



C.D.A.A. Newsletter
No. 109 - SEPTEMBER 2009

CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

(Incorporated in South Australia)

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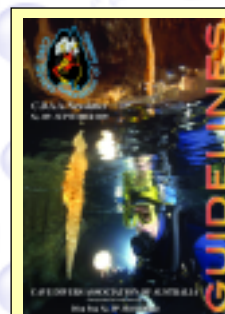


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Front cover:

Photo title:
Mullamalong.

Photographed by
Neil Vincent.

CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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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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CDAA INSURANCE

Public Liability policy limit A\$10,000,000.00 Policy# DMI/114781.
Expiry: 17 July 2009 Insurer: Dive Master Insurance Consultants Ltd

PINE TANK DIVE LODGE

Divers Air, Nitrox & Trimix

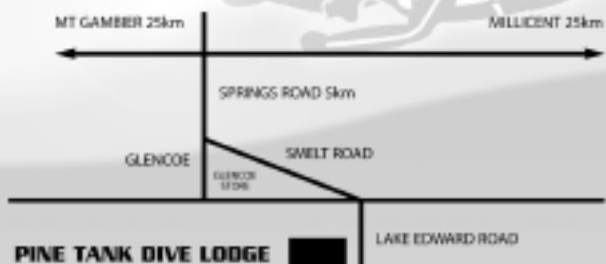
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Pine Tank Dive Lodge has been designed by cave divers to meet the needs of divers. With affordable accommodation and only 5 minutes driving time to the best cave diving sites in the South East of South Australia (Pines, Tank, Iddlebidy, Nettlebed, Fossil, Sisters, Mud Hole, Stinging Nettle Cave), divers can maximise their time in the water. Follow the blue signs.

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Glencoe, South Australia
Phone 08 8739 4020
Mobile 0438 833 103
Email stay@ptdive lodge.on.net

EDITOR'S CORNER

Hi All

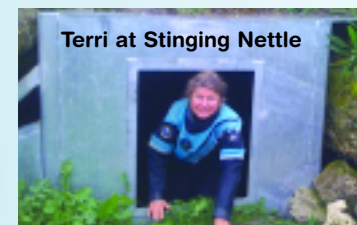
This edition of Guidelines has a lot of important reading with updates on sites, all the directors annual reports, ballot papers, 2 life membership nominations and a separate notice of a special general meeting. Thanks to Helen and Agnes for their article on sites overseas. Please get involved and VOTE we need it. Carefully consider the constitutional changes suggested and be aware that a committee is currently working on these changes. See Helen's report on this for more detail.

This is my last edition of Guidelines as the Publications and Records Director. It has been a great pleasure working with David who is a scholar and a gentleman. I wish him all the best in his new business and hope he stays on as our Guidelines graphics man.

So I leave you with a fond farewell and a warm welcome to Jason Caldwell to the job. Geoff and I can now concentrate a little more on just going diving, me a little teaching, he some more rebuilding of his portable nitrox station.

See you at the Members symposium at the AGM
it is going to be huge!

Cheers and happy diving, Terri Allen.



Terri Allen, Publications and Records Director,
Email: publications@cavedivers.com.au

A note from our graphic designer, Dave Bryant.

Hello everyone, I have started a new business called Taken Down Under (plug!)
Please send all emails with anything to do with Guidelines to my new address:
dave.bryant@takendownunder.com.au

Thanks for a great year, I'm looking forward to many challenges with Jason Caldwell.

~ARTICLES FOR GUIDELINES~

- Send articles & photos via post, or preferably by email to:
publications@cavedivers.com.au
- Email to publications@cavedivers.com.au and dave.bryant@takendownunder.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.

Florida and Mexico

Helen & Andy Higgins:

For the last 12 years I have dreamed of going to Mexico to cave dive and each time an opportunity arose for an overseas holiday,

Mexico was shelved as too hard and too expensive.

The realisation that life is too short finally occurred and with it the decision to commit to a trip in about 12 months time.

Being the great organiser that I am, I decided to start surfing the net and getting a feel for options and prices well ahead of time. As luck would have it, the day I jumped onto the computer to make a start happened to be the day that 'V Australia' was launched. Lo and behold, return airfares to LA for \$970. My God, that's almost Mexico! The sale was to end in 5 days. After some quick soul searching and a lot of bravery I decided to book the trip and surprise Andy for his 40th birthday which was in a month's time. For the next month I



Helen and Andy at Peacock Springs

spent countless hours on the computer until ungodly hours after Andy had gone to bed only to struggle out of bed again at 6:00am to get to the gym. Poor Andy! He had no idea why I was so cranky for that month as I tried to soldier on, on about 5 hours sleep a night. I also had to organise lots of stealth meetings with overseas trip veterans in toilets and lectures at Oztek, secret phone calls and secret emails. Well his 40th finally arrived and the cat was finally let out of the bag. With my sombrero on I presented him with a box. As he opened it and pulled out a bottle of Tequila, a couple of shot glasses, a chilli, a packet of CCs, a bottle of Tabasco sauce and finally two passports, it suddenly dawned on him...we were going to Mexico! "Did you clear this with work?" he asked. As if I wouldn't!

Firstly I would like to say how pleasantly surprised I was with 'V Australia'. With the cheap flight I must admit I expected cheap service. However the staff were over the top friendly, the food was reasonable (and yes we did get meals for that price too) and the entertainment was superb. We had 30 odd movies to chose from, music clips, TV shows, games and there was even a chat room where you could chat with fellow passengers. The flight to LA was over in no time.

Our stay in the US however was off to a shaky start. Having given Andy heaps on the way because he was always singled out for the extra security checks, luggage checks and explosives checks, I was the one that was a problem as we arrived at Homeland security LAX. After being fingerprinted and iris screened and scrutinised from head to toe, the immigration officer waved Andy through and told me to wait back in line while she continued to process other passengers for the next half an hour. I was too intimidated to say boo and she was not going to offer any explanations. Finally I gathered enough courage to ask if I had to keep waiting. 'Yes' she barked. And so I waited another half an hour before a rather tall immigration officer finally came and asked me to follow him. 'I see the problem he said' as he cracked a smile and peered at my passport. 'Your hair is purple and in the photo it is blonde!' I realised he was attempting a joke... After another 2 hours in another room with 50 or so other 'exiles' I was finally processed and let off the hook. The problem...the new passports which have a magnetic chip were not being read by the computers at Homeland Security. Thank God I had allowed 6 hours between connecting flights. Andy has not let me live that one down.

The flight to Orlando in Florida was uneventful as was our experience at MCO (Orlando International Airport). Trying to get out of Orlando...that's another story! After an hour of battling the freeways, bridges, exit and entrance ramps, much to our dismay we were back where we started. Lots of tears, deep breaths and sighs later we were finally on the Florida turnpike heading to High Springs.

About 24 hours after leaving Melbourne we arrived in High Springs, checked into our accommodation, picked up our tanks and were diving in Ginnie Springs. Oh my God! What was I thinking including Florida in the schedule? Here I was with twin 12's strapped to my back, battling against the current, pretending I was having fun! No, I wasn't even pretending...this was damn hard work. You may be thinking at what point did she start having fun? Or did she actually start to have fun?

I have good news! I had a ball and I am glad I included Florida. For two days we were very fortunate to have Doug Mudry as our guide. He showed us the ropes and taught us some tricks to deal with diving high flow systems. As we arrived shortly after the seasonal floods had abated, we did

have to deal with poor visibility, high flow and a limited selection of dive sites.

Day 2 saw us at Peacock Springs. The visibility was poor but the flow was much less than at Ginnie. We had a relaxing dive with Doug getting orientated, followed by a relaxing lunch...very relaxing lunch...so relaxing that we lost track of time and found there wasn't time for a second dive before the park closed at 4pm.

Day 3 we felt we had unfinished business at Peacock so this time we headed back on our own and had two great dives, one in Peacock and the second in Orange Grove. On day 4 we came back to Luraville, this time to dive Cow Spring. This site is owned by the NSS CDS and you need to be a member to access it. The CDAA however has a reciprocal arrangement with the NSS CDS so we were able to dive both the upstream and down stream sections. What an interesting set up! No

hard work here except to negotiate the entrance. With the current raging out of a narrow opening getting in is a well timed procedure with careful placement of body parts to avoid being ungracefully pinned against the rock. However, once inside the passage one only has to pull and glide along the ski rope which has been strategically placed throughout the cave.

Having mastered this technique we ventured to Madison Blue Spring to try our new found skills there. Well...what an experience! By this stage I was totally desensitised to this type of hard work and found the experience hilarious. There was no swimming into this cave. We literally clawed our way in feeling very much like unwelcome visitors! Like every other cave before it, Madison Blue Spring was beautiful and after about 40 minutes, having devoured our 1/3rds, it was time to head back. We turned around and in literally one breath we were spat out of the cave! Poor Andy had to reel out for the last 30m or so, with fins firmly wedged into the rock floor and arms bear hugging rocks as he frantically took up line. I, being lighter with less body mass found myself with a similar challenge trying desperately to be a good buddy and wait for him. Hugging rocks at every opportunity and looking back, I could feel my mask vibrating on my face and my fins trying to flip my feet over my head.



Ken Smith and Bill Phillips enjoying mangoes

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John, Sharon and Erica.

continued page 38

Mike Reed Bio



Mike started diving in New Zealand in the early 70's – back when everyone dived in wetsuits and things like buoyancy compensators were a novelty. He holds instructor ratings with PADI, DSAT and IANTD as well as being an EFR Instructor and a CDAA member.

In his professional life, Mike is a partner with Oliver Wight and is working with a number of leading companies in Australia and New Zealand assisting them in achieving Business Excellence. He has specialist expertise in strategy management, product and portfolio management and integrated business management. A keen musician, Mike has played in a number of bands over the years and will occasionally pack a guitar along with the diving gear for a trip to Mt Gambier or other dive destinations.

CDAA AGM Members' Symposium

Saturday October 24th 2009, commencing at 1pm.

**3 course dinner.
\$40 per head.**

**Must be booked and
paid for by 19th October**

Contact Helen Higgins,
Business Director
to make your booking,
E: business@cavedivers.com.au
Ph: 0411 720 440.

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• 2 individual toilets and a spacious bathroom with instant hot water shower & vanity.

• Barbeque, seating area and provisions for drying of diving equipment if required.

Clean air fills, Nitrox and Trimix is available from Blue Lake Diving nightly.

Contact Suzanne anytime on 0427 884 729.

Down To BUSINESS

The audited accounts for 2009 will appear on the web site before the AGM, along with the minutes of the 2008 AGM and the agenda for the 2009 AGM. I am happy to report that the provisional accounts show another healthy profit this year for the Association.

This quarter has seen the winding up and subsequent final proposals of four of the formed subcommittees as well as a progress report from the Constitution Subcommittee. These proposals have now been published on the web site for your perusal. Please spend the time looking up the proposals and reading these carefully. I would like to invite any comment or feedback on these proposals. After the AGM, the National Committee will consider these proposals and put forward those that are accepted to be written into the Strategic and Business Plan of the Association.

