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*EDITION 1*

*1988*

(Volume 20 No 1)



# SPELEOGRAFFITI

**EDITION ONE - 1988**

## **NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CAVING CLUB (NUCC)**

G.P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T. 2601

A member society of the Australian Speleological Federation Inc.

### **OFFICE BEARERS OF NUCC**

<u>President:</u>	Marc Fauvet 910265(h)	
<u>Secretary:</u>	Jeanette Henderson 526420(w)	584709(h)
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Andrew Wall 803431(w)	583051(h)
<u>Equipment Officer:</u>	Simon Douglas 959185(h)	
<u>Equipment Officer (Safety):</u>	Ian Houshold 884649(h)	
<u>Publications Officer:</u>	Chris Bradley 525934(w)	584709(h)



**\*\* CONTENTS \*\***

Editorial - Chris Bradley .....	3
Forward Programme .....	4
President's Report - Marc Fauvet .....	5
Safety Officer's Report - Marc Fauvet.....	6
Equipment Inventory .....	8
Maintenance Of Caving Lights .....	10
Trip Reports	
Bungonia - Chris Bradley .....	11
Wee Jasper - Chris Bradley .....	12
Bungonia - Andrew Wall .....	13
Buchan - Ian Houshold .....	14
Bungonia - Andrew Wall .....	16
Bungonia - Andrew Wall .....	17
Nullarbor - Chris Bradley .....	18
Rules And Regulations .....	21
Constitution .....	23
Magic Words .....	25



**\*\* EDITORIAL \*\***

Yes, this edition of Speleograffiti does bear the year 1988, a year where I hope as much caving and socialising will take place as the previous two years. Material from the latter half of 1986 and most of 1987 is contained in this edition including the Nullarbor trip last December where we did a lot of caving and took a lot of good photographs. This is the second trip to the Nullarbor in two years undertaken by NUCC and the third in two years by our Treasurer, Andrew Wall. It looks like there is another trip on the cards to explore the new sections of Old Homestead cave.

Further on in this magazine is a copy of the Constitution to which a number of changes have been suggested in italic and will be voted on at the annual general meeting in March, so please read them beforehand.

Finally, we may be able to have a black and white photo printed on the cover of Speleograffiti and newsletters once or twice a year thanks to Wild Country who may sponsor us for this. This will improve the appearance of Speleograffiti and make it even more important that trip reports be written promptly for inclusion in the magazine.

See you all at O Week.

Chris Bradley  
20 February 1988



**FUTURE PLANS**

- |                 |   |   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| 2nd March       | - | Market Day Stall, Union Court, ANU<br>Contact : Simon Douglas Ph 672710 (w)<br>Chris Bradley Ph 584709 (h)                          |
| 6th March       | - | Beginners Trip to Bungonia , Grill Cave<br>Contact : Andrew Wall Ph 803432 (w)<br>583051 (h)<br>Meeting 8am , Geology Carpark , ANU |
| 8th March       | - | Annual General Meeting<br>7.30 pm , Activities Room   |
| 12th-13th March | - | Cave Rescue Weekend<br>Bungonia State Recreation Area<br>Contact : Jeanette before 18th February<br>Pre- registration needed        |
| 15th March      | - | Gym Night<br>7.00 pm , ANU Sports Union<br>Abseiling, laddering, ascending, knot tying practice                                     |



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1987**

It's good to see that the quantity of caving which we had established the previous year has been maintained but more importantly it's very encouraging to see an even greater diversification of caving activities and caving sites being visited.

The visits to Wee Jasper still occur on a regular basis and one begins to think of trips to Punch Bowl much like visiting an old friend. Not that Punch Bowl could ever get boring as it must still be one of the best sporting caves within two hours drive of Canberra.

In the opposite direction we have Bungonia which again saw renewed activity by NUCC. The Cave Rescue weekend is always held at Bungonia around the second weekend of March and is well worth attending by both novice and experienced cavers. An extra bonus for us last year was the exclamations of surprise from other clubs at seeing NUCC out in force (I'm quite convinced that most of them thought that we were extinct). Apart from the subsidised meals (\$15 for the weekend) and the opportunity of meeting other cavers on a social basis it also provides excellent caving experience for all levels of expertise. Even quite a few non-cavers attend so you shouldn't feel that it is beyond you.

Bungonia also provides one of the easiest and most accessible "foul" air (air that is unbreathable because of high levels of CO<sub>2</sub>) caves. It is proposed to hold these foul air awareness trips on a regular basis as it can prove to be very hazardous to accidentally stray into one of these areas without being aware of the symptoms. The cave is an easy walk-in cave and the symptoms are easily recognised once you've experienced them.

