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Speleo Spiel

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February 1967

### Speleo Spiel

Southern Tasmanian Caverneers

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SPELEO - SPIEL.

No.1.(New series)

April, 1966.

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club.)

Box 641G,  
G.P.O., Hobart.

Est. 1946.

Your new committee:

In the Annual Report, the past President called for young blood and that is what he has got, the youngest committee for years.

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President: Albert Goede, 54 St. George's Terr., Battery Point.  
Home: Ph. 2 1406(messages) Bus:2 7741 ext.415)  
Vice-Pres: Mike Jagoe, Springvale Hostel, New Town.  
Secretary: Joan Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley.  
Treasurer: Peter Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd. , Lenah Valley. or  
W.& G. Genders. (Tool Dept.)  
Quartermaster: Bill Hodge, 5 Bayley St., Glebe.  
Committee: Sally Salier(Miss), 272 Bathurst St., Hobart.  
Rodney Hughes, 79 Poets Rd., West Hobart.  
John Plaister, 4 Central Avenue, Moonah.

We thank the members for electing us and hope we will be able to give you good service in the coming year.

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TRIP REPORTS

Easter Trip to Mole Creek.

A party of eight, some of who seem to wish to remain anonymous left for Mole Creek on Friday. Honeycombe was visited on Friday night and Maracoopa the next morning. A slight accident foiled an attempt to visit Cow Cave. It being evening and dark the wrong depression was found, and anxious party member, while looking for cave that was not there, fell down 20 feet over cliff, into the blackberries. Fortunately these saved him from falling lots further! Northern cavers were met and the Hobart party split up. On Sunday Hodge and Hughes went with Nth. bods to Execution, and Long Drop where Hodge managed to put one of the Northerners ladders out of use without to much effort. Meanwhile the remainder of the party visited Baldocks and managed to find and view Cow Cave. The Brabons arrived on Sunday and also visited Baldocks. Monday was spent wading though Lynds Cave and cleaning out the hut. Party returned to Hobart late on Monday

(Trip report by Rodney Hughes)

[2]

CHRISTMAS TRIP

We have started planning the next Christmas trip at this stage to ensure a good attendance. Inter-state visitors from other clubs are invited to join the trip and should contact the secretary. The committee has suggested a trip to the West Coast areas, (Bubbs Hill - Nelson River - Kelly Basin), but other suggestions are welcome at the next meeting.

TRIP FEES

Trip fees have been reduced to 10 cents per day, this amount should not be very hard to part with. If paid regularly the

quartermaster will be able to supply carbide for club trips. Also an emergency supply of carbide will be left in Hastings and Mole Creek huts. This must only be used for a caving emergency!

#### FUTURE TRIPS.

23 - 25 April (Anzac Long Weekend) - Ida Bay - Leader: A. Goede.

7 - 8 May - Mole Creek (KUBLA KHAN) - Leader: Peter Brabon.

21 - 22 May - Florentine - Mike Jagoe leading all volunteers.

7 June - General Meeting, University of Tasmania, Geology Dept. at 8pm. promptly.

#### Item of Particular Interest.

On Tuesday, 3rd May, a lecture will be given by Dr. D. Megirian, on the causes of death due to exposure etc. and how to prevent them. Lecture commences at 8pm. in the Arts Lecture Theatre University of Tasmania.

#### REJOINING A.S.F.

The committee is strongly in favour of rejoining A.S.F. (Australian Speleological Federation) and we want to discuss this at the next General Meeting. A.S.F. is now a well established and organised body. Our objections on the Penman affair which caused us to resign have since been fully supported by the A.S.F. committee and C.E.G.S.A. (Cave Exploration Group, South Australia) which resigned at the same time has long since rejoined. Let us come out of isolation and put Tasmania back on the map with mainland cavers.

#### Subscriptions

Subs. are now due and it will help us greatly if these are paid in the very near future.

Full membership \$2.00

Junior membership \$1.00

Associate membership \$1.00

Amount owing -- PLENTY

Subs. may be sent to Mr P. Brabon, Box 641G, G.P.O. Hobart, or 122 Augusta Road, Lenah Valley.

#### GENERAL MEETINGS

These will be held on the first Tuesday of every month, in the Geology Department of the University at 8 pm. with the exception of

[3]

next month. This meeting will be held on the second Tuesday, 10th May. Members please bring latest slides and anything else of interest + friend as admittance fee.

#### FOR SALE

Two carbide helmet lights "Butterfly Brand". Apply 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point, Hobart or Ph. 2 1406 (message only)

FAMOUS LAST WORDS - The Spiel must go on!

Following thought borrowed from C.S.S. and Vergil's Aeneid.

The descent to Hell is easy; the gates stand open day and night;

But to reclimb the slope and escape to the outer air, This indeed is a task.

Daffy-nit-tions:-

Trogloxenes: an organism that accidentally wanders or is carried (forcibly or otherwise) into a cave (i.e. novice caver or tourist).

abseil: a rather rapellant method of descending a single rope.

guano: an end product (found only in mainland caves - fortunate).

eccentric: any caver whose formation is of unusual shape.

cave helmet: room for thoughts?

VIVE LES TROUS.

Bats and rats inhabit caves,

And so do speleological knaves,

And once in a while their female slaves,

Go underground - surrounded by rats, bats and knaves.

A. Spate.

Quote; "... the speleologist is an ideal blend of scientist and adventurer, and speleologists in general form a tight little group completely detached from the outside world. When they celebrate they do so in a cave ... Perhaps the potholers are the greatest romantics of all." Karl Lukan "The Alps".

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 10th May, 8pm. Geology Department, University.

..... a final word

YOUR CAVING CAREER WILL LAST A LIFETIME -

IF YOU ARE CARELESS.

(Apologies to C.S.S. You'll realise why.)

Editors: Mrs. J. Brabon, Mrs. T. Goede      Printing - Mike Jagoe.

[F]

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club. Est 1946.)  
Address: Box 641 G, G.P.O., Hobart.

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Pres. A. Goede, 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point, Hobart.  
Sec. Mrs. J. Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart.

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The last general meeting was held at the Geology Department on the 10th of May. About 15 members and prospectives attended. The main topics of discussion were the rejoining of the Australian Speleological Federation and the joining of the South West Committee - a committee formed to try to preserve the south west in its natural state. We hope that this will not prevent us from finishing the new track to Exit Cave. An animated debate followed on the best method of completing the track and as a result a new aerial reconnaissance is planned soon to locate the end of our track in relation to the cave. Smokebombs and volunteers are needed. ANY TAKERS! The meeting decided unanimously that we should rejoin A.S.F. and also that we join the South West Committee. The vice - president was appointed as delegate to the S.W. Committee.

Subscriptions:

Subs are trickling in slowly, these are needed and should be paid before the next issue of Speleo - Spiel if you wish to receive further copies of same. A membership list will be included with the next issue. Don't let your name be conspicuous by its absence.

Treasurer, Mr Peter Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart.

New Members

A hearty welcome is extended to the following not so innocents Bill Hodge - 5 Bayley Street, Glebe.  
David Fampton - 20 Paradette Avenue, Mt. Stuart.  
Kenneth Ford - 30 Rosehill Crescent, Lenah Valley.  
Gregory Rowberry - 26 Charles Street, Moonah.  
Peter Harrold - 5-7 Colville Street, Battery Point, Hobart.  
Michael Swanton - 311 Lenah Valley Rd., Lenah Valley.  
Brian Sparkes - 86 Windsor Court, Harrington Street

Prospective Members

Brendon Moore - 7A Stoke Street, New Town  
Anthony Moore - 112 Ring Street, Dynnyrne.  
Rodney Nichols - Barclay Coffee Lounge, Elizabeth St., (if  
you can't beat 'em join 'em.)  
Mike and Kerin Hall c/o B.H.P. Office, 2 Patrick St.,  
Hobart.  
Brian Collin - 11 Bedford Street, New Town, Ph. 8 1956.

Wednesday Natter Nites are still held at the Barclay from 7p.m. to 9 p.m. every week. So if you wish to go caving come and make arrangements.

TRIP REPORTS See over.

Hastings - 24 - 25 April.

1p.m. Party of five left Hobart for Hastings. Party consisted of R. Hughes, B. Hodge, P. Harrold plus two prospectives - R. Nichols, and R. Pfeifer. Arrived hut late Sunday: had meal, prepared gear, Slept?

Mon. 25th. 9.30 a.m. Party left for Newdegate Cave. Checked with Guide. Entered Cave 10.30a.m. Took new bods through Binney intending ladder climb to Mystery Corner. Upon reaching top of ladder pitch discovered thirty foot shortage of ladder. Hughes breaks all records for out and back in with extra ladder. 50 minutes after leaving, 2 bods and Hughes are inspecting P.P. and other formations in Mystery Corner. 3.30 p.m. left cave for hut. New bods very pleased with trip, highly possible will apply for membership soon. 3.45p.m. Back at hut packed gear, had light meal, cleaned up, left Chalet at 4.20 p.m.

Fortunately there were no accidents on trip apart from a few skirmishes with leeches. The party suffered the usual Hastings weather but a good time was had all round. The three members were greatly surprised to find the active part of T.C.C. at the caves after the cancellation of the trip. Great minds etc.

Ida Bay. - 25th April.

Brian Collin and A. Goede made a grand tour of Entrance Cave and roamed from the upper level to the final siphon. The glow-worm display in the first part of the cave was particularly impressive - one of the best ever seen. Another look at the final siphon suggests that it should be possible to climb up above the siphon with suitable equipment. This should be tried as it may lead to a high level passage. A. Goede.

Mole Creek - 7-8th May.

Arrived at Mole Creek hut 12 p.m. to find most of the party around a roaring fire. The trip on the 7th was to have been to Kubla Khan but unfortunately the car carrying the gear did not arrive. A trip to Croesus was the next best thing so the party entered this beautiful cave at 11 a.m. and had a general look at everything they could find. The water was a bit lower than usual and the Golden Stairway was dry. Party continued up through the talus as far as possible before returning to the entrance at 2.30 p.m. The party consisted of P. Brabon (leader) followed by J. Brabon, M. Jagoe, M. Swanton, B. Collin, M. and K. Hall, J. Plaister, and D. Reid.

Saturday night was spent at the hut playing cards and reading. All retired at 10.30p.m. to enable a good start in the morning. Slumbers however were disturbed by the very noisy arrival some time after midnight of three Northern bods. Let us hope that it will be the last of that kind of behaviour.

Mon. 8th. - Caveside - Party: Leader - P. Brabon followers - M. Jagoe, M. Swanton, B. Collin, M. and K. Hall, D. Reid, J. Plaister. Entered Cow Cave at 10.30a.m. Had a look at Cow Cave then pushed party through the Letter Box and out through Pyramid reaching daylight at 1.30 p.m. Five of the party had not been in this cave before and were quite impressed.

P. Brabon

### Forward programme

May 21,22. - Florentine Valley, leader Mike Jagoe.

May 25. - (Wed.) Committee meeting, 122 Augusta Road, Lenah Valley.

May 28,29. - Track cutting to Exit Cave. Leader A. Goede.

June 7. - (Wed.) GENERAL MEETING. Geography Department, University of Tasmania. 8.00p.m.

June 11, 12, 13. - Long weekend to Mole Creek. On this trip we would like as many cavers as possible to come along as we are acting as hosts to the Geology Dept. Students Club, and will probably have to split the party. Some have never been caving before and who knows, we may get some new members.

### Courtesy in a Tourist Cave.

We know you are cold, wet and fed up, but please stand back if a tourist party is approaching. Those extra few minutes may save trouble later.

### CALL FOR HELP

Your quartermaster needs willing hands to help clean the gear. Who is going to volunteer?

3

### Central Australian Tour 1967.

Three sun drenched weeks, camping tour of Central Australia. Departing for Melbourne on the P.O.T. mid July, travel to Bourke, Mary Kathleen, Mt. Isa, Darwin. Back through Tennant Creek, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock, Adelaide, Melbourne, Hobart. Approx. 3 1/2 - 4,000 miles in 21 days. Equipment needed - own car - camping gear, etc. This tour, carefully planned can be inexpensive. Anyone interested contact Joan and Peter Brabon.

### NEWS FLASHES

Clive Morris is reported to be heading this way soon. Let's hope he stays. Best of luck to brother Graeme on his recent engagement.

Edith Smith is recovering up north after a recent illness. Hurry up and get better Edith. Cave digging is at a standstill!

Our local press reports. "Cave dwellers shock crusaders in England. Two hundred student Christian Crusaders battling the invasion of "The Trogs" in the cave-riddled peak district of Derbyshire, have found 12 year old girls living as "mock wives" of some of the hundreds of men hiding away permanently in the deep caverns.

The hidden life of the ostracised "Trogs", who have fled from society, was told yesterday by the director of the Evangelical Crusade Centre in Matlock, Derbyshire. A special Easter infiltration by the young crusaders into the dark hideouts of the Trogs found drug addicts, prostitutes, and young girls living with the men.

The Troggs - an abbreviation for troglodytes (cave dwellers) - had a strict moral code, he said. They held mock marriages with the girls before living with them. Few people know what conditions are like in the caves, because the Troggs will not let strangers enter. They are generally outlawed in the towns where cafes have signs "No Troggs Allowed", and these youngsters beg food from the cafe kitchens at night and resort to confidence tricks to get money".

Editors comment. Dear reader. Let us observe a minute's silence for these troggs. who according to the latest press reports are to be blasted out of their happy homes by the local council. Anyone who can live a life of sin in caves considerably colder than our own has our respect and admiration. What, no Tasmanian effect?

