

NEWSLETTER MONTHLY

NOVEMBER 2010

floor mainly flat, some small rubble
and old stalagmites. On the roof
there are several pendants.

columns

very large boulders (roof collapse)

good survey closures

survey accuracy reduced
due to complex rockpile

complex rockpile

PLAN and SECTIONS

SUUNTO
TANDEM

TRICKETTS CAVE

3) Yarrangobilly N.S.W.

CRG 4) Pavey, Peter Radcliffe

threw on 9) NIBICON Field Trip;

w Pavey, M. No. 2Y13.ASF1

obvious large in the cliff face, 30m above
stream from Y12 Coppermine Cave

MSS NEWSLETTER

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Cover Image:
Cave Surveying
Compiled by Cathi Humphrey-Hood

Society News

MEETING REPORT: AGM

The AGM was held on the 11th of December 2010. Minutes of this meeting are attached as Appendix 1.

Cave Rescue Contacts

Julie Burton and Paul Richards have volunteered to act as the MSS contact points for cave rescue. Cave rescue will contact Julie and/or Paul if they require information/assistance from MSS during a rescue situation. Please provide Julie and Paul with any help you can if the situation requires.

Membership Fees

Membership fees for 2011 are now due. These are:

Full member \$80

Prospective member \$30

Family membership \$160

Honorary membership \$45

Non- ASF (No Caving) \$30

Please contact Jim Crockett if you wish to change your membership category.

Payment options include:

Cash – to Jim Crockett

Cheque – made out to Metropolitan Speleological Society Inc.

Bank Transfer (preferred option) – BSB is 062021, Account Number is 000901421 and be sure to include your name in the message.

Trips Fees

Trip Leaders are reminded not to forget to collect trip fees during the trip.

Future Trips

New trips have been proposed but no dates have been set (please see the AGM minutes for a list of these trips). Keep your eye on the calendar for updates and please contact Jim Crockett or Rod Smith if there is a trip you would like to do that has not been proposed (this does not mean that you will have to volunteer to lead the trip)!

Cave Surveying

Jim Crockett, Danielle Lewin and Rod Smith attended the cave surveying course held at Bungonia in November. Following this, cave surveying trips will be added to the calendar on occasion for these members to practice their skills. All other members are welcome to attend these and no cave surveying experience is required. Please let the Trip Leader know if you wish to join in the survey or simply explore the cave.

Trip Reports

Overseas Trip

October 2010

Report and photos by: Danielle Lewin

Participants: Danielle Lewin and trekking tour

In October 2010, I set off on a second United States of America adventure through five of the West Coast National Parks and four Breckenridge Precinct caves. The trip began at San Francisco, where my 14-day trekking tour met and departed for the Yosemite National Park. A four-hour bus trip introduced us to the first peaks of 7000+ feet we would hike in the ensuing days. Half Dome and the Yosemite falls were just two of the full day peak climbs we did, with the stunning views of distant peaks, waterfalls and cliff faces meeting us at every turn. Thinking we had seen God's playground at Yosemite, we then moved on to Zion National Park ... with peak climb like Angels Landing and canyons like "The Never Ending Day", challenging both our perceptions of beauty and fitness.



Zion National Park: The Never Ending Day Canyon

By day seven we had moved into the four Colorado plateau parks; Bryce Canyon, Grand Canyon, Glen Canyon and Monument Valley. From pine tree studded forests to desert grass and canyons the scenery whilst vastly different in terms of flora rarely varied in peak and cliff stature. Rock formations and dry canyons became the highlights of our next six days punctuated with the rusty red dunes near our campsites turning a glorious purple during sunset.

With fourteen days of trekking under my belt, I departed the tour for some caving with the grotto members of Louisville and Fort Knox Grottos. Two days, four different caves and a whole morning around the campfire dribbling over the grotto members recently drafted Mammoth Cave survey maps! Perfect preparation, I considered for the upcoming Cave Surveying course I was to attend in Bungonia on my return! The caves were considered dry, with the predominant decoration being that of calcite flakes and flowers. But the presence of miniature bats (all of which were White Nose Syndrome clear) at every turn, nook and cranny. A 300-foot entrance of predominantly boulder descents and chasms identified Big Bat Cave; with Blissit Cave, Chris Cave and Under the Road cave all providing length as a significant feature. Decorations were predominantly gypsum flowers and cave cotton with the occasional flowstone in some of the entrance chambers. Though no SRT or overly technical caving occurred over the two days, the caves and the grotto team acquaintances were well worth the connection.



