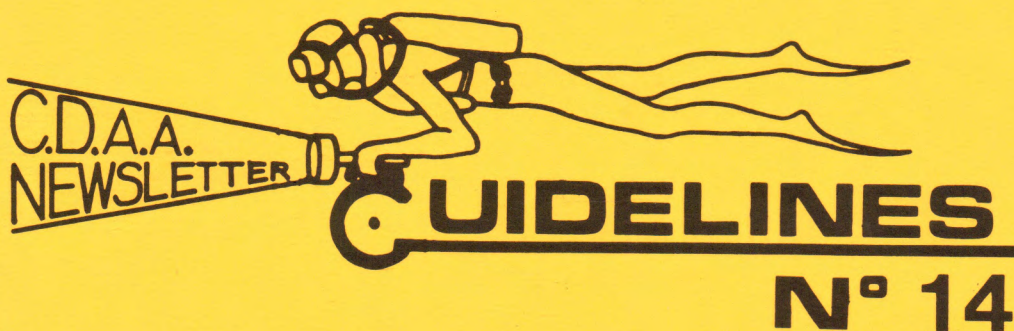


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MAY 1983



CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

(Incorporated in South Australia)

C.D.A.A.

P.O. Box 2161 T

G.P.O. Melbourne. 3001

C.D.A.A.

P.O. Box 290

North Adelaide 5006

DIVERS DIARY



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(Mt. Gambier)

September Category III Test Program

Close of Applications	17th August 1983
Theory Examination	31st August
Practical (Mt. Gambier)	17th September

Written applications for the test program should list the Category III pre-requisite dives (20 Category II dives, 8 of these with guideline reel & tether). All candidates will need to have held their Category II qualification for 12 months also.

Candidates must achieve a pass in the theory exam before they can proceed to the practical test.

Send your application soon to the P.O. Box in your state if you wish to take part in this next program.

Plastics Course

It is hoped that another Plastics Course will be run beginning in September this year for S.A. members. To ensure that this course gets under way, please send the D.F.E. Course fee of \$41.25 to the CDAA in Adelaide so that we can pass it on when enough people have applied. The D.F.E. course will only begin if 10 people pay up - no less.

In the past, a guideline reel has cost about \$30 in materials to make, and an underwater light about \$110 for a single battery construction and \$140 for a double battery type.

Write to the P.O. Box for further details.

GUIDELINES

NEWSLETTER OF THE

CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 14 May 1983

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Editor	Jenny Hiscock
Typing	Lyn Wagstaff

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EDITORIAL

What effect do divers have on the sinkhole/pond environment they visit for their recreation? This will be one of many questions the Department of Lands will be facing as they decide on the management plan of Ewens Ponds.

It is something that divers should contemplate from time to time also.

Diving in sinkholes has some obvious effects on the physical environment; water visibility and silt patterns are altered. Water visibility is often reduced by the effects of bubbles - mixing the water layers and stripping silt and algae from roofs and sides. In these situations, the effect of divers is related more to numbers than the care taken by those divers. In open areas of sinkholes, however, diver behaviour alters the bottom silting patterns - and this is one area where care would reduce the divers impact (no pun intended).

The effect on the biological life has been more evident in the coastal ponds than the sinkholes, with a reduction in plant life since the advent of regular diving activities. Whether or not damage is still occurring in the larger ponds is not obvious to the layman, but impact on smaller ponds has been evident in recent years.

The message is that divers do have an impact on the underwater environment but it is not always a measurable detrimental effect. However, care taken to reduce silting where possible, and efforts to minimising disruption of plant and animal communities are the actions of responsible divers. Given the growth in cave divers, we have a responsibility to preserve and protect the ponds and sinkholes in at least their current state.

Jenny Hiscock



DIVER'S ROLE

"Finally, a word of caution: cave diving is dangerous; deep diving is dangerous! - and deep cave diving is doubly dangerous!"

Jim Sweeney, 1972
NAUI 'The Complete Guide to Cave Diving'

1. PICCANNINIE PONDS PERMITS

A new procedure for Piccanninie Ponds Permits has been agreed to with the Officers of the National Parks and Wildlife Service on a 12 month trial basis.

If you are a financial member up until June 30th 1984 (i.e. you took advantage of bi-annual membership in June 1982), then you should receive your Pics. Permit for June 1983-84 in the mail on or about 1st July 1983 (direct from National Parks & Wildlife).

Members who update their financial status from now on, should receive their Pics. Permit within two weeks of receiving their updated card from the Association. Members must remember to send their Category Card to the Post Office Box in their State when updating their financial status.

