

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

PO Box 144 Rundle Mall, Adelaide, 5000
<http://www.cegsa.org.au>



ANNUAL REPORT

2007

Fifty Second Annual Report

Presented to the Annual General Meeting
held on Saturday 9th February 2007
at 41 Lindsay Ave, Valley View, SA.

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PRESENTS THE 2007 ANNUAL REPORT



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REPORTS



2007 COMMITTEE

President / Safety / Land Manager Liaison	Stan Flavel
Secretary	Peter Horne
Museum Representative	Not Nominated
Treasurer / Membership	Chris Gibbons
New Member / Visitor Liaison	Damian Grindley
Public Officer / Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
Training / Fundraising / ASF Conference Co-ord	Marie Choi
	Mark Sefton

2007 OFFICE BEARERS

Publications / Logbook / Website	Athol Jackson
Quartermaster / Search and Rescue / Key and GPS Holder	Paul Harper
Landowner Liaison (records)	Garry Woodcock
All Trip Leaders	see list on p12

2007 AREA COORDINATORS

Nullarbor Plain, Yorke Peninsula, Murray Mallee, Torrens	Graham Pilkington
Eyre Peninsula	Stan Flavel
Upper & Lower S E, Glenelg River	Kevin Mott
Adelaide & Kangaroo Island	Grant Gartrell
Flinders	Eddie Rubessa

2007 REPRESENTATIVES

Australian Speleological Federation	Stan Flavel Graham Pilkington
S.A. Speleological Council	Stan Flavel
Caving Leadership Standards Working Group	Peter Kraehenbuehl Marie Choi

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Past and Present members of the Cave Exploration Group South Australia continue to proudly share the corporate identity and vision of a group of people passionate about exploring caves.

This year I have again had the privilege to meet and share stories from past and present members of CEGSA who still have that common passion for exploration into the underground spaces. As we age we may lose the ability and agility to push that tightest squeeze or chase the faint breeze but I believe once infected with "cave fever" it is a lifetime affliction.

For some of us the time available for cave exploration is at a tight premium and the steady rise in cost of transportation seems to keep us closer to home. For others it may seem the world is shrinking as cave exploration in far-flung places becomes reality.

CEGSA has continued to set targets and identify projects, and works to provide a rich environment for people to acquire skills in many of the areas of caving and speleology.

The beginning of the year was dominated by the hosting in Mt Gambier of the 26th ASF conference. This event has been lauded as arguably the largest and most successful ever ASF Conference. It was not a case of good luck but rather the culmination of extremely good planning and execution by the very capable Marie Choi and her band of Merry Cavers. Helmets off to the whole extraordinary Team for a magnificent event.

The year progressed with regular Committee and General Meetings.

Issues that took our attention and demanded our time, often revolved around the ongoing conservation and access considerations of caves. CEGSA is very strong in recording the physical, chemical and biological parameters of caves and thus understandably cave managers and stakeholders may request and interact with us on the dissemination and control of cave data. As the guardians of a considerable resource it is imperative that responsible control of data is maintained.

CEGSA is about people who want to explore caves. We have again had the opportunity to expose significant numbers of students from a variety of Secondary Schools to the joys of caving in Introductory Trips to a number of caves. It is not surprising that at later times the more inquisitive of these students find their way back to us and develop their cave exploration passions further and join as associate members.

CEGSA again continues to look at caves in a systematic way. Caves are more than just "hollow places opening under the ground." They are natural resources that need to be explored and documented. As this occurs it is incumbent on cavers, landowners, resource managers and stakeholders to take on board the shared responsibility to conserve these caves. This requires ongoing communication and dialogue.

Highlights of this year's activity include:

- Significant numbers of new and rediscovered Karst features recorded and documented from the Nullarbor Region. (Heading towards 10,000 distinct features)
- Documentation and presentation of the first 50 years of CEGSA continues under Ian Lewis' watchful eyes.
- Further functionality of KIDSA database and CEGSA records is continually being upgraded with Graham's visionary guidance and a small team of workers.
- Land managers of caves and potential caves see CEGSA as an important knowledge base and we are invited to submit into management plans. One of significance was to the management review of Tantanoola Cave Reserve.
- New caves discovered and explored in all regions (except Eyre Peninsula and Torrens).
- Old "misplaced" caves have been re-discovered and the exploration continues after interludes of up to 40 years.
- 26th ASF conference that highlighted and showcased the Federation's 50 years of existence and provided insight for the future.
- A more concerted effort to promote family friendly caving and caving trips.

What is our vision for the Future?

Does it need to be different from past or existing visions?

I still firmly believe that we must continue to do what we do well in this changing world of upwardly mobile people that mostly demand quick satisfaction and reward for their investment of personal time.

We as a group should:

- Continue to provide an important means of outdoor activity to individuals and groups through introductory caving trips.
- Provide an ongoing commitment to established members in developing their caving skills in line with recognised best practice
- Interact with other cavers and caving groups to share ideas and planning multi-club trips to foster a stronger sense of cooperation in cave exploration
- Develop skills in protecting cavers and caves from each other
- Develop and bring our competence to search for and rescue missing and injured cave visitors. Share and extend our skills by interaction and networking with other groups providing training and resources in surface and underground Search and Rescue.
- Promote CEGSA to the wider community as a valuable group encompassing the scientific and recreational components of caves and caving activities
- Continue to work with other related outdoor interest groups at a local and international level to promote Speleology.
- Provide expertise and logistical support to researchers that see caves as repositories of geological, climatic and palaeontology markers giving insight into the ongoing development of our current ecosystems and environments.
- As individuals, enjoy the fun and spontaneity that cavers can have. This can be readily promoted in a stable environment such as that promoted by CEGSA, thereby enabling individuals and families to participate in caving.

