CEGSA NEWS



Newsletter of the Cave Exploration Group (South Australia) Inc.

Volume 45 Number 2 Issue 178 MAY 2000



CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) Inc.

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http://www.users.on.net/smilner/index.html

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Peter Kraehenbuehl As Above

Simon Kendrick

Marie Choi

As Above

As Above

As Above

Cover Photograph: Tracy Colhoun abseiling into Midnight Hole Cave in Tasmania.

Photo: Marie Choi.

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QUARTERMASTERS NOTE.

High usage equipment will now be stored at the quartermasters residence at 1 Hall St. Norwood. Please make arrangements with Simon well in advance of required date for equipment. Simon can be contacted at the telephone numbers on the previous page.

NEWSLETTER MATERIAL

The deadline for copy or background material for Volume 45 Number 2 (Issue 178) must reach the Editor by Wednesday 9th AUGUST 2000. Material not meeting this deadline may be retained for possible use in a following issue. The preferred method is via E-MAIL at atholjax@senet.com.au as an attachment or on 3.5" IBM floppy disk, in Word or ASCII text format. Of course other forms of communication will still be gratefully accepted.

The views expressed in this publication are those of individual authors and not necessarily those of the Cave Exploration Group (South Australia) Inc., its Committee or the Editor.



PRESIDENTS SPOT

Well there have been a few interesting events over the past few months, amongst them the Cavers Dinner at Penola, the return of some of our globe trotting members, another wedding and our regular caving activities.

The cavers dinner although not as well attended as previous dinners was still a great success, with CEGSA winning 1st and 3rd prizes in the Gorilla raffle and a Scout Caving person winning 2nd prize. An outstanding job was also done on Snake Hill Cave and for any of those who haven't been there for a while go and check it out.

We also need to welcome back Pam (Alvaro) Payne who has returned from the US with Tim after a 2-year absence. The "Pom" Damian, Amanda and Damon have made a short trip back, but will be heading back to the US in the near future to take up a new position at Kendall Jackson Winery in California (hmm - a trip to Lech sounds good). So if you haven't caught up with them make it quick!

Reto Zollinger, one of our Victorian members who attended the Caver's dinner married fellow caver Yvonne Ingeme the weekend after the caver's dinner. They are off on an extended honeymoon caving in Europe and the Kimberley's! Now that's a honeymoon.

The latest news I have is that Max Meth will be back home soon, I wonder how long before he gets out to the Nullarbor.

Well that's all my news for now. Keep Caving.

Marie Choi.

Friends of the Forrest

During the cave clean up at Snake Hill Trevor of Forestry SA informed us all about a new program that they were implementing. They had set up a 'Friends of the Forest' group with its aim being conservation projects. Members of the public are invited to be involved in a range of conservation projects involving Native forest under Forestry SA's control. Trevor was suggesting that cavers might wish to do a similar thing with caves under their control similar to Snake Hill.

I then met with Andrew Moyland in the Adelaide office. I was inducted as a co-ordinator, which basically means that I was informed of Forestry SA's policies and procedures and issues of occupational health and Safety. Andrew informs me that Forestry will supply safety equipment and some tools to do any cave projects. This could include more rubbish clean ups, blackberry removal and maybe even gating of significant caves. This does not have to be ongoing projects and may involve yearly cave clean ups as we have just done. Should you have any projects on forestry land let me know and we can register it. Its great to see organisations such as Forestry SA wanting to help out with projects like this.

Marie Choi.

Australian Business Number

CEGSA has applied to the Australian Taxation Office for an Australian Business Number. It should be allocated in time to apply to any GST transactions we need to make.

TRIP REPORTS

Tassie Tour 2000 December/January

Participants:

Marie Choi, Tracy Colhoun, Linda Deer, Dave Glowacki, Simon Kendrick

Guest Appearances Included:

Robyn Claire (Francistown), Arthur Clark (Francistown/Hobart), Guy, Gabby, Kahla, Reife, Sage (Howden), Chris Riley (Launceston), Ronny (Texas)

Dave and Linda left Adelaide on Boxing Day, spending two days driving to Melbourne via the Great Ocean Road. Arriving in Tasmania after having various hassles with the ferry, they spent a week touring through the Great Lakes and the northern areas of Tassie. Marie flew into Hobart and spent a couple of days with her friends Guy and Gabby. Simon and drove through the night to arrive in Melbourne at 3:00am to board their ferry at 6:30am. Everybody met at the Mole Creek Caravan Park on the Saturday afternoon, 8th January. Chris Riley from Northern Caveneers was camped at the nearby "cavers hut" were he was joined by Marie, Tracy and Simon.

Wet Cave MC: 203 09/1/00

Wow!! The day we had all been waiting for - our first day of Tasmania caving. After spending simply ages getting dressed, we trundled up the creek to the entrance of Wet Cave. We followed the creek most of the way through the cave, wading through water about mid-calf depth (apparently a lot lower than previous years). After taking a few side detours, we came to The Rockpile, climbing through the Lower Georgies into the Squashed Georgies. At this point, Chris Riley and Marie decided to exit the way we had come. The rest of us continued through into the Upper Georgies then into Root Hall, exiting via the MC201 entrance.

While bush bashing our way around the ridge back to the car, Linda managed to attract three leeches.

<u>Croesus Cave</u> <u>MC: 13</u> 10/1/00

Even after yesterday's cold introduction to Tasmanian Caving, we were all still enthusiastic. On arrival at the Mersey River, Chris Riley realised he had neglected to bring his helmet. So instead of caving he drove back to Launceston to pick up Ronny, a Northern Caveneer member from Texas. After finding the cold a little uncomfortable in Wet Cave, Tracy opted to wear two pairs of gloves and three pairs of socks. Linda chose to go with three pairs of socks (all thermal), wetsuit boots and hiking boots.

We were knee deep in freezing cold cave waters immediately after entering the cave. We followed the creek straight into The Wind Tunnel, a small vertical fissure, and waist deep in water with a very strong breeze hammering through it.

