

# FORWARD

The Australian Speleological Federation was formed in 1956 in Adelaide at what proved to be its first Biennial Conference. Since then it has developed into a powerful cohesive force holding Australian speleology together. Through its auspices, cavers have been able to expand their horizons beyond the backyard cave to perceive the complex creation, evolution and final demise of karst regions in different climates and within different geological terrains. But how does 'speleology' help you the caver? Well, besides being able to better appreciate a cave in all its details, to see things you did not realize were there, and help you create minimal damage for maximum enjoyment; speleological knowledge is essential for safe cave exploration, and a boon for finding those as yet untrogged caves and passages.

The ASF is a collection of clubs having similar objectives. It sets common ethics, disseminates new information, and speaks on behalf of Australian cavers AND caves. But most importantly it creates a forum for people and private and government bodies throughout Australia to exchange views and ideas so that what few caves we do have can survive the pressures of people.



# Australian Speleological Federation

## 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

3-7 January 1983

Flinders University -- Adelaide

The fourteenth conference proposes to have two aims as basis of discussion. These will be

### 1 Visual aspects of cave recording.

- i) This theme will cover all aspects of cave recording. Topics will include photography, both in 2D and 3D and their application in mapping, scientific and navigational activities in caves.
- ii) Trends in cave mapping with the advent of computer plotting, alternative methods of depicting caves and holograms.
- iii) Use of information retrieval systems eg. microfiche, aperture cards and word processors.

### 2 Forecasting the future of Australian Speleology.

- i) How advances in technology affect speleology
- ii) Cave access and management in the next decade. How past trends may affect the future.
- iii) Population pressures on our natural cave resource.



**Forkarst of caver density ~ Australia January 1983**