

vol. 7 no. 3

MAY

1970



newsletter of the
National
University
Caving
Club

SPELEOGRAFFITI

VOL. 7.

NO. 3.

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...oooOooo...

Any one who would like to help with typing, collating, folding,
and addressing the next and future Speleograffitis, please
contact me - Ed.

AMEN

NEXT GENERAL MEETING.

Wednesday 8th July, Physics Building, L.R.8, 8.00pm.

Guest speaker: Fritz Schaumburg. Fritz is the manager of Paddy Pallin's Canberra store, and has climbed in many parts of Europe and New Zealand.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING.

Tuesday 7th July, Chez Call.

FIELD DAY, MT. CORRE.

This is a very important event. All members must attend.
Details at the next general meeting.

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EDITORIAL

This year is a unique year in the history of the club. Now, and it was not until this year, the club can say that the nucleus of the club members have passed the stage of 'tourist' caving and have begun the more serious aspect of caving, speleology.

Speleology is the complex amalgam of disciplines embracing the branch of any science which deals with the properties of natural cavities in the earth's crust or the inhabitants of these cavities.

Details of work done by the club in 1969 can be seen in Speleograffiti Vol.7, No.1. (A Summary of the year's activities - J. Brush.) This year the work has been continued at a greater pace, and the ideas and plans of some of the tripleaders has come to fruition. We have progressed to the stage where we have been granted permission to cave in the Jenolan area.

Perhaps it will be of interest to members to know the conditions of entry to Jenolan, and to other restricted areas. They are;

1. The club or society must be affiliated with the Australian Speleological Federation.

2. Applications should be lodged fourteen days in advance of the effective date and should advise the names of the persons in the proposed party. The name of the leader should be specified.

3. The purpose of the visit should be demonstrably scientific.

4. The size of the party must not exceed twelve members.

5. The party should be under the leadership of an experienced speleologist who will be responsible to ensure that on the trip members of the party observe the tenets of caving ethics.

6. The leader should report to the Senior Guide/Superintendent/Carpetmaker or Manager upon arrival at the resort.

Now that we have progressed this far, let's keep going forward. Anyone who is interested in doing a speleological project should talk to one of the Committee members. They will be able to give you advice and help, or, at least be able to tell you can obtain it.

Ed.

...oooOooo...

REPRINT FROM JOURNAL of the SYDNEY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.
June, 1970 .

TETANUS

Tetanus is a preventable disease; it still occurs and is likely to be fatal. A single patient with tetanus can tie up the services and resources of any hospital. There is no justification for anyone's failing to be immunized against the disease.

Tetanus bacteria lurk in the soil and cavers would seem to be a group at particular risk.

There are two ways of being protected from tetanus. One, often ineffective and sometimes dangerous, involves the injection of anti-tetanus serum after an abrasion or cut has occurred. (This can provide easy access to the body for the bacteria. But only in about half of all tetanus patients was the cut or abrasion sufficiently large to be noticed.) The anti-tetanus serum is prepared in horses and patients can, and often do, become allergic to horse serum. Thus this method is not often reliable as a preventative.

Active immunization is completely effective. There is no risk of an allergy (a purified tetanus extract is used) and, after an initial course, immunity lasts five years. Then a single booster dose will prolong immunity for a further five years.

Tetanus immunization is included (with diphtheria and whooping cough) in the course given to babies. They also require booster doses every five years for tetanus immunization to remain effective.

There is no excuse to dodge the responsibility for immunization. Cavers particularly.

Dr. Ann Sefton

...oooOooo...

An Editor's Plea.

Now that Semester Exams are over, I am going to try to catch up on the back-log of Speleograffiti. But I can't do this without articles, etc,etc from the club members. Absolutely anything will be printed -however, I will maintain my discretionary power as Editor.

All articles to Phil Shepherd, Room 290, Garran Hall, A.N.U.

HEIGHT MEASUREMENT OF THE GUN BARREL AVON IN WYANBENE CAVE.FIRST ATTEMPT. 12/4/70

During a recent trip to Wyanbene a group consisting of Greg Anderson, John Brush, John Furlonger and Noel Call attempted to measure the height of Gun Barrel and map its floor.

