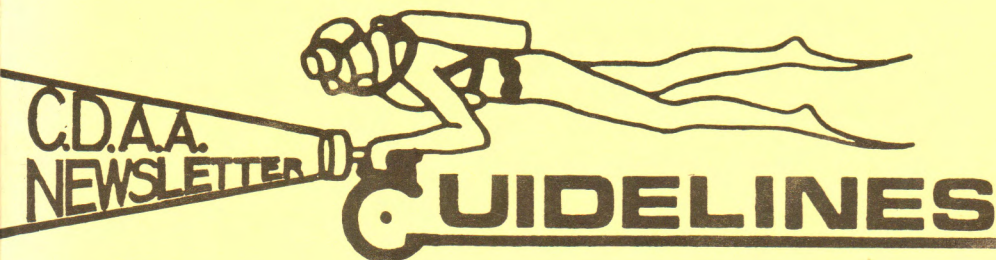


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CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

(Incorporated in South Australia)



Nº 32
DECEMBER 1988

CDAA
PO Box 2161T

CDAA
PO Box 290

CDAA
PO Box 1166

GPO Melbourne Vic 3001 North Adelaide SA 5006 Mount Gambier SA 5290

GUIDELINES

Newsletter of the Cave Divers Association of Australia

Newsletter Number 32, December 1988

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Opinions expressed by the authors are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of the CDAA

Books for Cave Divers

The Cave Diving Section of the National Speleological Society (NSS) has recently issued two books:

Basic Underwater Cave Surveying by John Burge (134 pages)
NSS Cavern Diving Manual (127 pages)

They may be obtained as a special offer at a price of \$30 to CDAA members. Send a cheque to:

NSS Books
CDAA
PO Box 2161T
GPO MELBOURNE 3001

There may be a delay in obtaining the books.

EDITORIAL

Some excellent, but late, news this issue - the reopening of Barnoolut and Piccaninnie Ponds for cave diving. This restores the access which was lost some time ago, and will improve cave diving for all members especially the frustrated category two members out there.

With the increase in numbers of members travelling to Mount Gambier over the next few months it is a good time to remind all members to be careful and considerate when accessing the land on which the caves and sinkholes are located.

All members should be especially aware of the fire risks on these properties through the dry summer months.

On behalf of the committee I would like to extend the seasons greetings to all members, landowners/managers and those who have helped the association through the year, and wish everybody well for 1989.

Michael Vize

A BRIEF BUT NECESSARY EVIL -:

CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

REGULATIONS

AMENDMENT LIST NO 5

DATED 04 MAY 1988

This is Amendment List No 5 to the Regulations of the CDAA dated August 1986 which were originally issued with Guidelines No 25.

1. As a result of a recent suspension of members, a 'loophole' in the Regulations was identified. At a National Committee meeting at Mt Gambier on 30 Apr 88 it was decided to correct this by removing the words 'with him' from Regulation 41 which now reads:

41. A member shall not encourage or assist any person to dive in a categorized sinkhole, unless that person holds an appropriate Category card, except as allowed for in these Regulations.

End of Amendment List No 5

Diving Agreements for 'Barnoolut'

The diving agreement between the CDAA and the Manager of 'Barnoolut', Mr Reg Watson was signed recently, and as a result 'Barnoolut' is now open for diving.

However, before you can go diving, you will have to book as in the past. Before your bookings will be accepted, each diver will have to sign a Diving Agreement and forward it to Mr Watson for counter-signing and retention.

To get a copy of the Diving agreement you must send a self-addressed envelope with a 68 cent stamp (envelope size the same as the ones you get Guidelines in) to:

CDAA Diving Agreement
PO Box 2161T
GPO MELBOURNE 3001

The Diving Agreement and instructions will be returned to you. Essentially, you have to sign the Agreement and have your signature witnessed, and initial each page.

Courses in Diving Medicine for Divers

Dr Des Gorman, the Director of the Hyperbaric Medicine Unit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital has written to the CDAA to advise us of a course in Diving Medicine which is suitable for many people in the recreational diving industry such as dive-tour operators, recreational diving club safety officers, regular leaders of dive parties and professional divers.

