

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

PO Box 144 Rundle Mall, Adelaide, 5000



ANNUAL REPORT

1998

Forty Third Annual Report

Presented to the Annual General Meeting
held on Saturday 27th February 1999
at the Hackney Hotel, 95 Hackney Rd, Hackney, SA.

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

PO Box 144 Rundle Mall, Adelaide, 5000

PRESENTS THE 1998 ANNUAL REPORT



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REPORTS



1998 COMMITTEE

President
Secretary
Treasurer
Quartermaster
Safety
Training
Research Coordinator

Steve Milner
Bill Binks / Julius Gheude
June MacLucas
Mark Sefton
Frank Hankinson
Marie Choi
Steve Milner

1998 OFFICE BEARERS

Librarian and Records
Publications
Trip Liaison (Logbook)
Public Officer
Museum Representative
Membership
Key Holder

George MacLucas
Athol Jackson
Steve Milner
Graham Pilkington
Neville Pledge
June MacLucas
Simon Kendrick

1998 REPRESENTATIVES

Australian Speleological Federation

S.A. Speleological Council

Caving Leadership Standards Working Group

Peter Kraehenbuehl

Graham Pilkington
Steve Milner
Peter Kraehenbuehl
Marie Choi

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

After great deliberation, I have decided that I will not stand as President next year. I have had a most enjoyable 18 months or so getting involved in the machinations of CEGSA, but now I need to direct my energies elsewhere. My main reason for not standing is that I am just too busy and need to cut back on a few things so that I can devote my time and energies on my family, my work and *going caving*.

In the past year I have been pleased to work with the CEGSA committee on many issues and I wish to thank Bill Binks, Marie Choi, Julius Gheude, Frank Hankinson, June MacLucas, Mark Sefton and Graham Pilkington for all their efforts and support while on the CEGSA committee, thanks everyone.

In review, the last 12 months have been good for CEGSA with an apparent upturn in the amount of caving. It is also pleasing that a lot of good work is being carried out and data is heading into the records. Of note, the CEGSA members who are active in the Flinders Ranges have excelled themselves and have increased the number of Karst features from 136 to 174. Also, George MacLucas and his small team of regular helpers have put a lot of hard work into the library and records, so please call George and arrange a visit to use the resource. All in all, some great work has been done in 1998 as will be judged in the reports elsewhere in the Annual Report, and so I'll say to everyone ... give yourselves a round of applause and if you're so inclined, buy yourself a drink (or three!) at the Annual Dinner.

1998 also saw the wrap up of the SAUSS (South Australian Underwater Speleological Association) after 12 years of life. The few individuals that remained closed the group's affairs and transferred its records and its assets to CEGSA (see also the Treasurers Report). Thank you to SAUSS for their foresight in ensuring that these valuable data are not lost.

So, I'll say here that I wish my successor good luck in 1999, but I'll still be around and I'll be happy take on some minor responsibilities (eg website and trip liaison).

Steve Milner.

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1998 AWARDS

Leather Medals

Leather Mobile/GPS

Marie Choi

Leather Train (The Trainer)

Simon Kendrick

Spirit of Caving

Michael Caruana

Golden Compass Award

Discoveries in the Flinders Ranges

Rivett's Reward

Frank Hankinson

Mundrabilla Marble

No Recipient

Steve Milner.

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SECRETARY REPORT

When I expressed my interest in joining the CEGSA Committee, I had no idea I would walk away from the 1998 AGM having been roped in as Secretary! I settled into the role however and actually enjoyed the responsibility of recording the official business of CEGSA.

My job was made easier thanks to Steve and June, who handled the bulk of CEGSA's correspondence, leaving the production of minutes as my main task. Being responsible for the

minutes makes you listen more and I enjoyed being able to have my say and thrash things out at committee level, then sum up the results as minutes.

I saw CEGSA have another productive year I believe. An interesting issue was the introduction of new procedures for the approval of trip leaders to try to fit in with both our Constitution and the ASF insurance policy. The records access policy was reviewed and the duty statements of office bearers were reviewed and written up. These documents are useful for the club and should be published for general viewing.

It is good to see from my stint as secretary, how professionally CEGSA goes about its' business. I encourage anyone who would like to voice their opinion to get involved, if not on the committee, then at General Meetings. Don't just 'leave it up to the committee' - get some 'ownership' of CEGSA's direction.

My term as secretary was cut short in September when I got a job with PIRSA and moved to the South East. Although I was disappointed to leave the committee, I was happy when Julius emerged as the obvious replacement and accepted the role. I am sure he has done a good job since September and hopefully he will continue in 1999.

Bill Binks.

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MUSEUM REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

The biggest item to come to notice in 1998 was the discovery near Mount Gambier of large bones in a 'new' cave, 5L412, now called Sassanowsky Well Cave, since it was originally discovered during the digging of that well. It is a very difficult cave to get into, and very cramped, so yours truly will not be visiting it.

Damian Grindley, Amanda Wagener, Marie Choi, and Kevin and Adrian Mott made the discovery on 11th July. Subsequent surveying trips have been made.

Several small mammal jawbones were found in different parts of the cave, interesting enough when you consider how they might have got to where they were. The exciting find was of two large vertebrae (see cover of CEGSA NEWS Issue 172) found about five metres apart but in different passages: these were from a whale - and I would say the same individual whale, since the odds are against there being several animals involved. Reports suggest there may be other, less obvious bones present, but they are covered in clay, and are embedded in the limestone that buried them. The bones are, of course, older than the cave - around 20-25 million years so far as I can estimate from the geology.

The identity of the whale, unfortunately, cannot be determined from these two bones, but there may be a chance if part of the skull or jaws turn up.

Later in the year, a CEGSA trip to the north Flinders discovered a new cave near Narrina Pound, high up on a limestone ridge. The cave was very dry and the formation apparently dead. Of more interest were several partial or complete skeletons, one still held together by desiccated skin. Julius Gheude took photos of this and of another skull and forwarded them to me for identification. Unfortunately, one critical photo did not turn out and I cannot be sure of the identity of the skeleton. However, I am assured that its skull is different to the other skull, which belonged to a dingo, and it is frustrating to speculate what the skeleton might be - a fox, or a thylacine? Certainly it is a carnivore. There are other bones present, and this cave could have significant deposits.

High point of the year was the opening of the new Wonambi Fossil Centre at Naracoorte. The SA Museum was not directly, if at all, involved in that enterprise, and all praise and congratulations must go to Dr Rod Wells for persisting and pushing it through. On a sad note, however, we must report that only a few weeks later, some miscreant broke into an exhibition case in the Museum and stole part of the Henschke Fossil Cave Wonambi skull on display there. We have no leads.

