



**22nd Biennial Conference Australian Speleological Federation
4 - 8 JANUARY 1999**

Our Final Conference of the 20th Century

Taking Caving into the next Century with Fun, Unity and Fellowship

HOSTED BY: CENTRAL QUEENSLAND SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY INC

The science of cave study is termed Speleology. Speleologists use many special contrivances and methods in exploring caves including mapping and studying extensive areas of cave systems. Caves for a unique and vulnerable part of our natural heritage. The Caving Conference is the last conference of the 20th Century and we will be promoting Fun, Fellowship and Unity for those with an interest in preserving the unique natural beauty and scientific values of this fascinating geological feature for future generations. The Conference is being hosted by the Central Queensland Speleological Society.




UPDATE BRIEFING - DECEMBER 1998

The ASF 22nd Biennial Conference is fast approaching with only just over 10 weeks to complete all the necessary requirements and take care of last minute details. The Conference Committee is working determinedly, to make your conference a great experience. This update includes changes in the schedule including programs and events and will be the last information release before the Conference.

INFORMATION AND SCHEDULES

- Conference Schedules of Events - January 4 to 8 1999
- Conference Program - papers, presentations, workshops and other events
- Conference information and updates

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS OUTLINE

	<i>DAY</i>	<i>EVENING</i>
Monday 4 January 1999	Registration Opening Welcome and Addresses	 Welcome BBQ
Tuesday 5 January 1999	Late Registration Papers/Workshops Displays Bat Cleft Tour	
Wednesday 6 January 1999	Papers/Workshops Displays Bat Cleft Tour Ghost Bat Demonstration	
Thursday 7 January 1999	Papers/Workshops Speleosports Displays	
Friday 8 January 1999	AGM/Council Meeting Closing Address	 22nd Cave Man's Dinner Awards Presentation
Saturday 9 January 1999	Departure	

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The Conference Program with details of times for paper presentations, workshops and events, will be distributed with your Registration.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION & UPDATES

- *Registration* - you will receive your Registration Kit, including name tags and relevant meal tickets
- *Accommodation* - As this is classed as a Camping Facility please note you are required to bring your own pillows, sheets, rugs etc that you require for sleeping purposes.
- *Other requirements* - Towels, toiletries etc CQSS will have a small first aid kit, if required.
- *Laundry Facilities* - There are two washing machines, one clothes dryer, one iron and board. CQSS will supply a quantity of pegs for camper's use.
- *Camp Rules* - Vehicles must be parked in the designated areas. Each group has the responsibility for the general cleanliness of their cabin (brooms etc are provided). All breakages, loss or damage to equipment or facilities are to be reported to a Conference Official immediately.
- *Guidelines* - There are certain guidelines that require all members to note. Signs will be placed in designated areas for observing.
- *Late Registrations* - Anyone who is attending the Conference and has not forwarded their fees, please forward as soon as possible and/or notify CQSS of your intention to attend as we need to

allocate accommodation and the caterers require numbers by the end of November.

- *Papers/Workshops* - We still require more submissions. When submitting, please notify the time required for presentation and enclose a disk version or e-mail.
- *Conference Proceedings* - The cost of the Conference proceedings is NOT included in the Registration. If all papers are made available by the end of November, proceedings will be available at the Conference.
- *Speleo Art* - We will be displaying some 9 exhibits from the collection of International Speleo Art from June Lucas. These prints will be available for auction at the Cave Man's Dinner. The art comes from Canada, UK, Jenolan and Slovakia.

The right is reserved to change the event schedule or substitute events if necessary. All efforts to provide suitable substitutes will be made.