Going south takes us to another karst area which saw more activity last year. What I'm talking about is Yarrangabilly, an area only two and a half to three hours from Canberra yet greatly under utilised. It is still teeming with undiscovered caves and most of the known caves there still require mapping and surveying. A trip to Mills Creek Swallet saw us rejuvenating an activity which NUCC was quite famous for in the past, that being cave exploration and survey. This cave was of particular interest in that it is no more than ten minutes from the tourist caves and its existence has been known for probably over forty years yet it has hardly been explored beyond the entrance. We hope to be able to put out a map of several hundreds of metres of new passage in the near future.



On the interstate trips (outside NSW) we once again had a Buchan trip (Victoria) and two trips to the Nullarbor. Actually one was a shared trip with a South Australian club, but this is to be encouraged as it can provide vast local knowledge (of where the best pubs are) which would otherwise be difficult to acquire.

On the paperwork side of things we may not have been as prolific as we would like but one has to remember that we are only a small club and sometimes newsletters suffer at the expense of caving and study. All in all we have kept up a good supply of notices and regular meetings even though we kept having our venue swiped from under us. On the point of newsletters and meetings I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for the tremendous amount of work they have put into running the club because it really does take a lot of time in organising notices, meetings, equipment, compulsory attendance at ASF meetings, trips to the bank, and last but not least organising and leading trips.

May the next committee have every success in their ventures and a lot of successful caving.

Marc Fauvet  
(President)

### **SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT 1986**

I'm writing this on behalf of our safety officer as he is currently unavailable, having gone to Antarctica for three months. My only consolation is that no matter what first aid skills he possesses he will be unable to alleviate the three weeks of sea sickness he will have to bear to return to Australia. Still, he probably considers that it's a small sacrifice for such a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Anyway, back to the safety report. Last year we replenished our first aid kit completely to the extent that we disgarded most of the contents of our old kits, keeping only the air splints (of which we managed to form a complete set) and the two 'school girl' type cases in which they were stored (no, I don't know what happened to the school girls). The new comprehensive first aid kit fills the above mentioned two cases as well as a small waterproof container designed for taking into the caves. We appreciate that it's a bulky outfit but its benefit far outweighs any disadvantages and the cases can be left in the vehicle (above ground). Just remember to park in the shade as many of the creams and ointments don't appreciate being 'cooked' in the sun.



### Accident Report

This year has once again shown that proper training and commonsense does pay off as it has been near-accident free and the two accidents we did have occurred above ground.

(a) The first accident resulted in a bruised elbow as a result of an abseiling miscalculation. The party anchoring the abseiling rope at Devil's Punchbowl decided not to use the traditional anchor point (a star picket of unknown origin) but instead tied off to two sturdy trees further up the hill. This in itself was acceptable as you should never use anchor points that you feel uncertain about. The member abseiling had a proper harness, helmet and whaletail and even had someone else check that he was correctly attached to the rope. However he failed to take up all the slack in the rope (which was considerably more than he expected as the anchor point was further up the hill than usual), and stepping off the cliff fell about one and a half metres before all the slack was taken up. As everything was rigged correctly there was little risk of a serious accident, and the end result was that he swung into the rock face and bruised his elbow. This, however, is the type of accident that under different circumstances could be very dangerous and is also easily avoided, the point to remember being to always check everything out even in familiar surroundings.

(b) The second accident was simply one of those things that will happen no matter how careful you are. After exploring the 'hole in the road' at Yarrangobilly the party headed back to the car. Whilst walking back one of the party somehow kicked up some dirt which, as luck would have it, lodged in his eye. This can be quite painful and it took several washings with the eye cup (from the first aid kit) and a considerable quantity of water to dislodge. The point to remember here is that this could be quite uncomfortable if it happened several hours underground and there was insufficient water to wash it out properly. For those of you that feel the only liquid you need to take caving is a 'Popper' pack, just think what it would be like to wash your eye out in orange juice. There is another remedy, of course. Before the water was brought from the car to the patient (a distance of thirty metres), a young lady with the party suggested that if the patient could make his eye cry then the tears would wash the dirt away. She then pinched hard on the patient's left nostril with her finger nails. Tears did flow, and we're quite sure that the solution would have worked but, alas, copious quantities of water and an eye cup arrived and the patient was saved further agony.

In summing up, accidents can happen but given proper care, commonsense and training they should be minimal and help should always be at hand.

