is solely derived from uninhibited enjoyment of the cave environment and its surrounding bushland. It takes any fresher too long to break into a caving club and requires too much effort to become included in cliques arising from experiences he has not shared. It is not worth the bother and this energy threshold is our fault and thus we should not condemn any new group of cavers for wanting to do their own thing.

The fact that the number of societies is increasing is due also to the fact that older societies don't fade away. They retain several more senior members who often accentrate these cliques. The clubs experiencing less of this problem are the Uni. clubs who regularly experience almost complete membership turnover due mostly to the fact that their recruitment is assured. This is not to say such clubs don't have to work on recruiting, it is just that other clubs, like my own, have to work quite hard utilizing all possible channels. Such channels as the phone book, radio and shop bill-boards should be used to the fullest to encourage younger cavers to join our society rather than start their own for the obvious benefits to all concerned and especially for the good of the caves.

I congratulate Elery on his constructive suggestions towards overcoming the problems which face all ASF societies as a whole. Although he expected criticism, I hope he sees me as not too displeased with his article.

Yours faithfully,

Stephen Bunton,

HCG/SUSS.

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PLEASE NOTE - The University of Queensland Speleological Society have advised us that due to an increase in production costs, the price of "Save Our Caves" T-Shirts will rise to \$5.00 after the 30th. September, 1978.

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# NOTICES & NEWS

## CAVING EQUIPMENT HAVE MOVED

With regard to the note which appeared in ASF Newsletter No.80, p.8, I wish to clear up some confusion which may have arisen. Caving Equipment has now moved its centre of operation to Kirribilli. Robin Steenson is acting as an agent for Caving Equipment in Sydney's western suburbs. Any caver who lives in the area is more than welcome to drop into 10 Binda Street, Merrylands, where Robin has a large range of gear in stock.

Caving Equipment is run by a group of cavers - our aim is to make available good gear for all cavers. We have extensively tested and used all gear we sell or manufacture. We are the only people in the business prepared to come out and show you how to use the gear we sell. This offer is mainly limited to NSW for obvious reasons, but we are prepared to run an instructional session at WACCON if anyone is interested.

As long standing members of ASF we fully support ASF and offer discounts on selected first quality gear to ASF members. We also offer bulk purchase discounts for sales over \$250 to groups who buy together or clubs and Societies. As a further measure of support for ASF, Caving Equipment is making available an open order for \$20 for the best humorous article or cartoon, and the best map published in any ASF club or society newsletter during the year. Winners will be selected by an ASF nominated committee and prizes to be presented at WACCON.

If for some reason people are dissatisfied with our goods or service please tell us - we can't fix problems if we don't know about them.

Philip B. Toomer.

## 1978 UQSS CAMOOWEAL EXPEDITION

The 1978 UQSS Camooweal Expedition has returned after having notched up another 1.4 kilometres of surveyed passage in Kalkadoon Cave (See ASF Newsletter No.78). This now brings its surveyed length to 5038 metres (7th longest in Australia) with still heaps more cave to be surveyed. The party had hoped to reduce the number of question marks on the map but every passage explored just goes forth and multiplies and there are now between 60 and 70 unexplored leads. The water-table has been reached by one passage at a depth of 77 metres which makes it Queensland's second deepest cave (as well as second longest) but ironically only one or two handlines are needed. A full report will be published in the UQSS magazine Down Under.

Anyone interested in joining a major expedition to the area in July or August 1979 should contact either Ken Grimes or Lex Brown of UQSS. There is obviously much more work to be done in Kalkadoon as well as the numerous other partially explored caves in the Camooweal area. It is expected that the expedition will also visit the idealic Lawn Hill Gorge and its associated karst.

Simon Jolly.

## SPELEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL - CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Speleological Research Council Ltd (SRC Ltd) publishers of Helictite and fine books on caves and caving wishes to announce that its new address is P.O. Box 183, Broadway, 2007. Change your address list, address books etc. NOW! This address is to be used for all correspondence concerning the SRC Ltd., including orders for Papua New Guinea Expedition Reports, both Jenolan Books, Jenolan Bibliography, Colouring in Books and Australian Natural History "Caves" Issue.

