

CEGSA NEWS



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

Volume 50 Number 3

Issue 199

AUGUST 2005



CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) Inc.

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

<http://www.cegsa.org.au> (under reconstruction)

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

2005 Committee

President / Public Officer / SASC Rep / Library & Records	Graham Pilkington	(H) 8395 6713 (W) 8395 6713 (E) p-c-h@bigpond.net.au
Secretary / Safety Officer / Special Projects Co-ord.	Mark Sefton	(H) 8277 9086 (W) 8303 6600 (E) seftons@senet.com.au
Treasurer / Membership	Chris Gibbons	(H) 8258 9847 (E) rachgibbons@bigpond.com
Publications / Trip Log Book / Website Coordinator	Athol Jackson	(H) 8337 8759 (E) atholjax@adam.com.au
Training Co-ord. / Fundraising	Marie Choi	(H) 8322 0895 (W) 8326 1777 (M) 0429 696 299 (E) battymariec@picknowl.com.au
Visitor Liaison	Bill Binks	(M) 0427 852 628 (W) 8389 8800 (E) binks.bill@saugov.sa.gov.au
Member Liaison	Stan Flavel	(H) 8380 5404 (W) 8303 4569 (E) stanley.flavel@adelaide.edu.au
Museum Representative	Terry Reardon	C/- SA Museum

Other Office Bearers

Quartermaster / Search & Rescue / Key & GPS Holder	Paul Harper	(H) 8297 8878 (W) 8222 5615 (E) pharper@mail.rah.sa.gov.au
---	-------------	---

Area Coordinators

Nullarbor Plain, Eyre Peninsula	Max Meth	(H) 8625 2700
Upper & Lower S E, Glenelg River	Kevin Mott	(H) 8723 1461 (W) 8735 1131 (E) mott.kevin@saugov.sa.gov.au
Adelaide & Kangaroo Is.	Grant Gartrell	(H) 8556 9100 (E) blueberrypatch@bigpond.com
Flinders	Eddie Rubessa	(H) 8336 4775

Representatives

ASF	Marie Choi	As Above
SA Speleological Council	Graham Pilkington	As Above
Leadership Standards - Working Group	Marie Choi Peter Kraehenbuehl	As Above (H) 8278 4531 (E) krunchy@bigpond.com

Cover Photograph:

Dripping stalactite in Sand Funnel Cave.

Photo by Damian Grindley.

CONTENTS**Volume 50 Number 3****Issue 199****AUGUST 2005****CONTENTS**

	AUTHOR	PAGE
Committee and Office Bearers		67
Contents		68
Presidents Spot	Graham Pilkington	69
New Trip Leader Status Requirements	Committee	69

TRIP REPORTS

Corra Lynn Trip Report 29 th May 2005	Graham Pilkington	70
Corra Lynn Trip Report 31 st July 2005	Graham Pilkington	70
Corra Lynn Trip Report 6 th August 2005	Graham Pilkington	70
Use of fire to locate Karst features	Kevin Mott	71
Sand Funnel Survey weekend 10 th -12 th June 05 Blog Posting	Damian Grindley	71
5 Days Caving in Southern Thailand	George McLucas	73
Vanuatu Update	Richard (Harry) Harris	76

TECHNICAL AND OTHER ARTICLES

Membership	Chris Gibbons	79
Membership Fees	Chris Gibbons	79
Records and Library	Graham Pilkington	80
Blogs in Caving	Damian Grindley	81
Notice of Motion to Change Rules	Committee	82
CEGSA's 50 th Birthday Party	Marie Choi	83
Calendar of Events	Committee	84

QUARTERMASTERS NOTE.

High usage equipment will now be stored at the quartermaster's residence. Please make arrangements with the QM well in advance of required date for equipment. The QM can be contacted at the telephone numbers on the previous page.

