

Profiles of Presenters

Please note: Presenters without profiles are listed at the bottom of this section.

Jay Anderson

ASF Conservation Co-convenor / WASG

Jay is a speleologist and an active outdoor leader. As a member of ACKMA the ASF and the two Speleological Groups in WA, Jay is interested in all aspects of caves and their management - with particular interests in karst management and cave conservation, cave rescue training, vertical ropework skills, cave fauna, ecology, geomorphology and hydrology.

Jay is the WASG conservation officer and one of the ASF Conservation Co-Convenors for WA. She is the chair of the WA Speleology Conservation Committee" which co-ordinates and facilitates active discussion, participation and research by members into karst conservation issues and develops and implements cave conservation projects in WA. Jay is involved in writing regular submissions on environmental assessment documents & management plans and letters to Government & land managers/proponents. It was Jay's participation in the ASF VS Finesky (Cape Range Court case in the Mining Warden's court (1999-2002)) that has led to her enrolment in postgraduate studies in Karst Management. Jay also has a 4 year Psychology degree and currently works fulltime as a Senior Child Protection Officer with the State Government, often performing counselling or social work services.

Lex V Bastian

Western Australian Speleological Group Inc.

A virtual "living legend" in Western Australia, Lex has been caving since he discovered Yanchep during his teenage years.

After graduating in geology from The University of WA in 1961 he spent six years with the Bureau of Mineral Resources in Canberra before returning to spend the next 23 years as a mineralogist at the Western Australian Chemistry Centre until his retirement in 1994. This retirement presented him with more time to go caving in the Yanchep/Wanneroo region in order to pass on his knowledge to current generations of cavers.

A founding member of the Western Australian Speleological Group in 1958, Lex has been a guiding force ever since and has been honoured by WASG with Life Membership.

Ken Boland

Victorian Speleological Association Inc.

Originally from Melbourne, Ken began caving in 1983 with the Western Australian Speleological Group Sub-Group (WASGSG), now known as CLINC. He has 29 years flying experience, is chief flying instructor of a gliding club and an Instructor of the National Gliding School.

Ken led the survey of 6N-206, and with more than 9km of passageway, is the longest and most complex cave of the Mundrabilla region. He is also a Catholic priest with an interest in natural history, particularly the development of life: "how the Creator has most cleverly created".

Ken's appearance here at Under WAY is sponsored by: Order of St. Francis Church (Vic.), Members of CLINC, June and George McLucas, Norman Poulter OAM, Members of WASG, Ida Newton, Rob Foulds and Frances Loveday.

Sandra Boulter

Environmental Defender's Office

Sandra is the Coast Law project Solicitor for the Environmental Defender's Office (WA). Sandra completed her training as a nurse and midwife, and worked as an intensive care nurse specialist at Royal Perth Hospital between 1972-76. Sandra studied law while raising her family of 5 children.

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Sandra obtained her law degree from The University of Western Australia in 1997. She worked as a volunteer at the EDO while studying at UWA, and served on the Management Committee of the EDO for 3 years. Working as the "Bushlawyer" since January 2000, Sandra has travelled throughout Western Australia providing public environmental law legal advice and community legal education to rural and remote communities.

Arthur Clarke

Southern Tasmanian Caverneers Inc.

Arthur has been caving since the mid-1960's and actively involved in the documentation of caves (and their contents) and karst areas in Tasmania since the early 1970's. For over two decades, Arthur's voluntary efforts have included various aspects of the management of caves and karst in Tasmania including recording of caves as the Australian Speleological Federation (ASF) State Area coordinator for Tasmania since 1984, active engagement in the conservation of caves (as a past co-convenor of the ASF Conservation Commission) with a particular dedication to the Ida Bay karst in southern Tasmania, the Exit Cave system and closure of Benders Quarry, plus a more recent involvement in the Mt. Cripps karst area of NW Tasmania.

His other speleological endeavours include the photography of caves and cave animals, plus studies of cavernicoles (particularly invertebrates) and cave ecosystems. He is presently completing post-graduate studies of the invertebrate biodiversity of cave ecosystems in southern Tasmania with a comparative chapter related to the ecology of caves in SW China. (He has been involved with studies of caves and karst in Guangxi Province of SW China on three occasions, including twice as an invited member of separate expeditions in NW Guangxi during 2000 and 2002).

Arthur is the Immediate Past-President of the former Tasmanian Cave and Karst Research Foundation and was Foundation President of Southern Tasmanian Caverneers when it formed in 1996. He was a vice-president of the ASF Executive for five years including a period serving as Executive Secretary and also held a position as ASF the Liaison Officer on the Committee of the Australian Cave and Karst Management Association (ACKMA).

Arthur has been actively involved in several international organisations including the British Cave Research Association, International Society of Biospeleology and the Biospeleology section of the International Union of Speleology (IUS) and is currently one of five Australian abstractors for the IUS Bibliography Commission.