In my last report I suggested that with the downturn of the economy and the recent reduction in fees, the Association's profitability would decrease. The provisional accounts for 2009 show that despite the downturn of the economy and the reduced fees, we remain profitable. The Finance Subcommittee have put together a forecast model as part of their final proposal. This shows that with prudent management the Association will continue to grow albeit at a lesser rate than in the past. The Finance Subcommittee have posed four possible scenarios to which I would like to seek your input. If we continue with our current budgeting model, funds in the bank will continue to grow. Many people have suggested that unless we have a goal for which we are accumulating funds then we should not continue to do so.

The Finance Subcommittee have come up with two scenarios which would justify continuing to build funds.

The first is the goal to purchase a large capital item (property). This could be done by saving for an outright purchase or by supplementing the savings with a loan or member bonds. John Van Der Leest who is a member of the Finance Subcommittee has put together a preliminary proposal of a possible funding model using member bonds or debentures to illustrate how this could be done.

The second scenario is to grow the funds to the point where the interest earned is sufficient to meet the operational expenses and the Association becomes self funding. On current forecast interest rates (approx 5%) we require \$1.6 million to generate \$80,000 annual return. With projected surplus (before interest) at around \$6,000 per year, this could take about 30 years.

If there is no goal for a capital purchase or for a self funding model and both these scenarios are rejected, then the funds should not be grown further. This leads us to the next two scenarios.

The third scenario is to retain the savings that we have already accumulated and to allow the interest to add to the surplus. The surplus funds accumulated each year could then be allocated into the following year's budget for spending on member services.

The final scenario is to reduce the savings to a safety buffer of \$100K which would cover one year's expenses and to allocate any surplus funds and the remainder of the savings to additional member services which could be spent over a period of time.

An online Opinion Poll has been set up for you to indicate your preference based on choosing one of these four scenarios. After the AGM the National Committee will vote on

this direction but seeks your input now. What is needed is a large response from the members which will convincingly indicate the preference of the majority of members in order to validate the Opinion Poll. We are seeking a 20% response from the membership. This is a major decision that will determine a direction for managing the Association's considerable funds. PLEASE get on the web site and register your opinion NOW!! The Poll will close on the 31st October.

After the close of the Poll, the National Committee will consider the results of the poll and make its decision regarding the Association's direction. The approved proposals will be handed over for the writing of the Strategic and Business Plan of the Association. Mike Reed who is a long time member of the Association will be given the job of writing the Strategic and Business Plan. Mike has extensive experience in strategy and business management. Mike's bio appears on page 8 of this Guidelines.

When the Tank Cave lease fee was first imposed, there was a call from the members for Tank Cave to be cost neutral. The Finance Subcommittee has recommended to the National Committee that based on the diving slots available per year the fees need to be set at \$60 per weekend in order for revenue to cover costs. The National Committee advises that as of the 1st January 2010, the Tank Cave booking fee will be increased to \$60 per weekend.

The AGM is only one month away. The events of the day promise to be very valuable and entertaining. We have three wonderful speakers lined up, workshops, a fantastic venue, products available for sale, great food and of course an opportunity to mingle with other cave divers. If you have not already booked and paid for your dinner you will need to do so before the 19th October. Please deposit \$40 into the CDAA bank account and notify me of your booking. No late bookings will be accepted.

Immediately preceding the AGM will be the Special General Meeting for amending Clause 31(1) of the Constitution. This is a very important change as it will clearly define the mechanism for changing the Constitution. We need as many members present as possible in order to pass this resolution. PLEASE make sure you attend!

In this issue of Guidelines you will find ballot papers for voting on National Committee positions, a life membership and Constitutional Amendments. PLEASE VOTE!! It is so important that when decisions are made the majority of the membership is represented and this can only happen if you vote.

Before voting on the Constitutional Amendments, I ask that you consider carefully the argument put forward against voting for these changes. The Constitution Subcommittee has already identified many problem areas within the Constitution including those included in the proposed amendments. The subcommittee is committed to working together to come up with the best possible solution to these problems. I would strongly recommend that any proposed amendments to the Constitution are delayed until the subcommittee is ready to present its work, at which time opportunity will be made to discuss the proposed changes.

Regards, Helen Higgins.



Exploration in Motion

Commencing 1pm on Saturday October 24th 2009

Followed by an annual dinner with a further presentation and film evening with Casey McKinlay.

by Steve Trewavas

We hope to see as many members as possible to attend this year's exciting CDAA conference. We are privileged to have secured the attendance of several extraordinary speakers;

Casey McKinlay:

Casey McKinlay is a renowned aquatic explorer with more than 20 years of active research and discovery experience. Casey is currently responsible for directing operations for the Woodville Karst Plain Project (WKPP) which is the most active and successful cave diving exploratory project in the world with more than one hundred members. The WKPP recently received a Resolution from Florida Governor Crist and the Florida Cabinet recognizing the project's 20 year contribution towards underwater cave exploration and its work to protect Wakulla Springs. Casey and his diving partner Jarrod Jablonski hold several cave diving world records including the longest exploration dive into a flooded cave system at more than 5 miles requiring more than 28 hours underwater. Casey serves on the GUE Board of Directors, is a fellow of the Explorers Club and serves as an advisor to the Wakulla Springs Water Quality Working Group and Unit Management Planning Committee, promoting responsible use, study and protection relevant to water quality issues affecting Florida Springs. Casey along with Global Underwater Explorers recently completed 2 cave diving expeditions to mainland China at the invitation of the Chinese government and a third trip is currently planned for Dec, 2009. Expertise: - Exploration, support, video, survey, decompression, rebreather and mixed gas logistics Extreme exposure exploration, planning and logistics 5-13 hours at 300ft/90m, 10-16 hours decompression, 15-30 hour run times. Casey's current position is Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Halcyon Manufacturing. His duties include directing daily operations and strategic planning for domestic and worldwide product distribution.



accomplished vertical caver. Alan has led Australian expeditions to Mexico from the mid-eighties to mid-nineties that culminated in passing the -1000 m deep 'landmark' depth for deep caves. In between these momentous expeditions, Alan spent summer caving seasons in Europe doing sporting descents - many of them solo including at the time, the World's deepest cave (Gouffre Jean-Bernard in France -1535 m).

In 1998 Alan took part in the expedition that explored the first -1000 m deep cave in the Southern Hemisphere, Muruk Cave in Papua New Guinea. In 2003 Alan assisted Russian cavers in exploring the latest World's deepest cave: Voronia Cave in Abkhazia. In 2004 in what Alan describes as a "lowest point" in his decorated career, he was one of the two people exploring at the bottom of the cave at over -1800 m. A year later Voronia passed -2000 m and of course Alan was back exploring that too.

Recently Alan has returned to the Mexican caves discovering and exploring two new caves below -1000 m deep. He is still chasing the magically 2000m mark in Mexico and even though he has not yet got close, perhaps one day he will.

John Webb:

John is an Associate Professor at Latrobe University (Vic) where he is head of Environmental Geoscience. He obtained his Honours (with a University Medal) and PhD degrees in earth sciences at Queensland University. John's interests are now centred on environmental geoscience, particularly aspects of groundwater contamination. John taught at Melbourne University Geology Department for 5 years before moving to La Trobe University in 1985. John has more than 100 publications to his name. He currently teaches the following units at Latrobe;

- Water geochemistry
- Land contamination
- Hydrogeology
- Hydrology
- Landscape and climate change
- Regolith
- Geographical Information Systems
- Remote sensing

John will talk on the geology and hydrology of Mount Gambier. An entertaining and topical talk not to be missed!



Alan Warild:

Alan began caving at Wee Jasper in the NSW Southern Highlands in 1968, while he was still at school. He took to it right away. Alan had soon explored all the more challenging caves on the mainland and began exploring further afield, first to Tasmania with its deeper and more challenging caves, then on to New Zealand. In 1976/7 Alan participated on his first trip to Mexico. Since then he has been exploring deep caves the world over and is Australia's most



LETTERS...

Hello all,

I booked a dive in Pics today and was informed by the very friendly DEAH person on the phone (who I must say was really nice for a government worker), that the procedure for booking has changed. The signed booking / indemnity form can NO longer be faxed back to the DEAH. The signed originals must be SNAIL-MAILED back to the department prior to the dive. So don't leave it to the last minute... Cheers, Michael Steinmann.

NEWS... EXPEDITION 'EL POZO AZUL 2009'

Exploration work was focused on the '2nd Sump', where in May last year the end of the line was left at 4,020m /-41m from 2nd sump base by the german divers Reinhard Buchaly and Markus Schieritz.

This 2009 expedition had three exploration pushes. The first one, on July 17, by cave divers John Volanthen (CDG) and René Houben (DCDG), which added 375m of line to the 2008 german limit and reached a depth of -31m.

The second push was on July 20 by Jason Mallinson (CDG), who also added 625m to the end of the line of Volanthen and Houben and reached a depth of only -6m.

Finally, the third push was carried by cave diver Rick Stanton (CDG) on July 24 and after adding 140m of line to the Jason limit surfaced on a short dry gallery (air filled gallery) named 'Tipperary' of 90m length, followed by a new sump, where he left the end of the line at 160m /-8m. So a total of 1,390m of new cave was explored behind the limit of 2008.

The total length of the cave now reaches 6410 m, divided into: 1st Sump: 700m /-21m, 1st air filled gallery ('La Burbuja'): 300m, 2nd Sump: 5.160m / -71m, 2nd air filled gallery ('Tipperary Gallery'): 90m, and 3rd Sump: 160m/-8m.

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for use!**

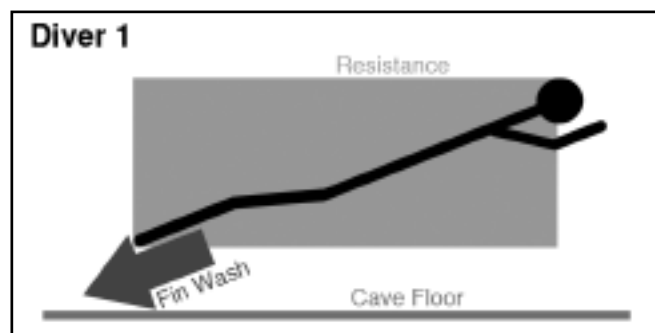
Jason Caldwell :: **IDEAL TRIM**

There is often a lot of discussion between divers on what constitutes good and bad trim. Why is trim even important I hear people ask? This article will try to explain a few of the reasons why ideal horizontal trim is important and show a few techniques to allow you to achieve and maintain it.

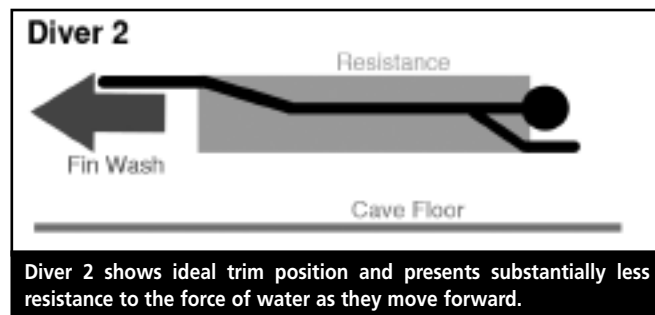
What is ideal trim?

