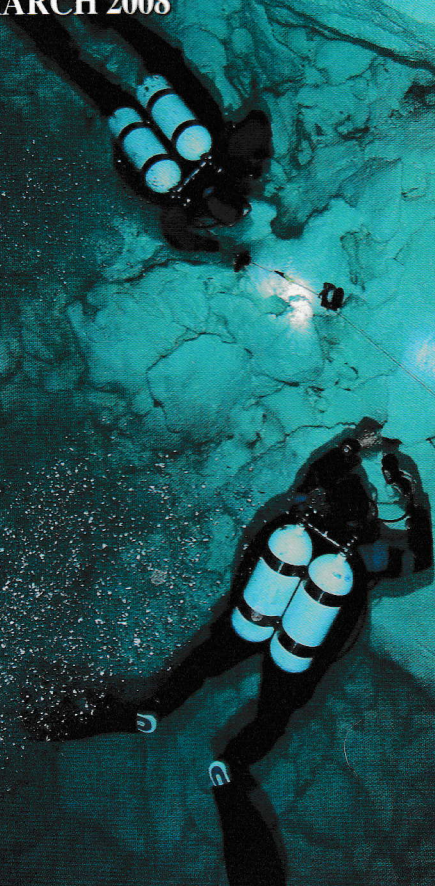


## C.D.A.A. Newsletter

No. 103 - MARCH 2008



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**CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**

(Incorporated in South Australia)

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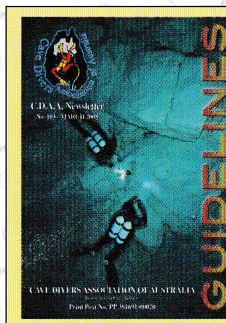
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### Front cover:

Photo title:  
"Ian Taylor and  
Suzie Quick inside  
Weebubbie"

Photographed by  
Craig Larkin using a  
D100 in Subal housing.

Composite art design:  
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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## CONTACT LIST

Please contact the most relevant person or, if unsure write to:  
C.D.A.A. P.O. Box 290 North Adelaide 5006  
Website: [www.cavedivers.com.au](http://www.cavedivers.com.au)

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR** - Warrick McDonald  
Email: [national@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:national@cavedivers.com.au) Mobile: 0408 374 112.

**Manager Research & Mapping** - Stuart McGregor.  
Email: [research@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:research@cavedivers.com.au) Mobile: 0438 329 942.

**STANDARDS DIRECTOR** - Steve Trewavas  
Email: [standards@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:standards@cavedivers.com.au) Mobile: 0423 021 488.

**Instructor Records** - Andrew Higgins.  
3 Harris Crescent, Glen Waverley, VIC. 3150.  
Email: [ahiggins@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ahiggins@optusnet.com.au) Mobile: 0413 569 164.

**Instructor Materials** - Ian Taylor  
Email: [materials@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:materials@cavedivers.com.au) Mobile: 0411 118 134.

**BUSINESS DIRECTOR** - Heike Apps  
Phone: 02 6291 0566. Mobile: 0407 230 108  
email: [business@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:business@cavedivers.com.au)

**Treasurer** - Tammy Beattie. Email: [tazytam@dodo.com.au](mailto:tazytam@dodo.com.au)

**SITE DIRECTOR** - Gary Barclay  
Email: [garinda@bigpond.com](mailto:garinda@bigpond.com) Mob: 0407 527 921.

**Kilsby's Access** - Craig Larkin.  
Email: [kilsby@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:kilsby@cavedivers.com.au) Mobile: 0418 821 191.

**Tank Cave Access** - Noel Dillon  
Email: [tankcave@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:tankcave@cavedivers.com.au) Mobile: 0407 530 103.

**Shaft Access** - Linda Claridge  
Email: [shaft@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:shaft@cavedivers.com.au) Mobile: 0408 052 070.

**Quality Control Officer** - Stan Bugg  
Email: [sbbugg@micronica.com.au](mailto:sbbugg@micronica.com.au) AH: 03 9379 8791

**PUBLICATIONS & RECORDS DIRECTOR** - Terri Allen  
Email: [publications@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:publications@cavedivers.com.au) Mobile: 0419 176 633.

**Records Officer (Membership matters)** - Jason Caldwell.  
Email: [records@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:records@cavedivers.com.au)  
PO Box 840, Beaconsfield VIC 3807

**Graphics & Advertising** - David Bryant.  
Email: [seapics@alphalink.com.au](mailto:seapics@alphalink.com.au) BH/AH: (03) 59 863 104.  
Mobile: 0417 125 710. P.O. Box 2198 Rosebud VIC 3939.

**CDA A Products** - Helen Higgins - Mobile: 0411 720 440  
3 Harris Crescent, Glen Waverley, VIC 3150  
Email: [products@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:products@cavedivers.com.au)

**Webmaster**: Tony Richardson. Email: [web@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:web@cavedivers.com.au)

### AREA REPRESENTATIVES

**NSW**: Mark Jobbins ph: 0411 191 590  
Email: [nswrep@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:nswrep@cavedivers.com.au)

**South-East SA** - Grant Pearce Mob: 043 8833103.  
Email: [sarep@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:sarep@cavedivers.com.au)

**Public Officer** - Kevin Burrowes  
Phone: 08 8272 6833 email: [kburrowes-cpa@senet.com.au](mailto:kburrowes-cpa@senet.com.au)

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## EDITOR'S CORNER

Another report from Florida this time from that great contributor Ken Smith.

Thanks to Harry and the team for the new maps of the deep part of Kilsbys. These will also be put up on the website. Thanks also to Mattie Skinner and Craig "Kilsby" Larkin for their photos and congrats to Craig on the front cover. Speccie photos from Dean Chamberlain again, this time of Junee cave in Tasmania. I believe not many divers have brought cameras through to this chamber in Tassie so quite a rare look at these amazing decorations. JDZ has an article on slug lake and Gary an article from Wookey Hollow so a good mixture of different places.

Deep cavern and Penetration course materials are almost ready including new instructor manuals, new students manuals, new skills, new videos of skills and new powerpoint slides.

Sixteen of us including many deep cavern members were part of the last dive day at 1080 in February before the site was closed. I guided here for the day to help develop this site and get things moving especially for our deep cavern members. How sad to see this site closed again and how sad that many making comments about the access were pen level divers who said they didn't care and they didn't dive there anyway. Shame they didn't think about their DC buddies. Lets hope we can get access in future to these 3 main sites as well as the potential other 7 caves. I believe keeping sites like this is very important especially for our entry level members and for retaining them in the association and gives great access to deeper places for trimix, etc.

This issue also marks the very sad passing of Barrie Heard in January. There was a terrific turn up at his funeral a real who's who of the dive industry including many CDAA members. Thank you to Tony for his very nice tribute in this issue.

Finally a huge thanks goes to our hardest working volunteer Michael Kelly who hands over the records officer job at the end of the month to Jason Caldwell. Michael's efficiency in getting cards made and sorting out member's problems and "stories" was truly inspiring. He has an amazing sense of humour and has really made my job so much more enjoyable/bearable in the tough times. His loyalty to both me and the directorate and association was deeply touching. He even managed to teach Warrick a few internet acronyms! So now I hope Michael has some free time to spend with his young family and hopefully some time to get back in to cave diving. Thanks mate enjoy your "retirement" and welcome Jason who brings great IT expertise and is working with Tony to transform our database to on line, making it easier for student registration and eventually membership renewal. Speaking of which, memberships are due June 30. Please see the new form in the centre of Guidelines.



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.



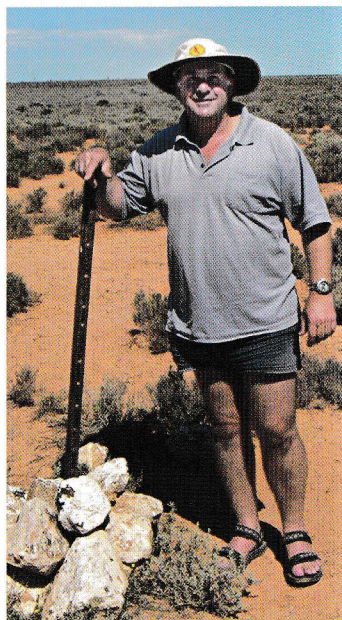
## Barrie Heard

*I, along with many other members of the association, was shocked to hear of Barrie's passing. While Barrie was not a close mate, I had known him for over 25 years and our recent expedition to Cocklebidy Cave together compels me to write about one of the association's longest serving instructors and most experienced divers.*

I first met Barrie at a CDAA Category 3 test in the early 1980s when he was the CDAA State (Vic) Testing Officer – one of many positions he held within the association over the years. Barrie was an individual and would think "outside the box". On the occasions the CDAA held instructor meetings, Barrie always questioned the status quo. He championed the use of manifolds years before the phrase 'Do It Right' was coined in an environment in the late 1980s where everyone used independents. He was one of the first to dive the western side of

Engelbrechts Cave and was instrumental in the discovery of the air chamber at the end of the first sump. Barrie worked on the deep mapping project in The Shaft (under the ASF-CDG banner) where his expertise in on site mixing of trimix was invaluable.

Barrie's expertise wasn't confined to cave diving. Wreck diving probably took precedence. His exploits are well documented including discovery of the City of Launceston, Mountain Maid and other wrecks. Barrie was the first to dive the HMAS Bayonet scuttled by the navy in deep water well offshore in the hope of making it off limits to divers. He owned the Australian agency for IANTD. Barrie loved his cars. He held the unofficial "record" for Melbourne to Mt Gambier in a time under three and a half hours in his XU1 Torana in the late 1970s. I had the "privilege" to travel to Mount Gambier on numerous occasions in his Range Rover, complete with billowing roof lining, no internal door panels (it was in a continual state of



Barrie above Toad Hall -  
Cocklebidy Cave – April 2007

renovation), and huge transmission whine (it had done hundreds of thousands of kms). Barrie was a dedicated ski patroller at Mt Hotham where he worked for well over 20 seasons. In his professional life he was Principal of a small rural primary school in eastern Victoria.