Neville Pledge.

LIBRARY AND RECORDS REPORT

This year the working bee's attendance has been the lowest since I have taken over this position, despite June making it a social affair by preparing good food and wine. To make any headway it was necessary for the last half of the year for the regulars, Ray & Chris Gibbons, June and myself to meet every fortnight. In this way it was found that we could complete several long time pressing projects.

The Periodicals have finally been sorted into folders; there are over 160 different publications. A list will be included in CEGSA NEWS Vol. 44, No.1, issue 173 for your perusal.

The other big project hanging over us was sorting the Monographs. Although this is still to be completed, it has at last some kind of order that one can find the many interesting articles buried beneath the huge pile of paper. Thanks mostly to Chris Gibbon's patience and endurance to stay with it, we need now to start the next step and enter each article in the computer. This will take time, as the monographs include several hundred articles.

We have moved on and started to sort the many topographical and geographical maps of different areas around Australia.

The main thrust for 1999 will be to complete as far as possible the data we have collected on each cave and to add new map numbers to our catalogue of maps.

I wish to thank Ray and Chris Gibbons for the many hours they have put into helping to sort the records, our regular Saturdays have been enjoyable and worthwhile. Many thanks also to Graham Pilkington for his help. Our thanks also to others that called around for a few hours to help were Bill Binks, Michael Caruana, Kerry Ninnies, Eddie Rubessa and young Alex Sanderson, a lass that answered the call for a volunteer helper looking for work through an Unemployment Library Group.

Kevin Mott and Fred Aslin continue to coagulate work on cave articles from the library and News articles. Many thanks for your time.

The working bees will continue, all are welcome. Please come and lend a hand, remember many hands make light work.

George MacLucas.

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PUBLICATIONS REPORT

Four editions of the CEGSA NEWS were produced during the year in February, May, August and November. I have augmented the local content with reprints of Ken Boland's articles from Nargun on Thampanna Cave in the Nullarbor. The information in these articles is probably of more interest to members of CEGSA than any other club in Australia. These will continue next year. The Annual Report was also produced for the AGM in February.

I have received a reasonable amount of copy from a few members but I am sure there are a lot of trips which do not get reported in the NEWS or anywhere else for that matter. Please write a report for the NEWS at least as that provides a record of both what the Group is doing, and also a record of cave usage.

No other publications were produced this year.

Athol Jackson.

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TRAINING REPORT

Training this year consisted of 4 Joint bridge days held at the Flinders Uni foot bridge which was attended by a number of club visitors and a few regular CEGSA members who were brushing up on their SRT skills. Dave Trehearne is offering vertical rescue training at Naracoorte for those that are interested. CEGSA will also be in receipt soon of 3 U.K. training videos, Cave Safe 1, 2, and 3. The SRT, rescue tape has some excellent tips and tricks for rigging and rescue and some sessions will be held later this year covering these techniques.

Marie Choi.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

	1995	1996	1997	1998
Honorary Life Members	12	12	12	12
Full Members	53	51	51	47
Long-term Associate Members		4	1	1
Associate Members	19	20	19	10
Total individual Members	84	87	83	70
Family memberships	3	2	3	6
Newsletter Subscribers	2	1	1	0
Newsletter Exchange	39	39	41	38
Newsletter Gifts	13	12	12	13
Newsletter Advertisers		4	2	3
	141	145	142	130

June MacLucas.

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EQUIPMENT REPORT

There has been a steady demand on the club's vertical ladder kit, helmets and lights throughout the year, but the rest of the equipment has remained unused. I collected \$205 in gear-hire fees during 1998, but this sum is not included in the 1998 Treasurer's report. Additional money was collected prior to me taking over as QM, and this latter sum does appear in the Treasurer's report. The club is therefore well over budget in income derived from equipment hire. Copies of the equipment hire sheets for 1998 have been lodged with CEGSA records in case anyone wishes to document the use of the gear over a period of several years.

Unfortunately, circumstances have made it impossible for me to carry out the quartermasters duties during the past few weeks and will continue to do so for several months, I have therefore not been able to document the club's equipment before the AGM, nor has the equipment been audited as planned. For the same reason, I will not continue to act as QM in 1999, nor will I be standing for the Committee again this year.

I make the following recommendations to the club and to the next quartermaster.

- The hire fee for the Petzl lights be increased from \$2.50 to \$4, in order to cover the occasional cost of replacement bulbs, AA battery adaptors etc.
- Some of the equipment has not been used in over ten years and should therefore be considered for disposal.
- The clubs SRT kit was purchased at considerable expense but has not been used once in the past 12 months. Unless this equipment is used at least for club training days, CEGSA stands to recoup very little of this initial outlay. If the situation continues, the club should consider selling off the kit, or at least some parts of it, even if it does so at a loss. Items such as SRT rope have a finite life, whether they are used or not.

Mark Sefton.

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TRIP LIAISON REPORT

Thank goodness for answering machines. Since the start of this years' official CEGSA trip list (March), there were 28 'official' trips. These trips that were recorded were from 1 to 10 days duration involving up to 10 people and over 50 different caves. Not many details are recorded in the log book, but here are some simple statistics by region:

Area	Number of Days	Different Caves
A - Adelaide	10+	*
F - Flinders	33	***
L - Lower South East	10	**
M - Murray Plains	2	*
N - Nullarbor	10	***
U - Upper South East	7	**
Y - Yorke Peninsula	6	*
Northern Territory	3	*

Legend: * (1 to 5 caves); ** (6 to 19 caves); *** (20-plus caves)

Undoubtedly, there were many other caving trips that didn't make it to the list. Please remember that to be covered for Public Liability your trip must be registered as a CEGSA trip before you go. Don't forget that *only CEGSA members* are covered, and negligence is not covered.

Steve Milner.

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RESEARCH OFFICERS REPORT

This year a few microbiological samples were taken from caves for the analysis of the distribution of actinomycetes in the cave dirt (Diana Walters honours project at Flinders University). Diana kindly gave CEGSA members a report of some of her research on these bugs at the CEGSA general meeting in January 1999.

In 1998 there was continuing progress for many of the activities below, but a few appear to have floundered simply because of the lack of manpower. All of these projects take up a huge amount of the time of the individuals involved and almost everyone needs extra help. So if anyone has spare time and is genuinely interested in participating and developing some research activities, please contact the individuals below and have a chat.

Furthermore, if anyone has a particular interest and wishes to develop a project of their own interest, contact the research officer or the committee and we'll do our best to help.

