

C.D.A.A. Newsletter

GUIDELINES

No: 41 – OCTOBER 1991



CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
(Incorporated in South Australia)

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Cave Divers Association of Australia
P.O. Box 290, North Adelaide, 5006

Front Cover: Tank Cave.
Photo by: Peter Rogers.

GUIDELINES is the newsletter of the Cave Divers Association of Australia, published four times a year - January, April, July and October. All articles for the following issue are to be sent to the Editor, P.O. Box 290, North Adelaide, SA 5006, prior to **10th December, 1991**. Articles and information may be reproduced without prior permission provided reprints are credited to the authors and GUIDELINES. Private ads for caving and diving equipment may be advertised free. Opinions expressed in GUIDELINES are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of the C.D.A.A.

DIRECTORY

The following is a list of people that can be contacted for C.D.A.A. matters. Please contact the most relevant person or, if unsure, write to P.O. Box 290, North Adelaide, 5006, and your enquiry will be passed on.

National Director	Ian Lewis	(055) 21 7608 (h)	
National Standards Director	Glen Harrison	(08) 386 3237 (h)	
Business Director	Tony Davis	(03) 781 3820 (h)	
Records Officer	Peter Girdler	(08) 380 5205 (h)	
Training Manager	John Dalla-Zuanna	(03) 370 1093 (h)	
Secretary/Treasurer	Sue Lee	(03) 740 1828 (h)	
Mapping & Research Man.	Andrew Cox	(060) 25 5122 (h)	(060) 21 4514 (w)
C.D.A.A. Publications	Neol Dillan	(03) 363 6745 (h)	
S.E. Representative	Andrew Kirk	(087) 23 0349 (h)	
NSW Representative	Neil Vincent	(02) 891 2588	
NSW Reg. Training Co-ord.	Terry Cummins	(02) 888 5899 (w)	
WA Representative	Andrew Poole	(09) 249 4048	
Promotions	Geoff Riddle	(03) 740 1828 (h)	

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EDITORIAL

Greetings people. There's not a whole lot to say this issue, to I'll keep it short.

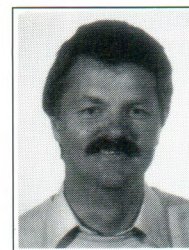
We now have 3 new directors - see below for brief details, and the 3 retiring directors will now be able to dust the cobwebs from their gear and maybe go for a dive. Unbelievable!

The A.G.M. was an interesting night. With a reasonable turnout, all the issues were discussed and some passed, some failed. See report on page 16 for details.

You will notice on page 13 an order form for a new publication "The CDAA Members Manual". This is a very exciting new publication, and will hopefully be part of every Cave Divers kit. At \$12 it is exceptional value! You get maps of all currently open sites, a complete log book, all current training notes for your certification levels, a list of gear and service suppliers and a beaut folder to keep it all together. The whole thing has been extremely well supported by the advertisers, so **SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT THE CDAA**. Without their ads, the manual, the new look Guidelines and much else would never have been attainable.

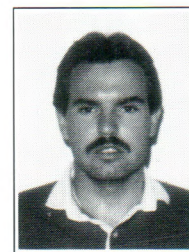
Safe cave diving, *Tony Davis*

DIRECTORS' PROFILES



Ian Lewis

Hello to everyone from your new National Director! I am well-known to many CDAA members & land owners, so I'll be brief about my role for the coming year. After 20 years of cave diving, 13(!) of them on the old committee, I have an extensive network of contacts and knowledge of background policy matters. This year I do not intend to *lead* the CDAA as much as *guide* and *advise* it, particularly in assisting your two other new Directors. They are the future of the CDAA, and can draw upon my considerable past experience as they require. The CDAA needs a good period of consolidation & stability, not more new policies & directions, and I undertake to provide this. (I am particularly interested in interstate development issues.) You'll all find me far more easy going than in the days of great dramatic changes! Thanks, Ian Lewis.



Glen Harrison

My name is Glen Harrison. I am the National Standards Director for the year 1991/92. The following lines are to serve as an introduction and give a brief history of myself. I am a Computer Systems Analyst employed by the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs in Adelaide. I learnt to Scuba Dive in 1975 and currently hold FAUI/NASDA Master Instructor and PADI Open Water Instructor ratings. I became an Examiner in 1985 under the "old" system, and last year was the S.A. Regional Representative. I have been active in the support of the CDAA since becoming a member and have been heavily involved in the development of the Cave Diver course. If anyone has concerns regarding standards, or you just want to give your point of view, I am happy to hear from you.



Tony Davis

G'day folks! Hopefully most of you will already have seen my name in Guidelines - I've been editing our Association's journal for going on two years now. I started diving in 1976, and my first experience with Cave Diving came grovelling with the famous (should that be infamous, I hear you say?) J.D.Z. Over the last couple of years I have been heavily involved with increasing the general diving public's awareness of the CDAA and our sport of Cave Diving via new publications, better course materials and general promotion of our sport. As Business Director I hope to continue with this, via things as new publications, practical workshop weekends and fund raising projects. If you wish to discuss anything, or ideas you may have then now is the time to speak up. We're always looking for new faces to help with running the Association - there's never a shortage of things to do. Tony Davis

A CLOSING STATEMENT FROM THE RETIRING NATIONAL DIRECTOR

John Vanderleest

After five years on the committee and National Directorate, it's time for me to step aside and hand the running of the Association over to new people with new ideas. During my time we have seen the inception and birth of a truly national system for cave diving. The system still needs a few loose strings tied but

this will be the job for the new Directorate.

I would like to thank all of the unknown and unnamed people who have helped me with their thoughts, experiences and labour over the past few years. You are the life of the Association and without you we would not exist.