Yosemite National Park: On the way up to Half Dome.



Grand Canyon from the South Rim.

But three weeks of touring, was certainly not enough, with a 118 mile trek between the South Rim and North Rim of the Grand Canyon beckoning me on a daily basis since my return. The promise of a grotto weeklong trip to Mammoth Cave, an unfinished Grand Canyon trek and 327 other National Parks to taste a return to the land of the free in the very near future is a MUST! Anyone interested?

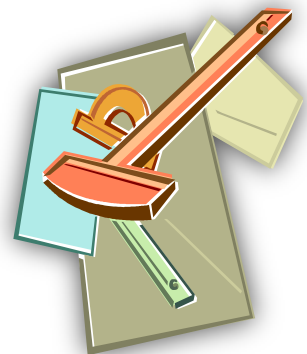
Cave Surveying Course at Bungonia

13th and 14th November 2010

Report by: Jim Crockett

Participants: Jim Crockett, Danielle Lewin, Roderick Smith

I have been wanting to learn cave surveying for a long time but unfortunately the best surveyor in our club had moved to another state so that idea had been left in the attic for some time. Then the opportunity to be involved in a cave surveying course came by surprise and I was one of the first to express interest. Each NSW club was allocated 2 spots. Danielle was keen, and Rod took up one of the spots allocated to NHVSS being a joint member of both clubs. Joe Sydney from HCG was the organiser of this course and had supplied us with a set of specific instructions on what to bring with us and what to expect during the course.



After a long 12 hour shift which was my 3rd in a row I was very excited to get home and start the journey to Bungonia. I gathered all my gear while I waited for Rod to arrive and we were soon

packed and away. The next stop was to pickup Danielle and we found our way to her suburb but I had no idea where her street might be. Then I tried to read Rod's street directory and I could barely see any street names. Anyway Rod came to the rescue when he found his glasses and we found her lane amongst the narrow convoluting streets of Pemulwuy. So the journey began.....

The trip was uneventful and we arrived at the Bungonia campsite at about 11.30pm. The first person we saw there was Brian, another member of NHVSS and a bit of a character. He was telling us they were planning an early start at 7am !!. Rod was already asleep in his trailer while Danielle and myself were erecting our tents.

7am and no activity at the conference room, so I guess that Brian was having us on. We eventually started at about 9am. We had 11 people participating in the course from various speleo clubs with a good representation from both ladies and men, and from all age groups. Plus 5 trainers from HSC and then David and Joe from HCG doing the catering and organising.

We started the course with the questions of “why do we survey caves” and the course provides a number of reasons. We then look at the equipment used in cave surveys, the do's and the do not's, the limitations, the selection of equipment and any other useful aspect of the gear. The course then moves on to the use of the equipment, sighting of the Suuntos, use of the tapes and other tools. This is all backed up with practical exercises.

We have a break for morning tea (the course is fully catered) and then we learn about the survey team, recording the survey, the survey traverse, recording the data and mapping as you go, after learning that we are almost ready to do our first survey.

We break for lunch and come back all ready with trog and surveying equipment to be taken to Grill cave for our first cave survey exercise. There we are divided into teams of 2 and shown a section of the cave to survey. I pair up with Danielle and we take it in turns as one person takes measurements with the other person recording, plus sketching the cave as we go. After about 3 hours of this we have cave survey data of about 20m of passage. We then return to the classroom to record all the detail on our maps and make corrections to any errors before our final draft is ready. I am very pleased with my teams map, it looks good on paper but whether it's accurate we don't know. All the teams data is also entered into a cave survey software program so we can get an idea on how it looks in that format.

It's time for dinner and again the caterers are doing a superb job with a barbie of chicken and steak with salad, finished off with apple crumble dessert. We then return to the classroom again to finish the draft and have a question time. Its been a long day and we are all soon getting tired so we are back at our tents for a good nights rest.

The next day we have an earlier start at 8.30am and we move on to other methods and tools used for cave and surface surveys. We are shown a forestry compass, plane table and get some practice on how to use these instruments. After our morning tea break we discuss the use of GPS receivers in cave surveying and go into more detail of the technical aspects associated with the surveys. We get an overview of the different cave survey software.