Being in ideal trim is diving in a horizontal position with your body parallel to the floor of the cave whilst presenting the minimum amount of physical resistance to the water ahead of you as you move through it.

Why is this important?



Diver 1 shows commonly observed trim and how much of the body area is presented to the water as the diver moves forward.



Diver 2 shows ideal trim position and presents substantially less resistance to the force of water as they move forward.

The benefits of ideal trim include:

- Less gas usage throughout the dive
- An ability to be able to move quicker through the water with less effort.
- Increased manoeuvrability - Being able to turn around quicker to assist a diver behind or ahead of you.

- Less silt disturbance, as fin wash is not pushed towards the floor of the cave but behind the diver.
- Better general visibility of your surroundings in all directions.

How do you achieve ideal trim?

Achieving ideal trim is a combination of physical techniques and equipment set-up. When the entire combination of these are used, ideal trim is not only easy to achieve, it is very easy to maintain throughout your diving. Anyone can have nice trim for a moment, but it takes practice and effort to maintain it.

Equipment

Initially, it is important to set your equipment up to allow you to have your weight as evenly distributed as possible. This is best achieved conducting a balance test. Balance tests are done by starting in a horizontal position in a fresh water site like a sinkhole and remaining perfectly still. You may tip forward, backward or stay perfectly level. Have a buddy help you, so you know that you are indeed level. Make sure that if you normally have a light, a reel or something else on your equipment, that you do this test with all of that in its normal position, as every part of your equipment configuration impacts on your trim position.

Placement of tanks, tank bands and weighting systems play a huge part in how easily horizontal trim is achieved.

Many divers are head heavy, and this results in them having to compensate by dropping out of ideal trim or they will tend to nose dive. This can be due to tank bands being too low or choosing higher mounting holes in

their back-plate or soft-pack. It is often done to allow one to reach their tank valves easier. The top tank band should be mounted as high as possible, which is just before the tank shoulder curve. It allows the tanks to sit closer to the divers centre of gravity. The top section of a scuba tank, where the valve screws in, is considerably thicker than the walls. This along with manifolds/valves and regulators makes the upper portion of a twinset heavier than at the base. V-weights can also contribute to this, as they put the weight in the upper portion of the tanks. Tail weights offer a great alternative and are mounted from the bottom band bolt hole to within 20mm of the base of the twinset. Even if you don't require weight in fresh water, you may find that 1 or 2 kilos on a tail weight make all the difference when it comes to achieving ideal trim position. Divers often use heavy 'old style' rubber fins to further change this centre of balance point. Ankle weights should be avoided at all costs as they are a band aid solution to the larger issue and reduce the finning efficiency whilst increasing muscle fatigue.

Divers who are feet heavy are often wearing a weight belt and may find that a tail weight can benefit them too. Sometimes a smaller tail weight with a medium V block weight will assist in finding their ideal level balance point. Other methods involve changing soft packs and aluminium back plates for stainless steel models.

Once you are satisfied your tanks are in the right position, try adjusting weighting configurations till you feel more comfortable in the level position. Check and recheck until you are able to remain motionless and yet stay in relatively ideal trim position.

Physical Techniques

While equipment configuration plays an important part, there are a number of ways you can adjust your body position to make subtle changes to your trim. You may need to do this in addition to adjusting your equipment.

Some techniques for achieving ideal horizontal trim are to:

- Keep your head up with your eyes looking in a forward position
- Contracting the lower lumbar region (arching your back) and gluteus-maximus muscles (buttocks) to ensure your knees are level with your torso
- Keep your fins flat and parallel with your torso to ensure they assist with control and stability

This does take work to maintain and can often result in one having a slight aching in the lower lumbar region after the dive. In time and with practice, these muscles grow stronger and this mild discomfort will become less or nonexistent.

If you are head heavy, you can extend your feet out and move your arm position back to change your centre of balance point. Equally, if you are feet heavy, you can tuck your legs up a little and extend your arms forward.

What else impacts on trim?

• Using your drysuit as your main point of lift has an impact on trim. A drysuit will tend to collect gas in the shoulder region and make your feet drop down. A wing is designed to sit under your tanks and lift them evenly without automatically dumping gas like a drysuit can. Use your wing as your primary lift device, whilst simply putting enough gas in your drysuit to allow you to be warm whilst having a full range of movement.

• Tight undergarments and tight drysuits can make a diver need to compensate by having to add too much gas during the dive to be able to move freely. Check these are fitting correctly on dry land whilst not wearing tanks or a harness, by squatting down on the ground and reaching behind your back. Any tight areas around the knees or arms will be further compounded on the dive.

• Task loading the diver will virtually always compromise their trim position with the knees dropping and fin wash hitting the cave floor. This can add to an already small problem in a cave situation as the silt cloud begins to surround the dive team. Staying higher in the water column can help minimise this situation.

Are there times when you need to drop out of trim?

Yes, there are times and places where dropping out of trim makes perfect sense.

- When you are motionless on deco, dropping out of trim may be a little more comfortable
- When you are moving in a narrow inclined tunnel, you need to move out of trim to negotiate the passage

Where possible, stay in ideal trim and you will find it becomes easier in time.

Conclusion

If you can work to maintain ideal trim, you will find that you become more efficient in your gas usage, be able to react to your buddies much easier, have a lot better overall visibility, you will create less silt and will be able to cover more distance with considerably less effort. Remember, it will take practice and effort, but the rewards extend well beyond those contained within this article and will stay with you forever.

NATIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2009

Well the time has come to say goodbye. This is my last report, or, as some call it...the NATDIRSTIR!

The CDAA is 36 years old this month and I have served as a Director for a third of the time. It's time to move on and let fresh blood be spilt.

Looking back have I achieved what I wanted? I'd like to think most, but not all, which is a pity. This is the frustration of having to work at the speed of many instead of my own. In my time there have been some great changes and all required the input and teamwork of the many who worked with me as Directors and Office Bearers plus the people behind the scenes. My partner Jane Bowman, has experienced my highs and lows, my frustrations, rants and joy and why she puts up with me I have no idea. Perhaps my retirement will see us spend some quality time together, without the political turmoil that constantly nags me in this position.

I leave the CDAA as a Director in what I believe is safe hands. A strong National Committee is required to steer the Association through the coming years. Unfortunately there are some members who think they can do and say, dive when and where, they want, without consideration of Landowner requirements or the Constitution and Regulations of the CDAA. Each time one of these selfish people act this way it puts the CDAA behind the 8 ball again. We spend years building up the reputation of the Association to have some member/s come along and tear it down, we then have to start again and repair the damage. I will be glad to see the end of my involvement in the investigation and penalty process, as apart from the work load it creates, it's the emotional trauma that it leaves everyone with, I have passed the stage of just brushing it off, after all these years.



Jane and Warrick at Sipadan

The CDAA requires me to post a report on the Associations year so here goes in a shortened version.

Business.

Helen Higgins has come on board full steam with lots of ideas. Currently the Business Plan and the Committees she works with are all going full ahead. This issue of Guidelines calls for input from you, so get involved, it's easy to place your opinion so that the Directors can take action. Without your input a few will decide the future direction of the CDAA. As I have stated many times "What you put in is what you get out!"

Standards.

Steve Trewavas has demonstrated a commitment to the CDAA that we all should aspire to. The many changes he has made to policy and his input has been exceptional. The Courses are still not completed and Steve I know has plans to revamp the work already done now that he is National Director.

Publications and Records.

It has not been an easy year for Terri Allen with many investigations that have taken up valuable time, (the longer you serve the more involved you get and therefore feel) that could have been spent elsewhere. As usual Guidelines continues to excel and with David Bryant they have produced some fantastic issues. The Records section has been well and truly looked after by Jason Caldwell and there has been many changes to the system making it easier to use and offer better service to members. Product Sales looked after by Tara Parkinson have been exceptional and now counts as a very important part of the Association. The Web site also comes under Terri's Directorate and it has caused a lot of concern in the way it is run. Terri retires this year and



Sharing a tub with Robbie Stuart #3203

her support and help has been extremely valuable.

Site.

Rob Brennan has served the Association as a Director before and he came into this position after a sudden vacancy. Robs re-election confirms his popularity with the members. The new Committees have recognised the need for expansion into other sites and the opening of Nationwide communication and this will keep Rob busy for quite a while.

National Director.

The year brought about many changes, the resignation of Stuart McGregor as Mapping and Research officer and the appointment of Peter Horne as the History officer. Stuarts skill in map making is second to none and he will be missed. Controversial in his approach and with a communication technique that only he can understand you just have to love the guy. Peter Horne supplied some old documents from his mapping period in "Blacks" and with his help at the beginning I put together a "History of the CDAA Committee and Directors" power point presentation which I presented at Oz Tek. This PPP is an eye opener to the political turbulence the CDAA has endured for 36 years, the resignations, the workers, the infighting, the access problems and the suspensions that continue to plague the Association with members doing the wrong thing. Insurance has changed this year with

Relaxing at Fatboys, Gizo with Harald Zerha



Willis Australia being appointed as our Brokers. We have a one company policy that gives us more cover, Liability and Officers protection and now covers Products as well.

So its goodbye, I wish I could say it's all been fun, but it hasn't. To all members of the Association I hope I have served you well, even if some of you didn't agree with me. I leave you with more money in the bank than you can poke a stick at, with access at an all time high and with bonds established with other Training Agencies and Associations with similar goals. The Lease of Tank Cave (again) and Kilsbys for the Association was a highlight and enabled me to establish a lifetime friendship. No more phone calls from the girls at the DEH, Forrests SA



Cave course at Gouldens

and Lady Nelson, what will I do with all this spare time?

My wish list is for the CDAA to gain Barnoolut Access on a lease basis; that the Association becomes "self supporting" using its investments to fund itself and remove the financial burden from the members and that steps are taken to ensure the CDAA keeps its position as THE cave diving training agency.

I will now deal with the 7 Investigations that are in progress and hope to see you at "The Barn" for the AGM where I will hand over the reins. A great speaker list has been arranged so come along and support YOUR Association. Hopefully I can serve the CDAA in a less demanding role in the future. I wish everyone my best. See you all diving!

Regards, Warrick McDonald.
CDAA Business Director 2005-2007
CDAA National Director 1999-2009



Attention all members CDAA News List

We are currently piloting a program to run a CDAA electronic news list with all members' email addresses added to this list. The news list is an announcement only list with no discussion possible. This will enable the National Committee to post important notices to the majority of members without having your inbox inundated with endless discussion emails. If you do not want your email address to be added to this news list please choose to opt out before the 25/10/09 by notifying the Records Officer or the Publications and Records Director. The topic will be added to the agenda for the AGM so there will be opportunity for discussion. The news list will be activated on the 26/10/09. The National Committee, CDAA

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'Standards Direction'



Another diving year coming quickly to a close and it appears we are in good shape financially and I am glad to note we are operating quite cohesively recently as well. This October will see both Terri Allen and Warrick McDonald step down from their positions as long serving directors of the association. Warrick may in fact be the longest serving director in our history. This is a huge achievement in anyone's language and we are all, indebted to Warrick for his drive and focused direction of the CDAA.