Prior to this trip experiments had verified that hydrogen (to fill the balloons for height measurement) could be generated from 5N NaOH and Aluminium shavings, the reaction being carried out in a wine bottle with the balloon connected to the neck via a rubber tube containing self indicating silica gel to dry the gas.

Upon reaching the avon, two hydrogen generators similar in design to those mentioned in the preceding paragraph were assembled. While the balloons were filling John, Greg and John commenced mapping.

After 1½ hours of impatient waiting the height measurement was undertaken using two balloons (each containing approx. 1 cubic foot of hydrogen) attached to a cotton thread. The balloons reached a height of approximately 200 ft. however the party was sceptical that this figure represented the actual height of the avon as the balloons were still in sight and no to their progress could be seen.

The balloons were then released without an attached cotton thread and observation of their upward flight confirmed the suspicion that 200 ft. of cotton thread was the maximum weight the balloons would support and was not the height of the avon.

The group vowed to return at a future date with more suitable equipment then moved on to join the rest of the party who were at the Lake Chamber..

SECOND ATTEMPT. 25/4/70

It was decided to transport the gas into the cave for our second attempt at height measurement, as the generation of sufficient hydrogen by chemical reaction had proved to be a slow process when a reasonably pure product was required.

A cylinder of compressed gas would have proved the ideal solution, but as one could not be organised only one course was left open, that was to fill the balloons and carry them into the cave.

Therefore on the next visit to the cave Greg Anderson and Noel Call set forth with twenty balloons partially filled with helium (not hydrogen) for obvious reasons. To assist in transport the balloons had been wrapped in plastic sheets to form cylinders approx. 5 ft. long and 10" in diameter, each cylinder containing 5 balloons.

The avon was reached with all balloons in tact, the feat of transport being more easy than expected and Greg and I set about looking for the balloon released on our previous visit. They were found intact, if somewhat deflated in the same spot from where they had been released.

THE helium balloons were then prepared and their lifting capacity checked, it was found to be in excess of 600 ft. of cotton thread, the height measurements were then undertaken.

The height of Gun Barrel was found to be 346 ft. plus or minus 10 ft.. The measurement being taken from the base of a smooth pyramid shaped rock designated Station "A" on the map prepared by J. Brush and Co.

It should be noted that to my knowledge the avon's roof has never been observed therefore, the exact nature of the obstacle encountered at 346 ft. cannot be stated.

NOEL CALL.

THE LIMESTONES AT BUCHAN.

The limestone at Buchan, or the Buchan Group, can be divided into three formations, on the basis of stratigraphy and palaeontology. These rocks are generally accepted as being Middle Devonian in age on the basis of fossil content. The three subdivisions are:

The Buchan Caves Limestone.

The lower part of the Buchan Group. Grey to dark coloured limestones predominate, and they are increasingly fossiliferous from base to top. Thickness is 850 to 920 feet. The name is derived from the Caves Reserve, Buchan, where a full cross-section of the formation is exposed. Towards the base of the formation, limestones are interbedded with tuffs, sandstones and grits. These transition beds have been separated as the Spring Creek Member. (This name is derived from Spring Creek, which flows through the Reserve.)

Caves in this formation include: The caves at the Reserve (Pairy, Federal etc.), Trog Dip, Hope's Cave, Lilly-Pilly and Wilson Cave.

The Taravale Formation.

This is a sequence of mudstone, shales and impure limestones, which occupy most of the southern half of the Buchan Basin. Maximum thickness is 1900 feet. Towards the north, the Taravale Formation grades into the Murrindal limestone, and partly underlies it as the Pyramids Member.

The Pyramids Member: This is an extension of the Taravale Formation with many fossiliferous calcareous nodules. Maximum thickness is 15 feet, thinning out to nothing towards the north. It is named after the rock formation on the Murrindal River called 'The Pyramids'.

The Murrindal Limestone.

