



Paul Battersby enjoying the shafts of light in Kilsbys. Picture: Greg Adams

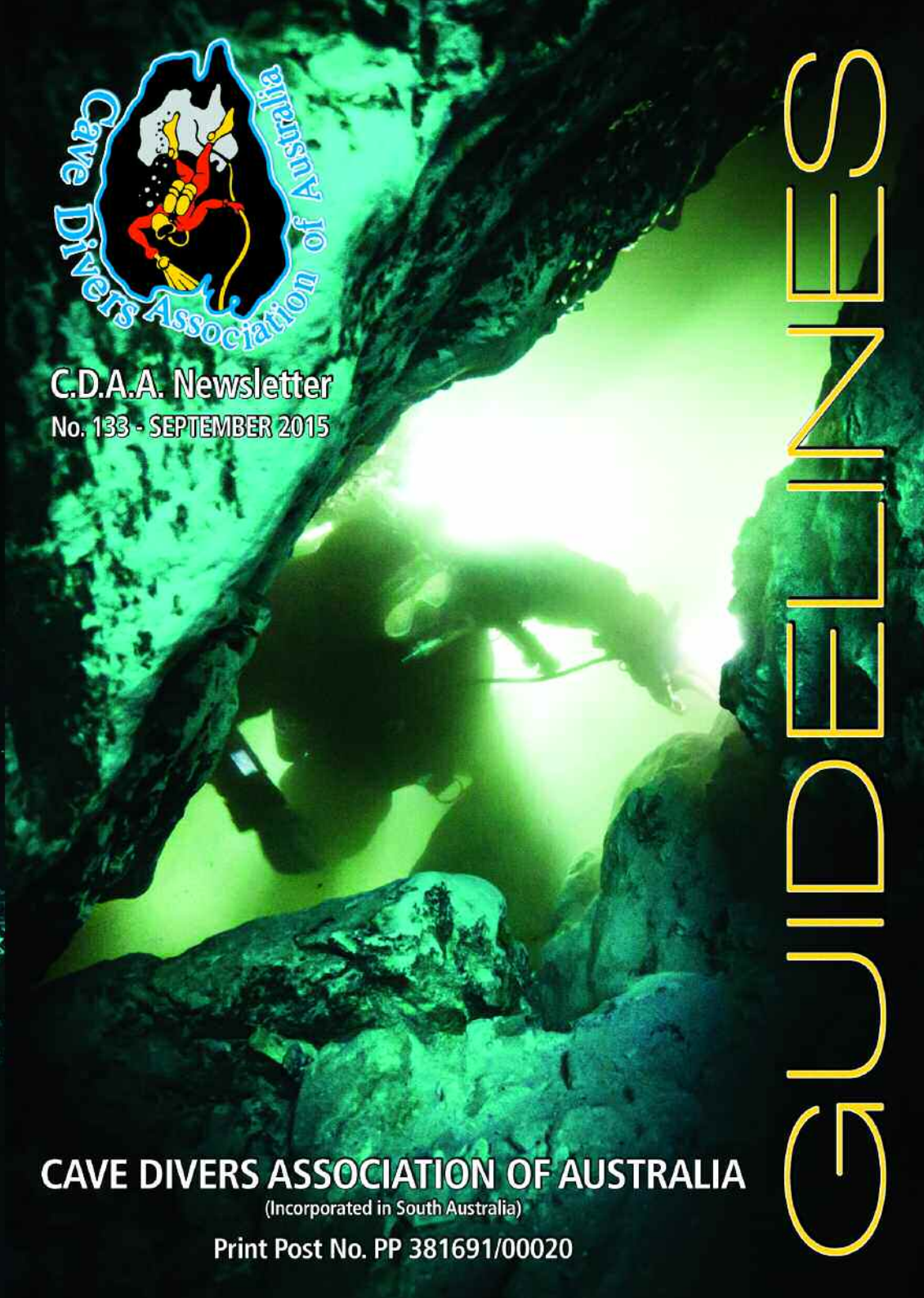


C.D.A.A. Newsletter  
No. 133 - SEPTEMBER 2015

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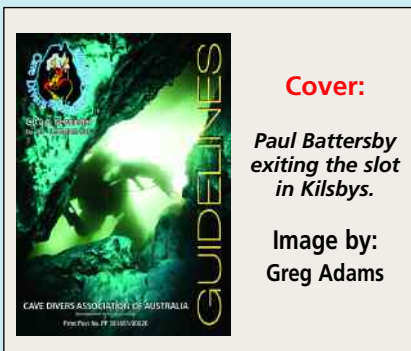
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## CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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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 Publications Director, Email: [publications@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:publications@cavedivers.com.au)

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### CDAA INSURANCE

Policy Type: Combined Liability Insurance Policy# BN-EAL-14-441680L.  
 Insurer: Liberty International Underwriters ABN: 61 086 083 605  
 Level 27, 1 Macquarie Place, Sydney NSW 2000  
 Name Insured: Cave Divers Association of Australia  
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# Pine Tank Lodge



Photo by Liz Rogers

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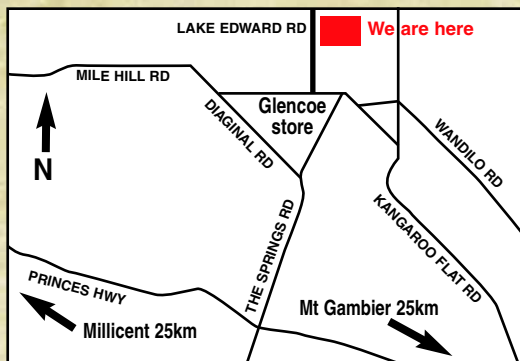
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## EDITORIAL ROWAN STEVENS

Welcome to the September edition of Guidelines.

This month we are hosting the CDAA's 42nd AGM at 6.00pm Saturday 26th September 2015 at the Main Centre Complex in Mt. Gambier – what a major milestone! All AGM materials are now published online for members at [www.cavedivers.com.au/agm2015](http://www.cavedivers.com.au/agm2015)

In this edition of Guidelines we feature David Warnes – Member #1 who recently celebrated his 80th birthday with a dive in Tank Cave. Happy belated birthday David. We also have articles from Darrell Straight, John Lippman, an interview with Jane Bowman and re-printed from scubadiving.com - 7 of the Best Cave Diving Spots in the world.

Also included is the latest news from the National Committee. In this edition the National Committee are pleased to announce the opening of two new dive sites in October – Hann's Cave and Hancock's Cave. See further details inside this issue.

If you are not attending the Member's Symposium and AGM this year then you can read all about it in the next edition of Guidelines.

Happy and safe diving  
Until next time

*Rowan Stevens #3177 | Publications and Records Director  
M: 0417 550 509 | E: [publications@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:publications@cavedivers.com.au)*

## Articles for Guidelines Dec. 2015 - Deadline is Nov. 30th

- Send articles and jpeg images by email to [guidelines@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:guidelines@cavedivers.com.au)

# NATIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2015

***It's been another year since the last AGM and it's amazing how fast it has gone. The last quarter in particular.***

## ***So what has been happening?***

As promised to you, we were working on obtaining access to a few sites and we now have two more you can access – Hann's and Hancock's Caves. One of these is not actually new, but a site we had access in the past but had lost. The other is a site mostly unknown by most members and dived by only a few. So it's great to report that both sites are now open to all members (who are qualified of course) and bookings can be made online via the web site.

In this past quarter, Graham and Ben Kilsby announced their intention of opening their site to all divers, not just CDAA members. They have planted a large number of trees and are developing the surrounds to make it more pleasant for people to come and dive. This will include change rooms, a BBQ, an area for instructors, sitting area and so forth. The dive slots will increase to 3 slots a day (8am, 11am and 2pm), 7 days per week with the possibility of night diving in the summer months. Because of the reduced time for per slot, the slot time is actually timed from the top of the ramp. Not the time it takes to get onto the property and set up your gear. This means you can come in earlier and leave later than the actual time slot you booked. And if you dive in slot 1 & 3 you can stay and enjoy a BBQ in between. Naturally with the development of the site, fees charged by the landowner will increase but the booking process for members will remain the same.

Also in the past quarter, you received a member update regarding the positions of Site and Standards Directors. At that time Linda indicated that she was finding it difficult to commit the time needed to undertake her role and she felt it unfair on the Association to hold the role and not spend the necessary time. This information was given out with an idea of directors swapping roles to lighten the load for Linda. While most people who contacted us were OK with the idea, not all were so favourable. Fortunately for us, Linda decided to hon-

our her commitments to the CDAA and reset some of her other priorities so she could make the time needed to do her role. Our thanks go to Tim Muscat who was the only member to approach the National Committee to volunteer his time to help with this role.

You will also recall from the last issue of Guidelines that we only received one nomination for the role of Site Director was that from John Dalla-Zuanna. But unfortunately our returning officer did not receive this application by the cut off time, therefore making it null and void. Therefore, the position became vacant as of the AGM. Since nobody else expressed an interest in the role and in line with our Constitution, the National Committee has appointed John into the role until the next AGM.