My fondest memories of Barrie, however, are just last April when Barrie accepted a role as support diver in our team to dive Cocklebidy Cave. On site at Cocklebidy Cave, Barrie was the ultimate team player. He saved the expedition early on when he dismantled and repaired three scooter chargers that had been damaged on the flying fox. While Barrie was easily the most experienced diver in the group, he accepted his role without question. On one occasion just before a big dive he asked what my dive plan was. "Get wet, have fun, come back" I quipped (the standard Chris Brown dive plan). He just looked at me with that twinkle in his eye. I am sure he did not approve as Barrie was a perfectionist when it came to planning and technical diving. Barrie's diving skill came to the fore when he coolly took off for Toad Hall complete with twin independents (he was happy to standardise with the rest of the team), three stage cylinders, and second scooter in tow (after minimal experience in using scooters). On the return trip in sump two he gleefully "cut a few donuts" to allow his buddy on a slower scooter to catch up. Barrie took the record of oldest man to Toad Hall and at 53 years of age that record should stand for some time. Above all Barrie was a loving husband to Andrea and adoring father to Lauren, Tom and Ben. Barrie, you will be sorely missed.

Tony Richardson. CDAA 641

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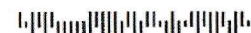
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23 January 2008



Cave Divers Association of Australia  
Attn: Heike Apps  
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Dear Heike & Fellow Members

We are writing to convey our sympathy on the passing of the late **Barrie Thomas Heard** and to thank you for your recent donation.

Memorial donations are vital to our work and we hope that you will gain some comfort in the knowledge that your donation will be used to further our fight against heart, stroke and blood vessel disease.

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Donor Liaison Officer

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[www.heartfoundation.org.au](http://www.heartfoundation.org.au)



# SLUG LAKE, MAMMOTH CAVE, JENOLAN

by John Dalla-Zuanna #236 (Photos by Paul Boler)

## Slug Lake, what an uninviting name, that is, unless you're a cavediver....

...arguably, one of the most exciting cave dive locations found in the Jenolan Caves region, NSW.

Recently, Ken Smith, by now known as the legendary "Pinger Man" aka nuclear physicist and rocket scientist, and I, generally good looking cavediver and all round nice guy, got an invitation from the Sydney University Speleological Society (SUSS) to assist in their ongoing survey of the underground riverways throughout the Jenolan Caves region in NSW, Australia. In particular, the pinpointing of Ground Zero (GZ) of a place called the Gargle Chamber, which, at this point in time, is only accessible via Slug Lake!

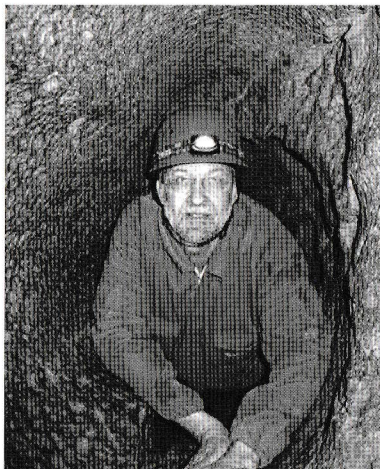
What does all this mean? The story of the ongoing SUSS exploration of the Jenolan Caves started way back in 1948, with current preparations for SUSS's 60th Birthday Celebrations underway. (A link to their activities can be found at [www.ee.usyd.edu.au/suss/](http://www.ee.usyd.edu.au/suss/))

Through numerous excursions over the years, and surveys, an excellent map of the underground system of one of the most complicated caves in the world, has slowly evolved.

Add the presence of an underground river system and the map gets bigger and of course more complex and exciting... (link -

[http://www.trimixdivers.com/Navigate.do?tableName=caves\\_maps&code=jenolansn\\_map](http://www.trimixdivers.com/Navigate.do?tableName=caves_maps&code=jenolansn_map))

Thus, on the weekend of the 15/16 Sept 07, the plan included getting a party of 12 people including the two divers, Michael Collins (of <http://www.trimixdivers.com> fame) and myself to Slug Lake with our dive equipment. From here, we were to set up series of pinger points to assist in bringing the accuracy of the current sketches of the waterway beyond Slug Lake, and in particular, locate the position of the Gargle Chamber within the mapped network of the dry passages on either side of the waterways.

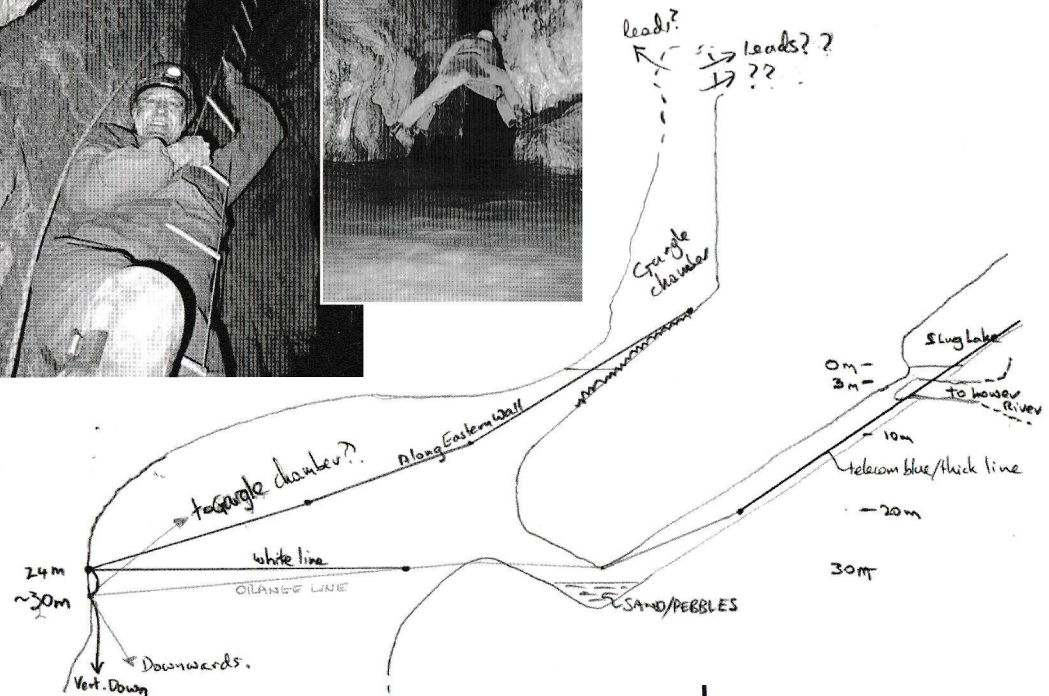
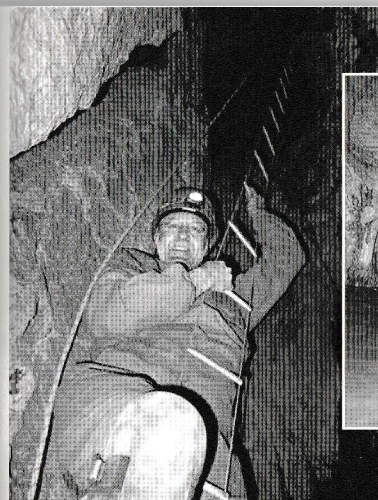
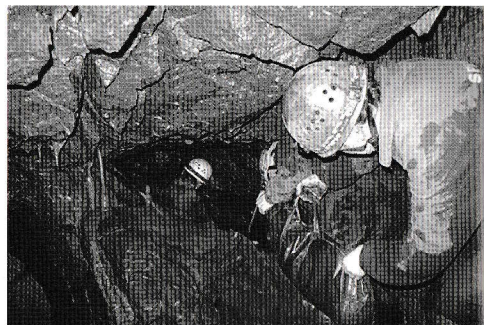


Early on Saturday morning, the party entered the enormous Mammoth Cave, and very quickly found ourselves on our hands and knees crawling through a myriad of passages, descending vertical drops by rope (the Forty Footer), sliding through scalloped tubes, bracing across crevices over streams, wading through chest high waterways, rigging a Tyrolean Traverse (flying fox) to transport packs and dive gear across the river and up the pitch on the far side and finally sliding down a 40 degree long muddy sloop to the waters edge of Slug Lake. The journey to the lake with all the equipment took approximately 3 hours!

Whilst Slug Lake was initially dived by Ron Allum as far back as 1980, further dive pushes into the waterway on air only yielded more question marks as the depth of exploration reach 70 meters with no end in site. In Dec, 1998, the SUSS team gained permission to explore further with Trimix Open Circuit and here, Ron Allum and Rod O'Brien descended to a depth of 96meters leaving a continuing descending passage....

Slug Lake is currently the only access point to what could very well be the deepest section of the Jenolan streamway with the very real potential of this being the deepest cave dive in Australia.

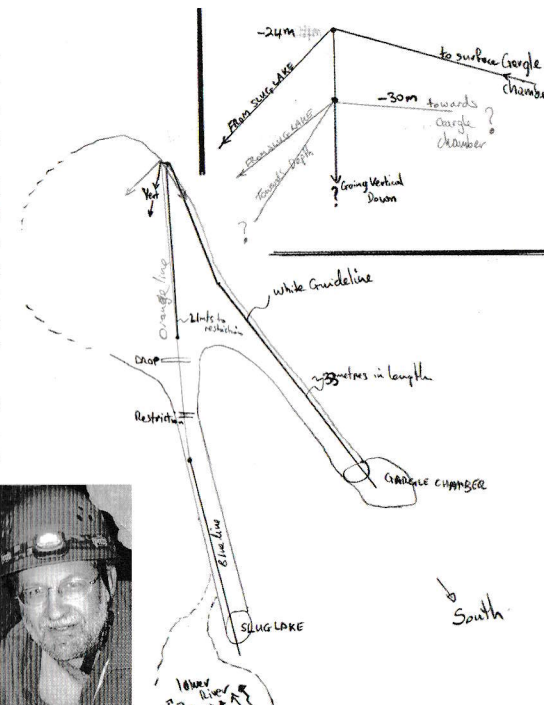
On entering the dive, you find yourself in a roughly round tube of approx 3-4m diameter and dropping at an angle of approx 60 deg. At 5m depth a streamway



enters from your left and you can feel the gentle out-pouring of the Lower River into the downwards passage. At 30m the scene gets interesting... you are at the base of the siphon tube and the soil and sediment has settled forming a restriction of less the 100mm high! The guideline slips under the upside down apex and here the diver encounters a 40cm length of line attached to the guideline with a trowel attached to the other end! Yes you guessed it, time to dig! The sediment floor does give way to digging and forward pushing by the diver, and after approx 2meters you break out up into a rising passage and then the floor drops away from under you....

