

CEGSA NEWS



Newsletter of the Cave Exploration Group of South Australia Inc.

Volume 41 Number 2

Issue 162

May 1996



THE STORE WITH CAVERS ON STAFF

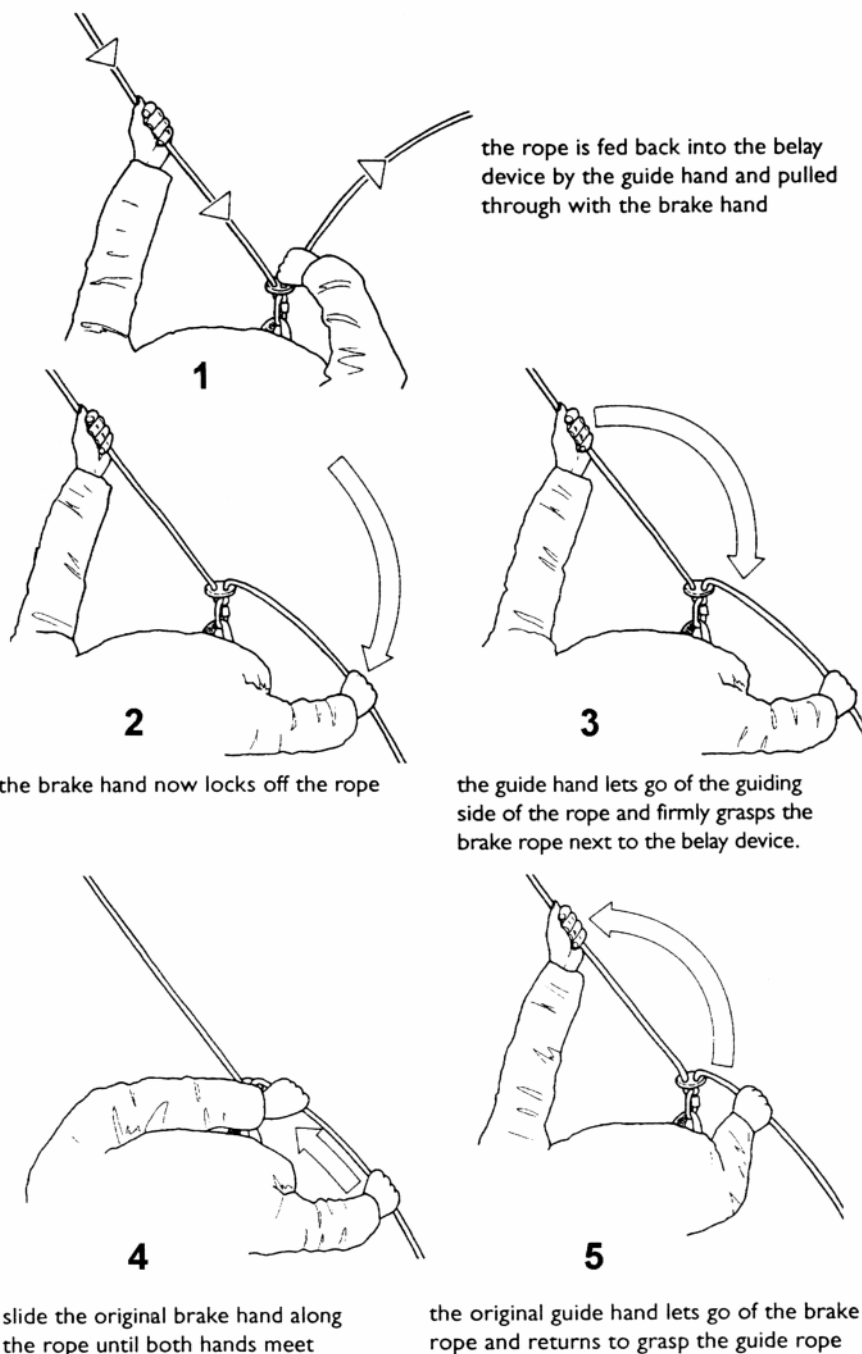
Two books which should be of interest to cavers are:-

THE DARKNESS BECKONS - The history and development of cave diving, written by Martyn Farr. Retail \$42.00. This is the second edition of an acclaimed book originally published in 1980. It describes the dangerous yet fascinating activities of cave divers, groups of cavers and open water divers who have adapted diving technology in order to explore flooded cave systems. This new edition of **THE DARKNESS BECKONS** incorporates much additional material, both historical anecdote and accounts of the most interesting recent dives. There are also many additional photos and diagrams. It is a chronicle of outstanding sporting endeavour, as yet little known outside an elite specialist world, but sure to inspire anyone with a taste for adventure.

ADVENTURE OF CAVING - A practical guide for advanced and beginning Cavers, written by David R. McClurg. Retail \$28.95. This book is a practical guide to help you find your own underground adventures without damaging the cave or yourself. Based on his nearly thirty years of active caving in the United States, Mexico, Yugoslavia and other countries, David McClurg covers everything the first time or advanced caver should know about techniques and equipment. **ADVENTURE OF CAVING** emphasises the need for good safety and conservation attitudes to reduce the risk of personal injury and to protect fragile underground beauty that took countless thousands of years to create.

*"He who knows not mystery
and can no longer wonder,
no longer feel amazement,
is as good as dead."*
ALBERT EINSTEIN

five-step belay method



CEGSA DISCOUNT

Remember to ask for your 10% discount at both the
SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE and the **ANNAPURNA OUTDOOR CENTRE.**

CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP SOUTH AUSTRALIA Inc.

PO Box 144, Rundle Mall, Adelaide , South Australia, 5000.

Meetings held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, except December, at 7.30 PM in the Royal Society of South Australia meeting room, Natural Science Building, South Australian Museum.

1996 Committee

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	to be filled	(h)	(w)
	to be filled	(h)	(w)
S.A. Speleological Council (two positions)	Graham Pilkington	(h) 8396 3044	(w) 8396 3044
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Cover Picture:

Sample Photo taken with the Pentax 90WR camera (see page 39).
Photograph by Marie Choi.

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The deadline for copy or background material for Volume 41 Number 3 (Issue 163) must reach the Editor by Wednesday 24th July 1996. Material not meeting this deadline may be retained for possible use in a following issue.

The views expressed in this Newsletter are those of individual authors and not necessarily those of the Cave Exploration Group (South Australia) Inc. nor its Committee.