All correspondence for Helictite including submitted papers and subscriptions should be addressed to P.O. Box 183, Broadway, 2007. For Helictite subscribers who are getting anxious, Volume 15 (Diprotodon photography, Syncarids of Tasmania, Frustration and New Year Caves at Cooleman Plain, Jenolan Watertracing, and the report of ASF National Heritage Study) is currently being printed and Volume 16 (Subterranean Meander Cutoff at Abercrombie, Geomorphological Studies at Cliefden Caves, Karst Water Aggressiveness and calcite quill anthodites from Wyanbene) will be out very close behind. We apologise for the delay but Volume 15 is the biggest volume of Helictite ever prepared and it is worth waiting for we assure you.

Andrew Pavey.

## HIGHLAND CAVING GROUP SEPARATION

The N.S.W. Speleological Council has formally recognised the complete independence and autonomy of the former Sydney and Canberra divisions of H.C.G. This separation has been undertaken harmoniously without animosity with the groups now being known as:-

Highland Caving Group (H.C.G.)  
Capital Territory Caving Group (C.T.C.G.)

Ian S. Bogg  
Convenor,  
N.S.W. Speleo. Council.

CAVES OF AUSTRALIA : No.14

**RESURRECTION CAVE, MT. ETNA, QUEENSLAND****John Webb**

The full moon cast an eerie glow over the benches and rubble piles of the quarry. Crouched behind a lantana thicket, the party gave their equipment a final once-over and synchronised their watches. Clad in khaki overalls to blend with the light-coloured limestone of the quarry, their faces blackened, they looked a savage crew. One by one they checked the cloth wrappings on their karabiners, ensuing no noise would give away their position to the listening ears they knew were ahead. As a particularly large cloud eclipsed the moon, the group moved into action, scurrying along the benches and using fallen blocks of limestone for cover.

As they approached the target, each one unslung his or her gear ready for instant use. Was this a P.L.O. attack on a secret Israeli base? A drug squad raid on a lonely farmhouse? No, just a routine trip to Resurrection Cave!

The cave, E22, is located on Mt. Etna, a conical limestone peak about 25 km north of Rockhampton. Mt. Etna has been quarried for limestone since 1966 and is the subject of a protracted conservation battle which is by no means finished (Caffyn, 1970; Hamilton-Smith & Champion, 1976).

Over the 1967 Easter holidays a party of University of Queensland Speleological Society members, led by Henry Shannon, visited Mt. Etna. On the night of Easter Sunday they decided to check a local rumour that the quarry had broken into a beautiful cave, and in the wall behind Bench 1 they discovered a small hole. This led to an 8 metre drop, where a metal ladder, stabilised by ropes, had been installed by the quarrymen. The cave was large and possessed excellent decoration, with magnificent helictites, straws and shawls. Margot Greenhalgh (1971) later recalled the heat and "humidity of a previously closed system, red slippery mud, the occasional drips showing its life, and, above all, the perfection of its formations". It was named Resurrection or Quarrymans Cave, the former name having stuck.

It was necessary for parties to surreptitiously visit the cave at night because the entrance lies within mining leases held by Central Queensland Cement Pty Ltd (CQC), who operate the quarry. On several occasions company employees have seen cavers on Mt. Etna and forcefully demanded that they leave immediately. The opening paragraph of this article is only slightly exaggerated, as the foreman's house is just 400 metres from the cave entrance. During World War Two, Mt. Etna was used by commandos of Z Special Unit under Captain Sam Carey, for training in the use of limestone caves deep within enemy territory. Some UQSS members felt that their night-time excursions were carrying on a worthy tradition, and, despite the difficulties, the cave was visited up to three or four times a year.

