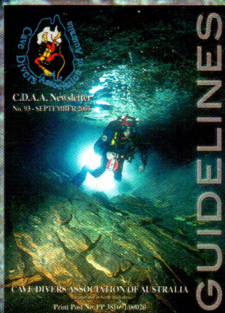
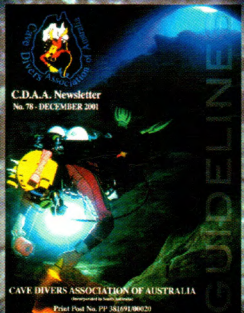
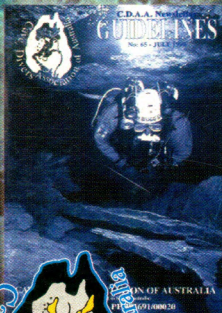
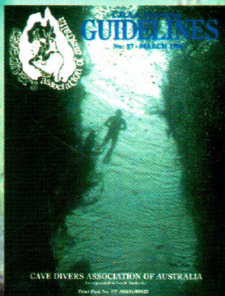
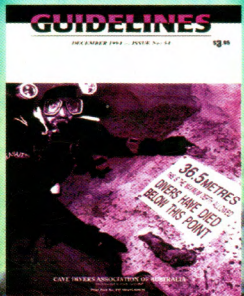
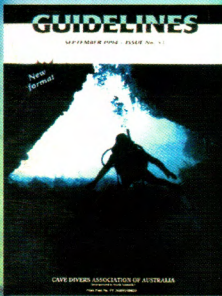
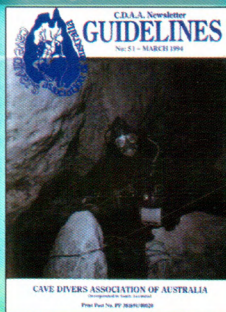
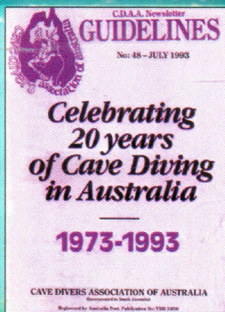
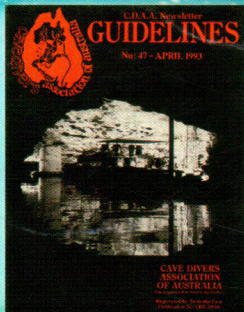
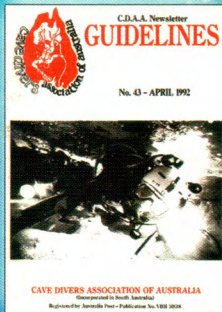
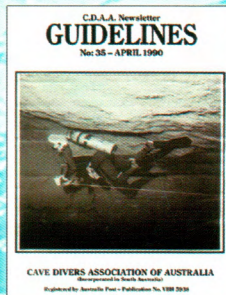
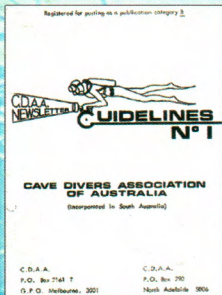


# GUIDELINES

# 100th

# ISSUE



**CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**

(Incorporated in South Australia)

Print Post No. PP 381691/00020





# PINE TANK DIVE LODGE

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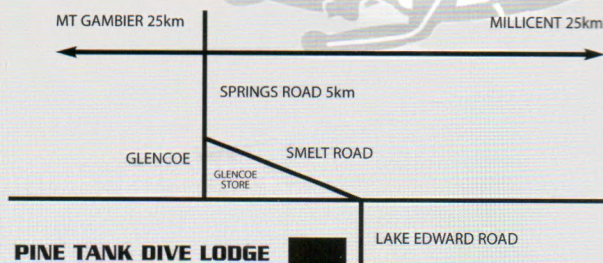
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David Bryant

## CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

ABN 65 062 259 956

P.O. BOX 290, NORTH ADELAIDE 5006

GUIDELINES is a newsletter of the Cave Divers Association of Australia. All articles for the following issue are to be sent to the Editor, David Bryant, PO Box 2198 Rosebud Vic. 3939.

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# EDITOR'S CORNER

Well here we are Guidelines 100!! We have cracked the ton! I am sure will agree with me David has done a superb job with the artwork and layout for this very special edition of Guidelines. Lots of good history, old photos, stories as well as brand new discoveries in NZ. I feel quite humbled to be part of this occasion and to be the editor. Very busy times for the directors with lots of new paperwork to go through related to the new Deep Cavern course, lots of decision making via email every day. Part of the "unseen" work we need to do. Speaking of which, welcome to Steve Trewavas as the new standards director. Steve has really thrown himself in to the job helping us with rewriting forms, standards, etc. Its is terrific to have a new set of eyes on things and being able to look at stuff from an outside perspective. Steve has already been instrumental with setting us up for trimix diving in the Shaft. He must have wondered what hit him when the barrage of emails started but he has coped well. Kilsbys lease has gone through thanks to Warrick, and Craig has done a great job rewriting all the new access arrangements. For 10 bucks you get twice the number of weekends, 12 divers/time and the ability to do to the depth of your training and use trimix, rebreathers, etc. I can see a lot of renewed interest in this already popular site. See the report in this issue from the Kilsbys deep mapping team, even some old familiar faces! Caught up with lots of members on the Queens Birthday weekend. We did a couple of great dives in 1080, the viz was terrific with lots of nice swim thrus in the rocks. A couple of our old Melb Uni buddies dived there for the first time in many years and were impressed with the site improvements and how smoothly and easily the access was provided, thanks Grant! I was also fortunate to meet the new station managers both very keen to see our access continue and expand to the other sites at Barnoolut. We joined some of the Tank cave divers such as Chris Brown (see his Cocklebidy article), Tom Payne, Rich I, Jarrod, Rob Brennan and others for a noisy night at the Thai restaurant. I hear Pine tank has been busy with divers and I note both our northern gas fill places and advertisers Blue Lake Diving and Pine Tank now both offer trimix fills, well done Darren and Grant! We will also have Allandale East Store on line as an advertiser next issue. They have a rebuilt compressor, new clean filters and have set up a cosy shed with chairs and free tea and coffee while you wait for your fills. Good alternative for the southern sites. More details next issue.

Don't forget to visit the webpage for the new products on line store, thanks to Tony for setting this up. Watch out for our AGM extravaganza day with instructor forums and speakers for the member's forums. Thanks to Steve T for organising this. I am half way through teaching the new Deep cavern course which is great, gives us more flexibility, greater depth ranges and longer bottom times, all good for training. I was very proud to see 2 of "my girls" from my first Cavern/sinkhole course make it through the Pen program last week, see you in the CCR Ag and Liz!

Welcome to the next century of Guidelines.  
Happy diving.

Terri Allen, Publications and Records Director,  
Email: [pubdir@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:pubdir@cavedivers.com.au)



## ~ ARTICLES FOR GUIDELINES ~

- Send articles & photos via post, or preferably by email to:  
Terri Allen, **PO Box 6492, Melbourne 8008.**
- Email to [publications@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:publications@cavedivers.com.au) **and** [seapics@alphalink.com.au](mailto:seapics@alphalink.com.au)
- Text files should be saved as Word files and pictures as separate jpeg files.  
If mailing please send pics and text on CD.
- Pictures saved from digital camera or scanned from photos must be at least 200-300 ppi at 15cm wide, RGB files, and saved as Maximum Quality JPEG's, or Tiffs if mailing.



# New Depths Plumbed in New Zealand Cave

*An international team of divers have significantly increased the length and depth of the challenging Pearse Resurgence in the South Island of New Zealand. In the process they have established a new cave depth diving record for Australia and New Zealand of 177m.*

By Richard "Harry" Harris.

First dived in 1975, the resurgence of the Pearse River near Mt Arthur has been slow to give up its secrets. Expeditions to the remote cave began in earnest in 1995 when Dave Weaver sadly died in the cave whilst deep diving using compressed air. 18 months later, three divers located and recovered Dave's body whilst themselves exploring the site. Since that time a number of divers have pushed the cave initially using mixed gas with open circuit SCUBA, and more recently with rebreathers.

Dave Apperley of Sydney, Australia has visited the cave more than most and had pushed the cave to the "Big Room", but had failed to make any further progress due to a variety of problems including an unpleasant CO2 hit in flow of the Needle Bender on one occasion. At other times seasonal flows had washed out his old guidelines making progress slow. The cave presents numerous challenges to divers; both physical and mental. The flowing water which drops to less than five degrees Celsius in winter and peaks at seven or eight in summer makes prolonged decompression diving impossible without the best thermal protection, dry habitats and some tolerance of cold conditions!



Harry

On this expedition in March 2007 Apperley returned with local caver John Atkinson, Brit Rick Stanton and two CDAA divers Craig Howell and Richard Harris. Flying into the remote Pearse Valley by helicopter, the group camped close to the resurgence. A habitat with surface supplied oxygen was set up in the Nightmare Crescent at 6m, and the team staged emergency cylinders down the cave in preparation for the push dives.