EDITORIAL

Welcome to my first edition of CEGSA NEWS.

I would first of all like to express my thanks to Mark Thiselton for editing the February issue as there was not enough time between my appointment at the AGM and the February meeting when it was due out. Also I would like to thank those members who have contributed articles for this edition and anticipate many more articles from all the members in the future. The preferred method of submission is on floppy disk in Word for Windows Ver. 2 or 6 format or in Text format, but typed or legible handwritten articles are OK. It just saves me a lot of hunt and peck typing if it is on disk.

Now for a quick resumé of the past three General Meetings:

The February meeting saw Chris Hales put on a very informative and interesting slide show of some of his past trips to the wilds of Tasmanian caves. He showed a good cross section of what caving in Tasmania is like and it appears that quite a few members will be making the overseas trip to Tassie for the next Christmas - New Year break.

The March meeting was a business meeting at which several motions to alter the Constitution and Rules of the Group were put to the members. After much animated discussion all the motions submitted were passed. We will now be printing an updated version of the Constitution and Rules.

The long awaited Quiz Night finally occurred at the April meeting and a great time was had by those who turned up to the meeting. From the attendees four teams of about six members were selected at random. There was a great variety of questions in various categories, including knot tying and a mock first aid exercise. The final event of the night was a relay of simulated climbing techniques in the dark with only a torch to see by which gave some of the teams the opportunity to take a few unauthorised short cuts to enhance their times. The evening was such a success that it is now planned to have an inter-club event later in the year so start organising your teams for the big event.

There are a few more unusual events in the pipeline for the coming months.

Following on from the highly successful Flinders University Bridge days which were attended by members from several clubs it is planned to have an inter-club Speleo Sports day. This will probably be held at Woodhouse Scout Camp on Challenge Hill. It is also planned to have an interclub night at one of the climbing walls at a gymnasium so keep your ears open for further information as to dates and venues for these events. If any members have any ideas on what they would like to have happen in the future, either at the general meetings or as special events, please let the Committee know and an attempt will be made to arrange them.

Until next time, may all your caves be longer and deeper.

Athol Jackson
Editor

COMMITTEE REPORT

I am happy to present to you the first of this years Committee Reports which you shall be seeing from now on in the CEGSA NEWS. The CEGSA Committee believes that it is important that club members have an easy way of finding out what the Committee are doing. Obviously some of the day-to-day running of the Committee is rather uninteresting, and not particularly the material that riveting reports are made of (if indeed reports can be riveting). Therefore the material which we shall endeavour to present to you in each article will be that which I believe may interest a wide variety of members.

Firstly I must congratulate the new Committee members which we have with us this year; June MacLucas and Marie Choi. As the 1995 CEGSA Treasurer, June attended nearly all our Committee meetings last year, but its good to see her on the Committee officially this year.

As you know from the last newsletter, CEGSA voted on a number of constitutional changes which the Committee recommended for the smoother running of the club at the March meeting, all of which

I am pleased to say were passed. Consequently the Committee will now be made up of 5 members, the fifth person being Frank Hankinson (subject to General Meeting approval).

The aims of this years Committee are quite similar to last years, we intend to:

- become more 'user friendly'
- ensure the appropriate financial and administrative organisation of CEGSA
- document the roles of each Office Bearer
- develop an improved trip planning process for the club
- encourage more training opportunities for novice cavers and trip leaders
- generate revenue for the club to enable new projects to be undertaken
- support and improve the documentation of CEGSA projects (survey, exploration & research) for records through the new Special Projects Office
- improve the standard of the CEGSA Hire Gear and encourage its use
- generate a new members orientation kit
- provide members with a range of entertaining and interesting social events
- oversee the implementation of the leadership training and assessment system for the club
- seek clarification and define access arrangements for numerous sites and areas

A review of these objectives will help us and yourselves determine how successful we have been at meeting these goals. If you have any other suggestions that you believe the Committee could be involved in, please do not hesitate to let one of us know so that we may consider it. We are your committee and should therefore reflect the direction that you believe CEGSA should be heading in.

To date we have begun work on each of these objectives and some are already near completion. We now have an Activity Log Book into which every CEGSA activity and event must be entered (this was voted for at the March Meeting). So please ensure that any activity which you are undertaking as a CEGSA member is listed in this Log. Any event listed on the Calendar of Events will automatically be logged into the Log Book.

The Committee has also developed a new Key Holding procedure for our Key Holder. You may be wondering how this will affect you. If you wish to enter a locked cave, your trip leader must be registered with the CEGSA Key Holder for that cave. All the register does is provide a list of names to the Key Holder that the CEGSA Committee believes are suitable persons to lead trips into that cave. If the Committee is doubtful or unaware of an applicant's skills or abilities, it is the intention of the Committee to consult widely with other club members who he/she has been caving with. The aim of this procedure is not to make it difficult to access these caves, but to ensure that anyone capable of leading a trip safely into a cave will be able to without prejudice. We believe that eventually the Leadership Training program will assist us further in this process. To be considered to run trips to locked caves, all you have to do is let Marie Choi know and she will present your request to Committee. If successful, you shall be reviewed each year. You will not have to keep applying each time you want to run a trip to a locked cave.

Our present major issue of business is fundraising in order to fund a range of activities and projects including:

- meeting the increased printing costs of the CEGSA NEWS
- purchasing more survey drafting film
- upgrading the CEGSA Hire Gear and
- binding some of the Periodicals

Marie is presently organising the printing of caving T-Shirts and Simon is investigating a fundraising night at the Climbing Gym. If you have any ideas or interest in helping us to raise funds please let us know.

JANINE KRAEHENBUEHL
President

TRIP REPORTS

THE CEGSA QUIZ NIGHT

FROM A WINNERS PERSPECTIVE

As a winner at the recent quiz night, and also becoming a new member within the organisation on that night I can only voice praise to the committee members who organised that event.

I found the evening to be enjoyable, and with a light sense of humour, and that this type of event at meetings is a good way for everyone to get to know each other a little better.

From my own teams experience I felt it was a good way of introducing myself to fellow club members, so that they may appreciate why I became an active member of the organisation.

The skills that my fellow team members introduced to me was a great learning experience, and it was a great way of learning different knot tying techniques along with active support from fellow club members.

It was interesting that I became a winner on my first official night, (sucked in), what more can I say.

I was amazed by some peoples statement that I was **CHEATING** when I produced my personal first aid kit! Whatever happened to the old boy scout motto of being prepared? Does not a SPELEOLOGIST prepare himself for any situation, no matter what?