STOP PRESS: A report has just reached us that an undetermined number of members of the dreaded Mushawurdry Society (a code name for SMERSH?) have entered Tasmania undetected as a result of a failure in our early warning system (codenamed Box 641 G, G.P.O.) The object of the invasion is the infiltration of our mountains and cave systems. A former vice-president of our society (U.N.C.L.E). is believed to be in league with the infiltrators as he has managed by devious means to retain one of the keys to our early warning system. The leader of this band of intruders is one George Hardingham, and he is a school teacher (unusual) from Wollongong. Any caverneer meeting this man should bring him in for questioning. Will Tasmania become a second Vietnam? Will our defences of bauera, horizontal, tea-tree, etc. repel the invaders? Will our numerous members in the C.M.F. "Intelligence" rally to the cause? Order your next copy of speleo-spiel now by paying your subs.

#### FAMOUS LAST WORDS

Let's have another working bee!!!!!!!

All contributions for the next Speleo-Spiel - stories, poetry, handy hints etc. may be handed to the editors before or at the next general meeting.

Editors: J. Brabon, T. Goede (Ph. 2 1406 for T. Goede)

Printing: M. Jagoe

[F]

(Published monthly by Tasmanian Caverneering Club. Est. 1946)

Address: Box 641 G, G.P.O., Hobart.

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Pres. A. Goede, 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point, Hobart.

Sec. Mrs. J. Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart.

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### Subscriptions

Attached to this Spiel is a membership list. About 2 members are unfinancial. They will know, and we hope do something about it, as soon as possible. Thanks to all the members who have paid so promptly, it is the first time for years that we have had so many financial members in the first 2 months of the year.

### Club Library

Albert has the Club library at the University and anyone wishing to browse through or borrow some of the books or articles may do so at the general meetings. A small charge is made for articles and books borrowed.

### Correspondence

Our correspondence has increased immensely over the past 2 months with material coming in from many other clubs in Australia. Two letters were received from our own boys. One from Clive Morris who will be back with us about November and another from Harry de Vries who will be returning at Christmas or New Year. They have both been missed.

### News from T.C.C.(Northern Branch)

The Northern Branch have put "Troglodyte" on the market. This journal is a must for every conscientious caverneer. It contains a wealth of information on the Mole Creek area as well as many other interesting items. "Trog." is published monthly and can be purchased for 20 cents. Why not apply for a 6 months subscription? Send 1 dollar 20 to The Secretary, P.O. Box 315 G.P.O. Launceston and your copy will be forwarded to you with all possible speed. The Northern Branch is holding its annual dinner on 25th June, at the Mole Creek Hotel, at a cost of \$2.00 per head plus 50c. for Bar-B-Q on Sunday. To top it off you can do some ladder practice at Honeycombe (3). Notify our secretary before the 17th June, using our box number (641 G.) if you intend going.

### Queenstown News.

The West Coast Outdoor Club is holding its second birthday dinner on the 25th June, quite a few T.C.C. members will be trying to make the trip (weather permitting). If any member is interested in joining this lively club, the membership fee is a nominal 50c. You will then find plenty to do on your visit to Queenstown.

### A.S.F. News

Letters have been received from the President (Roly Webb) and the Secretary (John Dunkley) of A.S.F. welcoming our decision to rejoin. However our application has to be approved at the Melbourne conference in December. Any club members

wishing to attend the Sixth Biennial A.S.F. Conference will be most welcome. The conference starts on December the 27th, 1966 at Mirboo North, Gippsland, Victoria. Field trips are scheduled to Buchan, Limestone Creek (a virgin area in the mountains) and to the lava caves of Western Victoria. Contact your President for further details. Those who wish to subscribe to the A.S.F. newsletter can pay their 20c. annual subscription to our Treasurer. The list of names and addresses will then be forwarded to the A.S.F. Secretary. The A.S.F. newsletter is published quarterly and posted direct to every subscriber. ORDER YOURS NOW!!!!!!!

#### Exit Cave Reports

Much of the club's activity has been concentrated on the construction of the new track to Exit Cave. On Saturday May 28 a ground party led by Frank and Peter lit two fires to indicate the position of our track from the air while another party consisting of Albert, Therese and the two Mikes made an aerial reconnaissance.

#### 2.

While the trip was an undoubted success there are people who would not care to repeat the performance. The president and vice-president had a competition to see who could use the most paper bags, while Mike Hall took the bearing for the new track and then picked the highest tree around into which to drop a message for the ground party. Its still there 150 feet up in the air if anyone wants to read it.

The next weekend a party led by Brian Collin added another 550 yards to the track. A major engineering feat which included tunnelling through bauera.

On Sunday June 12, Albert and Brian with the assistance of Andrew Skinner and four unsuspecting boys from Taroom High added a another 350 yards and reached a point only 150 yards from the button-grass plain. Track cutting stopped abruptly when Brian slashed at a vicious mass of bauera and found his leg in the middle of it. The track is now 1,300 yards long and two more weekends of hard work should see us at Exit Cave. A suggested name for the track is the "Brooker Highway". It is straight (more or less) with a low gradient and a few roundabouts and is suitable only for one way traffic. For further information consult our "director of works" Brian Collin. Either Albert or Brian would appreciate rags suitable for marking the track preferably bright colours.

A day trip was held to the Florentine on May 21 and Growling Swallet was visited, while another party spent the weekend of June 11,12 in the Mole Creek area. Trip reports will be published in the next *Speleo-Spiel*.

#### Forward Programme.

June 25 - Annual dinner Mole Creek and Queenstown.

July 2,3 - Weekend track cutting at Exit Cave. Leader A. Goede.

July 5 General Meeting, Uni. of Tas. Geology Department. 8 pm.  
Bring unsuspecting friends!

July 9, 10th - Mole Creek, Leader Mike Jagoe.

July 13th - Committee Meeting, 54 St. George's Terrace.

July 17th - Day trip to Florentine. Leader: Peter Brabon. Come and help celebrate his birthday!

July 23 - 24 Hastings - Ida Pay Leader: Rodney Hughes.

August 2 - General Meeting Uni. of Tas. Geology Department.

August 6 - 7th Florentine. Leader A. Goede.

Remember that your general meeting is on the first Tuesday of every month!!!!!! !!

### FAMOUS LAST WORDS

*Giants please walk on tippy toe.*

*As widespread bootmarks are causing concern.*

*See you ALL at the next General Meeting !!*

*(Penalty for absence:- You will be enlisted for the next track-cutting trip to Exit Cave!)*

### 3.

#### FINANCIAL MEMBERS.

Grade of membership.	Full Membership (F), Junior (J), Associate (A) Honorary Associate (H.A.), Life Member (L.M.).
Brabon, Joan(Mrs.)	- 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley. (F)
Brabon, Peter	- 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley. (F)
Brown, Frank. R.	- 308 Lenah Valley Rd., Lenah Valley. (F)
Carey, Prof. S.W.	- 24 Richardsons Ave. , Dynnyrne. (F)
Farley, Ian. .	- Boat Harbour, Tasmania. (F)
Farley, Stella(Mrs)	- Boat Harbour, Tasmania (F)
Ferris, John	- East Risdon Rd., Lindisfarne. (F)
Ford, Kenneth J.	- Rosehill Cres., Lenah Valley. (H)
Fampton, David J.	- 20 Paradette Ave., Mt. Stuart. (J)
Geeves, Robert H.	- Judd's Hill Rd., Geeveston. (F)
Goede, Albert	- 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point. (LM)
Goede, Therese (Mrs)	- 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point. (F)
Hughes, Rodney T.	- 79 Poets Rd., West Hobart. (F)
Hall, D. Mike	- Box 1352, G.P.O., Hobart. (F)
Hall, Kerin N. (Mrs)	- Box 1352, G.P.O., Hobart. (F)
Harrold, Peter	- 5 Colville St., Battery Point. (J)
Hodge, William A.	- 5 Bayley St., Glebe. (J)
Jagoe, Michael C.	- Springvale Hostel, New Town. (F)
Kent, Ron	- 33 Driffield St., Queenstown. (F)
Kent, Bruce	- 33 Driffield St., Queenstown. (J)
Latham, Del R.	- 35 Balaka St., Rosny. (F)
Lighton, S.R.	- Box 788 H., G.P.O., Hobart. (A)
Meerding, Henk	- Gourlay Avenue, Blackmans Bay. (F)
Morris, Clive	- 4 Somerdale Rd., Claremont. (F)
Morris, Graeme	- 4 Somerdale Rd., Claremont. (F)
Peterson, William	- 43 Augusta Rd., New Town. (A)
Reid, Denis J.	- 47 Barossa Rd., Lenah Valley. (J)
Plaister, John. S.	- 4 Central Avenue, Moonah. (J)
Rowberry, Gregory	- 26 Charles St., Moonah. (J)
Salier, Sally (Miss)	- 272 Bathurst St., Hobart. (F)
Seymour, Dennis	- 4 Clarke Ave., Battery Point. (F)
Shipway, Jim	- 11 Sunways Ave., Seven Mile Beach. (F)
Skinner, Emily (Mrs)	- Chalet, Hastings. (HA)
Skinner, Roy	- Chalet, Hastings. (HA)
Smith, Edith(Miss)	- 89 Lansdowne Cres., West Hobart. (LM)
Sparks, Brian	- 86 Windsor Court, Harrington St., (J)
Surtees, William J.	- 2 Denison St., Queenstown. (F)
Swanton, Michael J.	- 311 Lenah Valley Rd., Lenah Valley. (J)
Turner, Douglas F.	- 79 Riawena Rd., Lindisfarne. (F)
de Vries, Harry O.	- P.O. Box 101, Port Moresby, Papua. (A)
de Vries, Marines, H.	- P.O. Box 145, New Norfolk. (A)
Warren, Rhona	- c/o Mathers Carriers, Hobart. (HA) [F]

No.4.(N.S.)

July, 1966.

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club. Est. 1946.)  
Address: Box 641 G, G.P.O., Hobart.

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Pres. A. Goede, 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point, Hobart.  
Sec. Mrs. J. Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart.

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Next General Meeting.

Tuesday, August 2nd, at 8p.m. in the Geology Department, University of Tasmania. You would like to see YOU there next month.

Twentieth Birthday Dinner.

The club will be celebrating its twentieth birthday in September. The dinner will be held on Saturday night, September 17th. This is a very special occasion and we expect a record attendance. Make it a date. Further details will appear in the next circular.

A.S.F. News.

We are still searching for a club member who wants to go to the next A.S.F. conference and act as our delegate. Doesn't anyone want to see some caves in the North Island of Australia? For de- tails see your last Speleo-Spiel. (No.3.) So far only seven members have subscribed to the A.S.F. Newsletter. Four issues a year are well worth your 20c. A subscription drive will be launched at the next general meeting.

Queenstown Dinner.

The secretary reports: "A good time was had by all at the W.C.O.C, dinner. It was attended by T.C.C. members Joan and Peter Brabon, Sally Salier, Doug Turner and Del Latham. On Sunday morning we were taken on a tour of the Open Cut and smelters. The brisk wind blew away most of the hangovers. I was very attached to mine so I brought it home with me."  
Joan Brabon.

Apologies.

Our apologies to T.C.C.(Northern Branch) for our absence at the Mole Creek dinner. A party was planning to go there but arrangements fell through at the last minute. We hope you didn't mind too much. Just think, you would have had to share all those pretty nurses with the Hobart mob!!!!

National Fitness Reunion.

The Adventure Camp Committee is holding the second Camp Reunion of Adventure Campers on July 30 and any of our members either connected with or interested in the movement are invited to attend and meet the boys. The reunion is being held at 8p.m. in the C.W.A. Centre, 16 Criterion Street, Hobart. Anyone who wants to attend should let the Adventure Camp Committee know by July 25. The address is G.P.O., Box 440 E, Hobart.

Ladder Making.

Our ladder making programme is off to a good start. One 30 ft. length has already been made and we hope to produce at least another four lengths soon. Thanks are due to Peter Brabon, Denis Seymour, Bill Hodge and Rodney Hughes who did all the hard work. More volunteers are always welcome.

### Caving Visitors Come to Tasmania.

August 10 - 24, David Heap and Jim Coulton. David is an English caver at present in Adelaide who has had most of his caving experience in the wet and deep holes of Yorkshire while Jim is a member of the Canberra Speleological Society. They would like to hear from anyone who wants to join them. Contact Albert if interested.

October 10 - 24, Neil and Carol Anderson also from the Canberra Speleos. Neil is the secretary of C.S.S. and they are both very active cavers.

(page 2)

October-November, Dr Aola Richards from the University of New South Wales will be coming over to have a look at our glow-worms. She is also very interested in other cave life and has described and named two species of Tasmanian cave wetas.

January, 1967, A caving and walking party from S.U.S.S., led by A.S.F. secretary John Dunkley.

March 4 - 25, 1967, A caving party from S.S.S. led by Brian Garrington will visit Tasmania for three weeks.

### A New Theory of Cave Formation

S.U.S.S. in a review of an American caving magazine reports that "caves in the Arctic Circle are thought to have been formed when the land lay under an ice sheet". Quite a lad! He must have been a cool customer!!

### Trip Reports

Track cutting to Exit Cave, Sunday, July 3.

Allan Russell (a "former" friend of Brian Collin) and Albert Goede left Hobart at 6.30 a.m. arriving at Hastings at 8.45 a.m. in pouring rain. We were met by Bill Hodge who had taken rather drastic measures to stay out of the track cutting party. He had tripped and damaged his leg on Friday afternoon. Brian Collin, Andrew Skinner and Rodney Hodge had already left. Allan and Albert set out in pursuit encouraged by the fact that it had almost stopped raining. They did not catch up with Brian and party until 11.45 a.m. Brian had already reached our so called "buttongrass" plain - no doubt it was the tallest buttongrass in Tasmania - consisting mostly of 8-10 foot high tea tree with a generous sprinkling of lesser pests. Slow but steady progress was made cutting a track through the stuff. We were encouraged by the sight of the Exit Cave ridge up ahead. The first time we were able to cut without using a compass. Another 250 yards was added to the track making it nearly a mile long. Peter's sword proved itself a mighty weapon when cutting tea tree. Allan said that only a bunch of madmen could have cut a track where we did.

Pat Wessing has given us a large supply of rags for the next track cutting trip. Any volunteers?