Whilst talking about the election, there are still a few members who believe that we should also vote for people even if there is only they are the only candidate. This was something introduced by Warrick during his term but not something endorsed by the Constitution Sub Committee. Despite some belief to the contrary, it is not required in our Constitution nor by the Associations Act.

Thinking that voting for the only person to stand for a role is a way to say NO to them and force a new election, is poor form. Associations are always better off with someone who is passionate about the role and puts up their hand to do the work, than someone only volunteering to keep someone else out of the role.

This year you were also asked to vote on three questions. Unfortunately as outlined to you in an email after the publication of guidelines, it was not made clear on the voting forms that members should first read the National Committee report. As a consequence, we don't really know how many people voted negatively because they did not understand the questions, vs. how many people voted again the idea because they did not believe in them. At the time of writing this report, we have not counted the votes so I can't give any more details.

Regardless of the outcome, the National Committee will most likely need to ask the question again – this time with more details so that it's easier for people to offer their opinions.

So with Spring upon us, lets all get really busy simply diving.

May your drysuit remain wet on the outside.

John Vanderleest  
National Director  
On behalf of the National Committee.



John Vanderleest,  
National Director



Peter Horak,  
Business Director



Linda Claridge,  
Standards Director



John Dalla-Zuanna,  
Site Director



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Publications and  
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# AGM 2015

6:00pm, Sat 26th September 2015

Main Corner Complex, Mt. Gambier

Financial and Director Reports,  
Budget 2016 and AGM Agenda  
available online for Member's at  
<http://www.cavedivers.com.au/agm2015>

## NEW DIVE SITES

The National Committee are pleased to  
announce the opening of two new dive sites



**Hann's Cave & Hancock's Cave**

Online bookings now available at [www.cavedivers.com.au](http://www.cavedivers.com.au)  
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# Diving with Dave Warnes, 1988 to 2015

By Ken Smith

*In 1987, as an inexperienced category 2 cave diver, I went to the Nullarbor with the Underwater Explorers Club (UEC) of South Australia. In 10 days we dived Weebubbie, Tommy Graham's, Murra el Elevyn and to the rock pile in Cocklebiddy. The caves were not classified by the CDAA at that time. However, I came home with the strong feeling I should upgrade my skills and become a category 3 diver.*

To become a cat 3 diver I needed a buddy to train with and in 1988 I joined forces with army officer Doug Alford. We set about training ourselves for the mysterious and much feared category 3 test. In those days the CDAA did not provide training. What's more the contents of the test seemed to be a closely guarded secret. I asked cat 3 friends about the test. Mostly they just nodded in a knowing way and told me I would find out on the day. This was not much help and just added to my feelings of anxiety.

Doug said he knew someone in the Glenelg diving club who had a lot of cave diving experience and had CDAA number 1. Even better, he would be prepared to help us train! This sounded like a good idea, and that's how I got to meet Dave Warnes.

This was the beginning of some very intensive training provided by Dave. He took us to West lakes and showed how to buddy breath while following a line and told us not to drag spare regulators in the silt. He laid a tortuous line path under Noarlunga jetty and made us follow it with blacked out masks. In some cases the line completely disappeared under rocks and could only be found again by reaching out to the limit of stretched arms. Slowly Doug and I absorbed what it meant to be a serious cave diver.

Doug and I did many training trips to Mount Gambier in May and June 1988. Piccaninnie Ponds was closed then, so we usually dived Little Blue, One Tree and Goulden's. We kept our wetsuits on all day and tried to stay warm in the winter weather. We did a lot of mask off training with a guideline in preparation for our cat 3 test. On one occasion we surfaced in Goulden's with masks off in a tangle of line to find Ian Lewis watching us with amusement. I was expecting him to fail us then, but we got away with it. Finally on the 30th of July 1988 we arrived at Goulden's sinkholes for our category 3 test. An imposing range of examiners was waiting for us; Peter Girdler, Ron Allum, Glen Harrison and Tony Richardson to mention a few. After the test we nervously waited in the Bellum Pub to be called in by the panel of examiners. We had passed! Dave's hard work in training us had been successful. We did a celebratory dive in Fossil Cave and retired to the pub to celebrate some more.

I continued to have a number of good dives with Dave after I got my cat 3. We dived in Englebrecht's east and I remember Dave taking me on complicated and very tight tour through restrictions under the lake. After a year I qualified



Dave with his underwater camera at Piccaninnie Ponds, 1960s (Unknown Photographer)



Dave at Tank Cave (Mike Turner)



Dave enjoying Tank Cave in the early 2000s, 40 years after his first dive there (Ken Smith)



**Dave enjoying his dive with Adrian Richards (Ken Smith)**

for cat 4 and Dave took me for my first dive in Englebrecht's West. In those days the water level was higher and the entrance was a challenging, tight and zero visibility restriction. Dave went in first and tugged the line when he was through. I followed and spent a long time in zero vis. with my back mounted tanks pressed against the roof and my chin in the silt. Suddenly I got through and was rewarded by the sight of three divers in the distance with their blue light beams flashing around in the crystal clear water. It was

Dave, Stan Bugg and Des Walters. Dave guided me through the first sump and up into the lake. We swam around the lake and arrived at a short restriction just below water surface. Dave went through first and shone his light back to guide me through. I visited this restriction again recently, but it is now about two metres above water level. Years went by and I became a Tank Cave diver. Dave was on the first team exploring and mapping Tank Cave in the early 1990s. In the 2000s I was involved with a team which was



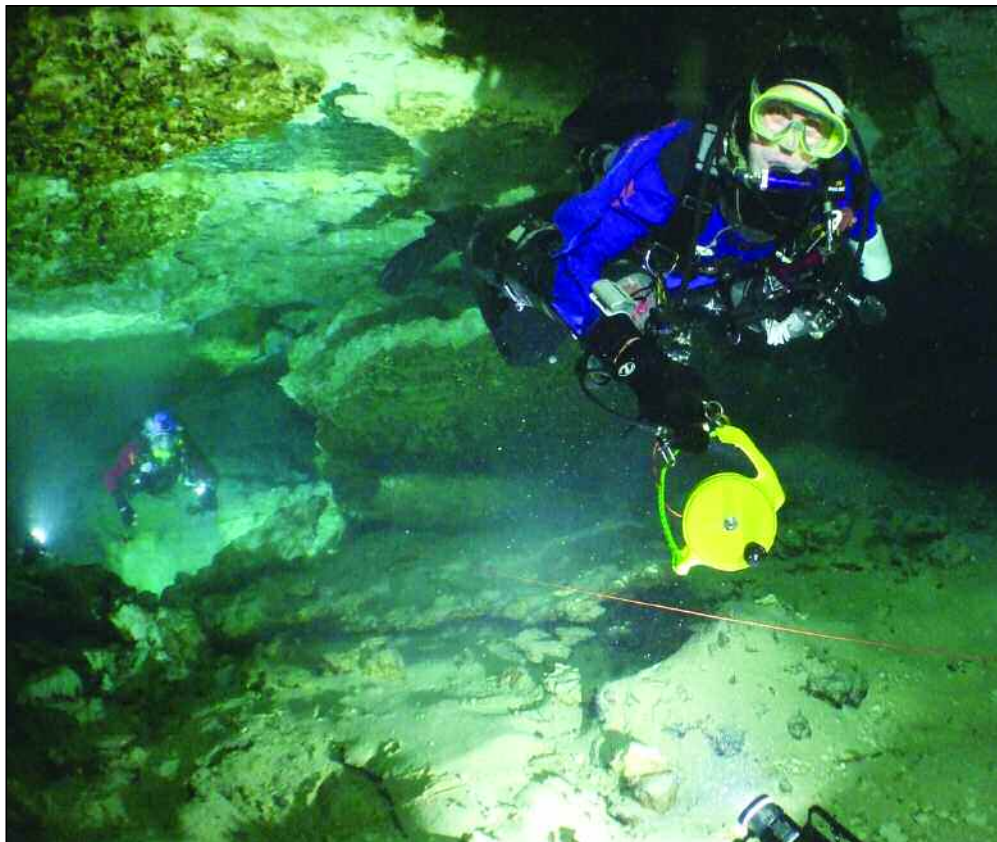
**Group Photographs in the 90 metre room. Dave has the yellow rimmed mask and yellow light cord. (Peter Rogers)**



**Ken Smith, Adrian Richards and Dave.**

continuing to map the more remote sections of the cave. Dave was part of this and I particularly remember a long surveying dive we did in the S section. Much time was spent winding a 100m tape in and out as we did the survey. When Dave turned 70 in 2005 we dived with him in Tank Cave. Peter Rogers took group photos of Dave and the divers in the 90 metre room. You can see that we had some trouble posing for this shot. Peter must have thought that getting cave divers to pose was a bit like herding cats. Rob Dycer hosted a dinner for Dave on Saturday night and the CDAA presented him with a Dive Rite light. We wondered how much use Dave would get from the light as we thought he may retire from cave diving soon. As it turned out Dave got a lot of use from the light! In July this year, 10 years later, he took it into Tank Cave just a few days before his 80th birthday. Dave, Adrian Richards and I dived on Saturday to take some photos. On Sunday we took some video on a circuit dive along C tunnel, through J and back home along A. Dave certainly enjoyed these dives and is keen for another trip soon.