So anyway, thanks to the club for such an enjoyable night, well for me it was.

I am sorry about the spelling, but hey, what do you expect from a Youth Worker.

KIND REGARDS,

David GORDON Wilson

%%

PENOLA AND ENVIRONS

11th & 12th NOVEMBER 1995

PARTICIPANTS: Marie Choi, Ken Moyle, Peter Watchman, Jo Bauer, Simon Kendrick, Ken Grimes (CEGSAIVSA), Janeen Grimes (VSA) and Yvonne Ingeme (VSA).

FEATURES: 5L5, 5L21, 5L23, 5L25

The Adelaide contingent drove to Penola on the Friday night and settled into our accommodation at Wiska's Woolshed - bunks, dormitories, lounge, kitchen, showers, toilets, TV, pool table and jovial host Andy (Wiskas) Clifford (087) 372428.

Saturday, after a slow start, we drove out to 5L25 cave and 5L23 cave, where we met up with Ken, Janeen and Yvonne.

While walking back to the cars we met up with Graham, Frank and Kevin who were leaving Wrecked Car Cave 5L21, after a busy training day with the S.E.S. member from the lower south east region.

Tea at the Royal Oak Hotel in Penola was a great way to finish the day.

Sunday morning saw us visit Wrecked Car Cave 5L21, before returning to Wiska's Woolshed to watch the Adelaide Grand Prix on the TV. Eventually having run out of excuses, we had to depart for Adelaide.

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BAT RIDGE, IT'S NOT THAT FAR TO DRIVE

20th to 23rd JANUARY 1996

PARTICIPANTS: Julius Gheude, Bill Binks, Matt Pritchard, Tracy Colhoun, David Glowacki, Simon Kendrick plus three visitors (climbers from the Adelaide Climbing Gym) - Justin, Stjohn and Claire.

FEATURES: 3BR1, 3BR57, 3BR56, 3BR2, 3BR5, 3BR40, 3BR18, 3BR6, 3BR82, 3BR3, 3BR59, 3BR36.

Matt, Julius and Bill left Adelaide at a respectable hour on Friday evening and drove to the Keith Hotel, while Simon and Tracy left after Simon finished work and arrived as "last drinks" were called. We got some sleep at the Keith Scout/Hockey hall before heading off bright (?) and early Saturday morning for Naracoorte, where we met up with David. Then it was on to Mt. Gambier and finally Portland. Our three visitors met us at the Portland Scout Hall, having arrived from Adelaide before us.

After a quick trip to the supermarket, we drove out to Bat Ridge and walked to Chimney Cave where we did the through trip(s), 3BR1 to 3BR57 and 3BR56 to 3BR1. On the walk back to the car we had a look at the Hut Cave doline and Oust for fun ?) had a go at a particularly nasty squeeze.

A Chinese restaurant was the ideal place to debrief the days caving.

On Sunday we walked to Big Cave, entering via the 3BR40 entrance. We explored most of the cave south of the 3BR5 entrance, including some of the cave which doesn't appear to be on the VSA map (as luck would have it, we didn't have any survey gear with us !). A group of bats deep in the cave provided a small diversion. Time did not allow us to visit any of the cave

north of the 3BR5 entrance. A short walk took us to Hammer Cave, which was nothing like Simon remembered it !! Our three visitor left for Adelaide and work commitments on Monday morning. To finish off the day we visited Hut Cave again, this time entering via the 3BR2 entrance and exiting via the 3BR6 or 3BR82 entrance. An Italian restaurant provided the venue for our debrief.

On Monday we walked (walked and walked) to Stalactite Cave. Only finding the cave with advise from Ken Grimes (CEGSAIVSA) and Sue White (VSA) who happened to be visiting Chimney Cave. After lunch, we went to Nearby Cave where we found an extensive area of what appears to be recent (?) roof collapse. A well earned pub meal and 8-ball topped off an exhausting day.

On Tuesday morning, we went in search of Remembrance Cave, after advice from Sue White that it was well worth visiting. A short search was required before we found the cave and it was well worth the effort.

We went back to Portland for a shower and after cleaning up the hall we left for Adelaide (and Naracoorte).

Bat Ridge is well worth a visit and being only 100km past Mt Gambier, it's not that far to drive.

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NOT REALLY A CEGSA TRIP

NOT REALLY A CAVING TRIP

3rd to 11 th February 1996

PARTICIPANTS: Tracy Colhoun, Stuart Deer, David Trehearne and Simon Kendrick.

In the newspaper, "The Blue Mountains Tourist" is an article which reads:

'Hidden deep in the Blue Mountains lies an amazing world of rushing waterfalls, crystal clear pools and fantastic sculptured walls. The grandeur and pristine beauty of these sandstone canyons almost defies description. Carved over aeons of time by the relentless action of running water, these geological treasures offer the modern day adventurer an ideal way to escape the heat of summer. Canyoning involves a variety of activities including abseiling through waterfalls, jumping into pools, swimming, wadding, scrambling over rocks and floating on lilos (inflatable mats). As well as being loads of fun, you will find the canyon environment utterly breathtaking - a verdant garden of hanging ferns, delicate mosses, coloured fungi and sandy beaches lined by curved walls of coloured stone. '

Armed with the small book, "Canyons near Sydney" (2nd edition), we left Adelaide late on the Friday night and after a few hours sleep, somewhere near the SA / Vic border, we arrived at Mt Wilson on Saturday night. The campground was a sea of cars, tents, ropes, wetsuits and thermals hanging out to dry. David, a veteran of two previous canyon trips, suggested we go to Katoomba and climb The Three Sisters on Sunday and "do" our first canyon on Monday after the locals had gone home.

During the next five days we tackled; Bell Creek Canyon (lower section) [grade 2]; Grand Canyon [grade 2]; Claustal Canyon [grade 4]; Serendipity Canyon (going upstream to exit from the Wollangambe) [grade 3+]; Mt hay Canyon [grade 5]. They were everything "The Blue Mountain Tourist" claimed and more. Combining elements of caving, rockclimbing and hiking with fun and excitement. The climbs into and out of the canyons are an experience in themselves !

The gear is simple and we used wet suits, thermals, old sandshoes (Dunlop Volleys are highly recommended), harness, static rope, abseiling rack, old packrope bag/canyon bag, water proof bag and lilo (in Bell Creek only). While everything does get wet, there is no mud and everything stays clean !!!