Over the next five days the team successfully pushed past Dave's previous point of exploration, into a new passage leading off the base of the "Big Room". Huge marble conduit headed into the depths drawing the divers deeper into the cave. A steep ramp

Entrance Pool



Entrance Pool

now known as the "Brooklyn Exit", led down to a flatter tunnel (The "M40") at over 150m which ended in another abyssal drop! Stanton's astonishing final dive on his side-mounted CCR laid line down to 177m, at which point the implosion of his (read Harry's!) HID light forced him to turn the dive. Ahead and below,

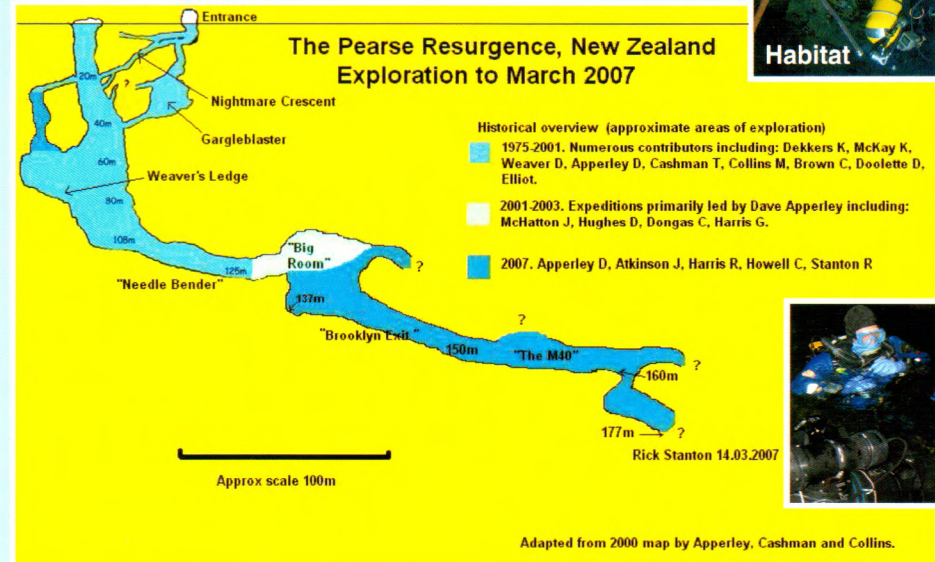
deeper tunnel awaiting exploration!

Further exploration of the crystal clear but frigid waters of the Pearse will require even more complex logistics and planning. If the cave continues to descend, the divers will be pushing the known limits of current technology. If it ascends, remote decompression will become a difficult problem to deal with. The excitement lies with the future discoveries!

NZTech07 would like to thank the following for their sponsorship or assistance: Dive Rite Australia, Otter Dry Suits, Typhoon International, DiveTek Australia, Sport Diving Magazine and Barry Andrewartha, Pelican Australia, Golem Gear, Neil Miller and DiveOz, SeaOptics Australia, TDI Australia, Submerge Scooters, Oz Patterson and the NZSS and Action Helicopters.



Habitat





## VALE 'SNOW' RAGGATT.

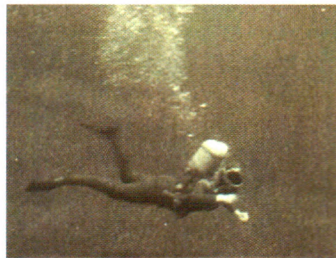


Snow Raggatt performing his first scuba dive at Port MacDonnell, around 1959 (photo courtesy Steve Raggatt)

For any members who dived in the sink holes in the South East (Piccannie Ponds, 1080, The Pines just to name a few) I would just like to advise that the one of the icons of Australian Diving was my late father "Snow" Raggatt who died in April, in Melbourne aged 85yrs.

My father was instrumental, along with his dive buddy Mick Potter for putting the above dives on the map so to speak. They were previously unknown to the diving fraternity until Dad and Mick decided to share their finds with the rest of the world. Dad also had the only air compressor in the Sth. East so any visiting divers would have known him. (I am going back to late 50's to late 60's) Any divers visiting Mt. Gambier and who knew Snow are advised his

remains were laid to rest at the old Mt. Gambier cemetery on Easter Saturday. Snow is survived by his wife Jean, daughter Judy and Son Stephen (and their families) who all enjoyed diving as a family for many years." Regards, Judy Crisp (Nee Raggatt).



Snow in Ewens Ponds with tanks held together with wire. (photo by PM Potter)

## BRIAN CORNELL RETIRES

Another long time CDAA instructor, Brian Cornell, has decided not to renew his instructor status.

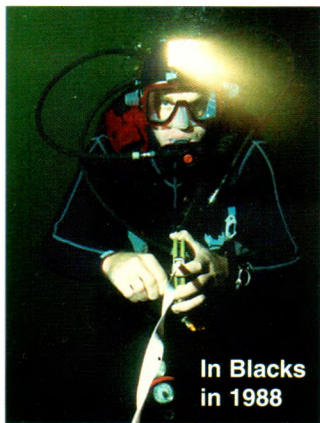
Brian's dive instruction career began as a FAUI instructor in 1988. Prior to that he had extensive snorkelling and scuba experience, both in New Zealand as a teenager and young

adult, and in Australia.

As a person of prodigious knowledge of the technical aspects of diving, combined with exceptional personal skills, Brian has expected and achieved high standards from any dive students, from open water through to trimix, who have been lucky enough to have been taught by him.

Brian is the quiet man of cave diving. He says little, but when he does speak it is worth listening to. His advice to student cave divers is always constructive, and tips on how to manage or modify equipment have proved most helpful to the many he has instructed over many years.

Despite his low profile and quiet demeanor, Brian is one of Victoria's most active technical divers. He has a passion for the deep wrecks, and was among the first divers to regularly dive the City of Rayville, Bayonet and Cambridge wrecks, and numerous others in Victoria's Ships Graveyard. He has also travelled to the New South Wales coast to dive the Cumberland and Bega wrecks. In addition to countless trips to Mt Gambier, Brian's cave diving has



taken him to Wellington Cave in New South Wales (he was part of the third group of divers to dive Wellington, along with Stan Bugg and Des Walters), and has completed two trips to the Nullarbor caves. The many cave and technical divers who have been introduced to the sport by Brian will join us in wishing him many years of enjoyable diving. Regards, Stan Bugg.

# SAY GOODBYE TO CAVERN/SINKHOLE and welcome the DEEP CAVERN COURSE

*The new Deep Cavern Course designed to replace the Cavern/Sinkhole Course came on line on June 1st 2007. All CDAA Instructors must now teach to this course outline.*

The main changes are that the entry requirements have returned to what they were before 1998. Open Water Divers are trained to 18m and therefore by only accepting Advanced Open Water now or equivalent certification, with the diver showing a range of experience and time, the quality of applicants and the expected outcome will be of a better standard. We are teaching a course that takes divers to a maximum of 40m, it puts Instructors and therefore the Association at risk. We cannot exist with the risk of litigation hanging over us by crossing our fingers and hoping or calling up past history, because times have changed. The pursuit of the dollar, which has become evident, is being employed by some and the quickest course with the minimum training is not what the Association wants.

Dive medicals are no longer required as long as a Medical Statement is completed and there aren't any contra indications that must be followed up by a medical practitioner. This is a process followed by other Training Agencies as well and will apply to Cave but not to Penetration Courses.

Twin tanks once considered a rarity, are now common practice and have become mandatory for training in Caverns or Sinkholes. Argument has been put forward that they are an "overkill". It would be best if "kill" wasn't a consideration and by having enough gas this means longer bottom times, therefore more and better training, plus when it comes time to dive in Kilsbys or The Shaft the applicant is now qualified and trained by an Instructor. Again, less risk for all concerned. Twin tanks in training do not prevent anyone going for a single tank dive in the

appropriate sites after they are qualified. The choice is the diver's.

Depth has been considered and the skills required to go to those depths correctly, therefore demonstrating skills at depth, are now required, along with longer bottom times.

As we allow Isolation manifolds and Independent systems, shutdowns and air sharing showing proper procedures and control are required. Out of air drills and correct S drills with a long hose must be mastered on land before diving.

Argument has existed for years about primary hose lengths and we now require a minimum length of 1.5m but we recommend 2 metres in line with most other agencies. Have you ever tried to share air when someone hands you a short hose? Try getting through a restriction, one behind the other? Want to argue that at this level divers don't go through restrictions? Well sorry it's not a perfect world and some do, plus are we teaching for now or for the future and therefore for the safety and growth of our members skills and knowledge? Isn't it best to have the right equipment and knowledge from the start, this allows practice and experience and saves wasting money on buying the wrong equipment at the start. So, what was the reason for anything less than 2m? Oh I know "I'm only short...!" Well pray the person you are sharing air with is as well!

Work is continuing with the new Deep Cavern Course manual and we hope to have this finished before the end of the year.

So, let's get our head around the new names DEEP CAVERN COURSE, DEEP CAVERN DIVER and DEEP CAVERN INSTRUCTOR.

Warrick McDonald.  
CDAA National Director.

## NEW! Online Products Store...

The new online products store has now been enabled. Products can now be purchased online with payments made by bank transfer or cheque. Credit card processing will be available instore soon. In the meantime credit card purchases can still be made by sending me an order through the post. So visit the web page and have a browse through the new online store.

Helen Higgins, Products Officer







## CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

### NOTICE OF 2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND VOTING FOR MEMBER MOTIONS AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

This notice is issued pursuant to Clause 32 of the Constitution and serves to advise members that the Annual General Meeting of the Cave Divers Association of Australia will be held on Saturday October 13, 2007 at the Comfort Inn Silver Birch conference room, Mt Gambier, SA. The Annual General Meeting will commence at 6:00pm and will conclude no later than 7:00pm.

***This notice also serves to call for:***

- \* Nominations for National Director, Site Director and Publications and Records Directors and
- \* Member motions
- \* Amendments to the Constitution

The Returning Officer must receive nominations for the Directorate positions no later than the close of business Friday August 10, 2007.

Mail to:  
Returning Officer  
PO Box 7592  
ST KILDA RD VIC 8004

The Business Director must receive member motions and proposals for amendments to the Constitution no later than close of business Friday August 10, 2007. Items received after this date will not be accepted nor will any extensions to this date be granted.

Mail to:  
Business Director  
PO BOX 292  
CALWELL ACT 2905

Members intending to nominate for an Office Bearer position must be eligible members of the Association as defined in the Constitution. Nominations should be accompanied by a précis not exceeding one hundred words detailing skills, experience and achievements relevant to the duties and responsibilities of the nominated position. The responsibilities of Office Bearers are contained in the Constitution of the Association. Nominations must be in writing and be signed by the nominee, the proposer and the seconder all of whom must be eligible members of the Association. The polling date close for the election (if required) is Friday October 5th 2007.

The election of Office Bearers and voting on amendments to the Constitution will be conducted entirely by postal ballot.

If you wish to vote you must be an eligible, paid up member of the Association and you must only use the ballot papers to be provided in the next issue of Guidelines (#101) or by special mail out.