Dave is a life member of the CDAA. He was on the original 1973/74 CDAA Committee when Eddie Gertners was President. Dave was the second President in 1974/75. He was also a committee member again the following year 1975/76. Note that the term "National Director" was first used in the late 1980s, when Lance Mitchell took on that title. Dave's wisdom and experience as a cave diver goes back to the very early days of cave diving in Australia. He was diving and taking photographs in Piccaninnie Ponds in the 1960s. Around this time he made the first exploratory dives in a cave with his buddy Mike Turner. Now we call this cave Tank Cave. In January 1972 he took part in the first cave diving trip to the Nullarbor plain. During this trip Weebubbie was explored underwater for the first time and Ian Lewis produced the underwater map that we still use today. Ron Doughton was on this trip and wrote an article for skindiving magazine describing the excitement of the discoveries. He described Dave's light as "an underwater laser beam that he (Dave) laughingly refers to as a torch". A number of photographs from this trip were published in



**DAVES 80TH BIRTHDAY AT TANK CAVE**  
Dave enjoying his dive with Adrian Richards (Ken Smith)



**John Dalla Zuanna (JDZ), John Vanderleest and Dave**

Guidelines 105, September 2008.

Dave always stresses the importance of diving safely and not cutting corners with gear preparation or air use. He warned me about the dangers of over confidence. He said

that one day something will go wrong on a dive you always need to be prepared to safely recover from a problem. Even after his many years of cave diving Dave approaches every dive with caution. We should all listen to Dave. He has more than 50 years of safe cave diving experience. Very few people in the world can claim this.

I fully expect that Dave will be celebrating his 90th birthday with a cave dive. He will be looking for a buddy. Any volunteers? ....I reckon I will be too old!

**Video of Dave's 80th dive on Youtube -**  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwsFuKDckCA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwsFuKDckCA).



**Dave and Tony Richardson**



**Dave enjoying Tank in the early 2000's (Ken Smith)**

# The Path Less Travelled

By Darrell Staight

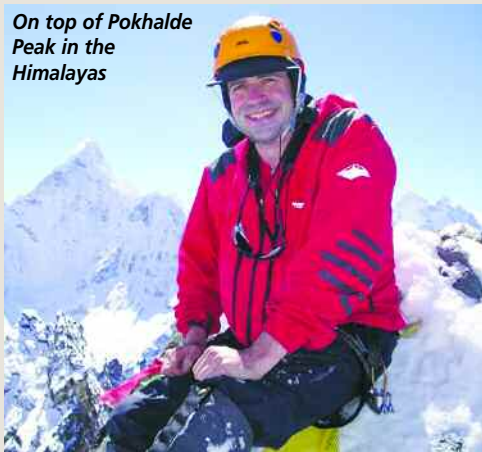
***"Some people are born to lead, some are born to follow. You my friend are neither. You truly march to the sound of your own feet."***

***That was a charge levelled at me by a school friend on my last day of high school back in 1993. More specifically as was the custom, it was his parting comment written into my school diary, which serving no further purpose was free to be defaced with all manner of goodbye messages.***

***I remember it because it was to be a more prophetic statement that I thought at the time. I do indeed like to find my own path just for the sake of satisfying my innate curiosity.***

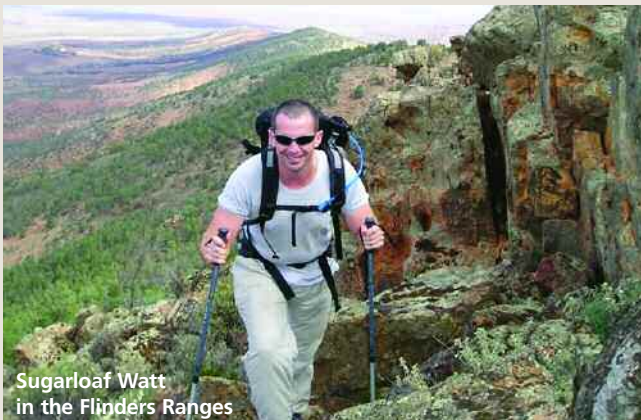
Sometimes the various journeys I've taken over the years have been far more satisfying than the actual goals at the end. Going back a decade to a time when I was in the middle of an eight year break from diving (not that the break had been planned, I'd just drifted in a different direction) and had taken up hiking, climbing and mountaineering. During a trip in the Himalayas it dawned on me that clipping into the lines on well known peaks alongside a group of my peers didn't appeal nearly as much as the idea of disappearing by myself (or perhaps with one other person at most) and climbing something less well known even if it was considered less grand in nature. So shortly after returning home I started disappearing off into the Flinders Ranges for all manner of adventures and often left established trails. On some I was accompanied by a friend, but sometimes I preferred to go by myself. It didn't always go smoothly and I certainly can remember one trip in particular when I got quite lost ascending one of the peaks in Wilpena Pound.

**On top of Pokhalde Peak in the Himalayas**



It was in atrocious weather with ubiquitous thick fog, on a route I'd forged myself through dense scrub, with no other

people for about 3 hours in every direction (as nobody thought that hiking was a particularly good idea that day, other than yours truly!) In the end the strategy I chose to find my way out was simply to keep scrambling up until there was no more up, with the assumption being that if I could find the summit I could also locate the more well known route to descend when I got there. Despite a few close calls (including scrambling up some steep slippery step like formations complete with a heavy backpack, and nearly getting blown off the summit when I finally got to the top) I emerged unscathed.



**Sugarloaf Watt in the Flinders Ranges**



**Me ready to go diving!**

The long drive home was a time to reflect on my own mortality but also enjoy the intoxicating sensation of feeling vividly alive too. To this day I unapologetically get quite a bit of satisfaction by joining the dots myself rather than following others. I'll wager many others have felt this satisfaction too. Even though there was nothing particularly special about this peak. It was nothing new and gets climbed regularly by others, but for me just by looking for a route where the majority didn't go made it feel fresh, new and exhilarating almost as if it was a totally different peak.

Fast forward to 2013. Over the preceeding 3 years I'd been dealing with ongoing knee issues. Not a positive thing by

any means, but it did end up resulting in me getting back into the water. Clearly I wasn't going to be the technical mountaineer that I imagined so when a friend convinced me to go for a local dive I dragged out the old gear. Not withstanding the state of disrepair some of it was in, it all worked. For safety I hired some regulators on this occasion and off we went. As soon as we got in the ocean it felt comfortable and familiar. I wondered how it was been possible that I had stopped doing it for so long and to cut a long story short have never looked back since.

I'd always wanted to get involved in the world of cave diving but finances had previously been prohibitive. No longer out of financial reach one thing quickly led to another and I've since spent numerous weekends either training or looking around the sites in Mount Gambier and loving it. Due to my comparatively shorter time in the Association compared to many of my contemporaries, I can't claim to have done anything particularly spectacular yet. I just claim to be enjoying every moment of it and that's what makes me keep coming back. I also enjoy videoing some of the experiences for my other rather consuming hobby, amateur video production and being the only diver in my family it's a good medium through which they can also vicariously enjoy the experience.

On our most recent trip my dive buddy and I reviewed maps of some of the well known dive sites more thoroughly, looking for less well known features, just for the sake of curiosity. What became apparent is how many surveys are in fact incomplete. I suspect this was due in part to conditions that were far from ideal at the time to record the data necessary, but also probably that divers have found other more complex sites that they preferred to focus on instead.

For example the well known hole in the middle of the road that is Allendale Cave has some mysteries about it. Apart from the well known flow that comes from a crack at the deepest point which is itself a source of speculation, what is of particular interest to me is whether there are any



**Me squeezing into the dry cave at Allendale just above and adjacent to the main entry pool.**



***One Tree Sinkhole, the well known harvester that we are all familiar with.***

remaining water filled chambers at the opposite end of the site to that which is dived - the filled end. Nobody ever had a chance to dive the site prior to when it was filled with thousands of tons of rock, but a chronided description by a council member from the era does speak to the existence of another tunnel going off in a south easterly direction. After a good look around the site with particular attention to where rubble joined the cave walls, it was pretty apparent that there are no obvious leads or even notable holes in the rubble, however the original maps do show an intriguing possibility that to my knowledge hasn't been properly explored, a separate entry pool that is adjacent to the main one. On first glance it doesn't appear to exist anymore, but the map is a bit deceiving as the pool is not exposed to open air. What's required is a tight squeeze through a tiny dry cave opening some metres back and up a steep slope from the main entrance pool. Once inside there is a small cave and looking down a steep slope you can see the pool with a torch. My understanding is that this intriguing little pool of water was explored by Peter 'Puddles' Horne in 1990 but due to the visibility being so bad at the time, nothing could be seen and another visit would be required. As far as I know it still hasn't happened. While the little pool may in fact be no more than a puddle these days, the mere possibility that it is something more makes it worthy of further investigation. Imagine if it was a lead back

to the filled section... Despite the probability that it isn't, the mere process of taking the path less travelled and thinking about such things is interesting and in keeping with my philosophy.