Cave on softly, don't cave in.

Stan Flavel.

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2007 AWARDS

Leather Medal

Wheelbarrow Class

Presented to :-

Marie Choi

To allow travel through caves in style, without having to use spectacular leg manoeuvres

Spirit of caving Award

Presented to :-

Neville Skinner

For enthusiasm in caving

Golden Compass

Presented to :-

Grant Gartrell

For showing us that where there's a (persistent) will, there's a way

Stan Flavel.

SECRETARY REPORT

Hi fellow stalactite-dodgers! There's certainly some truth in the expression "you can't teach an old dog new tricks"; as happened in 2001, I once again found myself in the "wrong place at the wrong time" (ie CEGSA's last AGM) and (once again, silly me!) volunteered to act as Secretary this year when nobody else raised their hand to do so!

Luckily for me however, it turned out to be a fairly quiet year Secretary-wise; just a few little bits of correspondence (and unfortunately for the Group, fewer minutes of meetings than usual). After a good start in February with a Committee and General Meeting, we encountered a few slow months, meetings-wise ... the 14 March Committee Meeting was deferred to 28 March due to sickness within the Committee ranks, then the 28 March General Meeting had only a sprinkling of dedicated members turning up (not even enough to hold an informal get-together worth recording), followed on 25 April by a successful Committee Meeting but another fizzer of a General Meeting (again because only a handful of folks turned up), and then ANOTHER "non-Committee Meeting" on 9 May.

When the 28 May General Meeting AGAIN turned out to not have a quorum, it was agreed that minutes of such meetings would still be recorded for ratification at a later date (ie when a GM did have a quorum!) so that a range of topics could be noted for interested parties. Trip reports covered a range of areas such as Avenue Range, Corra-Lynn Cave, the Nullarbor and the Flinders Ranges and Mount Gambier etc (including some cave diving projects in the last two locales involving myself and other CEGSA cave divers), and a widely-reported "cave accident" near Swan Reach turned out to be just a little cliff fall when the SA Police were contacted for information ... there was NO cave aspect involved at all! Committee members Graham Pilkington and Mark Sefton also coordinated a few CEGSA trips to Punyelroo, Corra-Lynn and Naracoorte so that people could participate in official club trips if they were interested; I wish that I was also able to participate in such things these days but ah well, maybe later!...

I personally feel that the highlight of the year (indeed, for the past FEW years) as far as CEGSA is concerned was the ASF's fantastically-successful 26th Biennial Conference ("Caves, Craters & Critters") which was hosted by CEGSA and was held at the Mount Gambier Racecourse in January. This very memorable and well-executed major event was largely orchestrated by our very own and ever-active batwoman, Marie Choi, who (with the assistance of a number of other CEGSA stalwarts) turned this Conference into "the best ASF conference EVER" in the eyes of a number of long-term ASF and CEGSA members! The other key CEGSA players included Damien Grindley (advertising, promotions and activities etc), Kevin Mott (conference planning/locales and field trips etc), Athol Jackson (all audio/video facilities and displays etc), Chris Gibbons (all finance/treasury and food issues), Adam Branford and his friend Monica Burt (local running around, BBQ facilities, tours and hosting etc), Graham Pilkington, June and George MacLucas (cave artwork and general help), Stan Flavel, Bridgid Larkin and Jeanette Aslin (meals, logos and general assistance etc). Marie also mentioned that various cavers from other clubs helped a lot too, which was great to hear.

Due to illness I was unfortunately only able to attend the conference for just one day to give my little cave diving history presentation, but even so I was delighted to have been able to meet up with a lot of caving and cave diving mates and to share a joke and a drink with such great folk as Elery Hamilton-Smith, Paul Hosie, Dr Harry Harris, Ken Smith, John Dunkley and Ian Lewis once again! **Congratulations**, Marie and co., for a job VERY well done!!

Towards the end of the year the Committee was brought across various matters including a review of the ASF and some Western Australian / Nullarbor karst management issues which are still ongoing. Graham has personally addressed a number of the key issues already and I hope that the new Committee will also continue to provide helpful input to the WA Government regarding these matters.

It's great to see CEGSA moving along so smoothly (albeit a little bit too quietly), and I wish the Group (especially the incoming Committee) a lot of happy and safe caving in 2008!

Peter Horne.

MUSEUM REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Nil Report

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LIBRARY AND RECORDS REPORT

Highlights of 2007 were:

Periodicals

The binding project bound 25 covers including some for 4 new titles. We have now used 265 hard covers encompassing 26 (out of 187) periodical titles. I'm still chasing up back issues to complete our coverage. It's surprising which major Australian clubs are reticent or don't have a complete set of their own publications.

All annual reports are now in electronic form; 18 as images and 33 as text. The first 144 issues of our Newsletters are still to be scanned (1956-1991); the last 64 are available as text (1991-2007). 6 of our 10 occasional papers are also in digital text format with one more nearly complete and the 7th OP (The Nullarbor Caving Atlas) superseded by KIDSA.