The ballot papers must reach the Returning Officer (Geoff Chambers #3484) no later than close of business, Friday October 5, 2007. Detailed voting information will be provided with the ballot papers. Questions may be directed to the Returning Officer c/o busdir@cavedivers.com.au.

Heike Apps, Business Director

## A.G.M SPECIAL EVENT "Exploration in Effect"

The 2007 CDAA  
Annual General Meeting  
is to include a number of  
Multi-media presentations.

**All welcome!**

Saturday 1.00-2:30pm  
Instructor meeting.

3-5:30pm  
"Exploration in Effect"

### Presenters include:

- Ken Smith – Kija Blue
- Tanya Yarra –  
(first female to Toad hall)  
cockle biddy images
- Stuart MacGregor –  
Exploration mapping
- Craig Howe – The Pearce  
Resurgence (NZ)
- Steve Trewavas –  
DPV logistics and planning

**6-7pm AGM  
Dinner (to be advised)**

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## Tribute to "Snow" Raggatt by Peter Horne

It was with considerable sadness that I heard about the passing on Wednesday 7th March 2007 of pioneering Mount Gambier sinkhole diver Lawrence "Snow" Raggatt at the ripe old age of 85. Snow, along with fellow Mount Gambier diver Philip "Mick" Potter, played a major role in the very first explorations of the vast majority of sinkholes that were known in the region during the early 1960s.

Hailing originally from Adelaide, Snow first became interested in diving by watching Italian frogmen during World War II, and he later experimented in the River Murray near Tailum Bend with an old Army gas-mask, which his younger brother wore while Snow blew down the air tube manually (this, of course, wasn't very successful, and they later used a number of small air compressors which eventually saw them reaching a depth of about 6 metres!). He met his future wife, Jean, in New Zealand during a visit, and Jean, along with all the other members of Snow's family, was to also become an avid scuba diver in the early 1960s. Snow later became a long-haul truck driver in Mount Gambier for Kain & Shelton Transport.

In a lengthy tape-recorded interview by Peter Stace back in 1982 (and as well as making a few nice comments about our very own Dave Warnes!), Snow explained that his first dive as logged took place on May 17, 1962, when he dived the then

crystal-clear Valley Lake to a depth of about 90 feet (ie 27 metres). However, Snow felt that he might have also done some earlier diving which had not been recorded. Like many of us, Snow began his in-water hobby as a keen spearfisherman, but he was put off of that activity when he saw the incredible wastage of fish after some spearfishing competitions on Kangaroo Island, where excess (and unfortunately dead) fish were dumped into the sea.

Snow's first sinkhole dive took place on 18 November 1962, in Ten-Eighty Sinkhole on (then also called Simpson's Hole) which was followed soon afterwards by a dive in Bullock Hole, and within the next year or so Snow dived in many of the area's sinkholes with members of his family (including Paul and Judy, who at the age of around 12, even dived to 36 metres with Snow) as well as Mick Potter. Around the same period, Mick Potter performed his first sinkhole dive, in Little Blue Lake, on 13 December 1961, and as well as being the key explorers of the newly-discovered Piccaninnie Ponds they were also involved in the building of the jetty at Pics with the Mount Gambier Spearfishing & Skindiving Club a couple of years later. Compared with today's hi-tech rebreathers and other such gear, it's incredible to remember that Snow's early tanks included twin 32 cubic foot gun-buffer cylinders which were tied together with wire and worn floating above his back, with the taps at the bottom instead of behind his shoulders!



Jean and Snow displaying their dive shop's gear at an Adelaide expo sometime around 1964 (photo courtesy Steve Raggatt)

As diving in the sinkholes became more popular once Pics became more widely known, Snow established a dive shop in the Mount which he ran with Jean, and sometimes there would be up to 200 people visiting them over a long weekend as well as heaps of sleeping bodies all over the floor in their home! To cater for the vast lack of local knowledge or understanding of the risks of sinkhole diving, Snow, along with Mick and the club, ran the first training courses in Ewens Ponds. They also

had their fair share of adventures and close calls, including Jean's successful retrieval and subsequent resuscitation of a friend who passed out underwater whilst snorkelling in The Chasm, a "free-fall-entry" into Hells Hole (by the same person!) during a cold, wet diving day there, and the day that Snow's sister miraculously escaped serious injury when a scuba cylinder fell all the way down McKay's Shaft and glanced off her hip; but it was largely through their safety-consciousness and innovativeness (training, home-made gear such as torches and guideline reels etc) that risks were minimized as much as possible in that era.

During my meetings with Snow in the early 1980s I found him to be a real gentleman, and he was always willing to discuss the good old days in a constructive and non-egotistical manner. Both Peter Stace and I enjoyed the times we met with him to record some of his early-days experiences, and I am very grateful to Jean and Steve Raggatt for their ongoing friendship and sharing of information and photos during Snow's twilight years. I also am grateful to Mick Potter for his foresight in logging his earliest dives in the Mount with Snow and his friends.

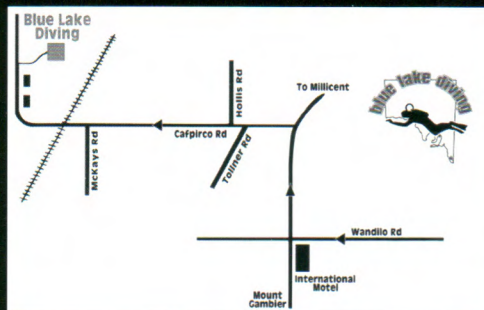
*Snow once said that the reason he dived in the sinkholes was because "... we knew no-one had been in them before, and we never knew what we would find". I really believe that this special spirit will always remain the key driving force behind the sense of adventure that all cave divers share..*

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regards, Helen Higgins, CDAA Products.

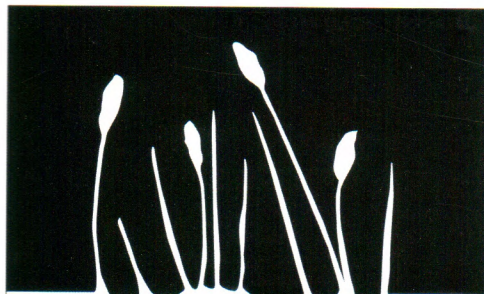


# NATIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

JUNE 2007

As you know, if you have read the job description of the National Director, part of my responsibilities concern Insurance, Mapping and Research, Investigations and Public Comment. I also cover areas that are in need of change and for one reason or another nobody else is covering them, or they need extra help. Hence a number of the things listed below may not fall under my job description but have become projects that have seen my involvement.

Before I start I would like to thank George Yarra for his term as Standards Director. George "copped it big time" as one member told me. Having to work under a barrage of accusations and yet still having the guts to stand up to people when they did the wrong thing



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or simply didn't get their own way. This made him unpopular in some areas but George kept his head up and held it high continuing to work for the Association under personal, business and CDAA pressures. Members of the CDAA surely would join me in thanking George and others like him who have given so much for the Association. I would like to welcome Steve Trewavas to the job and if this first month is anything to go by, we are looking at some great input. Steve has thrown himself into the position examining all of our documents and making suggestions and comments so that long overdue changes can be made.

I am pleased to report that all is well with our Association. Cash reserves are improving and membership is up.

Since my last report we have reached many of our goals. I will list them by point here and expand on them further in this report.

- Tank Caves lease has been re-negotiated with more access.
- The Association now leases Kilsbys and we have doubled the access available.
- 1080 on Barnoolut Station is returning as one of our most popular sites.
- Cockelbiddy has been conquered by more members than in the previous 35 years, each following the path of a select group who have reached Toad Hall before. It has been mapped and new areas explored and filmed.
- Bakers Cave has opened again so regular groups are diving there.
- Our web site is becoming our main booking format with Kilsbys, Tank, The Shaft and Forestry Sites.
- The new "Deep Cavern" Course takes effect from June 2007 and this will replace the old Cavern/Sinkhole Course.
- The Regulations have been changed where mention of the Cavern/Sinkhole Course or diver level is made and replaced with Deep Cavern.
- Application forms for Kilsbys and Tank cave have been altered to reflect the new fees and conditions.
- Indemnity forms for Kilsbys and Tank Cave have been re-written.
- Tank Caves familiarisation document has been changed to give a better use of the site and so that divers can gain more experience.

- The CDAA Standards and Procedures section has been changed to reflect the changes made since 1998.
  - Purchasing of CDAA products can now be done online.
  - The Constitution has been examined to make sure that all changes have been upgraded to the Manual and web site, going back to the original document in 1998.
  - Special Visitors applications, Change over certifications, Quality Assurance forms and Instructor Applications have all been changed or updated.
  - Much discussion has gone on about "Experienced Diver change over programs" and new forms have been made to enable smooth handling and record keeping.
- Currently we have the following areas being worked on;
- Work has begun on getting "Blacks" on Barnoolut open soon for divers.
  - Landowner relationships are on a high and examples as per Forestries SA on Mud Hole and Nettlebed. Trevor and Rob are good friends of the Association.
  - Tank cave is going through changes in the entrance area currently that should see some of our older, creaky knees and taller members happier.
  - Mapping is continuing with Stuart McGregor in Tank Cave and the planned re-numbering of the site, to account for the newer tunnels and the resultant confusion with numbers out of sequence, is taking place later in the year.
  - Kilsbys is being mapped currently so that we have an accurate interpretation of the site. This work is being undertaken by Richard (Harry) Harris and his team.
  - The CDAA Penetration Course has undergone some changes and is now in the Draft stage waiting on comments from Penetration Instructors.
  - Exams, Diver Record of training and application

forms for the Deep Cavern Course are being prepared as you read this.

- A new Student Manual, which will cover all levels of training, is being written and hopefully will be completed by 2008.

## Tank Cave

Once again the Landowner has leased the site to the Association. I managed to get the price below the expected valuation alluded to in previous reports so it's a positive outcome. Although access for Tank Cave Divers has risen to \$150.00 per year it's felt the greater access of 30 weekends and a few mid weekdays will offset the increase. We have 102 Tank cave divers, a record number and with empty spots on weekends being common, the system is obviously working. New details of the fees etc are on the web site.