We continued following the creek trying to avoid the deeper parts of the pools as much as possible. Well, at least most of us tried. Marie just "ploughed" straight through no matter how deep they were! The Master Lock was our next major obstacle. Once again, we all tried to avoid the cruel fate of the freezing water. Unfortunately, Marie fell in and was forced to swim.

The Sugar Loaf was just around the corner. The area was track marked using fishing line and tinsel strips. It was an extremely effective but very unobtrusive way of track marking. We all stood in awe of The Red Shakoe Stalagmite before continuing on through the stream where the surrounding decoration just got better and better.

We finally reached The Golden Staircase only to find the raft had been removed. After a quick snack and a hand warming session, Tracy and Linda donned balaclavas for the return trip

We returned to the wonderful warmth of the rainforest in time for lunch.

Khubla Khan MC: 1 11/1/00

After only half a day of caving yesterday, we were ready for our decent into Khubla Khan. Marie had visited Khubla Khan a couple of times before so elected to have a rest day. While the rest of us were getting trogged, Dave and Ronny took a brisk hike up the hill to rig the lower entrance (our exit). After a *massive* hike up the hill, including a fair amount of sight seeing on the way, we finally made it to the top entrance. Ronny left us here, as he would spend the day cave hunting along the ridge.

The first two pitches were rigged as one. The third pitch followed shortly afterwards, led us straight into Khyber Pass. We climbed down through to The Opium Den where we were all blown away by the amazing aragonite clusters lining the walls.

Continuing through a small climb into The Forbidden City, we offloaded our packs and shoes before popping down to The Silk Shop for yet another ogle at Tasmania's never ending underground beauty.

We continued on through Khan's Army into Xanadu Chamber where we stopped for lunch in the shadow of the Khan (a 17m high stalagmite) with The Begum hovering in the distance (see the cover of Australian Caver, No 150).



The Forbidden City - Kubla Khan.

Photo - Dave Glowacki.

After lunch, we abseiled down through The Rift and continued into Sally's Folly where we all managed to avoid getting too wet and muddy. From here, we climbed up into Cairn Hall before abseiling over a frozen flowstone waterfall to the River Alph. During this abseil, Linda lost her footing and "slid rapidly" down the rope before regaining control. Simons 'brand new rope' now comes complete with bloodstains!! We continued on climbing up and over rocks and boulders towards The Pleasure Dome.

We took a wrong turn and instead of backtracking, decided to take an alternate route down the side of a large boulder. Dave and Chris managed to climb down with style while Simon took the express lane after dislodging a "secure" handhold. He gave himself a rather nasty gash on his index finger. It was a good thing that Nurse Tracy was on hand.

At The Pleasure Dome we de-trogged again, before scaling the massive, golden, sparkling, rim pools into this magical chamber. Dave spent some time taking photos while the rest of us stood in awe.

We finally headed back to the River Alph, knowing we would have to submerse ourselves in the icy waters once again. Dave misjudged his step and ended up over his head in the freezing river! It took his breath away.

We all took one final look back into Khubla Khan as we headed up the stairs to the base of the 30m SRT climb out.

We all made it safely back to the car to find Marie waiting with cold beer for all, not to mention our dry warm clothes.



Pleasure Dome - Kubla Khan.

Photo - Dave Glowacki.

<u>Marakoopa Cave</u> <u>MC: 15</u> <u>12/1/00</u>

After playing tourists all day, we got a later start than planned as our chefs were running late with dinner. Chris Riley and Tracy had decided to sit this one out, so Linda, Dave, Marie, Simon and Ronny entered the cave at around 7:30pm. We all abseiled over the fence at the end of the tourist path, apart from Ronny who free climbed as he had no vertical gear.

Our first stop was in a chamber where all the formations are precariously formed on thick layers of mud. It is quite remarkable.

We then made our way through a very large rock collapse chamber that was bare of any formations. Ronny then went to check the third sump to see if it was clear, while Dave photographed an area that was full of straws and flowstone. The area is well track marked. Ronny returned to inform us that the third sump was passable so we went for a look. A small but extended vertical slot was not appealing to Marie's new larger waistline. The small chamber where Marie waited had a wet sand cone with some plant debris in it. On the ceiling, some initials in the mud, "N. C. '97". The rest of us explored beyond the restriction for about 45 minutes before returning to collect Marie!!

We then moved to the area up near The Fireplace, which is wonderfully decorated with straws, helictites and aragonite. We also found the stunning selenite needles that had eluded us on the previous trip two years ago. The needles are in a small cluster near the wall. The longest needle

was around 20cm in length while only 1mm in diameter. We spent about half an hour in this chamber taking photos before heading out.

Marakoopa is quite a stunning little cave and often underrated. It is well worth a visit.

Lynd's Cave MC: 14 13/1/00

After last nights late trip to Marakoopa, Linda and Dave arrived at the cavers hut around 11:30am to collect the rest of us for the drive to Lynd's Cave

We did the pebble shuffle and wade along the Mersey River for the next kilometre to the entrance of Lynd's Cave. Linda and Marie attempted to find as many land tracks as possible as their pebble shuffle was not as elegant as the rest of the group. Chris Riley, Tracy, Simon and Ronny, were hooting ahead. Dave had given himself a day off and gone fishing to catch trout for our evening meal. We entered the cave through the 'high and dry' top entrance, which is a good idea in such a cold cave. We moved through at a reasonable rate. Having a quick look up at The Ballroom. This is a large flowstone area with some excellent roof formations. We found a large water barrel sitting on a chair, placed directly under some decoration. Someone appears to be measuring the drip rate of a stalactite. Unfortunately, the barrel was full and overflowing – surely ruining the experiment!!