The Karst database (KIDSA)

The **biological** section has been completely re-written. Flora, fauna, and palaeological entries have been amalgamated. It is now based on the biological entity (such as the bat *Miniopterus schreibersii*) which is catalogued by each occurrence noted at a karst feature. Reference descriptions, photos, and distribution maps are allowed for as well as photos of each specific occurrence. Common and generic names are handled. Where each species fits into the biological tree can be displayed. The extent entry (extinct/feral/local etc) has been expanded to allow for a different entry for each Region because an animal common in one Region may be rare in another!

KIDSA has been expanded to handle all karst data from anywhere in the world to allow us to file data collected by both our roving members and found in print. All CEGSA Regions have been added into KIDSA but only as allocated feature codes and locations. Upper and Lower South East data entry has started; and 182 WA Kimberly features have been added (stored for WASG).

KIDSA holds 10922 possibly unique features of which 9430 are from the Nullarbor Region. The **entrance photograph** section contains 5751 photos on 2574 features from 8 Regions.

To cater for Ian Lewis's Naracoorte project, **elevation** data has been split off from location so that a complete description of elevation information can be handled. This includes such things as accuracy, where measured, datum, and method used.

Range searches can now be made by published map sheet or by **latitude-longitude**. Zone boundaries no longer trim zone-overlapping data sets.

An **origin** entry allows for keeping track of feature codes allocated to non-karst features such as wombat warrens or road-making scrapes but these features can be eliminated from searches or when scrolling through the data.

Graham Pilkington.

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Newspaper listings Karst database

The cave related newspaper articles project continues with the number of newspaper entries now 5728 (an increase of 1374 for the year) and magazine entries now 476 (an increase of 176 for the year). Some 50 items await entry when I get the time. The above does not reflect the volume (hence time and effort) in correcting and upgrading components of the existing items.

Aslins upgraded computing ability to XP mid year but still had problems in loading the KIDSA program.

In May we went to Adelaide for 14 days, 13 of which were spent in the State Library on research and problem solving. During the trip we discussed with Graham Pilkington many of the problems we were having with KIDSA, both the nature of incorrect data some one had put in, and the inadequacy of the program to accept the data we wanted to add. In the spring we got a corrected and more user friendly version of KIDSA back but found we were still unable to do certain things. December '07 we resolved these problems with Graham.

Thus a year after starting, only a small volume of data has been entered by our typist (who has now shifted to Melbourne) but this data has been connected to 196 caves. Thus a start has been made and the program is now considerably better as a result of Graham's changes.

Fred Aslin

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Honorary Life Members	12	14	14	14
Full Members	42	38	37	36
Long Term Associates	2	1	2	7
Associate Members	12	7	4	5
Total Individual Members	68	60	57	62
Family Members	8	8	8	16
Newsletter Subscribers	0	1	0	1
Newsletter Exchange	37	36	36	35
Newsletter Gifts	12	13	13	13
Newsletter Advertisers	2	0	0	0
3 Month Introductory Members	65	126	79	92
Total	192	236	193	219

Chris Gibbons.

Membership Officer.

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EQUIPMENT REPORT

Only a few helmets and a ladder were loaned during the year and no donations were received for the use of this equipment.

No gear was damaged or retired and there were no outlays.

Paul Harper.

KEYHOLDER REPORT

There were no keys loaned and no donations.

There were no reports of gate or lock damage and there were no outlays.

Paul Harper

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SEARCH AND RESCUE OFFICERS REPORT

There were no incidents during the year.

Paul Harper.

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PUBLICATIONS REPORT

Four issues of Vol. 52 of CEGSA NEWS were published this year in February, May, August and November as well as the Annual Report for the AGM in February. The index to Vol. 52 will appear in Vol. 53 No. 2 (hopefully). I have continued to produce the colour covers this year.

CEGSA NEWS continues to be available on the website for those members that have indicated they would prefer to receive it electronically. There has been a slight increase in the number of members taking this option but it would be nice to see more doing so as it saves money for members as well as CEGSA and you get the CEGSA News in full colour as well. If you want a hard copy you can print your own and get better photo quality than the photocopied version.

Athol Jackson.

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WEBSITE REPORT

The website continues to provide member with the newsletter to download in full colour and also provides information to the general public as well as members. As new information on trips and other happenings become available the calendar is updated and members and others can see what is on when. The next meeting date is also updated each month.

The offer is still open for suggestions to improve the website. If you have any comments about the website please let me know and we will see if we can incorporate your ideas into it to make it a better website for everybody.

Athol Jackson.

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SAFETY REPORT

CEGSA has witnessed a number of cave incidents in this state this year, involving lost and injured visitors to caves and have represented the Public and Club members. This reminds us to be ready and alert as the needs arise. To be effective we must have sufficient and current training and support resources available allowing for the location of and timely removal of an impaired caver to a medical facility. In consideration of the distances we venture underground, whether in water or a dry environment, and the distance the cave is from primary medical care we are continually required to assess risk and have strategies in place. A simple incident can so quickly escalate into a much more serious and life threatening situation.

It will require a considerable and ongoing effort, both economically and cooperatively, to get ALL trip leaders to maintain a satisfactory level of Remote Area First Aid competency.

What we never really come to realize is the near misses and incidents that go un-reported either from neglect or embarrassment. We are fortunate in having a lot of corporate responsibility and common sense woven through our members and their attitudes. The sufficiency of this, in a real emergency, remains to be tested.

We continue to make available at general meetings videos showing a range of caving techniques. The older ones provide insight into how things were done in the old days and provide a laugh or groan when we consider them. Today's attitudes and near misses will be tomorrow's cringe factors.

A reminder to us all that there are published ASF ethics, safety and conservation policies which we must understand and adhere to. Ask for a copy if you don't have them.