The trip had many high points, too many to list, but:-

- Simon had his blood pressure checked after climbing The Three Sisters 140190 a little high !!!!
- Tracy walking out of Bells Creek Canyon with one shoe only after the other one fell to pieces in the wet conditions.
- Stuart is a nice guy. Dave and Simon are not !!
- Eating an ala carte meal at the Mount Victoria Hotel dressed in sandals, smelly shorts and T-shirt.
- Tracy ran over and killed an Emu. Trying to "match her", Davis hit a flock of galahs, killing about five and smashing his drivers mirror.

CANYONING, TRY IT, YOU MIGHT LIKE IT!

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JOINT CLUB TRAINING DAYS

Recently FUSSI promoted 2 joint club Training and Fun Days. The days were a great success

with cavers coming from CAVEX, FUSSI, SCOUT CAVING and of course CEGSA.

It was good to see a lot of our newer members at the first day meeting cavers from other clubs. People had an opportunity to try various descending devices (thanks to gear freak, David Trehearne) and to hone their abseiling and other SRT skills. This opportunity caused me to convert from a Petzl ascender to an SRT ascender.

The second Bridge Day again had members from all four clubs although not as many, and there appeared to be more CEGSA thrill seekers. Krunchy kept a watchful eye on everyone, instructing newer people through manoeuvres, namely "getting over that fence".

There were no fatalities on either day and a good time was had by all.

We hope to see more joint club activities in the future. Thanks to FUSSI, especially Claire Buswell for organising the use of the bridge, Dave and Peter and everyone else who helped on the days.

Marie Choi (Training Co-ordinator).

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HORIZONTAL CAVING LEADERS COURSE

MARCH - APRIL 1996

PARTICIPANTS: CEGSA: Michelle Papillo, Tracy Colhoun, Ken Moyle, Greg Croser, Matt Pritchard, Bill Binks, Dave Lowe, Tom Szabo.

SCG: Melinda Mulley, Andrea Smith, Stuart Deer, James Donnelly, Morgan Stewart, Daniel Jones.

FEATURES: Scout Training Centre, Fisher Street, Norwood and 5Y1.

The course was designed to meet the criteria "laid down" by the new national training agenda and was conducted over four Tuesday nights and one Saturday.

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CORRA LYNN

30 MARCH 1996

Party: Graham Pilkington, Ray Gibbons, George & June MacLucas

At last, another trip to rebuild the Corra Lynn toilet.

After all the moans about no toilet it was a bit disappointing to find only myself and Ray turn up at 9am. We worked on creating a concrete stab over the toilet pit during the morning.

Luckily for me, Ray knew exactly what to do and had brought the gear to do it with. I just acted as builders labourer.

We used some sand that Ray had brought but most materials were readily on hand. The cave supplied all our gravel while the sand came from a dolomite dump from decades ago in the "carpark". Rocks came from the previous toilet floor slab.

Just after I had declared a rest from traipsing up and down for gravel sand and water, the MacLucas's arrived. So they found us in typical labourer's pose - lounging around eating lunch. However, June was surprised to see me topless while she was putting on an extra jacket after getting out of the warm vehicle.

Things really moved along with the extra help. By mid-afternoon we were ready for assembly of the shed. It took all of us to hold the bits together in the usual windy conditions while Ray drillbolted the lot. The shed was bedded and strapped into the concrete with a tie wire to hold it down while the concrete sets.

The toilet seat is not yet in place but at least you can now do things a bit more privately.

Graham Pilkington

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NULLARBOR

Wed 12 to Thur 13 Jan 1996.

PARTICIPANTS: Max Meth, Bev Wearne, Pamela Buchhorn.

FEATURES: (listed in the order visited)

SA 5N345, 1333 to 1336

WA 6N164 1337 1338 (1076) (1078) 1089
1080 1090 602 75 195 1085

Wednesday 12 Jan 1996

On a trip from Adelaide to Kalgoorlie there was time for some brief stops. First was the whale viewing area from the cliff top at the head of the Great Australian Bight.

The vertical coastal cliffs of the Nullarbor start at the head of the Bight and stretch west for 169km. However for the first 2km there is an eroded and sloping area between the flat plain level and the coast which reduces the height of the cliffs. From Callosity Point westward, there is no sloping area and the level plain ends abruptly in vertical cliffs.

At the west end, the cliffs end 28km east of the border. Here begins 23km of further degraded sloping land known as Merdayerrah Sandpatch,

before 4km of cliffs at Wilson Bluff, then the WAISA border.

Being summer there were no whales but we took photos of Callosity Point and Sponge Cove beach, known to Aborigines as Dhulanda. We walked along the path near the sea to the Fluted Blowholes, then back up to the car park.

There is a cave 5N1333 visible at the base of the cliff in the east side of Callosity Point. This would be accessible from rocks at the cliff base but would require scaling the cliff. Entrance size estimated at 8m wide by 3m high. AMG Ilcumba 700.8 6515.6.

There is a second cave 5N1334 at sea level about 300m east. This is accessible from a wave cut platform at the cliff base. The cliff base faces SW and the cave entrance is estimated at 8m wide and 3m high. AMG 701.16515.7.

The 2nd cave occurs about 50m east of a minor gully where there is an inlet of the sea. At the head of this minor inlet is a group of 4 blowholes 5N1335. The largest measures 1.3x0.8m. These display the same fluting in the walls that is seen in the main Fluted Blowholes which are about 200m further east.

The Fluted Blowholes consist of a pair of blowholes 5N345, 1341 connected at the base to the sea. That means there is also a sea cave 5N 1342 on the cliff base. When the tide is high enough, waves cause a plume of spray in each blowhole. This sea water may be the cause of the fluting in the sides of these blowholes. Such fluting is not seen in blowholes away from the coast.

South of Koonalda Homestead we drove in to view the cliffs. The Gurney's who once operated a sheep station at Koonalda used to descend the cliffs to go fishing at a place where the cliff edge is weathered to a 450 slope. Their original track to this place crosses the Eyre Highway 2.7km W of the new road to Koonalda. About 3km west of the point where this track meets the cliff is the fishing spot. And 20m east is a fissure cave SN1336 in the cliff top. This is formed where a block of the main cliff is flaking off, creating a crevice up to 2m wide 10m long and at least 6m deep. AMG approx Albala Karoo 580.6 6502.6.