This year's AGM conference will potentially be the best yet. I am excited by the caliber of our speakers. I would encourage as many of you as possible to come along for a great informative social event. Please see the notice in this magazine for further details. Tank cave is open on the Friday prior to the AGM and also Sunday 25th AGM. We have added additional places and I would encourage as many members as possible to take the opportunity of spending a days diving with Casey McKinlay. BYO food and drink as we are also planning a Tank Cave BBQ lunch onsite.

Unfortunately this year we have had a number of investigations due to breaking of CDAA standards in varying capacities. The latest encompasses further site access breaches in the Nullarbor. DEH have informed us that in the future divers caught without permits will have all their dive equipment confiscated. This can be widened to include vehicles as well. This authority is under their act and has for whatever reason not been used before. Just because a dive site is not currently on our access list does not mean that inappropriate action by one of our members will not be scrutinized.

It is time for a reminder that members should not attempt to negotiate access either additional or initial with any Landowner that the CDAA has access agreements with. I understand that your intentions are no doubt honorable but please give us the courtesy of knowing what you are doing on our behalf. In practice you will almost always be given approval but in some cases there are reasons that we restrict this type of thing and perhaps you as a member may not be aware of them. Two sites have become embroiled in this type of complaint recently.

Several items have been raised on the various committees some of the most notable are the recommendations to change the name of the penetration course to "Advanced Cave" and the increase in site dives for each CDAA course. We are also addressing the uniformity of

tactile, no visibility signals. Globally other agencies teach the push/pull method. In order to come in line with this it is proposed we adopt this as our primary low visibility signaling method. These will be addressed in the near future. Comments on these and other training issues are always welcome.

Please note a new DPV policy is now included in the regulations and is available on-line. The Rebreather policy has also been updated to include a minimum number of experience dives prior before entering an overhead environment on an RB unit.

Reminder to the Instructor body we have an Instructor workshop at The Barn conference centre, commencing at 9:30am on Saturday 24 October just prior to the AGM. If you are unable to attend please notify me prior to October 15 and alternative arrangements for updates will be considered.

Safe diving, Steve Trewavas

FOR SALE

V-5000 HID

4AH NiMH batteries,
10watt fixed focus beam
International charger



Contact: John Vanderleest
jfv@tpg.com.au 0419 775 771

Publications and Record's Director's Annual report 2009

Memberships

The Association had another successful year with a steady membership of 785 members to June 30 2009 (799, 2007; 804, 2006; 751, 2005; 754, 2004). We had a total of 82 new divers.

New penetration divers: 13

The breakdown of member's categories are as follows:

- Deep Cavern 333
- Cave 249
- Penetration 203

The inactive membership was once again a popular choice as were the multiple renewals. Jason Caldwell done a superb effort as records officer. He has provided a very fast turn around of renewals well beyond the call of duty as a volunteer considering he also has a new and busy fulltime job.

Jason has helped develop the new on-line membership system, which we hope will make renewing and updating of member details easier for all. We have had some teething problems with it which I am sure Jason will be able to smooth out in his new role as Publications and Records Director. Congratulations.

Products

On the products front we have a number of new products including DVDs and more to come for this year with excellent sales recorded. We get regular product of the month updates as well as the on-line products store. Thanks to Tara Parkinson who has done a superb and thorough job in this area.

Oztek 09 was successful for the CDAA with good product sales, letting people know about courses, crossovers and membership. We were also well represented at many talks and awards. Thanks to Tara again for her tireless work bringing the products and running the stand with help from Helen and others. Big thanks to Stuart McGregor for the production of the posters which were again very popular.

Publications

Guidelines is bigger and better than ever something we should all be proud of. There is now the option of not receiving Guidelines in the mail but simply downloading a pdf copy from the website in the member's area.

David Bryant is paid by the Association to do the entire layout, design the ads as well as organise all the printing and is the Advertising Officer. He runs all design of ads, invoicing, planning and new business for the association. Thanks to the volunteer team at AB Ocean Divers who helped with the enveloping and sticky labelling of Guidelines every quarter.

Website. Has served us well with site bookings. Etc. We hope to get more site info and maps on in future and an overhaul of the layout and email list.

Course material

This continues to be a busy area and will hopefully all be wrapped up with my departure at the AGM.

General Directorate

Lots of paperwork inc regulations and standards and procedures was updated during some instructor stds violations investigations as well as committee meetings. Thank you to the team that work as part of my Directorate. Thanks also to the membership for your suggestions and contributions to Guidelines and other areas. Thanks to my fellow directors I have worked with in the past especially to Richard, Heike, Steve and Warrick for keeping me sane.

It has been an interesting, rewarding, frustrating, emotional, happy, sad and fun 6 years as Pubdir surviving 3 elections and the 2 years before that as Records officer. I hope I have made some small contribution to the association and I know I leave it in good hands for the future.

To Geoff, I promise not to lose too much sleep over CDAA matters in the future!

Terri Allen
CDAA Publication and Records Director

NOMINATION FOR NATIONAL DIRECTOR STEVE TREWAVAS CDAA #4041

For the past 2 years I have acted in the capacity as the Standards Director of the CDAA. During this eventful time I have gained insight and experience in to the inner workings of the Association, both of which I feel are integral to the role of National Director.

If I am successful in obtaining the National Directors role, an area of concern to some maybe the process for replacing the role of Standards Director. In order to be transparent, I would like to take this opportunity to outline the Standards Director replacement process. We have received advice that we cannot add the Standards Director role as an election item at this AGM. Therefore If elected as National Director, a call for interest in the Standards Director Role will be made. A vote by all the Directors on the applicants will be undertaken. The successful applicant will replace me for the remainder of my term (12 months). At that time an election for the Standards Director position would take place as required under the constitution.

As the National Director I will address the following issues; Raise the profile and influence of the CDAA nationally, become more electronic friendly, increase the quality and focus of our training, ensure our financial security and address the fractionalization within the CDAA.

NOMINATION FOR PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR JASON CALDWELL CDAA #4041

Hi, I'm Jason Caldwell and I've been the CDAA Records Officer for the last two years. This has enabled me to learn a great deal about the inner workings of our Association while getting to know quite a few of you at renewal time and at dive sites.

I've made a few contributions along the way:

- Design of CDAA bumper and new arrow stickers, new membership card layouts, new certificates
- Helping tweak the online renewal system
- Shot and produced the instructor video footage for course content

I have a keen interest in underwater video/photography and graphic art. I've shot cave video for Disney Channel and been featured on the ABC Nexus show.

My background is in business writing and communication, having spent several years in the publishing industry.

Records and Publications requires a person who is both dedicated to the Association and particular about the quality of material we present to Australia and the world. Terri has done a fantastic job over the last few years. I have quite a few ideas for Guidelines like - regular gear reviews, member profiles, repairs/maintenance, member competitions and a photography/video section. I'd like to revamp our website to be more intuitive and exciting, plus include a private forum section to take the pressure off the email list and broaden the reach of members. Courses could be booked online and the post course QA system would be linked for you to complete as part of your log in.

You will find that I am always very approachable and open to new ideas. I dive regularly both in the ocean and caves, having dived in China, New Zealand, Vanuatu and most of Australia. Currently I'm CDAA Penetration rated with an Advanced Trimix endorsement.

I think new enthusiasm is imperative for our Association, new ideas breed prosperity and our sport is one that is very exciting in both landscapes and activities. Let's get out there and show the world what Australian Cave Diving is all about.

Warm regards,
Jason Caldwell, CDAA Records Officer

IMPORTANT: Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Recognising that there are numerous problems with our current Constitution, the National Committee has established a sub-committee to fully review the Constitution and to develop and recommend changes for voting by the membership. This sub-committee is comprised of a suitable cross-section of the membership. Warrick McDonald and Helen Higgins are both members of the National Committee, David Bird is a solicitor, Mike Reed is a business strategist and Maria Brennan, David Bird, Richard Taylor and Noel Dillon are all long standing members of the Association some of who have been involved with the writing or rewriting of the Constitution in the past. The sub-committee includes people with sufficient skills, knowledge and experience to ensure that the proposed amendments will result in the best possible Constitution for the CDAA. There is a broad cross-section of representation to ensure that all views are adequately considered and the sub-committee is committed to working together constructively to achieve the best possible outcome. The sub-committee will address the areas in the Constitution that are the subject of these proposed amendments and have already commenced working on them. Currently the sub-committee is meeting fortnightly and estimates that this work

will be completed before the end of 2009.

It is thus entirely inappropriate for another smaller, less representative group to be proposing changes in a way that cuts across the work of the sub-committee. The proposers were approached to submit their suggestions to the sub-committee but have chosen to exercise their right to submit their proposal for voting.

For this reason, all members are urged to vote "No" to the proposed amendments and to allow the sub-committee to complete its work.

However, it should be noted that the sub-committee welcomes any input and will include such input in its considerations. As such, a vote of "No" does not mean that the suggestions made will not be given full consideration for inclusion in the final set of recommendations from the sub-committee.

The recommendations of the sub-committee will go to the National Committee for approval. There will then be opportunity for the New Constitution to be presented to the members for discussion and fine tuning before it goes to the members for a vote.

NOMINATION FOR SITE DIRECTOR ROB BRENNAN CDAA #1321

I was approached by the National Committee earlier this year to complete the remaining term of Site Director after the resignation of Gary Barclay. As the guide for various sites in the Mount Gambier region and a previous Site Director, I have been a member of the CDAA since 1985, and as such I believe I have an understanding of the directorate, its relevant positions and member's needs.

The future of the CDAA needs to be explored. My aim is to see growth publicly and within the organisation, along with improvement of site access, mapping and accessibility of current, past and future sites. Knowledge of technical diving is increasing in demand, and we need to embrace technology. The formation of the Site Committee has seen the beginnings of a new direction for Site Access, not only in the Mount Gambier region. Many new projects have been recently commenced and as Site Director I would appreciate the opportunity to finalise these ventures.

The need for environmental awareness regarding constantly maintaining and improving dive sites has increased. I will always be available to, and be supportive of those who wish to discuss further issues of concern.

In keeping continuity on the directorate I ask that you once again consider me a favourable candidate for National Site Director thus allowing stability to both the members and the landowners.

SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2009.

Hi All

I cannot believe that it is 3 months already since the last Guidelines has been printed! Anyway I have been a very busy diver with most of my time finalising reports and such for the AGM (so much for diving).

However the largest problem we have had to face recently is the continual breaking of landowner access requirements. IT IS SIMPLE, YOU BOOK THE DIVE SLOT YOU DIVE IT OR TELL THE APPROPRIATE PERSON.

It is also disappointing to see that some fellow members have breached access requirements for various sites. This brings our association into disrepute and jeopardises our access to many other sites just through landowners talking to each other. Most people would be surprised by the networking that occurs within the landowner ranks.