CDAА NEWS

BARNOOLUT CLOSURE

Barnoolut Station will be closed to ALL diving activity from 11 October 1991 to 18 November 1991 inclusive. Please DO NOT contact Colin Traeger during this time asking for permission to dive.

PENETRATION DIVER COURSES

Anyone interested in attending a Penetration Course in the near future can contact either of the following people:

Tony Richardson (03) 754 6163 (a.h.)

Chris Brown (08) 379 1445 (a.h.)

You must be currently certified to Cave level in order to attend.

NEW TRAINING SITE

Anyone who knows of a possible suitable Fresh Water training site within 100 kms of Melbourne is asked to contact either:

Glen Harrison on (08) 386 3237 (a.h.) or

Tony Richardson on (03) 754 6163 (a.h.).

POST SCRIPT: "Civilised Cave Diving" Guidelines Issue No. 40

Anyone interested in further information concerning diving in Thailand or the possibility of organising a Cave Diving Trip to the area can telephone the author, Anthony Keane, to discuss the possibilities of diving in that area, on (08) 339 5873.

CDAА Cavern Instructor & Sinkhole Instructor TRAINING PROGRAM

This program is designed for current open water scuba instructors who wish to become CDAА Cavern Instructors, or CDAА Cavern Instructors who wish to upgrade to Sinkhole Instructors.

**SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER and
SUNDAY 8th DECEMBER
to be held in Mount Gambier, S.A.**

Applications close 7th November 1991

All enquiries & applications to either:

Glen Harrison (08) 386 3237 (h) or Tony Richardson (03) 754 6163 (h)

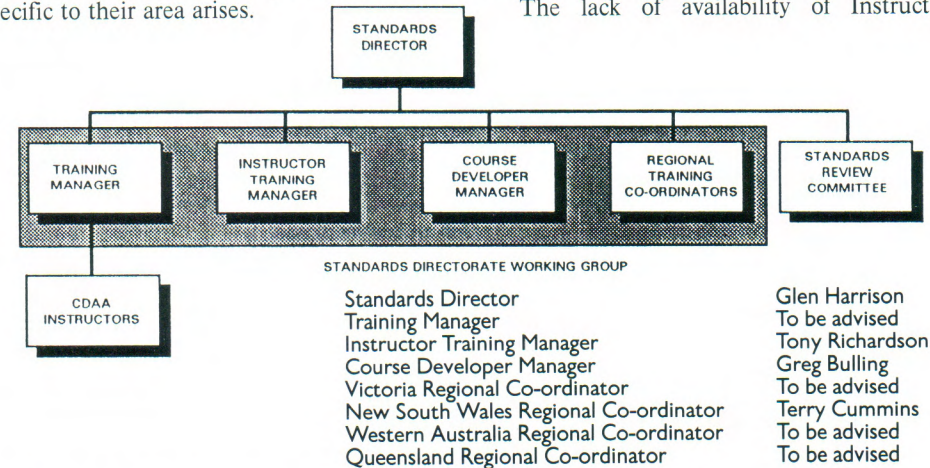
CDAА STANDARDS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As this is the first report prepared by me as newly appointed Standards Director, I will give some indication as to the direction I feel the Standards Directorate needs to go this year. The operating structure of the Standards Directorate will remain unchanged as this structure has proven to be efficient in achieving the necessary results. The structure along with each occupant appears below. Please feel free to contact any of these people if a problem specific to their area arises.

produced from our previous system continues under the new system and that our instructors are the best the country has to offer.

The acceptance of the new system has made it necessary to give a date by which all courses and standards must obey the standards voted on by membership. This date will be 1/1/92. All materials produced by the association will be current as of this date and courses run after this must use that material.

The lack of availability of Instructor



Much excellent work has been carried out in the previous year by my predecessor Alan Jolliffe, with help from many members of the Standards Review group. We, as an association, have made a quantum leap towards becoming a professional cave diving agency offering much to its members. In order to achieve so much in a relatively short period of time, some important areas have had to be compromised to some degree. As Standards Director, I feel that a period of consolidation and tightening up of training and instruction standards is important if the association is to continued its remarkable safety record. It is clear that while our members continued to be trained with a high degree of skill and competence, many more previously closed sites may be opened to the general membership. It is my belief that any cave diving fatality will cause our new system to be scrutinised and may well jeopardise cave diving in Australia for all our members. I will do my best to ensure that the high standard of diver

insurance is a high priority. We can now further pursue this issue since membership has supported the new system and the establishment of our standards are almost complete.

As a National Organisation the consolidation of regions other than Mt. Gambier is also a high priority. Regional Instructor courses and penetration courses will be scheduled and fully supported by the National Directorate. Many more regional sites will also be categorised under the new system to allow greater access by the membership.

The only instructional course materials yet to be done are those for the penetration course. Although not a high priority, due to low demand and the cost of establishing those materials, I will endeavour to see this completed as soon as possible.

Thanks to all members who have contributed to the Standards Directorate last year and I look forward to your continual support in the future.