Thursday 13 Jan 1996

We Drove south from Caiguna Motel, hoping to get to the Baxter Memorial 35km away near the coast. Time, and the rough stony nature of the track eventually forced a return before we reached half way.

At 0.7km south of the motel we reached the north end of the Caiguna landing field, which is in a natural clearing in dense mallee scrub. A track reported by Harry Wheeler on 17.9.1972 was not seen. This headed west along the north edge of the runway clearing

before veering off into scrub, and eventually going to Caiguna rockhole 6N1091. Though on 23.1.1960, Wheeler gave the directions to Caiguna rockhole as 0.9km west of the Motel then 450m south.

A further 1.3km south was the south end of the landing field. At this point the main track deviates slightly to the left and a minor track continues straight ahead. This minor track reportedly (Wheeler) goes to a blowhole X93 AMG approx 732 6425 (no exact location, and no description given) numbered by Wheeler as QW269 on 17.9.1972 with the track then going on to a large doline (presumably 6N1337). South of the landing field the main track re-enters dense mallee scrub.

At 1. '1 km south of the south end of the airstrip is unnamed cave 6N164. This was previously named in our records as Caiguna Rockhole cave, however I am now renaming it as unnamed cave. On the current 100,000 map the location is marked as 'rockhole'. However there is no rockhole present at this location. I believe this was a misplot of Caiguna rockhole 6N1091, which is located 1.9km NNE. Evidently, this cave was later mistaken for Caiguna rockhole by cavers.

Cave 6N164 is 18m west of the main track south and 5m north of a side track to the west. The entrance is 2 blowholes 1.8m apart in a NS orientation located in a rock depression 10x6x0.2m @000. The north blowhole measures 1x0.95m and is blocked by silt at 0.7m depth, there being a slight opening on the east side. The south blowhole measures 0.75x0.6m and is 3.5m deep easily climbable. At the bottom a cave was seen extending about 4m to the east.

The side track at 6N164 heads west for about 1km then bends north for 0.4km to doline 6N1337. This was numbered by Wheeler as QW269A but was neither described nor adequately located by him. Accordingly it had been given temporary number 6NX147. It is a clay depression 40x32m oriented EW. The sides are quite steep, about 450 and it is 7m deep with a flat floor area of 18x12m. The only limestone that is exposed is a 1 m high cliffline along the east edge of the flat floor. There is no hint of a cave. The doline is located in a large

clearing of saltbush, samphire and bluebush surrounded by dense mallee scrub.

1.7km south of 6N164 is a track to the west. This goes 200m to Caiguna Staff cave 6N602. This is a steep clay sided depression 12.5x10.5m and 6.9m deep, but it has no flat area at the bottom. Instead there is an oblong hole in bedrock of 4x2m which descends at least 4m. We had no means of descending so can give no description of the cave.

1.5km south of the track to 6N602 is a cross road marked by a 200L drum. On current maps, the portion heading west is not shown. This is the East-West Road, and it was in use as the main east west route across the Nullarbor up to 1943 when it was replaced by the original unsealed Eyre Highway. The road we had just driven on from the motel and which continued south to the Baxter memorial dates from circa 1964 when the Caiguna Motel was built. Prior to this the 'original' track to the Baxter memorial started from Tillata rockhole 6N1087, which is located 700m east of this intersection on the East-West road.

We continued south on the 'new' road and at 1.6km there is a second 200L drum marking a track east that connects to the 'original' track south.

We continued south on the new road, still in dense scrub to a grassy clearing at 1.6km. This extended 600m to the south but 200m from its north edge is clay sided depression 6N1338. This is about 40m in diameter and 0.3m deep with the track passing through it.

From the south edge of this clearing we continued south through scrub for 1.2km to a second clearing 0.3km long. Then through 0.7km more scrub to a third clearing only about 100m long. Here we stopped. I had expected to see 2 blowholes in the portion of track just traversed. These are 6N1076 & 6N1078. I had assumed that they were on this track, but now realised that they lie on the 'original' track south. We returned north to the 2nd drum that marks the track east we had seen 1.6km south of the East-West road.

At 0.2km this enters a 200m long NS open clearing. In this clearing is the 'original' NS track to the Baxter Memorial from Tillata rockhole. Our track meets it then continues south, and it must eventually meet the 'new' track at some point to the south. According to Wheeler, the original track south passes 2 blowholes 6N1076 and 6N1078 (QW11 and QW192) 2.5km and

4.8km south of the clearing. Though this needs to be checked.

In the clearing we looked at 3 karst features, all having been previously noted by Wheeler.

1. First was rockhole 6N1089 (QW RH12). The clearing contains extensive bare limestone areas and is slightly raised with the low side facing west. The original NS track from Tillata runs along the west edge of the bare rock area and 20m east of the track is the rockhole. The rockhole consists of 4 separate rockholes:

- (1) The largest and most westerly being 1.8x1.1m blocked by silt at 0.5m depth, but reported by Wheeler on 18.1.1955 as being 1.2m deep. This rockhole had moist silt in it with a number of frog eggs visible on the surface. At a depth of 0.1m in the silt, water was encountered.

The other 3 rockholes are arranged in an EW line (1150) from the main one, the total distance between them being 9m. The measurements of the other 3 are:

- (2) 0.5m east: 0.1x0.1m and connects to (1).
- (3) 4.3m east: 1.1x0.9x0.35m.
- (4) 4.1m east: 1x0.85x0.2m

2. Second is 2 small blowholes 6N1080 (QW196) adjacent to the rockholes.

- (1) 5.3m east of 6N1089(4): A blowhole 0.3x0.2x0.2m.
- (2) 12m SE of 6N1089(1): A blowhole 0.21x0.13x0.45m.

3. About 50m NE of 6N1089 is blowhole 6N1090 (QW RH12A). This measures 0.24x0.18m and is 1.7m deep. It was not blowing but a tiny hole 3.4m south measuring 0.1x0.1m was blowing.

In addition, there is a further blowhole 6N1077 (not seen by us) reported by Wheeler 22.6.1961 on the original track between here and Tillata rockhole.

From here we returned to the Caiguna Motel then headed west on the highway. The cave 6N75 which is 5km west of Caiguna, now has a parking area, but there is no sign advertising its presence. 24km west of Caiguna, at easting 710, the 2 blowholes 6N195 and 6N1085 on the north verge of the highway still remain (not filled in by Main Roads yet), and they each have a small fence around them.