NEWSLETTER MATERIAL

The deadline for copy or background material for Volume 50 Number 4 (Issue 200) must reach the Editor by Wednesday **9th NOVEMBER 2005**. Material not meeting this deadline may be retained for possible use in a following issue. The preferred method is via E-MAIL to atholjax@adam.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**

As you will read later, CEGSA has just established a new Leadership scheme. Leaders are intended for caving trips with dependant persons. However, the "Coordinator" level is for anyone establishing a trip. It exists, amongst other things, to make sure that all the necessary protocols are observed (such as the requirements for obtaining permission to enter a specific cave).

An observation that is often made about established cavers (that is those who persist in caving and are not just trying it out) is that they are individuals who only work together because they have to, to achieve their individual aims. Put another way, ALL members of a peer caving group tend to think of themselves as the leader. The others are only present to help them do their own thing. In this sense, "leader" means the one setting the agenda; the one in charge of the aim of the trip. Just like a chauffer appears to be in charge of the destination of a vehicle, it is the person in the backseat who is really in charge. The constraints of a cave allow all backseat drivers to think that they are in charge because all are going to get to the same destination by a common route using the same equipment. This fiction allows many dominant people to actually work as a caving team without the conflict that occurs when you put them in the same room to discuss any subject. I suspect that caving together actually helps team members to coordinate their activities above ground as well as below because they unconsciously think of themselves as a caving team when placed together. Maybe the best way to resolve conflicts is to go caving together before any discussion takes place.

Graham Pilkington

%%%%%%%%%

NEW TRIP LEADER STATUS REQUIREMENTS

The committee has spent much time and effort in modifying the requirements for trip leaders to bring them into line with ASF guidelines where it applies to South Australia so that there will be minimal affect when the State review policies are implemented. A review is being carried out now and CEGSA has representatives on the review panel.

We have introduced a new category of Trip Coordinator for those members who are good at organising trips but do not want to lead an underground party or who do not have the necessary skills for that particular cave. The Trip Leader categories have been reduced to three, namely;

Horizontal,
Laddering and
Vertical.

All trip leader names will be placed in the newsletter and will be available for peer review so that if members do not believe a member should have that status level they may appeal the appointment to the committee.

The new requirements take effect immediately and members who have existing status will be required to update their status as soon as possible. All existing trip leaders' status will expire at the next AGM in February. All Full Members should receive a copy of the explanatory notes and application forms with this newsletter.

Committee

TRIP REPORTS

Corra Lynn Trip Report, 29 May 2005

Party: Graham Pilkington, Michael Woodward, Adam Kilpatrick, Steve Wasilewski, and 20 Mercedes College students.

Another introductory trip to get teenagers into situations that stretch their boundaries.

Graham Pilkington

%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%

Corra Lynn Trip Report, 31 July 2005

Party: Graham Pilkington, Tom Szabo, Dale Rivett, Steve Wasilewski, and 19 Mercedes College students.

Different people, same idea as 2 months ago. The students appear to enjoy these adventures. Some are very much at home underground and may return as cavers later in life. Nowadays, very few people begin caving until well into their twenties. Something about studies and other activities.

Graham Pilkington

%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%

Corra Lynn Trip Report, 6 August 2005

Party: Graham Pilkington, Tom Szabo.

This trip was to show Tom some of the cave passage loops in the near-entrance areas. When Tom had been to the cave it was usually helping to lead school groups which gave little opportunity to be shown the cave loop complexity. He wanted to learn more, so I gave him some idea of what is available in a couple of small areas. We did not have the week needed to see most of them and no-one could not have remembered that many options if shown them all at once!

We tested out some hauling rig setups to help remove the accumulated pile of soil and rubble wash-in near the cave door. However, we discovered that because the steps are so easy and the doline only 12m deep that each person simply carrying two bucket loads at a time was a quicker way to remove the dirt. The rigs all suffered from the slow return of the setup to hauling position and only one bucket can be raised at a time. The lift places the buckets out in mid-air necessitating a horizontal haul after lifting – this is what slows everything down.

We did not try a flying fox because we would have had to remove the guard rail at the top of the rock rift. When we have three people, one could be stationed at the rail to do the first stage of the haul and guide the bucket past the rail.