A 'CARD UPDATE' form is stapled in the centre of this 'Guidelines' for your personal use. Please make sure you notify the Association of any address changes as soon as possible to keep our files up to date.

2. CHANGE OF CATEGORY 3 PRE-REQUISITES

An addition has been made to the Category 3 pre-requisites as outlined in the Information Bulletin (1980). All candidates wishing to take part in the September Category III Test Program will need to comply with the new pre-requisite (see (3) below).

A complete list of the Category 3 pre-requisites are:

- (1) To have satisfied all of the requirements of Category 2.
- (2) To have logged 20 freshwater dives to Category 2 standard with:
 - 5 of these dives to 35 metres.
 - 8 of these dives using a guideline, reel and tether line.
- (3) To hold a Category 2 qualification for 12 months prior to application.
- (4) Ownership of the prescribed Category 3 equipment.

3. CATEGORY 1 DIVING

The Information Bulletin states that the 5 hours of Category 1 experience diving should be carried out in 'various' Category 1 sinkholes. From time to time, divers submit what we consider, too large a proportion of the 5 hours, as Ewens Ponds diving. To give divers a guideline as to how much or little Ewens Ponds scuba diving can be counted towards their 5 hours Cat.1 diving, the Committee has agreed that only 2 hours can be counted. This does not mean that you have to do 2 hours of diving in Ewens Ponds or that you cannot do any more - it is the maximum time in Ewens that can be counted in the 5 hours experience diving.

4. COMMITTEE CHANGES

Ian Lewis (S.A. Vice-President) has resigned from the Committee due to study commitments that have arisen in 1983. He has served 4½ years on the S.A. Committee - a notable effort for any individual.

The Committee felt that it was too close to the end of term to warrant an election and took the option provided in the Constitution (section 12(c)) to appoint Mike Byrne to fill the vacant position. Mike is a Category 3 diver who has supported the Association over the last couple of years by helping with 'Guidelines' collating.

Peter Horne will take over the secretarial position in South Australia for the remainder of the year as Steve Collett has unexpected work commitments.

5. CDAA - RESEARCH GROUP

The Cave Divers Association of Australia has now officially sanctioned a Research Group to be formed as a Sub-Committee, whose main undertaking will include our constitutional aims of:-

"To explore for recreational or other purposes, caves and sinkholes throughout Australia", and

"To encourage ANY RESEARCH, INCLUDING MAPPING, of all underwater caves and sinkholes".

Much amateur and some professional work has been done in the past by individual parties of interested divers, but the CDAA has had no official involvement with this work. The Association exists mainly as an administrative body, so the Research Group, under the direction of a central Co-ordinator and directly answerable to the Committee, now provides the facility for officially representing cave diving-related research.

The CDAA Research Group currently consists of a core of divers who have been undertaking private mapping and underwater studies for some time, and some of the perhaps more ambitious projects planned for the future will require the services of other members interested in this aspect of our activity. The Research Group would like to compile a list of interested persons so that a 'ready reference' exists for various projects. If you feel that you might be interested in spending some time assisting with cave mapping or assisting with other research projects (e.g. searching old newspaper files for cave diving information), please write to the Group through the Association box number in South Australia. It is hoped that comprehensive files on all known waterfilled features will eventually exist, assisting with the education of the non-diving public.

As the CDAA is entering its 10th year of existence, with the perfect record of not a single accident involving a registered cave diver in all that time (compared with the 11 deaths in 5 years before regulations came into being), the most important project at present is our Historical Study of cave diving in Australia. Specifically, we are compiling a central file of old photographs, stories and points of interest which will be invaluable in the years to come. So, all old-time cave divers and members are especially sought at the moment, to capture some of the 'old days' forever - your contributions to cave diving knowledge will be greatly appreciated.

So please - help us to make the Research Group an Association operation, and let us know of your interest in assisting!

6. MARCH 1983 CATEGORY 3 TEST REPORTby Robin Garrad

A rather disappointing performance was the outcome of the March 1983 Category 3 Test with the examiners only being able to pass six of the thirteen candidates presenting. As this is a reversal of previous trends, it was felt that an article detailing the weaker areas would be helpful to future candidates. The lack of skills in these areas were not unique to the March 1983 Test; the deficiencies were simply represented in a greater proportion of candidates.

Skills were generally lacking in:

- (1) Buoyancy control
- (2) Buddy communication
- (3) Equipment/equipment handling.