This consists of calcareous mudstones, bedded limestones (mostly very fossiliferous), biostromes (ie, shell beds, crinoidal limestones, algal beds etc.), bioherms (ie, reefs etc.) that occur in the Northern part of the Basin. Maximum thickness is 970 feet. This is a complex formation that has been divided into two distinct members:

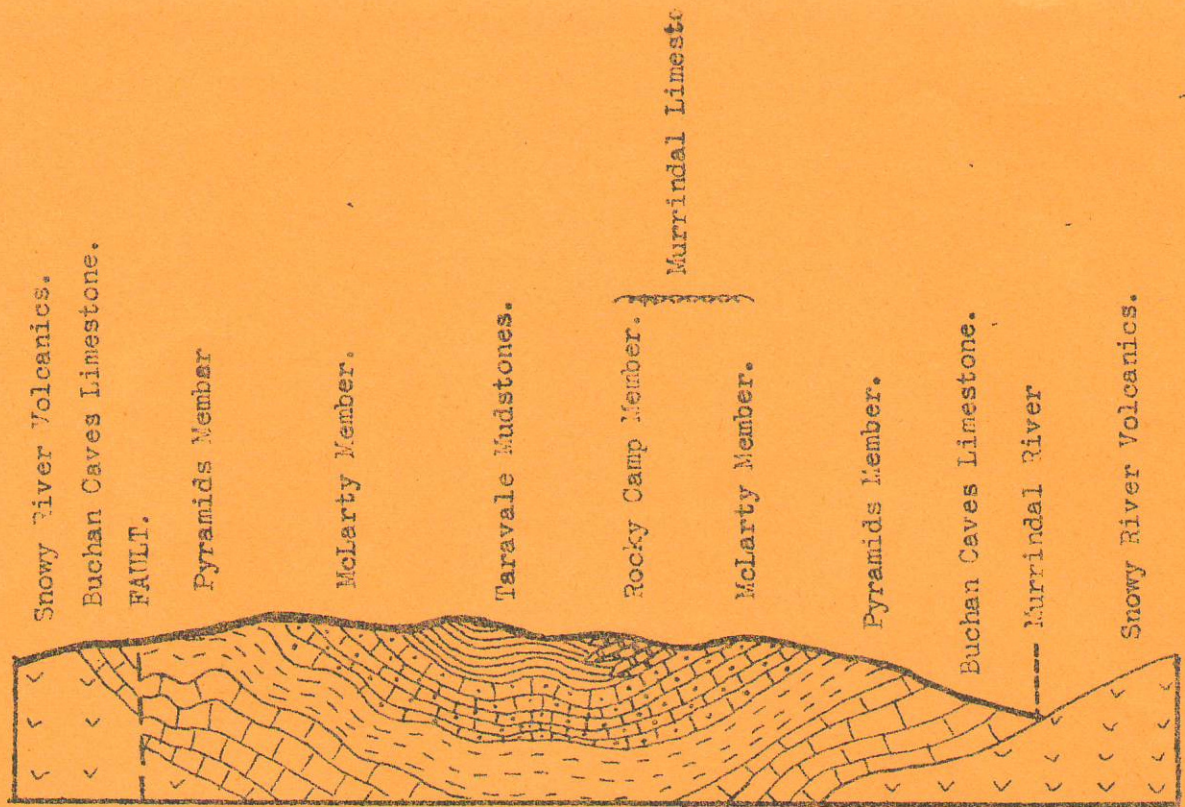
The McLarty Member. This name is given to all the well-bedded limestones of the Murrindal Limestone, containing varying amounts of impurities, but grading into pure coralline biostromes in places. Maximum thickness is 620 feet. The name is derived from McLarty creek where a complete and highly fossiliferous section is exposed.

Rocky Camp Member. This name applies to all the massive and biohermal limestone in the upper part of the Murrindal Limestone. Good outcrops are seen from Rocky Camp northward along the main road. These limestones abound in fossil remains. The maximum thickness is about 350 feet. The name is derived from 'Rocky Camp', a quarry from which limestone for building purposes was taken.

Caves in the Murrindal Limestone include Ian's Hat Cave, Honeycombe, etc.

A generalized section of the Basin is on page 6.