We then moved through The Rockpile. Passing some excellent flowstone banks that didn't appear to be damaged like ones we had passed earlier. There is a suggestion that the damage to the flowstone was due to an earthquake 3 years ago. This part of the cave is beautifully decorated with numerous straws, stalactites and stalagmites. Ankle deep in water, we made our way to a formation called The Limetree. We returned mostly by the same route until we got near the entrance where we exited via the lower exit. Rather than climb around the final waterfall, Simon and Chris jumped into the pool and exited while the rest of the group traversed around the waterfall.

Simon, Tracy and Ronny swam across the river whilst the rest of us went the shallow way. After the cold water in the cave, the Mersey was positively "warm". Back at the cars we discovered that Dave hadn't had any luck fishing so it was sausages on the BBQ for tea.

<u>Above Ground</u> <u>14-16/1/00</u>

It was time for a change of scenery. We said farewell to Ronny, Chris Riley and Mole Creek. We spent a couple of days with Gabby and Guy at their house in Howden, south of Hobart, playing tourist. We then continued south to Francistown, near Dover, where we took up residence with Arthur Clark and Robyn Claire. There isn't room to tell you about Arthur's amazing house. All we can say is, that if you ever venture to Tasmania, it is a must to visit.

Midnight Hole / Mystery Creek IB: 11 – IB: 10 17-1-00

We parked the car on the Benders Quarry Road and double checked our gear and then checked it again as there was an uneasy feeling in the air (maybe we were all shit scared - who knows!). We walked along the old Ida Bay railway line to Blayney's Quarry and while walking through some long sword grass, Tracy came a little too close to a sunbathing Tiger Snake. After the quarry we started climbing up through the forest. By the time we reached the entrance, Marie had had enough of hurdling logs for one day. She opted to return to the car via Mystery Creek and take some photos. The rest of us continued into what was the deepest cave any of us had attempted before. The first

The rest of us continued into what was the deepest cave any of us had attempted before. The first pitch was 21 meters, second pitch was 11 meters long, third pitch 39 meters, fourth pitch 8 meters, fifth pitch 34 meters and the sixth pitch 55 meters. Each pitch following quickly after the one before. Using two 60m ropes and a 25m rope we were able to keep things moving along at a fast pace. At the bottom of the final pitch we were 166 meters below the entrance.

After all this vertical emptiness, it was a bit of a shock to be faced with the Matchbox Squeeze, which proved to be rather a challenge, even for us skinny bods

The cave soon opened up again into walking passage, as we made our way, via the Skyline Traverse, into Mystery Creek Cave. On the way to the entrance we stopped to gaze in awe at the glow-worms. A great through trip!

Wolf Hole 19/1/00

Our final day of caving was to Wolf Hole, with Arthur Clark. You can read a full report of Wolf Hole in CEGSA News, Volume 45, Number 1, Issue 177, February 2000, page 4.

As with all good things, our trip had to end. Marie returned to Guy and Gabby's House at Howden before flying home. Simon and Tracy spent a couple of days in Hobart, four days hiking the Mt Anne Circuit and two and a half days driving across Tasmania before catching the ferry and driving home.

Dave and Linda spent a further eight days touring the eastern coast climbing, walking and sight seeing before catching the ferry and driving home.

We will be returning to the southern most state of Australia in the not too distant future, be it for caving, climbing, hiking, touring or just general holidaying, Tasmania is simply wonderful.

The Team.

Cavers Dinner and Cave Clean Up: 4th - 5th March 2000

CEGSA: Marie Choi, Athol Jackson, Linda and Paul Deer, Dave Glowacki, Dave Trehearne, Reto Zollinger, June, George and Aaron MacLucas and, Gerret & Katrina Springer and Boys, Kevin Mott, Bridgett and Tom Wilkinson, Adam Branford.

CCV: Greg, Ian and Jenny Leader, Raia Wall, Neil Brenton, Ros and Susannah Quick, Yvonne Ingeme, Katherine Preece, George Bradford, Karen Smith, Glen Rabie, Simone Clancy, Ian Farhall, George, Lyn, Melissa and Nicole Christie.

Forestry SA: Trevor Wynniat

Visitors: Andrea Ratcliffe David Burt & Vanessa Bayliss

Linda Paul and myself set off sometime after 5pm for the drive to Penola and arrived sometime around 10pm, several Victorians had already arrived earlier and Whiskas had already made them feel at home. I got straight to work selling tickets to the gorilla as I had not even sold 25 tickets yet. Well they didn't take long to start buying, I mean who could resist, he was so cute.

Saturday morning everyone managed to get up at a reasonable hour to go caving. We all managed to leave around 10am. Dave Glowacki and Linda took half the group to Monbulla Wrecked Car for a short thru trip whilst I took the rest of the group to 5L23. We then met up at Monbulla for lunch in the shade of a big tree. Dave then took his group off to the joys of Gran Gran whilst my group did a quick in out trip of Monbulla. We then headed off to Mt Burr Cave where we found 1 bat and that the chamber with the lake is now the chamber with the mud. Only Gerret and Katrina were game to try the traverse across the lake whilst the rest of the group chose to exit the way we came. We returned to Whiskas to find the rest of the group had been encased in mud at Gran Gran as the lake had dried up also to a giant mud pool! Dave even washed all the groups' overalls so I am told!

We all managed to get cleaned up in time for the dinner and do a little more decorating with my flying bats. I also managed to sell a few more tickets and Reto and Yvonne donated one of their climbing cavers as second prize. Those that were coming just for the dinner arrived and as usual Andy outdid himself again.

The entree (smoked Trout) was very popular and when he called for seconds you better not have been in the way, I have never seen Athol move so quickly. The raffle was drawn after dinner with the



Tree Roots in 5L23.

Digital Photo - Athol Jackson.



Overall Stuffing Competition. Digital Photo - Athol Jackson.

gorilla being won by Athol, keep in mind that he won the Laurie light last year. Mel from the Scout shop won the climbing caver and Reto won the batteries and key ring. After dinner some drinking and chatting and Dave Treherne's mini demo with the gear freaks the games began. We warmed up with the coat hanger and moved to an oversized coat hanger that Whiskas had kindly made, we managed to get 11 cavers in it we then moved to the giant overall squeeze for which CEGSA held the record. Unfortunately due to the lack of CEGSA members and a number of rather pint sized Vics we lost the title. The rest of the night was spent socialising (was one of our younger members checking out one of the Vics?, he denies everything).