I need to appoint a few people to various positions within the Association and I am looking for Volunteers. Should you be interested in, or have relevant experience in either the Science Officer or Mapping Co-ordinator please contact me. After Guidelines is published I would hope to have received some expressions of interest in these positions, and I will be soon be in a position to announce the appointment of these two positions. I am also looking at running more working bees to update and upgrade some sites around the Mount

Gambier region. Please let me know if you are interested. Once I have a few names, we will organise dates that suit the majority and advertise them online.

We do have a need for some guides. If you're interested please contact me. The prospective Guides will need to be a minimum of an insured dive master, with a current senior first aid certificate and O2 provider's certification. The certificates will need to be kept up to date at all times.

Due to the need for an ORIGINAL signature "not a scanned or faxed copy" the booking paperwork for DEAH must be delivered in person or by snail mail to the department before the dive. Signed booking / indemnity form can NO longer be faxed to the DEAH. Therefore, to make everyone's life a bit easier, please plan your diving ahead of time.

Also, on the subject of dive bookings, please ensure when you book online that you are a current member (and not just paid up in the last few days), and have already signed the indemnity. Also be aware that the booking officers are volunteers who may not read their emails every day, so if you are booking a site, please plan ahead.

Currently Barnoolut is closed for diving. Remember access is a privilege, not a right.

Safe Diving, Rob



CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
DIRECTORATE ELECTIONS OCTOBER 2009

BALLOT PAPER

NATIONAL DIRECTOR:

The following member has been nominated for the position of National Director:
A statement from the candidate appears in this issue of Guidelines:
Please place a cross in the box below.

Steve Trewavas - CDAA #3095

Proposer: Warrick McDonald CDAA #1882 Seconded: Terri Allen CDAA #3483

VOTE YES ☐ NO ☐

SITE DIRECTOR:

The following member has been nominated for the position of Site Director:
A statement from the candidate appears in this issue of Guidelines:
Please place a cross in the box below.

Rob Brennan - CDAA #1321

Proposed by: Jarrod White: #3474 Seconded by: Craig Larkin: #3576

VOTE YES ☐ NO ☐

PUBLICATIONS & RECORDS DIRECTOR:

The following member has been nominated for the position of Publications
and Records Director:
A statement from the candidate appears in this issue of Guidelines:
Please place a cross in the box below.

Jason Caldwell - CDAA #4041

Proposer: Paul Leslie CDAA #3184 Seconded: Nicole Johnstone CDAA #4390

VOTE YES ☐ NO ☐

CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
DIRECTORATE ELECTIONS OCTOBER 2009

BALLOT PAPER

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

The following member has been nominated for Life Membership:
Please place a cross in the box below.

Warrick McDonald - CDAA #1882

Proposer: Dave Warnes CDAA #0001 Seconded: Trevor Aldritt CDAA #002330

VOTE YES ☐ NO ☐

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

The following member has been nominated for Life Membership:
Please place a cross in the box below.

Chris Brown - CDAA #1882

Proposer: Ken Smith CDAA #0799 Seconded: Adrian Richards CDAA #1769

VOTE YES ☐ NO ☐

PROPOSED AMMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION:

The following member has Proposed Ammendments to the Constitution:
Please place a cross in the box below.

Proposer: Mark Nielsen #0331 Seconded: Neville Skinner #3537

VOTE YES ☐ NO ☐

POSTAL VOTING INSTRUCTIONS - OCTOBER 2009

Please follow these instructions carefully to register your votes in the 2009 Ballot

Step1 COMPLETE THE BALLOT PAPERS

Clearly indicate your preference on all ballot papers following the instructions for each question. Fold your ballot papers and place them in a small envelope and write on the front of that envelope:

BALLOT PAPER ENVELOPE

By placing your ballot papers in a separate envelope, your vote remains anonymous.

Step2 PLACE THE BALLOT PAPER ENVELOPE IN **ANOTHER ENVELOPE** ADDRESSED TO THE RETURNING OFFICER.

The address for the Returning Officer is:

The Returning Officer
PO Box 7592
St Kilda Rd Vic 8004

Step3 SIGN THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE RETURNING OFFICER

On the back of this envelope you must write your name, CDAA number and signature. This serves to declare that you are the person whose name appears on the back of the envelope, and that this is your only vote in the 2009 ballot.

Step4 SEND YOUR ENVELOPE TO THE RETURNING OFFICER STRAIGHT AWAY

Your votes must reach the Returning Officer by the close of business Monday, 19th October, 2009.

Any questions may be directed to Helen Higgins - business@cavedivers.com.au.

Ballot Paper.

This is your ballot paper for the
2009 CDAA Elections.

There are a couple of things you
need to know...

**1. Before voting, please read pages 22 & 23
for the 250 word precis for each candidate,
plus Nominations & Proposals on pages 25-29.**

**2. Instructions for voting and mailing your ballot
listed on Page 4 of this Liftout.**

**3. Your vote is important, please take the time
to fill in your ballot paper correctly and return
to the appropriate address. Thank you,
Geoff Chambers, Returning Officer, CDAA.**

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CDAA CONSTITUTION

Dear Directors

RE: Proposed Amendments to the CDAA Constitution

Explanation of change for Section 5:

Gives the general membership the ability to change, add or delete Regulations that up until now has always been the sole privilege of the Committee.

5. AMENDING THE REGULATIONS

The Regulations can be amended by either the National Committee or by the eligible members as follows;

- 1 Majority decision of the National Committee
- 2 Majority vote by eligible members at any Special General Meeting or Annual General Meeting inclusive of Postal Votes in the same manner as required for amendments to the Constitution with due consideration for the following;
 - a. All motions shall be proposed and seconded by eligible members.
 - b. Eligible members wishing to bring amendments before the membership must give at least forty five (60) days notice from the polling date of the amendment in writing to the Business Director
 - c. Except where otherwise provided the Business Director shall give notice to the general membership of the polling date and provide details of the business to be transacted together with the postal ballot papers for that purpose at least thirty (30) days prior to the polling date.
 - d. A majority of votes will be considered to be the simple majority of votes from the sum of postal votes and any other votes that may be taken at the Special General Meeting or Annual General Meeting by eligible members without regard to any minimum number of voters or votes required.
- 3 Majority vote by eligible members conducted only by Post vote at any time with due consideration for the following;
 - a. All motions shall be proposed and seconded by eligible members.
 - b. Eligible members wishing to bring amendments before the membership must give forty five (45) days notice from the polling date of the amendment in writing to the Business Director
 - c. Except where otherwise provided the Business Director must give notice of the polling date and provide details of the business to be transacted together with the postal ballot papers for that purpose at least thirty (30) days prior to the polling date.
 - d. A majority of votes will be considered to be the simple majority of votes from the total postal votes received from eligible members without regard to any minimum number of voters or votes required.
- 4 Amendments will come into force when members are notified in writing or when they are published in "Guidelines" and/or on the CDAA website in accordance with provisions for notices contained within the Constitution.
- 5 If amendments of Regulations made by the eligible members contradict or cover the same issues as those amendments made by the National Committee then those amendments made by the eligible members will take precedence and furthermore those made by the National Committee can be amended again or deleted by the eligible members by the normal process of voting in accordance with the provisions set out in the Constitution.

Explanation of change for Section 17:

Requires that the National Committee must give a full explanation of charges against an accused member and supply all evidence in support of those allegations at least 20 days before any hearing.

17. SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

1. The National Committee has the power to suspend or expel a member for any breach of the Constitution or Regulations.
2. The National Committee may appoint an Investigations Officer who will look into all aspects of the alleged offenses and report back to the Committee. All members, whether in the Committee or general membership, shall co-operate with this Officer.
3. Such accused member must be given at least (20) days notice in writing prior to the National Committee meeting to be held to deal with the allegations(s).
4. The notice must provide full details of the nature of the allegation(s) including all evidence and copies of documents upon which the allegation(s) are based and must provide the time and place of the National Committee hearing at which time the member is entitled to appear (with or without representation) for the hearing of the allegation(s).
 - a) No evidence will be accepted at any meeting or can be relied upon as part of these proceedings which has not been released to the other party(s) in full at least 20 days prior to any meeting with the exception of private residential or email addresses and telephone numbers of individuals which may appear on those documents or other evidence.
5. Failure of a member to attend such a meeting, to answer allegations as detailed by duly served notice will not preclude the meeting continuing and a judgment being made.
6. Such member must be notified in writing within fourteen (14) days of any suspension, expulsion or penalty resulting from the meeting.

Explanation of change for Section 18:

This makes the appeals process truly independent to the National Committee that has imposed the original penalty. Currently an appeal is heard by 2 Committee members and 1 advocate for the Appellant so voting will always be stacked against the Appellant or virtually a restatement of the original decision.

18. APPEALS

- 1 Any member who has been suspended or expelled or penalized by the Association has the right to appeal such a penalty.
- 2 Such an appeal must be lodged together with an appeal bond (the level of which is stipulated in the Regulations) with the Business Director within (14) days of written notice of the suspension, expulsion or penalty being received by the Appellant.
- 3 If any such appeal is lodged the matter must be heard at an Appeals Hearing by an independent and recognized professional Disputes Resolution & Adjudication Officer, hereinafter referred to as the Adjudicator, who is acceptable to both the National Committee and the Appellant. Costs to engage an Adjudicator shall be paid for by the Association.
- 4 The hearing will be held in a location and at a time that suits the Appellant, within reason, but if this unfairly penalizes the majority of those that would appear then it may either be held in Mt Gambier or by conference call.
- 5 The Public Officer will organize the Appeals Hearing Body within thirty (30) days consisting of the following individuals;
 - a) The Adjudicator
 - b) The Appellant
 - c) The Appellant's Advocate (if required by the Appellant)
 - d) A National Committee member
 - e) The National Committee's Advocate (if required by the National Committee)
 - f) Any witnesses requested for the hearing by either the Appellant or the National Committee.
 - g) The Public Officer who shall make a record of events
5. The Public Officer will notify each member of the Appeal Hearing Body and provide full details of the nature of the allegation(s) including all evidence and copies of documents upon which the allegation(s) are based and must provide the time and place of the Appeal Hearing at which time the Appellant is entitled to appear (with or without representation) for the hearing of the allegation(s).
 - a) No evidence will be accepted at any hearing or can be relied upon as part of these proceedings which has not been released to the other party(s) in full at least 20 days prior to any meeting with the exception of private residential or email addresses and telephone numbers of individuals which may appear on those documents or other evidence.
- 6 The Adjudicator shall have jurisdiction to review the allegations and all evidence presented and assess the Appellant's application in its entirety and shall not be limited by any criteria or other restriction placed on appeals in the normal sense of appeals to Courts or Tribunals.
- 7 The ruling of the Adjudicator will be final and binding.
- 8 In the event the original disciplinary decision(s) of the National Committee that had resulted in suspension or expulsion are quashed by the Adjudicator the bond will be refunded even if other disciplinary decision(s) are upheld.

