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Speleo Spiel

Southern Tasmanian Caverneers

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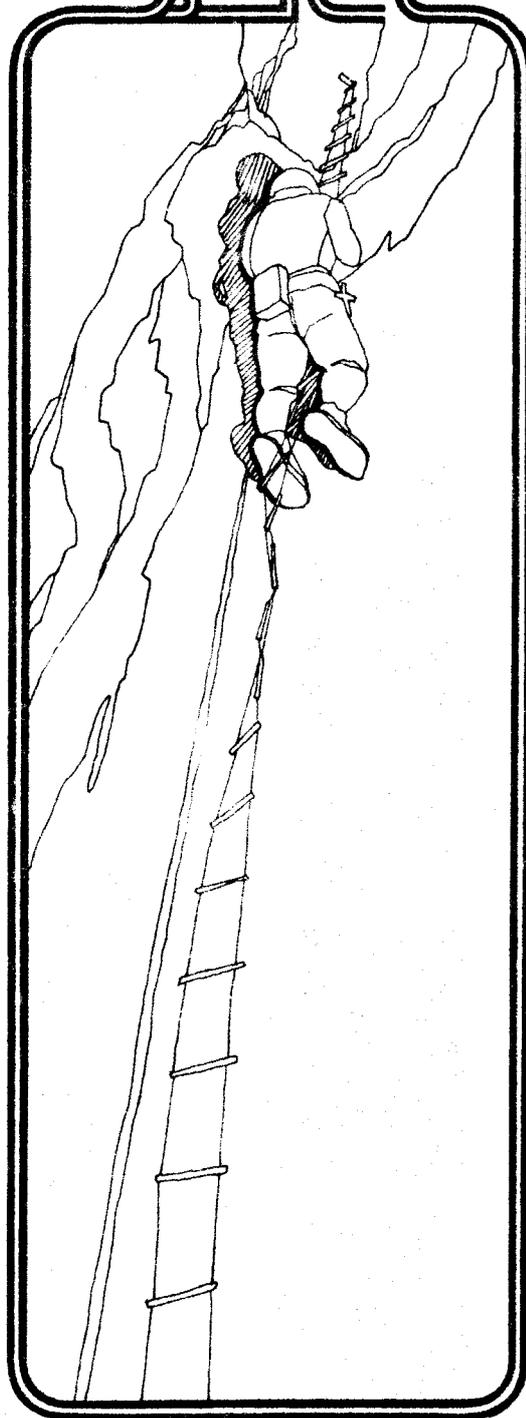
Issue no. 147

Month. JULY 1979

Newsletter of the Tasmanian Caverneering Club. Established 1946

SPALSO

SPAL



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Tasmania

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NEWSLETTER OF THE TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB

Annual Subscription \$4

Single copies 40 cents

- President: Bruce McIntosh, c/- "Springvale", Midwood St.,
New Town, 7008. Ph: 28 1282(H), 34 2833(W).
- President (Maydena Branch): Max Jeffries, 18 South Crescent, Maydena, 7457.
Ph: 88 2256(H).
- Secretary: Ian Gothard, 9 James Avenue, Kingston Beach.
- Editor: Stuart Nicholas, 7 Rupert Ave., New Town, 7008.
Ph: 28 3054(H), 28 4691(W).
- Typist & Distribution: Sue Feeney, 60 King Street, Sandy Bay, 7005.
Ph: 23 1699(H), 34 6299(W).

