

"SPELEOGRAFFITI" VOL. 13 No. 1

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SPELEOGRAFFITI

The Newsletter of the

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CAVING CLUB

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Editorial	2
Quidong (4/5-9/1976)	3
Yarrangobilly (1/2/3-10/1976)	3
Mt. Fairy (2/12/1976)	4
NUCC inactivity in 1976	4
CAVCONACT '76	
Upper Shoalhaven Trip Report (1-6/1/1977)	5
A comment on the Talmo Limestone	7
An apology	7
Map	8
Coming Trips	9

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CREDITS

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Cover Design	-	From a slide of the "lake" at the entrance of "South Glory Cave" at Yarrangobilly. Drawn by Peter Hart.

EDITORIAL

Well, believe it or not "Speleograffiti" is out early this year, thus breaking the long standing tradition of its being a few months late.

Hopefully, this is a good portent of the future and regular publication is not too impossible a task.

May I take this opportunity to wish all our members, friends and prospectives a very pleasant, active, years caving in 1977.

Last year saw a considerable improvement over 1975's effort and we must all strive to maintain this improvement and possibly better it.

Last year saw ASF's 11th biennial conference held at the ANU and was acclaimed by many to be the best one in years. Besides the chance to expand one's speleological knowledge during the conference, it provided an excellent opportunity to meet cavers from across Australia. This is invaluable not only from the friendship involved, but from the unity it gives the federation, and the subsequent force it gives to our conservation issues.

O-Week this year is intended to boost both membership, interest and drive within NUCC.

Firstly on Thursday morning, 3rd March, there will be an equipment display outside the Union.

At our Annual General Meeting on 8th March, there will be a slide show, a fantastic caving film imported from Canada, and an absorbing talk on cave diving from a new member, Ian Lewis (from CEGSA).

I urge all members to support these activities as this will benefit all in the long run.

PETER HART
(Acting Editor)

Matthew Webber
Ian Trueman
Jane Oliver
Rod Sparks
Peter Hart
Mike McNamee
Mike Hume
Brownie Winter
Judith Bateman
T.L. Masala
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various points on the Yarrangobilly River and at the major sillixes
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The rain broke late Friday night and kept us strongly the entire

QUIDONG 4/5/9/1976

February 1977

3.

After {wasting
spending a frustrating Saturday morning repairing my car
we finally left for Bombala where the party was to assemble that
morning. We got to the homestead of the Quidong property about
1500. The local landowner was more than co-operative, and gave
willingly valuable information on the areas diverse history, mainly
mining history. The landowner was also very knowledgeable in
local caving history, apparently through contact with previous
societies, also he had a good overview of the local karst.

We were pointed in the right direction to find the larger limestone
outcrops and a suitable camping area. The afternoon was spent
searching the outcrops in close proximity to our campsite.

On Sunday we walked the S.W. bank of the Bombala River going about
2-3 km upstream from our campsite. There were few outcrops with
any possibility of being cavernous on our side of the river, the
other side seemed to hold the most promise for any finds. The
opposite bank had many prominent limestone cliffs up to 12 m in
height, also some prominent outcrops on the hilltops opposite us.
We left on Sunday without examining the opposite bank.

On the next trip the opposite bank must be examined as well as the
downstream S.W. bank holds some promise.

T.L. J. Masala
Peter Hart
Greg Martin
Dave Wintle

YARRANGOBILLY 1/2/3-10/76

The weekend was organised by CSS for Joe Jemmings' to run a major
water tracing project. During the course of the weekend up to
nine societies were involved in the sampling.

Members of the NUCC party arrived between late Friday night and
early Saturday morning.

The rain broke late Friday night and kept up strongly the entire
weekend, making the 24 hour a day $\frac{1}{2}$ hour samplings somewhat
uncomfortable at times. Sampling stations were established at
various points on the Yarrangobilly River and at the major effluxes,
Hollands and Coppermine Caves. Most of our efforts were put into
sampling at the Coppermine efflux, rotating people through 12 to 15
hour shifts.

All activity was centred around the water sampling during the
weekend, as it was a full time task, some pleasure caving was done
when not sampling.

T.L. J. Masala
Judith Bateman
Bronwyn Winter
Mike Horne
Mike McKenzie
Peter Hart
Rod Sparks
Jane Olsen
Ian Tranter
Matthew Webber

MT. FAIRY TRIP REPORT 2/12/1976

Our small party left Canberra at approximately 6.00 am, and headed along the King's Highway to Bungendore. From here we headed North-East towards Lake Bathurst until the gate with "Mt. Fairy" on it was reached.

This track was followed over the railway line and the mine track found.