Amazingly most people got up in time for the 9am start at 5L119 Snake hill cave.

Cave Clean Up

Trevor Wynniat, and Kevin Mott were already hard at work at the cave when the first lot of us arrived. The main cave entrance already had all the large rubbish removed, as did the back entrance that was full of car bodies. Trevor had been true to his word and had the heavy machinery in the previous day. We now had a very achievable task ahead of us. Once the stragglers arrived we had approximately 30 cavers to do the clean up.

The group split up into several teams and attacked the various entrances. One team entered the cave to reach a large chamber that contained almost an entire dismantled car while other cavers positioned at a roof hole with a rope to haul the rubbish out. No snakes were found at or in the cave but there were a number of bats.



Extracting old Car Engine Block From Snake Hill Cave. Digital Photo – Athol Jackson.



Heaps of Car Junk Pulled out of Snake Hill Cave. Digital Photo – Athol Jackson.

After loading the large trailer with numerous bags of rubbish and retrieving the larger rubbish through the roof hole we were treated to a free sausage and coke lunch by the "Clean up Australia" organisers. All in all I believe that it was a very successful clean up and weekend. I hope that we can do at least one of these a year.

Marie Choi.

Warraweena Cave, 25th April 2000

Party: Simon Kendrick, Tracy Colhoun and others.

At 4.30am on Good Friday we left Adelaide with the car packed ready for ten days of activities in the Flinders Ranges. We met another four cars in Hawker and then continued on to Warraweena Station, via Beltana and Sliding Rock. Over the next four days we walked extensively over the station, including; climbing Mount Hack, walking from Old Warraweena to Warraweena via Mount Gill, aboriginal etchings near Mount Stuart and Dunbar Well to Warrioota Spring. In the evenings we chatted with Graham and Margaret, the Managers of the property. I reminisced about growing up at

(old) Leigh Creek and about camping at Old Warraweena as a Scout in the early '70's. On Anzac Day we drove out to Warraweena Cave 5F10, with Graham.

Having heard so much about Warraweena Cave over the years I was chafing at the bit to get inside. "The small entrance is in the saddle of a hill. The passage descends steeply 17m to very large chamber with a rock fall floor. From here a passage leads to a lower level.

Many parts of the cave are covered with very sharp dogtooth calcite crystals, and great care is needed when visiting the cave. There is some damage to the cave prior to the gate being installed."

- Caves of the Flinders Ranges, edited by Peter Kraehenbuehl, 1997.

Graham entered first and waited at the bottom of the entrance climb, Tracy entered next and positioned herself half way down. Then we helped seven members of the "Friends of the Heysen Trail & Other Walking Trails" down. As a group, we followed the marked track through the main chamber marvelling at the extensive decoration. Because of the size and experience of the party we did not enter the lower section of the cave, but instead exited via the route we had entered. Graham was sensitive to the cave environment and a great help with the group.

From Warraweena, we drove to the Gammons meeting David Trehearne and his partner Andrea at Grindell Hut. The next three days were spent hiking – North Branch Italowie Creek, Wildflower Creek, Rover Rockhole, Fern Chasm, The Terraces, Streak Gorge, Junction Waterhole, South Branch Italowie Creek. Our final night was spent at the Copley Hotel before returning to Adelaide and the reality of work.

Simon Kendrick

TECHNICAL and OTHER ARTICLES

THE RIDDLE OF THE BLUE LAKE:

SOLVED?

In an article in The Advertiser of February 29th, 2000 by Belinda Huppatz a theory is presented by hydro-geologist, Andrew Telfer, as to why the Blue Lake turns blue.

WHY IS THE LAKE BLUE?

- □ The natural colour of water is blue but most lakes contain tannins, which are yellow.
- □ When yellow tannins are added to blue water the water turns green or, in some cases, brown.
- The Blue Lake has few tannins and most come from the algae that lives and dies in the lake.

WHY DOES IT CHANGE COLOUR?

- In early summer, white calcite taken into the lake by water travelling through limestone forms near the surface of the lake. This makes the water appear light blue.
- Throughout the summer the calcite continues to form, stripping tannins from the water through a chemical reaction. The calcite and tannins settle on the lake's floor.
- As tannin in the lake's top 15m continues to fall the lake turns a deeper blue.
- In winter, the lake is thoroughly stirred by water entering the system again. Dead algae that produces tannin again returns to the surface turning it green-grey.

A20 not the first cave lost on the Fleurieu Peninsula

During a talk on Sellicks Hill Quarry Cave I had been asked to give to the Southern Rockhounds at Port Noarlunga on 3rd April, which principally concerned the Cambrian limestones of the Normanville Group, I also made brief mention that I had heard of reported difficulties encountered about forty years ago during the construction of the Myponga Dam. About all I knew was that due to the unexpectedly cavernous nature of a bed of Brighton limestone under part of the dam wall, for a little while it looked as though the dam might have had water retention capabilities resembling a colander. The problem was remedied by the application of copious quantities of cement grout.

As always, when public speaking, it is a good idea not to bend the truth too much, because you never know who in your audience might know more about your subject than you do. In this case I was in luck. Southern Rockhound and former CEGSA member Len Dallow, not only backed up the thrust of what I had said, but did so with indisputable authority. Len was actually working there at the time. What he told us was so interesting that I asked him to commit his recollections to paper, and he has kindly done so. Len's report follows.

Grant Gartrell

Cave Occurrence at the Myponga Dam site, 1959 / 60

These notes on a cave occurrence discovered when excavations for the Myponga Dam were underway were made for Grant Gartrell after his presentation to the Southern Rockhounds at the April General meeting on caves, particularly those at Sellicks Hill.