Max G Meth 24.1.1996

TECHNICAL and OTHER ARTICLES

OBITUARY

It is with regret that we announce the death of two of CEGSA's greatest supporters in the Naracoorte area: namely

- Alex Sherriff on 12 January 1996 and
- Harry Baker on 21 February 1996

Both Alex and Harry were lifelong friends who shared a love of caving and eagerly participated in caving trips.

Alex was a quiet person but you would usually find him at CEGSA-VSA dinners where he would entertain cavers with his lively stories and historical reminiscences. He was an accomplished artist who would spend hours quietly sketching characters around him. Many of our 'elder' cavers would have had their caricature sketched by Alex. At one stage he was the curator of the Old Mill museum and made that available for caving dinners.

For many years Harry was a guide at the Naracoorte Caves. He always enjoyed showing tourists the features of his caves and if any expressed an interest in caving he readily directed them toward CEGSA. His knowledge of holes in the area was vast and it is largely through his efforts that many of the caves we now know and abuse were recorded. A map in CEGSA records bears the title "Harry's Cooks Tour". Harry was always eager to participate in CEGSA trips and had no qualms about putting us in our place. Most cavers usually looked an unruly bunch in dirty, grotty and sometimes even weed infested overalls. But never Harry. Every day he would turn up in spotlessly clean white overalls.

He quietly worked behind the scenes to make life easier for cavers. Older members will remember the countless hours he spent maintaining the hut and building the bench seats around the walls. He constructed the ladder in Cathedral Cave to facilitate access.

Harry's enthusiasm for caving never diminished with age. After he finished guiding he visited the caves whenever he could. Even after suffering a stroke he maintained an interest in what was happening in the group and eagerly looked forward to reading the Newsletters. He was always asking how favourite cavers such as Anne Wilson, Grant Gartrell and Ian Lewis were doing.

In his later years he always managed a smile, even if life was difficult and he enjoyed the occasions when old caving friends dropped in for a chat and a cuppa. Harry was a modest and quiet achiever, a true gentleman and someone most cavers could learn a few lessons from. His friendship and contributions will be sadly missed. I hope a suitable memorial can at some stage be placed in the reserve in recognition of his contribution to caving.

On behalf of the Group 1 extend our sincere sympathies to Beth and Joan on the death of Harry and to Alex's family on the death of Alex.

Kevin Mott

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MISSING CDAA GUIDELINES

Have you ever borrowed an issue (or two) of the Cave Divers Association of Australia (CDAA) News-letter *Guidelines*? Have you accidentally forgotten to return them to the Librarian? Well now is the time to have a look through your personal library or that old pile of papers in the corner as the CEGSA library is missing the following issues of Guidelines; No. 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 42, 54 and 55.

These missing issues are required to complete the cataloguing of the CDAA Guidelines as part of the CEGSA libraries periodical holdings. This is one of the many Records/Library projects that George MacLucas has been coordinating recently.

If you do find a spare copy of any issue or can lend a copy of a missing issue to allow the cataloguing of Guidelines for the Library records please contact either our librarian or myself.

Mark Thiselton

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SOME NEW PUBLICATIONS

The recent karst studies symposium at Naracoorte resulted in two publications. The first is a guidebook to the karst features of the South-east, compiled by Ken Grimes and Susan White. It comprises 34 pp. including many maps and diagrams. The second, of 37 pp. consists of summaries (generally 2 pp. each) of papers delivered to the Symposium.

These are available for \$10 each, post free.

Ken Grimes, Elery Hamilton-Smith and Andy Spate also carried out a comprehensive study of karst features on public land in the South-east province for the National Parks and Wildlife Service of South Australia. This not only describes the pattern of landscape features and the various factors contributing to their significance, but identifies features of significant heritage value. Reprints of this report (110 pp.) are available for \$25 (plus \$3.00 post and handling in Australia; \$5.50 air postage to NZ).

Orders for any of these should be forwarded to Elery Hamilton-Smith at Rethink Consulting P/L, PO Box 36, Carlton South, Victoria 3053. Payments should be by cheque made payable to Rethink Consulting.

Elery Hamilton-Smith

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SHUTTER BUGS

Considered buying a new camera? Would you like one that is water resistant, reasonably dust proof, compact and still does some fancy photography?

Well consider the Pentax 90WR. It has a 38 - 90 mm zoom lens, macro position, red eye reduction, bulb setting, self timer, consecutive photography, multi exposure, interval shooting, a remote control and many more features. For anyone who is a lazy photographer but still likes to play around with special effects, this is the ideal camera.

I have had this camera for 9 months and 90% of it's life has been underground. Its been crawled on, dragged through dust and even went swimming in Kubla Khan and still survives.

It retails between \$450 - \$500 new but second hand ones can be found. Anyone interested in having a closer look at it and some of the results just give me a call.

Marie Choi.

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MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the new Associates:

Adrian GRIVELL 9601, 101 Elizabeth Road, CHRISTIE DOWNS SA 5164 (382-7615)

Chris GRIVELL 9602, 101 Elizabeth Road, CHRISTIE DOWNS SA 5164 (382-7615)

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Mark THISELTON 8801, W(401-6716)

Graham Pilkington

ADDITIONS TO OCCASIONAL PAPER - NUMBER 5

These additions were compiled with the assistance of Peter Horne to update CEGSA Records.
(another one of George MacLucas' many Library/Records projects - bless you George).