Glen A Harrison

CDAА EXAMINERS

INSTRUCTOR	Cavern	S'hole	Cave	State	Telephone (h)
Ron Allum	•	•	•	NSW	(02) 398 4610
Stephen Arnel	•			VIC	(055) 26 5230
Bill Bernhardt	•	•	•	VIC	(03) 725 9716
Chris Brown	•	•	•	SA	(08) 379 1445
Stan Bugg	•	•	•	VIC	(03) 379 8791
Greg Bulling	•	•	•	SA	(08) 265 4978
Scott Carpenter	•	•	•	VIC	(056) 25 2508
Paul Cavanagh	•			NSW	(02) 804 7888
Terry Cummins	•	•		NSW	(02) 888 5899 (w)
John Dalla-Zuanna	•	•	•	VIC	(03) 370 1093
Ian Gothard	•			VIC	(03) 481 0474
Glen Harrison	•	•	•	SA	(08) 386 3237
Barry Heard	•	•	•	VIC	(056) 27 5511
Alan Jolliffe	•	•	•	VIC	(03) 874 7669
Ian Lewis	•	•	•	VIC	(055) 21 7608
Phil Mann	•	•	•	VIC	(03) 689 7791
Max Marriott	•			SA	(08) 47 4460
John McCormick	•	•	•	VIC	(03) 579 0570 (w)
Warrick McDonald	•			VIC	(03) 579 2600 (w)
Richard Megaw	•	•	•	SA	(08) 344 1733
Tim Miles	•	•	•	SA	(08) 289 2030
Hugh Morrison	•	•	•	WA	(09) 409 9807
Andrew Poole	•			WA	(09) 249 4048
Tony Richardson	•	•	•	VIC	(03) 754 6163
John Vanderleest	•			VIC	(03) 416 9370
Des Walters	•	•	•	NSW	(060) 25 3506
Bob Wealthy	•	•	•	VIC	(03) 789 6389
Frank West	•			QLD	(049) 43 5983
Andrew Wight	•	•	•	NSW	(02) 428 2176
Liz Wight	•			NSW	(02) 428 2176
Frank Ziegler	•	•	•	VIC	(055) 26 5288

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Summary of business discussed at the Annual General Meeting held at The Commodore Motel, Mount Gambier on Saturday 21st September 1991.

by Peter Horne (Minute-Man)

This year's A.G.M. had a better than average turnout, with some 60 members and visitors attending, and it was chaired by the outgoing National Director, John Vanderleest.

John's summary of recent events said it all: that our Association voted out the old Constitution two years ago so that "new and improved" training standards and regulations could be drawn up. The old "Category system, with its inherent classification problems, had outlived its usefulness and it was now time to bring in a better system which would truly

prepare divers for their different cave diving environments.

As a result of the huge effort put in by many people during this period, the CDAA now had a much better professional image along with a far more appropriate cave and diver classification system which comprised "Cavern", "Sinkhole", "Cave" and "Penetration" ratings. Also, ongoing access negotiations during this review period had been successful in several cases, resulting in the Association's members

Continued on Page 9



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WELLINGTON CAVE

by Stan Bugg

The opportunity to dive a new cave before large numbers of divers visit it was a novel experience for me after 20 years in the sport. Des Walters had arranged for permission to dive, and accommodation at the Wellington Cave complex camping ground.

Rumours of a water filled cave big enough to house a jumbo jet gave us plenty to talk about on the six hour drive from Albury.

We had also heard that the water entry was difficult, and this was indeed the case. The task of moving full cave diving paraphernalia, including cameras and twin independent air systems to the water entrance took over two hours, and we had only travelled 80m.

Our first sight of the entrance was a shock – an area the size of a phone booth with a hole in its base about the size of a large toilet seat. Through this hole, clear blue water beckoned.

If gearing up was an adventure in the phone booth, entry into the water was even more so. Twin tanks were juggled through the hole, then the diver followed on hookah. An adjacent air pocket was the avenue for divers to dress and wait for the next diver.

The air pocket was a pleasant enough place to be by yourself as long as CO₂ did not bother you too much!

The underwater cave is shallow and wide ... 12-15m deep, and up to 80m wide in parts. Visibility exceeds 50m, and immense stalactites dominate the underwater scenery. Many air pockets dot the ceiling. The air contained herein should be treated as foul.

Once through the difficult entrance, the cave is spacious, and would seem to warrant a "CAVE" rating. However its ONE AT A TIME entry and exit, comprising long delays between one diver and the next, calls for a rethink. I doubt if a second diver could follow the first any sooner than three to five minutes, so twin independent systems are essential in case problems arise while the diver is alone in the cave.

In such an environment, Murphy's Law rules, and seeks ways to intervene.

On our second trip we had planned for every possible problem except fire. Guess what we had? ... A fire! A torch shorted out as it was pulled out through the hole, and filled the phone booth with smoke! Ian Aldrich, our

surface tender, was forced to head for fresh air, and the divers were obliged to wait an extra 10 minutes till Ian was able to clear the smoke with a scuba cylinder.

Fortunately we had twin independent, and, having followed the 1/3 rule, we had enough air to wait out the problem, but it was 20 minutes after the first before the last diver, Brian Cornell, was out of the water.

This is a cave which deserves great respect, as options are very limited if problems occur. It is also a cave of great beauty. So far there is no evidence of diver traffic except for the permanent lines in place. I hope it will retain this state.

The co-operation we received from the Wellington Cave Management and the rangers was outstanding on each of our visits.

We are also indebted to the proprietors of the Wellington Caves camping ground, who extended every hospitality to make our stay in their superbly appointed cabins a most enjoyable one.

Wellington Cave – Post Script

One of our main purposes for diving Wellington was to get some decent photos. On our first trip, the Nikonos 5 with YS150 flash developed some problem that left us with blank film.

The camera was sent off to be serviced. The verdict? Nothing wrong with it!

On our second trip, Des took in a Nikon F3 with all accoutrements. Due to an error in setting the film counter, it took one photo (in the air chamber) and decided it was out of film! So, still no photos.

So back to the Nikonos 5. It worked like a dream. Photos of divers posed elegantly alongside giant stalactites, beneath ribbons of fragile limestone formations, all captured on film.