EPITAPH

We look forward to seeing you in January, at the ASF 22nd Biennial Conference. As this is the last update before the Conference, should you have further inquiries, please contact by phone after hours on: 07 4934 2870; 07 4934 2607 or during business hours on: 07 4922 5320 or 07 4920 6133 or e-mail us: cqss@cqnet.com.au

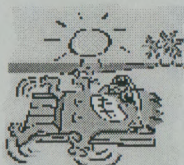
VENUE:- Yeppoon Recreational Camp, Capricorn Coast, Central Queensland



Yeppoon Recreational Camp is situated at 170



Matthew Flinders Drive at Yeppoon on the Capricorn Coast 40 km north-east of Rockhampton. The camp has been refurbished and is set in a tropical garden setting with a licensed bar. The camp is near some of the most picturesque and safe swimming beaches in Australia. The waters are warm and the tropical climate is similar to that of Hawaii. Lammermoor beach is just 200 meters away (there are 6 surf skis for use) and there is an Olympic Swimming Pool 50 meters from the camp. Aside from these there are excellent facilities at the camp including a flood-lit outdoor hardcourt area for tennis, netball, volleyball and basketball with a grassed area for sports and games. There is also a BBQ area and table tennis.



Outside Activities

If you hire a bus in Yeppoon or Rockhampton you could consider these: (Brochures will be provided in the registration pack)

- play golf - at either Yeppoon (18 holes), the Capricorn International (2 x 18 hole courses) or

Emu Park (12 holes)

- see the Singing Ship at Emu Park, 10 km away - it commemorates Captain Cook's voyage up the coast in 1770
- go reef fishing - charters available
- visit Causeway Lake 12 kms from Yeppoon. Great for picnics and barbecues and you can hire windsurfers, canoes, catamarans, paddle boats and aqua bikes
- play squash, racquet ball or volleyball at the Capricorn Coast Squash Camp
- visit Byfield State Forest 45 km from Yeppoon and walk, swim, picnic or BBQ or Cooberrie park 17 kms north of Yeppoon and go bushwalking, have a swim or BBQ
- go diving from Keppel Island or the southernmost reef island, even if you're a beginner
- see hundreds of freshwater and saltwater crocs at the Koorana Crocodile Farm (30 km) from Yeppoon.

Whatever you choose to do, we can guarantee a couple of things..... you'll be well looked after and you'll have a great time.

Outside Accommodation:

If outside camp accommodation is required, we can send a list of Motels, Caravan Parks and contact numbers so that you can arrange your own accommodation. Remember that the Capricorn Coast is a seaside resort and Christmas holiday booking are essential, so book early - like, **NOW**.

Meals:

For catering purposes, we need to know as soon as possible how many people will be staying at the Recreational Camp and how many may require meals at the Conference. For those who are unable to make a decision due to work purposes, please notify us of possible intention.

**CAVING INFORMATION**

Let's go Trogging on Mt Etna, Limestone Ridge to Johansens Caves, Valkaries, Fanning River, Broken River, Chillagoe and other beautiful caves. Don't forget to bring your caving equipment. No carbide lamps are permitted. Caves are fragile environments and have to be treated with care and respect. The weather will be hot and humid so be prepared to sweat it out! ID Cards will be required for Gated Caving Trips and only full members will be able to enter gated caves. There will be vertical and horizontal caving. ASF Insurance is a must for those wishing to go caving. Only accredited Trip Leaders will be able to lead caving trips.

PRE/POST CONFERENCE CAVING**Mt Etna Caves National Park**

The National Park is situated 22 kilometres north of Rockhampton at The Caves township and adjacent to the Bruce Highway. It has two distinct areas - Mt Etna and Limestone Ridge. Mt Etna is a conical peak rising some 300 metres above the surrounding plain with the limestone exposed on its northern side. The tower karst limestone is one of early Devonian Age and contains some 30 caves. Once upon a time, there were a few more, about 10, but a certain cement company turned them into bags of cement powder. Most of the caves are tending vertical with rope work required in some sections. The average passage length varies from 100 to 400 metres.

The major attraction on Mt Etna is Bat Cleft cave. This is the major maternity site for the Little Bent Wing Bat (*Miniopterus Australis*), between the months of November through to mid-February. Approximately 100,000 female bats use Bat Cleft as a maternity cave to rear their young and each evening around dusk, the bats emerge from the cave to forage. Towards the end of the season, the last two weeks in January, the young are flying and join with their mothers in the emergence flight. This is a very spectacular sight, with 200,000 bats emerging from this narrow cleft. Trips to view this emergence are controlled by the Department of Environment and bookings are essential. The Conference committee will be making arrangements with the Department of Environment for a number of viewing sessions, so please book early.