By the way, the visibility of the first diver on this dive was approx 100mm, and the second diver, 0mm. Yes, those figures are correct! The riverway visibility can reduce to zero, depending on prior upstream activity, sometimes though, upto 10m viz can be experienced.

So, following the current fixed line finds you swimming in free space until reaching the far wall





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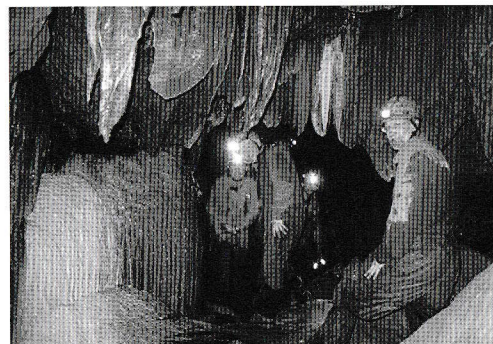


of the chamber at 24m, where one line heads downwards into an abyss and the other heads upwards and right to another tube (similar to the entrance tube) rising also at approx 60 deg and surfacing into what is now called the Gargle Chamber.

The Gargle Chamber is a vertical fissure like chamber with mainly smooth walls, little more than 5m across and 10m long, here, the diver exiting from the waters edge, is faced with a vertical wall of approx 10m, which needs to be scaled in order to reach the upper levels with possibility of new passageways. The muddy sloping floor and sharp rocks need to be negotiated with extreme caution and then a vertical wall needs to be climbed. To date, it has been climbed to a height of approx 5m by bolting the wall, and more trips are required to continue.

Back at the u/w junction, heading downwards into a somewhat large "cavity", there is a floor at approx 60m and an entrance to another sump, which heads down to a depth of at least 96m and continues downwards.

SUSS is committed to the ongoing exploration in this cave, however permits, logistics and personnel are required and access, not withstanding trimix requirements, requires due process. Ken and I would like to express our gratitude to the SUSS team for giving us the opportunity in assisting with their exploration. ●



## 'Standards Direction'



Plenty of exciting news in this edition of Guidelines. The volunteers have been working hard and CDAA divers have been off exploring extensively all over the planet.

Richard Harris, Grant Pearce and Andrew Bowie recently dived the Pearce Resurgence in New Zealand to a depth of 182m on a Mk15.5 Rebreather and wistfully watched the cave tunnel continue onward.... Grant Pearce and others are preparing for multiple dives in to the Blue Lake to assist the City of Mount Gambier with additional information about their greatest attraction. Doctor Andrew Fock from the Melbourne Hyperbaric Unit at the Alfred Hospital is coordinating with various CDAA divers, performing doppler tests on trimix divers, as part of his ongoing scientific research paper into deep stop viability. Stuart MacGregor is about set to announce perhaps the most exciting scientific cave research project in this country. We will be looking for available and qualified cave divers to actively contribute with in mapping, sampling, video and photographic areas of the project. Interested parties please contact the CDAA Mapping Officer (Stuart)

On the course and instructor front, we are in the midst of amalgamating our databases in preparation for our move toward interactive online materials. Update of CDAA course

and program materials have been taking up a lot of our time in an effort to get them modernised and reflective of current diving trends.

On the negative side, Barnoolut is now closed indefinitely and an investigation has been commenced into the actions of one member and his effect on that closure. Additionally, information has also been received that several divers have been diving without current membership after friends with current membership obtain access permits and keys. We are working with Forestry to address that issue. I don't think I need to further express my views on this point.

Although the AGM date has not yet been set I have set to work on scheduling presenters for this year's workshop. I want to include an international flavour and several overseas explorers have been mentioned as potential guest presenters. I hope to see many of you there. If anyone has ideas or requests for included events please contact me to have your input considered.

On a closing note, congratulations to Brian Cornell (58) ably assisted by Tim Vernon-Smith and Bob Wealthy, now the oldest person to successfully reach Toad Hall.

**Steve Trewavas, Standards Director**

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**Contact Suzanne anytime on 0427 884 729.**



# Wookey Cave

**Wookey Hole, Somerset was the site of the UK's first cave dive using Standard Diving Equipment - lead boots, metal helmet and surface supplied air. In 1935 two divers - Penelope Powell and Graham Balcombe entered the water here for the first time at Chamber 3 with this bulky, loaned equipment in a bid to explore and hopefully confirm, a link and possible cave between here and Swildons Sump, some 3 kms away.**

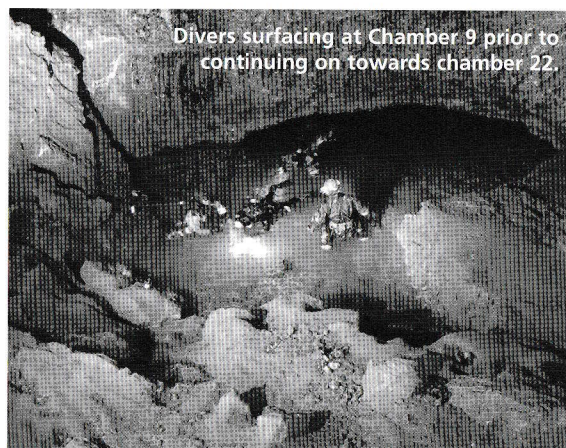
My thoughts were a million miles away from these early days as I slowly entered the cold dark water of Chamber 3. The thick silt was disturbed far less than I expected and that which did lift up created interesting swirling patterns in the thigh deep water around us. Heavy and clay based the bottom was more slippery than I expected though, and care was needed not to end up unceremoniously dumped on your backside.

A final check of our gear - we were all wearing side mounted 55's, and a quick orientation to the location of the fixed line stretching out across the silt beside us and we all slowly sunk beneath the surface to follow Martyn Farr into one of his favourite caves. The first 5-10m was very low vis but once clear of the entry area this increased to a pleasant yet chilly 2-3m vis. We had all shipped our personal dive equipment over to the UK for the trip and I was most appreciative of my dry suit and undergarment in the 9 degree water as I watched Martyn fin along in his wetsuit, rubber boots and fins! Standard cave diving attire for Wales and England it seems.

Swimming along in single file we moved through the cave to Chamber 9, glancing up at the air surface above us as we passed by Chambers 6 and 7. Surfacing at Chamber 9 we were surprised by a mass of pulsating colored lights, loud music and a sea of faces

staring back at us. Not a welcoming party but rather a tour coinciding with our dive. Wookey Hole has regular tours throughout the cave allowing visitors the opportunity to view Chambers 3 - 9 without getting their feet wet and to learn about the history of this cave. This artificial tunnel was driven to this area of the cave in the 1970s by the then owners, Madame Tussauds and allowed 70m of submerged tunnel to be replaced with a 2 minute walk. We descended again, mindful of the fact that in only about 10 minutes we had traversed an area of the cave - 92m in length - that had taken the early explorers 13 years (1935 - 1948) to negotiate.

We continued on with our dive, each section differing from the one before, silty, muddy, sandy, rock collapse or long rock slabs. Down towards Chamber 15 we squeezed through the tightest area of the dive, also the deepest, at just under 22m. Using air and our sidemounted cylinders this was a relatively straightforward exercise but in 1960 when John Buxton finally negotiated this awkward, but passable constriction on a 50/50 mix, lead boots and front mounted rebreather it was a whole different ball game and a major step forward for cave diving and especially for Wookey Hole.



Divers surfacing at Chamber 9 prior to continuing on towards chamber 22.

Meanwhile in other areas of the world the new aqualung was beginning to be used and only a year before had reportedly been used on a dive to 102m in Southern Rhodesia to establish the bottom of the Sleeping Pool. In Britain a few dives had been completed on the aqualung but the conventional organised cave diving fraternity remained sceptical about aqualungs. By

1962 this scepticism waned and the aqualung took over as the equipment of choice. Wetsuits also took over from the old style dry suit and fins replaced the need to walk upright in weighted boots. The style of exploration was changing in Wookey Hole.

As we swam along the tunnel towards Chamber 20 I felt the gently flow of water against me, even in my dry suit and warm undergarment I could feel the chilly 9 degree water cooling me down - bugger the wetsuits! We eventually located the 3 way intersection and surfaced in Chamber 22 - our planned turn around point - for a chat prior to descending back down through the now much lower vis and beginning our traverse out of the cave. The low sandy flattener seemed much more user friendly on the way out with the slight current now working with us. We soon arrived back at chamber 9 - no greeting party this time - very cold but elated at having completed Chambers 3 - Chambers 22 and return in just under an hour. The early divers who paved the way, without fixed lines to guide every step, without the advances in modern dive technology that we now take for granted took 35 years to get to this stage.

We carefully climbed up the muddy slope made worse by our wet presence on it and exited up and over the ladder and railing at Chamber 9 - no mean feat at all in our side-mounts! - and headed out of the cave, still fully kitted up via the cheese room. This area of



Linda at the plaque commemorating the first UK dive.

the cave has been set aside for the curing and aging of the very tasty Wookey Hole Cheddar cheese.

Outside in the sunshine we were finally able to dekit on the grass much to the pleasure of the tour guides and their visitors. A rather unusual dekitting area we were in the midst of the famed Wookey Hole theme park surrounded by witches, dinosaurs, cave

men and wookey mammoths, our excited chatter often interrupted by the recorded roars of the numerous dinosaurs in the area!

A most magical dive steeped in history and only made possible by the generous assistance offered to us by Martyn Farr, Steve Marsh and Andy who share their knowledge, dives, tall stories, cylinders and pints with us.

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# NATIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

Each issue of Guidelines seems to outdo the last, once again Terri and David have excelled.

The loss of Barrie Heard, a long time Instructor and holder of many offices for the CDAA over the years, has left a huge hole in the Association, which will take a long time to fill, if ever. He will be sadly missed and it was great to see so many members at the funeral, remembering a mate and saying fare well.