Unfortunately, the main landholder in the area has recently sold 9,000 acres of land, which is not being subdivided. Hence there was a fence across the track and a walk was in order.

Upon arriving at the limestone, we searched around and found a couple of small holes. Walking up the creek and searching, we eventually found the main cave MFl, 2, 3, 4 and entered via the mine adit.

The cave was systematically explored by us and the connection to the other entrances eventually found.

The main cave is extremely interesting and confusing and is well worth the visit.

Just as a matter of interest, the infamous Henry Shannon (UQSS) explained to me recently that he considers only about 1/3 of the Mt. Fairy system is known. If this is correct, then cavers can look forward to lots of confusion in this area's caves.

PETER HART.

N.U.C.C. INACTIVITY IN 1976

Below, is a table outlining the areas visited and other statistics for the year ended 1976.

Although considerably better than 1975, it is still a poor effort when compared with many other clubs.

Let's see an improvement this year !!!

<u>Area</u>	<u>No. of Trips</u>	<u>Total No. attending</u>	<u>Ave. No. present</u>
BUNGONIA	1	6	6.0
WEE JASPER	5	31	6.2
WYANBENE	6	24	4.0
YARRANGOBILLY	1	10	10.0
QUIDONG	1	4	4.0

TOTAL NO. OF TRIPS = 14
TOTAL NO. ATTENDING = 75
AVE. NO. PER TRIP = 6.04

PETER HART

CAVCONACT '76UPPER SHOATHAVEN FIELD TRIP REPORT 1-6/1/77

- CEGSA : Ian Lewis and friends
- CSS : John Brush, Marj Coggan, Annette
- HCG : Harold and Ivan Doyle
- ISS : Bill Wilton and family
- NUCC : Peter Hart
- UQSS : Lex Brown and family, Ken Grimes and family,
Rosie Murphy, Henry Shannon, John Webb, and friends
- VSA : Rhys Madden-Wellington, Nicholas White and family
plus friends.

1/1/1977

After setting up camp, near the turn-off to Cleatmore caves, along the Marble Arch road, we proceeded back along the track and walked to Big Hole.

About 1 hour was spent in rigging equipment for the 90 metre descent; one group using a ladder and the other, SRT.

Altogether, about 8 people descended the pitch and returned within 6-7 hours.

All agreed that it was a most impressive landmark and many photographs were taken.

2/1/1977

Owing to the large number of people who needed to return within 1-2 days, our group split into two.

J. Brush led a group through Wyanbene cave to the lake, while M. Coggan led the rest to Marble Arch.

At Marble Arch, the caves visited were Main Cave, Moodong Cave and Thermocline Cave.

3/1/1977

Wyanbene Cave again was visited; all seeing Gunbarrel and Caesar's Hall, while only 4 continued on to the lake.

On the way out we met Rosie and Henry on their way in. Subsequently, J.B. showed them the Gunbarrel, while I led back to the entrance.

Everyone was most impressed by the cave, especially by Gunbarrel and Caesar's Hall.

4/1/1977

This day had a late start, as people were still recovering from Wyanbene.

However, a small party, including myself walked to the Cleatmore caves area and found a few new caves, although they were not entered.

4/1/1977 (contd.)

Henry Shannon was most impressed by the area and theorized on the 2nd and 3rd Wyanbenes.

5/1/1977

Again the group split in two, one descending big hole, while J.B., M.C. and myself returned to Marble Arch and surveyed a cave (MA 19, 20) discovered in 1975.

Upon the completion of the survey, we returned to Canberra; a few people remaining to do Wyanbene.

Overall, this was an excellent field trip with many friends being made and much caving done.

PETER HART.

A COMMENT ON THE TALMO LIMESTONE

The Talmo limestone is located about 8 kms. SSE of Bookham, and 2 kms south from the road passing through Talmo.

The limestone is silurian, and to my knowledge has not been thoroughly explored.

One cave, namely "Spring Cave", is known in the area, and a map of it is reproduced opposite.

This area may be worth investigating at some time in the near future.

PETER HART.