A. Goede.

Mole Creek, July 9 - 10th.

The New Town High contingent consisting of Mike Jagoe, John Plaister, Denis Reid plus two prospective members Rex Sargeant and Kim Nicholas arrived at the hut around 10.45 p.m. Friday, to find the West Coast division consisting of Ron and Kate Kent, Kent junior (Bruce) and Sue Banefield, well entrenched.

The Hobart group was soon reinforced by a blue VW containing our Secretary and Treasurer, Joan and Peter. "Early" on Saturday the group dragged themselves out of bed and then waited until 10 a.m. for the arrival of Bill Surtees and friends Anthony and Yvonne Crosswell. When they didn't turn up the party departed to examine some new holes on Ken Miles' property near the Alum Cliffs - passing Bill Surtees' yellow VW enroute. The entire party located the farmer and holes, one of which was descended by the Vice-Pres. who reported 100' of broken bottles and tin cans plus one very dead animal - believed to have once been a cow. The hole ended blind at 100'. The party then moved to Pyramid Cave where an interesting couple of hours was spent.

Bill Surtees and party then departed and the rest of the party returned to the hut.

On Sunday the Kents moved out to visit friends in the area, while Peter led the N.T.H. mob through Little Trimmer Cave spending 1 1/2 hours caving and returning to the hut for an early lunch. After lunch Peter and Joan returned to Hobart and just as the N.T.H. group was leaving the Secretary of the Northern Branch arrived on a motorbike to inform us they had rented a farm house about a mile away, so a detour via the farm was arranged.

The Northern boys have made an excellent job of the farm; stove, frig and bar now installed.

Mike Jagoe.

July 17th. Track cutting - Exit Cave. WASH OUT!!!!!!

(page 3.)

#### Forward Programme.

July 23, 24 - Hastings - Ida Bay. Leader Rodney Hughes.

August 2 - General Meeting. Uni. of Tas., Geology Dept. 8 p.m.

August 6 - 7 - Florentine. Leader: A. Goede.

August 20 - 21 - Mole Creek. Leader: P. Brabon.

September 3 - 4 Official opening of the Brooker Highway to Exit Cave. Leader: A. Goede. (Bring your own ribbon, scissors and champagne.)

September 17 - Annual Dinner.

September 6 - General Meeting. Uni. of Tas., Geology Dept.

#### Famous Last Words

We've nearly reached the buttongrass!!!

STOP PRESS. 17 July, 4:30 p.m.

Brian Collin has just returned from Hastings and reports that he and a friend Reg Williams managed to cut another 830 yards and have nearly reached the cave. After cutting 330 yards through the tea tree they found themselves in fairly open tree country with a few fallen logs but no undergrowth. Soon after Reg found the creek and followed it up approx. 200 yards. It's easy going now so all you chicken hearted anti-track bashers come along for a grand tour of Exit Cave next trip.

[F]

No.5.(N.S.)

August, 1966.

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club. Est. 1946.)

Address: Box 641 G, G.P.O., Hobart.

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Pres. A. Goede, 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point, Hobart.

Sec. Mrs. J. Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart.

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Twentieth Birthday - Annual Dinner.

The dinner will be held at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, September 17th at the Marquis of Hastings, Cnr. Hill and Brisbane Streets, West Hobart. A 4 course dinner will be served at a cost of only 2 dollar 20 cents per head. If you intend coming your acceptance slip at the bottom of this circular should be returned to the secretary not later than September 10. Your contribution can either be included with your acceptance or can be made immediately on your arrival at the hotel. This is a very special occasion and we are hoping that all members will be able to attend. Members of other caving and walking clubs are invited. The hotel has a late licence and a cabaret starting at 8 p.m. so dinner will be served at 6.30 p.m. sharp.

Equipment for Hire.

The quartermaster now has a number of helmets and carbide lamps for hire at the very reasonable rate of 15c. per weekend. The money will be used to supply free carbide on club trips.

Carbide lamps.

A carbide lamp is a caver's best friend and should be treated as such even if they are club property. The club has just spent several pounds purchasing missing parts for club lamps. Here are a few don'ts.

DON'T - forget to empty water and carbide from your lamp at the end of a trip. Spent carbide left in the lamp sets almost as hard as concrete and is very difficult to remove.

DON'T - tip out the water director and perforated tube when you empty out the carbide. Although a lamp will work without them it burns better and lasts longer with them because they prevent clogging up of the needle valve and gas outlet and allow water to get at all the carbide.

DON'T - drop your carbide lamp down a shaft. It doesn't improve the reflectors and can be very unhealthy for anyone standing underneath. Before tackling any ladder pitch make sure that the lamp is safely secured.

DON'T - carry a burning carbide lamp on your belt while climbing a ladder. A fire is difficult to distinguish when you are spinning around in the middle of a shaft.

DON'T - dump carbide in caves or paddocks. Cows have a curious liking for spent carbide but it doesn't improve their health nor does it improve relations with the beast's owner.

DON'T - use any other fluid than water to fill your carbide lamp except in the direst emergency. Underground friends can be more important than a burning lamp.

A carbide lamp is like the female of the species. She is temperamental and easily ignited but can give you many years of faithful service if treated with respect.

#### New Battery Cases.

Bill Peterson has just produced the prototype of a new battery case designed to replace the 6-volt lantern battery. Lantern batteries frequently fall to bits when wet and muddy and are awkward to carry. The new case is a steel tube which takes four torch batteries - considerably cheaper than one lantern battery. The new case can easily be water-proofed and is almost indestructible. Editors comment: Guaranteed to last a life-time and comes in attractive rust-proof baked enamel finish. Large parties can join their battery cases together to make a climbing pole. Cases could be supplied in six attractive colours.

pitch black - to blend with your surroundings.

twilight grey - for those who intend coming on a trip soon but never do. Cardboard replica available at half price.

(page 2.)

stalactite white - for the pure of heart.

dragon's blood red - a must for the daring and foolish.

virgin's blue - for innocent girls who get talked into caving. Can be traded in without extra charge for twilight grey at your wedding!!

Hasting's brown - a particularly striking colour specially designed for those who go caving at Hastings to harmonise with the muddy surroundings. End Comment.

BUY ONE NOW. TODAY. IMMEDIATELY!!!

NO TRADE - IN                      NO DISCOUNT                      NO CASH      -      NO CASE.

#### New Members:

Andrew Skinner - Chalet, Hastings. (J)

Ted Todd - "Kenham", 174 Rokeby Road. (A)

Pat Wessing (Mrs.) - 89 Lansdowne Cres., West Hobart (A)  
rejoined.

Roland Wallace - 18 Cheverton Parade, Sandy Bay. (Prospective)

Donald Fraser - 1 Woolton Place, Sandy Bay. (Prospective)

#### New Club Badges.

Metal club badges will be on sale in the near future at 75c each. Please wear one to the club dinner so that you may be identified after the party.

#### Warning to Smokers

Did you know that in October, 1965 a 15 year old boy in Medina (Ohio) was trapped for 26 hours after he went into a cave to sneak a smoke. "I feel fine" he told rescuers, when he was pulled out after having been wedged in a crevice head-down since the previous afternoon. He said that he was not giving up smoking but did not plan to visit any caves again "at least for a long time."

## Trip Reports

Sunday 24th July. [Exit Cave]

Party consisted of Albert Goede, Brian Collin, Reg Williams, Donald Fraser and Roland Wallace.

The party left Hobart at approximately 7 a.m. after some delay while Reg looked for a lost wallet, and Albert discovered that he had left his boots behind. We finally arrived at our parking spot at about 9.30. The Catamaran road is as bad as ever and very slippery and muddy as the Forestry Dept. have now started work on the new road. There had been heavy rain the day before and water on the track was almost ankle-deep in places. Perhaps we should have named it the Panama Canal instead of the Brooker Highway. After crossing the "button grass plain" we followed Reg's blazes until we reached Exit Cave Creek. The creek was flowing strongly - the flow being estimated at about 60 cusecs. We followed the bank of the stream until we came to an old tramway bridge which is in a state of collapse. Here we made a precarious crossing of the stream. After some beating about the bush we reached the cave at 12.40 p.m. It was decided to have lunch first and then make a quick trip into the cave. Donald spoiled everybody's appetite by attempting to eat a tin of cold meat and vegetables. When we reached the cave entrance we found ourselves standing on the edge of a 10 foot deep lake which effectively blocked further progress. It appears that the dam which blocks off the lower part of the cave entrance only has a small outlet at the base and as soon as the flow increases past a certain point the water builds up in the entrance chamber until it spills out over the top of the barrier. The party retreated and spent some time cutting a track from the cave back to the end of the track. The route was shortened by following the old tramway for some distance. We completed the Brooker Highway but there is still plenty of scope for improvement to make it a better walking track. The party reached the cars at 5.30 p.m. and dropped in on the Skinners before returning to Hobart.

A. Goede.

(page 3.)

Weekend, 6,7th August.

Brian Collin and Reg Williams made a weekend trip to Exit Cave. Nine hours were spent underground, two of which were spent rigging up a "flying fox" to bypass deep water in the entrance chamber. Stream was lower than on previous trip but still difficult to cross. The party "lost" the main stream and followed up a tributary system. Some good formation was found. On the track on the way out two members of the lonely hearts club were met.

Sunday, 14th August.

This trip was arranged as a final trip for the two prospective members so that we could make them junior members at the next general meeting. However, permission to enter the Florentine Valley could not be granted as the only people who could give permission were away (in the valley). Result was a trip to Junee. It was discovered with great delight that the area above

Junee was completely burnt out and this made looking for holes extremely easy. One hole worth further investigation was found, but a big "search party" is needed. Party then had lunch and retired to Lake Dobson where the two pros. managed to drown themselves in the snow. Warning: Someone has fouled up the Junee road.

Forward Programme.

- August 20,21 - Exploration weekend at Exit Cave. Camp at the Cave. Leader Albert Goede.
- August 24 - Committee Meeting, 122 Augusta Rd, Lenah Valley.
- September 3,4,- Official opening of the Brooker Highway to Exit Cave. Leader Albert Goede.
- September 6 - General Meeting. University of Tasmania, Geology Dept. 8 p.m.
- September 17 - Annual Dinner. Marquis of Hastings. 6.30 p.m.
- September 24,25 - Mole Creek. Leader - Peter Brabon.

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Marquis of Hastings September 17. 6.30 p.m.

20th BIRTHDAY - ANNUAL DINNER.

Name; - . . . . .

No. of persons. (self included) . . . . .

Dress informal. Contributions \$ 2.20 per head.

R.S.V.P. - September 10.

[F]

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club. Est. 1946.)

Address: Box 641 G, G.P.O., Hobart.

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President A. Goede, 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point. Ph.2 1406

Secretary Mrs. J. Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley.

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Next General Meeting.

Tuesday, 4th October at 8p.m. in the Geology Department,  
University of Tasmania.

Lost, Stolen or Strayed.

One almost new survey tape in leather case. So turn out your  
garages car boots etc. and return post haste to the  
quartermaster as surveying time is here.

Also Lost.

A delightful little poem from one of our regular readers at  
Boat Harbour about the "Loss of Virginity" - So if Mrs. F.  
could send us another copy it will be included in the next  
Spiel.

Life Membership.

The committee has decided to offer honorary life membership to  
Professor S.W. Carey, professor of geology at the University of  
Tasmania. We felt that the occasion of our 20th Birthday would  
be a suitable opportunity to honour the founder of our club and  
of speleology in Australia. Professor Carey first became  
interested in caves during the war when training commandoes to  
be dropped behind enemy lines because caves provided useful  
bases for small scale operations. When he came to Tasmania  
after the war he gave a series of lectures to outdoor clubs on  
cave exploration. Interest was aroused and the Tasmanian  
Caverneering Club was formed in September 1946 with professor  
Carey as its founder and first President. Pressure of work has  
kept him away from caves in recent years but others have  
carried on the work of adding to the knowledge of the Tasmanian  
"underworld".

Members return.

Welcome back to Clive Morris who has returned to us from  
Melbourne and also to Mike and Kerin Hall who have just come  
back after spending several months in sunny Rockhampton.

Why Pillingers Creek.

The reason why P.C.C. features on the forward programme is a  
letter from Paul Rose. Paul is a well known Australian caver  
who is now in Britain. In 1958-59 he came to the A.S.F.  
conference in Hobart and as a member of Bob Sexton's survey  
team helped to produce some very fine maps including one of  
Pillingers Creek Cave. This is what he has to say:

"On our visit to that cave in 1959 I entered an extension  
leading off the low level passage but a small scale rock-fall  
during this investigation prevented us pushing this. We  
mentioned the extension to T.C.C. members and I have often  
wondered if it had been investigated at a later date.

Briefly the story is as follows: We had entered the low level passage from a point below the Devil's Spear and as I expect everybody else does we trundled along to the small cavern with the sandy squeeze. While some of the others played moles in the sand Dave Lanyon and myself returned to a point where I had noticed it was apparent that the stream had originally run down through loose boulders in the passage floor. We managed to remove some of these and I was able to squeeze down between the stable wall and the loose rocks into a small room. The rocks above my head were very loose and there was a large, rectangular chockstone wedged across an aven up on the left (more by faith than friction). Straight ahead a tube in solid rock led to a slot and progress here was halted by loose chockstone. Rather than tackle this alone I decided to get someone to back me up. Returning up the wall I noticed that some of the chockstones were very precariously balanced and later when Dave was climbing down there was one hell of a crash and the (page 2) lot fell in.

I am convinced that with a bit of effort the blockage could be cleared and the extension pushed. It is evident that this tube has been a conduit for water at a much later date than the sand squeeze and the possibility of extending the cave deeper would seem to be quite good."

#### Trip Reports.

Weekend 20th, 21st August.

The party consisted of A. Goede (leader), B. Collin, P. Brabon, R. Hughes P. Harrold, David Heap and Jim Coulton (both visitors from the mainland) and Roy and Andrew Skinner came on Saturday for one day only.