## Kilsbys Sinkhole

The Landowner has leased the site to the CDAA and we now have access twice a month. This was brought about originally after talks with Rob Brennan (previous Site Director) and when Gary Barclay took over we enquired again. My discussions with the family have

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resulted in the site now being under CDAA control with a Lease agreement, which allows us to use the site in many ways. Training of divers, as long as correctly booked will now be possible. The \$10.00 in fees for all members will allow us to cover costs in the future and the Association will cover the difference to begin with. Tri-mix and Rebreathers will be allowed and the mapping group advise that the deepest area is 65m. Please see the access requirements on the web site.

#### **Barnoolut Station – 1080, Blacks.**

Groups who have followed the procedures on the web are now booking 1080 constantly. Grant Sommer has done much work to get this site opened to the Association, by organising workdays to improve access and safety, plus negotiating with the Landowner as well as organising more guides. The fence, with help from a group from Albury has been put up (cost courtesy of the Landowner) and next is the new access stairs. If you can assist give Grant a call.

#### **Bakers Cave**

George Yarra started connections with the new Landowner and Gary Barclay has been able to secure access for the Association.

#### **Deep Cavern Course**

Say goodbye to the Cavern/Sinkhole Course and welcome the Deep Cavern Course. Times have changed since the Cavern/Sinkhole Course was written in 1997 and it's time for the Association to change as well. Although the previous course has served us for all these years, its shortcomings were becoming more evident. The main difference is that it (Deep Cavern) removes the perceived two courses in one approach. The Deep Cavern is a single course with a maximum training depth of 40 metres. Twin Tanks will be mandatory, long hoses will be required and Standards have been raised to reflect equality and in most cases a higher level than other training agencies. Entry requirements have been returned to our original Standards, which were higher than what has been in play since 1998. Marketing of our course needs to be based on value and exceptional quality in training, we feel this is now possible. Many thanks to the Instructors who had input to this document and special thanks to Terri Allen for her dedication to see this finished. The Course is the result of 3 years work, originally by a committee and seen through to the end by myself and a dedicated few.

#### **Insurance**

It's that time of year again and this time we have some options so I hope to get a better price.

#### **Mapping and Research**

The mapping team under Stuart McGregor has produced some great maps of Tank Cave and other sites. His recent work with Mark in Cockelbiddy is fantastic and now we have a team working through him and led by Richard Harris mapping Kilsbys. He is also encouraging new members to have a go with a recent "tutorial" held at Tank cave.

#### **Public comment etc.**

I've been a bit slack the last few months with this side of it. One of few things happening was my involvement with an author writing the usual death story about a diver in a cave, in the desert. Tony Richardson inherited the writer and took her to Cockelbiddy on his recent trip. I suppose we may see a "blockbuster epic" come out of it...but then again... Currently I am talking with a TV production company that produces "Totally Wild" about cave diving as a sport for teenagers but we are still in the early stages. I have just finished a presentation to a group of Retailers from around Australia on the advantages of teaching Cave Diving as a store project. This hopefully will see an increase in enquiries for courses to our Instructors. Already I have received enquiries about becoming a CDAA Instructor and running courses elsewhere, let's hope the interest spreads to everyone.

#### **Elections**

It's that time again and whether I will stand again. A great deal has been achieved in my time and none of it would have been possible without the support of the majority of members and Directors. Although there are still people who hate change and want to continue to live and dive in the past thank goodness not all feel that way! Everyone needs to give the elections a lot of thought. Standing for a position and not expecting to answer emails daily or contributing only when the subject affects or interests you is not what the Association needs. We need workers and decision makers, that are especially prepared to sacrifice their own interests, for the betterment of the CDAA.



Dive safely,  
Warrick McDonald.  
CDAA National Director

## **Membership Renewal Instructions**

- 1.) Please print and fill out Membership Application Form
- 2.) **Enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope**
- 3.) Please **email** (preferable) a good quality image as a **jpeg** to [records@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:records@cavedivers.com.au). Alternatively include 1 x passport quality photograph with your application form. Write your name and CDAA # on the back of the photo. If you have sent a photo to me (Michael Kelly) in the last 12 months, I will have it on file.  
No need to send another unless you wish to change it.
- 4.) Enclose your payment. Save time, money and hassle... join for more than one year, there is **no limit** to how many years you can pay in advance. Should there be an increase in membership fees you **will not** be asked to pay the difference.
- 5.) **Please read point # 2**
- 6.) If you wish to have **Non Active** membership, pay \$35/year.  
You keep your membership going, receive copies of Guidelines, and are eligible to vote in elections but cannot dive and do not receive a card.
- 7.) **After 31st August any unpaid or incomplete renewals will incur a \$45 late fee.**
- 8.) Anyone wishing to add a Nitrox, Trimix or Rebreather Endorsement will need to include a photocopy of their certification and pay a **once only** processing fee of \$10 per endorsement.  
Please note that Trimix or Rebreather assumes Nitrox.
- 9.) **Please really read point # 2!!**

**Memberships will not be processed and therefore do not become active until everything is sent in.**



# CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

(INCORPORATED IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

## Membership Application Form

CDAА #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Records Officer, GPO Box 2646, Melbourne VIC. 3001.**

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Given Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (h) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

(w) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE EMAIL  
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records@cavedivers.com.au

In consideration of me being accepted as a member(s) of the Cave Divers Association of Australia Inc., I agree to indemnify the Association and any other officer, employee, instructor, or guide of the Association, or any other person organizing, controlling, or assisting with a function, event, dive, expedition, training, testing, or administrative task or obligation, associated with the Association, from and against all claims, costs, demands and lawsuits that I have or may, have for personal injury or property loss, whenever occurring, against the Association or any of those people, arising out of or in relation to any function, event, dive, expedition, training, testing, or administrative task or obligation, associated with the Association or with the sport of Cave Diving. I have read and understand the aims and objectives of the CDAA and am in support thereof. I hereby apply for membership.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Please tick applicable boxes

- ☐ I wish to pay **\$80** (\$70 annual Membership + \$10 Kilsby's lease fee) **2007/2008**.
- ☐ I wish to pay \$ \_\_\_\_\_ being CDAA Membership for \_\_\_\_\_ years
- ☐ I wish to pay **\$35/yr** for Non Active Membership (no diving) for **2007/2008**. (no photo required)
- ☐ I wish to pay **\$45/yr** being for backfees (max 5 yrs)
- ☐ I wish to pay **\$45** being for late fee (Aug 31st onwards)
- ☐ TOTAL cheque / money order for the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I have electronically transferred \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ /07 to account:

BSB = 085-070, Account No. = 69-701-2377. **PLEASE INSERT CDAA No. in HEADING**  
Account Name - CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC.

☐ Please charge to my credit card for the amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ BANKCARD ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

Credit Card No: 

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Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Office use only: Database: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Card: \_\_\_\_\_



# Cave Diving History of Cocklebiddy

(Compiled by Chris Brown and Tony Richardson)

**1961** - First dive in Cocklebiddy by 2 man team from Perth. Managed to establish that there was a submerged tunnel, 200 metres from the cave entrance, but were unable to swim much distance due to lake of gear.

**1972** - First large scale expedition. Adelaide divers were Ian Lewis, Phil Prust, Dave Warnes and Bob Turnbull all from Adelaide and some Sydney divers. Several Hundred metres of line were laid in a northward direction.

**1974** - Keith Dekkers and Hugh Morrison from Perth headed a team and pushed Cocklebiddy to 500m Metres of under water passage.

**1975** - The Keith Deckers and Hugh Morrison team again tackled the cave but did not extend the cave due to compressor problems.

**1976** - A joint Western and South Australian team was organised with most of the previous divers and including Ron Allum and Peter Stace. R Beilby and Hugh Morrison push the cave to 1,000 metres and discovered the first air chamber now known as the "Rock Pile", a long lake with a 20 metre high and 80 metre long pile of large loose rocks. Over the rock pile, the continuing submerged passage now know as the 'Second Sump' was push to 150 metres.

**1977** - In July, a South Australian team push an additional 350 meters into the second sump making a total penetration in the second sump of 500 metres past the "Rock Pile".

**1977** - In August, a Western Australian team including Morrison, Simon Jones and Dekkers added another 500 meters. This was the first trip where an under water 'sled' was used. The sled transported 15 dive cylinders in the first sump to the 'Rock Pile' and assisted in extending the second sump to over a kilometre in a mammoth 11 hour dive. Cocklebiddy was starting to give up its secrets.

**1979** - In May, a Western Australian team with Morrison, Jones and Dekkers returned with a team of 9 divers, two sleds and 40 dive cylinders. The method at that time was to swim the sleds laden with cylinders to the Rock Pile and haul all full tanks over the rocky break to the second sump beyond. Three divers pushed the second sled out 1000m from the rock pile and then set off breathing triple tanks on their backs. They made a further 1000 m before turning for the entrance. Disaster was narrowly avoided as the empty cylinders became so buoyant the divers were pinned against the roof of the cave. Quick thinking enabled the divers to put holes in the buoyant sled and by tying rocks to the cage they were able to limp back

to the Rock Pile their air supply desperately low. The three explorers were impossibly tired as they then faced 4 hours of carrying cylinders over the Rock Pile before they emerged exhausted but elated from a 16.5 hour trip, 7 of which were submerged. This set a world record for a penetration into a water filled cave with a single entrance.

**1979** - Later in the same year, a South Australian team managed the same distance with each diver carrying 5 tanks each with triples on their backs and a tank under each arm. The 4,000 metre continuous swim from the rock pile to the 2,000 metre mark and back lasted 4 hours.

**1982** - In September, a team headed by Morrison including South Australians Ron Allum and Peter Rogers, used the new sled technique manufactured from PVC pipe to carry additional dive cylinders and managed 2,500 meters past the 'Rock Pile' in the second sump and emerged into a huge underground lake and dry rock chamber the likes of which had never been seen in Australia. The second dry rock pile, a chamber 10 metre high and 250 metres long was named 'Toad Hall' by the divers. To discover why it was named Toad Hall, you will have to go there your self as 'many will wonder, but few will know'. (This is a secret kept by those whom have adventured there.) A third sump was discovered at the farthest end of the 250 metre long Toad Hall rock pile.