The List of CEGSA trip leaders with their respective level is published and updated regularly. Official trips are recorded prior to the trip in the trip book and noted in the Newsletter at General and/or Committee meetings

Cave safely and softly

Stan Flavel.

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TRAINING REPORT

All energy was put into the conference and then into recovering the conference, so no formal training occurred in 2007. Discussions are being held about training activities for 2008

Marie Choi.

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ASF REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

In January, I was elected for a continuing term on ASF executive. I was appointed to the position of Senior Vice President in April.

I have worked with ASF executive and I continue to gain insight into the working relationship ASF maintains with all clubs in the Federation conference.

There are a number of Commission chairs that are vacant and I encourage anyone to take up the invite and be part of the bigger picture of contributing to caving and Speleology in Australia

Stan Flavel.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

The SA Speleo Council continued to be in recess this year.

No meetings have been held and there are no reported issues of significance to deal with.

Stan Flavel.

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LAND MANAGER LIAISON

I have been slowly and steadily updating the database of land managers and grouping the caves on a site by site basis around the state. This changes continuously. It is important to promote CEGSA as being able to assist managers in conservation, preservation and necessary exploration of cave features as well as providing recommendations for safe access by other groups wishing to visit those caves.

The most significant impact we have with landowners and site managers is our face to face talking. This is the most rewarding as well as long lasting contribution to our relationships. Trust and friendship is our biggest asset when it comes to seeking access and obtaining leads in our surface and underground explorations. To lose face due to negligence is a serious matter and our access to a number of caves has previously been denied by disgruntled managers.

Respect landowners' wishes and instructions at all times.

Stan Flavel.

26th ASF CONFERENCE PLANNING REPORT.

The ASF Conference was held in January 2007 at Mt Gambier. Approximately 156 people attended. This included several veterans, numerous family groups and many 1st Timers. The conference had a wide range of activities happening over the week including daily field trips, Video and Photographic presentations, Speleo Sports, Limestone Carving, a field day to Naracoorte and the Speleo Art Show. The Conference was a huge success and stayed well under budget which was partly due to the sponsorship we gained. The conference finished with many field trips being run around the local area. Many thanks have to go to all the CEGSA members who worked so hard on the planning committee, at the conference and after, along with family members who chipped in with assistance. Special thanks has to go to all the interstate cavers who also helped out over the week especially with setting up and packing up and to Steve Bourne and his wonderful team at Naracoorte and Tantanoola Caves. It's believed to be the best attended conference ever and the auction at the cavers Dinner raised the most money ever, Congratulations to all involved. We have a few Conference T-Shirts for sale; contact me if you wish to purchase one.

Marie Choi.

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FUNDRAISING

Fundraising was focused on the conference, in all we received around \$4000 in cash sponsorship from the Department of tourism, Limestone Coast, Mt Gambier City Council, Grant council. We received an estimated \$20000 in Goods and Services from Department of Environment, Naracoorte Caves, Scout Outdoor Centre and discounted accommodation and Wine.

Marie Choi.

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APPROVED CEGSA TRIP LEADERS

Name	Caving Leader level
Marie Choi	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
Paul Deer	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
Stan Flavel	Horizontal and Laddering
Grant Gartrell	Nil
Chris Gibbons	Nil
Amanda Grindley	Horizontal
Damian Grindley	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
Paul Harper	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
Richard Harris	Horizontal
Lance Hoey	Horizontal and Laddering
Peter Horne	Horizontal and Laddering
George MacLucas	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
June MacLucas	Horizontal
Steve Milner	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
Tim Payne	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
Graham Pilkington	Horizontal and Laddering
Eddie Rubessa	Horizontal and Laddering
Mark Sefton	Horizontal and Laddering
Tom Szabo	Horizontal
Gary Woodcock	Horizontal and Laddering
Michael Woodward	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical

All the above named are also CEGSA Trip Coordinators.

Members may query the classification of any Trip Leader at any time with the committee.

It is a requirement that each trip be organised by an approved Trip Coordinator to be classed as an official CEGSA trip.

It is also a requirement that dependent party trips be led by an approved Trip Leader at the appropriate skill level for the cave being entered.

PRIVACY OF INFORMATION STATEMENT

This privacy statement has been prepared in order to demonstrate the commitment of CEGSA Inc. to protect the personal privacy of its members.

No superfluous Data Collection

- * CEGSA aims to collect as little information as it can; only collecting the data which is necessary to maintain and improve its service to members.

Collection of Personal Information

- * Information will be collected by means of registration or application for membership forms provided to prospective members and current members.
- * Information will not be collected by the club without the member's consent.

What personally identifiable information will be collected?

- * Your name, address, telephone numbers and Email address.

The period for which the information will be held.

- * For as long as the Group requires the information.

The information collected may be used for the following purposes.

- * To send you CEGSA NEWS and other club information.
- * To register you with the Australian Speleological Federation.
- * To be published in the CEGSA Annual Report.
- * As a means of contact by other members.
- * To identify any contributions a member has made to the Group.
- * To follow up on any data collected or any item borrowed from the Group, even after leaving the Group.

Disclosure of personal information

- * If you do not wish to have your contact details published in the Annual Report or CEGSA NEWS you must request same in writing to the Group.
- * In the unlikely event of an investigation it will, however, provide information to a law enforcement agency, if they have exercised a warrant for the inspection of its records.

Security

- * CEGSA uses reasonable precautions to keep the personal information disclosed to it secure.