Graham Pilkington

Use of fire to locate karst features

During mopping up operations at the Carpenter rocks fire in October 2004 I casually remarked that the fire appeared to cover an area where there was a lost cave. With the dense vegetation removed it may be easier to relocate the cave, which has been lost on several occasions. It was first recorded in 1967 but with the increase in density of the scrub it was lost till 1994. Several attempts since then failed to relocate the cave

We were mopping up along the southern fire break in the middle of the night when the Ranger decided to check on crews working in other sectors. He then called us over to look at what he had found. While turning the vehicle around in the fire break he dropped the wheel into a depression.

When he looked at it, the depression had no bottom. The hole was about 0.6m x 0.4m with soft edges and dropped about 2m to a flat floor. We had found a new cave; pity it was not the one I was looking for.

The hole was located smack in the middle of the fire break. Vehicles had been driving over it all that day and surprisingly no one else dropped into it. The area was taped off to prevent undue adventure 4 wheel driving.

When things had quietened down later that night, or was early the next morning, we decided to have a better look at the hole. The loose debris around the edge was removed to reveal an opening 1.1m x 0.6m. Moss could be seen growing on the walls of the hole. This meant the hole was previously open to the surface.

It was relatively easy to free climb into the hole. It opened up to a chamber about 24m x 12m in which you could stand. Toward the edges the roof dropped down to about 0.5m high. At the western end it dropped down to a pool of water.

It turns out this was actually the feature was L105, the cave I had been trying to find for a number of years. What are the odds of having a bulldozer blaze a firebreak right over a particular hole in the middle of the scrub and not fall in? It appears the tracks of the bulldozer passed either side of the opening and the vegetation being pushed over covered the opening so it was not visible. It took creative driving by the Ranger to discover the hole.

This may well prove to be an excellent technique to find new caves on parks that are lacking caves at the moment. Naracoorte, Kelly Hill take heed.

Kevin Mott.

%%%%%%%%%%%%%

Sand Funnel Survey Weekend 10-12 June 05. Blog Posting

Naracoorte is approx 1200 km from Mudgee. Soooo had been putting this trip off due to better offers for 10 months or so. However had promised Steve Bourne (Park Manager) we would come down and produce a nice shiny new survey of Sand Funnel cave. The cave has effectively been closed for some time and the existing survey only covered the main entrance chamber. Consequently with the Queens Birthday weekend celebrations being somewhat mute we had no excuse but to head to Naracoorte.

What is interesting about Sand Funnel, apart from the question marks on the survey, is the suspected trend of the passages does not seem to fit the current model of the deep caves of Naracoorte (Personal communication Ian Lewis). A complete accurate survey is thus required.

Joined by:-

CEGSA members Marie Choi, Paul Deer, Bridgid Larkin, Chris Fischer, Ian Lewis, Amanda Grindley.

PARK GUIDE Katherine ?

Cave had a nice, typical Naracoorte, entrance tube followed by a 2.5 M drop to a sand cone in a sizable chamber. This tight tube proved problematic to some on exiting and the hauling rig was used. To make it interesting a resident 3 foot Brown Snake had an attraction to the base of the ladder and kept wrapping itself in the rungs despite shooing away on several occasions. Most disconcerting.

Three days were spent in the cave. Friday started survey of lower section with Katherine and Bridgid. Sat, continued survey with Paul Deer while Ian Lewis, Chris and Bridgid picked up unsurveyed upper levels. Sunday Completed lower level with Paul plus took some happy snaps of lower levels, exiting at 11pm. Pictures already posted to blog on 16/6.

The cave had been extensively explored previously and there was evidence of the whole thing being previously surveyed. Clearly the notes have been lost. No evidence of fossil bone sites associated with megafauna skulls previously removed from the cave was found. All I have to do now is work out how to use Adobe Illustrator to draw it all up.

Unfortunately the damp air from the first rain in Months caught up with Merran. Poor girl got croup and ended up in Hospital. Even turned blue at one stage. These sleepless nights combined exiting the cave at 11pm and the 1220km drive back in the rain and fog caused some friction on the return journey.