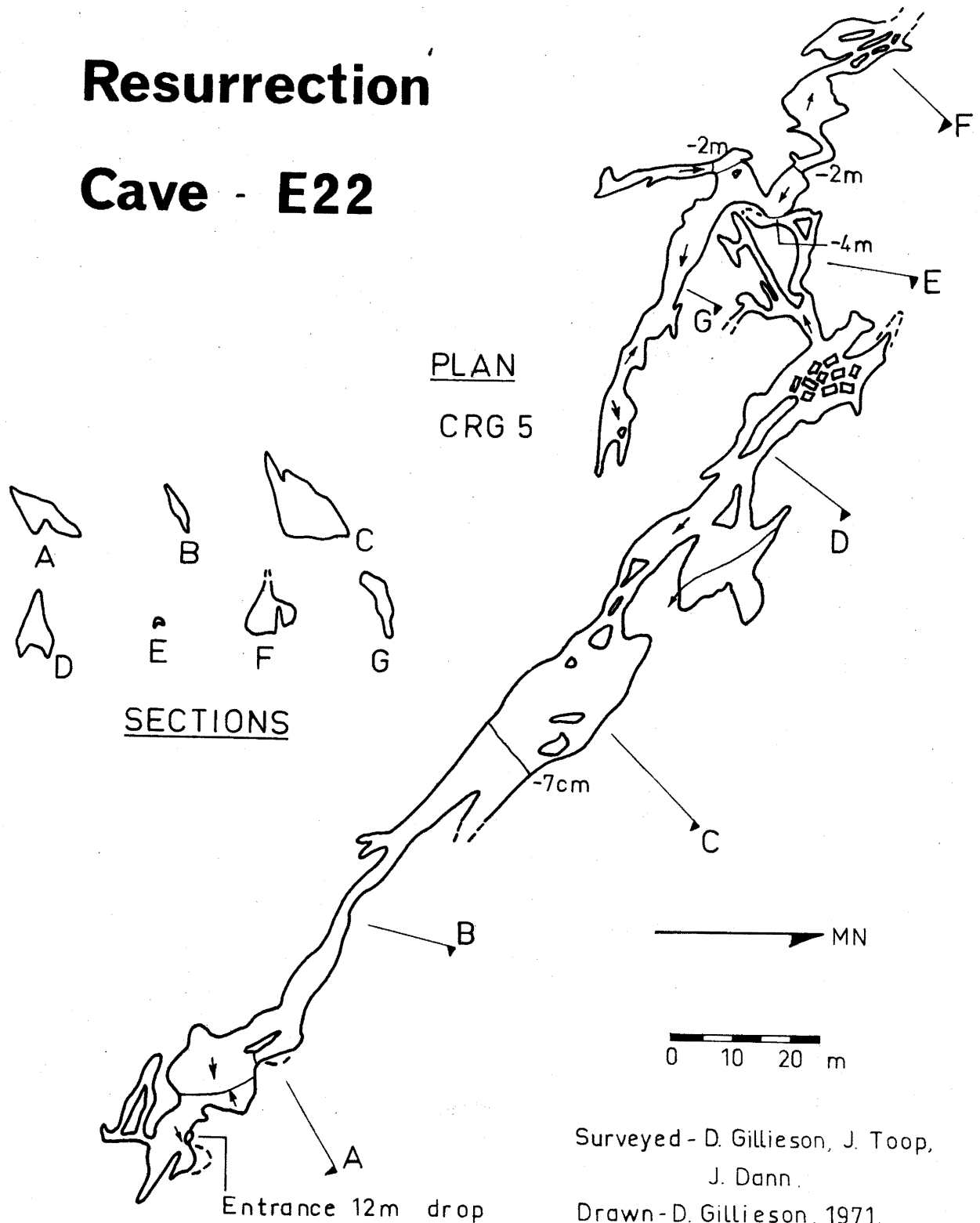
In June, 1968 Paul Caffyn discovered a major extension, again very well decorated, but in March, 1969 the cave entrance was found to be covered with rubble, presumably bulldozed over from the bench above. This must have occurred very soon after a party of scouts went through the cave and wrote of their visit in the local paper. Prior to this, CQC surveyed the cave and produced a fairly accurate map for their own purposes. A small hole above the original one still allowed access, with an entrance pitch of 12 metres. Sometime before August, 1971 the old entrance was re-opened when the boulder pile was removed by the company, and a wooden extension ladder installed. This hole was bulldozed over again and in December, 1974 the upper entrance was found to be gated with a series of steel bars. It was possible to squeeze behind these and they made excellent anchor points when rigging the pitch. However, a visit in December, 1977 discovered a considerable number of solid steel rods added to the gate so as to make it impenetrable. It must be pointed out that the company's rationale in gating the cave is at least partially legally based. If a person was injured in Resurrection, and it was suggested that CQC had been negligent in not preventing public access to a dangerous cave, then that person could possibly sue the company.