Time marches on and Office Bearers come and go and Michael Kelly has finally called it quits as the Membership Records Officer and has been replaced by Jason Caldwell. Michael's sense of humour will be missed and his loyalty to the job, for the Association cannot be questioned. Let's hope Michael can now go diving and enjoy himself without the "oh, I'm going diving tomorrow and my membership ran out a year ago and I haven't noticed, haven't had time, why didn't you tell me (love that one), why should I pay I'm an instructor, bloody CDAA all blah blah, blahh" Michael has heard it all! BTW don't think this behaviour is limited to some of the general membership, Instructors are just as guilty, just ask Andrew.

Once again the weakness of our Constitution has been highlighted when a member who was sent a number of allegations and advised that an investigation was taking place and his input was requested, decided to publicise it on the members email site. Surely this is a private matter between the accusers (who remain anonymous) the National Committee, their Officers and the accused (who I might add is innocent until proved guilty). Once this became public the Directors were put in a position, by another member, who took it into his/her head that they were the saviour of all and "if they didn't do it, who would" as if it is their unelected, un called for, god given right to tell the membership, that the people the members voted for in a democratic process are wrong and that he or she is the only one who should be listened to because they are obviously wiser than ALL of the members of the CDAA. Forget the fact that there is an ongoing investigation; forget the fact that the Directors can't comment on the case, forget the fact that accusations are made willy-nilly and Investigations demanded by this person. The Directors can handle this, we follow the Constitution and it is our job according to that Constitution to interpret it. But do we need 10 emails in one day or is this bordering on harassment from an individual? Do we deserve to be accused, and Investigations demanded of Directors

before the case is even heard? If it was the first time this person had attacked the Directorate then maybe it could be understood but it's happened before and the same old names join in. It's almost laughable, we sit back and wait, for so and so to make contact and we know that will be followed by the next one. How transparent this group is and an embarrassment to the Association, but you know what? Their existence is the very reason I stay in office, how boring it would be if every now and again they didn't pop out of their boxes and start a fight by standing on a new soapbox and demanding this or that! As per any case the Directors (National and Standards) are charged with a responsibility to investigate and we will meet that by looking at the alleged charges, advising the accused and the other Directors of the alleged charges, then we appoint an Investigations Officer to look at the evidence and see if the alleged charges warrant an outcome, so that a meeting can be held to hear anything the accused wants to put forward if they attend. At that meeting a conclusion will be reached by following the Investigation Officers report. ALL parties concerned have approved the Investigations Officer, his findings will be strictly followed. Punishment is at the discretion of a majority vote of the Directorate. No other person has input at this stage but should the accused person/s, once they are advised, not be satisfied and want to appeal, that is their right. This is laid down in the Constitution and Regulations and whereas I find the appeal process very daunting and restrictive there is nothing I personally can do about it. This particular case, which is now, a matter of public record, thanks to the accused member posting to the CDAA email site, is about the loss of access to a diving site. The Access Officer put this information on the members email site as well. Does this make every member biased? If the accused person goes out of his way to "flame" members of the Directorate and call them biased and state that they have a "Conflict of Interest" what do we do? Maybe the member should have considered this before. Can any member say they are not concerned that one of the best sites and with the potential of at least 4 others now being closed as well not causes angst to every member? Who does not have a vested interest? The Directors are bound by the Constitution and will follow it, we therefore will decide if we are able to make a decision, if the outcome is not favourable to the member. The Directors act in the best interests of the majority of the members and our landowners, we will not be cowed by

threats of legal action or personal charges made against us.

During the email war that has been going on a certain attack was made against me. I have heard this said before and I will now use Guidelines to deny this unfounded rumour being spread by those same people mentioned above. I did not lose Barnoolut access to the Association. Mr Alan Scott purchased the property and he closed the site for a number of reasons, which are his right, one being the fact that the whole property was bulldozed and topsoil laid. My approach to the Landowner came about many months after our Site Director at the time had hit a brick wall with negotiations. Some members were diving the site through arrangements with the property manager at the time and others through Mr Scott's granddaughter. Their diving was stopped when I pointed out that the CDAA did not have an access agreement and therefore our CDAA insurance etc. did not cover private diving. It was only through the effort of Grant that access was re-gained under strict rules. As we had access, was this better than no access? I will say no more and hopefully by the time you read this, the case will be over and some settlement will be reached.

Sorry to air dirty laundry but this is the only means we have of reaching every member.

If a CDAA member dives in a CDAA site with a non-

financial member or non-member then that member will be punished for their indiscretion. It is the duty of all members to report violations of the access requirements. Do not risk CDAA access to sites!

Good news time...the new course materials are getting closer. Many hours have been spent filming and photographing for the new Deep Cavern Workbook. Re-writing of the Deep Cavern Manual, which was slowed down due to unforeseen circumstances that could not be avoided, is almost complete. The Penetration Power Point presentation has been completely revamped along with the manual. The two now match and the updates have removed some of the outmoded areas and included new knowledge and subjects. This will be going out to all Penetration Examiners soon for feedback. Next step will be the Cave Course with a fair whack of the Penetration Course subjects going into that to increase the knowledge at an earlier time in training. A bit of overlap nightmare for the Instructors for a while but as professionals I'm sure they can handle it.

Regards,  
Warrick McDonald  
CDAA National Director.



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PO Box 9286, Mount Gambier West, S.A. 5291



# 'Just a Bed' Lodge Opens

Just a Bed Lodge is the brainchild of Darren and Suzanne Walters. The couple established the new venture on their Compton property five minutes from Mount Gambier to service the needs of divers visiting the area looking for a cheaper alternative for overnight accommodation.

A local of three generations, Darren has 20 years dive experience and extensive local knowledge as a penetration level diver. He manages Blue Lake Diving which is situated directly beside the lodge.

Meantime, Suzanne hosts and manages all bookings for the lodge. Just a Bed Lodge Features overnight accommodation in a newly developed building nestled in a rural setting on the outskirts of Mount Gambier.

## Costs:

\$30 per person per night, twin share.

\$25 per person per night, twin share for more than three nights.

Bookee stays free when booking six or more people. Lodge can be booked out entirely at a reduced cost.

Linen is available at cost. - \$4.00 for two sheets, pillow case, quilt and a towel.

Continental breakfast packs available for \$5.00 include Cereal, Milk, Toast, condiments and Juice.

Cooked breakfast packs available for \$8.50 including: Bacon, Farm eggs, Toast, Tomato and condiments and Juice. Barbecue Meat packs are also available at a cost.

## Blue Lake Diving...

Blue Lake Diving is situated next door to Just a Bed Lodge and provides Air fills, Nitrox fills, Trimix fills, Overnight Cylinder Testing, Cylinder Maintenance, O2 Cleaning and High Pressure Oxygen.

- Clean Air Fills \$6.50

- % x Nitrox Fills - O2 at two cents per litre plus Air Fill at \$6.50

- %/% x Trimix Fills - O2 at two cents per litre plus He at eight cents per litre + Air Fill at \$6.50

- High Pressure Oxygen - O2 at 2 cents per litre plus a \$2.00 Booster pump

- Overnight Tank Hydrostatic Testing \$33.00

Discounts only apply to Air fills and Cylinder testing for people who stay at the lodge.

## Contact...

For all enquires and bookings regarding Just A Bed

Lodge, contact Manager and Host Suzanne Walters who will be happy to address any questions you may have.

Phone: 0427884729

Email: jablodge@seol.net.au

For all enquiries regarding

Blue Lake Diving, contact Darren Walters.

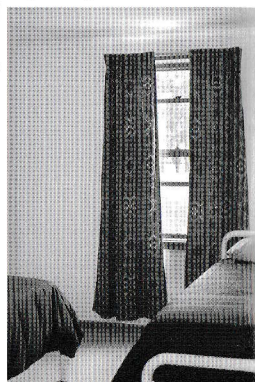
Phone: 0408845511

Email: dwalters@seol.net.au



It features:

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- Kitchen facilities including kettle, microwaves, toaster, fridge, cutlery and dinnerware
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- Large common area with TV, DVD & VHS facilities
- Pergola and Barbecue area
- Close car parking • Cold drink machine
- Dive gear washing and hanging area



# QUALITY ASSURANCE

## Quality Assurance Officer's Report. January 2008. by Stan Bugg

As you are probably aware, CDAA introduced a quality control questionnaire, that all students need to complete before they are issued their new certification card.

It is my job to review these questionnaires.

The questionnaire, which was developed by Warrick MacDonald and Terri Allen, with input from Steve Trewavas, was installed on the CDAA website by our own webmaster, Tony Richardson.

So far I have reviewed more than forty questionnaires, and I am pleased to report that they confirm that our instructors are doing a very good job in training the next generation of cave divers.

In the rare event of a questionnaire that suggests a breach of standards, I contact the candidate again, and ask for a clarification of their comments.

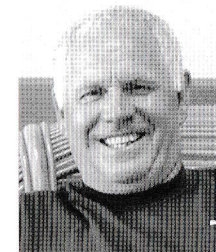
So far, when this has been necessary, discussion with the candidate either by

email or phone, has revealed that procedures were in fact correctly followed, and that the error was in misinterpretation of the question.

As a result, some questions have been modified to reduce their ambiguity.

Occasionally candidates make suggestions as to course structure and content. I pass these suggestions on to the standards officer for consideration.

From time to time I email instructors to inform them that their students spoke positively about their training. After all, feedback is a two way street, and I expect that instructors are encouraged to hear that their students found the course to be beneficial.



# Report from the Business Director

The Business side of the CDAA is as always going along pretty smoothly. This time of year usually consists of identifying member deposits and informing the relevant people [eg products or Tank Cave] of the payment. A reminder though to please identify any deposits you make in to the CDAA accounts with a name and/or CDAA number as some still come through with no identification.

The CDAA made a donation to the National Heart Foundation in memory of Barrie Heard. He will be sadly missed by many CDAA members. You will find a letter from the NHF in this issue of Guidelines.