FORWARD PROGRAMME

- Sat. July 21 -"Death and Glory Boys" trip to Wolf Hole,
exiting via Hell's Passage (with luck!) See
Ian Gothard or Pavel Ruzicka if you are
interested in this insane venture.
- Sat. & Sun. -Florentine area: Welcome Stranger, Frank-
Aug. 4 & 5 combe's, Beginner's Luck, Cashion Creek and
so on. Peter Watts is acting leader, so see
him for further info.
- Wed. Aug. 1 -General Meeting, Wheatsheaf Hotel, 8 p.m.
- Sat. Aug. 11 -Exit Cave day trip: Conference Concourse,
Kellers Squeeze, Hammer Passage extension and
all those other fun areas in this fabulous
cave. See Albert Goede for details.
- Wed. Aug. 15 -Committee Meeting, 7 Rupert Avenue, New Town,
8 p.m.
- Wed. Sept. 5 -General meeting, Wheatsheaf Hotel, 8 p.m.
- Fri. night -ANNUAL DINNER: Prince of Wales Hotel, more
Sept. 14 details in next Spiel.
- Wed. Sept. 19 -Committee Meeting, 7 Rupert Avenue, New Town,
8 p.m.
- Wed. Oct. 3 -General meeting, Wheatsheaf Hotel, 8 p.m.
- 1st week of school -National Conference Outdoor Recreation -
holidays assistance is required for possible Exit Trip.
See Bill Tomalin.
- Sat. Jan. 12-1980 -ANNUAL TRIP: Cracroft area with possibility of
to Jan. 27 systematic mapping of area.
- Wednesday night -Now at Stuart Nicholas' place - 7 Rupert Ave.,
chit-chats New Town. Ph: 283054. Everyone welcome!

EDITORIAL

Apparently the current slump in caving activity is not just a local phenomenon but is occurring right across Australia. This is a little difficult to understand, what with the "Life - Be In It" campaign and a general increasing awareness of the need for exercise and outdoor recreation.

Many people express interest in the sport when they hear about it, but most are "afraid of the dark" or "don't like confined spaces". Hence, they don't attempt to pursue their interest and find out for themselves what caving is really like. This is in some ways unfortunate because a slow trickle of new cavers would help in the advancement of the sport as far as projects (surveying, exploration, and so on) able to be undertaken are concerned.

On the other hand, new people are not going to be attracted unless trips are run and trips cannot be run without leaders who cannot be appointed unless a sufficient number of trips are run to enable people to gain enough experience to be eligible to become leaders!

CLUB NEWS

- At the last general meeting, two elections took place following the resignation of two office bearers. Sue Feeney was elected as Treasurer and Sam Steane was elected as Committee Member. As an aside, the Constitution was interpreted as indicating that both Quartermaster and Public Officer are entitled to vote at Committee Meetings.
- The usual Wednesday night chit-chats have been moved to the residence of the Editor and Quartermaster, namely, 7 Rupert Ave., so gather there on Wednesday nights. B.Y.O., read all the literature and have a good time!
- Two more people have taken the plunge and paid their prospective membership fees. They are John de Jonge and David Ahcl. Some addresses of other proespectives omitted from last month's Spiel are:-
 - Julie Engeman - 13 Hamilton Street, West Hobart.
 - Dave Southgate - 24 Brinsmead Road, Mt. Nelson.
 - John Penwill - 2/852B Sandy Bay Road, Sandy Bay.
- Apparently, B.H.P. have taken out a mining lease in the area west of Mt. Field, i.e. the Florentine area where Growling Swallet, etc. is. Details are not available at present but further info. will be presented as it comes to hand.
- Although not strictly caving, the Climbers Club of Tasmania has recently published a guide book for Frenchman's Cap. Most of the work was done by Phil Robinson whom some people will remember as being one of the "hards" of a few years ago. The book makes excellent reading even for a non-climber and even better reading if you are a climber.

To acquire one of these volumes, give Stuart Nicholas or Phil Robinson \$3.00 and you will promptly have one placed in your hot little hand.
- The proposed Chairman trip of a few weeks ago did not eventuate owing to dissention in the ranks as to the format of the trip - some wanted a hard and fast lightning style trip, others were keen on the underground bivvy idea. No doubt, the rift will be closed fairly soon and another date should be set for later in the year.
- At the last Committee Meeting, a draft set of guidelines for leadership qualifications was drawn up. These guidelines will be presented at the August General Meeting so make sure you're there to add your ideas, criticisms and so on to this very important discussion.

- Most members will be aware of the fact that, for the past year, or so, our Club has been recipient of the proceeds from the sale of beer tickets at the Wheatsheaf Hotel. Unfortunately, owing to lack of patronisation by our members relative to several other sporting clubs, we have lost the right to the beer ticket proceeds.