The cave itself is essentially linear and aligned WNW (Shannon, 1970), with a surveyed length of 450 metres and a vertical range of 38 metres; the entrance is believed to be 4 to 5 metres below the original ground surface. The first chamber, at the foot of the entrance pitch, possesses excellent flowstone and gours. A long narrow passage connects with the second cavern of which on the north wall is a display of red-brown shawls edged with white. Above is a decorated aven with straws, and inset in the southern wall are live helictite clusters. The lowermost helictites have knife-like accumulations of mud on them, and indeed thick mud covers the floor and lower walls of much of the cave. This mud appears to have entered Resurrection some time ago, as unstained flowstone is forming over it in several places. In the north wall of the second chamber, a muddy crawl leads off but has not been surveyed. Blast damage in the first and second caverns is noticeable, with large stalactites up to 0.8 metres in diameter having fallen from the roof and impaled themselves in the mud. Some formations also appear to have been vandalised, probably by visitors when the ladders allowed easy access to the cave.

Continuing on, a series of narrow passages finishes in a large cavern. A crawl low down in the southern wall of this goes up a slope, through a squeeze and into the extensions, where passages lead off in three directions. The one going WNW has beautiful flowstone in its early sections, but soon degenerates as it has suffered heavily from blast damage. Huge boulders have fallen from the roof and cracks criss-cross the walls; some parts seem very unstable. This passage narrows but has been pushed until a smell of earth and vegetation became noticeable; a quick look at the quarry bench in

# Resurrection

# Cave - E22



RESURRECTION CAVE Cont;

this area has revealed a spot where this probably connects. The ESE part of the extensions has very good helictites in the roof and ends in a pitch which is unsurveyed. Another lead, yet to be fully explored, is a crawl off that going to the extensions; it becomes impassably narrow but a chamber can be seen ahead.

A few unidentified bats use Resurrection as a roosting site, which is interesting as the cave was probably completely closed before being broken into by the quarry. Small amounts of guano are present in places.

Resurrection Cave is without a doubt the best decorated cave in an area where good formations are uncommon, and its discovery added new impetus to the campaign then being waged against the limestone mining taking place. Today that battle continues, amid rumours that the quarry benches will be enlarged and Resurrection Cave will cease to exist. This is the cave that Hamilton-Smith and Champion (1976) said was "richly decorated in a way quite different to either of the existing groups of developed caves; it is extremely beautiful and would readily lend itself to tourist purposes".

This article is not only a description of Resurrection Cave but a plea for its salvation. YOU can help by writing to the "Courier Mail", Campbell Street, Bowen Hills, Queensland, 4006, and to the Queensland Premier (J. Bjelke-Peterson) and Mines Minister (R. Camm), c/- Parliament House, Brisbane, 4000, arguing that the quarrying should stop and Mt. Etna be made a national park. Pure (1977) sets out additional arguments against the mining.

REFERENCES

Much of the material in this article was derived from unpublished trip reports and personal communications from Mike Bourke, Lex Brown, Dave Gillieson and Henry Shannon.

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## NULLARBOR KARST STUDY

The Federation is currently undertaking a study of karst management on the Nullarbor for the W.A. Department of Conservation and Environment. The objectives of the study are to identify the caves and karst features on the Nullarbor which should receive specific kinds of management, and to suggest ways of co-ordinating conservation, recreation, tourism, and land management of the area.

The first phase of the study, involving field reconnaissance and an initial report, is well under way. A group of six ASF personnel recently spent a fortnight out on the Nullarbor, accompanied by representatives of the W.A. Department of Conservation and Environment, W.A. National Parks Authority, and the W.A. Museum. The first report is due to be submitted to the Department in October.

The ASF personnel associated with the study at present are Nicholas White and Elery Hamilton-Smith in Melbourne; Ian Lewis, Jim Cundy, and Kevin Mott in Adelaide; Ken Lance, Kerry Williamson, and Bob Shoosmith in Perth; and John Dunkley and Adrian Davey in Canberra. Adrian is co-ordinator of the project.

Phase II of the project will be a Development Study of Weebubbe Cave. Fieldwork for this part of the study will be undertaken in conjunction with the Perth conference this summer. There will need to be an even wider group of people contributing to this part of the operation, including civil and electrical engineers, surveyors, divers, biologists, and planners. The final report is due in about April, 1979.

As well as the Development study, it is likely that we will organise several workparties to clean up several of the Nullarbor Caves, and undertake minor protective measures. If you can help, please mention the fact when you register for the conference field trips on the Nullarbor.

Adrian Davey.

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## SEARCH & RESCUE CALL-OUT

**Tony Culberg**

On Sunday 30th July, the Tasmanian Search and Rescue organisation was given a full scale check.