Surveying

Gary Woodcock	Naracoorte	Vic Fossil Cave	Updating old survey to aid exploration
Steve Milner	Naracoorte	Blackberry Cave	ASF grade 5 survey
Mark Sefton	Naracoorte	Misc. Caves	New surveys for the records
Peter Kraehenbuehl	Naracoorte	Fox Cave	New metric survey
Peter Kraehenbuehl	Nullarbor	Misc. Caves	Cave Diving Maps

Exploration

Graham Pilkington	Naracoorte	Vic Fossil Cave	Search for new fossil deposits
Grant Gartrell	Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island		Search for new karst features
Graham Pilkington	Nullarbor	6N83	Ongoing exploration & mapping
Graham Pilkington	Naracoorte	Corra-Lynn	Ongoing mapping of a 14km system

Natural History

Terry Reardon	South Australia	Bats	Ongoing research - bats of SA
Ron Simms	South Australia	Cave Crickets	Ongoing research - invertebrates of SA
Neville Pledge	South Australia	Bones	Ongoing research - bone deposits of SA
Ruth Lawrence	Australia	Geomorphology	Ongoing research - Geomorphology
Ruth Lawrence	South East	Publications	Two publications on the SE of SA
Fred Aslin	South East	Geomorphology	Documentation of the Bridgewater / Gambier interface

Art

June MacLucas	Australia		Development of Art of the Underground
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Indices

Kevin Mott	Upper and Lower South East	Maintenance of existing karst database
Peter Horne	Lower South East (Diving)	Maintenance of existing karst database
Ruth Lawrence	Upper South East	Maintenance of new karst database
Steve Milner	Kangaroo Island	Maintenance of new karst database
Bill Binks	Flinders Ranges	Maintenance of existing karst database
Max Meth	Nullarbor	Maintenance of existing karst database
Peter Kraehenbuehl	Adelaide Hills	Maintenance of existing karst database
Max Meth	Eyre Peninsula	Maintenance of existing karst database

Technical

Nigel Dobson-Keefe	Electronic Communication	RDF equipment for surveying and rescue
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Special Interest

Frank Hankinson	Search & Rescue	Re-establishment of cave rescue
George MacLucas	Artificial Caves	Development of a nationwide database
Peter Kraehenbuehl	Cave Leadership Standards	Development of skills for cave leadership
Fred Aslin	Newspaper and Magazine Articles	Recording cave-related articles
Julius Gheude /	Modernising CEGSA Records	Bringing the records into the next century
George MacLucas /		
Graham Pilkington		

Steve Milner.

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SAFETY REPORT

There were no reported 'in cave' injuries this year.

There was an incident of a snake strike in the Flinders Ranges mentioned in a trip report. It is also my pleasure to report that the first steps to starting a search and rescue group have been initiated. Anyone interested in assisting in the formation of this group please contact me.

Frank Hankinson.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

The major events for 1998 were:

The Cave Divers Association of Australia resigned from the South Australian Speleological Council leaving five member organisations.

The SASC has become a member of ORCSA (Outdoor Recreation Council of South Australia). ORCSA is the State representative for ORCA (Outdoor Recreation Council of Australia). It has been established in all States and Territories to coordinate and define training skills of outdoor recreation organisations and people.

As a member of ORCSA the SASC had a caving introduction stall at a "Life Be In It" event. Most of the cavers setting up and staffing the stall were CEGSA members.

A collapse of the entrance shoring of Town Well Cave, 5Y2, has closed the cave until the danger from falling rocks can be eliminated. A local government council controls the cave. Revenue from key hire is trivial in comparison to the expected cost of repair. The SASC has taken on the task of negotiating with the council to repair the entrance and keep the cave open for cavers.

The SASC has decided to hold joint club training for the "ASF Caving Leadership Scheme" and present a common certificate. Details are being clarified with the ASF because the ASF has declared a policy of individual clubs to do their own thing. In SA we will not have enough cavers in any one club to make up the numbers required to conduct a cost effective training course. I suspect that the same is true for most individual clubs throughout Australia.

Graham Pilkington.

CAVING ACTIVITIES



ADELAIDE HILLS & FLEURIEU PENINSULA

In last year's report it was recorded that the Government had promised to complete in the coming year the development of a Code of Practice to cover the handling of the impact of quarrying on caves. Correspondence received on the matter since that time demonstrates a weakening of this resolve. Rather than bothering the Premier with these matters we are exhorted to take the matter up directly with industry. Meanwhile nothing has changed to give us any confidence in the application of the government's own Tenement Incident Procedures to the continuing impact of quarrying on the rest of the Sellicks Hill Quarry Cave.

Work still continues on 5A25. The gate and its concrete surrounds have been damaged twice in the last year, with an actual break-in on one occasion. On the second occasion, although the padlocks remained intact, we located some personal items including a credit card a small distance down the entrance passage and buried by rubble created in damaging the gate surrounds. Both events were reported to the police, with the name on the credit card an obvious place to begin their enquiries. A concerted effort is planned in this cave for the coming year.

Another small new cave has been located not far from A25. At this stage it is too early to ascertain whether it is likely to be part of the same system. It also needs digging.

There have been no trips to the lower Fleurieu this year. The winter has been unusually dry. We have been waiting for some farm dams to fill before we can observe the overflow draining away down a couple of dolines, but this has not happened.

Grant Gartrell.

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EYRE PENINSULA

I took over this area during the year, but aside from looking through the material, I have not done anything with it.

I would be interested in contacting Jerry De Graft, and anyone knowing where he lives could please let me know. Jerry has much detailed info on the area.

Max Meth

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FLINDERS RANGES

The Flinders Ranges again attracted considerable attention in 1998. Explorative trips in the northern areas added almost 40 new features to the list of known caves in the region. The number of recorded caves in the Flinders is now 174, up from 136 at the beginning of 1998. The Bagalowie area in the southern Flinders was the other main area of interest.

The major exploration trip of the year was at Easter, in mid April. Nine cavers spent the weekend in the John Waterholes area looking for caves. Four stayed on in the following week, visiting several areas including the Gammon Ranges to the north, Angepena and Parachilna Gorge. The excavation in F105 Boulder Bore Cave continued and F100 was relocated and surveyed. New features found and allocated numbers were F119, 128, 129 & 137-155.

In late April CEGSA members assisted Flinders University researchers get into and out of F3, Mairs Cave, re-locate some old bone digs and remove bone and sediment samples for dating and study. This cave has yielded some interesting ancient Megafauna and *Thylacine* (Tasmanian Tiger) fossil samples. Clara St Dora Cave, F4, was also visited and the sediments and calcite deposits examined.

On a trip in May to the Wirrealpa-Narrina area, 4 new caves were found, including several interesting potholes south along the ridge from F111, in the characteristic massive Wilkawillina limestone.