We really hoped to do a couple of dives at One Tree Sinkhole on our trip, alas circumstances restricted us to just the one. This site also has areas on the survey with question marks. That's not to say people haven't been there, in One Tree invariably they have as it's more open, but detailed measurements still need to be completed in places. The most well known artefact in the site is the remains of a large harvester. It's normally one of the first things you come across. The second most well known thing in there is an upside down car around the 40 metre mark near the back wall and most of us have seen that too. However



***One Tree, the scant remains of a possible second smaller harvester although I'll have to go back to check.***



***Yours truly exiting the TV room, a feature adjoining the cavern section of Pines Cave.***

unknown to many is that there should be some scant remains of a second harvester in there too. Given a rough bearing from Peter 'Puddles' we went and had a look. I came across some wreckage that may or may not be the culprit (albeit certainly not as well defined or large as the better known one). As I was filming there were a few other items that we needed to get to with our limited bottom time so we didn't explore in that direction any further and left it to the next dive.

With us having to abandon the second dive it unfortunately had to be added to the agenda for the next trip. We

intend to follow that bearing to the edge of the sinkhole to see if there's anything more substantial resembling a harvester. Failing that, we can probably assume that what we found was indeed it. Some might say it's just a pile of wreckage so why bother? Perhaps, and each to their own. But I'm also reminded frequently what the scant remains of ship wrecks from many centuries ago have told us about the past and the people of that time. The mere fact that nobody I know discusses the second harvester makes its possible existence considerably more interesting to me than the first.



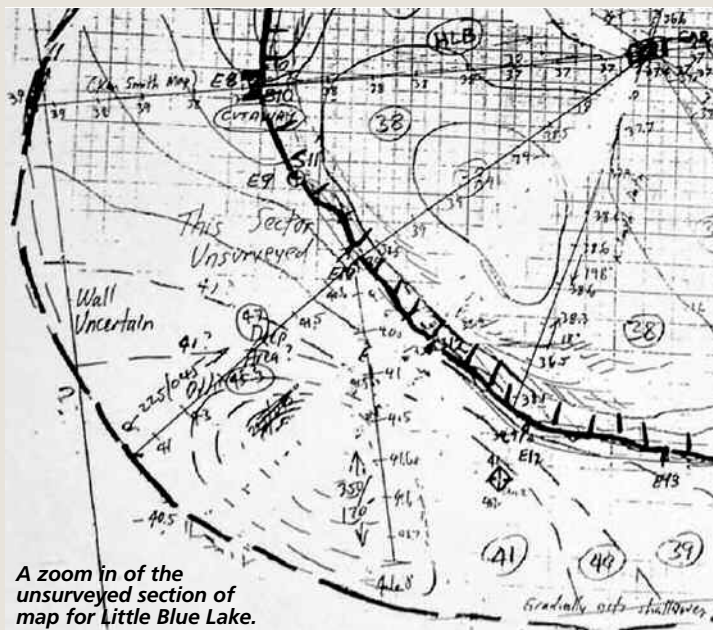
***My buddy Matthew exiting one of the tunnels at the back of the cavern section of Pines Cave.***

I need to mention Little Blue Lake too. We had added an extra day to our trip (which was already 6 days long) to do a series of 3 planned dives there. Unfortunately as with One Tree's follow up dive, this also ended up getting cancelled and will be added to the agenda for the next trip. Nonetheless it's fair to say that Little Blue Lake has been quite the topic of discussion recently regarding perceived ambiguities as to who is permitted to dive it. While the matter was subsequently resolved, one of the things that's always been an issue in controlling this site is that it is so accessible to everyone. It is a well known swimming hole for locals and a bit of a dumping ground amongst other things! Being one of the most regularly used training sites, you'd assume that there were no mysteries here. But that's not entirely correct. The deepest section of Little Blue has such bad visibility that it hasn't been ideal to get the precise measurements needed to complete the survey. It was once known to go to 47 metres deep under the overhang in the rough direction of the road. With the water table dropping since then, that would translate to about 45 now at the most, but nobody I dive with regularly has found that spot. Others have stated they have been in that general area but it's unnerving at best with terrible visibility (which I can relate to because all of the overhung areas in Little Blue Lake seem to be like that with very little light penetration).



One of the second surface pools inside the cave.

Our plans were simple, to assess the environment around the area in question to see whether it was worth a return trip for anyone to complete the survey, should they want to. At least a few metres of visibility would be required. The poor conditions are a poignant reminder that this site is far from benign. It's deep, it's silty, it's full of snags and visibility varies with depth and location. It's easy to see how novice divers could get themselves into trouble or get separated from their buddy and without having appropriate redundancy it's a recipe for disaster. Despite its ease of accessibility, this site still requires quite a bit of respect and I've tried to pass that onto those not in the CDAA who have considered diving it without appropriate training or equipment. This article wouldn't be complete without mentioning Pines Cave and the lessons learnt from the unexpected discoveries in 2003. We did a number of dives in Pines Cave on this trip and mainly just filled them with training. But I took the time to read the article by Petra Fundova and David Funda which is now in the archived section on the CDAA website and I highly recommend it. Pines was just such a site that had been dived for many years and nobody really thought there was any more to it. Then during a dive on July 12th 2003 against all odds a new lead was found that led beyond the 'Dark Room'. It was through this lead that a whole new section was found including the famous 'Crazy Czech Room'. The rest is history. The 'path less travelled' can indeed sometimes be an exciting and fulfilling journey and one I intend to continue taking.



A zoom in of the unsurveyed section of map for Little Blue Lake.



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# CDA MEMBER PROFILE



## Jane Bowman

*In 1984 a blonde professional sat at the back of my classroom, I discovered that she was the manager of one of Melbourne's best wine bars, Alphington House. Jane brought with her an acute business sense and coming from a family background of achievers, she exhibited all the qualities that I needed in my business. As the manager of my shop Ocean Divers in Melbourne she soon out sold, out taught and achieved the best results out of all of my stores.*

*Learning to dive in those days took three weeks so I got to know Jane, she had a passion for animals and a thirst for knowledge about the underwater world. Jane progressed right through the system and was one of the first PADI female Course Directors in Australia.*

*Recognised for her commitment to the marine environment and teaching, Jane was inducted at a ceremony in New York, into the Women Divers Hall of Fame. As only the second Australian to be given this prestigious award it was truly an amazing achievement.*

*With qualifications in swimming, first aid, technical, sport, cave diving and a Marine Safety Coxswain, Jane has accomplished what most can only imagine. A mentor to so many male and female divers and with a business sense that few possess, Jane is a leader in the diving industry. Still passionate, still enthused, still excited about the underwater world, respected, consulted and with a devilish wicked sense of humour and a laugh that is infectious, let me introduce you to Jane Bowman.*

**Introduction by Warick McDonald Interview by Dave Bryant**

**Tell us a bit about your youth, where were you born, what started your interest in snorkeling and/or scuba diving?...**

*I have always been a water person. I learnt to swim about the same time, or earlier than I learnt to walk. I was born in South India to British parents who lived there whilst my father was involved in the tea industry. Everyone swam in pools, off sandbanks and in the backwaters. I used to help the boat crew pull sea snakes from the props before we engaged the motors...*

*As a child and teenager growing up in Australia, I swam competitively –training or competing 7 days a week. I didn't really have an interest in snorkeling, but spent every spare moment at the beach or in a pool.*

*I learnt to dive in 1984 whilst holidaying in the Maldives and took to it straight away. I couldn't believe that I had not tried it earlier, and it soon became an obsession. I dived as often as I could and traded in my job in hospitality for one in the dive industry. The rest they say – is history.*

**When did you start cave diving? Was it something you were introduced to or did you stumble upon it in a magazine?**

*I started cave diving in 1985 with Warrick McDonald, my partner, and loved it from the start. A few of us at the shop had talked about doing a course so we got together and completed our Cat 1 certification. It was a pretty big group and a miserably cold weekend at Mt Gambier. We dived*

*Welcome to a brand new section for Guidelines where we interview past and present CDA members who have made an impact within the Association. Sit back and enjoy old photos, historical facts and some great stories.*

*Gouldens, Sisters North & South, Ewens and Little Blue as it was categorized Cat 1 at then. Once I got my required 5 hours underwater, I applied for my Cat 2 rating.*

**What is your earliest memory of the most memorable cave or cavern dive, and why?**

*I remember my first dive in Little Blue very well, but I don't know if I'd call it memorable. It was dark and dirty as it can be and I wondered if that was what cave diving was all about. The dark didn't bother me, I just wasn't impressed with the site. Now I find it interesting! I also remember Pines on our Cave course and Iddlebidy on the Penetration course and remembered how my perspective had changed.*

**Describe briefly your life as a cave diver, what was your most challenging dive, were there any mishaps and what were the other highlights of your time in the sport.**