We should have realized it was too good to be true. The processing plant misread the film canister and processed the roll of film as prints! All of the photos have a deep mauve tint. They did apologize ... and they did give us a free roll of film. We somehow didn't think it was enough.

G

DESCEND DIVER'S TRAINING AREA: THE PIT

by Stan Bugg

Descend Diver Education in Albury is fortunate to have access to an excellent training area for cave diver courses. Descend's proprietor, and CDAA Examiner, Des Walters, has acquired the use of a six hectare flooded gravel pit located in the Murray River valley.

The pit has physical features which make it an ideal venue for cave diver training ... fresh water, dramatic thermoclines, depth up to 17m, and heaps of silt for the unwary or unskilled diver to stir up. By the way, 6m viz is not unheard of on a good day, but more typically it is 3m.

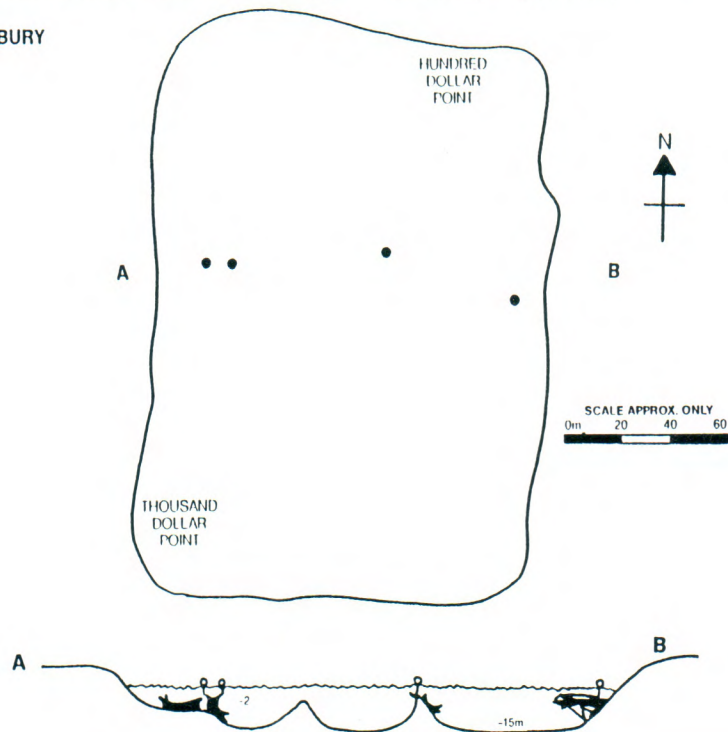
Descend Diver Education uses the pit for two specialty courses; Recovery Diver and Cave Diver. Cave diver students are well catered for by the addition of four permanent line courses, which have been nailed to huge sunken gum trees. These courses feature depth change from 3-11 metres, overhangs, cross-overs, loose line, narrow squeezes, and, as already mentioned, lots of real silt. Buoyancy

control is practised on the shot lines anchored in 7 metres. Reel work and buddy breathing practice takes place at "hundred dollar point" at the northern end. (You have heard of million dollar point at Espirito Santo? Well this is not quite so classy!) Here, lots of items of gravel extraction machinery litter the bottom in depths of 3-6 metres, and provide excellent tie off points ... oh, and lots of silt.

Plans for the future include another line course to cater for penetration diver skills. This course would have several narrower sections, loose line, gaps in the line to be crossed using jump reels, and, if possible, some short tunnels made of pipe. CDAA Examiners Barrie Heard and Stan Bugg have assisted Des with the testing of cave diver groups, and they both agree that the venue is an excellent one. Graduates of a Descend cave diver course have had a real taste of the problems of freshwater diving, and the need for good line management and buoyancy control.

G

THE PIT - ALBURY



Annual General Meeting Report

Continued from Page 4

being able to gain controlled access to a few new sites in the near future.

The outgoing Directors - John Vanderleest (National Director), Andrew Cox (Business Director) and Alan Jolliffe (Standards Director) - stood down to a vote of thanks from the membership, allowing the new CDAA officials (Ian Lewis, Tony Davis and Glen Harrison) to take their places respectively. John continued to chair the meeting, introducing a bit of lightheartedness by handing out some "Certificates of Appreciation" to members who had especially helped the Association during the year, as well as tossing some toffee "dummies" to disgruntled members who looked like they wanted to spit one!

The new Constitution and Regulations were voted in without much fuss, after several proposed amendments were discussed. In the Constitutional discussions, a minor addition clarifying the Standard Director's powers to appoint Instructors was accepted, and in the Regulations, motions to delete the lake in

Cocklebidy from the "Cavern" sites schedule; the need to use twin independent cylinders at Cave and Penetration level during training; and several other equipment requirements passed, while motions to delete reference to instructor insurance; the desire to bring in a 40 metre absolute maximum depth ruling; a request to upgrade the Eastern Side of Engelbrechts Cave to "Penetration" level; and a motion to bring back a 12-month prerequisite period between Basic Scuba and Cave or Sinkhole courses (and/or some form of independent examinations) were not accepted.

John closed the meeting at 10.56 p.m. with a polite reminder to members who had not yet done cross-overs that they would drop the equivalent of ONE CATEGORY LEVEL if they did not obtain an update package in the NEXT THREE MONTHS.

Members who wish to read the much more comprehensive set of minutes from which this synopsis was prepared are invited to write to the Association, enclosing a self-addressed, stamped envelope, via P.O. Box 290, North Adelaide 5006.

