

August, 1963

THE VERY LATEST

Canberra Speleological Society

from the library of
canberra speleological society
No. 32

President ; Graham Young, 7 Boobialla Street, O'Connor (4-2029)
Secretary-Treasurer : Garry Speight, Lawley House, Barton

Last Meeting Business began at 8.10 p.m. and ended at 8.35 p.m. mainly because trip leaders didnt report.

Future Trips

28 July Howler Hole, Wee Jasper. Monty Morgan (7-0424) Open to all members
11 August Dogleg, Wee Jasper. David Fenn (4-0422 Chemistry, SGS) As above
23-25 August Coleman Plain. Joe Jennings (4-0422 Ext. 2237) As above

Next Meeting

22 August Seminar Room, Block C, Old Hospital Buildings, A.N.U. No buckshee tea, bring your tanners.

Publications Received

Trog (Kempsey SS) 3(10), (11), (12) 4(1), (2)
Western Caver (WASG) 3(2)
SUSS Newsletter 3(1)
Helictite 1(4)

TRIP TO THE WEST

Sunny West, huh! The wettest trip I've ever made, even including Western Scotland. When rain comes horizontally and when places get three times the mean annual rainfall in half the year, it is getting a bit much. Still it was a successful trip and as far as caving was concerned this was largely due to the excellent help and cooperation of WASG (if I forget Terry Bain's intemperate desire for me to experience watery rigours equal to those of River Cave, Coleman in January, 1961, Peter Bridge's pyromaniac tendencies and Alex Saar's habit of lodging cold-blooded animals in uncomfortable places).

In the Nullarbor. I added two more deep caves to my list, namely Murraelelevyn (Cocklebidy Three Mile) and Madura Eight Mile North Caves, and also went into Cocklebidy proper (Sixteen Mile) for the first time. Les collected bats from Weebubbie and Murra-el-elevyn, but the efforts of the whole party were unavailing when we tried to catch the single bat then in Madura Six Mile South Cave. Les and I tried 'slashing' at Twilight Cove; in future I will concentrate my efforts on eating fish, not trying to catch them by 'slashing' or any other novel way.

In the Southwest. My tally here included Labyrinth (I wasn't allowed to dodge either Fat Man's Misery or the Sewer), Easter, Jewel, Old Kodardup and its neighbour, Mammoth, Lake, Calgardup, Strong's & Ruddocks. No doubt about the outstanding position of this area for straws and helictites. Even Des Lyons would have to yield the Australian palm to them on these counts. In Mammoth, living roots reaching down 200 ft were a record for my experience. And Flatroof Chamber in Jewel is really impressive in terms of its mechanics - 525 feet by 150 feet with no arching whatever to strengthen the roof. Labyrinth really is labyrinthine. Arumvale Pipe was on the schedule but shortage of time and 'flu saved me from being disgracefully hauled up this magnificent solution pipe, a round hole of some 10 ft diameter and 90 feet deep. My thanks go to Cliff Spackman, Augusta guide and Bert Watts, Witchcliffe guide as well as to WASG.

North of Perth. Les came to Yanchep where we only saw Mambibby and Crystal what with the alarm of losing our camping gear (temporarily) and the attractions of Yanchep Inn in the bleak weather.

Farther north water really did prove a stumper. At Aramall Lake, Arrowsmith Cave was completely submerged and most of Aramall Cave. So it didn't matter that Terry Bain got foxed by new roads and wasted half a day trying to find the way to the Lake. Stockyard Gully Caves were quite impossible, a huge river raging through them. However I did get into a completely new cave, which is part of the Stockyard Gully system in a broad sense. This cave about 200 feet by 150 feet by eighty feet of height has a fantastic roof so riddled by solution pipes that it looks like 'lacework' from below and from above feels extremely precarious. One confidently expects to return one day to find the whole roof fallen in. High water levels prevented up- or down-stream penetration from this most interesting chamber. I also had a look at Dogger Moore's Cave at Little Three Springs.

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LOST - Wee Jasper - one 100 feet fibreglass tape in brown plastic case.
Finder please contact Monty Morgan, 55 Piddington St., Watson, A.C.T.
Phone 7-0424 (work).

STOP PRESS

C.H.H. intelligentsia is convinced that the lower (with CO₂) reaches of Ced's Howler Hole tie in with Dog Leg. C.H.H. is such a challenge that we feel we should now examine a v. promising hole nearby, and, if that is a no-goer, find the postulated entrance to Young's Aven, which is linked to C.H.H.

TRIP - 18th August, 1963 - to the aforementioned v. promising hole at Wee Jasper. Contact Evelyn Young-J2029(home).

THIS MONTH'S PROBLEM - 3d prize for neatest correct entry submitted to me before 21st August, 1963. (relatives of EEY may not compete)
Sketch, describe, classify and give the common name of

Pan troglodytes troglodytes

(no, it is not Joe Jennings)

EPISODE 2 OF HORRORS OF THE HOWLER HOLE (starring Monty M. Fairbanks, Terry ("Twig") Chaplin, Andrew S. Barrymore and E. Pearl White) must be postponed until next month's issue because of shortage of stencil. (Sorry, folks, we didn't reach the centre of the earth - only 120 feet - positively no dinosaurs and no lava - but just wait for it !

Next month's issue will also feature discussion on Pre-Trip Reports and what to do with them.

TO CONSTANT READER (my favourite fan) - sorry, we can't axe the typist - she needs the money to put her husband through college.

EEY : EEY

(hoping to receive partial performance for these higher duties)