Marc Fauvet



**NUCC - Equipment Inventory as of 14/2/1988**

Rope :           Bluewater 2   - 15m \* 2  
  - 29m \* 1  
  - 50m \* 1 (New 1987)  
  - 110m \* 1  
                  Bluewater 3   -20m \* 1  
  -25m \* 1  
  -45m \* 1

Cord:           6mm           - 1m \* 1  
  - 2m \* 1

Ladders:       30ft \* 11  
                  50ft \* 2

Tape:           2in           -3.7m \* 1  
  -4m \* 2  
  -5m \* 8  
  -10m \* 1  
  -11m \* 1  
  -30m \* 1 (New 1987)  
  -50m \* 1 (New 1986)  
  -Various pieces for battery belts  
                  1in           -3m \* 1

Ascenders:   Jumars \* 3 pairs

Karabiners:   Stubai steel "Big D" \* 16  
                  Stubai steel "Small D" \* 4

Descenders:   Whaletails \* 3  
                  Rappel Racks - large 6 bar \* 3  
  - small 5 bar \* 1

Traces:       Wire Traces   - 8ft \* 12

Helmets:       Safety       - 9  
                  Joe Brown   - 2  
                  Joe Brown   - 4 (New 1987)

Charging  
Equipment:   Kar Mate battery chargers \* 2  
                  Charging plates for 5 lights \* 2  
                  Charging plates for 2 lights \* 1  
                  Triang model train charger \* 1



Lamps: 11 Caving lights & batteries  
2 Headpieces without batteries

Lamp Boxes: Plastic crates \* 3 (one is slightly damaged)

Lamp Belts: Tape belts \* 6  
Leather belts \* 1

Light Bulbs: High beam bulbs \* 3 globes  
Low beam bulbs \* 8 globes

Gloves: 1 pair

Clothing: 1 \* Orange waterproof caving suit

Packs: Small packs \* 7  
Small packs \* 2 (Very worn)  
Large packs \* 1

Rope  
Protectors: Canvas \* 1  
Canvas \* 3 (Very worn)  
Plastic coated material \* 2

Climbing  
Poles: 2m poles \* 6  
Wrench

Surveying  
Equipment: 100ft measuring tape \* 1 (End has snapped off)  
Roll blue survey marking tape \* 1  
Survey Dial & Tripod in leather pouch \* 1

Other  
Equipment: Rubber Dinghy \* 1  
Paddles \* 2  
Air pump \* 1  
First Aid Kits: Large in school cases \* 2  
Small \* 1  
Sticht Plate \* 1



In addition, the following equipment is unsafe and/or unserviceable:

- 3 \* Small "D" Karabiners
- 2 \* Harpoon Descenders
- 4 \* "Mickey Mouse Ears" Descenders (History unknown)
- 2 pr Gibbs ascenders
- 1 pr Hiebler ascenders
- 1 pr clog ascenders

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Care And Maintenance Of Lead Acid Caving Lights**

- Try and keep the lights charged when not in use.
- When charging a battery, remove the belt , otherwise the belt can be damaged by escaping gases.
- Before entering a wet cave, smear vasoline over the terminals of the battery (take the cover off the battery) to prevent corrosion. Smear vasoline into the threads of the headpiece ring. Also cover the filler holes with electrical tape to prevent water entering the battery and ruining it.  
**Note:** remove the tape before charging.
- Store battery upright and away from ropes preferably in a container of some sort (e.g. plastic crate or a cut down 4 litre oil container).
- Don't pick them up by the lamp cord.
- High/low beams (spares) can be carried easily in film canisters.

**\*\* TRIP REPORT \*\***

Where : Bungonia  
When: Sunday 18 May 1986  
Party: Chris Bradley  
Jeanette Henderson  
Andrew Edwards  
Michael Quinn  
John Evans

The party intending to go to Bungonia on Saturday was reduced to two, so we decided to leave Sunday morning to meet the other party of three at the campsite at Bungonia.

We met up at about 10.30 a.m. and decided initially to do Grill Cave. This used to be the tourist cave of Bungonia and hence has ladders and handrails installed. Andrew led the way until very near the end Michael said he felt hot and Jeanette lit a match and it went out. I lit a match and that went out, the head burnt but the flames died before the wood lit. We had foul air, i.e. the air composition was high in CO<sub>2</sub>. Apparently a match will die at a CO<sub>2</sub> level of 1% and a candle at 4%. We can black out in concentrations as little as 1.5%. So we went back. It wasn't very long before I felt cooler air and lit another match and it burned OK.

We drove to the Lookout and had lunch before having major indecisions as to what cave to do next. No one was highly motivated - so we decided to go into Hogans and across the Hairy Traverse. We went in the entrance, couldn't find the by-pass and were confronted with a 30 ft drop. We changed our minds and went off to do Fossil Cave (B4) where, with a 120 ft rope we could go down and along to the Hairy Traverse again. We set up the rope and grovelled down to a 20 ft drop. Michael freed down this; the rest of us chickened out and decided to get a couple of ladders. So I went back to the car for the ladders and set them up.

Further on there was a free climb down an easy wall but getting to the climb required a tricky little squeeze. Then appeared a crawl and at the thinnest point was a pool of water. Michael and I did this and found ourselves back at the foot of the free climb. Looking at the map I think we had got to Gugs Cross and with further exploration, some time and motivation we could have ended up at Hogans (B5).