Explanation of changes to the Section 34 and 36:

These changes will require that longer advanced notice to be given to the Business Director of motions to be put forward for voting. Currently only (45) days notice is required but this gives very little time for the appropriate notice of postal voting to be included in the issue of 'Guidelines' before the AGM. So the proposal is to increase the time from (45) days to (60) days.

34. MOTIONS

2. Replace (45) days with (60) days.

36. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

3. Replace (45) days with (60) days.

Explanation for addition of Section 41:

This allows members to have access to records that affect the critical running of the Association and actively works against excuses of 'secrecy' or privilege that might hide problems that could undermine the Association.

41. ACCESS TO RECORDS BY ELIGIBLE MEMBERS

1. Upon a written request from an eligible member being received by the Business Director the following records must be provided to that member within 14 days of receiving that request for the following;
 - a. Agreements with the Association for access to dive sites or land.
 - b. Any other agreements between the Association and landowners, controllers of land or dive sites.
 - c. Insurance policies held by the Association.
 - d. Records of any voting by eligible members for any vote carried out in the two years prior to the request but no earlier than the effective date of this amendment.
2. Records supplied shall not include copies of individual postal votes or any private residential or email addresses and telephone numbers of individuals which may appear on those documents.
3. Requests shall not be granted for 'All records' but must be for specific records only so that the Business Director is not unreasonably burdened.
4. The member will pay for the cost of copying and postage excluding any charge for labour.

Nomination for Life Membership

WARRICK MCDONALD

Warrick McDonald has decided to step down from the National Director position at the AGM in 2009.

Therefore I would like to nominate Warrick McDonald for a Life Membership of the CDAA.

I think that Warrick is a silent achiever, a very good leader, manager and on most occasions loves what he does in managing the affairs of the CDAA. Even with all the knockers, and, I might add some he wishes he never knew.

Warrick sets a high standard in the Penetration Dive Courses he holds, which tested his standard and attention to detail just recently.

Warrick has been national Director for 10 years now and has during that period managed to find the happy medium with differing personalities on all the Committees he has chaired, including the instructors and volunteers.

During the period of his tenure the members have continued to re-elect him. This is indicative of their confidence in his management of the CDAA.

He has shown fortitude in continuing in his role, even when on many occasions some problems have presented have been a tough fight. He keeps persisting and chipping away as these situations present themselves.

Warrick with a team of dedicated committees have taken the finances of the CDAA from almost zero to the substantial enterprise that the CDAA currently is.

It is through Warrick's leadership and continuing safety standards that has ensured the safety record of all the caves and sinkholes within the CDAA umbrella. His availability to all CDAA members is without question.

My nomination shows the high level of regard that he holds in my estimation.

I hope that the next President can live up to his standard.

Nominee: David Warnes

Second to nomination: Trevor Aldritt

Nomination for Life Membership

CHRIS BROWN

We would like to nominate Chris Brown for life membership of the CDAA.

Many of us in Adelaide were lucky enough to hear Chris talk about his many cave diving experiences in April. Over 50 CDAA members attended this talk and I received a lot of positive feedback. Many of our newer members had never met Chris and where not aware of his achievements. Chris was involved in some of the earliest dives in Tank Cave right through to the deep mapping project in Shaft which gave us the map we now have. And that's not to mention his many achievements on the Nullarbor.

I think life membership for Chris is well deserved, and would be a fitting reward for the effort Chris has put in over the years. I also think that the CDAA membership would benefit greatly from Chris becoming a life member. He has a lot to offer in knowledge, experience, skills and enthusiasm. Hopefully in the future more CDAA members will have a chance to meet Chris and hear more about his experiences over many years of cave diving.

However, I need your help in supporting Chris and ensuring that he gets the votes needed to become a life member. So please support us in our nomination of Chris. The CDAA can only benefit by having Chris as a life member.

Proposer Ken Smith CDAA 799

Seconded by Adrian Richards CDAA 1769

Responsible CDAA positions held by Chris Brown

1983 South Australian Records Officer

1984 CDAA Cat 1, 2 & 3 Examiner (now Cavern, Sinkhole & Cave Instructor)

1984 - 85 Vice President

1984 onwards. On Examiners board, the training committee

1991 Primary author and collator of the original CDAA Penetration Manual

1992 CDAA Cat 4 Examiner (now penetration instructor)

1992 - 93 and 1993 - 94 Standards Director

Shaft guide

Tank cave guide

Cave Diving Exploits and Major Events

17 trips to the Nullarbor since 1982.

Diving and mapping Tank cave since 1984.

Florida and Bahamas in 1985.

Pannikin Plains expedition in 1988.

Extending Cocklebidy Cave in 1995.

Pearce resurgence in New Zealand to 125 metres depth in 1999.

Shaft deep mapping project in 2001 to 2003.

CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

(INCORPORATED IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA)

Membership Application Form

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

Surname: _____

Given Names: _____

Address: _____

_____ P/code _____ Mobile: _____

Phone: (h) (____) _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

(w) (____) _____ Email: _____

**Please
email jpg
or attach
1 photo**

In consideration of me being accepted as a member of the Cave Divers Association of Australia Inc. ('CDAА'):

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.

2. WARNING UNDER THE FAIR TRADING ACT 1999 (Vic). Under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1999, several conditions are implied into contracts for the supply of certain goods and services. These conditions mean that the supplier named on this form is required to ensure that the recreational services it supplies to you are:

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.

3. I have read and understand the Constitution and Regulations of the CDAА and am in support thereof. I hereby apply for membership.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Membership Renewal Instructions

- 1) Please print and fill out the Membership Application Form **OR RENEW ON-LINE**
- 2) **Enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope**
- 3) Include **1 Photograph** and please write your name on the back of the photos or email a 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.
- 8) **Memberships cannot be processed until everything is sent in.**
- 9) Please send all questions by **email** only to records@cavedivers.com.au

Please tick applicable boxes

- ☐ I wish to pay **\$80** Renewal Fee **2009/2010**.
- ☐ I wish to pay \$ _____ being CDAА Membership for _____ years
- ☐ I wish to pay **\$35/yr** for Non Active Membership (no diving) for **2009/2010**.
- ☐ I wish to pay **\$35/yr** for Associate Membership (non diving) for **2009/2010**.
- ☐ 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 \$ _____
- ☐ I have electronically transferred \$ _____ on date ____/____/09 to account:

Bank: NAB BSB = 085-070, Account No. 69-701-2377.

PLEASE INSERT CDAА 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:

CDAA INSTRUCTORS

NAME	Deep Cavern	Cave	Penetr
A.C.T.			
APPS, Heike (CDAA 2776) BH 02 6249 9170 AH 02 6291 0566 E: heike.apps@ga.gov.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
N.S.W.			
GRILLS, Peter (CDAA 1780) AH 02 4955 4497 Mobile 0419 820 920 E: peter_grills@hotmail.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
SOUTH AUSTRALIA			
COSTELLO, Peter (CDAA 3378) Mob: 0417 494 771 soudiv@southerndiving.com	Yes		
MARRIOTT, Max (CDAA 1268) Mob: 0428 897 897 E: dive69@internode.on.net	Yes	Yes	Yes
SELBACH, Steve (CDAA 3495) Phone: 0413 134 827 Email: steve.selbach@mac.com	Yes		
VICTORIA			
ALLEN, Terri (CDAA 3483) Mob: 0419 176 633 E: terri.allen@baker.edu.au	Yes	Yes	
BARCLAY, Gary (CDAA 1735) AH (03) 5565 8793 E: garinda@tpgi.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
BOWMAN, Jane (CDAA 1880) BH: (03) 9579 2600 E: info@abocean.com.au www.abocean.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
CLARIDGE, Linda (CDAA 2214) Mobile 0408 052 070 E: garinda@tpgi.com.au AH (03) 5565 8793	Yes	Yes	Yes

NAME	Deep Cavern	Cave	Penetr
VICTORIA. cont.			
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: ah3329@gmail.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
LESLIE, Paul (CDAA 3184) Phone: (03) 9879 2868 Email: info@melbournediving.com.au	Yes	Yes	
McDONALD, Warrick (CDAA 1882) BH: (03) 9579 2600 E: info@abocean.com.au Mobile 0408 374 112	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	
QUEENSLAND			
FEATONBY, Tim (CDAA 3372) Mob: 0402 129 253 E: tim.featonby@defence.gov.au	Yes	Yes	
WESTERN AUSTRALIA			
PAYNTER, Geoff (CDAA 3784) Mob: 0407 445 112 E: gpaynter@geo.net.au	Yes		
INSTRUCTOR ADVOCATE: ANDY HIGGINS.			

UP COMING COURSES

DEEP CAVERN Courses

Every Month - Midweek or Weekend courses. Flexible schedule in Melbourne & Mt Gambier
One theory day, pool session and 3 days in Mount Gambier. Twin tanks supplied if you don't have your own.
Instructor: Rubens MONACO 0413-429-533 info@idcscuba.com.au

November 5 - 8, 2009 in Mount Gambier SA - Full time course in Mount Gambier SA.
All dives- 4 training, 3 site dives, wire ladder climbing and rope handling workshop incl. All special equipment supplied.
For more info Contact... Instructor: Linda CLARIDGE 03 5565 8793 E: garinda@tpgi.com.au

November 9 - 22, 2009 in Melbourne and Mt Gambier. - Includes 3 hour pool session, and theory in Melbourne, then 6 dives in Mount Gambier. Twin tanks and spare reg supplied no extra if required.
Instructor: Jane Bowman 03 9579 2600 info@abocean.com.au

November 19 - 30, 2009 in Melbourne & Mt Gambier. Includes theory, full gear critique & assistance, plus 4 hour pool session, all in Melbourne. 3 day w'end with 3 Cavern Dives and 3 Sinkholes in Mt Gambier.
Instructor: Paul LESLIE 03 9459 4111 E: paul@melbournediving.com.au

December 15 - 29, 2009 in Melbourne & Mt Gambier. Theory and a pool dive are conducted in Melbourne with 6 dives and climbing workshop conducted over 3 days in Mt Gambier. All specialised equipment supplied.
For further info contact... Instructor: Andrew HIGGINS 0413569164 ah3329@gmail.com

January 18 - 31, 2010 in Melbourne and Mt Gambier - Includes Includes 3 hour pool session, and theory in Melbourne, then 6 dives in Mount Gambier. Twin tanks and spare reg supplied no extra if required.
Instructor: Jane Bowman 03 9579 2600 info@abocean.com.au

CAVE Courses

September 28 - October 5, 2009 in Melbourne and Mt Gambier.
Includes gear critique and theory in Melbourne, then 6 dives in Mount Gambier. Twin tanks and spare reg supplied.
Instructor: Jane Bowman 03 9579 2600 info@abocean.com.au

Every Month - Midweek or Weekend courses. Flexible schedule in Mt Gambier
3 days of diving in Mt Gambier. Dates to suit you. Only 2 students per course max. Twin tanks supplied.
Instructor: Rubens MONACO 0413-429-533 info@idcscuba.com.au

October 23 - 25, 2009 in Mount Gambier SA
3 day, full time course offered entirely in Mount Gambier. All theory, 3 training dives and 3 site dives conducted
Instructor: Linda CLARIDGE 0408 052 070 garinda@tpgi.com.au