Most of the party spent Friday night at the Hastings Hut while three of us left Hobart at 6.30 on Saturday morning. By sheer coincidence the two parties met on the Catamaran Road. We left the cars at 9.15 and most of us reached Exit Cave at 11.30 a.m. It was a pleasant day and the track was quite dry. Exit Creek was quite low and what had been a raging torrent a few weeks earlier was now a pleasant stream. Tents were pitched and while we were having lunch and discussing rescue plans for the two missing members of the party they miraculously appeared.

Some of us went underground at 12.30 p.m. to take Roy and Andrew on a quick tour of the more accessible parts of Exit Cave to give Roy an idea of the tourist potential of the cave. We also followed up a side passage where most of the water came from. At 2p.m. Brian took Roy and Andrew back to the entrance while Jim, David and Albert went ahead to find a way through the talus at the "wind tunnel". Jim and David found a way to the creek while Albert went back to meet the rest of the party. After some fancy talus climbing we found a way back to the creek (no longer flowing) and Brian suddenly discovered that he and Reg Williams had explored the same section a fortnight earlier. We had a good look at this section which extends for some distance in the form of a high and in places rather narrow passage. A number of side passages were explored without much success. At the far end Brian discovered three initials scratched in the clay floor (J.F., E.M. (Sib) and M.D. 1961).

the first sign that we were not in new territory and that this section had been explored by a party of university students who visited Exit Cave in 1961.

The party headed back to the main cave. Albert went back to camp with a budding 'flu while the rest of the party further explored the side passage carrying most of the water until they came to a siphon. They also explored another high level side passage and discovered some new territory. The main party returned to the camp at about 7.30p.m.

The night was made uncomfortable by enough rain to make the bush really wet and since Albert's 'flu was getting worse the party broke camp at ten a.m. and returned to the cars.

Sunday 4th September.

Albert and Therese Goede paid a short visit to Flowery Gully on Sunday morning. It was discovered that the entrance to the main Flowery Gully Caves had been completely blocked by quarrying operations. No quarrying has been carried out in the past five years in the other quarry where Vanishing Cave is situated. It was good to see the cave is no longer vanishing and still contains some fine formation including the very unusual eggshells, fragile hollow shells of calcite up to several inches in diameter. The eggshells occur as incrustations on the walls of the cave. Two cave spiders were collected in Vanishing Cave and a third specimen from a small cave in a quarry diagonally opposite Beams' house. We saw Mrs. Beams who told us that her husband intends to reopen the entrance to Flowery Gully Caves now that the quarrying operations have almost ceased.

#### Forward Programme.

- September 17 - Twentieth Birthday Dinner. (Where are all those replies?)
- September 24, 25 - Mole Creek, including a visit to Kubla Khan. Leader: probably P. Brabon.
- October 4 - General Meeting, University Geology Department. Tuesday at 8 p.m.
- (page 3)
- October 8,9, - Maydena area. Trip to Pillingers Creek Cave. One or two days depending on the weather. Leader. A. Goede.
- October 15,16 - Trip to Exit Cave. Camp underground if weather favourable. Leader. B. Collin.

#### A Sick Little Verse.

by Patient Nurse.

Poor Albert surely was a wreck,  
When he swooned over Virus X,  
And Peter being rather shy,  
Turned a blind conjunctive eye,  
But after a week of being "Oh so brave!"  
These two little lads are ready to cave.

The following is reproduced with humble apologies and certain modifications from the circular of the Cave Exploration Group (South Australia).

THE CAVEMANS DREAM.

The caveman sat and took his ease  
Among the stalagmites,  
And gnawed a mighty mammoth bone,  
And dreamt of hunts and fights.

His cave wife knelt and stocked the fire  
Which burned beside the door,  
His cave kids romped and yelled and fought  
And tumbled round the floor.

Now in the corner of the cave  
There was a narrow crack,  
The firelight could not reach its depths  
So menacing and black.

The caveman idly looked that way –  
And saw a vision weird,  
Two bleary eyes, a big red nose,  
A very muddy beard,

A helmet with a light on top,  
Enormous boots below,  
A trog lamp in its skinny hand  
Gave forth an eerie glow.

This horrid form, this vision weird,  
The caveman did accost.  
"Excuse me, mate", it hoarsely said,  
"I rather think I'm lost.

I'm looking for the Exit Cave,  
Where all my mates are still,  
Trying to find away down under  
Instead of over the hill.

Two dozen bottles beer we'll get,  
If we can find the way,  
A promise made some time ago,  
And Seymour's going to pay."

The caveman turned a ghastly white,  
"The devil's come" he said.  
"I'll never touch the mead again  
Oh, take my wife instead!"

The trog looked at the cavemans wife –  
Then turned and disappeared.  
The caveman howled and tore his hair  
And pulled lumps from his beard.

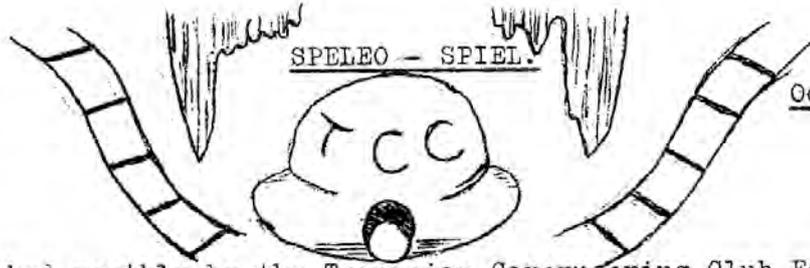
His cave wife said "Don't be a nong,  
Your mind is playing tricks.  
You know T.C.C. won't be formed  
Till nineteen forty six".

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

What does not kill you – makes yob stronger!

[F]

No.7.



October, 1966.

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club, Est. 1946.)

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President A. Goede, 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point, Hobart  
Secretary Mrs. J. Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart

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#### Next General Meeting.

Tuesday, November 1, at 8p.m. in the Geology Department,  
University of Tasmania.

#### Birthday Dinner.

Our 20th Birthday was an outstanding success and everyone enjoyed themselves. The highlight of the evening was a display of intricate dance steps demonstrated by Frank Brown. Our thanks once again go to Jean and Del Latham for taking us to their home for supper and drinks. Next year it is hoped to hold the dinner at Laetare Gardens unless anyone has a better idea.

#### MOLE CREEK HUT.

The Mole Creek hut is no longer available to us as it is to be turned into a shearing shed, so until we find another hut in the area we will be using tents and enjoy life in the raw.

#### Kelly Basin.

A caving trip to Kelly Basin has been arranged by Ron Kent on Sat. and Sun., 19-20th November. Drive to Queenstown on Friday night, o/night at the Kents; on to Strahan Sat. morning, back to Hobart Sunday night. The launch trip across Macquarie Harbour will cost between 3 and 4 dollars depending on how many are coming. This area has been little explored. Be sure to come along and let the secretary know by November 1.

#### Queenstown.

The West Coast Outdoors Club Christmas Dinner will be held at the Empire Hotel on the 26th November. Any member wishing to go please contact the T.C.C. sec. early November. Cost approx. 3.00 dollars. Yes, Bill and Rodney we know you'll be there. Accommodation at the Kents.

#### Club Bulletins and Handbooks.

Club bulletins Nos. 1 (35c.) 3 and 4 (50c.) are still available from Albert as well as copies of the handbook (50cents.) Only 2 copies each are left of bulletins 1 and 3 so get yours before they become collectors items. The handbook is a MUST for every member and contains articles on such useful topics as equipment, dangers underground, first aid, cave photography, techniques and the structure and origin of caves.

#### Trip Reports.

3 - 4th September - Exit Cave. Surveying started but no trip report received.

24 - 25th September - Mole Creek.

The party consisted of P. Brabon (leader), J. Brabon, B. Collin, B. Hodge, R. Hughes, S. Vince, A. Goede, T. Goede, D. Fraser and R. Wallace from Hobart with a West Coast contingent consisting of Ron, Kathy and Bruce Kent, Bev ? and Wendy?<sup>1</sup>

The Hobart mob reached the hut in the early hours of Saturday morning to find the West Coasters already in possession. After some social natter a short nights sleep was had.

Next morning most of the party went to Little Trimmer and made a tour of the cave. The creek was running but water inside the cave was no problem except to Roland Wallace who fell in while chimneying across a deep pool. Ron found himself in tight embrace with one of the Queenstown lasses. Ten feet of space below added to the excitement. Albert found numerous small shrimps swimming around in the creek and with Steve's help quite a number were collected. They were not Anaspides and may be a new species.

After emerging from Little Trimmer lunch was had on the banks of the Mersey and two members went for a swim to show off the latest fashions in swimming gear. In the afternoon a visit to Lynds was made. Because of lack of time; and the high level of the creek the party did not go through the talus.

On Saturday night some of the younger members walked from the hut to Mole Creek and back in the record time of more than five hours. On Sunday Kubla Khan was visited. As the creek was flowing strongly everybody took the climbing route. Donald wore gumboots to keep the water in. Brian and Albert headed back to the creek a little too early and Albert went for an involuntary swim at the Narrows but managed to keep his carbide lamp alight. The Pleasure Dome was visited and Brian had a look at the 30 ft. high flowstone wall at the far side of the large chamber with an unexplored passage leading off at the top. With suitable climbing gear this could be climbed. On the way back Brian dropped his carbide lamp in the creek and did a lucky dip act to find it again. Everybody emerged wet into pouring rain.

#### Forward Programme.

October 15,16 - A combined trip to Exit Cave with the Tasmanian Climbers Club and the West Coast Outdoors Club. Camp underground if weather favourable. Aim is further exploration. Leader: B. Collin.

October 19 - Committee meeting at 8p.m. at 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point.

October 29,30 - Mole Creek. An attempt to scale the flowstone wall at the far end of Kubla Khan and explore passage above if suitable equipment available. Leader: P. Brabon.

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<sup>1</sup> Arthur Clarke advises Bev = Bev Clarke, Wendy = Wendy Reid - and he was on the trip also.

November 1 - General Meeting, 8 p.m. Geology Department, Uni.  
of Tas.

November 5,6 - Exit Cave. Surveying and inspection of potholes  
on Cave Hill. Leader: A. Goede.

November 19,20 - Kelly Basin. For details see page 1. Leader:  
Ron Kent.

Christmas Trip - West Coast. Areas to be visited: Bubbs Hill,  
Nelson River, Kelly Basin, Leader: M. Jagoe or B.  
Collin.

---

A LOSS OF VIRGINITY.

(without permission) (from Kings Cross Whisper.)

He took me by my slender neck,  
I could not call or scream,  
He took me to his dingy tent,  
Where we could not be seen,  
He took me from my flimsy wrap,  
And gazed upon my form,  
I felt so cold and damp.  
And he was oh so warm.  
His fervent lips he pressed to mine,  
I gave him every drop,  
He took from me my very soul,  
I could not make him stop,  
He made me what I am today,  
That's why you'll find me here  
A broken bottle thrown away,  
That once was full of beer.

TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB.(Revised Sept.1966.)  
SEARCH AND RESCUE.

Controller:

D.F. Turner Home: 79 Riawena Rd. , Rose Bay 29443.  
Business: C'wealth Employment Service 33721.

If not available,

A. Goede Home: 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point 2 1406.  
Business: Geography Dept., Uni. of Tas., 2 7741 or  
F.R. Brown Home: 308 Lenah Valley Rd., or 15 Harrington St.  
Business: Eliz. St. High School. 3 1424. or  
M.C. Jagoe Home: Springvale Hostel, 2 Midwood St. New Town  
Business: New Town High School 80257.

O.I.C.

A. Goede see above.

Party Leader.

F.R. Brown see above.

Members on Call.

P. Brabon Home: 122 Augusta Rd. , Lenah Valley.  
Business: Canes, Elizabeth St., 27511.  
B. Hodge Home: 5 Bayley St. , Glebe.  
Business: H.M. Bamford, 90 Patrick St.,  
3 3781,ext.9.  
B. Collin Home: 56 Newdegate St., North Hobart.  
Business: H.E.C. 16 Elizabeth St., Hydrology (Field  
Section) 20551, ext.463.  
R. Hughes Home: 79 Poet's Rd., West Hobart.  
Business: Commonwealth Health Building, Stowell  
Ave., Battery Point, P.M.G. Radio Installation  
2 0511, ext.372.  
W. Peterson Home: 43 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley 82231  
Business: Geology Dept., Uni. of Tas. 27741.  
D. Latham Home: 35 Balaka Rd., Rosny Point, 416772.  
Business: 61 Molle St., Hobart 26407.  
D. Seymour Home: 4 Clarke Ave., Battery Point 25790.  
Business: 67 Macquarie St., 2 5354.  
P. Harrold Home: 5 Colville St. , Battery Point.  
Business: Charles Davis(City Shop) 60 Elizabeth St.,  
25011.  
D.M. Hall Home: 9 Warragul Ave. , New Town, 8 4778.  
Business: B.H.P. Office, 2 Patrick St. , 31063.  
C. Morris Home: 4 Somerdale Rd., Claremont 71239.  
Business:

SOUTH R. Geeves Home/Bus. Judd's Hill Rd., Geeveston 255.  
R. Skinner Home/Bus. Chalet, Hastings, Hastings 3.

NORTH R. Woolhouse Home: Deviot. Business: Launceston  
High School, Paterson St., Launceston 24647.

NORTHWEST I.D. Farley Home: Savage River  
Business:

WEST R. Kent Home: 33 Driffield St., Queenstown 276.  
Business:

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Business: Phone Q'town 63

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TASMANIAN CAVERNEERING CLUB.

CAVE SEARCH AND RESCUE ORGANISATION.

The Tasmanian Caverneering Club, founded in 1946, established its own Cave Search and Rescue Organisation early in 1959 which affiliated with the Police Department in August of that year.

This Organisation is on call on a continuous basis. It comes into action whenever the Police Department or other authorities report a cave party overdue in caves or limestone areas known to contain caves.