Owing to this, the Wednesday night chit-chats (for want of another word) will not take place at the Editor's residence at 7 Rupert Avenue, New Town. If you are that way inclined, B.Y.O. (or anyone else's for that matter!) and come along for a good healthy, stimulating (?) evening.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

- WANTED - Empty large clear plastic cordial bottles!
Contact: Therese Goede, 8 Bath Street,
Battery Point.
- FOR SALE - Four copies of "KARST IN CHINA", \$14.00 each.
Contact: Therese Goede
(Any proceeds go to the Club)
- Frenchman's Cap guide books. Excellent publication available from Climbers Club of Tasmania or Phil Robinson or Stuart Nicholas.
A bargain at \$3.00!!
- Wet-suit: see last month's Spiel for details or try it on next Wednesday at Stuart's place.

A PROPOSAL FOR THE SYSTEMATIC MAPPING

OF EXIT CAVE

Inspired by a paper presented at the A.S.F. Conference in Perth, January 1979, by Peter Matthews.

Peter Matthew's paper presents the outline of a practical system of mapping which provides a definite and simple long-term plan for club surveyors to work to.

Basically, the system produces maps as 20 cm square modules on A4 paper, with a range of compatible scales to suit the area or cave involved. A cover sheet at the smallest scale would provide an overall view of the area or cave, provide the location of a control point or points at which surveying starts, and act as a key grid for a set of sheets at the next scale up. Each sheet in this set would act as the key for a set at the next largest scale. The whole thing comprises an atlas of sheets at different scales, easily bound in a standard A4 folder, whose individual sheets can be easily duplicated by anybody interested.

The system's main advantage for Exit is that all mapping, over a long period, would be integrated - different people could survey when and where they liked (once the main passages had been mapped to provide starting points for detailed surveying) and their results would fit into the overall project and eventually match up with previously mapped areas.

Having fiddled with drawings and scales, I'd suggest the following scales for Exit:-

Cover Sheet

Area Covered

1 : 20,000
1 : 5,000
1 : 1,000
11: 200

5 x 5 km
1 x 1 km
200 x 200 m
40 x 40 m

Reading Peter Matthews' paper has convinced me that there are many advantages to be gained from such a systematic approach and I recommend that it be adopted for Exit Cave.

Bruce McIntosh

Announcing the release of

POULTER'S SPELEO PRINTS

Inquiries & Orders to: N. Poulter,
P.O. Box 120,
NEDLANDS. W.A. 6009.

Shortly after joining the caving fraternity in 1966, my main interest in the sport/science shifted to speleo-photography.

Since 1971, it has been pointed out to me that I occasionally take some good photographs. This is borne out by being awarded 6 first and 2 grand prizes over the period 1972-79.

Towards the end of 1978 I became aware of a new photographic product called Poster Prints offering large size colour prints at a relatively low cost thus presenting an excellent medium for displaying good speleo slides.

With this in mind, I have initially selected 18 slides from my collection that I feel will reproduce well on the 457mm x 609mm (20" x 24") format and have general appeal to the caving world. Depending on response, more of my collection may be added to the current list.

The photographs are grouped by state or area with the first letter of the catalogue number depicting this region, e.g. T = Tasmania. The second letter (V or H) denotes either vertical or horizontal format.

Naturally, with enlargements of this size, some loss of fine details is evident, however, from the prints done so far, this does not detract from the overall appearance. This offer is made in good faith and I am sure that any recipient will be well pleased with their purchase.

A secondary function of this release is to raise funds for the advancement of speleology.

GOT AN EMPTY WALL?? Then fill it with a SPELEO PRINT and make a buck for speleology.

Conditions of Sale

1. I reserve the right to refuse any order.
2. This Poster Print offer is meant also to be a fund raising affair and so the breakdown charge of \$18 per print is as follows:-

- \$12...processing costs
 - \$ 2...royalty and other costs not covered by processing
 - \$ 2...fund raising for my home society - SRGWA
 - \$ 2...fund raising for the Australian Speleological Federation.
3. The prices quoted, including postal charges, are subject to change without notice.
 4. Each print ordered will be accompanied by a self adhesive title block giving a description of the subject as well as where and when it was taken. Also included will be an instruction sheet as to the various methods of displaying the print.
 5. All prints to be posted or freighted will be sent in heavy duty cardboard tubes. When the print is to be posted, all care will be taken to ensure its undamaged arrival at the point of departure. After that, all responsibility on my part ceases. Anyone requiring a guaranteed receipt of undamaged prints should either specify postal insurance or ask for their prints to be freighted by air cargo - COD - and pay accordingly.
 6. For economy in post/freighting, it is suggested that several prints be ordered for the same destination, max. 4.
 7. All cheques to be made payable to N. Pounter - Speleo Prints, marked NOT NEGOTIABLE.
 8. I have been assured by Australia Post that the current postal charges are 70c/tube within WA and 80c/tube to the Eastern states. Postal charges should be added to the purchase price.
-