In June, Bill Binks continued surveying activity in the region, leading a trip to F111, Fighter Cave. F111 was completely surveyed, to a depth of 30 metres, with Gary Woodcock subsequently producing and publishing the map. F12 was almost fully surveyed and several smaller features near F111 were investigated.

In late August, Eddie Rubessa, Ray Gibbons and 7 others, including 2 Swedish exchange students, visited the Wirrealpa area. A survey of F121 was completed and some soil samples from F121 and F12 were collected for a Flinders University research project. Several new features were discovered, with the numbers F160 (Viking Holes) to F165 being allocated.

Precious Pot, F166 was discovered with great excitement on the October long weekend. F167-169 were found nearby on the same day. This area is several kilometres south of F111 and shows good potential for discoveries of similarly deep caves. A number of pothole type entrances have now been found, relatively high on the ridges. F166 was not explored until late November. It is a vertical enlarged rift type cave, about 15-20 metres deep with no obvious further leads.

In mid November there was another trip to continue digging of F105. Kerry Ninnes had an unfortunate meeting with a brown snake, but the trip continued with extensive searches carried out (unsuccessfully) for F10, Warraweena Cave and some other caves rumoured to exist in the central Flinders. The location of F10 continues to elude CEGSA's records, despite several members' knowledge of it's whereabouts.

In late November, after F166 had been explored, further discoveries to the north were made the next day. Two small holes, F170 and 171 were found south of Narrina Lake Cave and F172 and F173, both significant caves, were found just to the north. A small slot, F174 was also found near F173.

In early December Tom Szabo ran a trip to the Bagalowie area and visited F3, F4 and F7.

The discovery and tagging, photographing and location verification (particularly using GPS) of Flinders features has progressed well this year. While popular caves continue to be visited regularly, some interesting discoveries are adding to the appeal of this region. The Flinders Ranges deserves continued interest as an area of exciting potential and varied caving.

Bill Binks.

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KANGAROO ISLAND

No trips to the Island have been reported for the past year. This would appear to be due principally to other commitments for most of those members involved in the work at Kelly Hill, and is certainly not through lack of interest.

Grant Gartrell.

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LOWER SOUTH EAST

Caves numbered 6 Features recorded 7 Other features 23

1998 was a quiet year with regard to the numbering of features but in other aspects it was busy and exciting. Probably the most significant find was that of the whale bones by Damien Grindley in L412. Other bones were subsequently found in the cave and another in the dark recesses of the Museum. From information on the label it may have been lodged by relatives of the original well diggers. A map of the cave is being produced and this may shed more light on the distribution of the bones.

A number of drainage bores (and other bores) in Mount Gambler and district are known to intersect cavities. These are being progressively documented with other general collapse features to help build up a broader picture of the karst environment. The monitoring of water levels at selected sites is continuing.

The recording of cave related newspaper articles is steaming ahead at a frenetic pace. Put Fred in front of a microfilm reader and there is no holding him back. Graham is helping to put these into a database that will be compatible with the rest of CEGSA's records. A member who is able to assist with research in the newspaper library in Adelaide is desperately needed.

Some members have visited the area a number of times during the year for both work related trips and recreational caving as well as snorkelling in Ewens Ponds.

Kevin Mott.

NULLARBOR PLAINS

The Nullarbor is a very large caving area. At its broadest extent the single limestone occurrence measures about 800km east to west and 500km north to south. Its area is far larger than that of Tasmania. It is comparable in size with Victoria.

Boundary of Nullarbor caving area:

The actual boundary of the limestone is quite irregular, and hard to define in simple terms. For the purpose of defining a 'precise' caving area, the following boundary is now adopted:

South The coastline.

North The 28° latitude line. Previous definition gave the 30° line which excludes some of the northerly limestone.

West The 123° 30' meridian line. (taking in 2/3 of the Balladonia map sheet).

East The meridian line of 132° 30'. This removes some confusion caused by the Australian Karst Index 1985 which gives the west boundary of Eyre Peninsular as 132°, but the east boundary of Nullarbor as 132° 30'. This now places Fowlers Bay positively in the Nullarbor zone. Fowlers Bay was the stepping off point for several Nullarbor explorers (eg Eyre, Tiekins), so this seems fitting. The sea caves on Point Fowler would now be part of the Nullarbor, not of Eyre Peninsula. (Though they are yet to be described and numbered).

During 1998:

94 additional features were numbered (to N1582) 82 features added to temporary list (to NX819) A total of 2401, but there are only 2356 features for the Nullarbor, because 57 features from the temporary list have now been removed:

42 now have permanent numbers. 15 are not karst features at all.

New cave discoveries:

An area south of the railway, namely Balgair Station, that had not previously been examined by cavers has now produced 57 karst features. At least one of these is a cave of moderate complexity, containing troglobitic fauna.

Lowry Field Notebooks 1965 to 1968:

The original note books and the air photos used by Lowry are in the WA Geological survey library in Perth. These detail many karst features that were never added to caving records. For a precise location of these features it was necessary to view original notebooks AND the air photos. I photocopied ALL of the notebooks and the photos on which Lowry identified karst features. Work on computing actual map references for these karst features is in progress. There are about 240 karst features detailed by Lowry.

Dongas:

Are encountered mainly on the northern Nullarbor. They are essentially solution dolines. Their shape and size varies greatly. Some have little exposed limestone. Some have a lot. Previously, none of them were included in our records, but now about 20 have been added. There are several thousand of them by my estimation.

Maps of Nullarbor caves:

It is disappointing to note that there is no map available for some caves, even though great effort has been expended to survey them. Hopefully, people who are 'sitting' on cave data, will release it to their fellow cavers.

Co-operation with National Parks:

During the year a joint trip was run to the Nullarbor. It was a great success, and it is hoped that further trips can be arranged.

The future:

There is much scope on the Nullarbor for further discoveries, of new caves, and of extensions to existing caves, and in the location and description of cave fauna. It remains a relatively unexplored region.

Max G Meth.

UPPER SOUTH EAST

Caves numbered --- 4 Features recorded --- 2

The survey component of the mapping project in Victoria Fossil Cave has been completed and the map is in the process of being prepared. The main caves visited during the year included Sand, Beekeepers, and S102.

CEGSA's take over of the town is progressing well with Bill Binks moving down to join Dave Trehearne and Dave Glowacki. Great things can obviously be expected in the future.

The Wonambi Tourist Interpretation Centre was opened during the year. It provides an exciting look at Naracoorte's past and helps integrate the paleo history with the cave tours. If you have not seen it be sure to visit it soon.

Kevin Mott.

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MURRAY PLAINS

Very little caving took place this year, mostly to Punyelroo Cave (5M1). The 5M1 survey was completed last year and the cavers are taking a break!