*I hate using the cliché of 'back then' but learning to cave dive in the 80's and 90's was quite different to how it is now. I don't mean that it was harder or more challenging, but there was no promotion or suggestion of completing another course, you just did it if you wanted to, not necessarily to improve your skills. We dived as Cat 1 & 2 level divers for a few years and then after we did Cat 3, took a short break due to work commitments and travel. It was my suggestion to do the (then) Penetration course, so put in lots of practice and turned up to be examined over the 4 or so days. Over the years both Warrick and I have been lucky enough to dive caves in several areas – Mt Gambier being the obvious one, the Nullarbor, Santo in Vanuatu, along with Florida & Mexico on a number of occasions. I think we are lucky now as dive travel has become easier, networking much better and information sharing is run of the mill. Really I have only scratched the surface of cave diving, there are many, many cave divers who have been to areas that I could only*





Pen Course in Mt Gambier



Pen Course in Mt Gambier

*imagine. Time is always the enemy. Well that, and money!*

*Some of the Floridian caves have well and truly challenged me dealing with the flow, but the Nullarbor was my biggest challenge physically. After the first day, I wasn't sure how the following 2 weeks was going to pan out!*

**Tell us a bit about your time as a CDAA Instructor. Was it the challenge that drove you to be more than just a scuba instructor? What further would you like from the sport or further more, would you like to achieve?**

*I love to teach people to dive, and teaching cave diving has been, and still is one of my passions. Describing it to someone who doesn't cave dive and convincing them about trying it, is probably the biggest hurdle. The only thing better than teaching others to cave dive is being able to go yourself.*



**If you had your time all over again, would you do anything differently?**

*I'd probably travel to more cave diving regions – France, China, Brazil, the Bahamas and Russia to name a few. Oh, and more trips to the Nullarbor.*

**What's the plan of attack for your next 10 years? Any amazing trips planned, anything unusual and can you see yourself still doing this even in to your 70's and beyond?**

*I'm going to see if we can organise one of those 'lift' systems for Gouldens and Englebrechts.... not because I need it, but because I think it's a good thing for the CDAA Members!*



*Next year we head back to Florida after a trip to the Cocos Islands, and if I'm lucky, perhaps even to the Bahamas. They not only have the most amazing looking caves from the images I've seen, but they have pigs that swim in the ocean. Imagine that!*

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# Diving World Record Attempt Ends In Tragedy For Dr. Guy Garman

POSTED AUGUST 17, 2015



Dr. Guy Garman, known as "Doc Deep" to the technical diving community, died on Saturday while attempting to break the world record for deepest scuba dive.

Garman's plan was to descend to a depth of 1,200 feet off the coast of St. Croix on Saturday, August 15th, exceeding the of 1,090-feet set by Ahmed Gabr in 2014.

It was reported that everything was going to plan as he and his support team (along with his son) reached the 200-foot mark, where he continued descending solo. Thirty eight minutes later, he was expected to have reached the bottom of his dive

and ascend to the 360-foot mark, where a separate support team was waiting for him, but he never arrived.

Garman was attached to a 1,300-foot weighted line, and plans were being made to retrieve his body within the week to help explain the cause of the accident.

Garman had been preparing for this dive over the past two years with the help of a 28-person support crew, medical professionals and three boats. *Scuba Diving* magazine recognizes this historic attempt for the technical diving community, and sends condolences to his family and friends.

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**2015 Expedition Extends Sweden's Longest Underwater Cave**

April 1, 2015 / Sweden, Europe

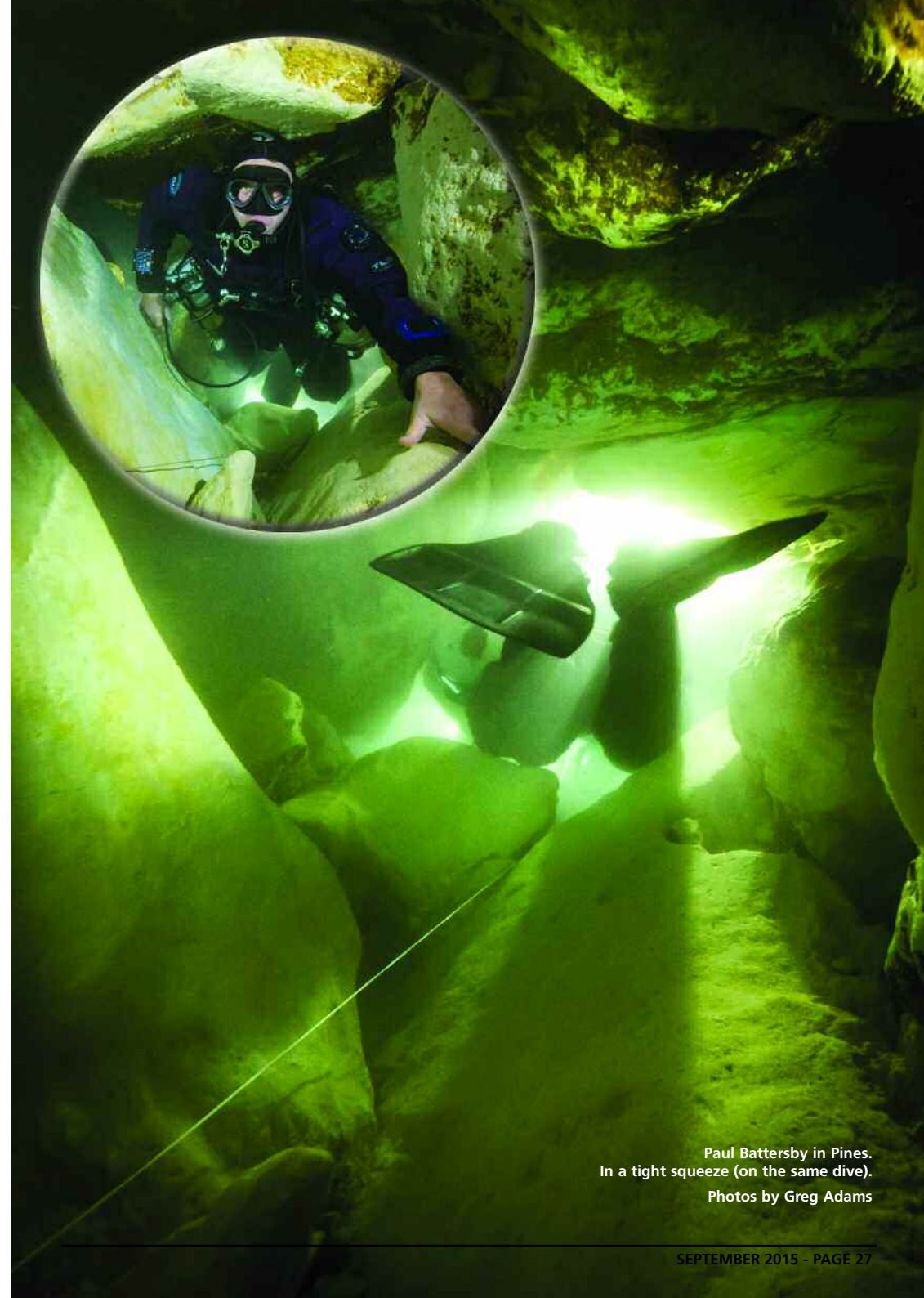
Despite uncooperative weather, cave divers exploring have added an additional 382 meters (1253 feet) to the length of the longest underwater cave in Sweden.

The team of 18 people, including 15 cave divers, gathered last week in Sweden's Bjurälven Nature Reserve in the Jämtland mountains in northern Sweden for the 2015 Bjurälven Expedition.

*While searching the internet we found this informative website with everything you might like to read about Caving and Cave Diving . . .*

*Take a look at this link to discover the Longest Underwater Cave in Sweden, plus many more articles we are sure you will find interesting!*

<http://cavingnews.com/20150401-2015-expedition-extends-swedens-longest-underwater-cave>



Paul Battersby in Pines.  
In a tight squeeze (on the same dive).  
Photos by Greg Adams