The trickiest part of the trip was trying to get out of the park - you have to pay \$2 in coins to a boom gate machine and it didn't like what I gave it. Finally, pizza in Goulburn topped off an excellent day caving.  
Chris Bradley



**\*\* TRIP REPORT \*\***

Where : Wee Jasper  
When: 7 June 1986  
Party: Chris Bradley                      Punchbowl  
         Simon Douglas  
         John Evans  
         Marc Fauvet  
         Richard Greenwood  
         Andrew Wall  
  
         Chris Bradley                      Saturday night and Gong Cave  
         John Evans  
         Richard Greenwood  
         Jeanette Henderson

Punchbowl was caved on Saturday, presumably it was a good trip, I can't remember, I only wrote something about the second day.

After three of the party left, Jeanette arrived from Canberra with tents, sleeping bags, fireworks, dinner and port. A wonderful setting, a blazing fire, clear sky and a flagon of vintage McWilliams Cream Port (bought a year ago costing 50c a flagon (Editor's note: At least \$4 a flagon)).

Woke up in the morning with ice on the inside of the tent and frost on the ground. I lit another blazing fire, started breakfast (cheese jaffles) at 8.00 a.m. and finished at 10.00 a.m., and tried to up tents before the ranger could claim his camping fee - for what I'm not sure - there are only female toilets. Talk about sexist.

Some still feeling tired and sore from the previous day and others just feeling slack and lazy, we headed off to do Gong. There already appeared to be a party in it - a minibus seating 12, we estimated probably 8 - 10 people. Off we went - in Gong Chamber we met someone in the other party - of 20!! It is still a nice cave - some of the shawls had been badly broken - much worse than I remember from 8 years ago - still, some made pretty gonging sounds.

Back to the cars and Wee Jasper for the legendary hot dogs and tomato sauce (Some prefer mustard. Caution: both bottles of the mustard are hot!!). After a couple of bottles of cider, we returned to Canberra.

Chris Bradley

**\*\* FOSSIL - HOGANS TRIP \*\***

WHERE : Bungonia Gorge  
WHEN : 20 September 1986  
PARTY : Marc Fauvet, John Kennedy, Diana Schneider,  
Jamie Stevenson, Andrew Wall.

The party piled into the Cordia and left Canberra about 8.30 a.m. Caving gear was carried in a box trailer. After a welcome morning tea at Goulburn we proceeded to Bungonia and pottered about the lookdown etc, etc.

At 11.30 we descended the Fossil (B4) entrance under the guidance of J.M.K. who had been in the cave once about two years earlier. Before long we ran into two groups of cavers coming in the opposite direction. We also had another party (of 3 or 4) hot on our heels and armed with one headlamp and three "Dolphins".

Progress was fairly rapid until we reached Kings Cross where we headed down the wrong passage. After some muttering and moaning we retraced our steps (grovellings) to Kings Cross.

Another passage took us to the Hogans end of the cave. Presently, we entered a small chamber which contained the group that had followed us into the cave. In one end of the chamber was a very tight dug-out duckunder. This looked pretty uninviting so the combined group headed the other way down a dry stream passage which was several feet wide but low enough to force us onto our stomachs and sides.

Enquiries as to the whereabouts of the B4-5 extension elicited a reply that we were nowhere near it. After sliding about 250 feet we entered Coffin Chamber. We rested a few minutes, picked up ourselves and our two packs ( one of which contained 40 metres of heavy duty rope whilst the other contained three house bricks) and started sliding back to the small chamber from whence we had come pushing the packs before us.

Squeezing through the duckunder we entered a good sized chamber containing a series of dry waterfalls up the far wall. A mildly treacherous free climb up the waterfalls took us to the Hogans Hole entrance (B5) where we realized that we had somehow avoided the Hairy Traverse.

When we had walked out of the doline we inspected Adams and Jerrara Lookouts. Dinner was obtained at the Goulburn Pizza Hut and was followed by an uneventful trip home.

Andrew Wall.



**\*\* A Buchan Good Trip \*\***

Speleologists :

Jeanette, Chris, Andrew, Bandicoot, John, Jenny, Ian.

Speleomutts :

Kelly (Fang).

Because of various shiny new, undamaged cars and one 21 year old Volkswagen, NUCC took the easy way to Mexico along the Cann Valley Superhighway. Barely recognisable as the once potholed, jungle clad track from Bombala to Cann River this road is now wide and sealed apart from a small section near the border - welcome the hordes!

Arriving about 12-30 am we lurched into Homeleigh and soft beds. The silk sheets were a bit irritating however and the silver service waitresses called with breakfast a trifle too early. On the whole though room service was reasonable and I can particularly recommend the house red. These Mexicans cave in style.

Next day we trundled off to the Potholes in general and Honeycomb cave in particular where we encountered the usual collection of SCOUTS (cough, spit). These were quickly despatched down the 150 footer and we had the cave to ourselves. Two of us (Jenny and Ian) claimed to know the cave, being expatriate Mexicans, so after chaining the slathering brute to the nearest tree we rigged the pitch amongst arguments about where the Buchan hell we were.