The five day Diving Medicine course is conducted at the Royal Adelaide Hospital three times each year, and costs \$300. The dates of the next courses are:

24-28 October 1988
13-17 February 1989
26-30 June 1989

If you would like additional details, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to PO Box 2161T, GPO Melbourne 3001, and we will send you full details.

CDAA ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

This year saw eight members submit fifty two slides in the three categories. The following comments were made by the competition judge -:

"This year saw an increase in both the number of entrants and the quality of the photographs submitted. It is hoped that this trend will continue next year"

"A good photograph is judged primarily by its impact on the viewer. As such, a good photograph will capture and communicate a story from the photographer to the viewer. Factors that will influence the effectiveness of the story include design features such as framing and composition, and technical aspects such as exposure, focus, film, and camera system."

"Thus, a photograph is judged on three components. First and foremost, on impact and viewer message. After this, marks are allocated for both design and technical quality. Finally, and most importantly, photographs in this competition were judged specifically on their cave diving content."

RESULTS

Group 1 : Open

Dennis Thamm and Ian Floenges, Special mentions.
Andrew Cox, Joint winner
Lothar Ploss, Joint winner.

Group 2 : Category 1 & 2 holes only.

Rick Luff and Andrew Cox, Special Mentions.
Lothar Ploss, Winner

Group 3 : Above water only

Michael Vize, Highly recommended.
Greg Walker, Winner.

Thanks to those members who submitted entries, and to the competition judge for his time and effort, and the comments above.

The overall winner this year, for standard of entries over the three groups was Lothar Ploss (same as last year) with Andrew Cox coming a close second.

"FOSSIL CAVE" UPDATE

by Peter Horne.

For almost ten years now, Category 3 cave divers have become used to seeing the dozens of large metal star-droppers and the thin connecting lines which cover half of the main underwater chamber in "Fossil Cave" - a shallow collapse 'doline' lying beside the Mount Gambier/Millicent road just a few kilometres from Tantanoola Tourist Cave.

Comments from cave divers range from "interesting to see a scientifically-important fossil research site" to "what a disgusting eyesore!" or "darn potential hazard", depending on their perspectives and abilities.

During the latter half of 1987 and the beginning of this year, Flinders University researcher Cate Newton undertook a new and very detailed study of the bone and silt deposits in Fossil Cave with the help of divers from the South Australian Underwater Speleological Society (Inc). Using the original grid which had lasted remarkably well since its installation in late 1978, the diving team systematically explored and probed every sector, and many thousands of bones ranging in size from tiny bats teeth up to large kangaroo leg-bones were recovered and catalogued. Silt sampling and coring revealed the probable flow pattern of sediment into the cave during probably the last 60,000 years, and Cate reported finding a new species of the extinct kangaroo, "Sthenurus", among other interesting discoveries.

At the completion of the digging part of the study, a detailed underwater map of the cave (showing significant boulders and pits) was made using fibreglass tapes, a digital depth gauge and triangulation between the pegs. Normal compass-assisted surveying could not be done due to the magnetic fields generated by the rusting star-droppers, but the peg-to-peg measurements proved to be very accurate. The end result of the survey was the production of an A.S.F. Grade 65AC map which was accurate to approximately half a metre throughout the cave.

Although the recent project has now been completed, the palaeontological value of the cave is far from exhausted. In fact, it would be accurate to say that we have literally just begun to "scratch the surface" here! Because there is still probably a lot of very important material buried deep in the mud or squashed under the boulders, the researchers felt that while the connecting lines might be removed if divers feel they are unsightly or hazardous, the 50-odd pegs should not be disturbed in case future researchers need to relocate the earlier digging sites. (On this point, we would welcome any comments from CDAA members so that we can take appropriate action).