This is generally the quietest time of year for

me - though there is always a constant flow of communication with other directors on more general aspects of the CDAA - from updating courses to any member issues. Due to the extremely hectic nature of my job at the moment [until end of June] I have been unable to devote as much time as I would like over the last three months. This includes the Business Plan - which I will be trying to get sorted in the next couple of months.

Regards, Heike





CDA # \_\_\_\_\_

(INCORPORATED IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

**Mail to: Records Officer, PO Box 840, Beaconsfield VIC. 3807.**

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

P/code \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Please  
email jpg  
or attach  
1 photo**

1. I agree to indemnify and keep indemnified the Association, its directors, officers, employees, agents and contractors against any liability, loss, expense, damages, claims, suits, actions, demands, costs or proceedings whether arising out of statute or at common law in respect of personal injury (including illness) or death arising out of or in connection with or caused by any activity, function, event, dive, expedition, training or administrative task or obligation, including but not limited to equipment failure, damage of equipment during transportation, failure to check equipment adequately prior to entering the water, physical loss of equipment, lack of emergency, rescue or medical personnel or equipment at the site of an accident, loss of usable breathing gas, breathing gas contamination, incorrect measurement of oxygen concentration in breathing gas, incorrect measurement of gas fractions in breathing gas, running out of breathing gas, use of inappropriate breathing gas, mask flooding, becoming physically stuck underwater, collision with physical objects, line problems, including line entanglement, cut line, losing the line, line belay failure, line routing failure, lack of line junction, failure in line following, unexpected removal of line, route finding failure, unrecognised destinations, visibility failure, including poor visibility, deterioration of visibility, physical or mental health problems (pre-existing or otherwise), including hypothermia, blocked sinus, unable to clear ears, respiratory illness, physical or mental impairment due to alcohol or other substance, mental impairment due to narcosis caused by breathing gas, lack of diver fitness, sudden medical emergency, pulmonary barotrauma, fatigue, lack of sleep, animal attack (above and below water), lack of food, dehydration, vomiting underwater, psychological disturbance as a result of being present when a diving accident or other related activity occurs, traumatic injury or acute medical condition, weather problems, including underground and underwater flooding, cave problems, including falling natural and unnatural objects above or below water, physical changes in the cave whilst diving, strong currents, falling whilst entering or leaving the water (underwater or otherwise), falling underground whilst beyond a sump, air contamination in confined air spaces above water, nearby use of explosives, procedural problems, including inadequate or incorrect pre-dive planning materials, failure to observe gas margins, failure to interpret decompression tables correctly, inadequate understanding of decompression techniques, failure to observe correct decompression profile, failure to observe correct ascent or descent rates, lack of personal judgment of personal capabilities to execute a planned dive safely, communication failure between divers underwater, confusion over the expected actions of other divers whilst underwater, public interference by a non-diver, failure to locate alternative breathing supply during swapping of breathing supply, obstruction of alternative breathing supply during swapping of breathing supply, loss of above ground communications or lack of or unexpected loss of underground to surface communications.

Rendered with due care and skill; and As fit for the purpose for which they are commonly bought as it is reasonable to expect in the circumstances; and Reasonably fit for any particular purpose or might reasonably be expected to achieve any result you have made known to the supplier. Under section 32N of the Fair Trading Act 1999, the supplier is entitled to ask you to agree that these conditions do not apply to you. If you sign this form, you will be agreeing that your rights to sue the supplier under the Fair Trading Act 1999 if you are killed or injured because the services were not rendered with due care and skill or they were not reasonably fit for their purpose, are excluded, restricted or modified in the way set out in this form. NOTE: The change to your rights, as set out in this form, does not apply if your death or injury is due to gross negligence on the supplier's part. 'Gross negligence' is defined in the Fair Trading (Recreational Services) Regulations 2004.

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

- 1) Please print and fill out the Membership Application Form
- 2) **Enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope**
- 3) Include **1 Photograph** and please write your name on the back of the photos or email good quality photo as a jpeg (3cm x 2 cm) to records@cavedivers.com.au. Please do NOT staple to the form.
- 4) Enclose your payment. Save time, money and hassle join for more than one year, no limit!
- 5) If you wish to have **Non Active** membership pay **\$35/yr**. You keep your membership going, receive copies of Guidelines, but cannot dive with such a membership and you do not receive a card so don't need a photo.
- 6) **After August 31st any unpaid renewals will incur a \$45 late fee.**
- 7) Anyone wishing to add a Nitrox or Trimix Endorsement will need to include a photocopy of their certification and pay a **once only** processing fee of \$10.
- 8) **Memberships cannot be processed until everything is sent in.**
- 9) Please send all question by **email** only records@cavedivers.com.au

☐ I wish to pay **\$80** Renewal Fee (incl. Kilsby's lease fee) **2008/2009**.

☐ I wish to pay \$ \_\_\_\_\_ being CDAA Membership for \_\_\_\_\_ **years**

☐ I wish to pay **\$35/yr** for Non Active Membership (non diving) for **2008/2009**. (no photo required)

☐ I wish to pay **\$35/yr** for Associate Membership (non diving) for **2008/2009**. (no photo required)

☐ I wish to pay **\$45/yr** being for back fees (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 \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/08 to account:

[illegible]

Office use only: Database: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment: \_\_\_\_\_ Card: \_\_\_\_\_



# SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I am saddened by the recent loss of Barrie Heard, a well respected instructor and diver both within the CDAA and in the wider dive community. Barrie had a passion for diving which he projected through his instruction of others.

It was great to teach alongside of Barrie and I learnt a lot by doing so. He was CDAA through and through and never let his work within IANTD conflict with his CDAA teachings. I still laugh when after one Penetration course had finished and the students had been signed off he handed out to all of the Penetration instructors that were left, an IANTD hat just to show his sense of humour. Barrie will be sadly missed.

One the Site front we are going along ok except for the ever decreasing water level. This is not just the Mount Gambier region thought. Recently we put 7 new Deep Cavern students through their paces in Wellington Dam and Lake Stockton near Perth in WA. These sites were also suffering from the lack of rainfall - a planned dive in Waroona Dam was cancelled due to an extreme drop in the water level. Most of these sites are catchment areas and no rain means low water. I would like to thank Geoff Paynter for all of his assistance and behind the scenes work in getting this course together. It has been many years since a CDAA course has been run in WA and even longer since we had a WA instructor based there. Now we have an Instructor in training over there, so in the next few months he should be able to complete his internship.

We are also able to add a few extra WA fresh water training sites to our list of site dives. These will fall into the categories of Caverns and Sinkholes and offer some extra dive sites to the WA members.

I also had the chance to dive Wookey Hole in Somerset UK and some very interesting Welsh caves recently which was great. Like here, Mexico, Florida, Vanuatu or any other area they all have very unique access requirements and their own politics. Always check the local requirements for any dive.

Some of our own sites are getting harder to get in to due to the lower water table but hopefully as trained CDAA divers, should not find this too much of a problem - hopefully it should only be short term and with the return of the rain we will see the return of the water level. We have lost nearly 3m of water from the table in the last 15 years but still get the annual rise and fall.

Anywhere we can, we will attempt to make improvements - with landowner support of course. If you have any ideas please let me know.

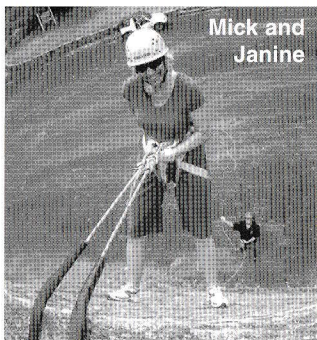
We are having another working bee again with the planned weekend being the 31st May - 1st June. Please call/email me with ideas or confirmation of your attendance.

On a different subject it is good to see Richard Harris aka Dr. Harry has been to New Zealand and was able to get to a depth of 182m in the Pearce resurgence ably supported by Andrew Bowie and Grant Pearce. Well done guys - cant wait to see the photos and hear the stories. It is still great to see divers pushing past the barriers and laying line for others to follow.

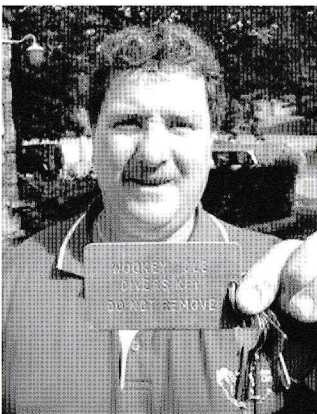
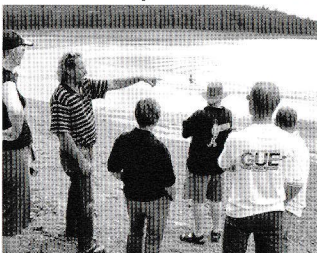
So until next time, keep looking for

those never ending tunnels.

**Gary Barclay**  
Site Access Director



Perth Deep Cavern course



## DIVERS WANTED!

Hells Hole supervised dive  
for the 1st of June.

Come and have a dive in Hells, all Climbing equipment supplied  
Followed by sausage sizzle. No need to climb Ladder  
This will include some cleaning of the hole.

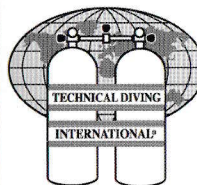
Let me know if you can make it.

Gary Barclay ph 0407527921



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# To Plate Or Not To Plate, That Is The Question!

**Maybe it's the confused look on a persons face that makes me ponder, maybe it's the fact that as divers we rely on our "mates" knowledge or the "expert" advice of someone in a dive shop. The worst place to get any idea of the equipment you need is from the web! Biased information of one person's limited knowledge is a poor reason to part with your hard earned dollars. How many times do we hear "I use Blah Blah and it's been great." has this expert used anything else or are they just exposing the bad information they were given originally? Or is it some stooge for the company that sells the product, giving you the advice and you think its Joe Samaritan? Dive shops normally have a fairly wide experience with equipment but one needs to look at the brands they sell and what they push. The fact is the particular shop you visit may have all of the knowledge but that doesn't mean you will get it straight away. Which member of the staff are you talking to? What is their personal experience or are they telling you someone else's stories?**

Diving attracts its fair share of dubious experts and I often say to people "There is only one shark you should worry about, that's the one behind the shop counter". This brings me to the gist of my story. Do I buy a "plate" or a soft pack BC? As I hope you all know there are many brands of very good gear on the market, in fact too many and too many equipment suppliers to match. Australia is only a small country and the turnover here when compared to the USA, Europe and Japan is small time!