The officer in charge of a University college had reported that a party of four from his college had not returned from a one day trip to Midnight Hole, part of Entrance Cave at Ida Bay. The full Police Search and Rescue Squad and members of both Hobart-based caving clubs and other active cavers assembled on Sunday to plan the rescue. As Midnight Hole is a vertical cave with old bolts (about 9 years), it was feared that there may have been a serious incident.

The local police (Dover) were asked to check the parking lot at Ida Bay Quarry, and when it was reported that the car was still there we were sure that we had a real exercise.

The gear was taken in a Range Rover and a Toyota 4WD, the people in a Coaster Bus (19 seats) and an ambulance and Holden Sedan went in case.

The Holden, containing Senior Constable Keith Harper, Brian Collin and myself arrived first to find the 'lost' party packing gear into their car, and quite adamant that they did not need rescuing. They were further more embarrassed when the rest of the convoy arrived close behind us.

It appears that the trip had been quite okay and it had been planned for two of the party to squeeze out through Matchbox Squeeze and the other two to prussik back to the surface. The prussik team had not taken the correct rope for the final (45 metres) pitch and had abraded half-way through the rope with one person's ascent. (It seems that no rope protectors were used).

On a later pitch (35 metres) a pack had been dropped and much time was wasted retrieving it. The party had reached the surface about midnight, and had not bothered to make the effort to reach a phone (forty minutes walk plus ten minutes drive away) to notify their college.

The only other comment is that the organiser of this trip is a member of an ASF club and is not a trip leader. It should also be stressed that this was not an official club trip, and that this is not the first time that this person has led trips without informing the club and with unsuitable gear.

Perhaps if all clubs had minimum standards for trip leaders and enforced them, as well as conducted training sessions in trip leader techniques then this type of incident need not have occurred. As a result, the time of 20 or more people was wasted, as was a significant amount of fuel, wear and tear etc. on a pointless rescue.

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## GATING OF PHOENIX CAVE

**Graeme Smith**

Phoenix Cave was dug from the surface by members of Highland Caving Group in April, 1974. After breaking through to the cave it was explored for about 100m of passage to a depth of 38m. The passage at this stage was generally small and awkward. Progress was stopped by a squeeze (subsequently found to be 15m in length) and high levels of CO<sub>2</sub>. Members noted a remarkable display of etched fossils through much of the cave.

It was decided not to publish the discovery of the cave in the hope that this would distract traffic. Later in 1974 members of the St. George Area Caving Team were shown the cave by HCG and, being smaller in stature, succeeded in passing the squeeze and discovering a further 340m to a total depth of 70m. News of the discovery soon got around despite attempts to keep the location secret.

Macquarie University Speleological Investigation Group visited the cave shortly afterward and noted a remarkable fossil to which they returned on a later week-end with a palaeontologist. However, the fossil had been removed. No one has claimed responsibility for its removal.

During the survey of the cave a silverfish was found and this has been identified as a new species which is found in a number of caves at Bungonia, and in large numbers (initially) in Phoenix (B60). It has not been found outside Bungonia Caves. Also a large number of crickets were noted in the entrance. Such large numbers in one place is unusual at Bungonia and in early 1977, Glen Campbell of UNSWSS began a long term study of the ecology of the crickets of this cave.

In August, 1976 Stephen Buntton of HCG/SUSS began a fauna survey, hoping to relate cave species to its derivations from surface species. This project is still continuing. However it was noted that there had been a steady decline in the numbers and types of animals encountered. After the cave entrance was blocked for six months, the number of specimens again proved high. It was presumed that the faunal demise was simply due to the increasing useage of the cave. To minimise this useage permission to gate the cave was obtained from the Bungonia Caves Trust and a gate was installed by HCG in March, 1978.

This cave is a unique faunal preserve. It is hoped that its sanctuary will be respected. We have lost many of the fossils but there are still excellent sediment banks and helictites. It is believed that the fauna will re-establish itself if left undisturbed for a few years.

Keys to the cave may be obtained from HCG for legitimate scientific purposes. The area Ranger has a key for emergency use. The club requests all cavers to respect the gate and to report if it has been damaged.

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## DOWN UNDER ALL OVER . . .