Dave (Dog's ????) Gibson



A GENERALISED EAST-WEST SECTION OF THE CENTRAL BUCHAN BASIN

NOTE Due to the lack of a geological map of printable size, I cannot provide the said map. There is a good map in the Victorian Geological Survey's Memoir No. 21, "Geology of the Buchan Area, East Gippsland."

...0000000...

SPECIAL CUT-OUT PRACTICE SQUEEZE

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) CUT OUT PAGE
- 2) CUT OUT SQUEEZE
AS INDICATED

CUT OUT
THIS SPACE

MALE MEMBERS
CUT ALONG
DOTTED LINE

- 3) YOU NOW HAVE PRODUCED YOUR CUT OUT
SQUEEZE; TEST YOUR SKILL. COMPARE RESULTS OVER
PAGE

The Special Cut-out Squeeze.

In order to give readers an idea of how they went when compared to other club members, a special pre-release survey was conducted on prominent club members. These are the results:

- P.S.- Could not get through because his head was too big.
 M.B. Can get through if he wears an athletic support.
 K.P. Didn't even try.
 J.F. Just managed to get through after removing his bra.
 J.B. This member passed through the squeeze with ease, taking only 3 seconds to accomplish the feat. However, he admitted to practicing the feat by climbing through the hole in the toilet seat each morning prior to settling down.
 N.C. Couldn't get through because his 7 sources of light got in the way. Later he did get through when someone gave him a waist loop to pull on.
 P.C. Managed to get through more easily than she thought as she was not used to judging where she would fit.
 M.G.W. Looked in and said it went for miles and was filled with tremendous formation.
 J.C. On hearing M.G.W.'s report, crashed through in a rush and a shower of formation.
 Amanda C. Shot through easily but she could only go as far as the rope tied to her left leg would allow her.

This article was passed to me by way of the Vice-Secretary.- Ed.

...oooOooo...

WYANBENE

25th April

Present:- John Furlonger, Ken Palmer, Phil Shepherd(E), Noel Call, Greg Anderson.

Noel and Greg were there to make another attempt at measuring the height of Gunbarrel; see Noel's report somewhere in this issue.

The other three were there to survey from the Lake Chamber back to Ceaser's Hall. On the way in we had look at the 'chamber with the smooth sandy floor' at the base of the Rockfall Chamber. An attempt to push the upper level stream passage by JF proved beyond all doubt that it merely connects back to the stream passage by which you enter the chamber.

Back to Rockfall, then into Ceaser's where we stopped to have a 'feed'. We decided to leave the food there and moved off to the lake. A rather funny(?) thing occurred in the mud patch at the bottom of

Ceaser's. Furry went across it first by chimneying, then Phil went to follow. However, when he put his foot on the mud (to take the first step) and lifted it up, the sole of his boot remained in the mud. Amidst harangues of 'Very cunning', 'Good trick, do it again', 'Amen', he effected temporary repairs, and we were away again.

The survey data has not been drawn up yet but now that Semester Exams are over, it won't be long.

We arrived at Ceaser's at the same time as Noel and Greg. We had hoped to be able to take height measurements around the traverse of Ceaser's. However, when we got to Ceaser's we had been under for 10 hours and were all tired and cold. Thus we all headed for the entrance, emerging at about 8.30.

This was a very successful trip as we measured the height of Gunbarrel and completed an accurate survey (CRG Grade 6) from the Lake to Ceaser's.

Phil Shepherd.

...oooOooo...

N.B. He means Caesar's, not Ceaser's. -Ed. (Not P.C. in this case.)

OH! TO BE A CAVER

the book according to
NOEL.

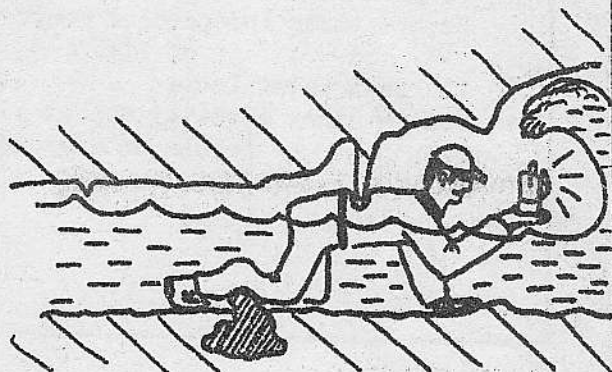
1.