We break for lunch and have been given 4 options for practical field exercises. We can survey a chamber using the plane table, go back into Grill and practice surveying, use our GPS Rxr's to

record the co-ordinates of cave entrances or complete a surface survey using the forestry compass. Most people elect to go GPSing. Back at the classroom all our results are tabulated and we can look at the outputs of the various field exercises. In my case we can see the differences between all our different GPS co-ords and the relationships that might be to time of day, the actual GPS model (different accuracies), exact location of recording etc. The course was concluded with an overview and question time.

It was mentioned that this was the first ever cave surveying course ever conducted in NSW and has been extremely successful.

This was certainly a very useful and enjoyable training course. The trainers were both knowledgeable, friendly and helpful. The course had a good mix of both theoretical and practical components and a good set of useful notes. The catering was of a high standard. For all that it only cost us \$35 per person which was extremely good value.

In my opinion this was an outstanding course and highly enjoyable.

My thanks go to Joe Sydney for organising it, David Rothery for the catering and the team from HSC for the presentations of the course. There are already a number of opportunities to continue with cave surveying after the course at Kempsey Caves, Tricketts Arch and at Nangwarry. We all eagerly await those opportunities.

Jim Crockett

PS The first thing I did when I got back home was to buy me a set of magnifying spectacles and now I can read maps and almost everything perfectly now.

Seven Bridges Walk

31st October 2010

Report by: Jim Crockett

Participants: Jim Crockett

I had a free Sunday and nothing else planned and had heard about the 7 bridges walk which is an annual charity event the main benefactor being the Cancer council. So I decided to give it a try.

The walk is around Sydney Harbour in a clockwise direction and crosses 7 bridges on the loop walk. The Harbour Bridge, the Pyrmont Bridge, the ANZAC Bridge, Iron Cove Bridge, Gladesville Bridge, Tarban Creek Bridge and Fig Tree Bridge. The total length of the walk is 28.5 km and there are a number of villages set up on the route where you can register and start your walk as well as places to get food and drink. I decided to start at the Milson's Point Village so I could get to be on the Harbour Bridge first up, and opted to get there via public transport which was a little slower as there was railway work ongoing so I had to get a bus a part of the way.

So off I started, across the bridge and then down to the Rocks, under the bridge and past Walsh bay, through the Barangaroo site (which I think they opened especially for this walk) and then onto Darling Harbour and across Pyrmont Bridge it being the 2nd bridge of the day and the only

pedestrian only one. The route then took us past the Maritime museum and Star City Casino before another rest and drink spot at Pyrmont village. We then went down to Pyrmont Point park and having never been to this part of the city it was a very nice area with a number of cafes and restaurants and a large children's play area.

At this point I come across a friend I know from work with his daughter and son-in law and it was good to catch up with gossip while we continued the walk. We then continued onto ANZAC bridge crossing over Victoria Rd then through Calla park and back under Victoria Rd and onto Iron Cove bridge and then through Drummoyne going to within 200m of the editors place before up and over Gladesville bridge and then down to Tarban creek bridge to the Hunters Hill village where I had a break and lunch of a sausage sandwich.

After lunch we crossed over the Lane Cove River via the Fig Tree bridge. We then passed through a nice area of parklands at Burns Bay reserve which I never knew existed.

The walk then went through some nice areas in Lane Cove to the Lane Cove village which was probably the largest of the villages on the walk and even had live music. A short rest and then we made a zigzag route through suburban Greenwich and to Wollstonecraft passing Waverton station and down onto Balls head, where there are some outstanding views of the Harbour bridge and then direct back to Milsons Point where I started. My time 6 hours which I was very happy with.

After the walk the legs were a little sore and balls of my feet were also a bit sore as at one stage I thought I might get a blister, but it never got that far. Overall I was very happy in completing the challenge. I would consider running it as an MSS trip next year if anyone is interested.



Upcoming Events

WEEKEND 15th – 16th January CRIKEY and BUBBLEBATH CANYONS

Trip Leader: Roderick Smith, 0438 444262, roderick_smith@hotmail.com

Contact by: 9th January

What's involved?