## news from around the societies.

- CEGSA : Jim Cundy reports that all has been a bit quiet in S.A. recently. The accurate cave locations, tagging and photography has continued, and as the Upper South East is nearing completion, the efforts are being turned towards other areas in the state. Kevin Mott ran another highly successful Search and Rescue Exercise and it was pleasing to note that cavers were better organised and more efficient in their handling of the situations. However it was also obvious that there was a large lack of first aid knowledge. Terry Reardon, the new Membership Officer, has been encouraging members to run 'Introductory Trips' for the newer members of the club. A great chance for them to learn the ropes.
- CTCG : Jim Wilson informs us that most of the major trips planned by the Capital Territory Caving Group during the past months have had to be abandoned due to the foul weather. Trips to Bendethera and Wyanbene Caves, which involve crossing the flooded Shoalhaven River, were the main victims. Beginners trips to Mt. Fairy and Wee Jasper proved very popular as per usual. At Wee Jasper, quite a few new members did their first real caving, under the watchful eye of the Safety Officer and the veteran cavers in the club. All cavers were appalled at the amount of trash in the caves at Wee Jasper. A small clean-up yielded beer cans, cigarette packets, lolly wrappers and the inevitable dead dry-cell batteries and flash cubes! If all responsible clubs using the caves were to remove a small quantity of rubbish with each visit, the general deterioration of the caves might be halted. CTCG feels that some (or most) cavers have given Wee Jasper up as a completely hopeless situation; but it's an excellent beginners area and we should all try to stop the 'rot' which seems to have set in. Even 'R.I.P Skeleton' in Pitch Chamber, Punchbowl Cave, has been desicated and the bones scattered. Work on the meteorological project at Yarrangobilly continues, with regular measurement of significant cave variables. The fully automated, microprocessor controlled, miniature data gathering stations being prepared by the electronics experts in the club, will soon be ready. Unfortunately, the transfer of the only permanent Ranger at the Yagby Caves Site has left the selection of acceptable permanent measurement sites in the cave systems virtually impossible. Club nights have been well attended and the Club Safety Officer has augmented his Safety Talks with 16mm training films on knots, rock climbing etc., obtained from the National Library's excellent collection of loan films. CTCG members, along with CSS and NUCC were privileged to be able to attend a lecture given by Bro. Nicholas Sullivan, an American teaching brother, specialising in Cave Biology. His travels to all parts of the world, to pursue his interest, yielded some excellent slide material. His illuminating talk was well received and the club extends its thanks to John Dunkley et al. of CSS for arranging it all. Future trips are planned to Cliefden and Bendethra areas. A novel 'Breathalyzer' demonstration has been arranged by one of CTCG's members, a member of the ACT Police Force. Members of all Canberra clubs will be invited to attend and drink their fill, followed by a 'blow-in-the-bag', all very casually; those nauseating road accident films will also be shown. Jim stresses that members should be a bit wary in case the rest of the police force sets up shop down the road to intercept those who might risk driving home, fully primed . .
- SCS : Ron Mann reports that the following information covers the period February to July 1978. The Easter trip was made to Mole Creek where the club camped with CEGSA and VSA members. There was a total of 19 people at the Wet Caves campsite over the Easter. Club members caved in Croesus, Wet Caves-Georgies, Honeycomb 1, 1½ and 2, Kubla Khan, Kellys Pot, Pyramid and Spider Caves. One day was considered too good to waste underground so most of the members walked to the top of the Western Tiers and enjoyed the view over Mole Creek and Caveside. SCS thoroughly enjoyed the company of fellow cavers from S.A. and Victoria. Another trip to Mole Creek in May was washed out by heavy rain however the party did show some visitors Honeycomb and Wet Caves. A party of nine went to Exit Cave at Ida Bay in April but as it was a day trip only, explored Hammer Passage and other nearby passages. Wolf Hole at Hastings was visited in May and the party spent five hours underground. The sea caves north of Darlington on Maria Island off the east coast of Tasmania were looked at by Kevin Kiernan, Leigh Gleeson and several others and they reported that the smell of seaweed is a little overpowering in some of the caves. In the Junee-Florentine area the club has fielded ten trips during the period. Growling Swallet was bottomed in March during low water levels. After Easter, Leigh Gleeson took Jeanette McLaren (VSA) and Neil Smith (CEGSA) to Khazad Dum and with the small party and SRT, the trip was done in 12 hours. Several trips were held to Beginners Luck Cave to show the Police Search and Rescue members the cave prior to the S&R exercise on the 27 May. An attempt to push the base chamber of Khazad Dum was made in April by Leigh Gleeson and Lin Wilson who entered K.D. via the JF14 entrance. The party camped in the base chamber in an attempt to spend one day exploring but water levels forced an early conclusion to the trip with no real results obtained. A further trip is planned for the summer months. Members of the society attended the S&R exercise at Maydena on the 27th May and valuable experience in rescue techniques was gained. Members of the Ambulance Board of Southern Tasmania were taken to Sesame II (JF211) by