Graham Pilkington

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YORKE PENINSULA

There were 18 registered trips to Corra Lynn Cave during the year. Most trips were for beginners or for fun. The split was as follows:

Scouts	6
CEGSA	5
South Siders	3
FUSS	2
CAVEX	1
Westcare	1

Town Well Cave is still closed because part of the fill around the surface shoring collapsed into the cave over a year ago. The SA Speleological Council has taken on the task of ensuring continuation of cave access.

Graham Pilkington.

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INTERSTATE

The year started (December 1997/January 1998) with a trip to Mole Creek, Tasmania with 11 CEGSA members that included Chris Hales as leader and Paul Harper 2nd in command. The group also included Ian and Sue Charlesworth, Frank Hankinson, Marie Choi, June and George MacLucas, Dave Glowacki, Julius Gheude, and Bill Binks. Mole Creek cave guides were Chris Riley and David Wools-cobb and Rob ? This trip was recorded in last years 1997 Annual Report and details of that trip appeared in the CEGSA NEWS Vol 43/Number4, Issue 172 dated November 1998.

On the 17th-18th January 1998 Peter Home once again acted as tour guide/organizer/driver for his flat mate Soung-taek and three of his female Korean friends. They drove from Adelaide to Brisbane in 2 days, taking in the sites on the way. On their way back they took the Great Ocean Road where they took time to visit the caves in "Loch Ard Gorge" and looked at Eva-Carmichael's Cave (3SW-3). In a detailed article of this trip titled *A Quick (unplanned) Visit to Caves in "Loch Ard Gorge", Great Ocean Road, Victoria (.....and some Lower South East Features...)* page 10-11 CEGSA NEWS 43/No 1, Issue 169 February 1998, Peter encourages members who have not visited this area to have a look at this particular interesting cave as it has quite a large opening with unusual curtain-like flowstone material appearing like columns fused to the wall.

They also visited 3SW-2 Tom Pearce's cave, which is also worth visiting as it is not just a wash-in erosion feature. Peter states on page 11 of the above mentioned article, "that the whole area actually looks like a miniature Nullarbor in many ways and with features such as the spectacular Blowhole and Thunder Cave still attracting tourists; I wonder what else is waiting to be explored"?

Australia Day Celebrations, January 26th 1998 saw George, June and Aaron MacLucas at Abercrombie Cave, NSW. As part of the celebrations sponsored by Jenolan Caves Reserve Trust, June's cave artwork was displayed along with the launching of CEGSA Life Member Prof. Elery Hamilton-Smith's catalogue on 19th Century Cave Art. The keynote address for Australia Day was delivered by Elery. He then officially launched his catalogue of research on cave images titled *"Perceptions of Australian Caves in the 19th Century: The Visual Records"* and *"Nineteenth Century Paintings: Drawings and Engravings of Australian Caves"* Published in Helictite Journal of Australian Speleological Research, 1997. In conjunction with the launching of Elery's book, June's cave art work consisting of 15 pastels were displayed on easels built by Abercrombie Cave Manager, Andy Lawrence. One of the highlights of this event was that June, George and Aaron were asked to sleep in the cave in order to guard the artwork on display. In the morning the cave guides asked them if they had heard the ghosts that are said to haunt the cave. Of course they answered "Yes". A few days later Elery also launched his catalogue and opened an exhibition of June's cave artwork at St Francis Pastoral Centre, Lonsdale Street, Melbourne.

Over the Easter period 2 groups visited Drik Drik-4 (3DD4) just off the Mt. Gambier / Portland Road near Nelson, Victoria. One group included members Marie Choi, Frank Hankinson, Dave Trehearne, Simon Kendrick, Tracy Colhoun, Reto Zollinger and Yvonne Ingeme. The other group included Steve Milner and Mark Sefton and Caving Club Victoria members Rob Atkins, Dean Achterdenbosch, Kath Rowsel and Ian Farhall. Both groups reported that it was a great trip with vast quantities of mud requiring a scaling-pole to manoeuvre a waterfall. Those with Marie Choi and Simon Kendrick managed to survey over 1.2 km of the main streamway (very active) while others in their party surveyed some side passages. Simon reported that this cave requires more exploration, especially the huge doline area.

Also, after a trip to the Flinders with Eddie Rubessa, Ray & Terry Gibbons, Bill Binks, Julius Gheude and Kerry Ninnies over Easter George, June and Aaron MacLucas continued north and joined Dave and Ruth Lowe of Alice Springs on a trip looking at the caves in the area. They looked at Bat Cave and a blowhole just off the Ross Highway. They also looked at Aboriginal paintings at Emily Gorge and rock engravings or petroglyphs at N'Dhala Gorge. During the drive back to the Alice they checked out various small caves seen from the Ross Highway. Dave had other possibilities to investigate but due to the sudden heavy rain this was not possible and will have to be taken up some other time in the near future.

During July, Mark Sefton joined John Dunkley of Canberra and other cavers with a trip to Bullita Cave System, Gregory National Park, NT. Mark reports that the survey is now just under 65 km with plenty more to be found.

June MacLucas.

-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-O-

OVERSEAS

This is a pretty short report, but longer than last year! Except for my caving trip to the UK in late 1997 (missed from last year's Annual Report), not much is happening in terms of 'International Presence'. Nonetheless, there are CEGSA cavers out there doing their stuff. Pam Alvaro and Tim Payne are in the US of A and have been doing some caving with the local grotto (Yank term for a caving club). Damien Grindley and Amanda Grindley (nee Wagner) are in the States as well but we're not sure of how much caving they are actually doing!!

Steve Milner.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**Cave Exploration Group (SA) Inc.**

Period ending 31st December 1998 (Cash Basis)

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
Full Membership (CEGSA)	1093.50	1539.00
Full Membership (Country)	290.00	180.00
Associate Membership	238.90	525.00
Family Membership	332.00	35.00
ASF Levy & Insurance Levy	1425.25	1086.00
Key Hire	295.00	115.00
Equipment Hire	95.00	75.00
Donations:		
Scout Outdoors		50.00
Marie Choi (Teddy Raffle)		250.00
Members	19.90	10.00
Steve Milner	200.00	
Advertising in CEGSA NEWS	450.00	500.00
Sale of Publications, Occasional Papers		
Stickers, Badges & Maps	102.00	103.60
Bank Interest	117.96	78.74
General Meeting Room/Suppers	176.10	255.45
Membership Cards – Printed	27.50	
Sundries		
AGM 1998 - Hackney Hotel	101.45	
Sale of File Cabinet	40.00	
CEGSA Members Auction Sale	345.00	
Other	3.00	