Accountability

- * CEGSA offers members the opportunity to view all information that it maintains about them and to have any inaccuracies in this information corrected. It may ask for identification in the interest of security.

Notification of Changes

- * If CEGSA decides to change its privacy policy, it will post the changes in CEGSA NEWS so that all its members are always aware of what information it collects, how it is used and under what circumstances it may be disclosed.

Contact us

- * If, at any time, you believe CEGSA has not adhered to its stated policy, please contact the Secretary, in person, or by mail to its Postal Address: PO Box 144, Rundle Mall, Adelaide, SA 5000.



CAVING ACTIVITIES



ADELAIDE HILLS & FLEURIEU PENINSULA

It remains a mystery that one of the closest caving areas to Adelaide still gets relatively little attention.

There have been no known trips to the Carrickalinga Cave region this year despite some expressions of desire to return after the visit of the previous year. The same applies to Reynella Quarry Cave, which still awaits further exploration and survey, while the nearby housing estate seems to draw ever closer.

Even visits to the Sellicks Hill area have been few and far between. There have been no visits to 5A5 this year and only a few to 5A25, where excavation work has continued intermittently. Some slow progress is being made in this cave, following air movement ever deeper, and the indications remain promising.

A couple of brief visits to sinks in the Delamere region have been at best a holding operation. We are still waiting on some rain periods heavy enough to generate significant stream flows into a number of these sinks, and it looks as though we could be waiting a year or two longer yet. Watching water pour into the sinks doesn't achieve much except to stimulate the brain into thinking that there must be a reasonable amount of void somewhere underground, and that perhaps if we dig a bit harder we might find it. Based upon tales of high water flows in the past, some of these voids are sizeable, so it would be encouraging indeed to see good inflows with our own eyes.

Grant Gartrell.

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EYRE PENINSULA

This area received no official trips this year. As this area has received little attention in the past decade it is timely to pursue a number of reports of new discoveries in a number of regions of the peninsula

Many of the cave locations on the peninsula have minimal information recorded from them (which is a glaring anomaly within the CEGSA Records system). This does warrant exploratory and documenting trips to investigate fully the extensive limestone areas in this arid yet picturesque area.

Stan Flavel.

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FLINDERS RANGES

Again in 2007 the activity in the Flinders Ranges was very limited. There was one trip to the Warraweena area with the rediscovery of some earlier findings in the area and the reporting that the water level in the Mount Simms Cave was very low and the installation of a collecting mop there.

There were two scientific diving trips to Woodendinna Cave (F11) during the year with some significant information collected and the monitoring of the water level continued.

Perhaps we can see some more concerted effort in the coming year following up some of the surface work done in the past few years.

Athol Jackson for

Eddie Rubessa.

KANGAROO ISLAND

After the flurry of activity last year, it was disappointing that a follow-up trip planned for October did not eventuate. Nick Heath is currently managing Kelly Hill, and we had hoped to be able to spend some time in particular with Nick and other Kelly Hill staff visiting some of the less well known and perhaps more prospective parts of the system.

Our recent visit to a couple of water table caves on Robert Smith's property has stimulated the interest of some of the CEGSA cave divers, and consequently a combined diving and dry caving trip to the area is planned for autumn 2008. Peter Horne is to our knowledge the only person ever to have dived in one of these caves previously, and that was many years ago.

Over many years cavers visited Kelly Hill and other cave regions of Kangaroo Island, and kept from freezing in camps on cold nights by huddling around their little campfires while they drew up the results of the day's surveying. Then, a few years ago such campfires became officially frowned upon, and cavers, who aren't all complete idiots, found it all a bit too hard, and stayed at home instead, or went somewhere else where they had a lower likelihood of getting hypothermia. It should be noted that in all the years of cavers' campfires, there was never the slightest suggestion of irresponsible campfire management, and at no time were any of Kangaroo Island's numerous parks put at risk by cavers' campfires. The change of policy presumably enabled NPW senior management to sleep easily at night knowing that their parks would never be at risk of burning because of a problem that never really existed. But unfortunately when Mother Nature decides to start chucking lightning bolts around, she's not going to take much notice of a few signs around the place banning fires, no matter how strategically positioned. It is not our place to sit in judgment on the merits or otherwise of constructing internal firebreaks to assist with fire management within parks, but simplistically it would seem that parks are by definition limited and bounded tracts of high natural significance which by their very nature and limited extent demand a more interventionist strategy for dealing with potentially runaway wildfires.

The last major bushfire through the Kelly Hill Conservation Park occurred when Neil Baldock was in charge, and George Lonzar was in charge of Flinders Chase. That fire was started, as most of them are, by lightning, and when it had run its course, Neil and George had the unpleasant job of combing the park and humanely destroying badly burned possums and other animals. The silver lining in this awful cloud was that it was possible to see much further than normal with the usually impenetrable bush largely turned to ash, and as a consequence many previously unknown cave entrances were located, unfortunately long before GPS units had been invented. Still, who needed GPS with Kevin Mott and others, armed with compasses and tapes striding through the burnt mallee and recording it all on the maps we now find so useful?

Once again, in the current summer, we have had the awful spectacle of major bushfires on the western end of the island, again started by lightning in circumstances in which no caver would ever dream of lighting a campfire, and eventually brought under control by the efforts of a lot of very hard working people.