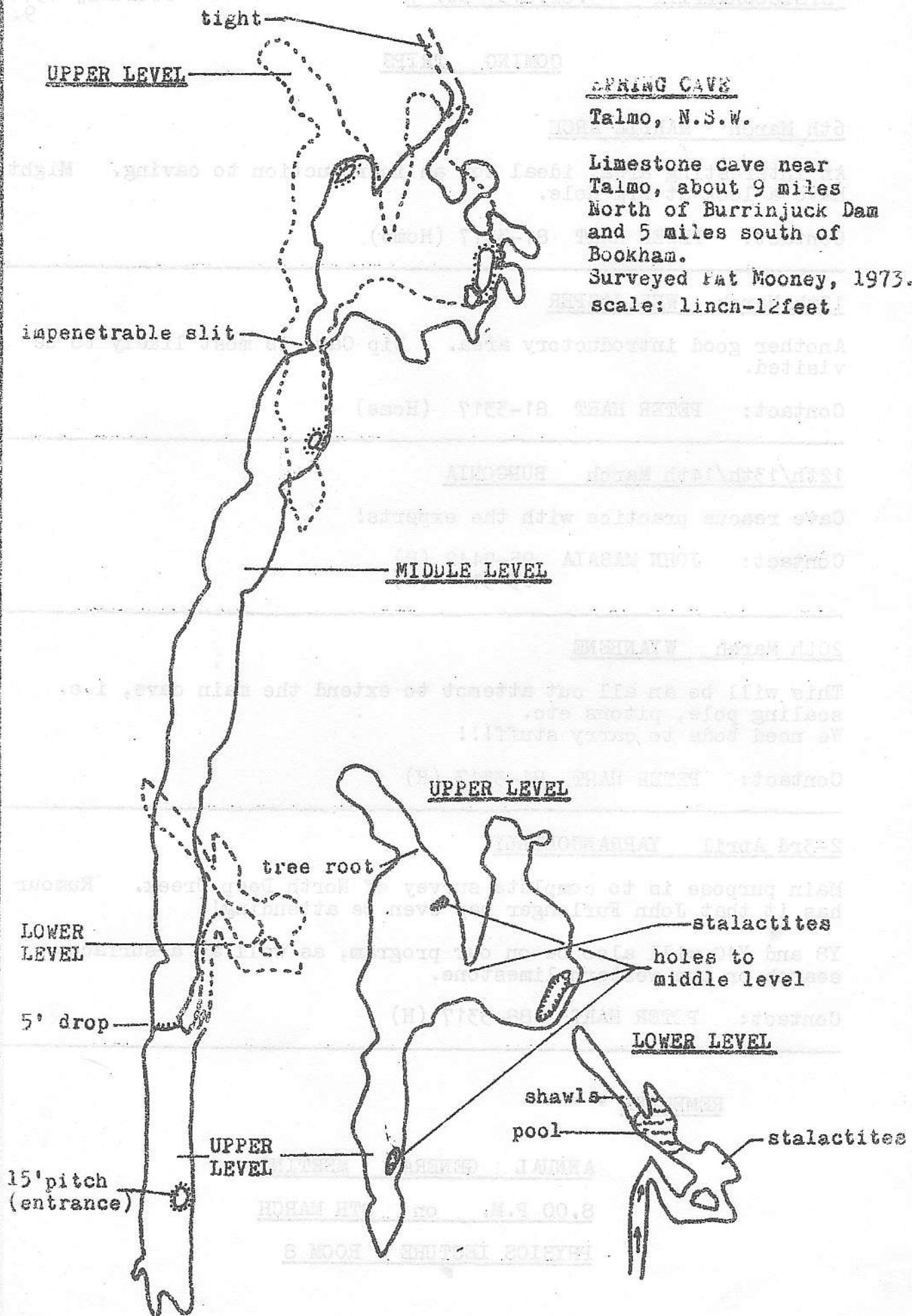
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AN APOLOGY

The editor would like to apologise for the exceptional ignorance he displayed in the last issue of speleo-g.

Lethargiosis slackarsememerosis
or Lethargiosis slackarsememberosis
whichever you prefer, was coined by Frank Bergerson, not John Brush.

The Editor.



COMING TRIPS

6th March MARBLE ARCH

An interesting area, ideal for an introduction to caving. Might have a look at Big Hole.

Contact: PETER HART 81-3317 (Home)

13th March WEE JASPER

Another good introductory area. Dip Cave is most likely to be visited.

Contact: PETER HART 81-3317 (Home)

12th/13th/14th March BUNGONIA

Cave rescue practice with the experts!

Contact: JOHN MASAIA 95-9442 (H)
63-3181 (W)

20th March WYANBENE

This will be an all out attempt to extend the main cave, i.e. scaling pole, pitons etc.
We need bods to carry stuff!!!

Contact: PETER HART 81-3317 (H)

2-3rd April YARRANGOBILLY

Main purpose is to complete survey of North Deep Creek. Rumour has it that John Furlonger may even be attending!!

Y8 and Y10 will also be on our program, as well as a surface search on the western limestone.

Contact: PETER HART 88-3317 (H)

REMEMBER * * *

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

8.00 P.M. on 8TH MARCH

PHYSICS LECTURE ROOM 8