October 31 - November 2, 2009 in Mt Gambier
Includes 6 dives and theory. For more info or to schedule your own course dates please contact...
Instructor: Andrew HIGGINS 0413569164 ah3329@gmail.com

December 8 - 14, 2009 in Melbourne & Mt Gambier
Includes theory, assistance with mods including use of Finger Spools, Arrows and Cookies. All completed in Melb.
3 days, 6 Dives, 3 Cave Sites in Mt Gambier. Instructor: Paul LESLIE 03 9459 4111 paul@melbournediving.com.au

CDAA Penetration Courses

October 3 - 11, 2009 in Mt Gambier. Run over October 3rd, 4th and 5th (public holiday in NSW, SA & ACT) and October 10th & 11th. Program run entirely at Mt Gambier. Please download the latest application form from the website and send to Jane Bowman, CDAA Penetration Program Co-Ordinator. Phone: 03 95792600
Please download the latest application form off the webpage www.cavedivers.com.au

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

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

October 3 - 5 S.A. Labour Day. Grant Sommer
October 17 - 19 Ext Weekend. Richard Irndorfer
October 23 - 25. AGM Extended Weekend.
No Diving Saturday. Warrick McDonald

October 31 - Nov 3 Melbourne Cup Weekend.
Warrick McDonald
November 21 - 22. Rob Brennan
December 5 - 6. Gary Barclay

December 12 - 13. Chris Edwards
Jan. 1-3, 2010 New Years Day. Warrick McDonald
January 23 - 24. Steve Trewavas
February 6 - 7. Linda Claridge

**The National Committee advises that
as of the 1st January 2010,
the Tank Cave booking fee will be
increased to \$60 per weekend**

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	General Diving: 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. Training: 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. \$26/dive or annual Permit \$60. NOTE: Indemnity form to be completed with m'ship renewal & lasts same length as. M'ship. NOTE: Divers should renew their Piccaninnie Ponds indemnities at least 2 weeks prior to their intended dive date.
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	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 (stop signs)
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 Weekly. 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 animals, visitors or mid-week diving allowed.
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CDAA SITE ACCESS

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

BARNOOLUT SITES

Ten Eighty	S/C	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. ALL BARNOOLUT SITES ARE TEMPORARILY CLOSED.
Blacks Hole	S/C	Scotts Agencies P/L	
Shaft	S/C	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)
Engelbrechts - East - West	C P	Mt Gambier Council Lessee Ph: (08) 8723 2299	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.
Three Sisters	P	Millicent Council	Download Indemnity from Web Page. Access available for experienced Penetration divers only. Low profile systems advised. 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. DY CER	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.

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 Kim Allison, Email: kim.allison@dpi.wa.gov.au 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 ₂ 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.

CDA A PRODUCTS ORDER FORM

Please send to: Tara Parkinson
CDAA, Unit 2/7 Condah Crt,
Ashwood, VIC 3147, or order On-Line
at www.cavedivers.com.au

	QTY / COT/SIZE	ITEM	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
BOOKS		Abseiling Handbook. 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.	\$20.00	
		Basic Underwater Cave Surveying. The standard publication for anyone remotely interested in research and survey techniques used in water filled caves.	\$30.00	
		Cave Diving Communications. A manual from NSS - CDS dealing exclusively with all underwater communications used in cave diving. Including touch, torch and line signals, and use of line arrows and jump reels.	\$25.00	
		Cave Diving - A Blueprint for Survival. A book by the world-renowned cave diver, the late Sheek Exley, this is a case study of a number of accidents that have occurred in the USA and how to avoid them.	\$20.00	
		Cave Diving - Articles & Opinions A comprehensive Guide to Cave Diving & Exploration. Edited by Jill Heinerth & Bill Oigarden. Written and edited by some of the top cave divers in the world, this book covers everything from basic equipment to advance cave exploration.	\$70.00	
		Cavern/Cave Diver Workbook. This workbook is the official training manual used by the NACD for the Cavern Diver and Cave Diver courses. It includes sections on accident analysis, cave types and their formation, equipment, communication and emergency procedures.	\$40.00	
		Caverns Measureless to Man. The story of the passion for cave diving of the late Sheek Exley who spent his life exploring underwater caves. Publications Directors pick. <i>Amazing book you can't put down once you start, a must read!</i>	\$50.00	
		CDAA Occasional Paper No. 2. From National Conference 1981. Includes topics such as Fossil Cave, Belay Techniques and Cocklebidy 1979.	\$2.00	
	NEW!	Divers of the Dark - Exploring Budapest's Underground Caves A unique journey into an underground world that only a handful of people have visited. One of the most well-known springs is Malom Lake. It is a doorway to the cave system called Molnár János. Nobody knows how far or how deep below the city the tunnels reach. Magnificent photos!	\$75.00	
		Diving in Darkness By Martyn Farr. Personally signed by the author. Provides a clear, concise and modern overview of the essential equipment, skills and techniques required to dive in caves, mines, wrecks and beneath ice. Published in softback Diving in Darkness is packed with 170 photographs and diagrams throughout its 128 pages.	\$65.00	
		Hidden Splendours of the Yucatan. Hidden Splendors of the Yucatan is photographer/author Lalo Fiorelli's story of exploration, teaching, and photography in the caves of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. His stunning photography is complemented by the lively, down to earth writing style that brings the experience of exploration.	\$49.00	
		NSS Cave Diving Manual. The standard reference manual in cave diving covering just about every conceivable topic. New Edition.	\$55.00	
		NSS Cavern Divers' Manual. The standard reference manual in cavern diving covering almost every conceivable topic. Also most principles behind safe sinkhole and cave diving.	\$30.00	
		The Darkness Beckons. By Martyn Farr. The history and development of cave diving.	\$75.00	
		The Taming of The Slough. This is Sheek Exley's exciting story of the discovery and mapping of the Peacock Springs Cave System - at the time the world's longest underwater cave.	\$45.00	
	DVD's		Vertical. - A Technical Manual for Cavers by Alan Warild Vertical is a definitive guide to vertical cave exploration techniques. It describes deep cave exploration methods: emphasising the importance of safety, conservation and documentation. The fifth edition of Vertical is illustrated with photographs from expeditions on five continents.	\$45.00
		Australian Cave Diving - A Contrast. By Tony Carlisle. Four short documentary type videos on Warbla Cave, Three Sisters Cave, The Road to Toad Hall and Tank Cave.	\$25.00	
NEW!		"Axzis Mundi". A unique expedition into the inner jungles of the Yucatan. For over a decade, explorer Curt Brown and his team of cave explorers have been pushing deeper into the inner jungles of the Yucatan in search of unexplored cenotes.	\$35.00	
		Cave Diving Beneath the Ozark Mountains - DVD - with footage of Ginnie Springs and the Gasconade River in the Ozark Mountains, Missouri. Over four days the team reach 2000 feet in, 200 feet deep, using scooters which they drag through restrictions using ropes. In this DVD they extend the survey of the cave.	\$30.00	

	QTY / COL/SIZE	ITEM	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
DVD's		Cave Diving Mount Gambier – DVD - from Novice cavern sites, to the much more intriguing penetration dives, 'Cave Diving Mt Gambier' will take you to places that are only accessible by trained cave divers and rarely seen by others. Featuring 15 of the most popular dive sites in Mt. Gambier.	\$40.00	
		China - Beneath the Wall – DVD - Sichuan Province in central China is home to some of the world's biggest cave systems. This film follows a team of British explorers as they attempt to link together two of the most spectacular caves and complete the tantalizing through trip. But as with so many expeditions into the unknown, things don't quite go as planned... A great film about dry caving exploration.	\$35.00	
		"Down Deep Down Under". A spectacular film by Alex Wyschnja. Discover the hidden secrets of Mt Gambier's famous fresh water caves. Tucked away in S.A.'s Sth East are some of the country's best known freshwater caves. The physical challenge of cave diving makes Mount Gambier a diver's mecca.	\$25.00	
		"Facing Darkness". Following some of the greatest cave divers in north Florida, Facing Darkness invites you to discover the underwater caves and how divers safely explore them. About the geology, the danger and the passion.	\$35.00	
		Wookey Exposed. Filmed and produced by Gavin Newman, this award winning film looks at the spectacular discoveries made by successive generations of explorers and joins the latest team to take up the challenge. Using specially designed camera systems we follow the divers to the very limits of the exploration as they attempt to push on into the darkness beyond the end of Wookey Hole.	\$35.00	
		NEW! WKPP Push for the Connection – DVD - Explorers from GUE's Woodville Karst Plain Project resolve to establish a link between two of the largest underwater cave systems in the world. Following a series of previously unimaginable dives, exploration divers push nearly 7km into the extreme depths of the Wakulla & Leon Sinks cave system	\$35.00	
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		• Log Book Folder. With embroidered CDAА logo on the front cover.	\$35.00	
		• Tank Cave Poster. Full Colour 14.5" x 25" poster of Tank Cave by Peter Rogers. Price includes p&h.	\$8.00	
		• Tank Cave Map. Premium matt or gloss 120g paper \$96.00 (laminated \$22.00 extra, silver back \$132.00)		
		• CD of Guidelines 1-94 All Guidelines as searchable pdfs on CD.	\$10.00	
		• Stubby Holders - high quality 5mm neoprene with CDAА logo	\$8.00	
		• Travel Mugs - great for having a cuppa on the run	\$12.00	
		• Mask Slap Straps - fully embroidered with CDAА logo	\$16.00	

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As I waited, Andy lost grip and shot past me with the reel, the line hooked back around a rock some 5m inside the cave. So off I went clawing my way back in to free it. When we finally made it back into the lake we couldn't stop laughing at the experience.

For our last day of Florida diving we were back at Ginnie Springs with Doug joining us after work for the second dive. I couldn't believe that I had found Ginnie a challenge on day one. After Madison, Ginnie was a walk in the park. I even had twin 16s for my last day of diving. It felt like I had become a seasoned Florida cave diver in only 5 days.

During our trip to Florida we stayed at Chateau H2O which is a 5 minute drive from Ginnie Springs. The cottage is owned by a cave diver and is set up with cave divers in mind. If diving in Florida I highly recommend staying at Chateau H2O. With three bedrooms and two bathrooms, living area, fully accessorised kitchen, laundry, outdoor BBQ area, pergolas and lockable lockers with power outlets for charging scooters/batteries it is very comfortable and convenient. We were also very well looked after by the team at Extreme Exposure. Having not even done a Fundies course and being very wet behind the ears when it comes to GUE, we were very pleasantly surprised at how open minded, friendly and accommodating these guys were; unlike the stereotypical zealots that we sometimes come across in Oz. I highly recommend Extreme Exposure as a very professional dive operation to both GUE and non GUE cave divers alike.

After a week in Florida, it was time to move on to 'Mehico' (and yes it took nearly as long to get back to Orlando airport). Mexico was so different to Florida. No flow (or at least very little), bath like conditions, excellent visibility, haloclines, spectacularly aesthetically pleasing. We had five days of guided diving with Bil Phillips followed by another five days being shown around by our very own Ken Smith. Ken happened to be working in the US for the month or so prior to our trip so he managed to get time off to join us for his fifth Mexican trip.