A tidy up trip is probably needed to tie up a few loose ends and question marks.



2005_0611_195446AA_WEB



2005_0611_201015AA_WEB



2005_0611_202702AA_WEB



2005_0611_202803AA_WEB

FIVE DAYS CAVING IN SOUTHERN THAILAND

Monday 20th June to Friday 24th June 2005

George and June MacLucas and Samut Suwanchosri.

June and I were in Thailand for twenty days to attend our sons Buddhist wedding and to meet the family of our daughter-in-law Suchada Phetbamrung, or Humm as we know her, whom we met in Sydney 2 years ago.

Within the first week of our visit, we met the new extended Thai family, managed some tourism and five days of caving in which we visited eleven caves.

- 5 Tourist caves in 4 provinces
- 2 Temple caves in 2 of the provinces
- 2 Caves that have no temple but house Buddhist monks
- 2 Wild caves both in the same province.

Of note: all the caves visited during this trip had bats, from small, large and very large. Seven of these caves have been numbered by John Dunkley and mentioned in his publication *The Caves of Thailand*, Speleological Research Council Ltd., Sydney, 1995.

Monday 20th June – Surat Thani Province

Our first cave, Wat Tham (meaning Temple Cave) Singkhorn (No. ST17) was 48 km west of the town of Surat Thani. At the entrance of this ancient temple is a large seated black Buddha with two images of animals in attendance. One is an elephant offering water through a bamboo tube; the other is a monkey offering a honey comb. The walls and ceiling of the entrance are decorated with faded murals. Beyond this scene is a large cave extending up from the temple with some lighting showing a model of the footprint of the Buddha with many seated Buddha statues extending the length of the stairway leading to a small chamber where there is a small statue of a Chinese Buddhist nun, Dal Mo Qua standing on a lotus flower.

At the time of our visit to Thailand, all Buddha images and attending animals' images were draped with a bright yellow shawl extending across the statue indicating the wet season period.

In the afternoon our guide Samut took us to a wild cave, Tham Nan Rod, 30 km south west of Surat Thani on private property, the far end of a rubber plantation. A large entrance with a railway tunnel type cave with a creek flowing through and out at the bottom of the cave. It resembled a smaller version of Abercrombie cave in New South Wales.



Next Samut took us to another wild cave Tham Samara Boon. This time 32 km south west of Surat Thani also on private property but in a jungle area with a 40 metre climb straight up karst about a grade 8 climb. This cave had one large chamber half filled with boulders stacked at the back partially blocking a back entrance. A short passage of 20 metres to the right led to a lower smaller chamber with lots of guano. An historical event of this cave is that during the Vietnam War, police used this cave to lock up communist insurgents. There is no sign of any fencing or steps.

Of interest with this trip, on the way we stopped to admire a beautiful specimen of a South Eastern Asian green snake hiding in the long grass. It was about 2 metres long, a beautiful brilliant green. It took off in a rush when George patted its rear end.

Besides the snake, we had one incident that caused concern while looking for this cave, on reaching the base of the climb up the rocks June stepped on a slow flying large wasp like nest hidden in the long grass. She was stung on the right arm 8 times which gave us concern over the next couple of days as it developed into a secondary infection with large inflamed welts from the stings. I was stung once on the leg when investigating the squeals and that one sting was enough for me.



Tuesday 21st June – Surat Thani Province.

We started this day with a tourist cave 20 km south of Surat Thani town in Tai Rom Yen National Park. A large cave with ground level lighting with many dry rim pools called Tham Kamin only recently opened as a tourist cave. This cave had a large steel staircase going down to the first large chamber which had a jeep, yes a jeep, parked in the centre of the chamber; apparently it was used to drive a winch for removing guano. Sighted many large striped spiders (no webs, so were hunters) probably feasting on the many crickets we saw in the cave.

Next another Temple cave. Wat Tham Kuha (ST1). 15 km east of Surat Thani.

