

RECORDINGS IN NATURAL CAVES

AUSTRALIA – TASMANIA

Gunns Plains Caves

Gunns Plains State Reserve

RIC-AU-TS1 Australia 2000

Selections:

1. Three Roads to Gunns Plains – 2:46/ 2. Arriving at the River: Part 2: Valley Lies beneath the Hill – (3-parts) 4:02/ 3. Lifeblood of the Valley: Part 1: People Till the Fertile Earth – (2-parts) 6:20/ 4. Seasons of the Wind – 2:20/ 6. THIS WORKING LIFE: Part 1: Eagles Search the Patchwork Field & Part 2: Machinery Soundscape – (2-parts) 6:50/ 8. HIDDEN CAVES: Part 1: Caves Music I & II; Part 2: Where Have They Gone; & Part 3: Treetops Rise through Morning Mist – (all 3 parts) 6:00/ 9. Gigs & Gatherings: Part 3: Heka, Lowanna – (all 3 parts) 4:56/ 11. Common Ground – (2 parts) 4:38

RIC – Spoken Word – Folklore – History – Choral & Instrumental

Mus. Comp. & Arr: Teresa Beck-Swindale

Perf: THE CAVES VOICES

Locals: Heath & Barbara **CAMPBELL**

Prod: Teresa Beck-Swindale

Prod. Co: Sheard

Rec. Co: The Shed, Lodder Road; Don

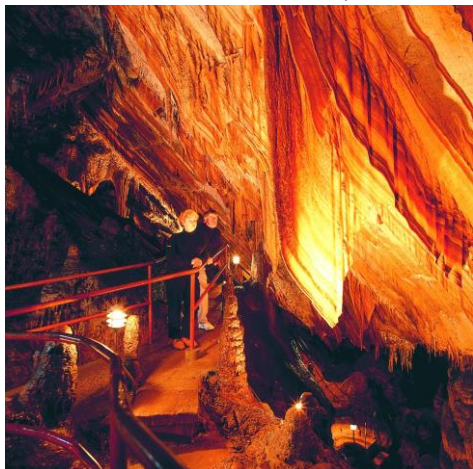
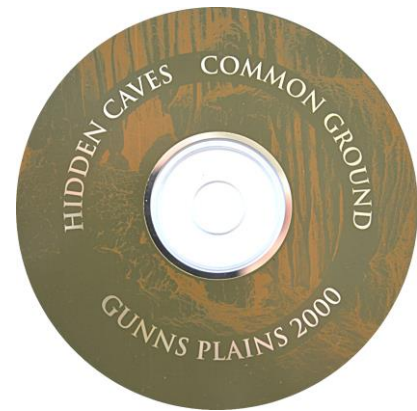
Rec. Eng: (in the field) Ben Turnbull & (in studio) Ian Read & Tony Bird

Liner Notes: (8-page foldout sheet)

Time: (See above)

CD: HIDDEN CAVE – COMMON GROUND

Label: Gunns Plains 2000 (Tks – 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, & 11)



Notes: An entire album devoted to the folklore of the Gunns Plains Valley and the recollections of the older people of the area where this fabulous show cave is located, right in the midlands of northern Tasmania. All is accompanied with music specially composed and arranged by Teresa Beck-Swindale. A truly unusual and moving document.

Eight tracks on this album have music with the voices of 18 singers, The Caves Voices, recorded inside the Gunns Plains Caves. Some of these tracks are only short selections within a two or three part medley (as indicated above). It was extremely difficult in places to determine which sections were recorded in the cave and which were recorded in the studio, so there could easily be some errors here.

1. Three Roads to Gunns Plains – An upbeat sing-along rock song where the backing vocals by The Cave Voices were well heard in the mix. Part of the chorus – “Down, down, down.”

2. Arriving at the River: Part 2: *Valley Lies beneath the Hill* – A nice, gentle ballad with backing vocals by The Caves Voices & flute for the bridge. It starts at 2:44 and ends at 3:34, preceded and followed by local people reminiscing.

3. Lifeblood of the Valley: Part 1: *People Till the Fertile Earth* – Comments on local farming are backed by The Caves Voices up until 1:00 then others tell about dairy farming in the past (sounds of cows, etc.). At 6:03 the backing voices return with a quick djembe beat for a short coda.

4. Seasons of the Wind – Pop song where the backing voices are barely heard in the mix.

6. THIS WORKING LIFE: Part 1: *Eagles Search the Patchwork Field* – This section begins with a short 24-second intro with piano and choral, The Caves Voices, in the cave. This is followed by memories from various farmers in the valley who talk about the sorghum crops and camping for up to 3 months with the cows.

Part 2: *Machinery Soundscape* – In this second part (at 3:46) we hear Barbara & later Heath Campbell giving the cave's history, some of which (starting at 4:15) was spoken inside the cave where their voices resonate. Then (at 6:10) we hear sounds of footsteps in the cave and Heath gives a short farewell followed by receding footsteps. This is followed by short closing remarks about the goats that was not recorded in the cave

8. HIDDEN CAVES: Part 1: *Caves Music I & II* – This first section has guitar, soprano sax, and bass providing the music while Heath and Barbara Campbell take turns talking about the cave (these comments were probably recorded in the cave). This is interrupted (at 2:18) for a short narrative interlude. Then (at 2:25) the track returns to the music and Heath's comments.

Part 2: *Where Have They Gone* – We hear sounds of water in the cave (at 3:27) followed by almost 20 seconds of silence. Then music with the Caves Voices (from 3:49 to 4:33) and music with isolated words in quick succession and short phrases.

Part 3: *Treetops Rise through Morning Mist* – Track 8 closes (at 5:10) with The Caves Voices with music similar to the choral section in Part 2.

9. Gigs & Gatherings: Part 3: *Heka, Lowanna* – A rock song (at 2:22) with a slow, steady beat and backing vocals by The Caves Voices. Then (at 3:01) short spoken comments by different people are mixed in over the song, creating a bit of confusion.

11. Common Ground: Part 1: *Caves Music II* – Guitar, soprano sax, & bass perform mixed with short spoken comments. These comments may have been recorded in the cave.

Part 2: *Return Visit* – This music (at 2:26) returns to the opening (Track 1) upbeat rock piece where the backing vocals are by The Cave Voices and part of the chorus is – “Down, down, down.”

See also under Spoken Word – Documentary – Australia – Tasmania.

Ref: Gunns Plains Caves, Home Site, [gunnsplainscave](http://gunnsplainscave.com)

Gunns Plains Caves, Info, [Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gunns_Plains_Caves)

Gunns Plains Caves, Tasmania for Everyone, [tasmaniaforeveryone](http://tasmaniaforeveryone.com)

Plowman, Cathie 2013, Donation of this CD

Plowman, Cathie 2013, eMails dated 20 Oct. & 30 Oct. 2013

Rose, Danny 2000, Cave Acoustic Has Audience, *The Saturday Mercury*, 19 Aug. 2000, Hobart, Tasmania

Teresa Beck-Swindale, Homepage, [teresabeckswindale](http://teresabeckswindale.com)

caveinspiredmusic.com