So with these circumstances we probably did the trip back to front. Bil wanted to show us some of the more special sites and leave the more typical touristy caves for Ken to show us later in the trip. Our checkout dive was in Garden of Eden which is part of the Ponderosa system. Here, Bil introduced us to diving in haloclines. Although not difficult, it was a skill which needed to be mastered as several sites involve diving in a halocline. With 4 divers it was important to swim in a reverse delta formation in order for all divers to have visibility and not be left in the blur of your buddies' wake. The first day's diving highlighted a very serious

problem for me; hydration versus lack of pee valve. As we returned from a two hour dive, the last 30 minutes in agony, all I could think of was getting out of the water. While the others were enjoying a slow ascent and safety stop, I walked across water in the lake, flew up the stairs and dumped my gear. After some broken Spanish and wild gestures, another diver undid my dry suit and I had relieved myself before the others even surfaced. With two dives a day planned and an average of four hours in-water left me with no alternative but to compromise my hydration. All my hydration (at least 2 litres a day) was delayed till after the second dive each day (Note to self: Make sure the new dry suit I ordered in Florida has a pee valve).

The next four days saw us dive Jailhouse, Sac Be Ha, Dos Pisos, Chan Hol and Pet Cemetery. Each dive was more spectacular than the previous. I was worried I may tire from the constant stalactites but the beauty of every cave kept me mesmerised. Bil gave fantastic briefs before every dive, describing 'poor visibility' entrances, 'major' restrictions and other challenges. I couldn't believe how easy the diving was! Yes, there were low visibility entrances which were a little squeeze to get into but these opened up to spectacular labyrinths, big and small, high and low, adorned with formations, fossils, calcite rafting, bones, artefacts and critters. A 'major restriction' was an area where you touched the sides to pass. Nothing was difficult.

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At every site on those first couple of days there was a mango tree laden with fruit. I have never eaten so many mangoes in my life and nor have I seen anyone devour and enjoy a mango as much as Ken. We packed the car full of mangoes which saw us through for the whole trip. On the subject of food...oh my God! Mexico is a gastronomical paradise where a meal at a fancy restaurant will set you back \$25 and at the local

Taqueria, Andy could eat until he was bursting, and have a coke, all for \$4. At our favourite restaurant we discovered every hour was happy hour with two Coronas costing Andy \$3 and two Margaritas costing me \$4. I love Mexico! At the end of 12 days, I didn't feel I had run out of time to see more sites, I felt I had run out of time to eat more food! The following five days we were on our own with Ken leading the way. We dived Taj Mahal, Grand Cenote, Nohoch Na Chich, Dos Ojos and Maya Blue. All these dives were fantastic but a slight let down after the places Bil treated us to on the first five days, hence why the trip was a little back to front.

Grand Cenote was an interesting experience. Every day we were blessed with fantastic weather with the air temperature in excess of 35 deg. This particular day we had planned a very early start as we wanted an early finish to visit the Tulum ruins. The day got off to a bad start. It was raining hard so we strategically geared up under shelter and made our way to the cenote after having visited the ladies twice just to make sure (all this rain was making me want to pee more than usual). Half an hour into the dive, I had an inexplicable urge to relieve myself. For half an hour more I fought the urge with increasing difficulty. Realising it was pointless, I finally gave up. Andy was also not having a good dive with his dry suit flooding and

Andy at Ginnie Springs

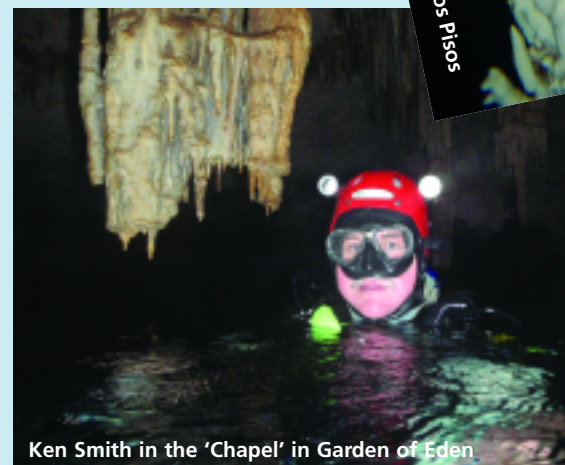
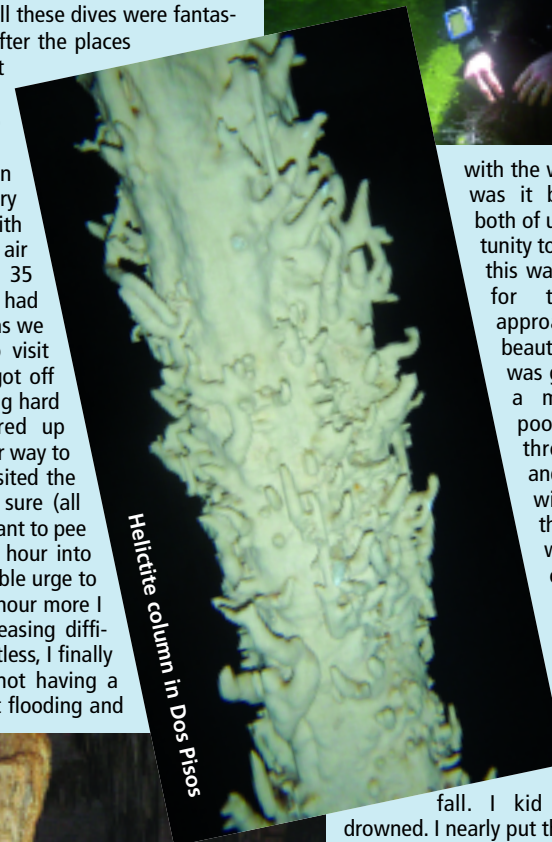


with the weather being what it was it became apparent to both of us that with no opportunity to dry out our thermals, this was to be our only dive for the day. As we approached the exit, the beautiful, crystal clear lake was gone; in its place was a murky, gloomy cess pool. We ascended through zero visibility and were blown away with what we found on the surface! Cascading waterfalls were bucketing down the walls of the cenote and the rain was so strong we could barely see each other on the surface. Andy wanted a photo of me and Ken sitting under the water-

fall. I kid you not, I nearly drowned. I nearly put the reg in. I quickly got out of my drysuit and jumped back in with my thermals on for a much needed wash.

On our way back to town, we stopped at the bank to withdraw some cash (nobody accepts credit cards in Mexico). I made a quick dash bare foot to the bank and threw the door open in my haste to get out of the torrential rain. One step in and I went backwards for a sixer whacking my head straight onto the tiles. How I did not split my head open I do not know! By the time we got to the ruins, our luck had changed. The rain dried up and the sun was out. What a beautiful experience the ruins were! But an even

Helictite column in Dos Pisos



Ken Smith in the 'Chapel' in Garden of Eden

more spectacular treat awaited us on the last day. For our obligatory non diving day we decided to hire a car and drive two hours to the Chich'en Itza ruins. This was a truly spiritual experience where I could feel the energy of the long gone souls. These Mayan ruins were sprawled over 2km by 3km, the centrepiece being an imposing and most impressive pyramid that demanded admiration from every angle. We probably took 10-15 photos of the pyramid alone. A trip to Mexico simply must include a visit to Chich'en Itza affectionately referred to as 'Chicken Pizza'.

During our trip to Mexico we stayed at the Hotel La Mariposa in Tulum. Our hosts Guillermo and Mariza pulled out all the stops to make sure we were looked after.



Helen in the entrance of Jailhouse Cenote

It goes without say that a return trip is on the cards. Thanks to Ken Smith, Neil and Lyn Vincent, Agnes Milowka, Steve Trewavas, Michael O'Toole, Deb Williams and Jane Bowman for their invaluable advice. I highly recommend Extreme Exposure, Chateau H2O, Bil Philips and the Hotel La Mariposa to anyone thinking of travelling to Florida or Mexico for cave diving.

We wish to say thanks to: Extreme Exposure, Chateau H2O, Bil Phillips and Hotel Mariposa

Mayan pots and bones in Chan Hol



With the hotel an easy 5 minute walk from Bil's and centrally located in the town of Tulum, which is the heart of Yucatan cave diving, I would highly recommend staying at Hotel La Mariposa or at Bil's accommodation above his dive shop. Bil was a fantastic guide and we learned a lot about local diving. I would not hesitate to book him as a guide again.

Our trip was memorable and has given us a taste of diving in these two wonderful places.



Andy at Chich'en Itza

Product of the Month

Divers of the Dark \$75

Authors: Antti Apunen & Janne Suhonen



EXPOLORING BUDAPEST'S UNDERGROUND CAVES...

Budapest is known for its spas. Their water originates from the volcanic earth. One of the most well-known springs is Malom Lake. It is a doorway to the cave system called Molnár János. Only a part of it has been explored so far.

Nobody knows how far or how deep below the city the tunnels reach.

Divers of the Dark is a unique journey into an underground world that only a handful of people have visited. The magnificent photos take the reader on an adventure into the depths of an inactive volcano. The caves are a prehistoric nature park that has been formed over millions of years. The photographers took their cameras to places where nobody had ever been before.

Divers of the Dark tells the story of journeys many kilometres under the ground, of near miss situations and incredible human achievement. It will give the reader a whole new view of the life and surroundings of Budapest.

The book is an exciting, fascinating introduction to cave diving in Europe. Its photographs give a rare insight into an underwater world. The book also takes the reader to the József-hegy dry cave in Budapest and the water filled Ojamo lime mine in Finland. AGM Symposium at Mt Gambier and purchase your signed copy.

CDAA PRODUCTS

NEWS

PRODUCTS STAND at the AGM

Most Products will be available to purchase all day during the AGM.

If there is something in particular you would like to purchase and wish to save on postage give me a call or send me an email prior to the AGM and I can bring the item for you.



TANK CAVE MAPS

The new Tank Cave Maps have been selling really well and there will only be a few available at the AGM. If you wish to purchase a map at the AGM I will need to place an order by the end of the September.

NEW SHAFT & TOMMY GRAHAM'S POSTERS

We will have more copies of the The Shaft & Tommy Graham's Posters available at the AGM and available to purchase as regular items on the online store.

To view or order any of these CDAA products, please visit the online store or complete the mail order form in Guidelines. Happy Diving, Tara Parkinson, CDAA Products Officer.

Photos from Warricks trip to Florida in Oct of 2006 where he dived with Jane, Terri Allen and Geoff Chambers. Warrick says it was one of his most memorable trips.



Above: at the pier

Left: Manatee

Right: warrick scootering

Below: Jane full boar!



PHOTO GALLERY

We say farewell to Warrick McDonald and Terri Allen who have worked tirelessly for the CDAA in their roles since 2004.



Above:
Good friends, Jane
Bowman and Terri Allen.

Grant Pearce and Terri
Allen in Tank.

Photos by Warrick.



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