**1983** - In September, a five person team of French cave explorers headed by brothers Frances and Eric Le Guen set a new world record for underwater penetration. The French had bought with them two high powered German Aquazepp underwater scooters and had transported enough gear to 'Toad Hall' to mount two separate attempts on the Australian 1982 record by diving solo into the third sump of Cocklebiddy. Eric Le Guen did the first dive and managed a 1460 metres penetration into the third sump from Toad Hall and his brother Frances on a later dive managed to push the cave another 90 metres, by squeezing through one restriction but was stopped by a second restriction too tight for him to pass with his back mounted tanks. A total of 1550 metres of line was laid in the 3rd sump. On the second dive, the brothers broke the entrance lake surface of the first sump 47 hours after their initial departure.

**1983** - Early in the year before the French divers enter the scene, Ron Allum designed a purpose made sled to mount a dive past Toad Hall, into the third sump of Cocklebiddy. The sled was designed to carry 14 dive cylinders, sleeping gear, food and drinking water, included twin adjustable buoyancy systems that could be controlled by a single diver to maintain the sled at neutral buoyancy. (Note: Drinking water has to be taken on

extended trips into Cocklebiddy as the salt content of the cave water is too high for human consumption.) The first proto type sled was manufactured in his shed and had its first trial run in Thorndon Park Reservoir in the outer suburbs of Adelaide, South Australia and proved to be a success. After the first trial, another 3 sleds were made and plans were made for the next attempt on Cocklebiddy. In October, after the French raid on our cave, a combined Western and South Australian Team made an all out Australian assault on Cocklebiddy to regain their rightful status of being the kings of Cocklebiddy. New comers to the South Australian team were Paul Arbon, Chris Brown, Lester Jerman, George Navas and Dennis Thamm. The plan was simple, 16 divers with 4 gear laden sleds to traverse the 1,000 metres in the first sump from the cave entrance to the Rock pile, a 45 minute to 1 hour swim pushing the sled. Carry 3 sleds and gear over the Rock Pile and reassemble. Six divers with 3 sleds in the second sump for the 2,500 metre trip from the Rock Pile to Toad Hall, a 2 \_ to 3 hour swim. Carry 1 sled and gear over the Rock Pile and reassemble. Three divers being Hugh Morrison, Ron Allum and Peter Rogers to push the sled in the third sump to the restriction at 1,460 metres first push by French diver Francis Le Guen the month earlier that year. Leave the sled and swim ahead with each diver wearing 3 back mounted tanks. At the 1,550 metre mark, Morrison removed his 3 back mounted tanks, left his 2 buddies and push on ahead solo with a single tank pushed in front of him. He negotiated the restriction at 1,550 metres that stop the French team, and after passing through a second restriction, managed to push the third sump an additional 240 metre. This point was 1,790 metres under water from Toad Hall and a distance of 5,290 meters of under water passage and a total of 6,240 metres from the cave entrance. A world record dive with a return underwater distance of 10,580 metres. The under ground time was 55 hours and the entire expedition was achieved within a space of 7 days.

**1986** - A 5 man team including Paul Arbon, Chris Brown and Dennis Thamm, 3 of the back up divers from the 1983 Australians expedition and backup by Brenton Woolcock and Ulrich Hofner, used one of the 1983 expedition sleds and demonstrated that a small team could make the dive to Toad Hall.

**1995** - An Australian team headed by Chris Brown made an attempt to extend the known length of Cocklebiddy Cave. Team members included Dennis Thamm and Stefan Eberhard, both members of the 1983 expedition and David Doolette, Peter Girdler, Richard McDonald, Tim Payne, Wolf Seidal and Brenton Woolcock. With a Channel nine documentary film crew in tow, the dive plan was simple. From previous experience gained by Brown, Thamm and Woolcock from the 1988 Pannikin Plains expedition where a TV documentary Nullarbor Dreaming was made, the technique developed of towing the sleds with underwater scooters was used. With one Aquazepp under water scooter as used by the French divers in 1983 and 2 Aquamacks, (a copy of the Aquazepps made by McDonald), 3 sleds were towed through the first sump to the Rock Pile

accompanied by 8 divers. Two sleds, the 3 under water scooters and a large amount of gear was transported over the Rock Pile. Five divers continued in the second sump and traversed the 2,500 metres to Toad hall towing the sleds in 1 \_ hours, a full hour shorter than swimming a sled. Base camp was set up in Toad Hall for a 2 day stay. The Aquazepp, 8 tanks and a specially designed 'no mount' sled was ferried across Toad Hall to the third sump. The 'no mount sled was an aluminium frame that had 2 tanks strapped into, 2 torches mounted at the front and had an inflatable bag incorporated into the frame that could have air pumped into it from one of the tanks. This was done to make the 'no mount' neutrally buoyant and easy to push in front on the diver. The idea of using the 'no mount' sled was to be able to push it ahead of the diver and make it easier to negotiate tight restrictions with out the burden of back mounted tanks. After assembling the equipment, Brown, with 3 back mounted, 1 side mounted and 4 dive cylinders attached to the Aquazepp, took a solo dive into the third sump. At the 1,200 metres mark from Toad Hall, the cave became too low to safely negotiate whilst riding the Aquazepp. The under water scooter was parked on the rock floor of the cave and Brown removed the 'no mount' with the 2 tanks attached and continued into the cave whilst breathing off his back tanks. At the 1,550 mark, the furthest point reached by the 1983 French team due to a tight restriction and the point where Hugh Morrison left his 2 buddies and continued on alone with a single tank, Brown removed his 3 back mounted tanks and continued on through the restriction with his 'no mount' sled with 2 tanks and a single side mounted tank. After negotiating 2 tighter restrictions, he came across the abandoned line reel left by Morrison at the 1,790 metre mark, the furthest point of his penetration on the 1983 expedition. Brown tied one of his two line reels onto Morrisons line reel and continued on into the cave. Then tunnel was about 1 metre in diameter and continued on for 20 metres and then the roof slopped down and met the floor and the tunnel abruptly ended. With enough air and 300 metres of line on his 2 reels this was very frustrating to Brown. He had achieved 1,810 metres from Toad Hall and 6,260 metres from the cave entrance of which 5,310 metres were under water. He tied his line off on a rock on the floor and looked around. The only continuing passage was on the left going down at a steep grade and a very low and tight passage about 400mm high and 1 to 1.5 metres wide. Brown dropped his 'No mount' sled, unfastened his side mount tank and continued down this passage for a short distance with the single tank. As the passage was not getting any reasonable amount larger and recalling the comment by David Doolette, his second in command, that if you die you can not claim a record, he exited the tight passage and conceded it was better to exit the cave alive instead of getting permanently stuck and pondering his final moments in this world as his single tank slowly ran out of air. 188 minutes after leaving Toad Hall, Brown arrived back at the start of the third sump but could not surface for 60 minutes as he had to decompress at 3 metres depth to avoid the bends before he could relay his news to his crew.

**1997** - Tim Payne and Stefan Eberhard conduct the first ►



"alpine style" approach to Cocklebidy: two divers armed with 6 cylinders and 2 scooters each and "an attitude", they dive to Toad Hall and Tim Payne scootered almost to the end of the known cave in Sump 3 and explored a couple of side passages on his way back. The team were on site for only one week.

**2003** – A team including push divers Karl Hall and Craig Challen, and support divers Paul Hosie, Paul Boler, and Dave Apperley pushed to the end of the line laid by Chris Brown in 1995 in Sump 3 plus another 5m. The expedition differed from previous attempts in that rebreathers were now utilised, along with a number of underwater scooters. The push divers later claimed no credit for extending the cave and acknowledged all the hard work done in previous dives by Morrison and Brown.

**2005** - An Australian team of divers including George Yarra, Tania Yarra, Chris Ross, Dean Laffan and Ben Hoskin set up the cave with a large number of scooters and cylinders and conduct multiple runs to Toad Hall. This includes a record when Tania Yarra becomes the first woman to reach Toad Hall and the longest cave dive in Australia by a female.

## REGULATION CHANGES, 04/07

### 1. As per the CDAA Constitution and Regulations:

Constitution 13(6) Fees.  
Regulations 3. Amending the Regulations.

### Schedule 2.

Levy to be added. "Kilsbys lease fee \$10.00."  
"Total Annual fees now \$80"

### Note:

The Kilsbys' lease now held by the CDAA will need to be paid for by the Association. A number of options were put forward by members and the Directors to meet this amount. It was suggested and then voted upon that as all diving members had access to the site that the fairest way to pay the fee was to levy the membership with a \$10.00 fee payable annually with normal membership fees. Therefore the annual renewal fee will be \$70.00 plus \$10.00 plus any late fee, back fee, joining fee or other fee deemed required. Life members and Office bearers who are exempt from fees whilst in office will not be required to pay the fee nor will associated members (non-diving).

### 2. Schedule 2

Instructor Membership Fee added "or Joining Fee" \$80  
Added "Cave or Penetration Instructor upgrade fee" \$40

### 3. Removed Ewens Ponds as a listed CDAA rated site

### 4. SPECIAL SITE INFORMATION BULLETIN NUMBER 7A

(April 2007)5L230 – TANK CAVE  
Tank Cave Familiarisation Schedule

In preamble removed:

"Group 4 dives are optional, they can be conducted anytime after group 3 dives are completed. They are not required to complete the schedule."

Group 2 increased number of dives from 3 to 4.

Group 6 changed to

"the first 3 stage dives in Tank Cave must be done on dives in which the stage tanks are carried and used but not counted in air calculations."