Therefore we are flooded with brands. First thing we need to clear up is (a) Just because it's on the market, that doesn't mean it's any good. (b) Price is merely what the equipment supplier (that's not the retailer) thinks they can get for a product. (c) Branding means nothing if they don't make it. We are flooded by "Stick a brand" equipment. That's the "Turbo", "Extreme" and the Volcanic" they are all the same, just a different sticker. One particular regulator I know that comes out of China is branded at least five times; each seller tells you theirs is better than the other mobs, more silt to cloud your vision! When I am asked for my opinion, I give it as honestly as I can, because sometimes as Jack Nicholson said "...People just can't handle the truth!" Peoples feelings must be considered and if they have spent the last 20 minutes telling you that the "Flimbo model X" is what their recently departed dad told them to buy it will be a brave and silly person who tells that customer, that dad, was wrong!

Maybe age has caught up with me, but now I just give people my thoughts and let them decide. Something else I discovered, as I started to notice my hair going grey I also noticed that older people in general had a lot more to offer. I guess knowledge comes with years not necessarily colour. But back to the subject...When asked, "What would I recommend?" I first qualify the buyer, waste of time talking thousands when they might only have hundreds. Then, if they fit the description I'm looking for, I tell them the facts, the truth and to hell with compromise. I'm sure you have all experienced sales persons...lips moving but they are shouting in your brain "SHOW ME THE MONEY!" If you feel that this is happening to you...WALK!

Plates are becoming very popular and you can buy them made from stainless steel, aluminium and polycarbonate. I used a polycarbonate version with six "D" rings for 15 years. I figured that was enough

practice but also thought, "Why did I bother!" The beast dug into my hips, pulled back on my shoulders and the harness cut into my body because of the chest strap, which was required so that it didn't slip off my frame. Occasionally I used BCD's for normal diving (single tank) but always found them lacking in shape, or comfort. I could go on about BCD's and how poorly they are designed yet cost the earth, but maybe another time. After trying one brands soft pack with webbing I thought this was it, although noticed a fair amount of roll when using it with singles and with doubles it was inclined to fall back, when out of the water. It was very comfortable to wear though and possibly would have suited anyone else but with my short body I couldn't get it to work properly. After much adjustment and manhandling from the local equipment supplier and the manufacturer in the USA I gave up. It still caused the tanks to sit too high on me and although great with a bit of adaption for sidemounting what was the point. The damn thing was never going to be just right! Back to the polycarbonate plate...a wider crotch strap, padded shoulders and bent "D" rings, nope this wasn't the answer either! Jane my partner, had gone to the "dark" side and I shook my head in wonder. After doing thousands of dives all over the planet and still as keen to get in the water as the first time she tried it, here she was venturing into a new approach and mindset when it came to training and equipment. I shuddered to think of the cost and the waste of time! Alright I'm an easy target, next thing you know I am signed up to complete a course and SHE wants me to use this aluminium plate and harness. Taking a look I could see instantly that the system was a crock of dung. Only 3 "D" rings, no choice on how far apart the bands were, stage tanks on the left and battery canisters on the right with the torch head in the left hand held by a "Goodman" handle. Well it better be a good man who can prove this all works, I thought. Well you could have knocked me down with a feather, the plate was actually comfortable and although the adjustment felt more like going parachuting than diving...what could it hurt to give it a go! Now that I have done over 250 dives with it I wonder how I ever managed before. It's comfortable, no corners to dig into the hips, its lightweight so that when I travel my complete kit weigh just 17 kilos and the harness sits just

right. No need of chest straps, no need of extra "D" rings to make up for poor design, no break away shoulders that rely on the strength of a bit of plastic to hold it on your body and a solid wide crotch strap...perfect! Now the wing, first the maths...can you swim up from the bottom without putting any gas in your suit if using a dry suit, or in your wings? If you can't and we are talking 30m here then you are overweighted! Can you stay at 5metres when you have only about 30 bar in each tank? If you can't then you are under weighted. So maybe you need a stainless steel plate that gives more weight. Whatever your situation you need to get it right! I chose a wing that was a horseshoe shape because that's what I had always used, but in hindsight I made a mistake, I followed instead of leading again. The latest doughnut shapes where the air moves around a lot better will be my next step. The wing offers fantastic lift and compensation, so that diving in the sea or fresh water it is more than adequate. Horizontal body position is now automatic, stage tanks, gauges, hot mixes, all have a place to go, the right place!

The biggest decision for you is which brand. I know the answer where it concerns me but you may have different needs. Try the units out, borrow one from a mate but make sure it's adjusted for you. Go to a good dive shop and ask if you can use one, go to a better one if they say no! Now rule number 62 Compare, compare, compare and remember price isn't everything. Work out cost averaged per dive, the difference is no more that a beer. Don't be put off by my experience with a soft pack system it may be perfect for you.

My advice...buy a single tank plate and harness system with a small wing and single tank adaptor then later progress to a bigger wing for twins. Step by step, learn to grow with the system and get a system that will grow with you.

Rule 67. If it's got bungy cord – forget it!

Rule 84. If it has a long corrugated inflator hose ("so you can reach it easier") – forget it!

Rule 89. If it has over the shoulder dumps in the hose – forget it!

No names, no blame. Opinions expressed purely mine but by all means copy me and quote me.

**Warrick McDonald.**



# CDAA PRODUCTS - NEWS

This quarter we have two new Books to introduce. To order these or any other products, please visit the online store or use the order form in Guidelines.

Also note a price increase to \$8 for postage and handling.

REGARDS, HELEN HIGGINS, CDAA PRODUCTS.

## Abseiling Handbook - \$20 Cavern/Cave Diver Workbook - \$40

(2002, A5, 37 pages)

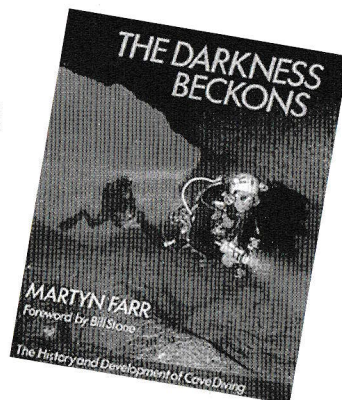
Compiled by Bruce Postill

For those involved in basic recreational abseil instruction, this book details safe abseil practises for beginners. Contents include, risk management, equipment, anchor systems, abseil site set-up and instruction and emergency procedures.



## The Darkness Beckons - \$75

Author: Martyn Farr



THE DARKNESS BECKONS describes the risky yet fascinating activity of cave diving-where cavers and open water divers have adapted diving technology to explore flooded cave systems.

The first known cave dive was made in France in 1878 and dives were made in Britain, Switzerland and Austria in the final years of the century. In 1934 a 90-metre dive was made in Switzerland and the following year the initial chambers of Wookey Hole (England) were explored to 50 metres. All these were made with "Standard Dive Equipment" with its familiar globe-shaped helmet and sturdy air pipes fed by surface pumps. Meanwhile normal cavers were tackling short flooded sections of passage using rudimentary home-made equipment. After the war "Frogman" equipment was used by British and Italian divers while the "aqualung" was employed by the French. It was the

latter, with compressed air, that has steadily developed to become today's "standard cave-diving equipment". Since the '60s cavers have adapted diving skills to explore the turbid sumps of inland systems. Meanwhile open water divers were concentrating on the spacious, clear water passages of France, the West Indies, Australia, United States and South Africa. Each group brought their technical know-how to solve the problems of visibility, distance, temperature and depth in ever more challenging flooded cave networks.

The book widely describes each of these periods. During the past twenty years the physiological dangers of prolonged underwater activity at depth have been steadily mastered. The sport has become international with ideas and technologies now rapidly circulated. The depth record has been pushed around 275

metres in South Africa and Mexico with the longest dives, often assisted by underwater scooters, are now reaching distances in excess of 4000 metres in France and the United States, the latter at depths of around 90 metres.

Yet the sport remains hazardous, its dangers manageable only by excellent training, high-quality equipment, skilful planning, monitoring and judgement and an iron nerve. Its eventful history will surely be of interest to all adventure sportspeople who will surely identify with the disciplines needed to explore this daunting underwater world.

# UP COMING COURSES

## DEEP CAVERN Courses

April 19 - 27, 2008 and May 31 - June 9 in Melbourne & Mt Gambier  
Instructor: Andrew Higgins 0413569164 Email: [ahhiggins@optusnet.com.au](mailto:ahhiggins@optusnet.com.au)

April 14 - 17 and June 6 - 9 in Mt Gambier  
Contact: Linda Claridge or Gary Barclay - 03 5565 8793 E: [garinda@tpgi.com.au](mailto:garinda@tpgi.com.au)

May 19-31; Instructor: Jane BOWMAN - 03 95792600 [info@abocean.com.au](mailto:info@abocean.com.au)

May 26 - June 9, 2008 in Melbourne and Mt Gambier  
Instructor: Terri ALLEN 0419 176633 [terri.allen@baker.edu.au](mailto:terri.allen@baker.edu.au)

July 1 - 5, 2008 in Adelaide & Mount Gambier  
Instructor: Steve Selbach 08 8121 5881 [steve@elitediveacademy.com.au](mailto:steve@elitediveacademy.com.au)

## Cave Courses

April 18 - 20, May 19 - 21, July 4 - 6 in Mount Gambier SA  
Instructor: Linda Claridge 03 5565 8793 [garinda@tpgi.com.au](mailto:garinda@tpgi.com.au)

April 21 - 27, 2008 in Melbourne and Mt Gambier  
Instructor: Terri ALLEN 0419176633 [terri.allen@baker.edu.au](mailto:terri.allen@baker.edu.au)

May 18 - 20, 2008 in Mount Gambier SA  
Instructor: Linda Claridge 03 5565 8793 [garinda@tpgi.com.au](mailto:garinda@tpgi.com.au)

July 28-3 August in Melbourne and Mt Gambier  
Instructor: Jane BOWMAN - 03 95792600 [info@abocean.com.au](mailto:info@abocean.com.au)

## CDAA Penetration Courses

October dates to be finalised contact Jane; 03 95792600 E:[info@abocean.com.au](mailto:info@abocean.com.au)

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

## TANK CAVE DATES... & A REMINDER...

April	19/20/21/22 (Extended weekend for non Vic/S.A. divers)	June	7/8/9 (Queens Birthday)
	25/26/27 (Anzac Day)	July	14/15
May	3/4		12/13
	10/11		26/27
	24/25		



## 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
<b>MOUNT GAMBIER - SOUTH AUSTRALIA</b>			
<b>DEH SITES</b>			
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. <b>NOTE: Divers should renew their Piccaninnie Ponds indemnities at least 2 weeks prior to their intended dive date.</b>
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, RH5 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 www.cavedivers.com or contact Craig at kilsby@cavedivers.com.au
		No Visitors	No animals, visitors or mid-week diving allowed.