During the construction phase of the Myponga Dam I was a Technical Assistant working with the Engineering & Water Supply Department. After almost 40 years these notes become almost historical and may be of interest to other people.

Prior to any earthwork on the actual site a pattern of 2" diamond drill holes was drilled over the abutment areas. Although this work indicated that there were some drainage channels in the limestone no actual cavities were reported. The original work program included a cement grout curtain to seal them.

During the excavation of the southern abutment it was found that the limestone had a number of cavities that threatened the viability of the dam wall. About this same time the spillway area was being excavated and, in some cases 22ft drill rods just "dropped into the hole and disappeared." A Mines Dept. Geologist [R (?) Johns] carried out an inspection and managed to work his way into some cavities, one of which he could stand up in. I also recall that he brought out a stalactite from one of the caves.

Following his report the abutment excavation was deepened a further 20 feet to try and determine the extent of the cave system. No major cavity was found but large cracks and fissures were common. A major concern was felt by the Government and, even though 1.1 million pounds had already been spent, there was a thought that the project may have to be abandoned.

After the excavation of the extra 20 feet, a small shaft approx. 3' square and maybe 4' deep was sunk towards the southern wall. I dropped a stone into a crack on the southern wall of this hole and it could be heard clattering its way down into the depths. From later experience with mine shafts and relying on memory, I would estimate that it fell, striking the walls as it dropped, at least 60 – 70 feet.

The E. & W. S. Dept. brought in a Caterpillar driven pump and sited it alongside the pool to the north of the diversion dam. Six inch (150mm) camlock pipes were then run up the side of the hill to discharge into the small shaft. A quantity of fluorescein dye was added to the water and a

pumping program of 640,000 gallons/hour (3 megalitres/ hour) for about 12 hours was commenced.

A day or so prior to the pumping, the E&WS employees, including myself, had made small catchment dams of clay around any seepage along the southern bank of the creek. These were checked hourly while the pumping was in progress but no indication of green colour was detected nor could any increase in rate of seepage be detected. However one man reported that he had climbed up to a small hole near the first bend in the creek and he could hear the sound of running water coming from depth. As far as I'm aware, this report was not acted upon.

No sign of green water was detected anywhere at the dam site but local fishermen reported that the sea had turned green about 3 miles out from Myponga Beach – this was not officially confirmed or acknowledged.

As an aside, the owner of 'Lovely Valley' farm north of the dam, Reg Oldfield, stated that when he tried to smoke a fox out of a hole north of the dam site smoke issued from other holes all over the hill

GROUTING

A program was set up to grout the base, creating a 'wall' beneath the wall. In principle a slurry of water and cement was made and then pumped under pressure into 2" drill holes drilled to a depth of (I think) 200 ft. Lead wool would be tamped into any cracks etc that 'bled' during the grouting to seal them up.

The full extent of the labyrinth became obvious when about 4000 bags of cement would be pumped into a hole until it would take no more. Another hole would be drilled; sometimes less than 12" away and another 4000 odd bags would be pumped in – and so on. A great number of the holes took above 2,500 bags of cement. I am not sure of the total amount of cement used but it would have been many thousands of bags.

Len Dallow

COMMENT

The total amount of water pumped down the hole over the twelve hours was about 36,000 cubic metres, with no apparent sign that the cavity was anywhere near filling to full capacity. It was draining away freely, but not back to the surface near the dam. There is no obvious sign of any outflow further down the Myponga River. If any drill logs were kept for the grouting drill holes, the principal depth of the cavities below the dam wall might be known, but in any event, from what Len can recall, the cavities were at considerable depth, so it is not all that surprising that no green water was observed on the surface downstream of the dam.

A hole of 36,000 cubic metres is a sizable void. Yet this is a lower limit for what lay below. The actual cavity could have been many times this volume. Even if a significant fraction of this was in the form of impenetrable cracks, these tend not to account for much volume, and any reasonable model of cavernous development of this size is likely to include significant amounts of negotiable cavern. If we stick to the 36,000 cubic metres and propose a model in which 80% of the cave volume is 20% of the length of the cave, and vice versa, we could have in excess of 1km of passages 3m wide x 9m high, with the remaining 4km (plus) of fissures perhaps still 9m high, but only averaging about 200mm wide.

Even though a large quantity of grout undoubtedly did its job well enough to keep most of the water in the reservoir, it is apparent that a significant amount of this cave system is likely to still exist substantially grout-free further along in the limestone away from the dam wall. Whether we will ever prove this or gain access to it is another matter. Got a drilling rig, anyone?

Grant Gartrell

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS – WELCOME TO

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A DEER Paul 0004 8396 5386

6 Amethyst Crescent, HOPE VALLEY SA 5070

A GIBBONS Chris 0005 8258 9847

9 Cuthbert Avenue, SALISBURY EAST SA 5109

A McFADYEN Barbara 0006 8258 9752 (W) 8223 7662 2 Dean St, PARA HILLS WEST SA 5096

TRANSFER TO FULL MEMBERSHIP

F COLHOUN Tracy 9309 8331 3750 1 Hall St, NORWOOD SA 5067

WELCOME BACK

CA BRANFORD Adam 9605 8723 4007 (W) 8739 4309 PO Box 2511, MT. GAMBIER SA 5090

CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER AND E.MAIL

CF WILKINSON Bridget 8205 8735 6047

George St, SOUTH END SA 5280 lincsimp@dov.net.au

F MACLUCAS June 9209 <u>junemacl@senet.com.au</u>

F MILNER Steve 9004 steve.milner@adelaide.on.net

UPDATE WITH NEWS OF COUNTRY MEMBERS

Congratulations and a warm welcome to Harrison Lowe born to CEGSA Member Dave and Ruth Lowe of Alice Springs. Well done.