See the young man,
He is not a caver.
He is full of hops.
-Hop, hop, hop, Burp.

2.

See the young man,
He is not a caver.
He has only one light
source.



3.

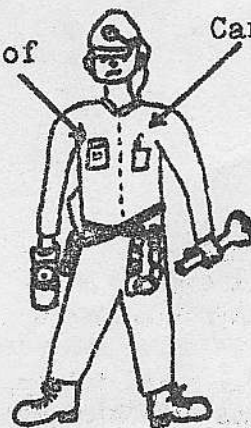


See the young man,
He is not a caver.
He has three independent sources
of light,
But he did not bring a waist
loop.

4.

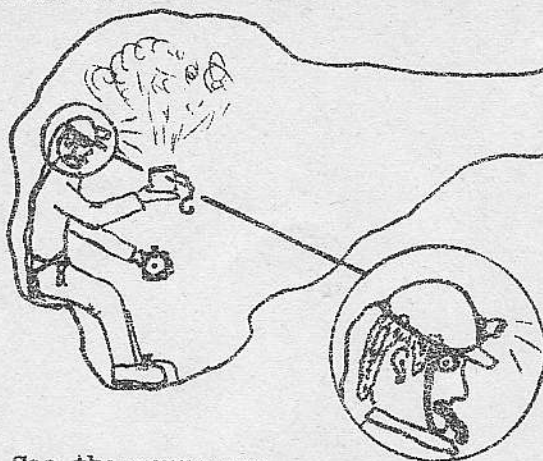
Waterproof
matches
tin

Candle



See the young man,
He is not a caver.
He has five sources of light,
He has a waist loop,
He also has all the gear,
So that no one else can havee
Any Krabs.

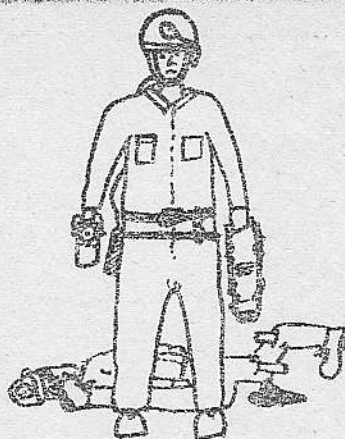
9.



See the young man,
He is not a caver,
He has three independent sources of
light,

He has a waist loop,
He has only his quota of gear,
He does not throw mud,
He does not rush off on his own,
He has a chin strap,
He secures himself when belaying,
But he opens his carbide lamp in
confined spaces.

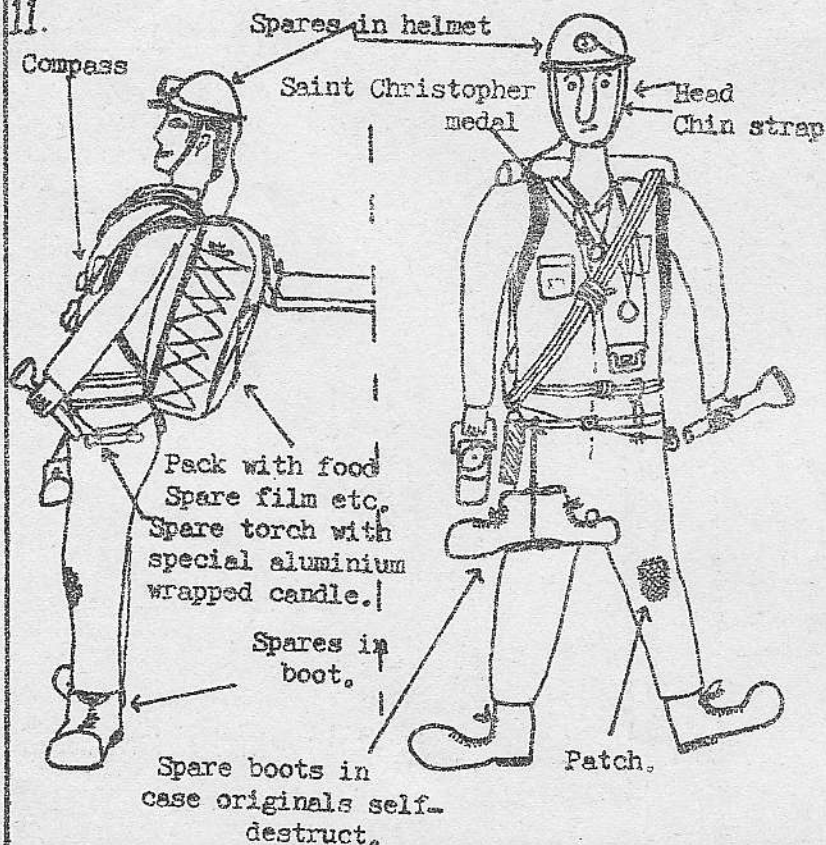
10.