Canyoning in the Bungleboori area. A two day trip involving swimming, abseiling, camping in a camp cave – Crikey has some difficult abseils, Bubblebath should be a bit more straightforward.

You will need: Camping gear, overnight pack, wetsuit, abseiling and canyoning gear, headlight, food, water.

WEEKEND 5th – 6th February JOHN'S BIRTHDAY CANYONING WEEKEND

Trip Leader: John Gray, 427 876 679 , john.gray@sydneywater.com.au

Contact by: 29th January

What's involved?

Could be anything... Camping (possibly car camping) at Glen Davis, and two mystery canyons.

You will need: Camping gear, pack, wetsuit, abseiling and canyoning gear, headlight (just in case), food, water and some derring-do.

WEEKEND 12th – 13th February CANYONING AT NEWNES

Trip Leader: Beth Little, 0405 226 811, littlebeth78@hotmail.com

Contact by: 6th February

What's involved?

Camping at Newnes for The Devil's Pinch and Starlight Canyons.

Both canyons have a few abseils, but usually no swims.

You will need: Car camping gear, canyoning gear (including abseiling gear – wetsuits are optional, canyons can have some water in them but are mostly dry).



Starlight Canyon
Photo by David Hood

Monthly Horrorskope

Your stars for... sometime in the near future.



Aquarius - January 21st - February 19th

Now's the time to start thinking about the new years resolutions you are going to make. This year it might also be worth making a resolution to keep your new years resolutions. Once you do that, hopefully, you'll realise what a complete waste of time the whole exercise is.

Pisces - February 20th - March 20th

Just for something different, this month you should listen to the advice of that little voice in your head. The satisfaction you get will certainly be worth it. Even the prison sentence for killing all those people will be worth it.

Aries - March 21st - April 20th

Follow your dreams, they will lead you to a fantastic new sense of enlightenment. But make sure you follow them exact. You weren't wearing a parachute in your dream and you didn't hit the bottom, have faith it won't happen in real life.

Taurus - April 21st - May 21st

This is the month for you. It may not seem like it, with things going downhill at a rapid rate, but that'll all turn around on the 33rd. Just make sure you're ready for it.

Gemini - May 22nd - June 22nd

Good things come to those who wait. So, sit there, don't do anything, and just wait, Eventually something good will come to you.

Cancer - June 23rd - July 23rd

This is the season for love, hope and joy. Spending time with family and those that you love. It's also called the silly season, which seems more apt to me.

Leo - July 24th - August 23rd

In the lottery of life, very few people have the right numbers. You don't even have a ticket.

Virgo - August 24th - September 23rd

Don't be offended when someone tells you to crawl back under the rock you crawled out from. After all, you obviously know where there's a rock you can use to cave their head in.

Libra - September 24th - October 23rd

If you're reading this you will be hypnotised by the words. You will donate all your money to the MSS Horroskope fund. Contact the editors for their bank account details.

Scorpio - October 24th - November 22nd

I know you feel like a loner and/or loser, but you can turn that around. Follow the example set by the movies. Get bitten by a weird spider, get splashed with toxic and radio-active waste, build a flying iron suit, commune with bats, get your skeleton covered in adamantium and learn to control other peoples minds. You will become instantly attractive to all members of the opposite sex, and a lot of the members of the same sex.

Sagittarius - November 23rd - December 21st

SEX!! Now do I have your attention? This is serious business, you need to pay attention, you might learn something. Like not reading horoscopes.

Capricorn - December 22nd - January 20th

The end is nigh! All good things come to an end. In fact, all the not so good things come to an end as well. And then the next year will start.

News from the Underground

News from the underground aims to provide snippets of what has been happening around the world, primarily in the areas of caving and canyoning, climbing, mountaineering...

In early November a rockclimber took a 15m fall at Mt Arapilies after dislodging a large block of stone on the Pharos. He wasn't wearing a helmet and was unconscious for a short period of time but is expected to make a full recovery after ripping one piece of gear and hitting the ground. Story from [The Herald Sun](#).



A new route was put up in the Garhwal Himalaya in India, on the west face of 6792m Vasuki Parbat, after the climbers, Malcolm Bass and Paul Figg of Britain, were denied a permit for their original objective on Janahut (6805m). They began the climb with New Zealander Pat Deavoll, who left on the third day after suffering complications from a recently broken back. The two Britons continued on mixed rock and ice, taking several falls and blows from falling rocks. They reached the summit on day nine, having run out of food two days before. The mountain was first climbed in 1973 (as unrecognised climb) and again in 1980. Report by [The Alpinist](#).