## CDAA SITE ACCESS

SITE	LEVEL	OWNER	ACCESS DETAILS
<b>MOUNT GAMBIER - SOUTH AUSTRALIA (continued)</b>			
<b>BARNOOLUT SITES</b>			
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 www.cavedivers.com.au. <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: shaft@cavedivers.com.au (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 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.
- West	P	Lessee Ph: (08) 8723 2299	
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: site@cavedivers.com.au.
Tank Cave	P	Mr. DYCEER	Access Manager: Noel Dillon. Email: noel.dillon@macquarie.com
Baker's Cave	C	Manager: Brad Dibble E: site@cavedivers.com.au	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.
<b>NULLARBOR - WESTERN AUSTRALIA</b>			
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 Kim Allison, Email: kim.allison@dpi.wa.gov.au Phone (08) 9347 5047 Fax (08) 9347 5004
<b>N.S.W. - WELLINGTON CAVES</b>			
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 - gregr@cs.usyd.edu.au. 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.



## BOOKS

DVD's

## VIDEOS

## CLOTHING

MISC.

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

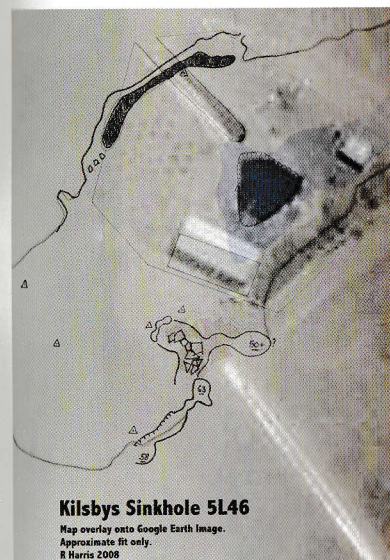


# CDAA INSTRUCTORS

NAME	Deep Cavern	Cave	Penetr
<b>A.C.T.</b>			
APPS, Heike (CDAA 2776) BH 02 6249 9170 AH 02 6291 0566 E: heike.apps@ga.gov.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>N.S.W.</b>			
FEATONBY, Tim (CDAA 3372) Mob: 0402 129 253 E: tim.featonby@defence.gov.au	Yes		
GRILLS, Peter (CDAA 1780) AH 02 4955 4497 Mobile 0419 820 920 E: peter_grills@hotmail.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
WALTERS, DESMOND BH 02 6041 1405 AH 02 6025 3506 deswalters@westnet.com.au	Yes	Yes	
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA</b>			
MARRIOTT, Max (CDAA 1268) Mob: 0428 897 897 E: dive69@chariot.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
SELBACH, Steve (CDAA 3495) Phone: 0413 134 827 Email: steve.selbach@mac.com	Yes		
<b>VICTORIA</b>			
ALLEN, Terri (CDAA 3483) Mob: 0419 176 633 E: terri.allen@baker.edu.au	Yes	Yes	
AXTON, Paul (CDAA 2826) Phone: 0419 346 442 E: PALdiving@people.net.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
BARCLAY, Gary (CDAA 1735) AH (03) 5565 8793 E: garinda@tpgi.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
BOWMAN, Jane (CDAA 1880) BH: (03) 5979 2600 E: info@abocean.com.au www.abocean.com.au	Yes	Yes	

NAME	Deep Cavern	Cave	Penetr
<b>VICTORIA. cont.</b>			
CLARIDGE, Linda (CDAA 2214) Mobile 0408 052 070 E: garinda@tpgi.com.au AH (03) 5565 8793	Yes	Yes	Yes
DALLA-ZUANNA, John (CDAA 236) Penetration instructor Phone: 0407 887 060 Email: jdz@paintandcustom.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
HARDMAN, Lorraine (CDAA 2824) Mob: 0418 304 120 E: PALdiving@people.net.au	Yes		
HIGGINS, Andrew (CDAA 3329) Mobile: 0413 569164 E: ahiggins@optusnet.com.au	Yes	Yes	
LESLIE, Paul (CDAA 3184) Phone: (03) 9879 2868 Email: info@diverinstructionservices.com.au	Yes		
McDONALD, Warrick (CDAA 1882) BH: (03) 5979 2600 E: info@abocean.com.au Mobile 0408 374 112 www.abocean.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
MONACO, Rubens (CDAA 1731) BH 03 5984-1799 E: info@idcscuba.com.au Mobile: 0413-429-533	Yes	Yes	
TAYLOR, Ian (CDAA 3568) Phone: 0411 118 134 E: ian.taylor4@defence.gov.au	Yes	Yes	
WALTERS, Des (CDAA 687) Location: Albury Phone: (02) 6041 1405 Email: dive@descend.com.au www.descend.com.au	Yes	Yes	
WEALTHY, Bob (CDAA 464) Mob: 0417 524 005 Email: somerset@iimetro.com.au	Yes	Yes	

# KILSBYS MAP COMPLETE...



Hi all. Well here it is finally, the product of our efforts in Kilsbys for your inspection and for the use of the CDAA. Whilst one is never happy with the final product of such efforts, and the big map certainly doesn't compare with Stuart's amazing efforts, I am satisfied that we achieved our objectives in exploring and mapping the deeper or unrecorded sections of the sinkhole.

Thanks to the CDAA for the opportunity and to all the divers who volunteered their time.

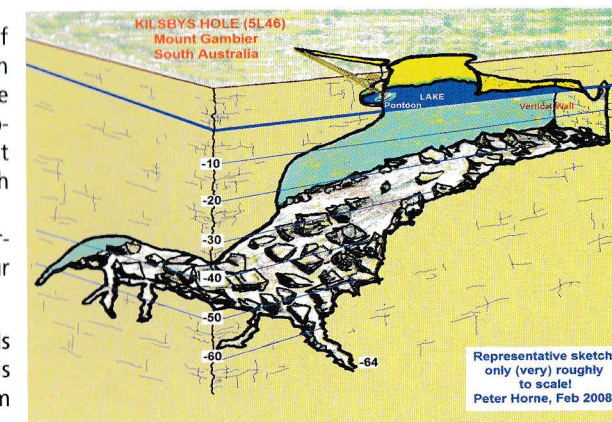
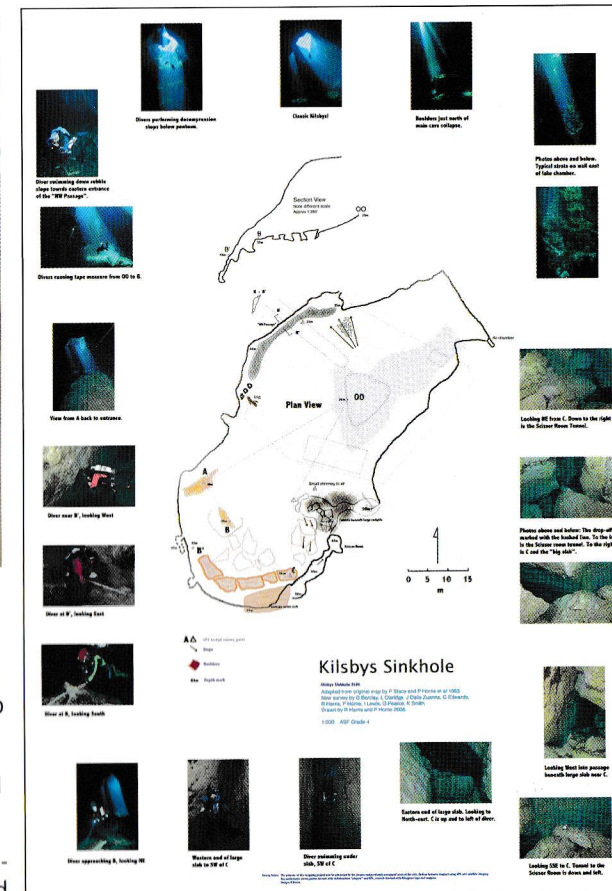
If you would like a large version of FinalA4.jpg to make posters etc, I can supply a high resolution A3 version. The maps supplied should be OK for the website I think. The Kilsby overlay is just a bit of fun but shows what you can do with Google Earth these days.

Our next project is Pics and I look forward to giving you the results of our findings as they come to light!

Kind regards

Richard Harris

On behalf of Kilsby Mapping Team





# KEN SMITH Images of FLORIDA

In May 2007 I was lucky enough to enjoy a week of cave diving in Florida. Forrest Wilson was my generous host. He lent me gear and organised a great week of diving. It was a nostalgic trip for me, bringing back memories of my first visit to Florida, with Forrest, in 1982.

Our first stop was Jackson Blue where a Dive Rite demonstration day was under way. A group of students were taking a Dive Rite rebreather class. There was some great gear on display and the huge Farallon scooter parked on the beach gave me a severe case of scooter envy. After diving Jackson Blue we spent a day on Merrit's Millpond. Dr DeWayne Hyatt joined us for dives in Twin Cave and Hole in the Wall.

There are several dive shops which provide fills for cave divers and "air" banks are a thing of the past. The banks are filled with 32% nitrox which is the standard mix for cave divers. Oxygen is used in large quantities and is sometime delivered in "dewars" continuing liquid oxygen. Helium is in abundant supply and is cheap compared with Australia.