See the young man,
He is not a caver,
He has three independent sources of
light.

He has a waist loop,
He has only his quota of gear,
He does not throw mud,
He does not rush off on his own,
He has a chin strap,
He secures himself when belaying,
He never opens his carbide in confined
spaces,
But he has not appointed a call-out
officer.

11.



See the young man,
He is not a caver,
He has 23 independent sources
of light,
He has three waist loops,
He does not throw mud,
He can not rush off on his own,
He has a chin strap,
He secures himself when belaying,
He never opens his carbide(s)
in confined spaces,
He has appointed four call-
out officers,
But he is so loaded down that
a railway tunnel is the
smallest passage he will fit
down.

RF

THIS

IS

YOUR

PAGE.

IMAGINE

HOW

ARTICLE

GOOD

WOULD

YOUR

LOOK

FILLING

UP

AND

THIS

THEN

EMPTY(?)

WRITE

SPACE.

IT

AND

PHIL

SEND

IT

SHEPHERD

TO

A Nightmare.

At the time of the great Dionysia the followers
 of Pyrrhon went down to Elysium;
 to cave, they say.
 They had not been there long
 when they were joined by Big Jim
 and a mob of Bacchae;
 the Bacchae were there to cave, they say.

And in glorious weather
 of rain and wind and cold;
 they all sat round a fire,
 to sing praises to Bacchus
 and drink in the fruits of his works.
 But they had all come to cave, they say.

So they looked at holes in the ground
 and the rain from the skies;
 but this was a religious festival,
 so they made the pilgrimage
 to the temple of Bacchus,
 and while the devout Bacchae
 stayed for many hours to worship
 and to talk, Pyrrhon's followers,
 a sceptical rabble,
 retired to the confined
 boundaries of their narrow minds
 and their vegetable house.

In honour and praise of Bacchus
 they burnt incense of wood and leaves,
 while the priests of Bacchus expounded
 the beauties and wonders of loving
 Bacchus, and worshipping him.

"He who searches shall find,
 and to drink of the fruits
 of his works is to search."
 And what meaning they found
 that night: their minds expanded
 their love grew and they could say
 "Verily, verily we found happiness
 in your works, O Bacchus."

But with the harsh, bright light
 of the new day, their eyes
 were heavy and their heads confused.
 And a hole was dug,
 and the tins of nectar
 were buried, to be hid
 from the eyes of the world,
 so that those who followed
 would not see how they had fallen,
 and would not be lead astray.

And they built a monument to Bacchus
 in brown, round long glass
 (For this is what they had been told to do)
 and they danced about it,
 and said "let us bury
 this monument to Bacchus,
 let us hide it from the world."

But they did not.

They left the ugly monument
 for all the world to see;
 they left their mark
 on the beauty of the bush
 that is Nature.

And they came to cave, they say.

Why did they leave this scar?

...oooOooo...

OMITTED FROM PAGE 1.

COVER. Cover design: John Furlonger.
 Graphics: John Furlonger.
 Printing: Phil Shepherd.

Printed, collated, stencils cut, proof read, (?), etc, etc, for
 ever and ever

by Maury, Furry and Phil

Marble Arch

25th April 1970.