In 1993, he was awarded the ASF Certificate of Merit and appointed a Fellow of ACKMA in 2002. He has had three troglobitic invertebrates named after him: two from Tasmania and one from SW China. Arthur is presently acting as Convenor for the next (25th.) biennial conference of ASF, being held in southern Tasmania in January 2005.

Andrew Eavis BSc

United Kingdom

Andrew has had a varied career in the coal mining industry before becoming a joint owner of the Thompson Plastics Group (Windcrown Ltd.) in 1979.

A Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, council member of the British Cave Research Association and National Caving Association as well senior vice-president of the World Caving Association, Andrew's caving achievements are nothing short of spectacular over the last 31 years - being involved with the discovery of the world's first, second and third largest chambers in Mulu (Malaysia) and China and exploring the largest cave passage and cave in the world as well as twice being to the bottom of the world's deepest cave.

An expedition or project leader on many occasions, Andrew has explored caves in numerous climatic regions from Scandinavia, Europe, Asia, South-East Asia to Central and South America. From a photographic collection of over 25,000 slides, Andrew has won many photographic awards and includes 3D photography amongst his underground research interests.

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Dr John Hellstrom

**ARC Postdoctoral Fellow
School of Earth Sciences, University of Melbourne
Caving Club Victoria Inc.**

I am originally from New Zealand, where I became heavily involved in caving at about the time I started my BSc at Victoria University of Wellington. After completing my BSc with honours in Geology I successfully applied for a PhD scholarship at the Australian National University in Canberra, working on a project that combined my interests in caving and paleoclimate reconstruction by investigating the geochemistry of speleothems from the deep and climatically stable cave systems of New Zealand's South Island.

I afterwards moved to the United Kingdom, where I worked as a post-doc at Royal Holloway, University of London, assisting with the development of analytical protocols for a new multi-collector inductively-coupled plasma mass spectrometer (MC-ICP-MS) with emphasis on uranium-thorium dating of carbonates.

Returning to Australia I worked for a year at Monash University on a project assessing the viability of the rhenium-osmium isotopic system as a mineral exploration tool, while successfully applying for an Australian Research Council post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Melbourne starting in 2002. This current project aims to apply the Melbourne University MC-ICP-MS to the U-Th dating of very small samples, producing long continuous paleo-environmental records from Australasian speleothems.

Stephen J McCabe

Highland Caving Group Inc.

A member of the Sydney Speleological Society for almost twenty years, Stephen is currently a member of the Highland Caving Group. An electrician by trade, he current works for the casino at Pyrmont.

Brian O'Brien

FTSE

Dr Brian O'Brien began his professional life as an Antarctic research physicist (1958-9), and later, as Professor of Space Science at Rice University in Houston (1963-8), was Principal Investigator for 6 experiments on the moon. Brian became Foundation Director and Chairman of the EPA in Perth (1971-77), started Greening Australia (WA), and has been extensively involved in environmental review and management work. He holds the NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Research and in 1993 was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Applied Sciences and Technological Engineering. Brian was the inaugural President of the ASF in 1956 and is a Life Member of SUSS.

Norman Poulter OAM

Speleological Research Group Western Australia Inc.

Commenced caving in 1965 with the Highland Caving Group, serving at least one term as president. Drafted to become Newsletter Manager of the ASF Newsletter during the course of the 1968 Goolwa ASF Conference and joined the Sydney University Speleological Society before leaving NSW on a working holiday at the end of 1970.

Following attendance at the 8th ASF Conference in Hobart, he spent 7 months working and touring Tasmania before travelling to and spending 5 months in South Australia. While in Tasmania he was amongst the last to attempt to "bottom" the then deepest cave (7JF-4-5) using ladders, although never setting foot at the deepest point. During his stay in South Australia, he was awarded one of CEGSA's (1971) "Leather Medals" for being the first person to suffer a broken bone in Sellicks Hill Cave - a feat that could have proved fatal for both he and Grant Gartrell.

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He first set foot on the Nullarbor Plain as part of Ian Lewis's first CEGSA cave diving expedition (1971-72) and became fascinated with the region, a fascination that still persists. On arrival in Perth he became employed at The University of Western Australia and later became a foundation member of SRGWA.

Norman has travelled to varied overseas cave destinations and is very interested in speleo-photography, troglobitic fauna and their protection, cave conservation and management issues. He has visited numerous Karst areas of Australia although centres on the Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge and Nullarbor regions of Western Australia.

During 1993 he received an ASF Certificate of Merit followed by a special SRGWA/WASG/CALM citation in 1996. In 1999 he was honoured to receive the ASF "Edie Smith Award" and Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his services to speleology and conservation.

Lloyd N Robinson

Illawarra Speleological Society

Lloyd became interested in caves of Bungonia at the tender age of 9 when his family moved to the nearby town of Marulan. Since then he has been caving in all states of Australia, and is still actively involved whenever he has the opportunity, most recently on the Nullarbor Plain and Northern Territory.