Left: A new route up the previously unclimbed west face of Vasuki Parbat (6782m), Garhwal Himalaya, India. Photo by Satyabrata Dam.

The Speleo Photo of the Year contest will close about the same time you receive this newsletter! Sorry about that. While you probably won't have time to submit anything, there should be some excellent caving photos to look at on the internet once the competition closes. This contest is run by Lithuanian caving club Aenigma, and the English version of the page is [here](#). News item from [caverinfo.com](#).

You should have a little more time to submit to the Bulgarian Federation of Speleology photo contest, which closes January 10, 2011 – see information at [caverinfo.com](#).

Tommy Caldwell and Kevin Jorgeson have been thwarted in their attempt to complete what they say will be the hardest free route on El Capitan. The route consists of multiple 5.14 grade pitches. They began their final push on November 13th but were forced to turn back after 11 pitches, driven off the wall by a huge Yosemite storm. Story from [UKC News](#).

A physicist at the University of Warsaw, Piotr Szymczak, and a chemical engineer from the University of Florida, Anthony Ladd, have produced a set of equations describing how fluid flow in rock focuses water laced with carbonic acid into some channels at the expense of others.

Instabilities focus the fluid into preferred channels and this channelling causes the speed of dissolution to increase. In application to caves, the idea was to explain how some caves grow deep and long and others nearby do not. Story from [WiredScience](#).

Ski areas in western USA have been inundated with snow in November – the Tahoe region reported 124 inches at Squaw Valley, while Jackson Hole Mountain Resort had 130 inches in November. Unfortunately two people were killed in avalanches as a result of all this snow: Scott Kay, a 41 year-old ski patroller, died while doing routine control work, and 54 year-old Dennis Barnes was killed on a snowmobile, which most likely triggered the avalanche. Avalanche danger is now at level 3, which is considerable. Report by [BackCountry Magazine](#).

Warren Miller eat your heart out - Dendrite Studios have announced the availability of their HD ski film 'Out of the Shadows'. The trailer is available here:

<http://dendritestudios.com/video/out-of-the-shadows-trailer/>



and once past the cheesy faces at the beginning there is some great skiing and some very nice cinematography. The film can be purchased at <http://dendrite.myshopify.com/>, where you can name your own price.

An Austrian gym-climber was killed in his local climbing gym when his belayer lost control of the rope, causing him to fall 12 metres to the ground. Georg Richter sustained head injuries and did not regain consciousness. The accident occurred two days short of his 22nd birthday. Report from [The Alpinist](#).

Work is continuing in the French cave Dragonniere de Gaud to allow the recovery of cave diver Eric Establie's body. While it is difficult to follow exactly what is going on, it appears that cavers are attempting to open another passage beyond the blockage that trapped Eric in the cave, by using a natural fissure in the plateau above, which they began excavating when it appeared there might still have been a chance Eric was still alive. Originally, the French State Prosecutor decided not to proceed with a body recovery mission, however Spéléo Secour Francais in the Ardèche have decided to continue trying to reach his body. This involves excavation, drilling, pumping and the use of explosives, and excavations are continuing with a break only over Christmas and for bad weather. Yvonne Droms of the NSS is kindly translating the progress reports and if you are interested you can follow the story on the NSS cave chat thread '[Cave diving rescue in France](#)'.

The strange sport of bridge swinging claimed the life of a 24 year-old man in Alice Springs at the beginning of November. Originally reported as an 'abseiling accident', it appears a group of friends were jumping off the bridge with home-made harnesses when one of them broke and sent the young man plummeting into the dry riverbed below. His friends tried to revive him but he was dead before ambulance officers arrived. Report from the [Northern Territory Times](#).