Welcome back to Australia Max Meth and a special welcome to your wife Hennie from the Philippines. Max tells me that his beard has gone and he is sporting a great tan.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR COUNTRY MEMBERS

9906 - Paul Devine from Kalgoorlie WA

Paul started caving in 1984 with the Venturers on the Sunshine Coast of Queensland. When he turned 18 he joined a group of ex Venturers at Rockhampton and met Joe and Diane Varvyn (Diane is the bat guide at Mt Etna). Paul has been a member of CQSS Central Queensland Speleo Society and KSS Kempsey Speleo Society in New South Wales. Eventually he shifted to Western Australia looking for work and has undertaken about 20 trips out to the Nullarbor caving in the last 3 years. He was looking for caves alone until he met Max Meth who inspired and encouraged further adventure and knowledge of the Nullarbor area. Paul who is a very active member is also a member of SRGWA and has caved extensively in 4 states.

Other interest: Main passion is caving, mountaineering, bush walking and gold prospecting.



Photo by George MacLucas.

April 2000.

9108 - Max Hall from Esperance WA.

Max worked as a Starling Control Officer at Madura and Eucla WA before settling to work at the Balladonia Road House. In his spare time he would travel alone around the bush by his well-equipped vehicle or motorbike looking at various caves and blowholes. In 1990 after walking through Mullamullang which he had undertaken a number of times, he took a photo of one of Norm Poulter's internal signs. This had Norm's phone number and Max decided to give him a call. Norm seen the potential and suggested Max join SRGWA, which he did. If you have seen Max on the Nullarbor (in pink overalls) you will notice that his vehicle is very well set up for all kinds of emergencies as well as being completely self reliant, it's quite a work of

Over the years Max has been responsible for finding a number of caves on the Nullarbor and when asked says the highlight of his caving experiences was finding Carlisle Cave 6N707.



Photo by June MacLucas.

April 1999.

Other interest: For Max most of his interests are connected in some way to caving, the challenge and excitement of looking for new caves, looking at maps and photographing caves and flying his aircraft. His dream is to repair his very light aircraft and get it up and running to look for more caves. (Max tells me that the pink overalls were the result of a washing mishap.)

June MacLucas (Membership Officer)

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE! YEAR 2000 CEGSA MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE:

FULL MEMBERSHIP	\$37
ASSOCIATE MEMBER	\$30
LONG TERM ASSOCIATE	\$37
COUNTRY FULL MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT	\$6

VARIATION FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

1) 1^{ST} FULL MEMBER \$37 + 2^{ND} FULL MEMBER \$37 = 2) 1^{ST} FULL MEMBER \$37 + 2^{ND} ASSOC MEMBER \$30 = \$74 \$67 3) DISCOUNT FOR ONLY ONE CEGSA NEWS

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

AUSTRALIAN SPELEOLOGICAL FEDERATION (ASF) FEES FOR YEAR 2000 (INCLUDES INSURANCE)

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

June MacLucas (Treasurer)

LIBRARY AND RECORDS

With the recent disbandment of the Subterranean Foundation of South Australia their stock of slides, postcards, 14th ASF Speleovision Magazines and Occasional Paper No. 6 have been donated to CEGSA Library. These have now been placed into our selling stock and are available from the Librarian.

Received from the Department for Environment Heritage and Aboriginal Affairs Government of SA copy of Review of Nullarbor Regional Reserve 1989-1999 and A Review of Yellabinna Regional Reserve 1990-2000.

CEGSA purchased two CD Rom Topomap disks 1:50,000 for South East and Copley Parachilna. These can be viewed at the library by appointment.

Also purchased were 8 "Walkabout" Magazines with caving articles from around Australia. These include articles on Nullarbor, Buchan, Yarrangobilly, Naracoorte, Margaret River, Jenolan and Augusta Cave WA.

Simon Kendrick donated a diving manual for Skin Diving, Scuba Diving and Open Water Diving by Dennis Graver as well as 10 Newsletters from ADDICT Dive Club SA from July 1999 to Feb 2000 and the *Snowgum Clothing and Equipment 2000* catalogue.

Simon also handed in the following monographs: "Naracoorte Caves" by A B Hock, a paper from Surveying Australia Magazine Sept 1994 pp 27-32 where plans of safety for the public were drawn as requested by Department of Mines and Energy. 1983 Battle of the French against the Australian Cave Diving team trying to get to the end of Cocklebiddy Cave by Liz Johnswood. "Bungonia" NSW from Action Outdoor Sports Vol. 1 No. 2 pp 66-69. "Photography Underground" by Trevor Dawes from Outdoor Magazine July 1981 pp 82-85. "Cutta Cutta Cave Tours" NT from Action Outdoor Australia pp 90-93. "Byaduk Caves", Victoria from Action Outdoor Magazine Oct/Nov 1981 pp 28-30. "Kubla Khan" Mole Creek, Tasmania from Outdoor Magazine pp 16-19 (with editorial photo boo-boo crystal growth photograph shown upside down). "Wilson Creek Caves" Buchan Victoria, Caves for beginners from Outdoor Magazine pp 22-16. "An Intro to Life Underground" from Action Outdoor Australia pp 36-39. "The Treasures of Cape Range" by David Sutton from Habitat Australia Feb 2000 pp 16-19.

Also Simon handed in 9 different newspaper articles. Seven clippings were about the Mystery Creek Cave Tragedy where 3 women drowned in 1990. 8th article is a clipping on Fleurieu Peninsula Caves and has a picture of our own Grant Gartrell 1995. And the 9th article is on a new cave found in France in 1998 40km west of the city of Montpellien where 4 human skeletons were found dating back to Neolithicera (8,000-3,500 BC).

Monograph received from George MacLucas highlighting "Difficulties of Rescue from Caves in Australia" by B Dutton President of Savage River Caving Club, from National Emergency Response Vol. 2 No. 1 March 1999 pp 38-45.