Limestone Ridge is a U shaped ridge approximately 1 kilometre long and rises some 200 metres above the surrounding plain. Unlike Mt Etna, the Ridge is not tower karst, but tend to be of a flatter nature. However, it does have some heavily griked areas with the limestone tending towards tower karst. It contains some 30 caves, varying in length, from 10 metres to 3 kilometres. A number of these caves are gated for reasons of safety and conservation due to the delicate nature of speleothems. Access is restricted to ASF members with a CQSS Trip Leader. There will be trips arranged into these caves, for post conference caving. The climate in Rockhampton at this time of the year will be hot and humid. So come prepared with adequate water bottles. You will also need a sturdy pair of overalls, as the limestone is very sharp.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE - THERE IS NO CARBIDE LIGHTS PERMITTED ON QUEENSLAND NATIONAL PARKS.

Broken River

This is the next caving area north from Rockhampton. Broken River is a 4 1/2 hour drive west of Townsville, 12 hours from Rockhampton. It is a ridge of limestone approximately 7 kilometres long and has received very little exploration. John Kersey, a CQSS foundation member, along with his family are currently residing in Townsville and has been exploring the Broken River area. He is willing to arrange an expedition to the area in the 2 weeks following the Conference. Access is by conventional vehicle and you will have to be fully self-sufficient, as the area is remote. There is an established camp site beside a permanent water hole (water is unsuitable for drinking). This trip is by arrangement. Please indicate on your Registration Form, if you are interested.

Chillagoe

Chillagoe is located approximately 150 kilometres west of Cairns, about 2 1/2 hours drive. Cairns is a 12 hour drive north of Rockhampton. The Chillagoe tower karst covers many square kilometres and has over 500 tagged caves. The Chillagoe Caving Club have a Clubhouse in the township with camping available. Facilities include: kitchen, toilet, shower, dining area with tables and chairs and a barbecue. Some equipment hire is also available. There is a charge for camping at the Clubhouse. Arrangements can be made with your Registration or at the Conference.

Mitchell-Palmer

Due to the climate and weather conditions at this time of year, there will be no trips to this area.



Historical Photo Display

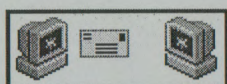
Anyone with photos of people, places, events, flora, fauna and any others of historical interest who wish to share their treasures with their fellow cavers, please forward copies with relevant information for each. Please do not send originals unless you do not require them back. If enough interest is shown, we will produce a book for release after the conference.

Papers are called for the Conference on any topic of speleological interest.

Submissions should include:

- Papers between 3 and 12 pages in length, and time of presentation
- A4 size only
- Hard Copy of paper, diagrams, photographs etc.
- In addition a disk version of the text on 3.5", IBM format, MS-Word 6.0 or Rich Text Format

Forward all Papers with photos etc. to the Conference address as soon as possible.



eMail us at cqss@cqnet.com.au

or call / write to us:-

	Home	Work	Address
Peter Berrill	07 4934 2870	07 4922 5320	CAVE QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE ACCOUNT
Noel Sands	07 4934 2960	07 4922 3248	PO Box 538
Debbie Roberts	07 4934 2607	07 4920 6133	ROCKHAMPTON QLD 4700

Each Delegate is to fill out their own individual Registration Form. Any non-conference partners and/or children accompanying, are to be listed on the same form.

Click one of the following links to download the Registration form.

Remember on some systems you will need to hold down the Shift key while clicking to save the file to your Hard drive.

Registration Form in RTF format, can be viewed in most Word Processors.

Registration Form in TXT format, can be viewed by Notepad or other Text Editors.

By Actively Participating in This Conference, You Will:

- Learn the joys of uniting with fellow cavers and rediscovering what Speleology is all about
- Review the past, present and future of caving in Australia
- Examine and discover new information from the papers presented
- Have **FUN!**