Cate produced her thesis (entitled "A Taphonomic and Palaeoecological Analysis of the Green Waterhole <SL81>, a Submerged Late Pleistocene Bone Deposit in the Lower SouthEast of South Australia") in May, and the SAUSS Project Report detailing the history of the research and containing numerous photos and diagrams was written up in July. (For those with more than average interests in this work, copies of the latter 30-page report containing a detailed map of the cave are available in both colour and black-and-white versions from the Society ... please write for information about costs etc. if you are interested).

Fossil Cave is a unique and very important palaeontological site and as such, it needs to be seen and respected in that light by every responsible person. All Fossil Cave divers are requested not to souvenir bones from the cave as such items are worthless by themselves and their removal could be destructive to future fossil researchers.

If you are genuinely interested in this work, or feel that your skills or support might be of value to SAUSS, the Society would be interested in hearing from you. While membership with the Society is strictly by invitation only, experienced divers who are current members of the CDAA and who have a basic understanding of (and interest in) underwater research activities such as surveying and the cave environment are needed as assistants from time to time, so it can't hurt to register your interest. I would also like to emphasize that SAUSS is not a competitive organisation to the CDAA ... the Society's ideals are in fact supported by the current CDAA Committee and we feel that its work will serve to compliment the CDAA Research Group's projects as well. There is an enormous amount of underwater cave research waiting to be done in this country.

General enquiries and comments regarding the lines and pegs in Fossil Cave are welcomed, and should be directed to the Secretary care of 26 Burford Street, Elizabeth Downs, South Australia 5113.

* * * * *

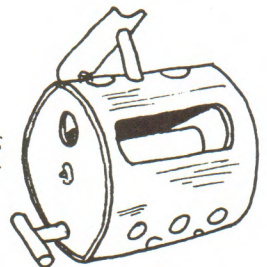
CAVE DIVING REELS FOR SALE

Cave reels designed and constructed by experienced cave divers for cave divers.

They are of PVC construction with either a brass or nylon split spindle. The handle is adapted for carrying a torch. They are capable of holding 200 metres of CDAA approved 3mm line.

Price : \$125-

Contact: Tony Davis, Phone 03 781 3820 A.H.



.. CDAA ACCESS PROTOCOL ..

SINKHOLE	CAT	LANDOWNER	WHO TO APPLY TO FOR PERMISSION TO ENTER	HOW TO OBTAIN PERMISSION	WHEN TO APPLY	ADDITIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS
HORSE & CART	I	Mr Don Telford	Mr Don Telford P.O. BOX 2629 Mount Gambier Tel: 087 384 003	By Phone or by mail	1 Week prior to dive	
TEA TREE	I					
ELA ELAP	II	Mr Peter Norman	Mr Peter Norman Private Bag 67 Mount Gambier Tel: 087 385287	By Phone or Call In	Before diving	
ONE TREE HOLE	II					
SWIM THROUGH	II	Valerie Earl C/o Post Office Allendale 5291	Leasee = Mr David Easton 8 Tarandi Road Mount Gambier Tel: 087 250938	By Phone	1 Week prior to dive	Ewes lambing for approximately 6 weeks around 1st May You must get PERMISSION before entering
THE BLACK HOLE	II	<p>**** NOW OPEN - CONTACT CDAA AT MELBOURNE ADDRESS ****</p> <p>FOR DIVING DEED BEFORE APPROACHING MR WATSON</p>				
TEN EIGHTY	II					
THE BULLOCK HOLE	III					
MAX'S HOLE	III	Mr Trevor Edwards	Mr Trevor Edwards P.O. Box 1319 Mount Gambier Tel: 087 268277	By Phone	7 clear days prior to dive	
PICCANINNIE PONDS	II	National Parks and Wildlife Service	<p>**** NOW OPEN TO PERMIT HOLDERS ****</p> <p>Phone 087 241511 for bookings or contact CDAA if you have not got a permit</p>			