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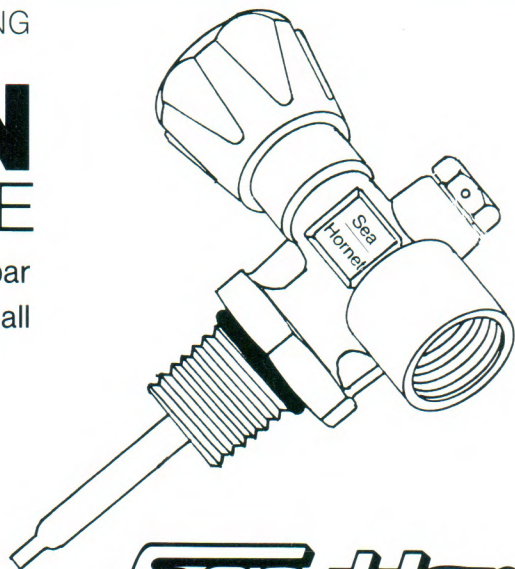


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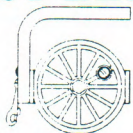
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BENEATH MT. GAMBIER'S "BLUE LAKE" – Part 2

by Peter Horne

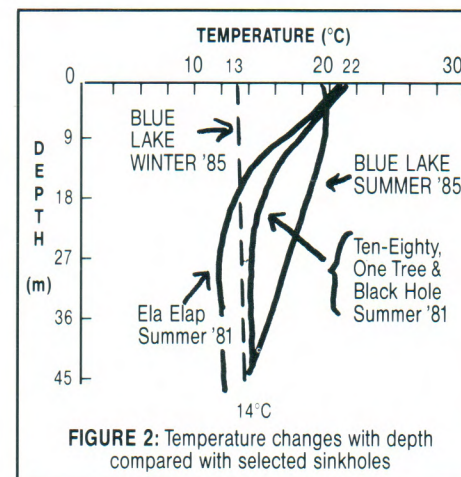
Continued from Guidelines Issue No. 40

At a depth of around 13 metres during the warm period, a sharp thermocline is encountered, dropping the water temperature from a comfortable 20°C to about 17° or so; associated with this is increased darkness and reduced visibility (very similar in fact to grey fog) caused by a massive increase in the numbers of plankton which occur around this depth. The blue colour is completely gone by 20 metres, and at 36 metres visibility is usually only about 6 metres. Only around 40 metres does the water begin to clear up again, but the lack of sunlight makes for eerie conditions similar to a full-moon night on a white sandy beach. In the winter, the lake is a steely grey-blue colour with an average 10-15m visibility at all depths; the thermoclines are also absent and the water is a fairly cold 12° or so.

Because the Blue Lake is Mount Gambier's water supply and a key tourist attraction, recreational diving will probably never be allowed to occur there. Thanks to the ongoing support and generosity of key personnel in the Engineering & Water Supply Department, though, we ALL now have an opportunity to better understand just what lies beneath the Blue Lake's tranquil waters. We have prepared information sheets and educational video tapes of our work and discoveries in the Blue Lake so that everyone can experience its wonders in some fashion, and perhaps equally importantly, this work has provided an ideal opportunity to show the non-diving public that cave divers can contribute greatly to tourism and the community in general.

Readers requiring more detailed information about the studies are also welcome to contact me C/- 12 Addison Road, Hove, S.A., 5048 (phone 08/295 6031) at their convenience.

G



Apart from occasional birds, the largest life-forms found in the Blue Lake's waters were freshwater tortoises; only yabbies, syncarids (*Koonunga crenarium*) and other crustaceans, introduced native trout (*Galaxias maculatus*) and small sponges and associated hydroids apparently share this vast expanse of freshwater territory. If there is indeed any truth to the rumour of the existence of a "Blue Lake Monster", it would need to be a filter-feeder if it was to survive here!

After diving Mt. Gambier

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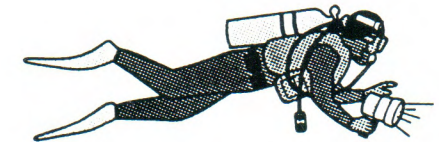
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Phone/Fax: _____

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AT LAST IT'S HERE

C.D.A.A. MEMBERS MANUAL



A complete training/resource manual incorporating the following:

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- Complete list and detailed maps of all currently open sites in Mt. Gambier (soon to include other regions).
- Advertisers Section: All the current information on what gear is currently available and who's got it. Where to stay in Mt. Gambier. Instructors currently teaching all levels of Cave Diving – Where and when.

All this is incorporated into a loose leaf professionally printed A5 binder that is expandable as you progress through the training levels.

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Please send me _____ copies of the CDAА Members Manual at \$12.00 each including return postage.

Name: _____ M/ship No: _____

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TETHER CLIPS

by Stan Bugg, CDAA 96

One of the cave diver's cheapest pieces of equipment is also the most important.

I refer to the tether clip; the simple clip that connects you to your lifeline in the event of a siltout, or torch failure. My observation of the use of a number of poor tether clips at a recent penetration diver program has prompted me to record my thoughts, and hopefully get a few divers thinking about their gear.

I consider these to be **ESSENTIAL** features of any tether clip:

- The clip can be operated with one hand ... **EASILY**.
- The clip can be opened any time when you activate it, but will **NEVER** open of its own accord.
- When clipped onto a line, the line cannot be twisted off the tether.
- If the tether is not attached to a line, it does not act as a line trap by allowing line to clip into the tether.
- The clip is made of a material which will not deteriorate in performance if minor corrosion occurs.