(1) Buoyancy Control

Fine control of buoyancy and stable posture in the water form the basic diving skills on which cave diving ability can be built. These techniques are thought to be so important that a separate test - the buoyancy test - was devised so these skills could be assessed in isolation from any other tasks. It is generally found that a candidate whose performance is poor on the buoyancy test will later exhibit buoyancy problems on the other two tests.

What then forms the basis of good buoyancy control?

- (a) You must be correctly weighted for freshwater and the type of equipment you are wearing.
- (b) Equipment/weights must be correctly distributed on the diver so as to allow a comfortable vertically orientated, stable posture to be adopted in the water.

If your equipment is badly positioned so that you continually feel unstable (i.e. rolled over backwards/sidewise etc.) then fine control of buoyancy is impossible. An unstable diver when attempting to move vertically will slip off sidewise or rotate - the explanation of the mysterious, localised 'currents' which candidates often discover in the first pond at Pics.

Thus when practising this skill, get the posture correct first; can you adopt a stable, vertical position in the water?

Once you feel stable in the water, correct buoyancy control will be found to be easy: whilst using oral feed on the buoyancy control device remember that moving air from lungs to buoyancy control device does not affect your buoyancy - the next breath from the air supply does.

During the reel test, loss of buoyancy control is usually exhibited immediately after buddy breathing commences, with candidates either breaking surface or ploughing into the bottom. Should such an event occur examiners wish to see an attempt to recover from the situation - ignoring the error in the hope that it will resolve itself is not acceptable.

During the blacked-out line following test through the Cathedral, perfect buoyancy control is obviously more difficult, however one still has the sense of touch on the guideline and rocks in the cave plus ear sensations which should be able to indicate whether your buoyancy is way out.

(2) Buddy Communication

Buddy communication during the Cathedral test can take two forms :-

- (i) leader/follower: the lead diver proceeds 2-3m (or to the next obstacle if shorter) and waits for his buddy to catch up, signals are exchanged and the procedure is repeated.
- (ii) constant contact: usually holding hands the buddy pair attempts the test as a single unit.

Experience has shown that (i) is the most efficient method of traversing the line: there are sections of the course where only one diver can comfortably fit at a time, and it leaves both hands free for line following.

Whilst the lead diver can do much to assist his buddy he should not attempt to do too much - i.e. to carry him through the test. This can lead to much confusion on the part of the following diver - he must be able to find and experience the obstacles so that he also can orient himself in relation to the line.

It was on the octopus section of this test where serious breakdowns of buddy communication occurred. Here there are several important points :

- (i) The octopus regulator must be readily available.
- (ii) After switching to the octopus system, do not immediately blunder on, spend 20-30 seconds sorting out the relative positions of the divers so as to facilitate crossing obstacles.
- (iii) When traversing obstacles, try to maintain eye or touch contact at all times - the lead diver should not assume that he can simply haul his buddy through tight spots by the octopus hose - often all that comes through is the regulator....
- (iv) A long hose and elbow swivel joint makes this section of the test considerably easier.

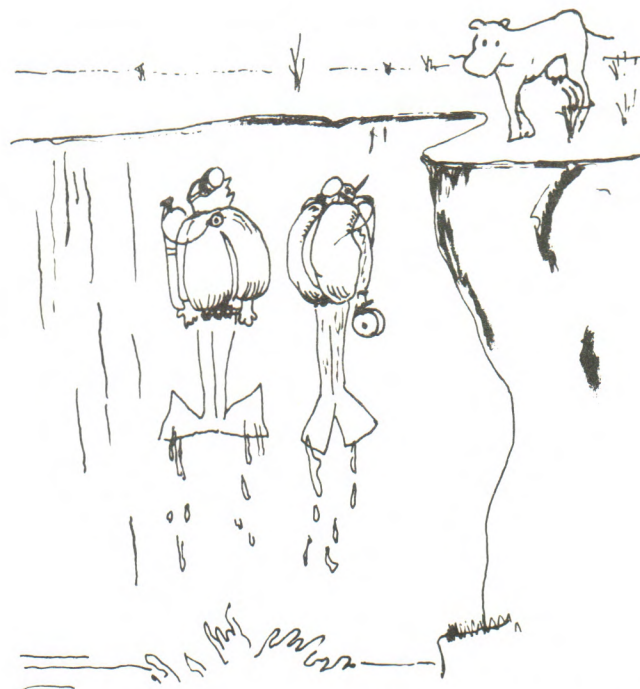
(3) Equipment

- a. It is desirable to have the hands and wrists uncluttered so as to prevent line tangles when doing anything with your hands. Thus do not attach reels and lights via wrist lanyards. Attach these items by clips onto buoyancy compensator or tank harness.
- b. KISS - Keep It Super Simple! Don't demonstrate your motorised, fully automatic reel and integrated 10KW light system on the Cat.3 test! Stick to a simple, functional reel design as recommended by the CDAA together with a 6V sealed beam light.
Make sure that the reel pays out line smoothly, does not easily over-run and does not have so much line on it that it jangles when rewinding.
- c. Tether lines continue to cause problems - see article following.
- d. Is your equipment suitable for Category 3 level diving? Do you have a regulator system or a collection of bits and pieces grafted onto something that was the forerunner on the original Mk.I....