LOWER SOUTH EAST

- L245 Un-named Sinkhole; 15m diameter 5m deep doline; undercut on one side; map.
- L246 **NUNG-KOL CAVE SYSTEM** (NIELSENS NICHE); series of limestone outcrops, roof and window entrances and fissure like passages; water-table pools; map.
- L247 **THE HAMMERHEAD** (HAMMERHEAD POND); two 40m long x 3 - 8m wide water filled sinkholes 6m deep joined by 50m long shallow channel 1.5m deep; water is spring emergence through bottom of ponds; aquatic weed abundant; outflow joins nearby L248; map.
- L248 **TADPOLE POND**; 8m diameter 4m deep wide water filled sinkhole; water is spring emergence through bottom of pond; aquatic weed abundant; nearby L247; map.
- L249 Unnamed Sinkhole; large 15 x 25m shallow lake 3m deep; 3 - 4m wide very silty flattener 1 m high declines at approx. 30 degrees to approx. 6m depth; map.
- L250 **IDDLEBIDDY CAVE**; 0.7m diameter solution tube entrance drops approx. 6m into a small humid cavity containing a very deep pool of water; silt mound below entrance contains many bones; two water filled passages; main passage approx. 12m wide, 5m high and approx. 220m long to a max. depth of 18m; passage floor covered with large thick blocks of multi-layered clay; minor narrow passage approx. 20m long; gated; map.
- L251 Unnamed Cave; small roof tube drops 2.5m into middle of 18m long passage 2m high at one end; adjacent to L252; map.
- L252 Unnamed Cave; 0.5m entrance often blocked by boulders drops 2.5m into a 5m diameter chamber; rubbish blocks end; adjacent to L251; map.
- L253 **WITCHES CAVE**; 12m diameter sinkhole approx. 4m deep; rubbish filled; unexplored; nearby L254; strong out-blowing; further exploration warranted; map.
- L254 **BATTLE-AXE CAVE**; 15 x 10m sinkhole 8m deep; rubbish filled; some interesting large columns and stalactite decoration; not fully explored; nearby L253. map
- L255 **MARMINE CAVE**; collapse entrance leads to large main chamber 20m wide x 7m high; 2m drop leads via rockpile to second 7m high chamber; dirt cone; passage continues via 2m drop; large ceiling tubes; decoration; bats; map.
- L256 **BOOTLACE CAVE**; 5m wide x 2m high entrance leads to 8m long x 3.5m high cavern formed in scoria (basalt pumice); a 2m step leads to 5m high small cavity with roof window; low flattener; fragile; map.
- L257 **CENTENARY TOWER LAVA CAVE**; 1 m high tunnel runs 7m through vertical ridge of cinder-like scoria; map.
- L258 **KOORAMA CAVE** (KOORAMO CAVE); large sinkhole with some shelters.
- L259 **TEMPORARY CAVE**; 6 x 6 x 1 m high cavity; destroyed by quarry operations; adjacent to L38 and L260; map.
- L260 Unnamed Feature; L shaped collapse entrance joining L38; map.
- L261 **PICCANINNIE CAVE** (PICCANINNIE ROCK SHELTER); 10 x 4 x 0.8m high rock shelter situated in limestone ridge; archaeological site; nearby L72; map.
- L262 **LOFTYS CAVE**; 1.5 x 1m roof entrance drops 6m to 10m diameter chamber; 2m drop leads to 15m wide 4m high chamber; decoration; map.
- L263 **HAYDNS CAVE** (HAYDEN'S CAVE); 2 x 2.6m roof entrance drops 4m to 20m diameter cavern; short passage leads to 10m diameter chamber 4m high; decoration; map.
- L264 **WANDO CAVE**; small entrance drops 4m to 3.5 x 7.5m chamber. map.
- L265 **BONES PONDS**; 10 x 6m spring fed sinkhole 3m deep; aquatic flora and fauna; snakes; map.
- L266 **PRETTY POND**; 20 x 10m spring fed sinkhole 2m deep; aquatic flora and fauna; map.
- L267 Unnamed Feature; 30 x 8m spring fed sinkhole 3m deep; aquatic fauna; map.
- L268 **BUGGA-BUSH POND**; 10m diameter sinkhole 8m deep; small cave; map
- L269 **EEL POT**; 20 x 10m sinkhole 2m deep; small cave; aquatic flora and fauna; map
- L270 Unnamed Feature; 1.3 x 0.7m entrance drops 5m to a low cavern; decoration; map.
- L271 Unnamed Feature; 1.5m diameter entrance drops 1.5m to small chamber; map.
- L272 **HANGING ROCK CAVE**; 4m diameter x 0.8m deep doline; main passage approx. 22m long; drops 4m to water-table pool approx 12m long x 3.5m deep; map.

- L273 Unnamed Feature; 1.3 x 0.9m roof entrance drops 3m to joint controlled fissure passage; one extension leads approx. 26m to a 4 x 3m filled doline; other extension leads to water table pools; map.
- L274 **SHAVERS REVENGE**; 0.2 x 0.25m entrance drops 5m to a 20m long joint controlled fissure cave; phreatic development; nearby L230; entrance buried; map.
- L275 Unnamed Feature; 2.5 x 1 m deep entrance drops 1 m into a joint controlled fissure; rubbish; main passage approx. 20m long reaches water table; map.
- L276 Unnamed Feature; 0.8 x 0.5m narrow fissure located in small quarried area; eel; map.
- L277 **DEAD FOX CAVE**; degrade doline entrance leads to small muddy chamber 12 x 5 x 1 m high; map.
- L278 Unnamed Feature; 1.8 x 0.8m roof hole drops 1 m to a 6m wide chamber; map.
- L279 Unnamed Feature; large fissure cave dissected in two by quarry cutting; smaller passage 10 x 1 x 3m high; main passage 15 x 1 x 4m high; water table pools; map.
- L280 **ROCK TOP CAVE**; 1 x 0.6m roof hole dropping 2m to chockstone in narrow fissure; floor drops 6-7m to water table and continues for approx. 10m; map.
- L281 Unnamed Feature; 3 x 1.5m entrance drops 1m to a 6m long passage. Map.
- L282 **SPRINGVALE SPRING**; 15 x 18 x 0.2m deep water filled doline; mud floor; water flows from a 1 x 0.5m fissure across the doline and drains into a 2 x 0.5m flattener; map.
- L283 Unnamed Feature; 4 x 1.5m vertical roof collapse leads to a 10m long 45° slope; low flattener; lublinitic; map.
- L284 Unnamed Feature; 2m diameter solution tube at bottom of 7m diameter doline drops 2m to a 25m long cavern; SE ends in an awkward fissure; NW leads to a 2 x 0.7m high low sandy crawl approx. 10m long; nearby L283; map.
- L285 **BAKERS CAVE**; short 2m dia. tube drops 12m into small lake chamber approx. 10m dia. with small rocky island; water filled passage approx. 60m long and 30m deep; restriction; rubbish; map.
- L286 **FIRE-ESCAPE CAVE**; 1 x 0.7m collapse window drops 1m to flowing water 1.5m deep; 2.5m deep inflow approx. 5m to the NW while the 2m deep outflow lies approx. 5m to the SE; variety of aquatic life; map.
- L287 Unnamed Feature; 1.5m high 2m wide 8.7m long rocky floored passage; unstable; map.
- L288 Unnamed Feature; shallow degraded doline leads to 3 x 0.6m cavern; 0.3m high 3m long lower cavern below doline; rubbish; map.
- L289 Unnamed Feature; 4 x 2m collapse doline; 0.25m high flattener passage leads 2.5m to a 2m drop and terminates approx. 8m from entrance at a pinch; map.
- L290 **NETTLE-BED CAVE**; located in SE corner of L97 doline; approx. 80m of water filled passage reaches a depth of approx. 24m; gated; map.
- L291 Unnamed Feature; entrance located in edge of doline leads to 3m high chamber; water table pools; muddy crawl; rubbish; map.
- L292 **PINE-TREE CAVE**; doline entrance and 0.4m high muddy passage leads to cavern; water table pools; adjacent to L291; rubbish; map.
- L293 Unnamed Feature; two solution tubes drop 4m to 14 x 7 x 1.5m high cavern; water table pool; adjacent to L291 and L292; rubbish; map.
- L294 Unnamed Feature; 6.3 x 4 x 1.4m high cavern located in small doline; adjacent to L291 - L293; map.
- L295 Unnamed Feature; several entrances to low muddy chamber; this entrance 0.5 x 0.3m drops 4m to cave; 0.2m deep water table pool; adjacent to L291 - L294; map.
- L296 Unnamed Feature; small roof hole drops 2m to a 2m diameter cavity; shallow water table pool; adjacent to L291 - L295; map.
- L297 Unnamed Feature; dry shallow doline with possible leads; adjacent to L291 - L296; map.
- L298 Unnamed Feature; shallow doline with possible lead; adjacent to L291 - L297; map.
- L299 **GEARBOX CAVE**; 0.5m diameter solution tube drops 6m to water table; rubbish; map.
- L300 **BREATHING TUBE CAVE**; 0.5m dia. solution tube drops 8m to joint controlled passage; restriction some 8m from entrance; substantial breeze from floor hole; possible leads; many bones; map.
- L301 Unnamed Cave; tube 1 m diameter drops 8m to a chamber 9 x 6 x 1.5m high; pools.
- L302 **ROBE BAT CAVE**; 3 chambers in cliff - East 12 x 6 x 4m; 12 x 9 x 6m; & 16 x 5 x 3m.
- L303 Unnamed Cave; tapering joint in wall of Blue Lake; 12m long, 1-2m wide and 7m high.
- L304 Unnamed Cave; series of low, joint-controlled passages with 3 entrances; est. Length 250m; some decoration. evidence of recent streamway.