Monica's Leap saw the usual gasps and gurgles until the well hidden hold was pointed out and various longer bodies heaved themselves over. Shorter bodies went round the Long Way and eventually we all met in the Main Chamber with a procession of blowflies in tow.

After ogling the pretties the crew descended a long, squeezey rift, past a now muddy but once beautiful transparent shawl, into a right angled squeeze and up like champagne corks back into the entrance chamber. Sounds easy but thanks to our bumbling guide most of the other side passages were visited as well, and we all agreed that the last squeeze had definitely shrunk since we were last there (we were all of 19 or 20 at the time).

Emerging from the cave we passed the cleanly licked and steaming SCOUT bones that Fang had recently devoured, derigged and returned to the cars. Off to SSS cave where we were greeted by the landowner who told us in no uncertain terms that the cave is now OUT OF BOUNDS to everyone and particularly ROVER CREWS (spit, cough) who apparently take it into their heads to wander blithely across farmland and down the cave without a word to the owner. The cave is now being used as an offal pit and anyone now entering SSS has an official warning from the owner that they too will "join the sheep".

Back to Buchan to organise with the ranger a trip into Federal and Whale caves, then to Homeleigh for duck `a l'orange and lace tablecloths (scout a l'orange for Fang). We thought the slave girls with bamboo fans a bit pretentious but you have to give it to the Victorians for style.

Next day off to .....,\* a newly accessible block of limestone with lots of large solution dolines and 200m of relief. We found 4 untagged entrances and one new cave - a 15m deep pothole with no signs of previous entry. Back in Canberra I found that there is more than 10km<sup>2</sup> of limestone there, most of it untrogged. Stay tuned.

On Monday we split up, half visiting the tourist caves and the other half Baby Berger (M14) in the Potholes. This cave has a spectacular 40m pitch, similar to Acoustic Pot at Bungonia but bigger and completely freehanging. This was abseiled and a ladder rigged for the ascent. Back on the surface we discovered that our 2 hour trip had lengthened considerably - 5 hours - and the Bandicoot was becoming a little restless.

The super twin foxtailed turbo charged fanging machine reached Canberra about 2 hours ahead of the Volksie, but consolidated revenue scored \$90 for the privilege - bad luck Bandicoot - and it was also rumoured that a problem mysteriously appeared with the fuel lines. But most of us had a Buchan good time.

\*The name of this cave area is withheld in the name of selfishness, but if you are interested in a return trip contact Ian.

Ian Houshold  
October 1986





Baby Berger - Buchan

**\*\* HOGAN - FOSSIL TRIP \*\***

Saturday 14 February 1987

Party: Howard Allen, Paul Cheeseman, John Evans, Andrew Wall

The group left Canberra at about 7.30. Morning tea was bought at Goulburn and from there we proceeded to Bungonia.

After the obligatory view over Bungonia Lookdown we entered Hogans Hole. The cascade of pitches was abseiled with a 22 metre rope. We negotiated the duckunder, avoided the B4-5 Extension and blundered our way in the general direction of Kings Cross. At this point the group followed a loop before realizing which way was out. Having found our bearings the route was obvious from here and we exited via the Fossil entrance.

Andrew Wall



**\*\* DRUM CAVE \*\***

WHERE : Bungonia Gorge

WHEN : 19 July 1987

PARTY : Allan Hobbs, Annette Dean, Jeanette Henderson,  
Chris Bradley, Ian Houshold, Jenny Dyring, Andrew Wall.

This cave has not been visited by NUCC for several years.

The entrance pitch was descended with trepidation by some in the party although with glee by others.

University tests conducted at the base of the pitch conclusively proved the absence of foul air. Indeed matches burned freely through all of the cave (Editor's note: I'm sure some matches almost went out).

The party proceeded to the 60' pitch and descended avoiding the side passage. The foot of the pitch was essentially dry rather than being a pool as described in the Bungonia book.

In the Railway Tunnel we saw dead bats in rimstone pools and on the rocks. The bats on the rock surface looked as if they had died while clinging there (Editor's note: This may have been due to a rapid rise in CO<sub>2</sub> levels).

The party descended the 20' pitch and skirted around the pool at its base. We turned back where the roof closed in over the terminal pool and left the cave at about 9.00pm having entered it late in the morning.

On this trip too much time was lost in setting and retrieving ladders and ropes and also in negotiating the pitches. On later trips it could be profitable to rationalise the ascending and descending techniques and hence avoid having to carry and set both ladders and ropes in the cave (Editor's note: This is a plug for SRT).

In general the cave was considered to be pleasant for its lack of crawling and a top abseil.