George MacLucas Library And Records Officer

COMING TRIP - QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND

<u>10 – 12 June.</u>

Come along and join the Vics at Mt Eccles for a great weekend of caving and Socialising. Cost \$4 Donation

Details

Accommodation will be camping at Mt Eccles Camping Ground, which has hot showers, flush toilets (are these flush with the ground? - ed) and open fireplaces. It is in a nice natural bush setting with

plenty of Koalas and Wallabies (and hundreds of bunnies!!). The Koalas actually come down out of the trees in the morning and walk around the camp. George will supply us with firewood and there are usually plenty of small branches lying around for kindling. George is tentatively booking adjoining campsites for about 30.

Caving will be at Mt Eccles and Byaduk lava caves, and Drik Drik and Portland if people want to travel a bit further. Those who want to can also do some surface trogging. We don't need permits for any of the caving, so we can see what people want to do on the day. We will probably plan caving for Sat, Sun and Monday morning, finishing about 1pm so people can head off home. Most caving will be suitable for beginners and children. Bring kneepads and gloves for the lava caves, or you will suffer! For those into photography, some of the collapses are Byaduk are worth photographing, as they are full of ferns and look quite spectacular. As it will be winter, we are planning to have a large tent for people to eat and socialise in if it rains (byo chairs). George is going to try to get the McArthur football clubrooms for Sat and Sun evenings. I haven't seen them, but he said they are heated and have a good kitchen, so people can cook there if they don't want to cook at the camping ground. We can also show slides, play games, etc. (Bring the overalls!) He thinks it will be about \$50 per night to hire the clubrooms, so we can just ask people for a \$2-\$4 donation to cover the cost. For those who don't want to cook, the McArthur pub has passable counter meals. You can also buy ice there. Entertainment will be planned. Don't know what as yet, but probably slides and games for starters. If people are interested, we could get Ken Grimes to give a short talk on the natural history of the area.

For non-cavers there are plenty of bush walks and Hamilton is about 20 minutes drive away, although I'm not sure what there is to see or do there, as we always just drive through it. (I can ask George to pick up some tourist brochures). There is also a nice walk around the Crater Lake at Mt Eccles and the hardy can even go for a swim.

Bookings can be made with George Christie (03) 5578 7201, or Ros Quick (03) 9888 3696 or minky@pacific.net.au.

Those who have booked with me (MARIE) need not book again.

TRAINING

Legal action against leaders and organisers of outdoor activities is increasing. A claim on the basis of negligence may be made if an accident occurs.

Claimants need to establish that;

- 1. there was a *duty of care* owed to the injured party. While this is clearly the case in the teacher-student relationship, it is also the case in a leader-group member situation.
- there was a breach of the *duty of care*. This could either be by performing badly "commission" or by not acting at all "omission". ie. The leader acted in a manner outside the guidelines for good practice or outside the A.S.F.'s code of practice(s).
- 3. the breach of the *duty of care* led to the harm or injury. ie. A "casual link".
- 4. there was actual harm or damage. This could be material damage, personal injury or emotional damage.

"Teachers are treated by the law as being *in loco parentis* to the pupil. This leads to the expectation that they will exercise in respect to pupils the same care and supervision as a careful parent would." Bushwalking and Mountain Leadership, 1994

All leaders of, coordinators of; instigators of caving activities should be aware of their responsibilities and their *duty of care* to other participants.

Simon Kendrick. Safety & Training Officer.

INDEX TO VOLUME 44

Volume 44 contained the following issues:

44 (1) February 1999

44 (2) May 1999

44 (3) August 1999

44 (4) November 1999

The index is divided into the following categories

Caving activity by region

Technical and Other articles

Key to abbreviations used in this index

В	Biological	B0	Botanicai
D	Description	Di	Diving
E	Exploration	F	Fantasy
Н	History	L	Locate
M	Мар	Р	Photography
Pa	Palaeontology	S	Surveying
Sc	Scientific	SR	Search & Rescue
Т	Tourist	Tg	Tagged
Tr	Training	W	Work

CAVING ACTIVITY

Caving activities are listed by Cave Number, Newsletter Reference, Author, and Type of activity.

ADELAIDE HILLS

A5	44 (2) p36	G Gartrell	Н
A6	44 (2) p36	G Gartrell	Н
A20	44 (2) p37	G Gartrell	Н
A25	44 (2) p36	G Gartrell	Н
A30	44 (2) p36	G Gartrell	Н

EYRE PENINSULA

No trips

FLINDERS RANGES

F3	44 (3) p59	F Hankinson	E, P
	44 (3) p60	S Kendrick	E
F4	44 (3) p58	F Hankinson	E, P
	44 (3) p60	S Kendrick	E
F7	44 (3) p60	S Kendrick	E

KANGAROO ISLAND

No trips

LOWER SOUTH EAST

L6	44 (2) p40	P Horne	Т
	44 (3) p60	S Kendrick	Т
L8	44 (1) p7	J Gheude	Т

L9 L15 L18 L19 L21	44 (1) p7 44 (2) p41 44 (3) p60 44 (2) p34 44 (1) p7 44 (3) p60	J Gheude P Horne S Kendrick M Choi J Gheude S Kendrick	T T E T
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L60 L61 L69 L72 L74 L119	44 (3) p60 44 (2) p40 44 (3) p60 44 (1) p7 44 (2) p40 44 (1) p7	P Horne S Kendrick J Gheude P Horne J Gheude	T E D B, E
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M1 M18 M35 M36 M37	44 (3) p60 44 (3) p60 44 (1) p11 44 (1) p11 44 (1) p11	S Kendrick S Kendrick G MacLucas G MacLucas G MacLucas	E E E, H, P, S E, H, P, S E, H, P, S
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N9 N20 N22 N24 N37 N40 N63 N83 N206	44 (4) p73 44 (4) p74 44 (4) p73 44 (1) p4 44 (3) p60 44 (3) p60 44 (3) p60 44 (4) p74 44 (1) p5 44 (2) p43	G Pilkington G Pilkington G Pilkington M Meth S Kendrick S Kendrick S Kendrick G Pilkington M Meth K Boland	D, L, S E E E E, S E D, E, H
	44 (2) p44	K Boland	M