HELLS HOLE	II	Woods & Forests	Myora Forest	Contact by Phone during working hours to arrange mutually convenient time to pick up permit.	Few days before.	Abide by permit conditions. NO diving on FIRE BAN DAYS. Permit may be obtained by mail if you enclose signed photocopy of card
PINES	III		HQ			
ELAINES	III		PO Box 162 Mt Gambier Tel: 087 255 622			
ENGLEBRECHTS - EAST	III	Mount Gambier Council	Tourist Bureau Mount Gambier	Sign deed Once only Costs \$5	On day of dive	
WEST	4					
THREE SISTERS	4	Millicent Council	Tourist Bureau MT. Gambier		On day of dive	
LITTLE BLUE/ BABY BLUE	I	Port MacDonnell Council	Permission not required yet but must have appropriate Cat. card.			Allendale Key from Tourist info office
ALLENDALE	III					
FOSSILS	III	Department of Lands	Department of of Lands	By Phone during office hours or by Mail	During office hours	Stay out of Gouldens when pump is operating.
GOULDENS	I		P.M.B 124 Mount Gambier			
SISTERS	I		Tel: 087 241 598			
EWENS PONDS	NONE	Department of Lands	Permission not required. Closed 1 Sep-30 Nov each year.			Read and observe Guidelines of usage of Ewens Ponds. Available from Dept. Lands or at Ponds themselves. NO TRAINING ALLOWED.

MOUNT GAMBIER REGION ARRANGEMENTS

AS OF JANUARY 1 1989

1.0 SOUTH EAST CO-ORDINATOR

Vice President Peter Ginnane will represent the CDAA in all matters relating to CDAA activities in the South East region of South Australia which require involvement beyond that handled by the South East representatives. This is to enable President Lance Mitchell and NTO Ian Lewis to concentrate on the National Code and access procedures.

2.0 CDAA BARNOOLUT ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

YES, thanks to an incredibly dedicated President and willing manager of Barnoolut station Mr. Reg Watson, this property is again opened for diving access by financial and indemnified CDAA members only.

THE PROCEDURES OUTLINED HERE ARE TO BE ADHERED TO, AND ANY ACCESS REFERENCE TO BARNOOLUT IN THE BODY OF GUIDELINES IS SUPERSEDED.

2.1 MEMBERS MUST complete an indemnity form ... once only.

- a. Telephone 08 380 5205 answering machine and leave name, ID NUMBER and full postal details with a request for CHRIS HALES to send you an indemnity form, or write to the following address.
- b. Complete your portion of the form and return it, together with \$2 to CDAA, P.O. BOX 290, NORTH ADELAIDE S.A., 5006. The \$2 covers duty stamp, \$1 landowner fee, postage and STD phone calls.
- c. If no communications to the contrary are received within 3 weeks of posting your indemnity you can apply to dive on Barnoolut as follows.

2.2 APPLYING to Manager of Barnoolut for diving access.

- a. ALL applications are to be in writing, one application per diving group stating preferred date, name of sinkhole, names of all members in the diving party and contain an addressed, stamped envelope for return of response. The name of one person having previously dived in the required sinkhole(s) is to be shown. Permission to enter remains the prerogative of the land owner or representative.
- b. Arrive within 5 minutes of the appointed time. Do not proceed beyond the house until credentials have been checked. No sightseeing without permission. Go direct to the hole for which you have permission.
- c. When on the property observe all requirements of the land owner and/or manager, all gates opened must be closed, do not disturb stock unnecessarily, don't leave any rubbish, no dogs are allowed and refrain from smoking.


Peter Ginnane, Vice President CDAA. 08 382 2729

16/1/89

President's Report

"All the best laid plans of mice and men"

The Committee at the time of the AGM in September 1988, felt that finally their plans and efforts were coming together. By about mid-November, we all started to feel like a bunch of mice.

As members, I thank you for your general good understanding of the Piccaninnie Ponds situation and patience with the long awaited Barnoolut opening.

This Guidelines was innocently delayed so as to include official good news about both these areas. To allow you some insight into the delay, a brief of the train of events is as follows:

Piccaninnie Ponds

The agreement negotiated between the CDAA and the National Parks and Wildlife Services (South East Region) prior to the AGM was that assuming the estimated waiting period for "Ministerial Approval" for the Ponds opening was about five weeks, the Ponds should have opened on or around mid-September. That approval took until mid-November. The NPWS personnel in Mount Gambier were constantly pushing for the opening, and their efforts on our behalf should be appreciated in addition to these thanks to many of our members who also pressured both NPWS and the Minister directly, as this gave weight to the NPWS and CDAA representatives in their efforts.