The Organisation is staffed by the Club's members and necessarily depends upon the co-operation of the Police Department and other persons. The Club, over a period of years, has collected extensive information including maps of many caves and limestone areas, it has the equipment necessary for the safe exploration of caves, and its members are fully trained in underground work.

DRILL FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE.

As soon as any Police Officer receives a report to the effect that a party is lost or injured in a cave or limestone area he is to contact Police H.Q. in Hobart without delay and pass on information on:-

1. Which cave,
  2. How many in party,
  3. How long in cave or overdue,
  4. Is party lost or injured or trapped,
  5. What equipment, food, lights, clothes, etc. were in party,
  6. If injured and/or trapped, how far in cave,
  7. Weather conditions for past week.
1. H.Q. to instruct Officer reporting to stand by; then pass on alert and information to Police Officer in Charge of Rescue. He will then contact one of the four persons following who will then come to H.Q. and act as controller for the Club. (See list at end.)
  2. If information indicates that a doctor is required preference should be given to one with some caving experience if readily available. On reaching the rescue area the doctor should immediately report to the Officer-In-Charge for latest information and to be equipped with personal caving gear.
  3. P.O. then to contact the next six people on list. If they have own transport they are to proceed to their own homes to collect caving gear. If they live en route they are to remain for Car 1. to collect them. If they have no transport then patrol car to pick them up, take them home to collect their gear and take them to H.Q. for Car 1 to collect.
  4. The driver of Car 1, being the first to be contacted as he is the O.I.C., will report to H.Q. to pick up personnel and gear, receive information on whereabouts of others, pick them up, proceed to area.
  5. H.Q. then contacts remaining persons on list, following previous routine, these will constitute Car 2. Car 2 is to collect ALL remaining Club equipment, food, telephone gear and wire, camping equipment, and any other equipment they require to establish a base camp and clearing station anywhere in the Island.
  6. When ready Car 2 proceeds to the area and reports to O.I.C. for further details.
  7. The Club Controller will remain at H.Q. and assist by relaying requests from O.I.C. to necessary authorities and act as general Liaison man.
  8. The Police Officer in the area giving the initial alert is to stand by at base camp if so required to assist with organisation/communications.

(page 2.)

IF PERSON/PARTY LOST IN AREA - CAVE UNKNOWN.

1. Preparations as before - no change.
2. Outside help may be required - large numbers of men to search area and caves. Each small unit will be in charge of a T.C.C. member who knows area and caves. O.I.C. and assistants will remain at temporary base camp e.g. Police Station if close to area. When contact established they move out and establish base camp on the spot. Unskilled helpers no longer required to be dismissed to avoid confusion.

PUBLICITY.

The ONLY persons allowed to make press releases are:- Police H.Q., Controller, O.I.C. or his deputy.

REQUESTS FOR NON - T.C.C. EQUIPMENT.

The ONLY persons allowed to request special equipment are:- Police H.Q., Controller, O.I.C. or his deputy.

FIELD ORGANISATION.

In control of all rescue work is the T.C.C. Officer-in-Charge (O.I.C.) He will remain at base camp and organise rescue operations. He will need two assistants to take care of communications - at least one to be T.C.C. They will also take care of camp and meals, etc.

The O.I.C. is to remain in contact with the Controller at H.Q. so that up to date reports will go through and requests for special aid can be passed on without delay. To this effect the co-operation of P.M.G. is needed.

A trained T.C.C. Party Leader will direct actual rescue work underground. Rescue work will be carried out in shifts - two parties each working up to six hours depending on nature of work. As one party works, the other party rests at base camp. If cave is large and rescue work in a long distance, more parties may be needed or advance base camp established underground. The O.I.C. and Party Leader will decide on this when they get there.

EQUIPMENT.

Car 1 is to take the following:-

Medical Kit.  
2 - 100' 11/4" nylon ropes.  
60' cable ladder.  
Axe, pinch bar, Army trenching tool.  
Emergency rations.

Car 2 takes:-

Communications equipment.  
Camping gear required for base camp, i.e. Large marquee, smaller tents, cooking utensils, primus stoves, etc.  
Rescue stretcher - Neill Robertson type.  
All remaining T.C.C. equipment.  
Food - quantity depending on type of work.  
Extra ropes - new hemp.  
T.C.C. maps of area and its caves.

Following gear may be needed later:-

Extra medical supplies.  
Radio equipment  
Power saws, power pumps, explosives, drills, experts to handle.

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Mobile generators and extra lights, oxygen, masks, hoses, air compressors, etc.

REMEMBER

In underground injuries - TIME KILLS.  
UTMOST SPEED IS ESSENTIAL.

[F]

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club. Est. 1946.)

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President A. Goede, 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point. Ph.2 1406  
Secretary Mrs. J. Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart.

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Next General Meeting.

Tuesday, December 6, at 8p.m. in the Geology Department,  
University of Tasmania.

Hastings Hut.

Some energetic lads from Dover have asked permission  
(!!!!?!!) to clean up the hut and build a new fireplace (under  
Roy's supervision). All they need is the material, so if anyone  
has spare bricks, paint or sheets of iron, hardboard etc.  
taking up space, contact Albert or Joan and it will be  
collected. Ron Kent has kindly donated a stove which will be  
installed as soon as the power point is fixed.

Bar - B - Q.

A barbecue will be held at Marion Bay on Saturday, 10  
December to cater for the junior members who missed out on the  
annual dinner. Everyone invited, bring the family and make a  
great day of it. Supply your own food and refreshments. Come  
when you like and leave when you like.

Coming Events.

Early in the New Year we lose our last single cave girl,  
Sally Salier to cave man Clive Morris. There should be a pre-  
wedding celebration early in January so keep tuned to the  
Spiel.

We commiserate with quartermaster Bill Hodge who took the  
news so much to heart that on the last trip to Mole Creek he  
camped in splendid isolation on an island in the middle of  
Sassafras Creek. A certain insurance company is investigating  
the possibility that he tried to commit suicide by rocking  
Peter Harrold's car on a sharp corner.

The Farleys have moved to Savage River and Ian is busy  
building a landing strip out the back. The stork is expected to  
make the first of many landings in mid-May. Rumour has it that  
Ron Kent might have something to do with the stork.  
Congratulations to both couples and - RON.

We can also blame Ron for a sudden lack of interest in  
caving from Bill and Rodney. It seems that under his misguided  
influence they have discovered girls but it had to be in Queen-  
stown of all places. You'd better come back to Hobart, Ron.

Last General Meeting.

Members were given a look at the designs submitted for the  
A.S.F. badge and expressed a low opinion of most of the  
designs. Anyone who thinks he or she can submit a better design  
is welcome to have a go. Leave your artistic efforts with  
Albert before Christmas. The night's entertainment was provided  
by Bill and Mike. Bill proudly showed his first "colour" film  
of the last trip to Exit Cave. He is now seriously thinking of  
mounting a jar full of glow-worms on his camera to get better  
illumination. Mike gave an illustrated lecture on the breaking

strain of camels' legs in front of the pyramids before passing on to his main topic "The change of the seasons in a Canadian Town."

"North Island" Visitors.

Last week we welcomed Neil and Carol Anderson from C.S.S. Canberra. So far they are impressed with our caves but do not like the climate. Neil has already earned himself the nickname "Twinkle-toes" Anderson for his exploits at Mole Creek.

John (Dick) Marshall from S.S.S. made a quick trip to Tassie and dropped in on Albert. John, who is a Tasmanian by birth but migrated to Sydney, is coming to work here next year and hopes to do some caving with us.

Lucky Escape - (or - Button Grass Plain The Hard Way.)

Mike Hall had a close shave when a helicopter in which he was a passenger made a crash landing on a buttongrass plain somewhere in the south-west (not on the way to Exit.) Glad you are still with us Mike. You could have fallen into one of those large sink holes on Mount Anne.

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Resurrection of a possum.

The papers recently reported that a live Burramys pigmy possum had been found in a ski hut on Mount Hotham in the Victorian Alps. Quite a find when you consider that the animal had been thought to have been extinct for about 20,000 years and was known only from remains of a skull and jaw bones from the Wombeyan Caves in New South Wales and the Buchan Caves in Victoria.

TRIP REPORTS.

Exit Cave - 3,4 Sept.

Party - Brian Collin (leader), Bill and Rodney Hodge, Rodney Hughes, Peter Harrold and Allen Johnson.

Entered cave about 2 p.m. after setting up camp at the usual site. Considerable difficulty experienced with lights both electric and carbide, however survey started from entrance, through by-pass and across creek to first scree slope, at this stage the creek was noticed to be rising rapidly and survey work was suspended. Bill and Brian returned to entrance and fixed emergency exit rope with loxin and eyebolt whilst remainder of party explored the cave. At 6 p.m. water still rising although no rain falling and an early camp was made. Allen encouraged some of the party into singing foreign (N.S.W.) uncensored, songs on the usual subjects for a considerable part of the night. Rodney Hughes again tried and again failed to light a fire. Sunday occupied with a quick trip into the high level passages of the cave and return to Hobart.

Survey stations marked by numbers stamped into aluminium tags fixed by gutter bolts driven into 5/32" holes drilled in the limestone.

Instruments used, 100' fibre glass tape, oil damped interior lighted hard held prismatic compass, abney level. B. Collin.

Pillingers Creek - 8 October.

Party - A. Goede (leader), M. Jagoe, B. Collin, B. Hodge, A. Johnson, P. Harrold, R. Wallace, R. Hughes, J. Plaister, S. Vince, and some of Mike's boys from New Town High.

The trip to Maydena was uneventful until we arrived at the barrier and discovered that Peter Harrold was missing although last seen at Maydena. He was eventually found firmly bogged on the road to Junee with no oil in his sump as the plug had fallen out. After his rescue we pushed on but were stopped on the Styx Road by a four foot deep and three foot wide trench where the new P.W.D. road crossing is being built. Mike bravely jumped into the trench discovering too late a 1' thick layer of oozy mud in the bottom. Vagrantly perfumed he, and the rest, moved on. We returned to the barrier and after consultation with the gatekeeper were given the key to another barrier and eventually we made the old Pillinger's Road. The collapsed bridge has been by-passed and it is now possible to drive the cars right to the beginning of the track. The cave was located and the party soon reached the shute below the chockstone. Those who went down first were greeted by a hail of rocks as the others came down. Brian and Albert collided head on when they dived for shelter under the same rock. Brian, Albert, Steve and Peter pushed on ahead and poked around in the sand of the terminal chamber. They then headed back to try and locate the place where P. Rose reported an extension in 1959 which was blocked by a collapse as they tried to explore it. Since the whole cave is one big collapse we could not locate the right spot. As we climbed around we were greeted by much abuse and a hail of stones as Mike and the rest of the party descended through the ceiling down an improbable looking chimney having been unable to find the "easy" way down.

On the way back Brian, Steve and Albert had a quick look at the side passage shown on the A.S.F. map but were eventually stopped by a vertical shaft. The cave is well worth another visit for those who are tired of living. It has the best collection of talus of any cave in Tassie.

A. Goede

#### Exit Cave - 15-16 October

Party - Brian Collin (leader), Bill Hodge, Rodney Hughes, Bill Peterson, Clive and Sally.

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West Coasters - Ron Kent, Bill Surtees, Janet Goyne, Wendy Reid, Peter Reid.

T.C.C. Sunday Only - Albert Goede, Peter Brabon and Hank Meerding.

Ex. Hobart 7.45 a.m., left cars 10.45 a.m. entered cave 4.00 p.m.

The main purpose of the trip was to establish the practicability of using a base camp inside the cave as an aid to exploration in lieu of camping outside with its obvious disadvantages.

The camp site chosen was: approx. 1,000 feet (20 mins.) inside the cave on a large sand bank adjacent to and about 10 feet above the creek. The cavern at the camp site being approx. 70' high and 100' wide. After a shadow display and a game of naming the formations the majority retired to sleeping bags about 9 p.m. some glow-worms giving the effect of a starry night.

The party rose about 7 a.m. with difficulty, maybe due to the "cave" effect, or to inherent personal characteristics. After breakfast all visited the "colnade of columns" and then the west coasters retired and the weekend T.C.C.'s continued on to the known end of the cave (Sib's signature.) and on returning to the high level system met Albert, Peter and Hank. After lunch at the sand bank left cave at 4 p.m. and returned to Hobart via a welcome tea and coffee break at Roy's.

Conclusion: Camping inside the cave is practical but of doubtful benefit to exploration, possibly a smaller cavern would be better suited for a camp site.

Observation: The creek had risen some time in September to within 12" of covering the camp sand bank, i.e. about 9' above normal level.

On The Side: The west coasters were full of admiration and expressed great joy (in admirably phrased four letter words) at being given the opportunity to walk along the Brooker Highway; however they will no doubt express their full appreciation of the T.C.C. in the next West Coast Outdoor Club circular. Apart from their over exuberance about the track they proved to be a great bunch to cave with.

B. Collin.

#### THE TRUTH??!!

Exit Cave - 15-16 October (+ 14th & 17th).

(Special edition to convey the Truth, before the T.C.C. fabricate a dastardly pack of Lies!)

Five members of the W.C.O.C. have completed a trip that will go down into living History - Not for us the dry pages of history books - our trip will be a legend - told about the camp fires for ever - the names of the great shall be forever our companions; for compared with the trip to "Exit", Bourke and Wills went out on a Sunday School Picnic.

Lured on by T.C.C. propaganda (their circular claimed they had cut the track), we headed for Hobart on Friday night and billeted with Clive Morris - an evening that was spent in comfort and gave no hint of the sinister schemes that lay before us.