- e. Be practised in the use of the equipment you are going to use on the test - including your buddy. Pick your buddy with care; your chances of successfully completing the test with an unknown buddy are poor.

7. CDAA BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The Association's 10th birthday will fall in September this year. In an attempt to document what the Association has become in this period, the Committee is currently putting together a Procedures Manual which we hope to have in draft form by the Annual General Meeting for our member's perusal. The Manual should contain all the current Association rules and will outline the duties of Committee members more precisely than indicated in the Constitution.



"This new 'compensator exit' idea still has a way to go."

TETHERS - WHICH ONE

by Robin Garrad

An item of equipment which examiners find they are constantly criticising is the humble tetherline. Faults most commonly criticised are:

- (1) tether too long
- (2) hook (fastner) inappropriate
- (3) wrist loop insecure.

Length of wrist lanyard

A tether is not intended to be the sole means of contact a diver has with the guideline but rather a safety backup. Thus the primary contact the diver has with the line should be via the fingers so that a constant touch contact is maintained. This makes the tasks of maintaining a given direction and locating potential obstructions much easier.

The purpose of the tether is to maintain line contact if the diver should accidentally lose the line or deliberately release it to attend to a task which requires both hands.

These conditions imply a short wrist lanyard. The ideal length is one such that when the tether is attached to the wrist and the hook allowed to dangle freely, the hook does not extend beyond the fingers.

Materials from which the lanyard can be constructed are many, and depend upon personal preference. Some lean towards stiff plaited lanyards, others towards flexible, light lanyards of 3-4mm braided polyethylene. Either are suitable, as long as they are an appropriate length and have the means of forming a secure wrist loop and a secure fastening to the hook.

Appropriate Hooks

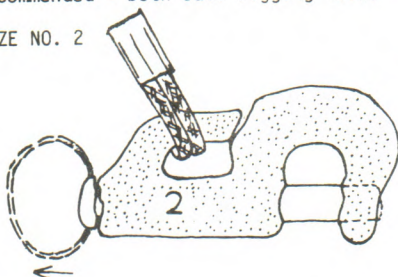
The two points to appreciate about tether hooks are

- (1) security
- (2) ease of (one handed) operation.

Long experience has taught that there are two suitable models on the market which can be recommended - both sail rigging items - spinnaker luff hooks:

- (1) MURRAY SIZE NO. 2

PRICE - \$3 or \$4
MATERIAL - BRASS



This is the cheaper option but can be difficult to operate single handed (especially when cold). Ease of operation can be improved by attaching (silver solder etc.) a ring or other extension to the spring-loaded plunger (as dotted in above diagram).

- (2) RONSTAN MODEL NO. RF788 & RF789.

PRICE - approx. \$17 & \$27

MATERIAL - stainless steel.

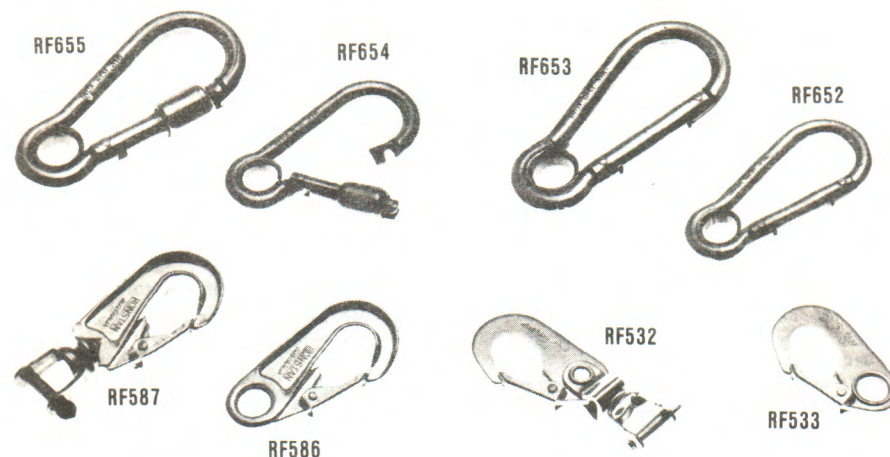
This is the 'Rolls Royce' model featuring easy single handed pushbutton operation and positive locking.