Barnoolut Station

Reg Watson and I reached final acceptance of the Association, diver and landowner agreements on the Sunday of the AGM. Reg felt that as the changes were minimal, the property's insurers would not delay acceptance for too long.

Again our efforts were foiled. A great deal of effort has been put in by the Watsons, both Reg and Mary, in seeing this indemnity system through. Reg constantly contacted the property's insurers for acceptance of the Deeds, and again, its arrival has been largely due to his tenacity.

The impact of the success of the Diver Deed goes beyond just Barnoolut Station; once in place and operating it is anticipated that more dive locations will become accessible to us as landowners see the indemnity value of the documents.

Please take specific note:

The arrangements for the 'getting of', the 'signing of' and the 'handling of' all landowner/diver Deeds will be done through the CDAA. Individual landowners are not to be contacted directly for Deeds or enquiries. The contact person on the Committee for Deeds is Chris Hales (08)

The future efforts of the Committee will be to continue to maintain existing relationships, open up new ones and strive towards a National Cave Qualification System controlled by the CDAA.

Again, thanks for your co-operation and patience.

L.R. Mitchell
President

CDAА FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1 Jul 87 - 30 Jun 88

Victoria

Income -	Contributions from members	\$14796.32
	Interest from investment a/c	\$ 467.93
	Interest from cheque a/c	\$ 103.52
	Total	\$15367.77
Expenditure -	Telephone calls	\$ 987.15
	Stationery	\$ 400.78
	Printing	\$ 541.10
	Meetings	\$ 1279.95
	Postage	\$ 1486.18
	Bank charges	\$ 17.40
	Transfers to Investment	\$ 5280.00
	Transfer to S.A. a/c	\$ 500.00
	President's expenses	\$ 1805.00
	Other	\$ 520.55
	Total	\$12618.11

Bank Statements (Victoria)

Jul 87 (page 57) to Jun 88 (page 63)

Credit	\$14796.32	
Debit	\$13682.59	(includes transfers to investment)

At 1 Jul 88 -	Investment account balance	\$ 5747.93	(Victoria)
	Cheque account	\$ 2296.86	(Victoria)
	Cheque account	\$ 5145.59	(South Aust)
	Total Funds	\$13190.38	

Treasurer's Report 1987/88

Once again the heavy burden of travel between Melbourne, Adelaide, and Mount Gambier, and accommodation while attending meetings has cost us. Printing and postage costs were down as we only had two issues of Guidelines (numbers 29 and 30).

With the re-introduction of accepting membership renewals for two years, we have segregated the year two payment, and put the 1989 portion into a higher interest investment account.

At the end of June 1988 we appeared to be in a sound financial position.

N.A. Jones
Treasurer
15 Sep 88

CAVE DIVING NEWS FROM AMERICA

by Peter Horne.

Research-oriented members of America's two major cave diving organisations, the NACD and NSSCDS (National Association for Cave Diving, and National Speleological Society <Cave Diving Section> respectively) have been undertaking exploratory and research work of mind-boggling proportions for many years now. Unfortunately for Australian cave divers, news of spectacular achievements on the other side of the world often does not make it this far, but recent articles in these organisations' well-produced "NACD News" and "Underwater Speleology" magazines have inspired me to let others know of some of the exciting things our Floridian friends have been doing while we have been waiting for summer to return!

1. THE "WAKULLA SPRINGS" PROJECT.

Hailed as one of the most ambitious cave diving ventures of all time, a major \$300,000 research and exploratory project in the mighty Wakulla Springs in Florida was initiated in the middle of 1987.