Those present were: John Brush(L), John Furlonger, Noel Call, Michelle Chamberlin, Bruce Calran, and four visitors (Noelene Smith, Jill Prangley, Frank Bergersen, Neil McAlister.)

This was scheduled as a Wyanbene trip on which we were going to have another attempt at measuring the height of Gunbarrel, but due primarily to a lack of one Helium cylinder (to fill the balloons) and also to the large number of cavers (?) already at the cave, we decided to go to Marble Arch, a few miles to the north.

The trip there, however was not without its losses, Bruce broke the gearbox mountings on his brand new VW, when he hit a rock while crossing the ford. (So much for rugged VW's). After making some makeshift repairs he left for home, while the rest of the party headed off through the Dempsey's towards the arch.

The first cave entered was a medium sized one with an active efflux. Noel and JF (the only two who had been there before) spoke of a tight fissure and said I must try it.

So I did, Followed by Michelle and Neil I entered and before very long became stuck, however we got much further than they thought we would. This piece of information spurred Noel and JF into a fit of activity, during which they also got down to the river at the bottom of the fissure.

After an hour or so we emerged and headed for the arch, where the low level of the lake revealed a passageway, water was soon reached however, and there Michelle put a few males to shame by being the only one game enough to enter the water. When Noel and JF saw that no harm had come to her in the inky depths, they also jumped in. A hasty retreat was then made (before everyone became cold).

We then left for home via the local in Captains Flat, arriving home at about 10.30pm.

Most of us did anyway.

John Brush.

...0000000...

REPORT:

It is reported that while one member caves with 3 sources of light; stressing his rechargeable lead-acid twin beam, extra-durable headlamp and pack, together with a waterproof 4 battery, durable plastic, beam-focussed torch, also with supplementary standard carbide and emergency matches, his wife caves (Pathos, Pathos) with only a candle and matches, however she always wears a waist-loop.

Ed.*

* Ass. Ed - Ed.

Beware Amanda, rumour has it that 'Poppa' read an article on seeing in the dark if accustomed from an early age.

WYANBENE

reshers trip, Saturday 7th March 1970.

Group 1A

(Footnote explains.)

As is usually the case with reading 3 or 4 trip reports on the same trip, you find very little to say, and so this 'report' shall be devoted to the methods of direction finding employed in caves. They have been collected by discussion with other well known clubs around the campfire or tavern.

These methods were employed by those present on this trip, namely Ken Palmer, Phil Shepherd, Greg Hambleton, Dave Gibson, Greg Anderson, and myself.

Arriving at the parking area and having found a parking place, we trogged up, consecrated the carbide, and decided to enter the cave. Problem 1. How to find the entrance? Spitting on one's hands and then clapping them together, you follow the direction of flight to the entrance. Most agreed that this method was successful in surface-entrance detection; however, in a confined space, things became difficult. Having entered the cave we immediately struck problem 2. Problem 2 - to the right or to the left? volunteers were called for and the lucky person was stoned with rocks and the position in which he fell pointed down and along the stream passage.

Following this along we soon reached the base of the blowhole. Problem 3- the method used will not be repeated here, however those wishing to know the method should send a self-addressed envelope to 30 Earle St Lynham 2602; if accompanied an indemnity from Parent or Guardian, a speedy reply is assured.

We proceeded up and through the 'blowhole', appropriately named because of the exertion required for entry, then down the vine conveniently placed in the hole on the other side, and nimbly alighting on the soft-packs, which were filled with valuable camera equipment. We had thrown them down earlier.

From here to the wet stretch was indeed a simple walk, at each point of doubt a coin was tossed, giving the correct direction. At places of three alternatives two coins were used, and allowing for the uneven 4:2:4 probability, we soon found ourselves through the wet stretch where we submerged deep baritones and emerged high sopranos. On to Aitcheson's squeeze, and because of the exaggeration in which many have indulged, I shall pass no comment. It should be noted, however, that whilst waiting for the group to catch their breathes a match was dropped and it stuck upright in the squeeze. While waiting on the other side to slap a half-crazy fresher who got stuck, a strange rabbit hopped by saying 'I'm late, I'm late' and continuously looking at his watch. He was followed by a gorgeous girl with long blonde hair. I chased after them, but couldn't catch her, then she entered a tiny door.