Inappropriate Hooks

Carabiner types - these are difficult to use and the line can catch on the 'teeth' in the moveable jaw. (eg. Ronstan RF652-RF655)

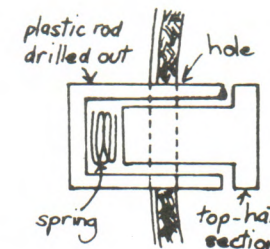
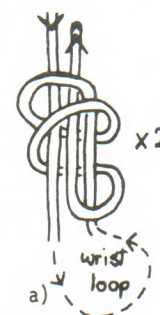
Spring loaded non-lock types - if the line becomes wrapped around the outside it may pull out very easily. (eg. Ronstan RF532, 533, 586 & 587).



Secure Wrist Loop

Three methods are shown below :

- a) An adjustable loop formed with two grapevine or prussiking knots (3-4mm polyethylene).
- b) & c) Mechanical slides



b)



c)

CAVE DIVING IN NEW ZEALAND

There are two striking differences between New Zealand cave diving and the impression I have gained of the sport here; the caves and thus the diving are totally different and the people come into the sport from a different angle.

New Zealand cave diving developed in the same way as it did in Britain; cavers stopped by sumps, resorting to diving to push exploration into the wet zone. Initially they hoped to find further dry caves, but as the sport has progressed, underwater exploration has been carried out for its own sake.

Cave diving then often begins well underground in cave passages which are often relatively small and very often in poor visibility due to both silting and water-borne debris from the surface streams feeding into the cave system. It seems that in Australia most cave divers are divers first and then specialise in caves. In New Zealand, they are cavers, usually with extensive sea-diving experience, who move into underwater cave exploration. Because these skills do not often occur together there are not many active cave divers in the country, and for those with the skills and the motivation, there is plenty to do.

The main caving and cave diving areas in the country are:

Waitomo (in the central North Island), North-West Nelson (northern part of the South Island) and the west coast of the South Island. Water temperatures are universally cold, 7-10°C and down to 6° in some Nelson caves, and air temperatures are also low.

Differences in technique obviously exist also. Because of the confined nature of the caves it takes more 'push' to go deep, particularly as the cold generally encourages narcosis at shallower depths. I don't know of a decompression dive in a New Zealand cave although Keith Dekkers and I have dived to the no decompression limit. Twin-sets are unknown. Because caves tend to be more confined, smaller lights are used; super Q's being popular currently. Some people have experimented with helmets although their use is limited. Line reel construction and use tend to be the same as here except for a floating-line versus sinking line debate.

Another debate is that around solo cave diving. The nature of the caves makes getting gear to a dive difficult and often dry caver support will exist to get only one set to a site. Once underwater a second person in a small sump may often be a liability in that two people stir up more silt, and with obvious communication difficulties two sets of intentions may add to confusion. The debit side is that diving alone does increase the risk in some ways. Also, with so few of us, a cave diver with a support group of non-diving cavers may be 300 miles or more from another cave diver and possible rescuer. Solo cave diving does occur, and does have its advantages but I stress that this is unique to New Zealand conditions.

Major caving breakthroughs have been made by divers. Of note is Keith Dekkers push of two successive sumps (over 150m from the surface and now free diveable), in Greenlink Cave, Takaka Hill, taking it to a then record depth of 315m. Keith's individual contribution to New Zealand cave diving has been of paramount importance in the sport and few major discoveries have been made without his involvement.

The conditions at Jenolan Caves, N.S.W. seem to be close to ours in New Zealand; horizontal, active cave systems, exploration diving and with an equal emphasis on caving and diving skills - without both of these, conditions cannot be handled safely.

by Tim Williams

Tim is a New Zealand cave diver who was in Australia last year to assist with the Cocklebidy expedition in September.

ARE YOU FINANCIAL ?

Check your card now !

The year on the card is the date it ran out!

If the date is 1982 then you will have been unfinancial by 12 months soon. This means that your certification will be invalid after 30th June 1983. You will then be required to resit all tests to regain your certification status.

Don't forget - if your card expired June 1982, to update
to June 1984 - - - - - Cost \$10.00
to June 1985 - - - - - Cost \$15.00

- if you are financial but your card expires
June 1983, then to update
to June 1984 - - - - - Cost \$5.00
to June 1985 - - - - - Cost \$10.00

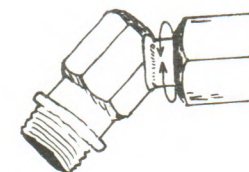
FOR SALE

Elbow swivel joints can be purchased from the Association.