These additions were compiled by **Kevin Mott**:

LOWER SOUTH EAST

See also CEGSA Newsletter 29 (3) p50, 34 (1) p19, 38 (3) p62, 40 (4) p108

- L354 **LASLETTS CAVE** Low duck under entrance at south east end of a shallow doline leads to a joint passage 8+ m long x 2-3m high. width at entrance is 1.5m and unnegotiable at the end. Map
- L355 Un-named doline Doline 14 x 9 x 2.5m deep. Old eucalypt trunks piled up in doline. It is on the eastern side of a larger uvala type feature. Map
- L356 Un-named doline Doline 7m diam x 4m deep filled with the remains of old eucalypt trunks. Dig? Map
- L357 Un-named doline Doline 12 x 8 x 1.5m deep with broken rock piled up in the southern half. Map
- L358 Un-named cave Low dune flattener cave. W entrance at east end of collapse doline 16 x 11 x 2m deep. Middle entrance is tube 1.0 x 1.5 x 2.0m deep. E entrance is triangular shaped window 2.0 x 2.2m dropping 2.4m to floor of cave. Tagged. Not explored.
- L359 Un-named doline Collapse doline 160 x 130 x 27m deep. Several recent collapses at bottom. Tube 1.0m diam on north side drops 2.2m to top of dirt fill. Has been referred to as Devils Punchbowl at various times. Map
- L360 Un-named cave Joint 17m long x 0.5m wide with water table pools. Roof of cave is interface of Gambier and Bridgewater limestones. Cave exposed by quarrying. Adjacent drainage feature continues to the north west. Map
- L361 Un-named cave Joint cave 8+ m long with width varying from 1.5m at entrance to 0.4m at end. Total depth 8+ m. Map
- L362 Un-named cave Entrance 2.0m wide x 0.5m high on west facing slope leads into a small cave with a length of 4m and roof height of 0.5m. Cave has been filled with silt. Map

UPPER SOUTH EAST

See also CEGSA Newsletter 29 (4) p63, 36 (4) p53, 38 (3) p62

- U151 Un-named cave 1m diam entrance at edge of road leads to small cave 4m wide x 1.6m high
- U152 Un-named cave 0.5m diam tube drops 3.5m to a chamber 4 x 2 x 1 m high. Map
- U153 Un-named cave Triangular shaped entrance 0.5 x 0.4m drops 2.0m to a chamber 5 x 7 x 1 m high. Low flattener to south of entrance. Map
- U154 Un-named cave 0.4 x 0.5m entrance drops 1.5m to a chamber 9 x 3 x 0.5m high. Dome 1.5m high at the end. Total depth is 3.3m. Map
- U155 Un-named cave Rectangular entrance 0.9 x 0.4 x 0.7m deep in a clump of mallee drops 2.0m at west end to a constriction blocked by a rock. Map
- U156 Un-named cave Triangular shaped entrance 0.6 x 0.4m in a depression 3m diam x 0.3m deep drops 1.7m to a twin level flattener cave. Map
- U157 Un-named cave 0.5m diam entrance drops 2.8m to chamber 3 x 4 x 0.4m high. Floor consists of rocks covered with silt/sand. Map
- U158 Un-named cave Entrance 0.8 x 0.4 x 5.1 m deep has been enlarged by drilling to 1.2 x 0.4m. Constricts to 0.5 x 0.3 at bottom. Cave not explored.
- U159 Un-named Cave 0.2m diam entrance in east end of depression 4.5 x 4 x 0.7m deep. Cave depth is 2.6m and diameter at least 2.0m. Cave appears to be silting up.
- U160 Un-named cave 3m wide by 1m high entrance in ridge in Reedy Creek leads to a chamber 6m long. Map
- U161 **WOODCUTTERS CAVE** Tube 0.6 x 0.7m drops 3.3 m to a small chamber with silt floor. Tagged.
- U162 Un-named collapse Collapse 4.5m diam x 2.5m deep is undercut by 1 m On north west side. Periodically fills with water. Collapse is in poorly consolidated rock of Parilla? sand and quartz. Map .