<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>5352.56</u>	<u>4802.79</u>
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<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
CEGSA News/Printing/Stationery/Postage	1873.30	1653.95
ASF Levy & Insurance	1348.50	926.50
Aust Post Box Rental	78.00	78.00
Telephone Directory Listing/calls		57.00
Library Book Purchase & Expenses	154.85	253.07
Records Expenses	159.52	146.16
Treasurer Expenses	31.20	90.30
Secretary Expenses	22.30	60.00
Stationery		10.65
Subs/M/Ships:		
SA Speleo Council	50.00	50.00
Friends Flinders Ranges	10.00	
Aust Cave & Karst	40.00	40.00
Cave Radio & Electronics	58.07	
Spectrum Management	25.00	25.00
Helictite	20.00	20.00
Underground Photography, Eng	60.60	52.10
General Meeting – Suppers	216.22	200.00
ASF Representative Costs	150.00	
Equipment Purchases	35.40	
Gate Repairs		180.00
Bank Charges Gov Tax & FID	23.57	32.28
Sundries		115.15
Printing - Membership Cards	98.25	
Corra Lynn BBQ Day	40.00	

Library Purchase - Mineralogy Book	123.19	
AGM 1999 - Hackney Hotel	100.00	
Filing Cabinets Purchase 3 Off	150.00	
Mt Gambier Records	10.00	
Other various small items	41.00	
<u>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</u>	<u>4918.97</u>	<u>3990.16</u>
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	433.59	812.63
<u>Extraordinary Items</u>		
Less - Purchase - Caving Equipment		2964.08
Add - Donation - Termination of SAUSS	530.99	
Annual Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>\$964.58</u>	<u>(\$2151.45)</u>

BALANCE SHEET

Cave Exploration Group (SA) Inc.
as at 31st December 1998 - Cash Basis

ASSETS

CURRENT	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
<u>Cash at Bank</u>		
General Account - Opening Balance	9711.12	3825.68
Transfer from Long Term Investment		8036.89
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	964.58	(\$2151.45)
Petty Cash in Hand		
Treasurer	20.00	20.00
Secretary		7.72
Meeting Room/Suppers		27.85
AGM – Float	100.00	100.00
	<u>10795.70</u>	<u>9866.69</u>

LIABILITIES

CURRENT		
Accumulated Membership Fund	10795.70	9866.69
	<u>10795.70</u>	<u>9866.69</u>



A. G. Jevons. MNIA
Honorary Auditor

14 February 1999

SALEABLE ITEMS, STOCK ON HANDas at 31st December 1998 (at committee valuation)**BADGES**

Enamel	42 @ \$5 each	\$210	
Cloth	35 @ \$4 each	<u>\$140</u>	
		\$350.00	\$350.00

STICKERS

Sheets	118 @ \$3.50 each	\$413.00	
Single Large	21 @ \$1.50 each	\$ 31.50	
Single Medium	6 @ \$0.50 each	\$ 3.00	
Single Small	6 @ \$0.25 each	<u>\$ 1.50</u>	
		\$449.00	\$449.00

LIBRARY

Occasional Paper No. 4	25 @ \$6 each	\$150.00	
Occasional Paper No. 5	25 @ \$6 each	\$150.00	
Occasional Paper No. 6	38 @ \$8 each	\$304.00	
Speleovision (14 th ASF Conference Proceedings)	14 @ \$12 each	<u>\$168.00</u>	
		\$772.00	<u>\$772.00</u>
TOTAL			<u>\$1571.00</u>

COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE

The Committee has the power to spend not more than \$75 on any one item and no more than \$200 in any one month, without the prior approval of the General Meeting (refer clause 9 (d) of the Constitution).

1999 CEGSA MEMBERSHIP FEES

FULL MEMBERSHIP	\$36
COUNTRY MEMBERSHIP	\$31
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP	\$29
LONG TERM ASSOCIATE	\$36

VARIATIONS FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

- 1) 1ST FULL MEMBER \$36 + 2nd FULL MEMBER \$36
LESS \$20 FOR ONLY ONE NEWSLETTER = \$52
- 2) 1ST FULL MEMBER \$36 + 2nd ASSOC MEMBER \$29
LESS \$20 FOR ONLY ONE NEWSLETTER = \$45

CEGSA MEMBERSHIP DOES NOT INCLUDE ASF FEES. YOU MUST PAY THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT LISTED BELOW AS WELL AS CEGSA MEMBERSHIP FEES.

AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL FEDERATION (ASF) FEES FOR 1999 (INCLUDES INSURANCE)

FULL/ASSOCIATE/LIFE MEMBERSHIP	\$24.50
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	\$42.00
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP	\$17.50
FIRST YEAR MEMBERS (with "Australian Caver")	\$24.50
FIRST YEAR MEMBERS (without "Australian Caver")	\$5.00

PERIODIC EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

For year ending 31st December 1998.

ANNUAL ITEMS

Telstra White Pages Entry	\$57.00
SA Speleological Council Membership	\$50.00
Helictite Subscriptions	\$20.00
Australian Post Box Rental	\$78.00
Spectrum Management Agency Radio Licence	\$25.00
Underground Photographic England	\$60.60
Friends of the Flinders Ranges National Park	\$10.00
Cave Radio and Electronics, England	\$58.07
Australian Cave & Karst Management Membership	<u>\$40.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$398.67</u>

TREASURERS' STATEMENT

The above Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet and other statements are a record of the activities of CEGSA for the year ending 31st December 1998.

This year we have seen a drop in membership, especially in Associate Members. Fortunately by the end of the year we were able to welcome several new Associates, therefore increasing our numbers by a few.

Even a small drop in membership means that CEGSA has to raise the fees, or work towards raising money by some other means. Earlier this year we held a member's auction and although only 16 members attended we were able to raise \$345. We also received a donation through Steve Milner towards the funds needed to complete a project designed to have medals made for all receivers of the *Spirit of Caving* since its commencement. Unfortunately, due to lack of funds this was not realised this year but hopefully this project will go ahead in the near future.

CEGSA gratefully inherited \$530.99 from South Australian Underwater Speleological Society Inc. (SAUSS) when the society formally disbanded on 30th April 1998. Peter Home, Projects Coordinator of SAUSS and Life Member of CEGSA deposited their accumulated funds in CEGSA account.

Without this extra income CEGSA would have barely broken even. Naturally we cannot expect this extra contribution each year, therefore it was put to the general meeting 27th January 1999 and approved by members to increase all memberships by \$1 each as set out under CEGSA MEMBERSHIP FEES. **FEES ARE NOW DUE. It would be appreciated if all members could pay their fees as soon as possible.**

June MacLucas.