Andrew Wall



**\*\*    THE NULLARBOR    \*\***

When :            11 December - 24 December 1987

Party :            Chris Bradley  
                      Jeanette Henderson  
                      Andrew Wall  
                      Ian Croucher  
                      Jenny Fisk  
                      Peter Fisk

Two vehicles were going, the first a four wheel drive with trailer and four cavers left Canberra on Friday to meet with the other vehicle on Sunday night at Ceduna (Peter and Jenny had left Canberra earlier to spend some time in Adelaide). By coincidence while buying some money from a magic machine (money teller) in Port Augusta, Peter and Jenny parked beside us, so we travelled together from there (thus gaining almost a day which meant we could return on Christmas Eve and be in time for Father Christmas to give us lots of presents).

Pub counter teas were standard meals until the first caves on Monday, Koomoolooka Cave and then Bunabie Blow Hole spending Monday night at the Eucla restaurant.

Tuesday saw us with a lilo swimming to the end of Weebubbie, very refreshing and clean since the 1985-1986 cleanup by the West Australian caving groups (Helictite 25(2), 1987, and Australian Caver 114, 1987). Then onto Abrakurrie where we took some photos to try and show the immense size of this cave and then onto Winbirra for the thrill of descending and climbing scree slopes!!

As the sun was setting we were looking for Webbs cave, we wouldn't have found it if the swallows flying around the entrance hadn't been spotted. We were running on W.A. central time 2 1/2 hours behind. So it was 10 pm before we started setting up camp and preparing dinner, and with our 8-9 am departure times, we could get a lot of travelling and caving done.

Webbs cave has heaps of formations which are very impressive, but they are all dead. We drove on toward Thampana Cave and by coincidence we met up with a Seven Day Adventist caving group (12 of them) wanting to go into Thampana. So two clubs from opposite sides of Australia meet at the only cave on the Nullarbor requiring ladders and abseils. We spent until almost dusk at this cave before driving on a little further to a suitable camp spot in a doline and beside a Quandon tree.

The next day after a quick beer at Madura we went on to see Dennis, the owner of the Madura Property just to inform him we were going into Mullamalang.

The December 1986 Nullarbor trip we camped in Mullamalang but found that it was too difficult carrying all our gear. This trip we opted for a day trip to The Dome. In the evening we took extra lights and water and made a dump at the Easter Extension turn off. It only took us 3/4 of an hour to get there!! Obviously we were travelling a lot more quickly and easily without big packs. In retrospect a dump wasn't required. We then had a look at the salt cellars before surfacing for dinner at 11pm ACT time.

In the morning we geared up for the "blast" to the end. It was hot going, I had a swim in White Lake both ways, we were just sweating all the way, overalls tied around our waists or off completely. It was just a big bushwalk underground over rockpiles, but still one of my favourite caves. We made it to the end passing the WA group who were doing the cave the same day. When we surfaced it was still light, so we packed up and had dinner at the Madura pub, something healthy like a pie and a beer.

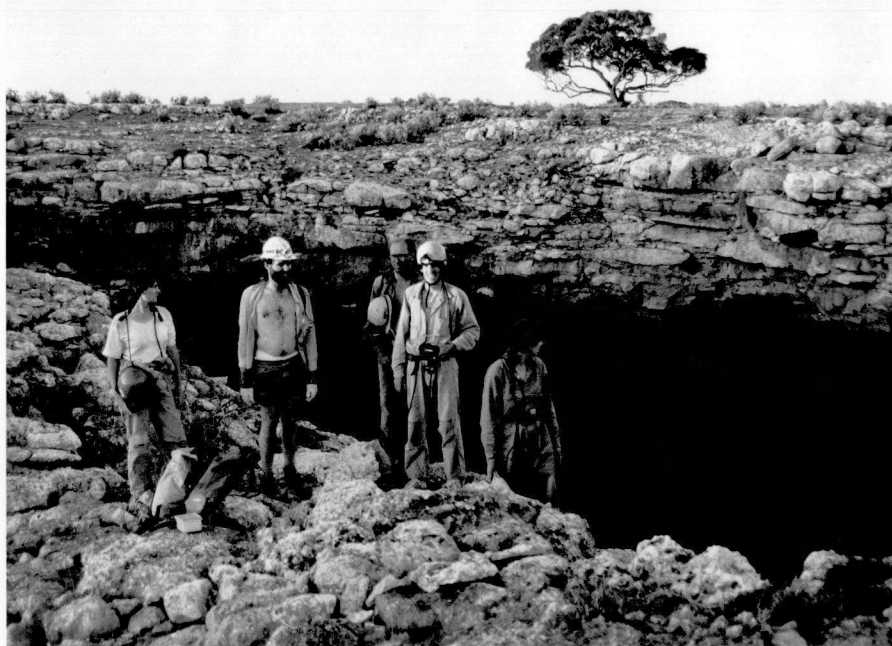
Mullamalang was the last cave we did in December 1986, but this trip we were not quite "caved out". We had a bit of a look at Madura cave, there were lots of beetles and bats and it was pleasant shelter from the heat. On to Eucla for a swim in the sea. This was our only slack day, we deserved it. The next day Peter and Jenny left us to return home as we were going to have a peek at Old Homestead. The Mazda 626 was a bit low slung to tackle this one, quite rightly so, 70 km and 2-3 hours later we arrived. Had a quick look at CEGSA's new extension, hundreds of passages, not Mullamalang style at all, you had to crawl.