Saturday found us dragged into the land of the living at the ungodly hour of 6 a.m. By 11 a.m. we were finally awake and standing by the cars on the Catamaran Road, with some repulsively heavy looking packs beside us. Our leader Brian Collin (T.C.C) backed up by five other typical Caverneers, boasted that the record times for the track were 1 hour 50 mins. the shortest and three hours thirty mins. the longest. It was like a red flag to a bull - That record was going to topple - and a steely look came into Bill Surtees' eye, Wendy Reid slung her pack on as though it contained feathers (something that was not a fact as the shape of the kitchen sink could be clearly seen) and Peter Reid and Janet ? paired off up the road in fine style, while the leader cast a jaundiced eye on the Forestry track ahead and mentally composed letters to the Minister for Forests. Half an hour and one mile later, some deranged individuals with warped and twisted sense of humour, pointed to a solid, unbroken, impenetrable, tangled mess of

scrub, and said "That-a-way!" Bill's steely look turned to jelly, Wendy wished she had left the kitchen sink, Peter was visibly shaken, at this stage it was evident that no minister this side of the pearly gates had a show of helping, and Janet - where the ---- was Janet?!

Four hours and 1½ miles later, we emerged. Perhaps the less said the better. Wendy proved a saviour on the last bit by coming

(page 4)

to the assistance of a great hulking Caverneer. Seems his pack was pulling him over backwards, and she graciously hitched her pack on in front of him and PRESTO - perfect balance. Unfortunately, no one else suffered from this unbalanced condition, for by this time I'd have given mine to my Grandmother to tote. Bill sat still while a snake wandered round him, but the snake wouldn't co-operate and bite. So he had to go on! And leeches! Cutting grass! Tea Tree! Bauera! Horizontal rotten logs! all added their subtle touch to that Saturday stroll.

The cave was inspiring, to those who were capable of being inspired, the glow-worms delightful and Sally's (T.C.C.) mushroom soup tea delicious. Bill Hodge (T.C.C.) took the absence of a certain curly haired W.C.O.C. member hard and settled for tea spiked with rum, just enough that it took a mug of cold water in his sleeping bag to wake him the next morning. The sunrise was fantastic as one trog lamp after another was lit.

The trip out was enough to make a strong man cry - (it must have been the onions they left behind. Ed.) - the heroism that was displayed. I was all for staying there to die in a certain amount of comfort, but my party was strong, determined and courageous as they crawled on their hands and knees to the bush. If it wasn't for a certain bottle Janet produced the leeches would have had the last of our blood - as it was, one bite and they fell off hic-coughing!

Our thanks goes out to T.C.C. for a grand weekend and we look forward to being their hosts on the Kelly Basin trip. Also, we are duly grateful to the army for the use of their Land Mines, Booby Traps and Poison Spikes on the forthcoming Kelly Basin trip; but it is feared they will prove second rate to that ++?!+&f+?!@+?! track.

Anyone for Exit!!!

#### Mole Creek - 29 - 30 October.

Wrecker Harrold does it again. (for the last time) While driving to Kubla Khan Peter H. decided the road was not quite for him so he rolled his car three times and went over the bank. The Gods were smiling on Peter and his companion Bill Hodge as they walked from the wreck with-out a scratch (to themselves! - you should have seen the car). Their first remarks were (Peter) "Dad will hit the roof this time." and (Bill) "Aw, me eggs got broken!." The little Hillman Jinx is in its resting place at our beloved Mole Creek.

Sunday. After lending as much assistance as possible to the 2 boys, Joan drove out to collect the Hubby who was caving at

Maracoopa, on pulling up at the cave she discovered a flat tyre so in pouring rain decided to surprise Peter by changing it, so donning boots, overalls, gloves etc. she opened the bonnet and took out spare wheel, when 5 carloads of strapping young men arrived and rushed to her aid not bothering with the jack. They used brute force and lifted the little beetle off the ground and changed the wheel. The whole operation taking three minutes. Peter was very grateful as it was still pouring when he arrived back from the cave.

All round it was an eventful weekend.

P. Brabon.

#### Mole Creek - 29-30 October.

The party consisted of Peter Brabon (leader), Brian Collin, Albert Goede, and two visitors from C.S.S. - Neil (Twinkletoes) and Carol Anderson.

The object of the trip was to visit Devils Earhole and (time permitting) too put in loxins to reach the high level passage at the far end.

Arriving at Maracoopa we were lucky enough to meet a party of the northern cavers led by Bob Woolhouse who were taking through some members of the Young Liberals (What a way to treat your political opponents!!) We teamed up to make a lucky 13 and passed through Maracoopa 1 and 2. Bob made short work of finding Devils Earhole, which looked a most impressive sight even on a rainy day. The party quickly made its way down to the bottom and Brian started hammering in loxins while most of the others scouted around. Some of the northerners found a way up to the high level passage but on the wrong side of the large hole in the floor. However, they could look across from a piece of false floor to the other side and decided that the passage did not appear to go on so operation "loxin" was abandoned. Meanwhile Neil Anderson had discovered a small hole about 12 feet up on the opposite side of the chamber. After considerable acrobatics

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he almost got through but the wet suit he was wearing was in the way. Up above appeared to be a small but promising passage leading on through the cave fill in the right direction. Due to lack of time no further attempts were made and the party retreated to the surface. Finally a quick sight seeing trip was made to Devils Pot before heading downhill back to the cars. The northern mob have descended Devils Pot to a depth of 300'-350' and are still going. A trip is planned for the first weekend in December and our members have been invited.

A. Goede.

#### Forward Programme.

November 16 - Committee Meeting at 8p.m. at 122 Augusta Road.

November 19,20 - Kelly Basin, Leader - Ron Kent.

December 3,4,- Mole Creek, Leader P. Brabon.

December 6 - General Meeting, 8p.m. in Uni. of Tas. Geology Dept.

December 10 - Marion Bay - Barbecue.

December 17, 18 - Growling Swallet, Leader - ?

Christmas trip - West coast. Areas to be visited: Bubbs Hill, Nelson River, Kelly Basin. Leader: M. Jagoe or B. Collin.

## BEST WISHES

Our congratulations go to Kay and Barry James on the birth of their daughter, Sharon Lee, on Nov.3. A future caverneer perhaps.

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### SQUEEZE ME PLEASE.

(This article for the benefit of new and junior members - you old hands should know this.)

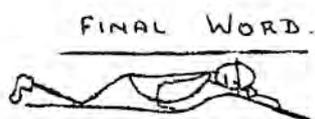
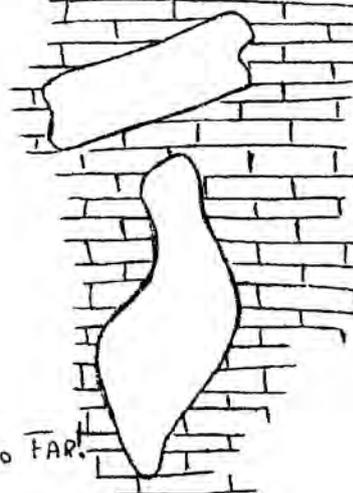
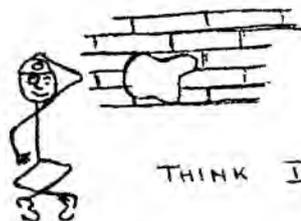
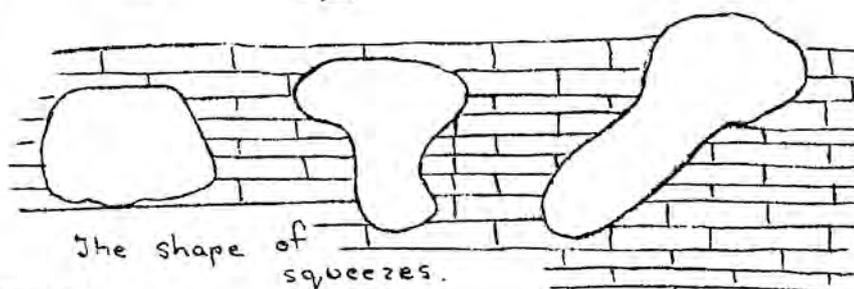
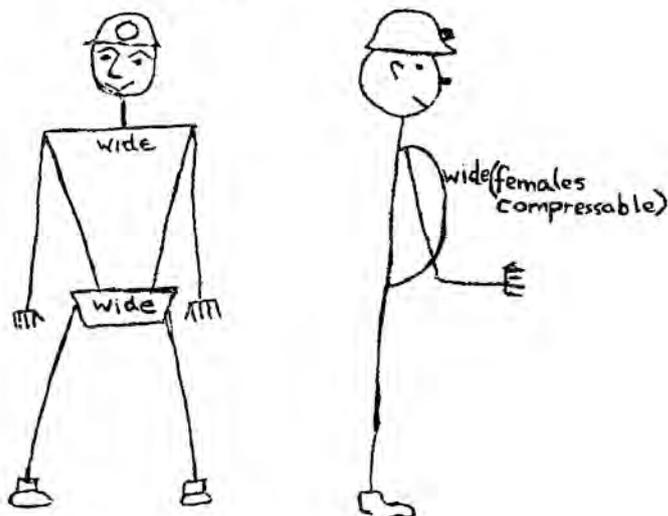
The most important facts for a beginner to remember when faced with a squeeze are that his chances of becoming stuck are small, and that many people have been both through and back before him. When tackling a squeeze it is important to inspect it first and note its general shape. Then consider which parts of the body are widest - the hips and shoulders, for example - and enter the squeeze in such a way that the broadest parts of the body fit into the widest parts of the passage. In some cases it is possible to adopt any one of a number of positions, and where choice exists, that which will best aid movement should be adopted. Generally it is easier to move on one's front than one's back, and to go head first rather than feet first. When the squeeze is roughly circular with a flat floor, it is best to go head first on one's stomach. In the case of squeezes shaped like a slot the widest axis of the body should be parallel to the broadest axis of the tunnel. This may of course mean going forwards on one's side, and if so, then it may be best to adopt a somewhat different posture to the extent that the upper arm is trailed behind and used to push instead of pull. It is also important to think about the side on which it will be better to lie. This choice must, in turn, be based on careful observation of the squeeze or passage, and especially of the direction of any bends it may contain. The human body bends forward and sideways easily, but hardly at all backward, and the aim should be to go round bends so that the curve is a forward bend for the caver. This may mean that part way through a narrow bit it is necessary to turn round and, face the other way for the next corner. While this manoeuvre requires a certain amount of space, few squeezes are so tight throughout their entire length as to prevent turning over at any point. More usually long squeezes consist of narrow bits interspersed with wider parts, and it is often possible to adjust one's position in the wider parts before attempting the succeeding tight section. Where the squeeze slopes downward it is best to go feet first because in so doing proper control of one's movements may be had by bracing against the sides and the roof of the passage. In this way any tendency towards an uncontrolled slide can be checked. Unknown squeezes which slope should always be tackled in this way, and unless the leader specifically directs it no sloping squeeze should be tackled head first. It is sometimes necessary to depart from this rule where extreme tightness or some other overriding consideration demands it. However in these cases there will always be a level platform on the far side, so that no harm

(page 6)

will come if the caver does lose control as he emerges from the squeeze.

(Next month - Movement in squeezes.)

# The shape of a caver.



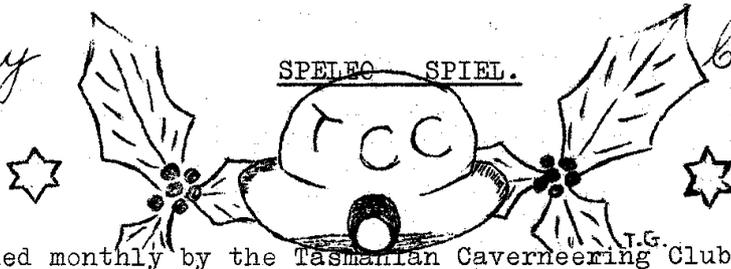
This article was taken from the book "Cave-Craft" by David Cons. Apart from the article on Squeezes, there are articles on Climbing for Cavers, Caving Techniques, Cave Rescue etc. The book may be purchased from Fullers Book Shop for 28/-.

## STOP PRESS

Nov. 5-6 - A party of 7 went to Exit Cave and finally found a way through the talus. The cave is huge and the stream has been followed up for another half mile. Many side passages including one sixty feet high have not yet been explored. A full report will be published in the next *Speleo-Spiel*. Come on the next trip and win those bottles of beer. Anderson seems to be bringing us luck!

[F]

Merry  
No. 9.



Christmas.  
December, 1966.

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club, Est. 1946.)

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President A. Goede, 54 St. George's Terrace, Battery Point. Ph. 21406  
Secretary Mrs. J. Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd., Lenah Valley, Hobart.

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Next General Meeting.

Tuesday, February 7th, at 8p.m. at 8 Bath Street, Battery Point  
Please bring your own cushions, cake and liquid refreshments.

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EDITORIAL

It couldn't happen TWICE - not in two consecutive weekends and in two different areas - BUT IT DID !!!!!

On the 30th October a party of six made a big breakthrough in Kubla Khan by scaling the flowstone wall at the far end of Cairn Hall and exploring a series of passages beyond until time and failing lights forced them to turn back at the edge of a thirty foot hole which occupied the floor of the passage.

Then the following weekend (5-6 November) a party of seven made a big breakthrough in Exit Cave by finding a way through the talus at the far end of the cave. Another half mile of stream passage was explored and further progress is possible through talus. There are also a number of promising side passages that have not yet been explored. The total length of explored passages in Exit Cave is at least 1½ miles and it would seem that we are now no more than 1200' away from the far end of Mystery Creek Cave (Entrance Cave). (It also seems that Dennis will soon have to buy those 2 dozen bottles of beer.) The chances of linking the two caves now appear to be very bright. We are concentrating on finishing a survey through the cave in order to find out exactly where we are in relation to Mystery Creek Cave. Survey teams have already put in sixty permanent stations and another 40 stations will be needed to reach the far end of the cave. The new discovery has made Exit Cave the largest cave in Tasmania. If Exit and M.C. Cave can be linked the resulting system would probably be the second largest in Australia after Mullamullang Cave on the Nullarbor Plains.