MEMBERSHIP

and

MAILING LISTS



MEMBERSHIP LIST

CL	ASLIN Fred	6401 08-8725-1233 29 Elizabeth Street MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290
F	BAKKER Joyce	5801 4 St Annes Flats, Chopin Road SOMERTON SA 5044
A	BARTHOLOMEUS Dave	9801 8358-2324 1/274 Sturt Street MARION SA 5043
CF	BINKS Bill	9412 08-8762-1026 (W) 08-8764-7419 (M) 0417-852-628 PO Box 618, 14 Pine Street, NARACORTE SA 5271 binks.bill@pi.sa.gov.au
A	BOURNE Steve	9701 08-8769-6086 RSD 1066 NARACORTE SA 5271
Fam A	CARUANA Michael (with Nicky Trenorden)	9716 8277-7627 (W) 8231-2850 West End Baptist Mission 212 Wright Street ADELAIDE SA 5000
F	CHOI Marie	9408 8322-0895 (W) 8326-1777 (Mob) 019-696-299 75 Capella Drive, HALLETT COVE SA 5158 battymariec@picknowl.com.au
A	COLHOUN Tracy	9309 8387-1816 4 Nardoo Street, HALLETT COVE SA 5158
F	CROSER Greg	9507 8384-8400 (W) 8377-1594 7 Alphine Road, SEACOMBE HEIGHTS SA 5047
F	DOBSON-KEEFFE Nigel	8821 8336-5895 (W) 8282-8501 10 Pope Street, NEWTON SA 5074 ndk@camtech.net.au
L	GARTRELL Grant	6301 08-8556-9100 PO Box 27, MT COMPASS SA 5210 bluebree@dove.net.au
A	GEORGE Trudy	9804 8382-3276 4 Duval Drive, MORPHETT VALE SA 5162
F	GHEUDE Jules	9504 8342-9025 (W) 8393-4298 2/5 Kintore Avenue, PROSPECT SA 5082 jgheude@baea.com.au
F	GIBBONS Ray	9403 8258-9847 (W) 8258-9847 9 Cuthbert Avenue, SALISBURY EAST SA 5109
CF	GRIMES Ken	9106 03-5573-4503 (W) 03-5573-4503 PO Box 362, HAMILTON VIC 3300 ken-grimes@h140.aone.net.au
CF	GRIMES Janeen	9107 03-5573-4503 PO Box 362, HAMILTON VIC 3300
Fam A	GRINDLEY Amanda	9714 C/- 9 Hagen Crt, HACKHAM WEST SA 5163
Fam F	GRINDLEY Damian	9610 C/- 9 Hagen Crt, HACKHAM WEST SA 5163
F	HALES Chris	8403 08-8524-4796 PO Box 440, 4 Barossa Court LYNDOK SA 5351
CF	HALL Max	9308 08-9039-3453 (W) 08-9039-3453 Eyre Highway C/- Balladonia Road House Via NORSEMAN WA max.balladonia@bigpond.com
CL	HAMILTON-SMITH Elery	5506 (W) 03-9489-7785 PO Box 36, CARLTON SOUTH VIC 3053 elery@melb.alexia.net.au
F	HANKINSON Frank	9404 8322-4300 (W) 8277-1711 7 St Helens Court, WOODCROFT SA 5162 speleospace@telstra.easymail.com.au
F	HOEY Lance	8711 8265-1907 16 Tarana Road, HOPE VALLEY SA 5090

L	HORNE Peter	8102	8295-6031 3/9 Muriel Avenue, SOMERTON PARK SA 5044 ppuddles@adelaide.dialix.com.au
F	HOSIE Paul	9806	08-9593-4166 18 Cypress Mews WARNBROWA WA 6169 paul.hosie.136034@navy.gov.au
F	HUBYCZ Anne-Marie	9419	8384-4508 55 Nicolle Drive, MORPHETT VALE SA 5162
L	JACKSON Athol	5701	8337-8759 6 Hudson Avenue, ROSTREVOR SA 5073 atholjax@cobweb.com.au
F	JANSEN Bart	8806	8383-7111 PO Box 174, KANGARILLA SA 5157 bart@mmal.com.au
F	JEVONS Alan	8602	8241-7756 2/39 Francis Ridley Circuit, BROMPTON SA 5007 alan@box.net.au
F	KENDRICK Simon	8611	8331-3750 (W) 8223-5544 (F) 8223-5347 1 Hall Street, NORWOOD SA 5067
Fam F	KRAEHENBUEHL Peter	8407	8278-4531 "Western Lodge" Belair National Park, C/- PO BELAIR SA 5052 krunchy@bigpond.com
Fam F	KRAEHENBUEHL Janine	9301	8278-4531 (W) 8278-5477 "Western Lodge" Belair National Park, C/- PO BELAIR SA 5052
CF	LAWRENCE Ruth	9208	(W) 03-5444-7907 (F) 03-5444-7800 Dept of O/Doors Education & Nature Tourism, La Trobe University PO Box 199 BENDIGO VIC 3552 r.lawrence@bendigo.latrobe.edu.au
CL	LEWIS Ian	6701	03-9395-1008 (W) 03-9243-3217 PO Box 2134, WERRIBEE VIC 3030
CF	LOWE Dave	9413	08-8952-1446 57 / 111 Bloomfield Street, ALICE SPRINGS NT 870 catdgl@ozemail.com.au
Fam F	MACLUCAS George	8004	8261-4180 (W) 8303-0209 (M) 0417-808-196 11 Gulfview Parade, VALLEY VIEW SA 5093 (F) 8303-0211 maclucas.george@saugov.sa.gov.au
Fam F	MACLUCAS June	9209	8261-4180 11 Gulfview Parade, VALLEY VIEW SA 5093
Fam Fam CF	MACLUCAS Aaron MATTHEWS Jude	9902	03-5126-1854 (W) 03-5127-3192 6A Vale Street, MOE VIC 3825
Fam CF	MATTHEWS Spot	9901	03-5126-1854 6A Vale Street, MOE VIC 3825
A	McDOWELL Matthew	9802	8322-4352 (W) 8201-2630 17 Kanowna Street HALLETT COVE SA 5158 matthew.mcdowell@flinders.edu.au
CL	METH Max	7101	08-8625-2700 PO Box 622, 1 Morris Ave., CEDUNA SA 5690 maxmeth@arcom.com.au
A	MICHAELS Diana	9808	8242-3627 1/23 South Terrace, SEMAPHORE SA 5019
F	MILNER Steve	9004	8278-3784 (W) 8303-8904 (F) 8232-3381 43 Pekina Street, EDEN HILLS SA 5050 stevemilner@adelaide.on.net
CL	MOLLET Noel	5514	08-8575-8030 Woods Well Road Culbarra, PO Box 107 CULBARRA SA 5261