Wakulla Springs is something like Piccaninnie Ponds on a giant scale - its basin drops quickly to a depth of 55 metres where the maw of a giant passage about 30 metres across disappears into the gloom. The crystal clear, warm water rushes out of the awesome Wakulla cavern at a rate of over 500,000 litres PER MINUTE, graphically illustrating how significant this feature is on an international scale!

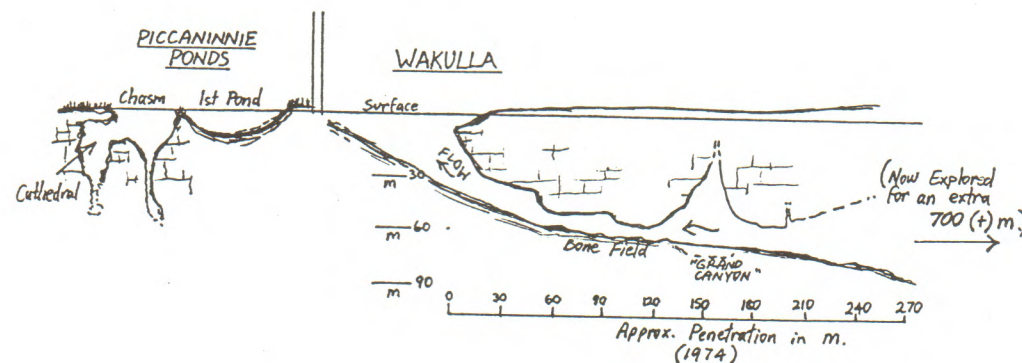
Wakulla has long attracted visitors since it was reportedly discovered in 1513 by the explorer Ponce de Leon, who thought it was the fabled "Fountain of Youth". The first exploratory dives in the 1950s found that it was far more than 80 metres deep inside the cave, and the discovery of a huge deposit of extinct Mammoth bones and human artefacts there made it an important archaeological and palaeontological research site. Recreational diving on a large scale has never been permitted there.

The current project (no pun intended!) was organised after lengthy negotiations between the landowner and some of America's most experienced cave divers, and is being sponsored by several large organisations including National Geographic. The divers will be using some fabulously advanced, futuristic equipment in the hope of safely penetrating the cave at a depth of around 100 metres for a distance of perhaps 2 kilometres!

Mixed-gas air supply systems consisting of 5 special, low-profile tanks containing more than 500 cubic feet of air, and revolutionary, high-tech computer-controlled rebreather systems (designed by the project's director, Dr. Bill Stone) will be worn by the divers, and a 6-man underwater habitat anchored near the cave's entrance will provide additional safety for the divers (who might need to undergo 24 hours of decompression for a 3-hour dive at such extreme depths).

In addition, the divers will ride Diver Propulsion Vehicles (DPVs) capable of travelling at 6 knots, and consisting of special 'redundant' units which can be segmented in the event of any malfunction - the errant unit can be jettisoned and the diver can then return to the surface using the back-up propulsion system!

The project has had a few teething problems, but to date the cave has been explored for well over a thousand metres, breaking into several large passages and bottoming at around 93 metres deep. This fascinating project is being keenly watched by thousands of people, and I hope that Australia is not forgotten if and when any movies of the exploration in Wakulla Springs are produced!



The entrance region of Wakulla Springs compared with Mount Gambier's Piccaninnie Ponds (to 1974 - from a sketch in "The Cave Divers" by Robert F. Burgess, after Garry Salsman).

2. THE "SULLIVAN - CHERYL SINK" CONNECTION.

Mount Gambier's sinkholes are basically single collapse entrances which do not lead to other entrances. Floridian "sinks", by contrast, are often multiple-entrances to the same horizontal conduit system, and cave divers frequently attempt to connect surface collapses via these waterfilled passages.

Using special trixim (helium, nitrogen and oxygen) and nitrox mixtures, four divers pushed the downstream passage of Sullivan Sink for some 1.3 kilometres and then upstream from a sinkhole called Cheryl Sink for about the same distance, connecting the two on January 9th this year. The connection team consisted of veteran cave divers Bill Main, Bill Gavin, Lamar English and Parker Turner. As the crow flies, the two sinks are 1.6 kilometres apart, so the divers had to meander around for an extra kilometre as they followed the winding underground passages!