But more excitement was to follow. On Saturday, 3 December, a party of four followed up the earlier discovery in Kubla Khan. They chimneyed across the hole in the floor and, discovered a chamber which in size ranks second only to Exit Cave, being at least 600 feet long, 100 feet wide and 80 - 100 feet high. It contained one column at least 40' high and 10' in diameter. Behind this a passage led down to a maze of meandering passages filled with the most incredible helictites - the "Helictite Dungeons". From this maze we found a way back to the main chamber. On the opposite side of this chamber is a large stalagmite at least 30' high and 20' in diameter. We christened this formation "Kubla Khan". Beyond

(page 2)

it extended another series of chambers, including a row of stalagmites which we decided to call the Khan's army. What else did we find? Chamber after chamber choked with formation - huge columns - flowstone - the most defying helictites and ----- well, why don't YOU come and have a look. We are not very good at describing this sort of scenery. But you can be sure of one thing. It is one of the biggest discoveries we have ever made - if not the biggest.

TRIP REPORTS.

Exit Cave - 5-6 November, 66.

The party consisted of Albert Goede (leader) Brian Collin, Peter Harrold, two visitors from C.S.S. - Neil (Twinkletoes) and Carol Anderson and two prospective members David Blake and Janette Maclaine. The party left Hobart at 6.30 a.m. on Saturday morning. Janette was met in Dover and we then drove on to Hastings for a rendezvous with the Andersons. (Neil claims that the extra pack which Albert had saved his marriage.) However we met them going back to Dover to recharge their batteries and dropped in on Pam and Roy at Hastings. Finally we all met at the Hastings turn off and drove on down the Catamaran Ra. We left the cars at 10.45a.m. and reached the cave at 1 p.m. After a busy hour pitching tents and preparing lunch we entered the cave at 2 p.m. We made a tour of the formation chambers for the benefit of the visitors & then started to investigate upstream along the small tributary coming in from the right (facing upstream). Neil climbed up through a hole in the ceiling to investigate a higher level and was later joined by Albert. They explored a very interesting system of meandering passages quite different from the main cave. One of the meanders was so tight that it was difficult to get through and on the way back Neil came out standing on his head. They also found their way into a small stream passage carrying a trickle of water and containing some formation, but it was blocked in both directions. Some very nice formation including helictites was found in another passage. Peter stayed down below trying to maintain contact with both parties as the other four led by Brian pushed further upstream along the creek. A junction was reached and the two small streams were followed up. One ended in a high aven while the other was found to be blocked by talus after a wet crawl. Finally the two parties reunited and followed the creek downstream to where it joins the main stream at the beginning of the talus. We then started on another of many attempts to find a way through the talus that blocks the main stream passage. There were cavers climbing around everywhere trying to find a way through without getting anywhere at all. We were just discussing going back and trying the mud passage near the entrance when Albert decided to have another look at a 15' deep rift reached by a narrow passage which he had discovered on a previous trip. He called over Brian who had a look and chimneyed across to another passage to the right which did not go. Next came Neil who decided to chimney down the rift and at the bottom found a narrow passage leading off at right angles. He was soon joined

by Brian. Neil went down the narrow passage and suddenly found himself suspended 10' above a deep pool of water. A rope was needed and duly passed down but due to lack of room Brian soon found himself entangled and we finally belayed it from the top. Neil followed by Brian went down the 10' drop where they found themselves in more talus. They reported that the cave went on and that they were having a look around after which their voices faded into the distance. Some time later we heard muffled shouts and curses as the pair tried unsuccessfully to find back the opening through which they had entered. After a lot of shouting on both sides contact was established and the two reported that they had discovered a large cave with the stream running through it and with clear going in the upstream direction. Great excitement followed. Meanwhile Neil had found an easier way through the talus and after some spectacular climbing and talus hopping the whole party entered the new extension. This was the moment we had anticipated for years. We raced upstream along banks of sand and gravel but were soon slowed down where the roof descended to near the water with a large passage leading off to the right. Ignoring the inviting side passage we found a way through talus back to the stream. Here the cave really opened out. It was enormous and the roof was so high that we could barely pick out the ceiling. Upstream we went almost running at times. Brian, Neil and Albert separated to form

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an advance party and moved along at a fast rate. In places we were running rather than walking, in others we had to find our way through talus but the cave kept going. Side passage after side passage was seen and we jokingly said, that we were not interested in anything less than thirty feet in diameter, as we kept going. In one place a huge side passage cut across the main passage. It was 60' high and at least 40' wide and disappeared into the gloom on both sides. Finally almost 1½ hours after our big breakthrough during which we covered about half a mile we ran into another pile of talus and lost the stream. We scouted around in different directions until we heard Brian shouting that his light had gone out. We found him in a narrow horizontal slit overhanging a 10' drop down which the top of his torch had disappeared leaving him in a difficult spot. The missing part was soon found and on looking around we discovered that we had found the way through the talus upstream. We progressed a little further but ran into more talus. We then decided it was time to retreat as our lamps were beginning to dim. As we retraced our steps we soon met up with the other four and then began the weary track back to the entrance. We finally emerged into the night at 10.30 p.m. after 8½ hours underground. After a quick meal we made a beeline for our sleeping bags.

On Sunday a trip up Cave Hill was planned to locate Big Tree Pot and Machete Pot but since everyone was very weary, and we also felt that the walk would have been an anticlimax after the previous day's caving, we declared a day of rest. The party broke camp at 10.30 a.m. and by 1.00 p.m. we were back at the cars.

Saturday's caving yielded another ½ mile of stream passage some of it very large and the end has not yet been reached. At least 8 major side passages were seen but we had no time to explore any of them. The new discoveries bring the total length of known passages close to 2? miles and there is obviously a lot more to be discovered. A link up with Mystery Creek Cave is now a distinct possibility. A. Goede.

Kelly Basin - 19 - 20 November, 1966.

A very pleasant combined trip with the West Coast Outdoor Club with no less than 16 members from Hobart. They were Brian Collin, Rodney Hughes, Alan Johnson, Keith Illingworth, Albert and Therese Goede, Bill Hodge, Roland Wallace, Clive Morris, Sally Sallier, Bernie ?, Denis Reid, John Plaister, Steve Vince, Allan Lee and Brian Sparks. Including the West Coasters the party numbered 38. The trip was a great success as the weather could not have been better. However, we only saw one cave, about 200' long with the general dimensions of a sewer and that after a two hour walk from our camp site on the shores of Kelly Basin. The only one pleased with the cave was Albert who collected a large number of cave-cricket and some spiders.

The trip was ably led by Ron Kent who had to endure a lot of ribbing from the cavers on the size and quality of West Coast caves. We would also like to take the opportunity to thank Ron and Katy for their hospitality. It was much appreciated.

A. Goede.

Exit Cave - 26-27 November, 1966.

The party consisted of Brian Collin (leader), Janette Maclaine and Kerin Hall. They departed Hobart 6.30 a.m. on Saturday morning and arrived at the camp site at 12.30 p.m. Entered the cave at 2.00 p.m. and came out at midnight. Departed camp site 10.00 a.m. on Sunday and dropped in briefly at Roy's for some coffee.

The Exit Cave area was very dry, the pool on the Catamaran Road being only a few inches deep and Exit Creek flowing at under 5 cusecs.

Survey: Permanent stations fixed 10 to 62 and descriptions of these stations recorded. Compass and tape survey of stations 50 to 62. The surveying was technically easy except in the talus area between the main cavern and the new section; however any survey party should anticipate 10 hours underground and it would be advisable to provide for a good meal and hot drinks. A further one or two weekends will be required to finish the traverse.

By-the-way: time in 2.20 hours - out 2.30 hours plus 10 hours underground, add to this the well known beauty of our local girls, DEAR Bill and Rodney WHY ROAM?

B.R. (Romeo?) Collin.

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We had a record attendance at the last meeting including some of our older members. How about showing your face at the next meeting. Henk Meerding showed the film he had made of the track to Exit Cave, starring P. Brabon and A. Goede as the heroes and he also showed a film on miscellaneous subjects including the sort of country on the way to Mt. Anne. Thanks very much Henk.

New Members.

Welcome to the following bods who have joined our ranks.

Roland Wallace - 18 Cheverton Parade, Sandy Bay (J).

Donald Frazer - 1 Woolton Place, Sandy Bay (J).

Fr. Leon Dowden - P.O. Box 8, New Norfolk. (P).

Stephen Vince - 90 Montague Street, New Town (F).

Janette Maclaine - Dover Area School (P).

Change of Address.

Stella and Ian Farley - Savage River, Tasmania.

Peter Harrold - The Galleon, Bicheno, Tasmania.

Thank You.

Our thanks go to Dennis Seymour for the use of his workshop to make our ladders, thanks also to Mrs. Seymour for the suppers she provided for our hungry workers.

BADGES.

Badges have arrived and can be purchased from the Secretary for 75c. each.

Forward Programme.

December 17,18 - Growling Swallet. Leader - Brian Collin.  
(B.C.)

Dec.26 - Jan.1 - Christmas trip. Reconnaissance of Mt. Anne area. Leader. B.C.

January 2-5 Surveying and exploration in Exit Cave.  
Leader - A. Goede.

January 8 Sunday - Ladder and abseil practice at Rocky Tarn.  
Leader. B.C.

January 14,15 - Kubla Khan. Leader - P. Brabon.

January 26 Committee Meeting. 54 St. George's Terrace.

January 28,30 - Long weekend. Water tracing and exploration in Exit Cave. Leader - A. Goede.

February 7 General Meeting. 8 Bath Street, Battery Point at 8p.m. Please NOTE change of address.

FAMOUS LAST WORDS.

There are 2,000 million females in the world but only one Exit. - B.C.

All I want for Christmas is a climbing pole, a climbing pole, a climbing pole, all I want for Christmas is etc. . . . Anon.

Bill shops PURITY ?? !! - Anon.

Australia's a hard country - especially for sleeping on. Anon.

Somebody would swap all the men in the club for the women. -Anon.

Bauera's impenetrable - so is ?? B.H.

We're going to retire and take up bowls - - - Albert, Brian and Sib, after discovery of new section in Kubla Khan.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH ALL MEMBERS AND OTHER CAVERNEERING CLUBS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A CAVERNICULOUS NEW YEAR.

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A full report of what took place at the A.S.F. Conference will be published in the February edition of *Speleo-Spiel*. Also report on Mt. Anne and the possibility of a large expedition there.

KEEP READING THE SPIEL.

Any contributions welcomed - Ed.

[F]

SPELEO - SPIEL.

No.10.

February, 1967.

(Published monthly by the Tasmanian Caverneering Club, Est. 1946.)

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President: Albert Goede, 8 Bath St., Battery Point, Hobart.

Secretary: Mrs. P. Brabon, 122 Augusta Rd, Lenah Valley, Hobart

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Next General Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 7 March at 8 p.m. at 8 Bath Street, Battery Point. Bring your own liquid refreshments. Eats will be provided at a cost of 10 cents per person.

Editorial.

The editors of *Speleo Spiel* are back on the job after a well earned rest - the reason why there was no January issue. As you will see by trip reports in this issue more exciting things have happened since the publication of the last Spiel. The Mt. Anne reconnaissance expedition was highly successful thanks mainly to the near perfect weather experienced during the trip and plans are being made for a larger expedition next Christmas.

A trip to Exit Cave early in the New Year resulted in the discovery of 1,500 ft. of new passage and another 4,000' was added during the Australia Day weekend making the total length of explored passages nearly three miles. The base survey was also completed and a rough plot shows a distance of only 1,500 ft. between the far end of Exit and Mystery Creek Cave.

Perhaps the most exciting discovery was made near the underground campsite where the base of a vertical shaft was found with a 15' long log at the bottom. Lights could shine up at least 100' and two of the three club members who explored it claimed they could see a glimmer of light. The intriguing thing is that the survey shows this spot to be some 700' below the surface in the vicinity of Machete and Big Tree Pot. Any volunteers?

Preservation of Exit Cave.

We have become concerned at the sudden influx of local people visiting Exit Cave as a result of the publicity given to the track by local officers of the Forestry Dept. who recently completed a survey of it. The Club has contacted members of the Scenery Preservation Board and will be submitting a written report on the importance of preserving the cave both for its own sake and as a future tourist asset. Ways in which the cave may be protected are to declare the area a scenic preserve and to place a gate in the narrow mouth of the tunnel by-passing the deep water just inside the entrance.

Prospective Member.

Allan Keller, c/o B.H.P. Office, 2 Patrick Street, Hobart.  
Phone 3 1063.

A.S.F. Conference.

Albert attended the A.S.F. conference at Mirboo North as the only representative of the South Island of Australia. We were accepted as a member of the Federation by a unanimous vote. Delegates showed keen interest in the work we are doing at Exit

Cave, Kubla Khan and Mount Anne and many would like to come and look at some of our caves next summer. The conference was well worth the trip with scientific papers as well as some dealing with cave photography, caving techniques and cave preservation. Despite many arguments and conflicting views there was a strong desire shown by nearly all the clubs to make the federation really work. A capitation fee of 50 cents per annum for full members only was finally agreed to. Under this system full members only receive the A.S.F. newsletter. Other grades of Club membership who wish to subscribe can do so by paying an additional 50 cents.

The highlight of the conference was the talks given on Mullamullang, which with 6 miles of surveyed passages is by far Australia's longest cave. The Cave Exploration Group of South Australia published a printed booklet on the cave. This can be obtained at a cost of 1 dollar. Anyone interested should contact Albert.

#### Old cavers never die .....?

From time to time we ask "old" members to come on trips, here are some of the excuses we get, see if you can pick yours.

"I'm in the middle of cementing the yard." or "We are having visitors."

"I'll try and make it but I am busy with the boat."

"I'm too old to crawl, I need a cave I can walk in."

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"I've got papers to mark."

"I'm not taking my car on that blasted road."

"I'm hitching to Queenstown."

"We're getting married."

It's not that we are complaining, it is just that we are disappointed to see the same old faces on every trip, so how about making the effort, and do at least two trips this year. Of course none of these excuses apply to the "Exit Cave Cassanova", he goes on every trip and certainly likes caving. Or is it that blonde school teacher who seems to be his constant companion? He thinks we haven't noticed!!!!