As in Neil and George's day, the misfortune of the recent fires does present us with a rare opportunity, as Doug Seton, an even earlier custodian of Kelly Hill, reminded me the other day. There are many areas in Flinders Chase where small ephemeral streams vanish into sinks instead of cutting right through the limestone to the coast. In a number of instances these appear to sink into claypans, but of course, at West Bay Hollow the streambed may be followed underground for a considerable distance, and further collapse entrances are known downstream of the accessible cave. The fires may make it possible to have a good look around some of the other sink sites in Flinders Chase. Even if an initial stream sink is blocked, West Bay Hollow reminds us that there may still be possibilities for down stream collapse features worth recording.

Grant Gartrell.

LOWER SOUTH EAST

Caves numbered 14
Features recorded 17
Latest Number L519

As in the Upper South East conference delegates spent time exploring the dozen or so caves made available for the conference.

Some time has been spent upgrading location information for caves and sorting out old reports that have lain buried for centuries, well it seems that long. Comments have been provided for the draft management plan for Tantanoola Caves Conservation Park and a mining proposal near Kongorong. Two caves, L499 and L500 have had their locations resolved as CEGSA information conflicted with SA Museum information.

Three caving incidents occurred during the year. Two were involved with dives in Engelbrecht East. In one incident a diver fell in the air chamber, injuring ribs and was assisted out of the cave and in the other a diver had his arm trapped under a rock that moved. The third incident was a fall in Tantanoola Lake Cave where a caver fell in the entrance chamber and damaged a knee. The caver was able to slowly make their own way out of the cave but was assisted to the cars by a friendly neighbourhood wheel barrow. The barrow deserves a medal.

Kevin Mott.

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MURRAY PLAINS

Our main addition for the year was M-50, a cave in the middle of a paddock, known to the local farmer, but covered over and buried many years ago was dug-out and explored. It had reminded people of it's presence by draining a pond that had formed after heavy rains. Unfortunately, it was blocked by silt 4m down and 4m in.

Several Punyelroo trips kept people entertained.

Graham Pilkington.

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NULLARBOR PLAINS

New data

Paul Devine supplied nearly 4000 air-photo and satellite-photo locations and descriptions.

Peter Ackroyd and Ray Gibbons have collected more data with more "in the post" (arrived 2nd Jan 2008).

No data has yet surfaced from the Ken Boland-VSA Easter 2007 trip.

Graham Pilkington supplied information on a few features from his Easter trip.

Totals

Excluding those features not yet submitted to Records from the above trips, there are 9430 area-number codes for possibly unique surface features. Some codes include multiple features, while others are for non-karst items such as wombat warrens!

N = features	3634	up	39
NX = possible features	659	down	26
NXK = Ken Boland's points of interest	1015	down	19
NXP = Paul Devine's points of interest	3786	up	3610
NX? = other possible features	190	same	

It's going to take us many years to visit and investigate all these "X" features to determine what, if anything, they are. And Paul has only examined a small proportion of the Nullarbor. As we know from ground searches, the features detected by air are only the larger and more obvious ones, leaving twice as many again to stumble into.

Old Homestead Cave has continued to expand with another 240m explored and mapped – all within 200m (in plan) of the entrance and 150m of this had never been entered before! Total surveyed is now 30.3km.

USE

The WA Government is conducting a Nullarbor biodiversity study that focuses on the karst features. The data from KIDSA has helped in the identification of sites of biological interest.

Graham Pilkington.

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TORRENS

Yet again, no trips.

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UPPER SOUTH EAST

Caves numbered 6
Features recorded 9
Latest number U240

Conference and post conference early in 2007 saw cavers from all over Australia caving in the Naracoorte area. During this period some 26 caves had their locations upgraded with GPS. Due to the hot weather the conference trip to Avenue Range was cancelled.

Easter saw the Avenue Range area visited by a small party. Time was spent continuing the underground survey, levelling between entrances and nearby drains and excavating U239. A small hole under the root of a tree is now a real cave.

Kevin Mott.

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YORKE PENINSULA

As usual, Corra Lynn Cave got what little caving was done in the area with 6 trips, and 4 of these were school outings.

The 5Y-2 entrance was looked at several times but only to assess the current state of collapse.

Graham Pilkington.

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INTERSTATE

In addition to activities in the Nullarbor Plain, a CEGSA member attended the annual Gregory karst expedition in the Northern Territory. Several more kilometres of passage were mapped in Australia's longest cave, the Bullita Cave system, which is now around 115 km in length. A new 3 km long cave in a nearby area was also explored and mapped, and there are more caves awaiting investigation in this latter area. Other members visited caves in the Kimberly region of Western Australia and attended the ACKMA conference at Buchan, Victoria.

Mark Sefton.

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OVERSEAS

A member attended a NSS-CDS workshop in Florida in May and, along with other Australian divers, was given an 'Exploration Award' for the recent discoveries in Kija Blue.

Mark Sefton



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED
 Period ending 31st December 2007 (Cash Basis)

INCOME	2006	2006	2007	2007
CEGSA Membership (Note 1)		1787.05		2584.45
Full Member	621.55		726.90	
Full Country Member	72.50		207.50	
Associate	166.00		180.65	
Family	479.00		837.40	
3 Month Introductory	400.00		475.00	
Joining Fee	48.00		132.00	
Subscription CEGSA News			25.00	
ASF Levy & Insurance (Note 2)		4492.95		5122.10
Cave Maintenance including Key Hire		108.50		60.00
Donations – Mercedes College			100.00	350.00
Blackfriars School			200.00	
Others			50.00	
Advertising CEGSA News				
Caving Trips Travel Expenses				
Library & Records Sales		95.00		443.50
Bank Interest – General Account	24.51	705.29	14.72	822.88
Investment Accounts	680.78		808.16	
General Meeting Suppers		252.35		182.85
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME		7441.14		9565.78
Extraordinary Income				
Nullarbor Karst Study Grant				1000.00
ASF Conference Open Bank Account Returned				1000.00
TOTAL INCOME		7441.14		11565.78