The project was a major one by any standards, and almost 12.5 kilometres of line was laid in the cave, making it the world's longest explored underwater cave system (NACD News, Jan-Feb 1988). During the past eight years, the project has cost divers in excess of \$10,000 as the depth of the cave - often around 70 metres - required them to use special oxygen analysers, experimental computer-generated decompression tables, deep-modified scooters and underwater habitats, so it was far from easy!

3. NEW DISCOVERY IN "BIG DISMAL".

What would undoubtedly be considered to be a MAJOR cave discovery by Australian standards took up just a third of Page 13 in the Christmas 1987 edition of NACD News! A large popular sinkhole known as "Big Dismal" (which, surprisingly enough, lies close to "Little Dismal"!) was carefully explored by Bob Bastian and John Malik in October, whereupon they discovered a flow area behind a very tight restriction.

Wriggling through between the boulders, they broke into a 10-metre wide, 6-metre high passage and explored this for more than 200 metres where a flooded chamber or "room" 60 metres long was found.

Since that first dive, the explorers have discovered two other rooms - the second which is about 80 metres by 30 metres in size, and a smaller one which is at a depth of more than 55 metres ... and of course, the cave just keeps on going! (If it is anything like the incredible passages and massive waterfilled chambers that fellow CDAA member Andrew Cox and I were fortunate enough to see in Little Dismal back in 1985, I would recommend that you save every cent, sell your gear and get over there as fast as possible!!)

4. LAST BUT NOT LEAST ... "THE NEW FRONTIER!"

There are areas in the ancient Incan realms of South America where the spirit of "Indiana Jones" is very much alive in the form of such caves and chambers as the "Temple of Doom", the "Room of Tears" (presumably pronounced "teers" rather than "tairs" as in the wetsuit-shredding kind!), and "The Hall of Giants". The President of the NACD, Steve Gerrard, has recently been exploring some of the virgin sinkholes and spectacular passageways of this area and he has reported that their beauty is unequalled anywhere else in Florida or the Bahamas.

Discoveries on the Yucatan Peninsula have been awesome, and I can only recommend that interested members read about them for themselves in the "NACD News". To give members some idea of what is going on, however, Steve reported that he and some friends visited this region a few months back and used a team of pack-horses to bush-bash two kilometres through the jungle to the entrance of a sinkhole or 'cenote' known as "NOHOCH NAH CHICH". There they undertook a single dive which lasted for close to 6 hours, during which time they swam more than 3 kilometres into a waterfilled cave which contained a huge amount of spectacular crystalline decoration and 100-metre visibility! The team's total swimming distance of over 6 kilometres without a break made the dive one of world significance, although it fell just a bit short of the reported 3.24 kilometre penetration (at depths of nearly 57 metres!) by Swiss cave diver Oliver Isler in "Doux De Coly" a few years ago (Ron Allum, pers. comm.)

There are many other sinkholes waiting for the first flash of a diver's torch in this area of the world!

* * * * *

If you would like to know more about the NACD or receive copies of the NACD News (in which most of this sort of news is reported) please contact the author (NACD International Branch Australian Representative) C/- Flat 3/9 Muriel Avenue, Somerton Park, South Australia 5044. Divers wishing to contact the NSS-CDS should write to the Secretary, P.O. Box 950, Branford, Florida U.S.A. 32008. (Newsletter subs. are approximately the same as annual CDAA subs. due to the Ozzie dollar devaluation and postage costs).

I recommend these organisations' newsletters and cave diving-related publications - they really are "groundbreakers" in the cave diving field!

A REVIEW OF NEW U.S. CAVE DIVING BOOKS

by Peter Horne.

13th September, 1988.

Two new books of considerable interest to Australian cave divers have recently been produced by the American NSS-CDS (the Cave Diving Section of the National Speleological Society).