We tried to find the Spring series but we were "caved out" by this time and lacked motivation. So we packed up and camped near Mundrabilla.

It was Monday and we started putting kilometres behind us to return to Canberra on Thursday morning which was Christmas Eve. We dropped off Ian at the Port Augusta airport for a flight to Melbourne on the way. There was still enough time to buy Christmas presents for everyone and start washing dust out of everything when we returned. This was in my opinion one of the best caving trips we have had and I would love to go back and explore Old Homestead further.

Chris Bradley





Entrance To Mullamalang



On The Way To Old Homestead

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CAVING CLUB

RULES, REGULATIONS AND DIRECTIVES

OF THE

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CAVING CLUB

\* \* \* \* \*

A. GENERAL

1. The annual subscription to NUCC becomes due on the first of March each year. People joining after October will be considered members for the following year providing they meet Sports Union membership requirements.
2. A club trip is one on which 50% or more of people intending to attend are NUCC or ASF members. Trips shall be proposed at meetings and advertised in the club newsletter to give all interested members a chance to attend. Club and ASF members get preference in that order.
3. On every club trip there shall be a trip leader considered responsible by the committee and who is a member of NUCC. A list of trip leaders will be maintained.
4. Except when the committee decides otherwise, club equipment may be used on club trips only.
5. Any communication on behalf of NUCC must be authorised by the committee.
6. NUCC shall adopt the code of ethics as laid out by the Australian Speleological Federation.
7. On joining, members will be shown a copy of 'Code of Ethics' to read.

B. DIRECTIVES TO TRIP LEADERS

1. The trip leader shall have complete control during a trip, and members shall be responsible only to that person or persons delegated by them.
2. The trip leader shall leave a list of the names and addresses of members of the caving party with a suitable person (not going on caving trip) and shall report the return of the party to the above person before the specified CALL OUT TIME, following which club call procedures shall apply.
3. The trip leader shall collect a trip fee from every non-member and hand sum collected to the treasurer.
4. The trip leader shall enforce whatever safety measures he considers necessary.
5. The trip leader will ensure that a trip report, suitable for inclusion in the magazine is written and given to the publications officer within one month of the trip.
6. The trip leader shall be responsible for overseeing the cleaning and return of equipment within five days of the trip.



7. The trip leader shall complete a requisition form for the equipment necessary for use on all club trips and hand it to the equipment officer prior to the trip.

C. DIRECTIVES TO THE COMMITTEE

1. The committee shall arrange organized trips at least once a month to any suitable caving area and shall appoint a trip leader who will be responsible for the detailed organization of the trip. These trips shall be advertised in newsletters and on noticeboards.
2. The NUCC newsletter will be produced monthly during the academic year and will be circulated to every member as soon as possible.
3. The equipment officers are responsible for all equipment owned by the club and will issue and collect such equipment from trip leaders. They shall be responsible for the care, repair and replacement of equipment.
4. The equipment officer (safety) shall also be responsible for the upkeep of first aid kits, and encouragement of members to attend first aid courses.
5. The treasurer can spend up to \$25 on requisites for NUCC without specific authorization from the committee.

## **NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CAVING CLUB**

### **CONSTITUTION**

.....(first adopted 19 March 1964,  
amended 28 Sept 1964,  
amended 12 April 1965,  
amended 7 March 1966,  
amended 26 July 1967)

#### **1. NAME :**

The name of the Club shall be the National University Caving Club.

#### **2. OBJECTS :**

The objects of the Club shall be :

- (i) To encourage and develop cave exploring as a sport.
- (ii) To instruct members of the Club in caving techniques with the aim of conserving caves in their primitive state where possible.
- (iii) To hold regular caving trips.

#### **3. AFFILIATION :**

- (i) This Club shall be affiliated or seek affiliation with the A.N.U.S.U.
- (ii) No act of the Club or of its office bearers or of its members shall be valid if it be inconsistent with the constitution of the A.N.U.S.U. or with the rules or regulations of the A.N.U.S.U.

#### **4. MEMBERSHIP :**

- (i) Subject to the Affiliated Clubs Regulations of the A.N.U.S.U. any member of the Sports Union is eligible to become a member of the Club after having completed satisfactorily, two (2) Club trips.
- (i) *Subject to the Affiliated Clubs Regulations of the A.N.U.S.U. any member of the Sports Union is eligible to become a member of the Club.*
- (ii) A person becomes a member of N.U.C.C. after paying the relevant subscription for the current year.
- (iii) Any member of the Club may be suspended or expelled from the Club, by a majority decision of the Committee.
- (iv) The Club shall not be held responsible for any injuries received by a member during an expedition.