He first visited Western Australia in 1957 and spent some time in the Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge, where he was involved in locating a number of caves including what is now the Augusta Jewel Cave.

He has been a member of Sydney Speleological Society, Western Australian Speleological Group, Speleological Research Group Western Australia and is a life member of the Illawarra Speleological Society.

In 1982 he was awarded the ASF Certificate of Merit and in 1995 a Fellow of the ASF.

Jill Rowling

Jill is enrolled at the University of Sydney, School of Geosciences, and is studying part time for her MSc on "Cave Aragonites of NSW".

Jane Scott BSc

Cavers Leeuwin Inc

Jane has an Honours Degree in Geography (BSc) from University College, London (1970), and qualifications in teaching and librarianship. She has lived for 20 years in the Margaret River area of Western Australia bringing up a family, walking, caving and checking out the wildflowers.

She has recently published several books on the local area: "Walking the Capes", "The Cape to Cape Track Guidebook" and "The Fieldguide to Wildflowers of Australia's South West".

Garry K Smith

Newcastle and Hunter Valley Speleological Society

First went caving as a cub scout around the age of 10. This sparked my interest in caving, a passion which I still pursue with great enthusiasm today. I went on many caving trips through Scouting and went on to become a caving instructor in the movement. In addition to the Scout caving, I joined the Newcastle and Hunter Valley Speleological Society in 1988.

Member of the Australian Speleological Federation (from 1988 to present, 15 years.), member of the Newcastle and Hunter Valley Speleological Society (1988 to present, 15 years.) and have

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held positions of President, Vice president, Secretary, Librarian and Magazine editor, Equipment officer, Training officer.

Member of ACKMA Australasian Cave and Karst Management Association (6 years). Within the Scouting Movement, I presently hold the position of Regional Activity Leader and have been an active leader for the past 26 years. Other qualifications include, Scouting Instructor in:- Caving, White Water Canoeing, Abseiling, Canyoning, Bush Walking and Cross-country Skiing. Appointed by the Scout Association as a Nationally accredited Assessor in these disciplines.

Lise Summers

State Records Office of Western Australia

Lise Summers is an Archivist at the State Records Office of Western Australia, where she has worked for the past four years. Her work at SROWA includes reference and research work, presentation of seminars and training sessions, and development of the annual preservation program for State archives. Lise is also a post-graduate student in history at Edith Cowan University, where she is currently researching the history of Perth's public parks and gardens.

Neil Taylor

Department of Conservation and Land Management and Cavers Leeuwin Inc.

Norm: "Neil, any chance of getting your biography by the closing date, which was yesterday?"

Neil: "P#@% Off Norm".

Ida: "Neil any chance of getting your biography by tomorrow, which is the conference start?"

Neil: "P#@% Off Ida, Gail and I are going to bed now!, you write something about me!"

Written by Ida Newton with apologies to NT and GT...

Anne Wood BSc. Dip.Ed.

Caves Manager, Department of Conservation and Land Management

Started her working life as a high school biology/ science teacher before moving to the Margaret River region about 20 years ago, working in the dairy industry with her husband, spending their spare time searching for caves. She joined Cavers Leeuwin (CLINC) around 1990 and spent 6 years working for the Augusta-Margaret River Tourism Association.

Divesting themselves from dairying, the family moved into viticulture before she became the inaugural Caves Manager of the Department of Conservation and Land Management in 1999.

Anne has just completed the Certificate in Karst Management offered by Charles Sturt University and highly recommends it to speleologists.

David Wools-Cobb

Northern Caverneers Inc.

David is a Tasmanian caver of 33 year's experience, having explored caves in many Australian states and overseas. Apart for his passion for going "where no man has been before", his major interest is in cave photography. He finds that sharing his photographs with others, particularly those unlikely to visit such environments particularly rewarding.

David has won several awards for his cave photography, and has entertained many people with his photographic shows, but considers the challenge of getting "that great shot" in such a difficult environment to be the greatest attraction.

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List of Presenters without profiles:

Kyle Armstrong

Biota Environmental Sciences

John Long

Western Australian Museum

Peter Armstrong

WASG

Timothy Moulds

University of Adelaide

Michael Bradley

SRGWA

Paul Tholen

Nature Conservation Ranger – Yanchep
National Park

Ric Brown

SRGWA

John Webb

Department of Earth Sciences, Latrobe
University Bundoora, Victoria

Brian Combley

Cavers Leeuwin Inc.

Rauleigh Webb

WASG

Paul Devine

CEGSA / SRGWA

Susan White

Victorian Speleological Association

John Dunkley

ASF President

Nicholas White

Victorian Speleological Association

Stefan Eberhard

CaveWorks, Western Australia

Ken Grimes

Regolith Mapping

Paul Hosie

WASG / Trimix Divers

Dr Bill Humphreys

Western Australian Museum

Mike Lake

Caver, Linux enthusiast and interested in
anything technical