- TV 1 92ft. ladder drop, Khazad Dum
- TH 2 Shawls in Forbidden City, Kubla Khan
- TV 3 The "Waddle 'n Splosh", Exit Cave
- TV 4 The Pendulum, Exit Cave
- TV 5 Gypsum Tree, Edie's Treasure, Exit Cave
- TH 6 Gypsum Flower, Edie's Treasure, Exit Cave
- SV 1 Entrance to Punyelroo Cave, SA (see cover ASF n/letter 34-36 for similar view)
- NH 1 The Lake, Weebubbie Cave, Nullabor, WA.
- NH 2 The Terminating Dome, Abrakurrie Cave
- NH 3 Entrance to Murra-el-Elecyn Cave
- WV 1 Straw on calcified tree root, Labyrinth Cave, Prize winner
- WV 2 End of Straw, Calgardup Cave, Prize winner
- WV 3 Straws and Helictites, Crystal Cave, Prize winner
- WH 4 Helictite, Crystal Cave (see cover, The Western Caver Vol.18 2, August 1978)
- WH 5 Calcite Crystals, Crystal Cave (see cover, The Western Caver, Vol.17 4, March 1978)
- WH 6 Cave Pearls, Crystal Cave (see cover, The Western Caver, Vol. 14, 4, Jan/Feb. 1975)
- WH 7 Abandoned Stream Passage, Giant's Cave (see cover Helictite Vol. 15, 1, 1977) and finally, for the bottom fanciers:
- WH 8 The view of a tourist in "The Crawl", Yallingup Cave

About the Photographer

Norm Poulter first came to Tasmania for the Hobart A.S.F. Conference in December, 1970. He brought with him his mobile home on the back of a Land Rover. He liked what he saw, joined T.C.C. and stayed for about eight months. He was very much involved in the early exploration of Khazad-dum and nearly came to grief on one of the waterwall pitches. He also went on a number of photographic trips to Mole Creek and Ida Bay.

Since leaving Tasmania, he has been back twice on extended holidays to indulge in his favourite pastime - cave photography. Many of his cave photographs are of outstanding quality.

He now lives in Perth with his wife Natalie and a young son. Norm has kept up associate membership of the club in order to keep in touch with Tasmanian caving news via the Spiel. He is planning to visit Tasmania with his family during the first two months of 1981 after attending the next A.S.F. Conference in Melbourne.

Albert Goede

TRIP REPORT

Sunday 8.4.79 - Florentine Valley

Party: Bruce McIntosh, David Steane, Sam Steane, Rima Truchanas, John Penwill, Philip Steane

This was meant to be a beginners' trip for EMC students but they all had other commitments. The party expanded to six without them: David making a comeback to caving after several years and Philip beginning.

Despite rain in the previous two days, the creek in the entrance of Frankcombes Cave was dry. We proceeded through the decorated sections of the cave, crawling as far as the rockfall. Getting through the last squeeze without damaging decoration was difficult and the rockfall looked as if a prayer was holding it up. Not entirely suited to beginners so we didn't go further.

After lunch and a brew, we drove over to JF61. About 1km along Cashions Creek Road from Tiger Road, an un-named road branches NW. One km along this road, the felled area gives way to forest - the aluminium tag on JF61 can be seen from the roadside in a little knoll of limestone, on a sharp bend in the road. The cave is roughly 100m long, is tight for most of the way and has two interesting squeezes. Intermittent visitors have left their traces, some identified as wombat and rat, and there are the scattered remains of a wallaby skeleton. The cave's main interest lies in its dense population of crickets, millipedes and Hickmania spiders, some of which were the largest specimens I have seen.

All in all, a pleasant day and one of contrasts.