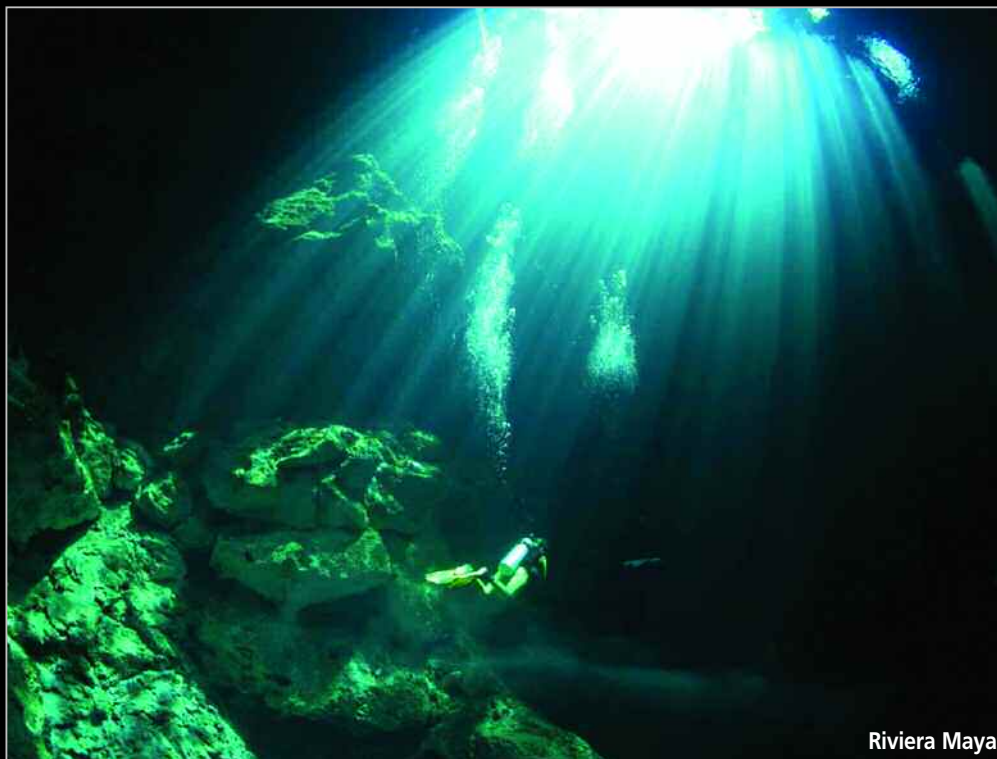
# Cave Diving: 7 Best Cave Dives

BY BROOKE MORTON. POSTED MAY 1, 2013. Reprinted from ScubaDiving.com

*Some say the age of exploration is dead. These people haven't discovered cave diving. In the beginning, it's a commitment - to training and gear. The next biggest surprise: Instructors aren't particularly generous with passing scores - a good thing, given the greater risks.*

*"It's the passing that takes time," says Edd Sorenson, a cave instructor based in North Florida. "Instructors teach you how, but you also need to know the 'why' to succeed in the sport."*

*Of those who take the plunge, most find it a small price to pay to feed what quickly becomes a lifelong addiction. These people learn to work in pencil: Their boundaries change daily.*



Riviera Maya



Order Cave, Russia

## 1. Riviera Maya

For years, the Riviera Maya wallowed in the relative obscurity of lying between Spring Break-crazy Cancun and dive-crazed Cozumel. But that was then, and this is now. The luxurious stretch of seashore, starting just south of Cancun and stretching nearly to the Belize border, is now the in-spot for not only divers, but honeymooners, golfers, beachcombers and everybody just looking to get away from it all. The most unique aspect of diving the Riviera Maya has to be the omnipresent cenotes - sink-holes formed by collapsing underground caves. The ancient Maya believed these cenotes were portals to the underworld, or Xibalba. They're your gateway to the coolest diving in the Yucatan, but you'll need a qualified cenote guide to show you around. But don't overlook the region's offshore reefs, which provide loads of color and fish life with relatively shallow profiles.

The Riviera Maya's strongest draw is perhaps most evident when the dive day's through. There are tons of things to do when you're not getting wet, from exploring the ruins of Mayan

life at Chichen Itza (which you can do in a day), Coba and Tulum, to immersing yourself in the nightlife in Playa del Carmen. There are also miles of luxuriant beaches, tons of watersports activities, shopping and dining. Check out Caradonna Worldwide Dive Adventures to book your next dive vacation.

- **Weather:** Pleasant weather year-round—the average annual temperature ranges from 77 degrees the mid-80s.
- **Average Water Temperature:** Cenote water temperature is in the mid-70s year-round; off-shore water temps range from the upper 70s in January to the mid-80s in August. May through November is the rainy season.
- **Average Visibility:** Consistently great vis is the norm - near 100 feet on deeper sites, less on shallow reefs, and more than 100 feet in the cenotes.
- **Entry Documents:** A passport is required, as well as a return or continuing ticket. Keep the paper tourist card they give you when you clear immigration, you'll need to give it back when you leave Mexico.

## 2. ORDA CAVE, RUSSIA

by Vitya Lyagushkin

The ethereal visions are haunting. "We find dragons and angels with wings," says Bogdana Vashchenko, dive instructor. She's talking about the white — almost clear — gypsum formations appearing in Orda Cave, located approximately 900 miles west of Moscow. This chalklike mineral dissolves quickly: The gauzy shapes found one day disappear the next.

The white walls and wispy scenery are just part of the appeal of the world's largest crystal cave — mapped passageways currently measure three miles. It's a sanctuary with big rooms stretching more than 250 feet across, and small passageways that will test your ability to ferret through. The biggest hurdle for those not born in the continental tundra is the temperature. Although the water remains 41 degrees F year-round, summer air temps in the 90s free-fall to well below freezing in winter. One comfort is credited to the cave's popularity. Back in the '80s, cave divers had to trek as many as seven hours through the snow to reach the cave. These days, roads, a set of stairs and a crew of eager sherpas ensure that the real adventure begins with the plunge.

- **When to Go:** Water conditions and temperatures remain the same year-round, save for March, when melting snow can affect viz.

- **Operator:** Orda Cave ([ordacave.com](http://ordacave.com)) acts as a dive travel company that arranges classes, equipment, accommodations and more.

- **Price Tag:** Prices depend on group size; the three-day introduction to cave class costs \$600; note that the cavern class is a prerequisite.

## 3. & 4. The Shaft and Tank Cave.

The initiation is a leap - or plummet - of faith. The cave, found in the middle of a farmer's pasture, is called "The Shaft."

"The opening is no bigger than a coffee table," says Jill Heinerth, technical instructor and cave-diving videographer. To enter, you build a tripod over the hole and fellow divers lower you down via climbing gear and ropes. "For your christening, they let go of you, and

you have no idea how far you're going to fall," she laughs.

Ritual completed, divers find themselves in a bell-shaped room illuminated by a single peephole. The Shaft, as well as Tank Cave and the rest of the underwater passageways near Blue Lake City in South Australia, all require a heightened set of skills, and not because of ball-busting entry points.

Here the caves aren't river systems, explains John Vanderleest, national director of the Cave Divers Association of Australia. Water flow is nearly nonexistent: "Water moves through at the rate of an inch an hour."

"If you kick up silt, it could be there for days," Heinerth says. Because of this, divers trained in this area are pros at anti-silting techniques



Tank Cave, photo Liz Rogers

So why make the trip?

"The pattern of Tank Cave mirrors that of the mortar in a brick wall," Vanderleest says of the 4.5 miles of available routes, with many still awaiting exploration.

"I've discovered a few small bits [of passageway] simply by sitting down and looking under a rock," Vanderleest says.

- **When to Go:** Water remains 59 degrees F year round.

- **Operator:** The Cave Diving Association of Australia ([cavedivers.com.au](http://cavedivers.com.au)) matches divers with the qualified instructors who are currently the most active.

- **Price Tag:** Cave diver cost: \$900 to \$1,000, depending on the instructor.

## 5. MERRITT'S MILL POND, FLORIDA

"People act like they're sighting Loch Ness," says Edd Sorenson, owner of Marianna-based Cave Adventurers. He's talking about out-of-towners unfamiliar with man-made Merritt's Mill Pond and its population of grass-eating carp lounging on the surface.

If not carp but the idea of cave diving sets your heart aflutter, consider this section of Florida, which features Jackson Blue, Twin Caves, Hole

in the Wall and others. The hard, limestone environment consistently delivers good viz; there's nearly no chance of poor kicking causing a silt-out. Another stress reducer is the whiteness of the caves' walls: Light is reflected, not absorbed, so the path stays highly illuminated.

"Dark cave systems eat up light, making a \$2,000 dive light feel like a \$500 one," says Sorenson, adding that with white walls, the inverse is true. And because a dam, not a river, controls the water flow, water quality is consistent. Elsewhere, heavy rain can reverse the water flow, sending muddy water back into the cave; here this is impossible.

As for those fearing gators, Sorenson laughs. "I've lived here 10 years and logged thousands of cave hours and never seen one inside."

- **When to Go:** Conditions are consistent and favorable year-round.

- **Operator:** Sorenson, owner of Cave Adventurers ([caveadventurers.com](http://caveadventurers.com)), suggests that divers spread out courses: Changing muscle memory takes time.

- **Price Tag:** Two-day classes start at \$400 apiece. Introduction to cave, cave apprentice and full cave each take approximately two days to learn the skills; adopting them may take longer.



Marritts Cave, Florida. Benjamin Martinez

## 6. EMERGENCE DU RESSEL, FRANCE

This cave will convert you: Emergence du Ressel offers ideal conditions for diver propulsion vehicles. The main passage forks just beyond the entrance, creating one passage 30 feet deep, and another at 60 feet — and they merge to create a loop. Granted, the entire trip extends 2.5 miles, which explains why only a few skilled souls and their supercharged DPVs can boast completion of the entire trip. Their motto: "Forgive me, father, for I have finned." This cave is just one reason that France's Lot and Dordogne areas are considered the best of Europe's cave diving. Explore a different cave system each day; most measure around seven

miles, so you'll likely quit before the path ahead of you does. Caves here tend to be wide, accommodating scooters and those using back-mounted rigs.