Trip Calendar

Mid-late January 2011
Milford Track, New Zealand

Hiking
Trip Leader: Johan Verhagen
Contact: (02) 4758 9811, johan.verhagen@sydneywater.com.au
By: 15th June 2010 (because bookings need to be made)
Grade: Medium

Weekend 15th – 16th January
Canyoning

Crikey and Bubblebath
Trip Leader: Roderick Smith
Contact: 0438 444262, roderick_smith@hotmail.com
By: weekend before
Grade: Medium/Hard

Weekend 5th-6th February
Canyoning at Glen Davis

John's Birthday Canyoning Weekend
Trip Leader: John Gray
Contact: 427 876 679 , john.gray@sydneywater.com.au
By: weekend before
Grade: Medium

Weekend 12th – 13th February
Canyoning at Newnes

Devil's Pinch and Starlight
Trip Leader: Beth Little
Contact: 0405 226 811, littlebeth78@hotmail.com
By: weekend before
Grade: Medium

Weekend 26th – 27th February
Canyoning

South Bowens and Koombanda
Trip Leader: Roderick Smith
Contact: 0438 444262, roderick_smith@hotmail.com
By: weekend before
Grade: Medium

Weekend 12th-13th March
Canyoning

Dumbano
Trip Leader: Jim Crockett
Contact: 0407 284 256, jim.crockett@reach.com
By: weekend before
Grade: Medium

Easter 2011 (Early April)
Chillagoe QLD

Chillicon
Trip Leader: Jim Crockett
Contact: 0407 284 256, jim.crockett@reach.com
By: expressions of interest by Oct 2010
Grade: Conference with field trips

May or June 2011
Timor Caves

Caving
TBA

Appendix 1 - Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

MSS 45th Annual General Meeting, 11/12/2010
Held at Roderick Smith's residence

Meeting Opened: 8:00pm

Present:

Rod Smith, Jim Crockett, Chris Johnstone, Danielle Lewin

Apologies:

Dave Stuckey, Johan Verhagen, Rob Clyne, John Gray, Beth Little, Jessica Swart, Julie Burton, Michael Reifenstein, Tim Grimes, Cathi Humphrey-Hood, Warwick Blake, Bob Horn

Any Corrections to Previous Meetings Minutes:

None

Correspondence:

Post:

Various magazines/newsletters

Email:

Request for club contacts for rescue co-ordination

Committee Members Reports:

President – None

Treasurer – Financial statement attached. Action item: Look at other options than the current bank account to reduce fees. Assigned to: Chris Johnstone. Time Frame: Opened ended.

Motion by **Jim Crockett** to **increase subscription fees to**

Full member \$80

Prospective member \$30

Family membership \$160

Honorary membership \$45

Non- ASF (No Caving) \$30

Carried

Equipment Officer – None

Training Officer – None

Librarian – Some new magazines were purchased during the cave surveying course.

Elections:

President declared all positions vacant and called for nominations. Officers elected:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
President	Jim Crockett
Secretary	Rod Smith
Treasurer	Jim Crockett
Equipment Officer	Jim Crockett
Librarian	Rod Smith
Training Officer	Beth Little
ASF Liaison	Jim Crockett
Newsletter Editor(s)	Rod Smith, Cathi Humphrey-Hood
Public Officer	John Gray

Status of Action Items:

Constitution updating – Warwick Blake – No update

Web site hosting – Rod Smith – Offer to host site under ASNSW. It was decided Rod would enquire about this, including offer to pay.

UIS conference feasibility study – Jim Crockett – Continuing. Had a meeting with Events Sydney, they will put together some info, including basic costings, etc.

EPIRB quotes – Jim Crockett – Jim to purchase a GME MT410G. He will find the cheapest price and purchase that.

Updating membership details – Jim Crockett – No update

Back issues of Helictite – Cathi Humphrey-Hood – No update

Equipment item list – Dave has provided a list, see attached (Appendix 1D). Action item complete.

Sourcing 4-drawer filing cabinet – Rod Smith – Still making enquiries.

New Business:Collection of trip fees

It has been noted that we have all been a little slack on the collection of trip fees, just remember that is the trip leaders responsibility to collect trip fees and then hand them to the treasurer or deposit in club bank account.

Cave Rescue contacts

NSW cave rescue has requested that each club nominate 2 members to become the contact point for any cave rescue requirements. So if the cave rescue need to find resources very quickly for a cave rescue then these people are first called and then they can contact club members for help in finding either personnel or equipment.

Julie Burton and Paul Richards have both agreed to fill this role for MSS. We thank them kindly for this and they will be working with Joe Sydney for training on this job.