They are good quality chromed, brass type and can be attached to any brand of second stage regulator.

Send \$18 to : CDAA,
P.O. Box 290,
NTH. ADELAIDE,
5006.

The item will be sent by mail.



ADDITIONAL CATEGORY III SINKHOLE

As members who attended the last Annual General Meeting will recall, another cave has been added to the list of categorised diving locations in the Lower South East.

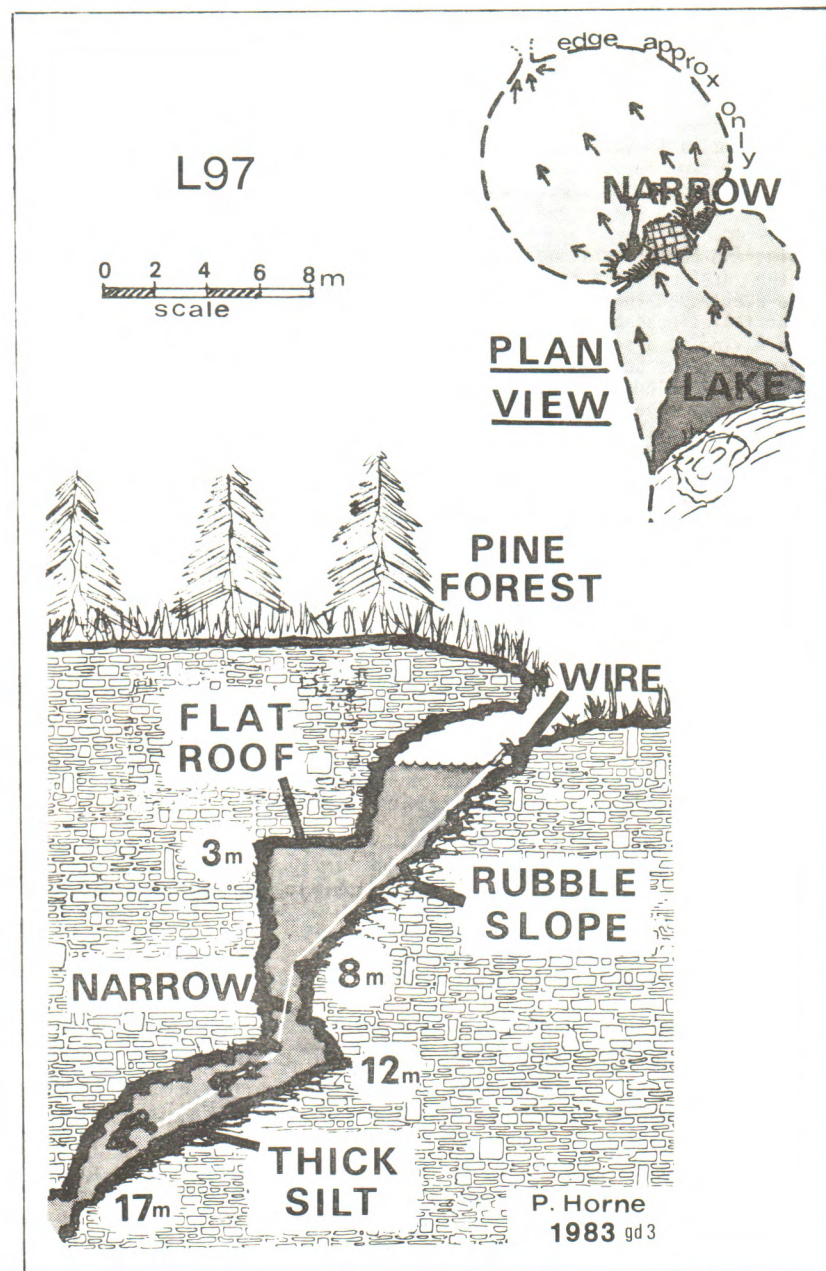
Known by many local names, including "Mud Hole", "Football Field", "Cricket Pitch", "The Hole Behind The Pines", and popularly as "Elaine's", the feature is correctly known officially as "L97" by the Cave Exploration Group of South Australia (C.E.G.S.A.).