Bruce McIntosh

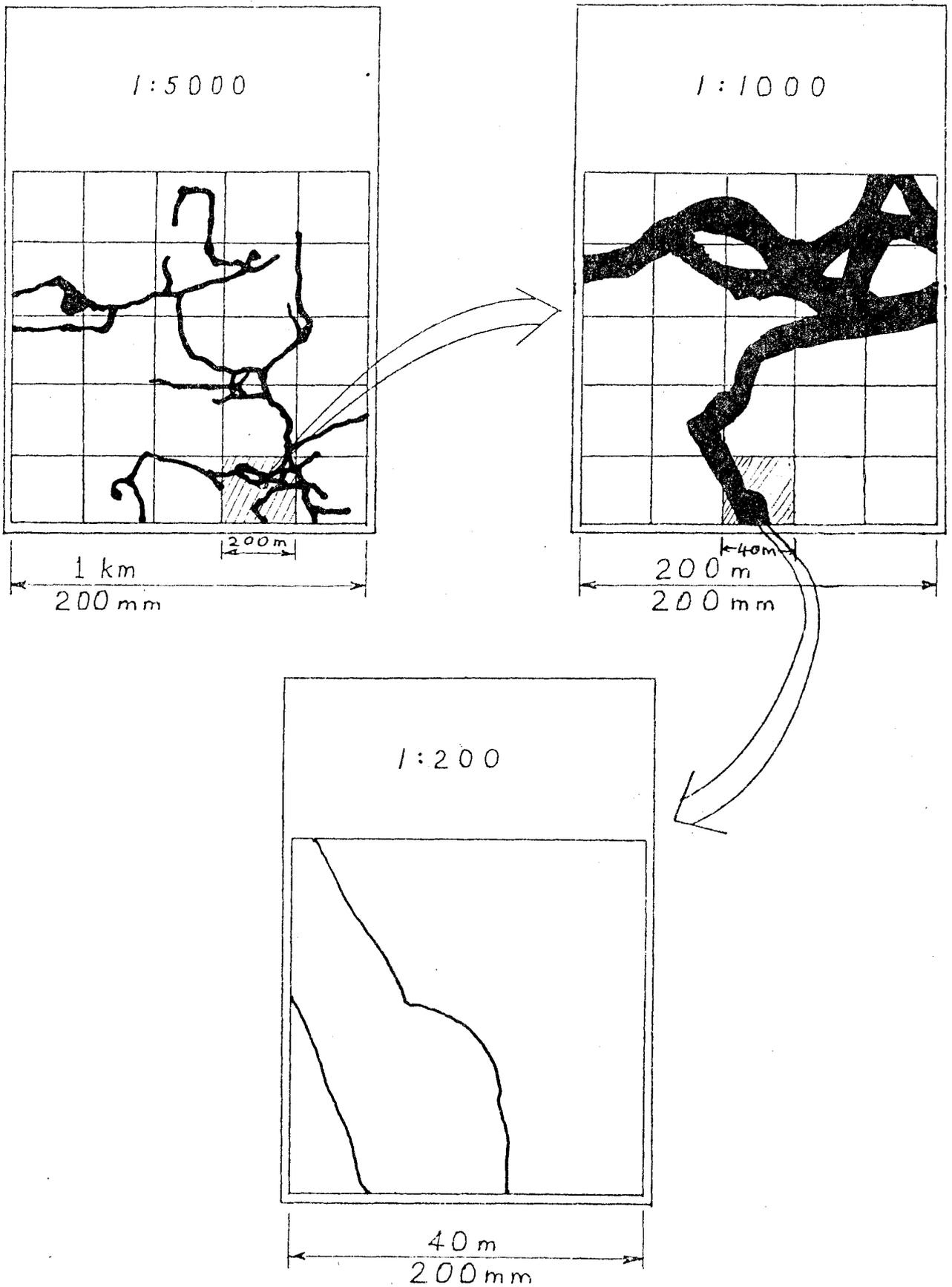


FIGURE 1. EXAMPLE OF SCALE RELATIONSHIPS:

(From "A Preliminary Report on a Systematic and Modular Method of Surveying and Mapping" by Peter Matthews, modified to show part of Exit Cave.)