We moved on past Ceaser's Hall and into the mud. Decisions, decisions. Here we found an alternative to the 'spit' method used in problem 1. By replacing spit with mud, however, the appropriate direction was discovered much to the leaders distress.

After climbing Anderson's Wall we reached the drop on the other side and quickly realised a decision had to be made. With a 50' drop below, this seemed ideal to try a new method. Again a volunteer was chosen and tied by one foot to the 120' No 4 Nylon rope, then thrown over the side. Just before he reached the floor we hauled on the rope, breaking his leg. he pointed to a hole through which we proceeded. (This method is extremely good, and was enjoyed by almost all.) Soon we reached the end chamber, a lake and although no-one will believe me I'm sure, but all who were on this trip will agree that there is a nymph in Lake Frustration. I'm sure the person who named the lake will testify to this.

We turned back now and before long we were lost. Do you realise that there was approximately 50 alternative ways on the way in and that the probability of finding ones way out again is $(\frac{1}{2})^{50}$. I mean !!! 4 speleos and a nymph!!!!!!!!!!?

Any person finding this note, please remove it from the frog's hind legs and give it to the Woeful Woden Wescue Wassociation?????

Maurice W. Bell
Tripleader.

Footnote.

There being a dispute as to who was group 1, so for purposes of non-argument, we look to the 'French Underground Rescue & Reconnaissance Institute of Dangerous Inhibitions' Classification (known to many speleos as the F.U.R.R.I.D.I.C method.), which states that the sum of the skills of the population so taken is divided by the number in the population.

Therefore, for J.F. group

$$S = \frac{\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + 0 + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{3}{4} + 1}{6} = 0.646$$

for M.B. group

$$S = \frac{1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + 0}{6} = 0.75$$

thus, J.F. group is now group 1B
and M.B. group is now group 1A.

...oooOooo...

If anyone doubted my sincerity about printing anything, the above article should remove any doubts. Ed.

COMMITTEE 1970

PRESIDENT	NOEL CALL 11 RENWICK ST. CHIFLEY.	493009
VICE PRESIDENT	KEN PALMER 30 Earle st., Lyneham	480412 (H)
TREASURER	JOHN BRUSH 149 MUGGA WAY?	956610 (H)
SECRETARY	RED HILL. PAULETTE CALL 11 RENWICK ST.? CHIFLEY.	
EQUIPMENT OFFICER	JOHN FURLONGER 12 NORMAN ST., DEAKIN.	813636
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RECORDS OFFICER	MICK ALTING	951155

...0000000...

... In 1829 young William Shelley became a speleologist .
He was lowered on a rope 120 ft. into the Bungonia caves and
described the scene as " gloomy and awful in the extreme,
abounding with stupendous crags from which the petrified

icicles descend into a thousand romantic forms".
... JOURNEY TO KOSCIUSKO.
Frank Clune.

YOUR FRIENDLY EDITOR says;

Keep those cards and letters coming in folks .
This week we would especially like to thank
that "little old lady" from CHIFLEY, for sending
us that "little old man" from CHIFLEY?

COMING TRIPS.

Jenolan: 30th June- 5th July. Leader Maurice Bell.

General Meeting: Room 8, Physics Building Wednesday, 8th July.
8.00pm. Guest speaker: Fritz Schaumburg

Field Day: Noel Call. All members must attend, brush up on our rope and ladder work.

Bungonia; Mike Webb. Drum Cave.

Hot off the line.

Colong Caves are to be opened to the public in 1975, it is rumoured that Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers (Australia) have the contract for laying the paths.

...oooOooo...

Here the peaks have been levelled for mountain halls,
Terraces raised, story upon story,
And chambers built in deep grottos.
Peering down into caves, one cannot spy their end;

.

Here sweet fountains bubble from clear chambers,
Racing in rivulets through the gardens,
Great stones lining their courses;
Plunging through caves and grottos,
Past steep and ragged pinnacles,
Horned and pitted as though carved by hand.

Ssu-ma Hsiang-ju
(179-117 BC)
"THE SHANG-LIN PARK"