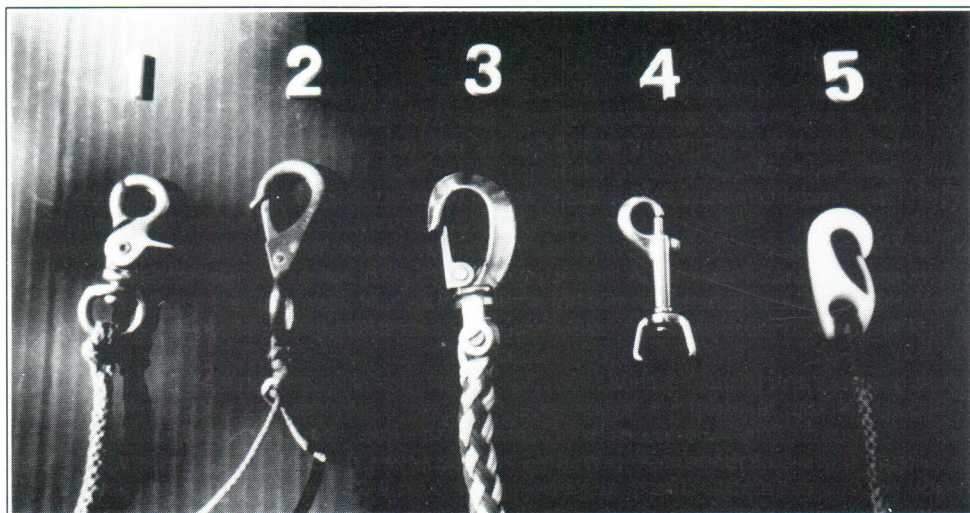
In addition, consider the following **DESIRABLE** features:

- The clip has a swivel, which allows it to be used in a number of angles.

- The clip is made of brass or stainless steel, and is thus relatively corrosion-free provided it is lubricated regularly.
- The tether has as few moving parts as possible.

How the tether is worn is rarely discussed, but I think it is an important consideration. First of all I like to see a tether on each wrist, so tieoffs can be crossed more easily. Second, I believe the cord on the tether should be line approximately 5mm diameter, and the wrist cord should be short. The length is correct when the tether hangs so the clip reaches somewhere between the last joint and the tip of the middle finger. At this length the tether is always at grabbable distance, even if you cannot see. If the cord is longer, you need to reel in the slack to find the clip.

If clips are used to attach gear to BC's (torches, jump reels, etc) I advocate the use of the same sort of clip, for the reasons cited in essential features. A two handed fumble to unclip a torch is a luxury few true cave divers can afford for long. Gear on its own provides enough line traps without adding the type of clip that invites the loose line inside ... and of course a clip that comes undone on its own means the loss of potentially lifesaving equipment.



Assorted tethers: 1 - Scissor Clip, 2 & 3 - Snap Clips, 4 - Dog Clip, 5 - Plastic Clip.

Types of clips:

RECOMMENDED:

Scissor clips: They are cheap if you shop around. (\$1.85 in the right shop in Melbourne), they have a swivel, are made of brass, and can easily be operated with one hand. They require a bit of lubrication after a weekend of use, but with minimal maintenance they perform smoothly. They will not trap a line, and will not twist off a fixed line. Only one size.

Luff hooks: More expensive, they require minimal maintenance, are made of brass, and will not twist off a line or trap a line. They are harder to operate with one hand, but with practice it can be done. They come in several sizes.

Spinnaker clips: More expensive, but made of stainless steel, so corrosion proof. Can be operated with one hand with practice. Will not trap line. Will not release once closed correctly.

NOT RECOMMENDED:

Dog clips: Similar to luff hook, but made of inferior metal. Parts are made rather roughly, and tend to move less predictably as they corrode.

Snap clips: Often bought with price in mind rather than performance. Line can easily twist out of them. Also prone to trap loose line.

Plastic gear clips: Too fragile. Pivoting pin eventually snaps off or loses tension. Line traps. Line twists out very easily.

Shark clips: Made of twisted wire, they are awkward to operate with cold hands or gloves. Line rarely twists out, but protrusions can snag line.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Do not let price guide your choice. Choose a clip based on its safe function.
- Practice using your tether clip, until it's one handed use without looking is automatic.
- Be prepared to undertake a minimal degree of maintenance to ensure your clips retain their function as a lifesaving device.
- Do not close your mind to other types of clip until you have tried them.

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SCANLON'S FREEHOLD

Scanlon's is a flooded mine in North East Victoria, a legacy of the gold rush in the 1890's. The mine closed when it flooded, and its entrance was covered over.

In 1981 prospectors rediscovered it when they bulldozed the overburden away.

A large proportion of the local community attended to watch use dive THAT HOLE, and many references to our sanity (lack of) were heard.

Exploratory dives undertaken in 1984 revealed three narrow (80cm) timbered shafts jammed with logs and rocks. This was soon cleared and we began exploration. The shafts led to a 10m level with a timbered floor, and an ore cart under the middle shaft. Several pipes leading through the floor hinted at another level.

After we prised up several floorboards, we found a lower level which bottomed at 15m. It was here that we found two steam driven water pumps, obviously driven by steam via the pipes.

From the 10m level a horizontal tunnel led off, heavily timbered with split logs. Barrie Heard and I followed this tunnel till, after 20m, the tunnel terminated where the roof had collapsed.

Des Walters, Alistair MacDonald, Barrie Heard and I completed 18 dives in Scanlon's over 5 visits. A map was produced, and a number of items were brought to the surface, including bottles, tools, boots, lamp fittings, ore samples and a steam pump.

We used twin independant air systems, and dived solo, as the shafts were too narrow and the visibility too poor to permit two divers safely. We often left fins behind.

The first diver of the day enjoyed 2m visibility. Subsequent divers often had to work by feel.

Divers communicated with the surface by commercial line signals. A fully kitted standby diver was always ready to enter the water.