#### TRIP REPORTS.

Entrance and Newdegate Caves. 10 - 11 Dec.1966.

Party: Brian Collin, Bill Hodge, Rodney Hughes, Jeanette MacClaine.

Saturday: Entrance Cave was explored for approx. three hours and numerous routes to the same spot were found. The syphon at the end of the cave was not located which was understandable as Rodney had only been to the cave three times previously, however the day being warm and sunny a pleasant lunch was enjoyed at Southport beach followed by a swim at Hastings and a Christmas drink at Roy's.

Sunday: Roy showed the party a new cave some ½ mile from Newdegate. It was only possible to descend into the cave some 20 feet before progress was blocked by a chockstone, a current of air passes this blockage and some effort in removing the obstacle would be worthwhile. Newdegate Cave was entered about 11.00 a.m. for a quick look at the "Binny" tunnel and Hell's

Half Acre, and return via the creek. The exit via the creek was not to be found and Rodney saved the leaders reputation by a bit of fine climbing. The cave was left rather later than expected by a very muddy group of cavers. No great discoveries but a good weekend. B. Collin.

Growling Swallet & Pillingers Ck. Cave Outlet Area. 17 - 18 Dec. 1966.

Party: Brian Collin (leader), Rodney Hughes, Jeanette MacClaine. Departed Hobart 8.00 a.m. arrived cave 2 p.m. Entered cave at 3.00 out at 6.00, flow about 2 cusecs, weather overcast. The cave was entered to near the bottom where a 30' ladder would be required and as the weather was overcast and as the 'superb' formations did not appear to be improving it was decided not to push providence too far and the cave was vacated. A very good display of glow-worms was observed on the roof of the cave.

The party camped the night adjacent to the cave at an excellent camp-site and left for the Pillingers Creek Cave area about 10.00 a.m. on Sunday. Our worthy President had marked the Pillingers Ck. Cave outlet boldly in red on an aerial photo but I suspect, then wisely refrained from participating in the reconnaissance, some sink holes were found in the creek but the outlet was not sited. At least a full day would be required to prove whether this cave is 'fact' or 'fiction'.

By-the-way. A.N.M. road '6' and not '9' as was intimated by certain club members is the road to Growling Swallet.

B. Collin.

Mount Anne. 26th - 30th Dec. 1966.

Party: Brian Collin (leader), Jeanette MacClaine, Keith Corbett, Elizabeth (Sib) McIntyre, Allan Keller.

Purpose of the trip: Reconnaissance of the dolomite outcrop on the N.E. ridge of Mt. Anne and to investigate a shorter route to this area.

Camping: 26th Huon Crossing - good.

27th Plateau between Eliza and Anne, good in fine weather but very exposed if windy. Tent poles carried up and left on site.

28 & 29th On the eastern side and about 300 ft. below ridge immediately north of Anne. Good.

Times:

Frodshams pass to Huon crossing - 9 hours.

Huon crossing to Eliza camp - 8 hours.

Eliza camp to camp north of Anne including ascent of Anne - 4 hours.

Camp north of Anne to Frodshams pass - 11 hours.

From camp north of Anne to dolomite ridge (beginning of) - about 20mins.

Reconnaissance of the dolomite ridge: - 1 1/2 days.

The first sink hole (No. 1) on the dolomite ridge has one side of conglomerate and other non-dolomitic rocks and is approx. 300' deep and a 120 foot rope is desirable.

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The cave at the bottom was entered only for a short distance, no torches, by Kieth Corbett and Allan. Two extensions were found and out of one there was movement of air.

A short distance north of No. 1 is a prominent lookout rock which overlooks a series of sinkholes, the deepest No.3 being some 500' below this point.

The route taken from the lookout rock was immediately to the east down a steep gully to a sinkhole (No. 2) in which a hole 60 to 80 ft. deep was found with air movement out. The deep sink hole (No. 3) was also entered from the steep gully by deviating slightly west on the way down, 60' of rope desirable on both routes.

Sink hole (No. 3) can also be reached from (No. 2) by climbing out of the northern side. No outlet was found in the bottom of the deep Sink hole (No. 3).

From No. 3 sink hole No. 4 was reached by climbing a steep slope to the west, No. 4 being some 150 to 200 ft. above No. 3. In No. 4 a crevasse type hole some 200 to 300 ft. deep (4 1/2 - 5 secs. for a rock to drop free) was found.

To continue further N.E. along the top of the dolomite ridge was very difficult due to vegetation, sink holes and the dissected nature of the rocks and a route some 100' down the western slope was taken. The top of the ridge was next encountered some 1/4 mile distant amidst numerous sinkholes without outlet, thick vegetation and extremely rough terrain. The remaining 1/2 mile of ridge was not explored. It was noticed that the dolomite contained more quartz veins the further N.E. one continued and appeared less likely to contain caves of any size.

#### General.

All indications pointed to our party being the first into this area the scenery and vegetation was spectacular. Large cave systems appear doubtful however interesting exploration is assured in the deep holes found.

#### New Route To Anne.

The new route from Anne to Frodshams pass is shown on the aerial photo kept in the archives. The descent is steep but reasonably open until near the button grass plain where some inconvenient horizontal and other vegetation is encountered. Time 3½ hours from camp to button grass. B. Collin.

Exit Cave. 1 - 5th Jan. 1967.

Party: Albert Goede (leader), Brian Collin, Jeanette MacClaine, Alan Keller (Jan. 1-2.)

Sun. 1st. Brian, Jeanette and Alan spent 10½ hours underground. They attempted to push the scree at the far end of the cave but gained only fifty feet. The creek divides and there is little hope of penetrating further. Next they explored the large rift near the end of the cave. To the west approx. 1000' of passage was explored, initially in a high cavern. Then the roof lowers gradually until crawling is necessary. A small creek is followed all the way. To the east the rift extended for 500' with some good formations and ended in a cavern with very fresh and unstable rock fall. It may be possible to penetrate further

with danger. The day's work convinced Allan that caving has its attractions for a climber.

Mon.2nd. Albert reached camp at 11.40 a.m. while Allan departed. Underground departure was delayed by Albert dropping the abney level and tape down a hole in the talus at the entrance. Abney was quickly recovered but all attempts to get the tape failed. Party went underground at 3.30 p.m. and emerged at 1 a.m. (9 1/2 hours). Abney level readings were taken from stations 0 to 62 with lunch at the usual spot. Then compass bearings were taken from station 62 back to 34. A strenuous but profitable day.

Tues.3rd. In the afternoon party followed the Kokoda trail up Cave Hill and located Machete and Big Tree Pots as well as a number of others in the vicinity. While doing some surface exploration Brian found a large rift a short distance uphill and to the east of Big Tree Pot and the track. It was a very impressive sight with two pots at the bottom going down at least 40'. On the way back Jeanette very nearly disappeared down Machete Pot by stepping into a small hole leading into the main pot but rescue was close at hand.

Wed. 4th. Party spent nearly 13 hours underground! from 9.45a.m. to 8.35 p.m. Permanent stations 62 to 107 were fixed and described taking the survey to the end of the cave, then on the way back abney level readings were taken of the same stations. After a good but

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unorthodox meal we spent 1 1/2 hours building a bridge of boulders at "the leap" then took compass readings from stations 34 to 10.

Thurs.5th. A leisurely trip back to the cars where we arrived, just in time to save them from incineration in a bushfire. Altogether an eventful and successful trip.

Rocky Tom. 8-1-'67.

Party: Brian Collin (leader), Peter and Joan Brabon, Rodney Hughes.

Times: Left Franklin Square 2.00 p.m. returned 7.00 p.m.

Purpose of Trip: Abseil, belay, ladder practice and sling manufacture.

Rocky Tom is an excellent place for ladder and abseil practice and also for a bit of climbing for those interested. The success of this trip has shown clearly the desirability of similar training trips to ensure the safety, efficiency and quickness required in negotiating drops.

Rocky Tom involves about a four mile drive and a twenty minute walk, the scenery itself is well worth the effort.

B. Collin.

Kubla Khan. 14-1-67.

For further exploration and photography in the new section found 3rd December, 1966.

Party: Peter Brabon (leader), Rodney Hughes, Brian Collin, Jeanette MacClaine, Sib McIntyre, Allan ?, Brom Canoup, Dave ?, Frank Brown!! and Bob Woolhouse, Frank Brown Jnr. from the Northern Branch.

Time underground approx. 14 hours.

After leaving Hobart at about 9 p.m. Friday night a little later than usual, I won't go into the details why, we arrived at Mole Creek and camp site at 1.30 a.m. to find everyone asleep of course, and one chap who was sleeping under the stars, as it was rather warm. Everyone awoke to a warm and humid morning at 8 a.m. with the usual. Billies on the fire, frying pans, tins of food etc everyone got stuck into breakfast. After sorting out the gear, who was taking what etc. off we went, with packs, ropes etc. ----- and cameras. About a 15-30 min. walk from camp and at about 10 a.m. most of us were ready to descend into Kubla. Brian had set up the ladder pitch and some of us abseiled down approx. 60' while the rest of the party went via the ladder. Myself, Frank Brown Jnr., and Bob Woolhouse took to the high level route while the rest of the party went via the river, with plastic bags containing dry clothes, Frank Brown with wet suit and "Albatross" - a handy gadget for keeping cameras dry but rather awkward to carry. We had the ladders and rope to set up for the rest of the party, about 2 hours later we came to the flowstone wall which needed the eyebolts to scale it. After screwing these in I climbed up and attached the ladder No. 1. After we all climbed this we proceeded to ladder pitch No. 2 about 15' and still further to Sally's Folley then to the Chimney and up to a higher section. Up and over a large hole in the floor and then into the new chamber. The three of us waited here for the rest of the party. After their arrival a small snack was eaten, Brian and party went up into the section which we had not fully explored last trip. Frank Brown Jnr., Bob Woolhouse, and myself then went down into the Helictite Dungeons. After having a tour through these we went back to the main chamber, to the far end of the chamber, and a general look at the formations. The Northern chaps were rather impressed by this time but more to come, we went back up the chamber past "the Khan" to join the rest of the party whom we hadn't seen for 3 hours. After meeting them and some more talk plus more exploring, we were now getting rather hungry so out came the primus stoves, stew, etc. After our meal, which went down really well, the 2 Northern chaps left us for the entrance at about 5 p.m. Peter, Frank, Sib, Rodney, Brian and party went back to the Helictite Dungeons for some photography. After setting up cameras, flashes etc. plus models we got to it. Brian and party left us now and we arranged to be back to meet them at 7.30 p.m. so after taking some more photos we found the time had slipped away and I had no time to show Frank the far end of the chamber. So after coming back we all met at the formation known as "the Khan" then after some talk and packing up we left the cave. After making a good trip out and a long story short we all emerged tired at 12 p.m. Sat. evening. After a glass or mug full of the well known amber fluid we all hit our sleeping bags. The End ??? Peter Brabon.

[There does not appear to be a page 5??]

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Exit Cave. 28 - 30 Jan.1967.

Inside Party: Brian Collin, Jeanette MacClaine, Allan Keller, Donald Fraser.

Purpose of trip - (a) water tracing, (b) traversing, (c) exploration.

Ex. Hobart 7.00 p.m., start track 9.30 p.m., camped 1,000' in cave at 12.30. Constant watch on creek for flouricene [sic] involving 2 hour watches until 10 a.m. Saturday. Base camp 3,000' in reached at 3.30 p.m., heavy packs can be taken from the entrance to base camp in 2 hours. The traverse was finished some 4,000' of side passages explored and a constant watch kept on the creek for flouricene.

Traverse: The main traverse is now finished and comprises 107 permanent stations and is some 7,000' in length.

Exploration: Some 4,000' of new passages were explored, two outstanding features were observed, (1) logs up to 15' in length at the bottom of a vertical hole over 100' high. (2) approx. 200 yds. along one of the side passages a pool of water, swimming required, prevented further progress, however running water could be heard on the other side. This may be a separate creek or possibly the noise of running water may be from the main creek.

Water Tracing: No sign of flouricene was observed.

By the way:

- (1) 11 pounds of carbide was used by the inside party in 2½ days underground.
- (2) 1½ pints of petrol and 1/2 lb. liquid gas used.
- (3) Underground camping is very practical for further exploration and survey of Exit Cave.
- (4) Jeanette's 20th birthday party was very successful especially as it coincided with the 13th anniversary of Albert's first visit to Exit and Brian's first anniversary in Tasmania.
- (5) The country was very dry and Exit Creek was flowing at 1-2 cusecs.

B. Collin.

Report of fluorescein party: See next *Spiel*.

They were rather shaken (Albert's car didn't like the Lune River bridge!) and need time to recover before making a report (and thinking of an excuse.) A. Goede.

Forward Programme.

- February 26th. - Climbing practice at Rocky Tom. Meet 2 p.m. Franklin Square.
- March 4-6 (long weekend.) Surface exploration on Kubla Khan Hill. Leaders - P. Brabon and B. Collin.
- March 7th (Tues.) - General Meeting, 8 Bath Street, Battery Point. Bring own cushions, food and liquids.

March 14th (Tues) - Committee Meeting, 122 Augusta Road, Lenah Valley.

March 24th - 27th(Easter.) - Surveying and exploration at Exit Cave. Leader. B. Collin.

March 29th(Wed.) - Annual General Meeting, 8 Bath Street, Battery Point.(Vote 1 - FRED.)

STOP PRESS.

As this goes to the press Hobart is still recovering from one of the most disastrous bushfires in Tasmanian history. At least one club member - Rodney Hughes - lost all his possessions and several others just managed to save their homes.

For those going on the above trips please remember that there is a STRICT BAN on ANY FIRE in the open until March 31st.

Famous Last Words.

"Where's everybody going?" - Frank B.

According to a certain member Mt. Wellington (on top) was like the rock of Gibraltar during the recent fire. All he has left is his sense of humour!

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[F]