New/replacement equipment purchase – rope and fibreglass tape – Rope, to be looked at later. Tape, Chris to look into whether he has one he can donate, plus Jim will donate the one he has purchased.

Future projects – Danielle to organise a trip to Kempsey to help survey a cave up there.

ASF bi-annual conference in 2013

The first meeting of the organising committee for this event was recently held and MSS has 3 members involved of a total of 9 people and also we have another member who has agreed to run the photography competition. At this time we are discussing possible locations of the venue for the conference with possibilities being so far at Talbingo, a location near Yass and Canberra.

New trips – Kempsey – Danielle

Abercrombie – Jim (joint with BMSC)

Jenolan – Rod (2 trips, 1 easy/beginner, 1 hard – Chevaulier extension and Dwyers)

Colong – Rod (joint trip with CASM)

Cleifden – Jim to investigate a joint trip

Tassie – Danielle

Field day(s) – It was suggested that training/field days should be run, but since this is the Training Officers responsibility, nothing will appear in the trip calendar until they've been consulted.

Next Meeting:

End of February – To be hosted by Danielle (17th February, date to be confirmed)

Meeting Closed: 10:05pm

Appendix 1A - MSS Annual Accounts 2010

Metropolitan Speleological Society Annual Accounts 01.11.2009 - 31.10.2010

Opening balance

At 01.11.2009 **\$ 4947.71**

Income

Membership Subscriptions	\$ 1640.00
Trip Fees & Misc monies collected	\$ 331.00
Bank Account Interest	\$ 0.47
Yagby Accomodation monies collected	\$ 1433.50

Total Income \$ 3404.97

Expenditure

ASF Subscription Fees	\$ 1448.00
Bank Account Fees	\$ 71.75
Yagby Accomodation costs	\$ 1470.00
Miscellaneous cost (Postal, Annual Statement)	\$ 596.05

Total Expenditure \$ 3585.80

Cash Balance

Petty Cash	\$ 356.60
Bank Account Balance	\$ 4410.28

Total Balance at 31.10.2010 \$ 4766.88

This is true statement representing the accounts of the Metropolitan Speleological Society as submitted at the Annual General Meeting 11th December 2010

Jim Crockett – MSS Treasurer

Appendix 1B – Income 2009-2010

Membership subscriptions			
David Stuckey	Full	Paid 24.12.09	70
Bob Horn	Full	Paid 04.01.10	140
Ken Harris	Full	Paid 11.01.10	70
John Marshall	Full	Paid 14.01.10	70
Johan Verhagen	Full	Paid 20.01.10	70
Jim Crockett	Full	Paid 27.01.10	70
Paul Richards	Full	Paid 09.02.10	70
George Anderson	Full	Paid 22.02.10	70
Daryl Cummins	Full	Paid 22.02.10	70
Roderick Smith	Full	Paid 23.02.10	70
Cathi Humphrey-hood	Full	Paid 24.02.10	70
Mike Reifenstein	Full	Paid 05.03.10	70
Julie Burton	Full	Paid 18.03.10	70
Danielle Lewin	Full	Paid 11.03.10	70
Robert Clyne	Full	Paid 14.03.10	70
Tim Grimes	Full	Paid 11.03.10	70
John Oxley	Full	Paid 13.04.10	70
Warwick Blake	Limited	Paid – Non ASF	25
John Gray	Full	Paid 15.12.09	70
Beth Little	Full	Paid 16.04.10	70
Jessica Swart	Introductory	Paid 27.04.10 exp	25
Lynton Goldsmith	Full	Paid 14.04.10	70
Chris Johnstone	Full	Paid 25.03.10	70
Adam Matusz	Introductory	Paid 17.05.10 exp	25
Henryk Topolnoski	Introductory	Paid 17.05.10 exp	25
Michael Sliwka	Full	not yet paid (70)	
Jessica Swart	Introductory	not yet paid (25)	
Total subs			1640
Other income			
R. Smith	Yagby balance 09	26/11/09	25
Trip fees coal seam		06/12/09	22
Trip fees mystery canyon		06/02/10	9
Trip fees Jenolan last year		14/03/10	53
Trip fees deep pass		28/03/10	9
Trip fees twilight		27/04/10	6
Trip fees Jenolan		27/04/10	6
Trip fees tuglow		17/05/10	23
Trip surcharge tuglow		17/05/10	42
Trip fees Oaks firetrail		29/05/10	12
Trip fees Yarrangobilly	X 6	20/09/10	60
Trip fees various	3X18 + 2x5	30/10/10	64
total trip fees			331
Bank interest		01/06/10	0.47
total bank interest			0.47
J. Crockett	Yagby Accommodation 10	23/08/10	163.5
Ken Harris	Yagby Accommodation 10	30/08/10	297
Danielle Lewin	Yagby Accommodation (entitled to refund)	20/09/10	165
Beth Little	Yagby Accommodation 10	20/09/10	145
John Oxley	Yagby Accommodation 10	27/09/10	290
R. Smith	Yagby Accommodation	23/10/10	83
Cathi Humphrey-hood	yagby Accommodation (owes \$83)		
Jessica Swart	Yagby Accommodation (owes \$145)		
John Gray	Yagby Accommodation		290
Total accommodation			1433.5
Total Income			3404.97