The 30m by 25m sinkhole is fairly obscurely located about half a kilometre north of "The Pines", about 100 metres into the pines from the nearest forest track. The poorly-lit pool of clear water is about 5m across at the widest point, and is found under the north-western rim of the sinkhole. Divers who have braved the masses of stinging nettle and rusting flat rolls of wire beside the water have only then to contend with the steep underwater mud slope which can quickly cause the visibility to be reduced to a useless black murk.

The bottom drops away steeply to a depth of about 8m, and then drops vertically in several places between the wall and large boulders, through narrow vertical "tunnels" about a metre or so wide, to the top of a sloping mud floor starting at a depth of about 12m. Here, the floor of the cave is only about 1.5m below the roof, and slow, careful movements are essential here if more than one person is to see anything from this point on.

This chamber is only about 2m high in most places, and less elsewhere, so any more than two experienced Category 3 divers invites severe silting. Following the roof down to the bottom of the easily-accessible region, a maximum depth of about 17m (depending on the water-table variations), is reached where the wall meets the roof and floor, at a spot where a very small squeeze continues on and down. Divers usually only have enough time to quickly see the hole before the steep silt slope's tumbling debris envelops them!

The maps shown below are reasonably accurate in-so-far as they show the basic shape and known distances of the water-filled region's major features. Its confined nature means that care and expert line-handling ability are essential requirements of all diving visitors. Further information will be published when available.



1. SPELEOVISION 83

Andrew Wight, CDAA, CEGSA.

The ASF (Australian Speleological Federation) held its 14th Biennial Conference in Adelaide during January. The Speleovision Conference is a gathering together of cavers (speleologists) who discuss interesting topics about caving; if you like, it is the 'Oceans' of the caving world.

Until recently there has been a very distinct division between cavers and caving and cave divers and cave diving. The former are mainly interested in the 'dry' parts of the cave (although this is not quite true, if you have ever caved in Tassie) and the cave diver, concerns himself about the water-filled passages in which he/she can dive. Since the rapid rise of cave diving as a sport many of the cavers have taken a dim view of the subaquacavernus as they seemed to take little interest in the finer parts of true speleology such as scientific investigations, mapping and exploration of new caves. Instead cave dives appeared to be a band of misguided scuba divers with no real apparent interest in caving; simply taking advantage of the spectacular clear water in Mount Gambier.

Due to the notable efforts of certain cave divers who will remain nameless in this article but are well known cave divers, the two aspects of caving and cave diving have been blended so as to produce a new breed of caver capable of exploring caves which once were thought to have stopped at the water edges e.g. the Nullabor and Tasmania.

This now brings me back to the original purpose of the article - to tell you about the Speleo Conference. This year for the first time, the ASF invited the cave divers along to help bridge the gap between cavers and cave divers and allowed us to explain to the cavers what the cave divers are all about.

Peter Stace gave a very interesting account of the history of cave diving in Australia emphasising the great contribution the CDAA has made to making diving in the sinkholes in Mount Gambier, much safer.

Peter Horne presented a paper on the environment and life forms of the sinkholes of the lower south east of South Australia. Up until Peter's investigations little has been known or studied about the flora and fauna of Mount Gambier's sinkholes. Peter's study was initially instigated by curiosity rather than a serious scientific survey. He has managed to document basic information of life forms found in the caves and has also done a study on water temperature profiles in four selected sinkholes.

Peter Rogers and Ron Allum finished up the morning's discussions with a very interesting slide show and talk on the recent Cocklebidy expedition led by Hugh Morrison. (Peter's account of the trip is in the last issue of 'Guidelines'). Ron Allum then spoke of the complications facing divers with continuing exploration in Cocklebidy. The following is a quote from his abstract. (1)

With no end to the cave system in sight, further plans are being made to continue cave diving exploration in Cocklebidy. Air carrying capacity is the major limiting factor in this type of cave diving, and this is directly affected by air consumption rates which in turn can be influenced by many factors including mental and physical stress. Thus a limit may well be reached where attempting to carry more air by conventional SCUBA techniques will increase air consumption to such an extent that little extra ground will be covered.

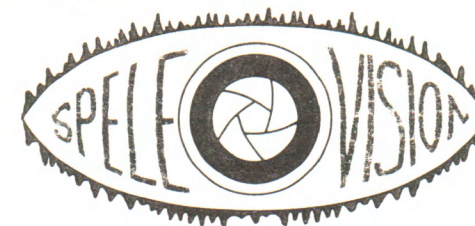
The future may well then see rebreathing apparatus using electronic oxygen/inert gas monitoring systems; however cost and availability are currently prohibitive.