**5. Schedule 5.** Point 1 changed to "A filled out Special Visitors Form (downloads section, CDAA website)"

## REGULATION CHANGES, 06/07

1.1

8 2) added

.....training forms, photos, CDAA payments, records proforma must

**2006** – A small team of divers - Tim Payne, George Yarra, and Stefan Eberhard – utilizing underwater scooters tow sleds (modified originals from the 1983 expedition) of cylinders, scooter batteries, food etc. to Toad Hall where they camp for 3 days and commence the task of mapping Sump 3.

**2007** – The mapping of Cocklebidy continues with another 4 day camp at Toad Hall. Tim Payne and George Yarra are joined by Cocklebidy veteran Chris Brown, Mick Quillinan and Dean Johnson. Much of the mapping of Sump 3 is completed, some new line is laid in side passages, and about one third of Sump 2 is mapped.

Note: There have been numerous other expeditions into Cocklebidy Cave over the years, some reaching Toad Hall and beyond. Only those which the authors consider to be significant in the history and exploration of Cocklebidy have been included above. This document, along with other areas of CDAA history, will be soon presented online on the website as a wiki which will allow others to contribute and edit.

be sent to the Records Officer within 10 days of any temporary membership card being issued

8 3) added

3) A membership card will be issued when there is proof of completion of the requirements for each certification level as laid down in the Standards and Procedures Manual and the Quality Assurance form has been completed by each student either on-line or in paper form.

9 3) d) added training records including a list of qualifying dives for each certification level.

1.4 Special Visitors

Added in

10) Only one special visitor permit per applicant may be issued in any 12 month period for an Australian resident unless exceptional circumstances exist.

Added in SVP application and process in this part and deleted Schedule 5.

Changed all references to Cavern/Sinkhole to Deep Cavern

Changed 7 a) added in Cave course

7 b) Changed to "skill assessment dive"

Special Site information bulleting number 6 The Shaft Under The Application

Changed Cavern/Sinkhole to "Deep Cavern"

Under General Diving added 40 metres on air

SPECIAL SITE INFORMATION BULLETIN NUMBER 7A (May 2007)5L230 – TANK CAVE

Application / Bookings

changed fees to \$150/year

added:

It is preferable to use the on-line system but if the paper form is used a stamped self-addressed...

### General Diving Information

Added:

Only members will allowed on the property at any time as per Regulations and lease agreement.

Schedule 2 changed Tank cave yearly access fee to \$150/yr

Schedule 4 added in 4. Site Director

Schedule 5

Deleted and amalgamated in to section 1.4

Heike Apps CDAA Business Director.

# CDAA INSTRUCTORS

NAME	Cavern	S'hole	Cave	Penetr
<b>A.C.T.</b>				
APPS, Heike (CDAA 2776)				
BH 02 6249 9170	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
AH 02 6291 0566				
E: heike.apps@ga.gov.au				
<b>N.S.W.</b>				
FEATONBY, Tim (CDAA 3372)				
Mob: 0402 129 253	Yes	Yes		
E: tim.featonby@defence.gov.au				
GRILLS, Peter (CDAA 1780)				
AH 02 4955 4497	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mobile 0419 820 920				
E: peter_grills@hotmail.com				
WALTERS, DESMOND				
BH 02 6041 1405	Yes	Yes	Yes	
AH 02 6025 3506				
dive@descend.com.au				
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</b>				
MARRIOTT, Max (CDAA 1268)				
Mob: 0428 897 897	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
E: dive69@chariot.com.au				
SELBACH, Steve (CDAA 3495)				
Phone: 0413 134 827	Yes	Yes		
Email: steve.selbach@mac.com				
TAYLOR, Ian (CDAA 3568)				
Phone: 0411 118 134	Yes	Yes	Yes	
E: ian.taylor4@defence.gov.au				
<b>VICTORIA</b>				
ALLEN, Terri (CDAA 3483)				
Mob: 0419 176 633	Yes	Yes	Yes	
E: terri.allen@baker.edu.au				
AXTON, Paul (CDAA 2826)				
Phone: 0419 346 442	Yes	Yes	Yes	
E: PALdiving@people.net.au				
BARCLAY, Gary (CDAA 1735)				
AH (03) 5565 8793	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
E: garinda@tpgi.com.au				

NAME	Cavern	S'hole	Cave	Penetr
<b>VICTORIA. cont.</b>				
BOWMAN, Jane (CDAA 1880)				
BH: (03) 5979 2600	Yes	Yes	Yes	
E: info@abocean.com.au				
www.abocean.com.au				
CLARIDGE, Linda (CDAA 2214)				
Mobile 0408 052 070	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
E: garinda@tpgi.com.au				
AH (03) 5565 8793				
DALLA-ZUANNA, John (CDAA 236)				
Penetration instructor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Phone: 0407 887 060				
Email: jdz@paintandcustom.com.au				
HARDMAN, Lorraine (CDAA 2824)				
Mob: 0418 304 120	Yes	Yes		
E: PALdiving@people.net.au				
HEARD, Barrie (CDAA 262)				
Phone: 0419401276	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Email: iantd@dcsl.net.au				
HIGGINS, Andrew (CDAA 3329)				
Mobile: 0413 569164	Yes	Yes		
E: ahhiggins@optusnet.com.au				
LESLIE, Paul (CDAA 3184)				
Phone: (03) 98979 2868	Yes	Yes		
Email: info@diverinstructionservices.com.au				
McDONALD, Warrick (CDAA 1882)				
BH: (03) 5979 2600	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
E: info@abocean.com.au				
Mobile 0408 374 112				
www.abocean.com.au				
MONACO, Rubens (CDAA 1731)				
BH 03 5984-1799	Yes	Yes	Yes	
E: info@idcscuba.com.au				
Mobile: 0413-429-533				
WALTERS, Des (CDAA 687)				
Location: Albury	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Phone: (02) 6041 1405				
Email: dive@descend.com.au				
www.descend.com.au				
WEALTHY, Bob (CDAA 464)				
Mob: 0417 524 005	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Email: somerset@iimetro.com.au				



# Report from the Business Director

HI

The business end of CDAA is doing well. In the next issue of guidelines you will find a draft copy of the financials. Have a read and see where we are spending your money. Let me know if you have any comments.

You will find in this issue of Guidelines an invitation to the CDAA AGM. Please come along to this event being held at the Silver Birch Comfort Inn. To make it more interesting we are lining up a couple of presentations before the meeting. Tea, coffee and nibbles will be provided.

Depending on numbers - we may have a

meal after the meeting. If you are interested - please let me know. There will be a set menu at approximately \$30 - \$35 a head. Also if you wish to book accommodation at the venue - mention the CDAA and you will receive a 10% discount.

Please support your organisation and come along to the AGM. There will be more information in the next issue.

Regards, Heike



## TANK CAVE

~ DATES FOR 2007/08 ~

### REMINDER TO ALL TANK CAVE DIVERS...

A Tank Cave returning diver application form and the annual \$150 fee will be required before any bookings can be accepted.

August	4/5 18/19	January	5/6 19/20
September	1/2 15/16 29/30/Oct 1 (S.A. Labour Day)	February	26/27/28 (Australia Day) 9/10 16/17 23/24
October	04/05/06/07 (Extended W'end for non Vic/S.A. divers)	March	8/9/10 (Vic Labour Day) 21/22/23/24 (Easter) 29/30
November	10/11/12/13 (Project Weekend) 17/18 24/25	April	19/20/21/22 (Extended w'end for non Vic/S.A. divers)
December	8/9 22/23		25/26/27 (Anzac Day)

### INSTRUCTOR MATERIAL ORDERS:

Procedure for ordering student packs:

1. Check you are insured & financial.
2. Send order & cheque or by phone/credit card.
3. Allow 14 days from when the order is received - so allow plenty of time.
4. Student kits cannot be returned.
5. Instructors must be active.
6. Please do not pass my number on to dive shops - you should deal with them not me.

**CONTACT: IAN TAYLOR - 0411 118 134,  
48 ONE AND ALL DRIVE, NORTH HAVEN, SA 5018.**

## UP COMING COURSES

### NEW DEEP CAVERN Courses

2nd July-15th July, September 10th -23rd.

Course Co-ordinator: Jane BOWMAN (03) 95792600 [info@abocan.com.au](mailto:info@abocan.com.au)

July 7 - 15, 2007 in Melbourne & Mt Gambier Instructor: Rubens Monaco  
Ph: (03)5984-1799 M: 0413-429-533 Email: [info@idcscuba.com.au](mailto:info@idcscuba.com.au)

18 August - 27 August 2007 in Melbourne and Mt Gambier  
Instructor: Andrew Higgins - [ahhiggins@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ahhiggins@optusnet.com.au)

September 8 - 16, 2007 in Melbourne & Mt Gambier Instructor: Rubens Monaco  
Ph: (03)5984-1799 M: 0413-429-533 Email: [info@idcscuba.com.au](mailto:info@idcscuba.com.au)

Sept 10th-23rd in Melbourne and Mt Gambier  
Instructors: Jane Bowman and Warrick McDonald - 03 9579 2600 -  
[info@abocan.com.au](mailto:info@abocan.com.au)

29 October - 6 November 2007 in Melbourne and Mt Gambier  
Instructor: Andrew Higgins - [ahhiggins@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ahhiggins@optusnet.com.au)

### Cave Courses

July 21 - 29, 2007 in Melbourne & Mt Gambier Instructor: Rubens Monaco  
Ph: (03)5984-1799 M: 0413-429-533 Email: [info@idcscuba.com.au](mailto:info@idcscuba.com.au)

6-12 August, 2007 in Melbourne and Mt Gambier  
Instructor: Terri ALLEN 0419 176633 [terri.allen@baker.edu.au](mailto:terri.allen@baker.edu.au)  
<http://www.muuc.org.au>

6-12 August, 2007 in Melbourne and Mt Gambier  
Instructors: Jane Bowman and Warrick McDonald 03 9579 2600. E:  
[info@abocan.com.au](mailto:info@abocan.com.au)

### CDAA Penetration Courses

2 weekends Sept 29, 30, Oct 1, 6, 7, 2007 in Mount Gambier  
Course Co-ordinator: Jane BOWMAN (03) 95792600 [info@abocan.com.au](mailto:info@abocan.com.au)