L	MOTT Kevin	7401 08-8723-1461 (W) 08-8735-1131 18 Reginald Street, MT GAMBIER SA 5290 kmott@denr.sa.gov.au
F	NATHAN Graham	9205 8278-5860 (W) 8303-5822 21 Wolsely Road BLACKWOOD SA 5051
F	NINNES Gordon	7102 8374-3552 8 Sampson Road, MITCHELL PARK SA 5043 nimble@senet.com.au
F	NINNES Kerry	7601 8177-0028 (W) 8267-3255 (F) 8735-1135 26 Oak Avenue, CLOVELLY PARK SA 5042
F	PACKER Jaz	9213 11 Cumberland Avenue ALDGATE SA 5154 jasmpack@tafe.sa.edu.au
F	PAPILLO Michelle	9509 8337-7080 (W) 8406-8251 9 Greenside Avenue, ATHELSTONE SA 5076
F	PAYNE Pam	9503 Lock Bag 40 C/- DFAT WASHINGTON DC, CANBERRA ACT 2600
L	PILKINGTON Graham	7201 8395-6713 (W) 8396-3044 41 Lindsay Avenue, VALLEY VIEW SA 5093
Fam	PILKINGTON Roger	
Fam	PILKINGTON Siona	
F	PLEDGE Neville	6302 8272-5483 (W) 8207-7454 C/- SA Museum, North Terrace, ADELAIDE SA 5000 npledge@senet.com.au
LTA	PRITCHARD Matt	9508 8251-6123 (W) 8209-2427 Lot 13 Bassnet Road, ONE TREE HILL SA 5114 matt.pritchard@faulding.com.au
F	RAINTREE Fern	8708 8388-6441 (W) 8212-6030 PO Box 770, NAIRNE SA 5252
A	REED Liz	9807 8381-3768 (W) 8201-2630 64 Regency Road, HAPPY VALLEY SA 5159 lizreed@flinders.edu.au
F	RICHARDS Ian	9506 8322-2894 (W) 8237-6151 8 Knights Bridge Court, HAPPY VALLEY SA 5159 petrachallenge@bigpond.com
F	RUBESSA Eddie	8810 8336-4775 (W) 8234-0599 9 Shepherds Lane, CAMPBELLTOWN SA 5074
L	SANDERS Fred	5501 8276-3839 9 Wattlebury Crescent, LOWER MITCHAM SA 5062
F	SEFTON Mark	8709 8277-9086 (W) 8303-6600 22 Hogarth Street, PANORAMA SA 5041 msefton@waite.adelaide.edu.au
Fam	SEFTON Karin	8710 8277-9086 22 Hogarth Street, PANORAMA SA 5041
A	SEFTON Alistair	
Fam	SEFTON Murray	
Fam	SEXTON Bob	5518 22 Tyne Street, GILBERTON SA 5081
F	SIMMS Ron	5802 8356-5366 29 Kentdale Street, GRANGE SA 5022 jrsimms@camtech.net.au
A	SIWES Naomi	9805 8390-3904 (W) 019-675-699 PO Box 313, SUMMERTOWN SA 5141
F	SMITH Ken	9210 8271-7064 (W) 8297-6144 6 Joslin Street, WAYVILLE SA 5034

A	SPRINGER Garret	9903 08-8725-0773 (W) 08-8721-8390 30 Lorikeet Street, MT GAMBIER SA 5090
F	SZABO Tom	9603 8395-6283 33 Pamela Drive, PARA HILLS SA 5096
CF	TREHEARNE David	8604 08-8762-1026 (W) 08-8762-8033 C/- 10 Lajolla Avenue FULHAM SA 5024 david.trehearne@roads.sa.gov.au
Fam F	TRENORDEN Nicky (with Michael Caruana)	9203 (W) 8264-4166 "West End Baptist Mission" 212 Wright Street, ADELAIDE SA 5000
CF	WILKINSON Bridget	8205 08-8733-3862 George Street, SOUTH END SA 5280 lincsimp@dove.net.au
F	WOODCOCK Gary	8109 8380-5154 (W) 8226-3950 Section 5530, Lower Hermitage Road, HOUGHTON SA 5131 jacgiw@camtech.net.au
F	WOODWARD Michael	8106 8337-5200 27 Harrow Avenue, MAGILL SA 5072
F	WOODWARD Graham	8105 8365-3076 15 Vagnoni Avenue, PARADISE SA 5075
F	WRIGHT David	6501 (W) 8296-8444 "West End Baptist Mission", PO Box 614, ADELAIDE SA 5001
CF	ZOLLINGER Reto	9803 03-5571-2544 4/6 Foster Street, HAMILTON VIC 3300

MEMBERSHIP CODE

- **A** Associate
- **CF** Country Full
- **CL** Country Honorary Life
- **F** Full
- **Fam** Family
- **HA** Honorary Associate
- **L** Honorary Life
- **LTA** Long Term Associate

PUBLICATION EXCHANGE

ADELAIDE BUSHWALKERS

PO BOX 178, UNLEY SA 5061

AXBRIDGE CAVING GROUP John Dobson, Sec

Shortcombe Farm, West Hartree, AVON BS18 6ES ENGLAND

BLUE MOUNTAINS SPELEOLOGICAL CLUB

PO Box 37, GLENBROOK NSW 2773

BRITISH CAVE RESEARCH ASSOCIATE c/- Roy Paulson, BCRA Librarian

Holt House, Holt Land, LEA Near Matlock, DERBYSHIRE DE4 5GQ ENGLAND

Downhead Cottage, Downhead, SHEPTON MALLET SOMERSET BA4 4LG

BROKEN HILL BARRIER RANGERS

PO Box 515, BROKEN HILL NSW 2880

CANBERRA SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 156, CURTIN ACT 2605

CAVE DIVERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

PO Box 290, NORTH ADELAIDE SA 5008

CAVE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

3842 Brookvale Boulevard Castro Valley, California, USA 94564

CAVEX INC

8298-8540

C/- 15 Sandery Avenue SEACOMBE GARDENS SA 5047

- CAVING CLUB OF VICTORIA** (W) 03-9701-0042
PO Box 254, MULGRAVE VIC 3170 (F) 03-9888-3696
minky@enternet.com.au
- CENTRAL QUEENSLAND SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**
PO Box 538 ROCKHAMPTON Q'LD 4700
- CENTRAL WEST CAVING GROUP**
C/- Peter Dykes, 51 McLachlan Street, ORANGE NSW 2800
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- FIELD NATURALISTS SOCIETY OF SA**
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