Scanlon's is not a dive for everyone. It calls for penetration diver skills in conditions of nil viz and cold water. However with correct gear, preplanning, and a conservative dive plan, it provided an exciting and rewarding alternative to our more traditional diving activities.

P.S. Before you begin to ask for the location of Scanlon's, we are sworn to secrecy at the request of the landowner.

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF EWENS PONDS

Due to the distinct deterioration in the water clarity and vegetation of the ponds' ecosystem, Ewens Ponds will be closed to all water based activities from November 1 1991 - December 20 1991.

This temporary closure will be used as a precaution against further damage and to ascertain any possible cause to the decline.

Your co-operation and assistance in this matter is appreciated.

CAVE REELS

Professionally designed and manufactured by trademan.



Cave divers • Wreck penetration • Surveying • Underwater searching

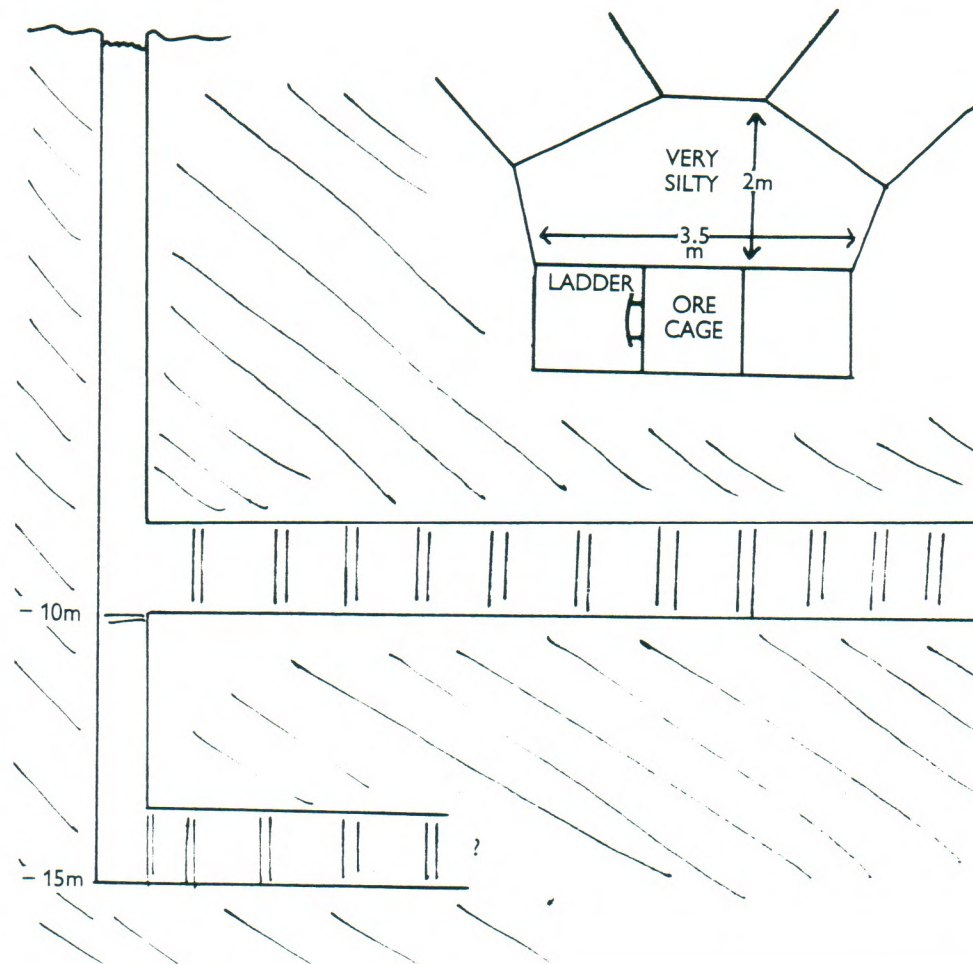
Closed reel: Body - impact resistant yellow plastic. Spool, spindle, etc., polished stainless steel. Carrying handle & brackets - stainless steel. Bearing - graphite impregnated self lubricating. 2 models - 200m & 350m of 3mm line. **\$185**

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Design & manufacture - Contact Joe Jakabczyk (03) 870 1694



by Stan Bugg



LAST CHANCE

Final Cross-over program
in Adelaide
on Wednesday 18th December
7.00pm - Venue to be advised
Cost \$30 incl. CDAA update materials
Please phone Glen Harrison
to reserve spot.

Bookings essential.
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TRADING POST

DRY SUITS - Spectacularly warm Poseidon Jetsuits for sale. Fresh from Antarctic Filming these slightly used suits are now available. Sizes 3, 4 and 7. \$1100 each. Also 2 x Poseidon Regs. \$350. New Sherwood Genesis B.C. (large) \$350. Many other goodies ... Contact Malcolm Ludgate CDAA 320 Ph: (08) 322 3127.

88 ALLOY TANKS - Anyone with mismatched 88 Alloy tanks can contact Tony Richardson on (03) 754 6163 (a.h.) to see if they can be swapped to a matching pair.

CDAA SITE ACCESS

Remember: Access is a privilege, not a right.
Please be considerate of landowner wishes.