Please download the latest application form off the webpage [www.cavedivers.com.au](http://www.cavedivers.com.au)

### KILSBY'S DATES FOR 2007 (Sat. & Sundays)

July 7/8 and 21/22 • August 4/5 and 18/19 • September 1/2 and 15/16



## CDAA SITE ACCESS - www.cavedivers.com.au

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

CN = CAVERN S = SINKHOLE C = CAVE P = PENETRATION

SITE	LEVEL	OWNER	ACCESS DETAILS
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### MOUNT GAMBIER - SOUTH AUSTRALIA

#### DEH SITES

Ewens Ponds	Nil	DEH P.O. Box 1046 Mt Gambier 5290 (08) 8735 1177	Groups of 6 or more, phone/mail to Dept. for Environment & Heritage (DEH) Smaller groups, no need.  Fax: (08) 8735 1135
Gouldens	CN	DEH	<b>General Diving:</b> Divers to contact DEH and notify of date and site to be dived. Please make requests by phone or fax only.
2 Sisters	CN	P.O. Box 1046	Divers must have the correct CDAA diving endorsement for the site and carry current
Fossil	C	Mt Gambier 5290 Ph: (08) 8735 1177 Fax: (08) 8735 1135	financial CDAA membership card. The diver must have signed an indemnity with DEH before access is permitted. <b>Training:</b> The Instructor is to notify DEH of the date the sites are needed and to forward signed indemnities from each student and their temporary card number/ membership number.
Piccaninnie Ponds	S	as above	Permit holders by phone or fax. Be aware of delicate vegetation. \$25/dive or annual Permit \$55. NOTE: Indemnity form to be completed with m'ship renewal & lasts same length as. M'ship.
Horse & Cart	CN	Peter Cunningham	By phone or mail, 1 week prior. Ph: (08) 8738 4003.
Tea Tree	CN	PO Box 2168, Mt Gambier 5290	
Little Blue	S	District Council of Grant	Little Blue - permission not required - must carry card.
Allendale	C	District Council of Grant	Obtain key from Lady Nelson Tourist Information Centre.
Ela Elap	S	Mr. Peter Norman	Visit the house before diving.
One Tree	S		If no one home - no dive!

#### FORESTRY SA SITES

Dave's Cave	C	Maximum 3 divers all weekends between May & November inclusive (check and update on CDAA website).
Hells Hole	S	At least 4 divers in group - 1 with previous site experience.
Pines	C/P	Unrestricted days or numbers - Cave rated divers must not enter Penetration sections
Mud Hole	C	Unrestricted days or numbers.
Nettle Bed	P	Open every weekend. Maximum of 4 divers per weekend undertaking 1 dive only (check an update on CDAA website)
Stinging Nettle Cave	P	Open every weekend max 3 divers per day undertaking 1 dive per day (check an update on CDAA website).
Iddlebidy	P	Open every Saturday max 4 divers, 1 dive only (check an update on CDAA website)

Owner: Contact Forestry SA by email: forestrysa@forestrysa.sa.gov.au. Fax: (08) 8724 2885 or Phone: (08) 8724 2876 or book on-line via the CDAA website to arrange permit. Collect permits from the Forestry Office, RHS of driveway to Carter Holt, Jubilee Hwy, Mt Gambier.

#### IMPORTANT:

- No diving on Total Fire Ban Days.
- Permit also required to run compressors during fire danger season.
- Keys for Hells Hole, Nettle Bed, Iddlebidy and Stinging Nettle Cave can be obtained from Lady Nelson Visitor Centre on presentation of Forestry SA permits.

Kilsby's	S	Landowner leased to CDAA	Access - Open Fortnightly. Refer to CDAA website. Twin Tanks - Maximum depth of 40 metres on Air. Meet at gate of property at 8.55am or 12.55pm. Book on-line at <a href="http://www.cavedivers.com">www.cavedivers.com</a> or contact Craig at <a href="mailto:kilsby@cavedivers.com.au">kilsby@cavedivers.com.au</a>
		No Visitors	No animals, visitors or mid-week diving allowed.

## CDAA SITE ACCESS

SITE	LEVEL	OWNER	ACCESS DETAILS
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### MOUNT GAMBIER - SOUTH AUSTRALIA (continued)

#### BARNOOLUT SITES

Ten Eighty	S	Scotts Agencies P/L	Access: Grant Sommer ph. 0412 266 826. Mail - 147 Kenihans Road, Happy Valley, SA 5159 Download indemnity and book online at <a href="http://www.cavedivers.com.au">www.cavedivers.com.au</a> . <b>DATES OPEN:</b> Saturday 7th April, Saturday 19th May, Saturday 9th June 2007
Blacks Hole	S	Scotts Agencies P/L	Site undergoing development...Watch this space for information!
Shaft	S	Generally open one weekend a month. Trevor Ashby	For access dates refer to Guidelines or the CDAA webpage. Nitrox as a diving mix is not allowed in the Shaft unless a trimix endorsement is held but deco mixes attached to the shot line are permissible. Refer to Shaft access bulletin within CDAA Regulations. Divers applying to dive in the Shaft for the first time must document dive experience with twin tanks Download form off website. Email: <a href="mailto:shaft@cavedivers.com.au">shaft@cavedivers.com.au</a> (Linda Claridge, 0408 052 070)
Hann's cave	P	P & A Lasslett Manager: Mike Haze	Groups of four divers only apply in writing to Site Director. Limited groups will be allowed access over the summer months. The site is very delicate and therefore only limited access is available. Divers applying will be notified as to further access details. Please include a stamped self addressed envelope.
Engelbrechts - East	C	Mt Gambier Council	Obtain key from Mt Gambier Tourist Information Centre. Access agreement must be signed prior to diving. 2 divers must sign out keys, all divers must sign in
- West	P	Lessee Ph: (08) 8723 2299	advising which groups they are diving with. Diving should be avoided after heavy rain due to possible water contamination. Diving hours are now restricted to 8am to 8pm CST.
Three Sisters	P	Millicent Council	Download Indemnity from Web Page. Access available for experienced Penetration divers only. Low profile or side mounted independent air systems required. Access agreement must be signed prior to diving. Please allow 4 weeks for indemnities to be processed.
McKay's Shaft	S		Contact Email: <a href="mailto:site@cavedivers.com.au">site@cavedivers.com.au</a> .
Tank Cave	P	Mr. DYCE	Access Manager: Noel Dillon. Email: <a href="mailto:noel.dillon@macquarie.com">noel.dillon@macquarie.com</a>
Baker's Cave	C	Manager: Brad Dibble E: <a href="mailto:site@cavedivers.com.au">site@cavedivers.com.au</a>	Please write to the Site Access Director to dive in Baker's Cave. Include stamped self-addressed envelope. Climbing equipment required. Only open October to April.

### NULLARBOR - WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Cocklebidy	C/P		Apply in writing for permission to dive at least 4 weeks in advance of trip to: District Manager, Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), PO Box 234, Esperance, W.A. 6450.
Murra El Elevyn	P/C		Phone: (08) 9083 2100 Fax: (08) 9071 3657.
Tommy Grahams	C		
Weebubbie	S/C	DPI	The Department for Planning and Infrastructure, Midland, State Land Services South East. PO Box 1575, Midland 6936. Contact Bob Hamilton, Email: <a href="mailto:bob.hamilton@dpi.wa.gov.au">bob.hamilton@dpi.wa.gov.au</a> Phone (08) 9347 5047 Fax (08) 9347 5004

### N.S.W. - WELLINGTON CAVES

Limekiln (McCavity)	P/C		Both Penetration and Cave Level are being accepted for this cave depending on it's water level at the time. The cave has a restriction at the entrance which is underwater making it a Penetration Dive. During drought, the water level drops to form a small lake below the restriction allowing experienced Cave Divers access to this delicate cave.
Water (Anticline)	C		Affected by high CO <sub>2</sub> levels during Summer/Autumn. Access is co-ordinated with the Wellington Caves management by Greg Ryan - <a href="mailto:greg@cs.usyd.edu.au">greg@cs.usyd.edu.au</a> . Phone (02)97434157
Rum Jungle Lake	S		Unrestricted access currently exists - Please refer advice Guidelines #68 or check CDAA website.
Burrinjuck	S/C/P		This is a tri rated site. Please see details in issue No. 73. There are no specific access arrangements.



Please send to: Helen Higgins  
CDAA, 3 Harris Crescent,  
Glen Waverley, VIC 3150.

Cardholders Name: _____	Order Date: _____	Sub Total \$ _____
Address: _____		Plus P&H <u>\$6.00</u>
_____ Postcode: _____		<b>TOTAL \$</b> _____
Card No. <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 150px; height: 20px; vertical-align: middle;"></table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Bankcard <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa	
Expiry Date: _____	Signature: _____	Ph: ( ) _____ Fax: ( ) _____

# KILSBY'S SINKHOLE - NEW SITE ACCESS CONDITIONS

- JUNE 2007 - PAGE 31



# Kilsby's Sinkhole 2007 Mapping Project Update

By Richard Harris #1360

After a long period of negotiation and organisation, the Kilsby's deep mapping project finally got off the ground with a very successful weekend over May 19th and 20th 2007. With the new lease arrangements about to commence allowing increased access and mixed gas diving in the sinkhole; it is timely that we study the deeper sections of the site both for our own interest and for the future deep diving to be done there.

The original mapping project was performed over two weekends in 1983 by a large team which included Peter Horne, Ian Lewis, Peter Stace and Phil Prust. This resulted in a high quality map down to 40m but left a significant part of the cave only roughly sketched. So the two primary goals of this current project are to more accurately detail those parts of the cave below 40m, and to push any unexplored leads at depth.

Project participants: Air divers - Peter Horne, Ian Lewis, Peter Browne, and Scott Edwards. Mixed gas divers - John Dalla-Zuanna, Chris Edwards, Richard Harris and Grant Pearce. A combination of side mounts, back mounts and closed circuit rebreathers were used over the weekend. The 8 divers made a total of 22 dives between them without incident.