EXPENDITURE	2006	2006	2007	2007
CEGSA News & Annual Report		1180.58		1286.28
Printing	772.55		823.80	
Envelopes	30.98		30.98	
Postage	377.05		431.50	
ASF Levy & Insurance (Note 2)		4557.95		5121.60
Aust Post Box Rental		107.00		115.00
Telephone Directory Listing		70.00		75.00
Library – Book & Periodicals Purchases	170.00	242.50	60.00	87.20
Expenses	72.50		27.20	
Records Expenses		24.80		112.00
Annual Subscriptions/Memberships		55.00		136.00
ACKMA	55.00		55.00	
Helictite (3 years)			81.00	
CEGSA Web Site		60.00		
Members Handbook Expenses				
General Meeting Suppers & BBQ		203.50		272.13
Treasurer Expenses		5.30		4.50
Membership Expenses				5.00
Secretary Expenses				
Cave Maintenance				
Caving Trips Travel Expenses				30.00
Sundries – Printing Certificates, Trip Leaders forms etc		81.85		
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		6588.48		7244.71
Extraordinary Expense Items:				
Records – Binding Folders from Subterranean Foundation Grant		686.10		
ASF Conference 2007 – Open Bank Account		1000.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES		8274.58		7244.71
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		852.66		2321.07
Annual Surplus/(Deficit)		(833.44)		4321.07

BALANCE SHEET
CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED
 As At 31st December 2007 (Cash Basis)

ASSETS	2006	2007
<u>CURRENT</u>		
Cash at Bank – General Account	3998.01	7419.93
Cash at Bank – Investment Accounts	16352.79	17160.95
Allocation CEGSA 50 th Year Book	1000.00	
Petty Cash on Hand – Treasurer	20.00	20.00
ASF Conference 2007 Bank Account	1000.00	
Nullarbor Karst Study Grant		1000.00
TOTAL	22370.80	25600.88
LIABILITIES		
<u>CURRENT</u>		
Accumulated Membership Fund	20409.24	21261.90
CEGSA 50 th Year Book Fund	683.99	683.99
Nullarbor Karst Study Grant		1000.00
Unpresented Cheques	424.91	333.92
Surplus/(Deficit) from years activity	852.66	2321.07
TOTAL	22370.80	25600.88

CEGSA 50th Year Book Allocation

Balance 31/12/2006	<u>683.99</u>
Balance 31/12/2007	683.99

Nullarbor Karst Study Grant

Balance 31/12/2007	1000.00
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TREASURERS' STATEMENT

The Income & Expenditure and Balance Sheet have been prepared from a reconciled Cash Book with the Bank Statements that reflect the operations of the Club for the year ended 31st December 2007.

The Income & Expenditure Statement shows a significant increase in the Operating Surplus when compared with the 2006 year, due to increased membership, library and record sales from the ASF Conference and donations. An Annual Surplus has been achieved when compared with the 2006 deficit, due to the returned money from opening the ASF Conference bank account and receiving a Nullarbor Karst Grant, to be used for Nullarbor records purposes.

****note1** The CEGSA subscriptions collected in 2007 include \$511.00 for the 2008 year.

****note 2** The ASF fees collected in 2007 include \$1112.50 for the 2008 year. The ASF Levy and Insurance has not changed from the previous year. CEGSA receives the members ASF fee approximately 9 months behind the ASF setting the current year Levy.

The financial standing of the Club has continued to remain sound for the year.

Chris Gibbons.

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INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

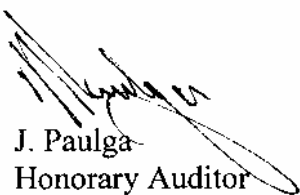
To the President and Members of the Cave Exploration Group (South Australia) Incorporated

Income and Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet for the period 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2007

I have audited the Income and Expenditure Statement and the Balance Sheet for 2007. In my opinion the Statement fairly presents the financial transactions of the Group for the period 1st January 2007 to 31st December 2007 and the Balance Sheet fairly presents the financial position of the Group at 31st December 2007.

Scope and Procedures

In order to reach these opinions, my audit has included an examination of invoices received, receipts for payments, supporting records, Bank Current Account Statements, Deposit Book, Cheque Book, Receipt Book and the financial reports for 2006.