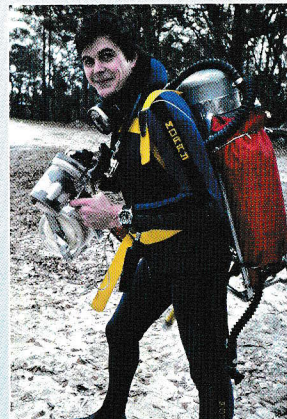
At Peacock Springs we met Paul Heinerth who was diving his Cis-Lunar rebreather. He told me he had visited Adelaide briefly but didn't have the time visit Mt Gambier.

Forrest Wilson is known for the development of the line arrow that we all now use. He also developed the first transparent fully enclosed dive reel. Another innovation was a buoyancy system which put the buoyancy on the tanks rather than on the chest of the diver. Wings and jacket BCs were unknown at the time and all cave

diving was done with horse collars BCs or "belly bags". Forrest mounted the tanks upside down to protect the valves from hitting the roof. I had the pleasure



Forrest BC System  
in the Dive Museum



Ken at Madison Blue in 1982

of using this system at Madison Blue in 1982. Forrest dives with side mounts now. However, if you go to the dive museum at Cave Excursions near High Springs you can see one of his original systems is on display.

We visited Ginie Springs on a hot afternoon to dive the Devil's system. The park was full of holiday makers enjoying the water. Cave divers shared the water with canoeists, and people drinking beer from floating ice boxes. Beer drinking is permitted in the park, but not through funnels, as I found out when tried to photograph a young lad doing

Dive Rite Rebreather  
Class at Jackson Blue



this. He had just put the beer filled funnel to his lips, when he received a severe reprimand from a uniformed park ranger on a quad bike. Undeterred he quickly opened the valve and the beer was gone in a second. I can see why it's illegal. We also saw two girls in a pickup truck with the sign "Specialising in Sinkhole Repair" on the side? I'm not sure what this involved? Richard Vaughn joined Forrest and me for an excellent circuit dive in the Devils system.

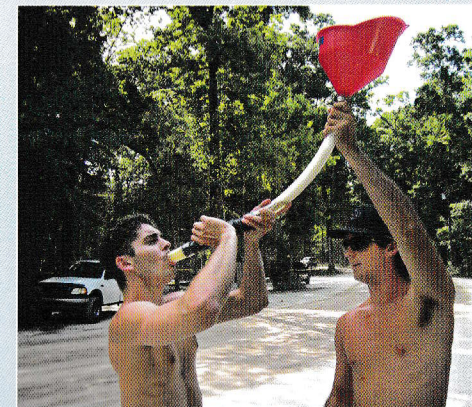
cont. page 9...



Forrest and Richard at the Nitrox Bank



Scooter Envy



Technical Beer Drinking at Ginie



Forrest's Rutan Defiant

bellum hotel

## Room discounts to CDA members

All rooms ensuite, with secure outside area  
Central to all major dive sites  
Only 500m from Little Blue  
Restaurant open lunch and dinner 7 days  
Bookings preferred, call > 08) 8738 5269

Bay Road, Mount Schank  
info@bellumhotel.com.au

a taste of the country



Sinkhole  
repair  
experts  
at Ginie



What is  
sinkhole  
repair?





Paul Heinerth at Peacock Springs

The NSS - Cave Diving Section workshop took place on the Memorial Day long weekend of May 26-28. The first event was a dinner behind the Dive Outpost shop at Luraville. It was a well attended event with a live band, good food and free beer on tap. They even had a giant cake specially made and iced for the event. The talks all took place on Saturday at Camp Weed near Live Oak. There was also a trade show with some great gear on display. In the evening Wes Skiles showed some short movies that he had made many years ago. They were bril-

liant! The first, called "Scuba Ballet" showed just how graceful a cave diver with a Tekna scooter can be. The second shows the fictional French free diver, "Jacques Eyear", attempting to free dive from Devil's eye to Devil's ear. Sadly he fails and sinks lifeless to the bottom (a joke of course). The on camera interview with the retrieval diver is a real laugh. Finally we saw the tragedy that befell two open water divers who broke the rules and enter the cave with a single light each. One is attacked and killed by a Godzilla like monster. The other is rescued by a cave diving superhero wearing a yellow wetsuit and riding an Aquazep. Brilliant films, perhaps we can ask Wes to lend them to us for the next AGM?

Forrest Wilson is a keen amateur pilot and flying instructor, as well as a cave diving pioneer. For many years he has been building a Rutan Defiant in his basement. At the end of the trip he took me for a flight. The Rutan Defiant an unusual looking aircraft with a rear wing, and engines front and rear. It really goes! with plenty of power from the two engines. It was an exciting end to a great week!

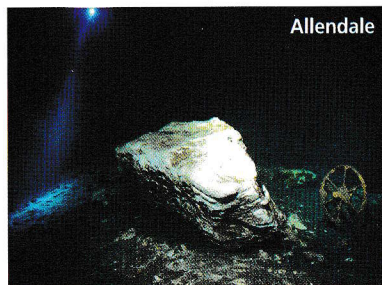
Here's a fact that not many people know. Tiger Woods is a cave diver. He was trained by Bill Rennaker.

Ken Smith CDA 799

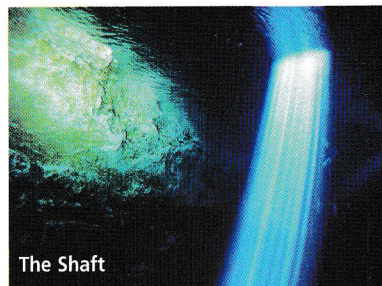
## ~ GUIDELINES GALLERY ~



Photos by  
Matthew Skinner

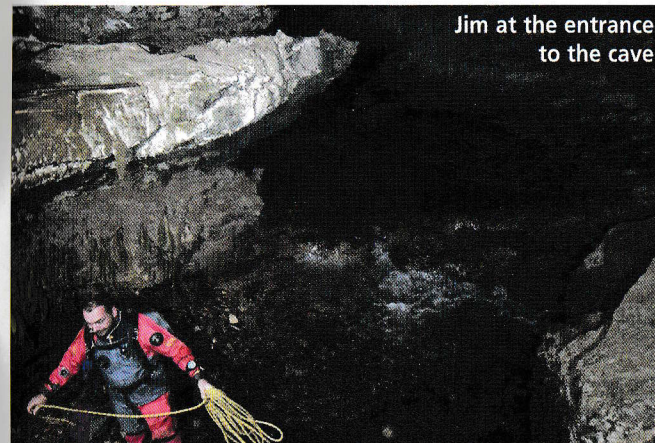


Allendale

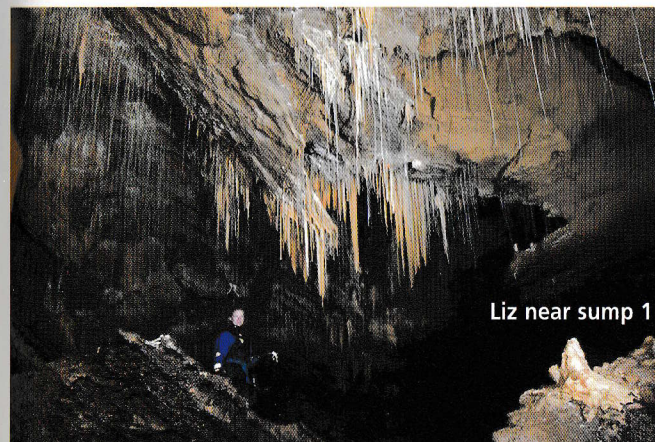
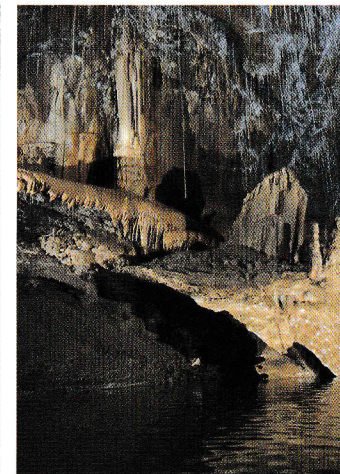


The Shaft

# Junee Cave, Tasmania



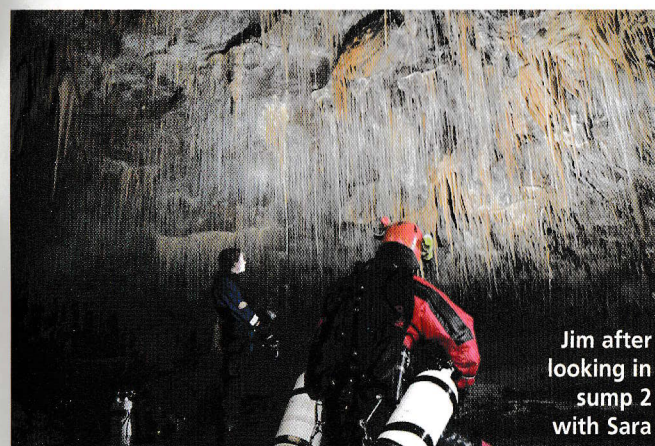
Jim at the entrance  
to the cave



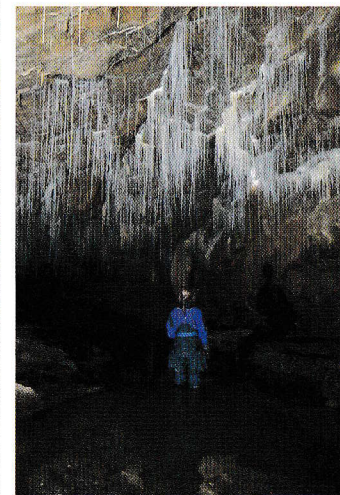
Liz near sump 1

CDA members Jim, Sara, Liz and I had a look at Junee Cave while we were in Tassie. The diving itself was pretty average (8 degrees, tight, sharp and dirty), but the air chamber between the first and second sumps was pretty spectacular. Here are some of the pics...

by Dean Chaimberlain



Jim after  
looking in  
sump 2  
with Sara





# Above Average Below Water

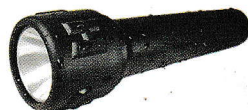


*Australia*



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