To summarise, the following occurred on the dives (see sketch map). The old survey marks A, B and C were relocated at the back of the cave and re-tagged. From the deeper point 'C' in the SE corner (46m), push dives were made in a radial pattern to probe the boulder collapse and check for the alleged deep passage rumoured to exist! The deepest area found was named the Scissor Room (because of the 2 squeezes that must be passed to enter and because Grant's

shears were both lost and then retrieved in there by Harry!). This finished at 64m and required side mounts to enter. No extensions from this room could be seen and a line was left in situ for the time being. More exploration is still required to the SW of 'C' and along the back wall and no doubt the oncoming wave of trimix divers will push every nook and cranny.

The entire expanse of the back of the cave was surveyed in a preliminary fashion to provide a baseline for future mapping, and an orange line was left in situ.

In addition, a triangle of orange line has been left in the cave between '00', 'A' and 'C'. Most of the old line has been cleared out except the long yellow line which heads down from the old survey station in the shallows to the wall behind 'C'. This line is well known to most and is a useful guide right into the cave. Thanks to the generosity of Chris Edwards, a permanent shot line has been attached to the pontoon with appropriately placed rings for hanging decompression gases.

The team expects to return on at least 2 more occasions to add more detail to the survey and continue exploration work. If anyone finds the "mother lode" down there feel free to share so we can add it to the map! Much of the deep section is best suited to side mounts and some areas contain a few loose rocks so take care. Please leave the current lines unmolested! Another update will follow the next mapping weekend.

*Many thanks to all the participants and to Mr Ross Kilsby who made us very welcome on the property!*

## KILSBY'S GEOLOGY RESEARCH

One component of this Kilsby's study is to use the mapping data to try to understand the geological forces that have formed such a magnificent sinkhole site.

Most sinkholes tend to have rounded and sloping walls but the upper part of Kilsby's Hole is almost rectangular. Indeed, the northern wall is a very large sheer flat vertical face, very different from most sinkhole walls and looking like a fault line. Even more surprising is that it is not actually a fault line, but there is one in Kilsby's running along the huge south eastern wall and is visible at about 30m in the roof corner high above our survey points B and C. Pete Horne and myself have laid shallow grid lines for the general survey, but I will also use these to map the faultline and other layers of flints and strata in the limestone in this huge wall, using a vertical grid system in the future. This has never been done before, anywhere in cave diving in the world. Why am I so interested in this? Because Kilsby's Hole gives the best visibility and opportunity to understand the role of geological faulting and fracturing which appears to have caused many of our sinkholes to form. It also will give good clues about where they may run and possibly extend at depth - which all divers want to know!

Ian Lewis



Pictures from Kilsby's Mapping Project.  
By Richard 'Harry' Harris





# BLACKS - 1981

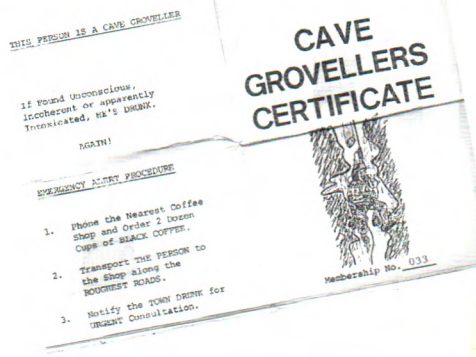
The climber is John Stevens. The guy holding the rope is Graham Hendricks.  
Submitted by Richard Wirski.... Ahh the good old days!!!



## OLD CAT CARDS...

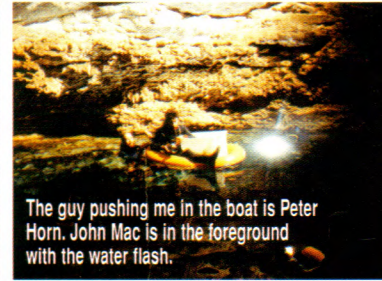
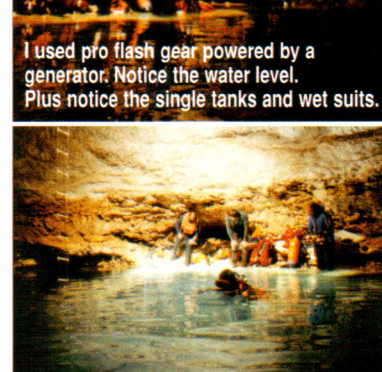
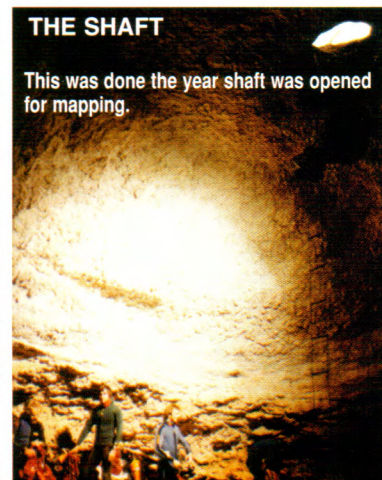
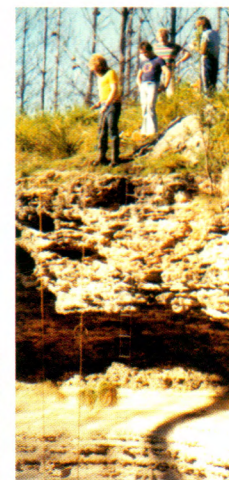
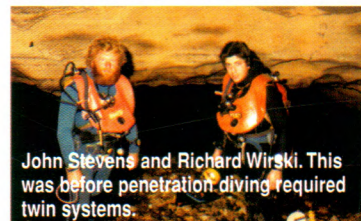
Have a gander at the images below of MY old CDAA Cat 3 card - 1981, GOD!!!! (Don't look too closely at my PHOTO though, I am depressed enough as it is, and you can see why I couldn't use THAT photo on my current card anymore!!!). Andy Cox (ala Andrew Grovel Cox) also set up a fun group which had a similar Cave Groveller's card which I've also scanned herewith - have a look at both cards' safety instructions!

Submitted by Peter Puddles



## The good 'ol days... HISTORY OF CDAA The 80's

Submitted by Richard Wirski



### THE SHAFT

This was done the year shaft was opened for mapping.

### HELL'S HOLE

I used pro flash gear powered by a generator. Notice the water level. Plus notice the single tanks and wet suits.

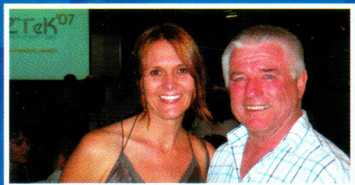
John Stevens and Richard Wirski. This was before penetration diving required twin systems.

The guy pushing me in the boat is Peter Horn. John Mac is in the foreground with the water flash.

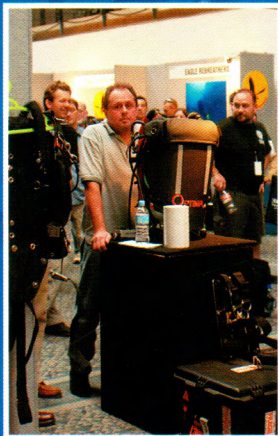




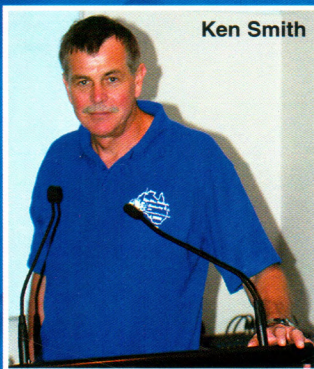
Photos by  
Rob Brennan



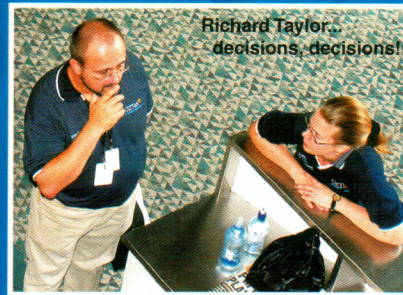
Tania Yarra (Toad Hall 2006) meets Ron Allum (Toad Hall 1982) at Oztek 2007 in Sydney.  
Photo: Ken Smith



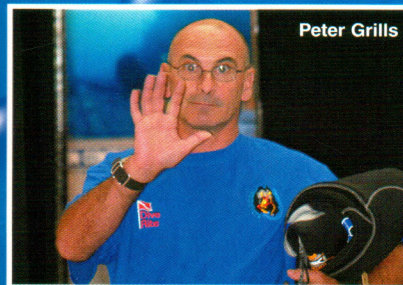
Audience for Tania's talk



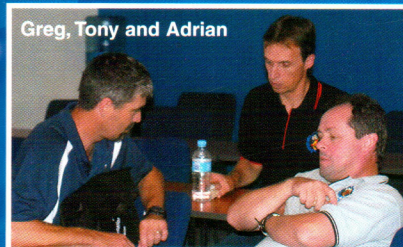
Ken Smith



Richard Taylor...  
decisions, decisions!



Peter Grills



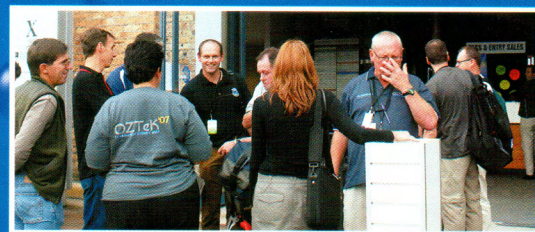
Greg, Tony and Adrian



Steve Trewavas and Tony Davis



Rick Stanton receives an unexpected 46th birthday present from Richard Taylor. Rick was attending Oztek straight after his record breaking dive to 177 metres in the Pearse Resurgence in N.Z.  
Photo: Ken Smith



Terri Allen



# ~ GUIDELINES GALLERY ~



Piccaninnie Ponds, showing Ben Baade in The Cathedral and The Chasm. Photo Luke Baade



Above: Liz Rogers at Fossil Cave.  
Below: Divers at Kilsby's.  
Photos: Dean Chaimberlain



David Pearce in Engelbrechts East  
Photo by Nathan Crettenden  
CDAА # 3972

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