Appendix 1C – Expenditure 2009-2010

Date	Payee	Amount	Paid by	Description
26/04/10	ASF	1448	Chq 102	ASF fees 21x68 + 1x20
Total ASF		1448		
15/12/09	J. Gray	47	Cash	Fair trading annual statement
06/12/09	J.Crockett	39.95	Cash	Gift for ex-president
28/02/10	Aust post	79.5	Chq 100	PO box rental
03/03/10	R. Smith	138.75	Chq 101	Domain name
09/04/10	J.Crockett	6.35	Cash	Stationary (envelopes)
17/05/10	J.Crockett	40	Cash	Tuglow permit
13/06/10	D. Stuckey	25	Cash	SUSS Map Library
22/07/10	R.Smith	15	Cash	books
28/03/10	B. Horn	70	Cash	Subs refund (paid twice)
21/09/10	J.Crockett	18.5	Cash	Yagby accomm refund
01/07/10	R. Smith	81	Chq 105	Helictite subscription
29/10/10	D. Lewin	35	Cash	Part refund Yagby accomm
Total Misc		596.05		
22/02/10	Tumut visitor centre	735	Chq 099	Yagby accomm deposit
20/08/10	Tumut visitor centre	735	Chq 106	Yagby accomm balance
Total Accommm		1470		
Account service fees				
02/11/09	commbank	5.2		
01/12/10	commbank	5.2		
04/01/10	commbank	5.2		
01/02/10	commbank	5.8		
01/03/10	commbank	6.55		
01/04/10	commbank	7.35		
03/05/10	commbank	7.65		
01/06/10	commbank	6.15		
01/07/10	commbank	5		
02/08/10	commbank	5.55		
01/09/10	commbank	6.7		
01/10/10	commbank	5.4		
total bank fees		71.75		
total Expenditure		3585.8		

Appendix 1D – MSS Equipment List end of 2010

MSS Equipment List

Item	size	number	length	colour	comments
Ropes	9mm		160m	Red	
Ropes			160m	Red	damaged
Ropes			136m	Red	
Ropes			160m	Black	
Ropes			142m	Black	
Ropes			130m ?	Black	
Ropes			130m ?	Black	very dirty
Ropes			130m ?	Black	donated by Mike Nickolls - near new
Ropes	10mm		1100m		
Ropes	11mm		150m ?		very old
Ropes			150m ?		donated by Peter Szypula
Ropes			120m ?		damaged
harness			2		
abseil racks			2		
helmets			3		
ascenders			4		
pulley			1		
cowstail			1		
carabiners			14		assorted screw gates, steel, alloy
knee pads		3 pairs			
packs			8		various sizes
ladders			230 feet		
cave tag kit			1		drill, tags, nails, stamping kit.
rope protectors			7		
slings		heaps			assorted colours, widths and lengths
scaling pole and clamps			1		many sections, extends over 15 metres
EPIRB unit			1		on loan to Jim Crockett
Suunto survey compass			1		on loan to Jim Crockett
Suunto survey clinometer			1		on loan to Jim Crockett
MSS 35th anniversary tshirts	XL		3		new
plus			1		crate of gear donated by Mike Nickolls includes pile suit, mallions, ascenders, racks, pulleys, descenders, slings, lamp chargers, carbide gear etc.