- **When to Go:** Summer is considered ideal; it's the dry season with air temperatures in the 90s.
- **Operator:** Lot Cave Diving Centre ([lotcavedivingcentre.com](http://lotcavedivingcentre.com)) offers classes and serves as a local concierge, steering you toward dining and accommodations that fit your taste and budget.
- **Price Tag:** Air, oxygen and helium are kept on site; divers fill their own tanks, so bring your blending certificate. Oxygen costs \$0.05 a liter.



Emergence Du Ressel, France.  
Photo Jason Brown,  
[bardophotographic.com](http://bardophotographic.com)

## 7. ULUM CENOTES, MEXICO

*Martin Strmiska*

"We've got huge, massive tunnels you could fly a plane through," says Kim Davidson, manager of ProTec in Tulum, Mexico—home to the world's most expansive underwater cave network, measuring 7,456 miles at the time of print, and greatest diversity of environments. "Salt water, fresh water, brown caves, yellow caves, red caves," says Davidson, as if reading from a Dr. Seuss speleology book. Inside, you can find "boulders the size of buses, prehistoric remains of mastodons, and human skeletons."

The diversity of structure and accessibility makes this region one of the best for newbies and pros alike. Caverns provide a taste of what the sport demands and, for experienced cavers, the vast expanse of land holds the promise of entirely new, undiscovered systems. Davidson explains that the ongoing land development



Mexico, JP Bresser picture

means more than just more options come dinnertime.

"New roads mean new places become easier to reach - you don't have to hike in anymore." For those curious about cave exploration, one place to start is a plane ride over the area's hundreds of cenotes. The cheaper way is to simply search via Google Earth.

- **When to Go:** Weather and cave conditions vary little; winter is the best season for community building, given how many North Americans and Europeans flock to the tropical clime.
- **Operator:** ProTec Dive Center ([protecdiving.com](http://protecdiving.com)) in Tulum has four full-time technical cave instructors.
- **Price Tag:** ProTec Tulum charges \$230 a day for students working toward the Cave Diver rating. Those with only an Open Water card should expect to commit a minimum of eight days to the course.

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# DAN Asia-Pacific Observes a Rise in Cases of Severe Ear Problems

By DAN Asia-Pacific's John Lippmann

*As you well know, one of the first skills divers learn is how to "equalise" their ears. Failure to adequately equalise the ears results in ear barotrauma.*

Although ear injuries very commonly result from diving, especially with novices, historically, DAN AP has had relatively few Members who sustained severe ear injuries. However, this appears to be changing and over recent years, we are receiving an increasing number of reports of divers with serious ear injuries.

The most common and usually the most effective method of equalising involves the diver holding his/her nose and blowing gently ("Valsalva Manoeuvre"). Although this method is very effective, damage can occur if it is done too vigorously so overly-forceful equalisation should be avoided. Other methods include swallowing (with or without the nose blocked), wriggling the jaw, squeezing the tongue against the soft palate, or a combination of these.

Divers need to ensure that whatever technique they use is effective in preventing pressure build-up.

If the pressure is not equalised, swelling and bleeding of the lining within the ear will occur, which helps to equalise the pressures and relieve the pain, although this can often lead to infection. In some cases, the eardrum can rupture and, in very severe cases, delicate membranes within the inner ear can tear, enabling fluid to leak from the inner ear and creating the potential to damage this delicate organ, possibly affecting hearing and balance.

Bubbles from decompression can also form in or around the inner ear and so disrupt its function - inner ear decompression illness. In addition, a variety of other non-diving-related conditions affecting the ear can cause symptoms in divers during or after a dive. Signs and symptoms associated with inner ear dysfunction may include hearing loss, vertigo (spinning), dizziness, ringing or other ear sounds (tinnitus), nausea and vomiting.

Any diver with these signs or symptoms after diving should promptly call a diving emergency hotline for advice. The doctor or medic will take a thorough his-

tory including the dive profile, the mode of equalisation and any equalisation issues, and the time of onset and progression of symptoms. A suitable course of action will then be determined.

An inner ear barotrauma or decompression illness needs to be managed swiftly and appropriately to minimise the potential for permanent injury.

Although ear injuries very commonly result from diving, especially with novices, historically, DAN AP has had relatively few Members who sustained severe ear injuries. However, this appears to be changing and over recent years, we are receiving an increasing number of reports of divers with serious ear injuries. Following are examples of four very recent cases:

**Case 1:** This 51-year-old male is a divemaster with a history of around 500 dives. He conducted a single 22m dive during which he had no noticeable equalisation problems, although at one point he mentioned pushing a finger under his hood to allow water entry. On surfacing and removing his hood he noticed an echo in one ear, muffled hearing, a buzzing noise, and very slight dizziness. He went to a general doctor several hours later and was given decongestants. Still rightly concerned, he consulted a specialist two days later and various tests were conducted. However, by the time the diagnosis of inner ear barotraumata (IEBT) was made, he sustained permanent severe hearing loss and tinnitus in the affected ear.

**Case 2:** A 34-year-old technical diver had completed two deco dives and surfaced with "a feeling of fullness in his ears and sinuses". Back on the boat when later he forcefully equalised his ears (Valsalva), he heard a loud popping and felt sudden dizziness and complete hearing loss in one ear. Believing this not to be serious, he did not call DAN and remained on the boat for the next 3 days, not diving but with persistent hearing loss and dizziness. On returning to Singapore, he contact-

ed DAN and was directed to a nearby hospital with an Ear Nose and Throat Specialist. A diagnosis of IEBT was made and he remained in hospital for week. However, the damage was irreversible and he was left with permanent hearing loss and ringing (tinnitus) in one ear.

**Case 3:** While on a diving vacation in the Solomon's, this 51-year-old diver with a history of more than 3000 dives noticed a full feeling in one ear, dizziness and hearing loss while boarding the boat after the second of two 50-60m decompression stop dives. He reported that he had no equalization difficulties. Believing that he had an ear infection, he self-medicated with antibiotics and did another three dives. After flying home, he contacted DAN some 5 days after the injury and was referred to an ENT specialist after discussion with a hyperbaric doctor. He was diagnosed with IEBT. By this time, irreversible damage was done and he is left with profound hearing loss and tinnitus in one ear.

**Case 4:** This diver had done 30 dives over two weeks in Indonesia to a maximum depth of 23m. Despite suffering severe diarrhoea, he decided to continue diving, although likely to still be dehydrated. On the final day he did 3 dives with no reported equalisation or other problems. However, about 1.5 hours after surfacing, and while having a hot shower, he suddenly suffered

severe vertigo (spinning), accompanied by nausea and vomiting. He was taken to the local navy chamber and he was already inside and receiving treatment by the time DAN was called. The chamber was small and it was very hot inside and he continued to vomit continuously. He became very distressed and later said that he thought he was going to die in there. DAN arranged to evacuate him to Singapore where he was diagnosed with inner ear decompression illness and received several more recompression treatments. Fortunately, his symptoms improved greatly.

## Important Lesson to Be Learnt from these Cases

The above cases highlight the importance of seeking specialist diving medical advice as soon as symptoms develop. Although it can sometimes be very difficult to differentiate between inner ear barotrauma, decompression illness, and certain other disorders, a specialist can make a provisional diagnosis and advise the best course of action based on the likely problems and the severity of the symptoms. Sometimes permanent injury may be unavoidable but on other occasions, quick action can minimise the likelihood of permanent hearing or balance problems.

[www.danap.org](http://www.danap.org)



## HEY YOU!

...been cave diving locally or overseas?

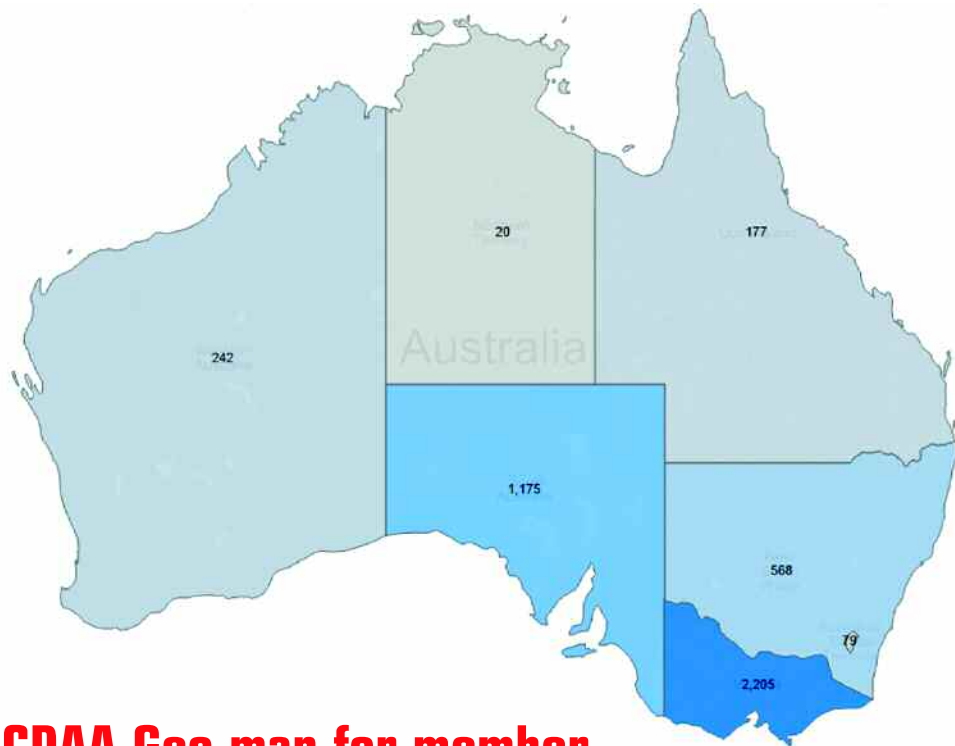
done a cave course?

had a new cave diving experience?

bought some new gear that you absolutely love?