DOWN UNDER ALL OVER Cont;

- SCS Cont; : Leigh Gleeson however the team failed to bottom the cave and a further trip has been planned. The society gained two new members from the Ambulance Board crew. The final trip for the period was to Rift Cave where the walk to the cave took twice as long as the actual time spent in the cave itself.
- TCC : Stuart Nicholas informs us that TCC has been active in all aspects of our sport. The early part of the year saw an invasion by eight W.A. cavers (the other one stayed at home) and a group from VSA. Apart from the non-caving carried out during the expedition to Precipitous Bluff, three long trips (twelve hours plus) have been held to The Chairman. This effort has resulted in the surveyed length reaching 785 metres and a depth of 187 metres. There is still an estimated 400 metres downstream together with a similar distance upstream and some high-level passages unsurveyed and not fully explored. It is still going - everywhere! Cauldron Pot, Khazad Dum and Growling Swallet have also received visits for training and exploration purposes. Other activities have centered around a large group of young new members who have joined the club in recent months. A number of training sessions and familiarization trips have been held for their benefit (certain older members have also benefitted - no names mentioned). Future plans include the surveying of Junee Ridge, further exploration of the Ridge and the holes in it (John Parker is still finding more!) and the possible introduction of standards for leaders to make the election of a leader more objective.
- VSA : Julie Moore reports that VSA have installed a gate at NG2 (New Guinea Ridge) with a lot of back breaking effort. The Exponential survey as of 7/1/78 is 621.49 metres and there have been many trips since. VSA also conducted a trip to Mt. Speculation, Australia's answer to Mt. Everest. It is the highest altitude cave recorded to date. The cave was fully surveyed and mapped. The Dukes-Federal survey is coming along well and at the moment is up to 1.5 kilometres - the longest in Victoria, with another 2 kilometres to go when Royal and Fairy are connected up. An accurate surface map of potholes above Exponential has been started. Visits have also been made to Bats Ridge, North Napier, Loch Ard Gorge and Labatouche.
- WASG : Rauleigh Webb informs us that WASG have been active in the following areas in the period June-August 1978. Augusta: Easter Cave has received heavy attention during this time and six mapping trips to the Tuta Kurai Extension resulted in its completion and also included over 100 metres of new cave. This new section contained a large skeleton in good condition - this has yet to be identified. On the main drag, the survey has just passed the Lemon. A second air tracing experiment between Easter and Jewel Caves gave more results and asked more questions about the air connection. A study of the water chemistry, cave meteorology and hydrology of the Easter-Jewel System has commenced. This project is being funded by the Department of Conservation and Environment and is likely to continue for 1 to 2 years. A large amount of debris was removed from Moon-dyne Cave - most of this was a result of the old tourist days. Witchcliffe: The Love-days have started the survey of Dingo Cave (WI71) and are at present mapping in new cave. A gate has been placed in Winjans Cave (WI113) and another proposed for an extension in Calgardup Cave (WI49). A party from the Army was shown about the South West by WASG trip leaders. Nambung: A recent fire has made cave finding easy in this area. One trip reported finding over 20 new caves in one weekend. These new finds put the management plan for the area into disarray. More trips are planned to position all these new features. Enneaba: A combined SRG/WASG trip was made to Weelawadji Cave to commence a survey. A Grade 7 traverse reached the end of the entrance chamber while the detail was put in at grade 55 to the Mt. Poojiarra Chamber.

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## POSITIONS VACANT

- 1) ASSISTANT SECRETARY
- 2) MINUTES SECRETARY FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING IN PERTH
- 3) CONSERVATION SECRETARY
- 4) EDITOR OF ASF NEWSLETTER

Each of the above office bearers has resigned and offers are invited to take over one or more of these rewarding positions. If you are interested, please contact the ASF Secretary, Tony Culberg, P.O.Box 36, Lindisfarne, Tasmania. 7015 as soon as possible.

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