The next push dive planned for Cocklebidy will see an increase in the number of SCUBA tanks and equipment carried, this will be achieved using three (3) one man underwater sleds rather than one large one. Also, communications equipment is being designed to allow contact between the parties in the Cocklebidy chamber, Toad Hall and the surface. Such a communications system would allow more flexible exploration plan with the likelihood of an overnight camp at Toad Hall to combat physical fatigue and allow time for the removal of nitrogen from the divers bodies, now a very real problem.

In all, the Speleovision Conference was a very interesting and worthwhile function covering the many facets of caving and cave diving.

If you would like to attend the next Speleo Conference, it is going to be held in Tasmania in 1985. You are welcome to contact the following:

- Victoria Speleological Association (V.S.A.),
G.P.O. Box 5425,
MELBOURNE. VIC. 3001
- Cave Exploration Group of South Australia (C.E.G.S.A.),
C/- South Australian Museum,
North Terrace,
ADELAIDE. S.A. 5000
- Southern Caving Society (S.C.C.),
P.O. Box 121,
MOONAH, TASMANIA. 7009



Ed.

The proceedings of the Speleovision Conference should be available sometime in June at an approximate cost of \$12.00. Order your copy from the above addresses.

The Conference was divided into several sections including Cave Management, Geomorphology of Caves, Surveying of Caves, Cave Archeology and Cave Diving and Expedition about 24 presentations were made. A selection of talks (other than cave diving related) were:

- 'Red Sands of the Nullarbor'
- 'Surveying Caves on the Nullarbor'
- 'Surveying Victoria Fossil Cave'
- 'Prehistoric Man & Karst in S.W. Tasmania'
- 'New Caves from the Franklin River'

Andy Spate
Norm Potter
Kevin Mott
Kevin Kiernan
Steve Harris.

2. MEDIA WATCH

- 2.1 Over the last couple of months a number of articles dealing with the underground water and sinkholes of the Mount Gambier region have appeared in the 'Border Watch' - the local south east newspaper.

10/2/83: 'Water Table Drops as Dry goes on'

- the number of applications for emergency permits by land-holders to deeper, rehabilitate or sink new bores is 60% higher than for the same time last year.
- the absence of rains last year has led to a drop in the recharging of the upper aquifer.
- the result has been a drop in the level of the water table by up to one and a half metres in some areas (Monbulla, Grey, Mingbool, Penola and Young).
- there has not been a drop in all areas - in the Hundreds of Blanche and Caroline, the level has increased.

'Ewens Ponds details continue to pour in'

- "There has been an excellent response to calls for information in the Ewens Ponds area, according to S.E. Regional Manager of the Department of Lands, Mr. John Schulz".
- submissions have been received from Monash University, the National Museum of Victoria, the Hawthorne Institute of Education and the University of Adelaide.

\$11,900 Development Program

'Little Blue Lake car park is proposed'

- the Port MacDonnell District Council has proposed a three stage development program for a car park at Little Blue Lake.
 - Stage 1 - cost includes fencing, basic forming with rubble and sign postings.
 - Stage 2 - tree planting.
 - Stage 3 - provision of tables, bins, steps and sign postings.
 - Department of Tourism has been approached for financial assistance.
 - location of proposed park - alongside the lake which "is a popular tourist attraction and swimming area".

18/2/83: 'Flood attempt to quell Bay fire'

- Steps are being taken to flood the Eight Mile Creek area where peat country is still burning at a depth of up to 1.5 metres.

- 2.2 "Cav Diving in Australia - The Uncategorised Caves" - a personal account of 'interesting dives' by Russell Kitt.

"The Scuba Diver", March 1983. page 17.

SCUBA DIVING ACCIDENTS

can include:

- decompression sickness*
- pulmonary barotrauma*

FIRST AID FOR BOTH OF THESE:

1. OXYGEN
2. FLUIDS
3. ASPIRIN
4. OBTAIN EXPERT ADVICE

CONSCIOUS PATIENT

- 100% O₂ mask. High flow
- Fluids — salted and sweetened 1 litre/hour
- Two tablets of aspirin

UNCONSCIOUS PATIENT

- Intubate O₂ 100% High flow
- I.V. fluids (saline or Hartmann's Solution) 1 litre/hour

LOCAL CONTACTS

MOUNT GAMBIER HOSPITAL: (087) 24 2211
A.H. (087) 24 2213

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL: (08) 223 2855
Ask for Intensive Care
Unit.

Duty Diving Medical Officer
R.A.N. School of Underwater Medicine
02-960 0444 (0800-1600 hrs)
02-960 0321 (after hours)

Please state:

- The diving medical emergency
- Ask for the Duty Diving M.O. to be contacted
- Give your telephone number