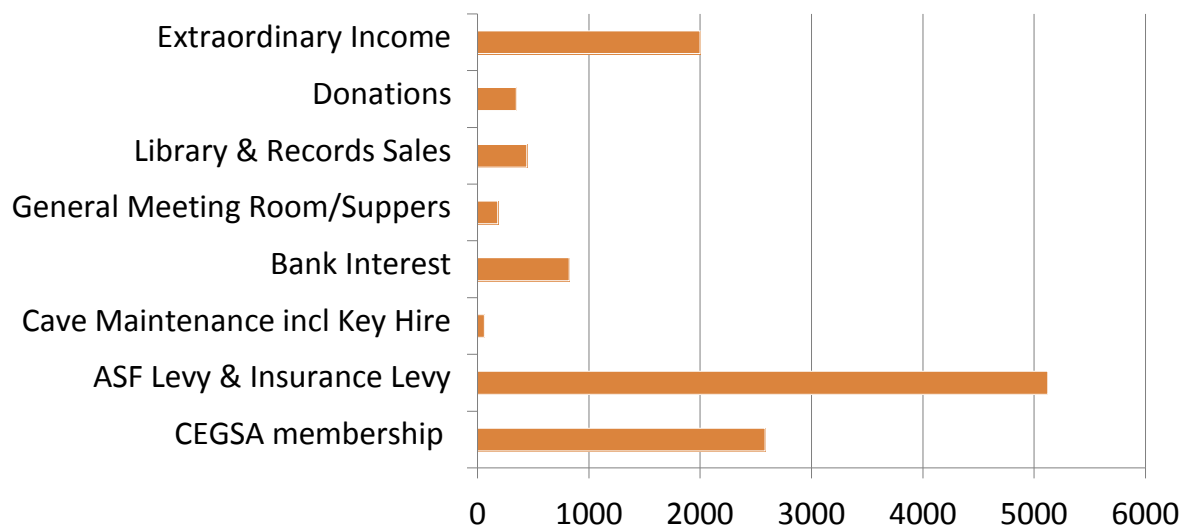
J. Paulga
Honorary Auditor

17 January 2008

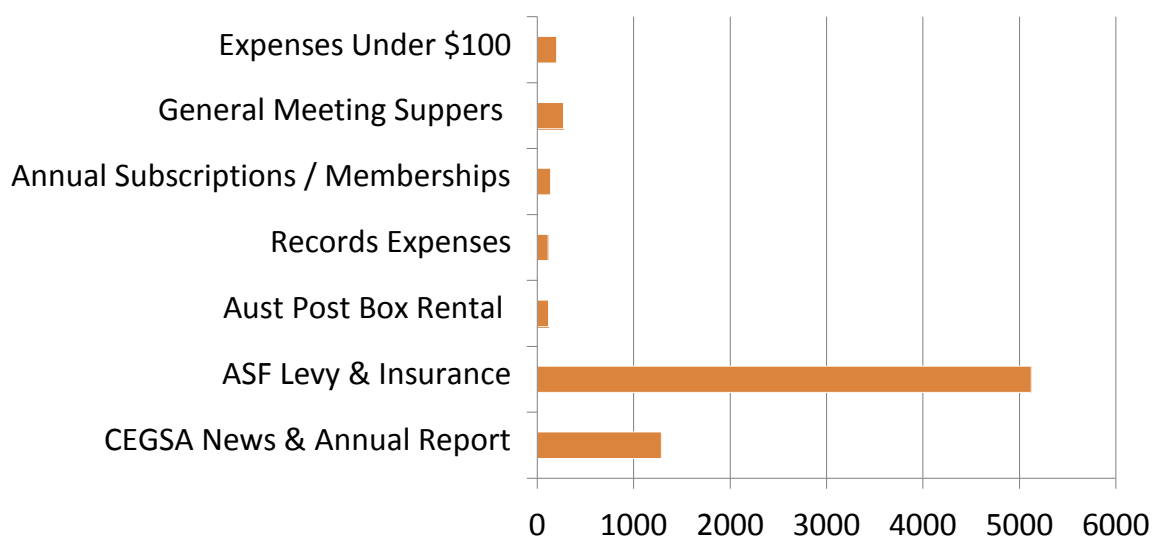
33 Mary Kitson St
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Tel: (02) 6241 4965
(Mob)0417 421 941
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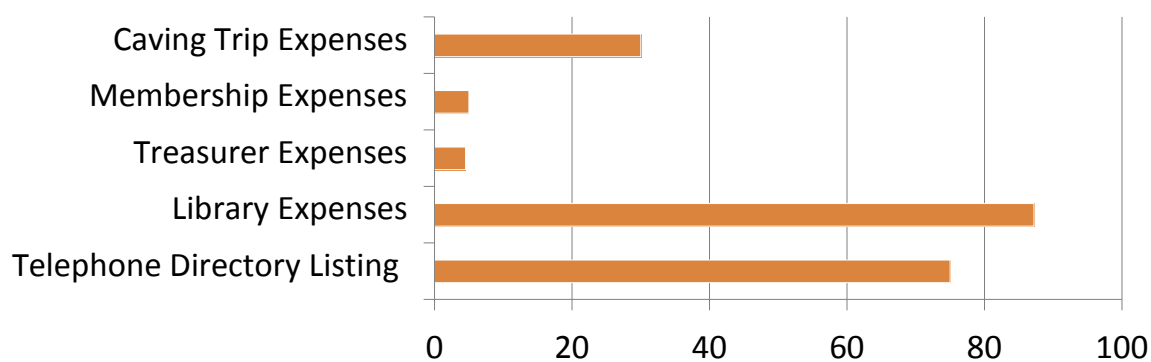
INCOME



PAYMENTS



Expenses Under \$100



MEMBERSHIP

and

MAILING LISTS



2007 MEMBERSHIP LIST

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	FLAVEL Esther With 7901		
	FLAVEL Elysia With 7901		
	FLAVEL Michala With 7901		

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	PAYNE Maya		
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	With 8709		

	SEFTON Murray With 8709			
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			22 Tyne Street GILBERTON SA 5081	
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LTA	WASILEWSKI Steve	0305	(W) 8372-3200 C/- Mercedes College	
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	With 8109			
	WOODCOCK Russell			
	With 8109			
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			33 Foster Street HAMILTON VIC 3300	
			reto.zollinger@dpi.vic.gov.au	

MEMBERSHIP CODE

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

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