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N222 N326 N360 N415	44 (1) p4 44 (1) p6 44 (3) p60 44 (1) p4	M Meth M Meth S Kendrick M Meth	S E
N426 N483 N645	44 (3) p60 44 (1) p6 44 (4) p76	S Kendrick M Meth S Milner	E B, E D, E
N745 N1347	44 (4) p77 44 (1) p5 44 (1) p4	M Meth M Meth	M E
N1357? N1369 N1384 N1411 N1412	44 (1) p5 44 (1) p4 44 (1) p4 44 (1) p4 44 (1) p4	M Meth M Meth M Meth M Meth M Meth	D, L, Tg
N1414 N1426 N1428	44 (1) p4 44 (1) p4 44 (4) p76 44 (1) p4	M Meth M Meth S Milner M Meth	D, E
N1440	44 (4) p76 44 (4) p77 44 (1) p6	S Milner M Meth	D, E M D, H
N1441 N1444 N1452	44 (1) p4 44 (1) p4 44 (1) p4	M Meth M Meth M Meth	D, Tg
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N1460 N1461 N1463	44 (1) p5 44 (1) p5 44 (1) p5	M Meth M Meth M Meth	D, L, Tg D, L, Tg D, L, Tg
N1464 N1465	44 (1) p5 44 (1) p5 44 (4) p75 44 (4) p77	M Meth M Meth S Milner	D, L, Tg D, H, L, Tg D, E M
N1466	44 (1) p5 44 (4) p75 44 (4) p77	M Meth S Milner	D, L, Tg D, E M
N1510 N1569 N1570 N1571	44 (1) p4 44 (1) p4 44 (1) p5 44 (1) p5 44 (4) p75	M Meth M Meth M Meth M Meth S Milner	D, L, Tg D, Tg D, H, L D, E
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N1637 N1638	44 (4) p73 44 (4) p73	G Pilkington G Pilkington	D, L D, E, L

N1639	44 (4) p74	G Pilkington	D, L
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U1	44 (4) p78	M Choi	Pa
U4	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В
U8	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В
U12	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В
U15	44 (1) p12	G MacLucas	Е
U17	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В
U22	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В
U37	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В
U38	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В
U47	44 (1) p6	J Gheude	Е
U73	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В
U74	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В
U163	44 (3) p59	M Choi	E, S
U172	44 (3) p59	M Choi	В

YORKE PENINSULA

Y1 44 (2) p41 M Choi E

INTERSTATE & OVERSEAS

Drik Drik	44 (2) p34	M Choi	E, S
Pearces Cave	(Vic)44 (2) p40	P Horne	Т
USA	44 (3) p53	M Choi	E, T
2J9	44 (3) 60	S Kendrick	Т
3G6	44 (1) p7	J Gheude	Т

TECHNICAL AND OTHER ARTICLES

Technical and Other Articles list the Title of the article, Newsletter reference and the Author.

Abseiling incident	F Hankinson	44 (3) p61
22 nd Biennial ASF Conference	J MacLucas	44 (1) p7
Cave nomenclature LSE	K Mott	44 (4) p79
CEGSA – VSA Dinner	M Choi	44 (1) p12
Correction to article 43 (4) p107	D Trehearne	44 (1) p16
Getting bugs out of cave soils	D Walter	44 (1) p13
Index Volume 43		44 (1) p23
Observations of the ACKMA conf.	G Gartrell	44 (2) p42
Periodicals list – CEGSA		44 (1) p18
Report of ASF Council meeting	J MacLucas	44 (1) p15
Research in the redwoods	D Grindley	44 (2) p38
Wedding D Grindley - A Wagener		44 (2) p33
Whaletail	S Kendrick	44 (3) p63

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Type of Event	Description	Contact
24/05/00	General Meeting	Old Queens Arms Hotel, 88 Wright St. Adel.	Marie Choi
27/05/00	Working Bee	Library and records	George MacLucas
10-12/06	Caving (Lava Caves)	Mt. Eccles / Byaduk (see article p42)	Marie Choi
14/06/00	Committee Meeting	Simons Place	Marie Choi
17/06/00	Caving	Murray River Area	Simon Kendrick
28/06/00	General Meeting	Royal Society Room	Marie Choi
1/07/00	Working Bee	Library and Records	George MacLucas
12/07/00	Committee Meeting	Simons Place	Marie Choi
15-16/07	Caving	Flinders (Buckalowie Creek)	Simon Kendrick
26/07/00	General Meeting	Royal Society Room	Marie Choi
29/07/00	Working Bee	Library and Records	George MacLucas
9/08/00	Committee Meeting	Simons Place	Marie Choi
23/08/00	General Meeting	Old Queens Arms Hotel, 88 Wright St. Adel.	Marie Choi
26/08/00	Working Bee	Library and Records	George MacLucas
26-27/08	Caving	Flinders (Wooltana)	Simon Kendrick
	Caving	Several trips planned to Flinders Ranges	Eddie Rubessa
	Caving	Regular trips to 5A25 contact	Grant Gartrell

Don't forget to register your trip with the Trip Liaison Officer so that the trip becomes official and is covered by insurance. If it is not registered then it is not covered and you may be liable. Also, please make sure that a report of the trip is submitted.

Some interesting definitions for cavers:

ACHLUOPHILIA: Love of darkness.

CHASMOPHILIA: Attraction to nooks, crannies, crevices, and chasms.

CLAUSTROPHILIA: Love of being confined in small places.
KENOPHILIA: Attraction to empty or open spaces.
LITHOPHILIA: Attraction to stones, gravel, or mud.

LYGOPHILIA: An abnormal desire to be in dark or gloomy places.

MOLYSMOPHILIA: Attraction to dirt, filth, or contamination (see MYSOPHILIA).

MYSOPHILIA: Love of dirt or becoming dirty. SCOTOPHILIA: Turned on by darkness.

TAPHEPHILIA: Arousal from being buried alive.

Source: Cavers Digest, September 1999 (Paul Steward).

Steve Milner.