SITE	LEVEL	OWNER	ACCESS DETAILS
MOUNT GAMBIER - SOUTH AUSTRALIA			
Ewens Ponds	Nil	Dept. of Lands PMB 124, Mt. Gambier (087) 35 1111	Groups of 6 or more, phone/mail to Dept. of Lands. Smaller groups, no need. Ponds are closed 1 September - 30 November each year.
Horse & Cart Tea Tree	CN CN	Mr. Don Telford PO Box 2629, Mt Gambier (087) 38 4003	By phone or mail, 1 week prior.
Little Blue (Baby Blue)	S	Port MacDonnell	Little Blue - permission not required - must carry card.
Allendale	C	Port MacDonnell	Obtain key from Mt. Gambier Tourist Information Centre.
Gouldens 2 Sisters Fossil	CN CN C	Dept. of Lands PMB 124 Mt Gambier (087) 35 1111	Contact Dept. of Lands by phone/mail prior to diving. Stay out of Gouldens when pump is operating.
Ela Elap One Tree	S S	Mr. Peter Norman Private Bag 67, Mt Gambier (087) 38 5287	By phone or drop in before diving. Accommodation also available.
Swim Through	C	Valerie Earl C/- PO Allendale 5291	Currently CLOSED pending new access arrangements.
Piccaninnie Ponds	S	NPWS 11 Helen Street, Mt Gambier (087) 35 1171	Permit holders by phone. Be aware of delicate vegetation.
Hells Hole Pines Mud Hole	S C C	Woods & Forests PO Box 162 Mt Gambier (087) 24 2717	Contact Woods & Forests (Forests Clerk - Katrina Mustart) by mail or phone and arrange permit. No diving on total fire ban days.

SITE	LEVEL	OWNER	ACCESS DETAILS
MOUNT GAMBIER - SOUTH AUSTRALIA continued			
Black Hole Ten Eighty Bullock Hole	S S S	Mr. Colin Traeger, Manager, Barnoolut Estate PO Box 12, Mt Gambier 5290 (087) 26 6215	Contact CDAA Records Officer for diving deed THEN mail Booking Form to Colin Traeger 2 weeks prior, stating names/qual. of all divers, and time slot - 1pm Saturday, 9am or 1pm Sunday, or 8am (weekdays).
Max's Hole	C	Mr. Trevor Edwards PO Box 1319 Mt Gambier (087) 26 8277	Phone or mail 1 week prior to dive.
Shaft	S	Mr & Mrs Ashby	ONLY by contacting designated "guides" who will arrange access. Refer "Guidelines" Issues 36 - July 1990.
Engelbrechts - East - West	C P	Mt Gambier Council	Obtain key from Mt Gambier Tourist Information Centre.
Three Sisters	P	Millicent Council	Currently closed until new access arrangements completed.
Idlebiddy (5L250)	P	Woods & Forests P.O. Box 162, Mt. Gambier, 5290 (087) 24 2711	Access ONLY via CDAA Site Access Committee - refer National Director's Report issue 38.
NULLARBOR - WESTERN AUSTRALIA			
Cocklebiddy Murra El Elevyn Tommy Grahams Weebubbie	C P C C	Regional Manager C.A.L.M. 44 Serpentine Rd, Albany 6330 Ph: (098) 41 7133	Must apply for permission to dive at least 4 weeks in advance of trip. Small dive site next to main chamber: Sinkhole
NULLARBOR - SOUTH AUSTRALIA			
Warbla	P	N.P.W.S. Ceduna	Currently CLOSED to all diving subject to draft management policy.
<div> CN = CAVERN S = SINKHOLE C = CAVE P = PENETRATION </div>			



CDAА PRODUCTS

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BOOKS

Cave Diving Communications. A new manual from NSS-CDS dealing exclusively with all u/w communications used in cave diving. Including touch, torch & line signals, & use of line arrows & jump reels. A must for all cave diver's bookshelf.

Cave Diving. A Blueprint for Survival. By world-renowned cave diver Sheck Exley, this is a case study of a number of accidents that have occurred in the USA and how to avoid them.

Basic U/W Cave Surveying. The standard publication for anyone remotely interested in research and survey techniques used in water filled caves.

Cave Diving - The Cave Diving Group Manual. Completely new edition from the pioneers of the sport, the British. This is easily the finest reference manual on our sport currently available. Covers every possible aspect including sump rescue solo diving and advanced oxygen and mixed gas theory. Expensive but well worth it. As reviewed in Guidelines No. 37.

Deep into Blue Holes - by Rob Palmer. This is the project manual written about his trips to the Bahamas, diving some of the most advanced and spectacular caves in the world. As reviewed in Guidelines No. 35.

Cave Diving in Australia - by Lewis & Stace. The classic in Australian Cave Diving circles with descriptions of most of the sites available in Mount Gambier, and useful technical information as well.

CDAА Occasional Paper No. 2 - from Natitonal Conference 1981. Includes topics such as Fossil Cave, Belay Techniques & Cocklebidy 1979

South Australian Diving Fatalities 1950 - 1985 - by Peter Horne. A good manual of case studies indicating what NOT to do in both sea and cave diving.

S.R.T. Single Rope Techniques - published by the Sydney Speleological Society. This is the definitive work on all aspects of vertical travel in caves. Should answer most questions on rope work for cavers and cave divers alike.

DES Emergency Handbook - Revised 1990 edition by Lippmann & Bugg. Printed on waterproof paper this essential first aid manual should be part of every cave divers' kit.

NSS Cavern Divers Manual - The standard reference manual in Cavern Diving covering just about every conceivable topic. Also covers most principals behind safe sinkhole and cave diving.

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THE SOLUTION — the most powerful diving computer ever to be offered to recreational divers. Featuring the most sophisticated software available, this powerful 8-bit CMOS microprocessor utilizes a custom LCD screen that offers —

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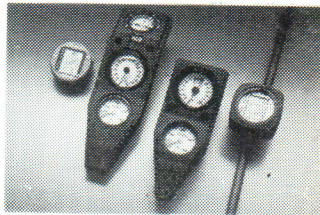
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