**We Want Your latest Experience in Writing...  
So come on, write us Your story for Guidelines!**

Email to: [guidelines@cavedivers.com.au](mailto:guidelines@cavedivers.com.au)



**CDAA Geo map for member location over the past 42 years**



# CDAA INSTRUCTORS

NAME	Deep Cavern	Cave	Adv. Cave
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## NEW SOUTH WALES

	BOULTON, Alex (CDA 4125) E: kartzone@gmail.com Mob: 0404 878 720	Yes		
	FEATONBY, Tim (CDA 3327) Mob: 0402 129 253 E: tim.featonby@hotmail.com	Yes	Yes	Yes

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

	PAYNE, Timothy (CDA 2640) Mob: 0448 147 927 E: Tim@diveessentials.com	Yes	Yes	
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## VICTORIA

	ALLEN, Terri (CDA 3483) Mob: 0419 176 633 E: terri.allen@bakeridi.edu.au	Yes	Yes	
	BARCLAY, Gary (CDA 1735) Mob: 0407 527 921 E: garinda@bigpond.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
	BOWMAN, Jane (CDA 1880) Mob: 0407 566 455 E: janelbowman@hotmail.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
	CHAMBERS, Geoffrey (CDA 3484) Mob: 0438 059 886 E: geoffie1@gmail.com	Yes		
	CLARIDGE, Linda (CDA 2214) Mob: 0408 052 070 E: garinda@tpgi.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes

NAME	Deep Cavern	Cave	Adv. Cave
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## VICTORIA Continued

	DALLA-ZUANNA, John (CDA 236) Mob: 0407 887 060 E: jdz@paintandcustom.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
	EDWARDS, Chris (CDA 2247) Mob: 0417 116 372 Email: cedwards@aanet.com.au	Yes		
	MCDONALD, Warrick (CDA 1882) Mob: 0408 374 112 E: info@oceandivers.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
	MONACO, Rubens (CDA 1731) Mob: 0413 429 533 E: info@idcscuba.com.au	Yes	Yes	Yes
	MUSCAT, Tim (CDA 4557) Mob: 0422 127 802 E: tim_muscat@bigpond.com	Yes		

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

	JOSIP BICANIC (CDA 4691) Mob: 0421 571 779 Email: joseph_b@me.com	Yes		
	PAYNTER, Geoff (CDA 3784) Mob: 0407 445 112 E: gpaynter60@bigpond.com	Yes	Yes	

# 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 AC = ADVANCED CAVE

SITE	LEVEL	OWNER	ACCESS DETAILS
<b>MT. GAMBIER - SA</b>			
Ewens Ponds	Nil	DEWNR - P.O. Box 1046 Mt Gambier 5290	Groups of 6 or more, phone/mail to Dept. for Environment, Water & Natural Resources (DEWNR). Smaller groups, no need. (08) 8735 1177 Fax: (08) 8735 1135
Gouldens	CN	DEWNR	<b>General Diving:</b> Divers to contact DEWNR and notify of date and site to be dived. Please make requests by phone or fax only.
2 Sisters	CN	DEWNR	Divers must have the correct CDAA diving endorsement for the site and carry current financial CDAA membership card.
Fossil	C		The diver must have signed an indemnity with DEWNR before access is permitted and original copy must be received by DEWNR prior to diving. <b>Training:</b> The Instructor is to notify DEWNR 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	DEWNR	Bookings can be made online via the CDAA web site.
Horse & Cart Tea Tree	CN	Dale & Heather Perkins	At least 1 week prior by email: dhperkins@bigpond.com or phone (08) 8738 4083.
Little Blue Allendale	S	District Council of Grant	Permission not required - must carry card.
Ela Elap	C	District Council of Grant	Obtain key from Lady Nelson Tourist Information Centre.
One Tree	S	Dean & Carol Edwards	Key available from Simon Livingstone at the Bellum Hotel.
Dave's Cave	S	Mr. Peter Norman	Visit the house before diving. If no one is home - no dive!
Hells Hole Pines	C		Maximum 3 divers all weekends between May & November inclusive (check and update on CDAA website).
Mud Hole	S		At least 4 divers in group - 1 with previous site experience.
Nettle Bed	C/AC	<b>Forestry Sth. Australia</b> Phone: (08) 8724 2876 Fax: (08) 8724 2870 or book on-line via the CDAA website to arrange permit.	Unrestricted days or numbers - Cave rated divers must not enter Penetration sections (stop signs)
Stinging Nettle Cave	C		Unrestricted days or numbers.
Iddlebiddy	AC	Open every weekend. Maximum of 4 divers per weekend undertaking 1 dive only (check an update on CDAA site).	Open every w'end max 3 divers per day undertaking 1 dive per day (check updates on CDAA website).
	AC	email: conservationandrecreation@forestrysa.com.au	Open every Saturday max 4 divers, 1 dive only (check an update on CDAA website)
		<b>Forestry Sth. Australia</b>	<b>IMPORTANT:</b> Divers must advise Forestry SA of their online booking. Collect permits from the Forestry Office, RHS of driveway to Carter Holt, Jubilee Hwy, Mt Gambier.
		<b>Forestry Sth. Australia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No diving on Total Fire Ban Days.</li> <li>Permit also required to run compressors during fire danger season.</li> <li>Keys for Hells Hole, Nettle Bed, Iddlebiddy and Stinging Nettle Cave can be obtained from Lady Nelson Visitor Ctr on presentation of Forestry SA permits.</li> </ul>
Kilsby's	S	Landowner leased to CDAA	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 <b>No diving on Total Fire Ban Days.</b>

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

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CN = CAVERN S = SINKHOLE C = CAVE AC = ADVANCED CAVE

SITE	LEVEL	OWNER	ACCESS DETAILS
<b>MT. GAMBIER - SA (continued)</b>			
Shaft	S/C	Generally open one weekend a month. Trevor Ashby	For access dates go to the CDAA web page. 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. <b>Download form off website.</b>
Engelbrechts - East - West	C AC	Mt Gambier Council Lessee: Ph: 08 8723 5552 Owner: John & Sue Douglas	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	AC	Millicent Council	Download Indemnity from Web Page. Access available for experienced Penetration divers only. Access agreement must be signed prior to diving. Allow 4 wks for indemnity process.
Tank Cave	AC	CDAA	Access Manager: Noel Dillon. Email: tankcave@cavedivers.com.au
Baker's Cave	C	Janet & Bruce Saffin	Access Manager: Matthew Skinner. Email: bakerscave@cavedivers.com.au Climbing equipment required. One member must have previous dive experience at site.
<b>NULLARBOR - WA</b>			
Cocklebidy	C/AC	DEC	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. Phone: (08) 9083 2100 Fax: (08) 9071 3657.
Murra El Elevyn	C/AC	DEC	
Tommy Grahams	C	DEC	
Burnabee	AC	Department of Lands, WA	Apply in writing or email for permission to dive at least four weeks in advance of trip.
Olwogin Cave	AC	Department of Lands, WA	Miss Shannon Alford, Email: Shannon.alford@lands.wa.gov.au Phone: (08) 6552 4661 Fax: (08) 6552 4417
Weebubbie	S/C	Department of Lands, WA	P.O. Box 1143, West Perth WA 6872. A site indemnity form must be filled out for each visit to the site. Diving permission acknowledged by official letter from Land Owner.
<b>WELLINGTON CAVES - NSW</b>			
Limekiln (McKavity) cave	C/AC	Wellington Caves	Both Penetration and Cave Level are being accepted for this cave depending on its 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) cave	C	Wellington Caves	Affected by high CO <sub>2</sub> levels during Summer/Autumn. Access is co-ordinated with the Wellington Caves management by Greg Ryan - Email: gjryan@gmail.com. Phone (02) 9743 4157.
Rum Jungle Lake	S	Coomalie Community Govt Council	Unrestricted access currently exists - Please refer to website.
Burrinjuck Dam	S/C/AC	NSW Parks & Wildlife	Please refer to website. There are no specific access arrangements.