## 5. FINANCE :

- (i) The amount of the subscription shall be determined by the Committee of the Club.
- (ii) All funds shall be placed in a bank account in the name of the Club, the bank being nominated by the Club.
- (iii) Cheques drawn on the Club's account must be signed by two members of the Committee, one of whom must be the Treasurer.
- (iii) *Cheques drawn on the Club's account must be signed by two of the following Committee members: President, Secretary or the Treasurer.*

## 6. COMMITTEE :

- (i) There shall be the following office bearers of the Club who will form the Committee of the Club. These office bearers shall be elected as prescribed :
  - a. President
  - b. Vice-President
  - c. Secretary
  - d. Treasurer
  - e. Equipment Officer
  - f-h Three General Committee Members.
- (i) *There shall be the following office bearers of the Club who will form the Committee of the Club. These office bearers shall be elected as perscribed :*
  - a. *President*
  - b. *Secretary*
  - c. *Treasurer*
  - d. *Publications Officer*
  - e. *Equipment Officer*
  - f. *Equipment Officer / Safety Officer*
  - g-h *Two Trainee General Committee Members.*
- (ii) The election of the office bearers will be held at the Annual General Meeting of the Club by a vote of the members present at the A.G.M.
- (iii) Any office or offices which fall vacant between A.G.M.'s may be filled by the Committee at any of its General Meetings.

## 7. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE :

- (i) The office bearers shall be responsible for fulfilling the obligations of the Club as set out in the Affiliated Clubs Regulations of the A.N.U.S.U. They shall also be responsible for such tasks and responsibilities as the Committee shall direct.
- (ii) The Committee shall be responsible for the affairs of the Club. They shall hold meetings whenever the President, or two members of the Committee desire it.
- (iii) The Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of allocating funds of the Club, and such other duties as the Club decided. Notwithstanding this rule, the Committee shall not act contrary to a resolution of a General Meeting of the Club.
- (iv) Not less than half the number of Committee members (including the President or Secretary or both) shall constitute a quorum.
- (v) The Committee shall have the power to make such rules as are necessary to govern the conduct of the Club.

## 8. MEETINGS :

- (i) The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting in accordance with section (5) of the Affiliated Clubs Regulations of the A.N.U.S.U.
- (ii) A General Meeting shall be held on request of one-half of the members of the Club, or by resolution of the Committee.
- (iii) A quorum shall consist of one-third of the total number of Club members.
- (iv) Only members of N.U.C.C. shall be eligible to vote at N.U.C.C. meetings.

## 9. ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION :

- (i) Every member of the Club must be circulated with the proposed constitutional amendment at least one week before the meeting which will decide the issue.
- (ii) Alteration of the Constitution shall be made by a two-third majority of members present at a general meeting of N.U.C.C. at which there are more than one-half of the members of the said Club present.

## 10. RECORDS :

- (i) Records of all exploration carried out on all Club trips shall be required.
- (ii) These records and other records of the Club shall be entrusted each year to a person nominated by the Committee.
- (iii) In the event of disbandment of the Club, these records shall be lodged with the A.N.U. School of General Studies Library, for preservation, or with the Australian Speleological Federation library or with the National Library of Australia.

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## MAGIC WORDS

ABC RAPPEL ACITRE VDEP  
FCOPROLITE GCOMPASSH  
HVRIARTIFACTPJKLMUR  
EENYOLPACEENOTSMIRE  
SRFGSPELEOLOGYHAI VA  
RMABITCODEFNROP RSET  
EITUSCADNPRSATUBVYI  
VCABOCELFTGHPIJLMNC  
AUIOMPRSTE OUHWEABE  
RLCTSEQU EEZELYREDDAL  
TAPEADNULLABO RESTUA  
UTABLTRACEFGHGIKLM T  
FINPPOSPWRSETRYACEN  
AOECOTTORGABEMAHDL O  
ENSETODPRZLIESBABCZ  
VEHSSNLYDDCEFGNXETI  
CFGHIULETAYWISUTFIR  
TABWHLZFLEFHOPCUCBO  
ASCALINGMNETITCILEH

ABSEIL  
ARTIFACT  
COMPASS  
COPROLITE  
CRYSTAL  
FOSSIL  
GLACIER  
GROTTO  
HELICTITE  
HISTOPLASMOSIS  
HORIZONTAL  
HYDROSTATIC  
LADDER  
MARBLE  
NUCC  
NULLABOR  
OLDHAM  
PALEONTOLOGY

PHREATIC  
POOL  
RAPPEL  
RIFT  
RIMSTONE  
SCALING  
SPELEOLOGY  
SQUEEZE  
SURVEY  
TAPE  
TOPOGRAPHY  
TRACE  
TRAVERSE  
TUFA  
VERMICULATION  
VERTICAL  
WINDOW