The "NSS Cavern Diving Manual" by internationally-known veteran cave divers Dr John Zumerick, Mr Joe Prosser and Ms. H. V. Grey (Lib. Congress Card Cat No. 88-070856) is a very well-written and neatly-presented 120-page book which covers a vast array of "Cavern" and basic cave-diving standards - many of which are used and endorsed by the CDAA. Apart from providing educational information about cave diving problems in general, this publication goes to considerable effort to cover such areas as cave formation, hazards, how to use equipment and how to communicate underwater. There are few such publications available in the world today, and Australian cave divers will undoubtedly find it most interesting reading. It provides an excellent insight into why American techniques and equipment often differ from our own and how their systems work for them in their local conditions. It is retailing for US\$11.00.

"Basic Underwater Cave Surveying" by John Burge (Lib. Congress Card Cat No. 87-73433) is a rather different, but equally useful book which identifies the values of, and problems associated with, mapping waterfilled caves. In just over 120 pages, it systematically outlines the entire process of mapping such features in a logical and easy to follow manner, and cave divers with any interest in caves and sinkholes can readily share the author's enthusiasm whilst reading this well-written (and occasionally humorous!) publication.

It is definitely recommended reading for all of those with an interest in surveying and speleology in general, and it costs US\$12.

As a special introductory offer, the NSS-CDS is selling the TWO books together for a combined price of US\$21 instead of \$23, so if you are interested in these up to date publications, send your money off NOW! The NSS Cave Diving Section's address is P.O. Box 950, Branford, Florida USA 32008-0950.

Diving in Piccaninnie Ponds

National Parks and Wildlife Services, the landowners of Piccaninnie Ponds, have advised that if any diver is caught diving 'illegally' in the Ponds, that is, without a valid permit, then under Section 23 of the Act they will be subject to at least a fine of \$50, and possibly risk having their equipment confiscated.

If you have a permit issued but dive outside the allocated time slot, this may be construed as diving without a valid permit. Similarly, if one of the party for which the booking was made can't attend, a substitute diver would be in breach of the act if he/she dived.

Divers (CDAA members or not) who dive without any permit at all can expect the full weight of the law to descend upon them!

Only CDAA members of Category 2 or higher who have sent their \$10 Permit Fee to the CDAA and had their names recorded by the NPWS are eligible to get a valid permit (ie make a booking).

Areas Outside Mount Gambier

The National Testing Officer has been asked to list the characteristics and differences of each region (Tasmania, Nullarbor, Mount Gambier) with a view to setting up a Training and Testing scheme for people outside of South Australia and Victoria.

This will ultimately enable people to obtain CDAA membership and Category cards to dive in these regions, without necessarily travelling to Mount Gambier, thus enforcing the National identity of the CDAA.

SCUBA DIVING ACCIDENTS

can include:

- decompression sickness
- pulmonary barotrauma

FIRST AID FOR BOTH OF THESE:

1. ELEVATE FEET AND HEAD DOWN
2. 100% OXYGEN
3. OBTAIN EXPERT ADVICE
4. RECORD DIVE PROFILE
5. FLUIDS

DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS:

AS MUCH FLUID AS PATIENT CAN TOLERATE PROVIDING HE CAN URINATE.

PULMONARY BAROTRAUMA

AS REQUESTED BY THE PATIENT.

PHONE: DIVER EMERGENCY SERVICE
(008)088 200(IF NECESSARY
USE - 000 - THROUGH YOUR
EXCHANGE.

TAKE: PATIENT TO MT GAMBIER
HOSPITAL AND INFORM
THEM YOU HAVE CONTACTED
DES.

IN AN EMERGENCY:

1. PHONE **(008)088 200**
(IF NECESSARY DIAL 000)
2. STATE 'THIS IS A DIVING
EMERGENCY'
3. PROVIDE DETAILS OF IN-
CIDENT. DEPTH, TIME, LOC-
ATION, SYMPTOMS, ETC.
4. WAIT FOR ADVICE AND
DIRECTIONS
5. ACT ON ADVICE AND DIREC-
TIONS
6. FOLLOW UP PROJECT STICKY-
BEAK 062-47 5554