The entrance has a large gate admitting one person at a time into a room containing a reclining gold Buddha blocking the cave that continues on at the back of Buddha. There is a number of Buddha statues seated along both sides of the walls. This cave is famous for the ancient clay reliefs which decorate the entrance roof. A stream traverses part of the cave with some daylight holes leading to outside forest.



Wednesday 22nd June – Krabi Province

Tourist cave – Tham Lot (KR18). An attractive through cave with tidal flow at sea level, accessible only by boat. The southern entrance is 30 metres wide, the northern 15 metres wide. Decoration hangs down from the ceiling over the water from a flat roof. Decoration has some damage but appears quite active.

Next stop Tham Phi Hua Tho (KR19) – upstream from KR18.

There are three entrances and two main chambers each about 30 metres across. John Dunkley's book states there are about 40 examples of ancient rock art painted on the walls. Unfortunately, we sighted only about 20 paintings. One hand print had 6 fingers on one hand

and 5 on the other. It has been estimated that the paintings are 2,000 to 3,000 years old; some are quite faded and difficult to spot.

Than Phat Cave – Very muddy cave has passage through a creek bed which is very muddy. One large rim stone - flowstone area had signs 'Do not climb the rocks' placed here and there both in Thai and English. This cave was 'home' for several monks.

Tham Prassat Cave – Black stalagmites in one section of the cave. Human skeleton partially covered by flowstone. One can clearly see part of the pelvis, femur and back of the skull. Home of a very friendly monk who has lived there for 50 years, moved there when he was 14 years old and has stayed there ever since. He spoke perfect English and allowed June to photograph his open air bedroom which contained very few items of comfort; an electric fan, a kettle, a plate, books. I didn't see a pillow or a blanket.

Thursday 23rd June – Phangnga Province.

Tourist Cave – Tham Phung Chang Cave (PH6)

Start of the trip we board a rubber canoe, then we change onto a bamboo raft, then finally we waded through the water all the time we were working our way down a long narrow passage to a rock fall. Here we turned and went back the same way first wading, then bamboo raft, then rubber canoe. Lots of stalactites, some quite large with water flowing over and down the formation. Most of the passage around 2 to 3 metres wide, ceiling estimated to be 10 metres high. Before entering the cave we were supplied with thongs, this was quite a new experience and one I found difficult to keep on my feet.

Friday 24th June – Nakhon Sri Thammarat Province.

Tourist Cave – self guided. Tham Khao Wang Thong (NT18)

After, many steps up the hillside to a grand view of the area the entrance to the cave is via a small locked gate. This cave has several chambers displaying quite a lot of decoration. Also home of many bats roosting on the stalactites. We emailed some photos to Terry Reardon, CEGSA Museum Representative, to see if he could identify any of the bats. He replied:

The bats at roost in the first picture are probably *Hipposideros* species (leaf-nosed bat). They are certainly in the family Hipposideridae but there is one genus called *Coelops* that I have never seen that occur there. There are around 12 species of *Hipposideros* in that region of the world, and they are hard enough to identify in the hand - need forearm measurement and the species often differ by small variations of the nose-leaf.



George MacLucas.

VANUATU UPDATE

VU-2ES0046 Aore Bat Cave

Location: Northwest end of Aore Island near Espiritu Santo. Freshwater Plantation, Boyd and Robert Harrison.

Aore Island lies just south of Espiritu Santo across the narrow Second Channel. During WW2 the American fleet was moored in the channel and used 2 wharfs on Aore; one at the current site of Aore Resort, and one further west in front of Freshwater Plantation. It is on this plantation that Aore Bat Cave lies.

The owner's son Robert Harrison picked me up from the resort in his old long boat and we pattered around to the plantation beachfront. From there a 15min walk took us to the base of the 20m high escarpment holding the small entrance to the cave. The entrance takes you straight into the first chamber containing



some nice calcite formations including some weird onionskin ones. Around to the left is another smaller entrance onto the escarpment. On the right is a promising looking lead, which goes only 15m or so before petering out. The main cave continues from the opposite side of the first chamber.

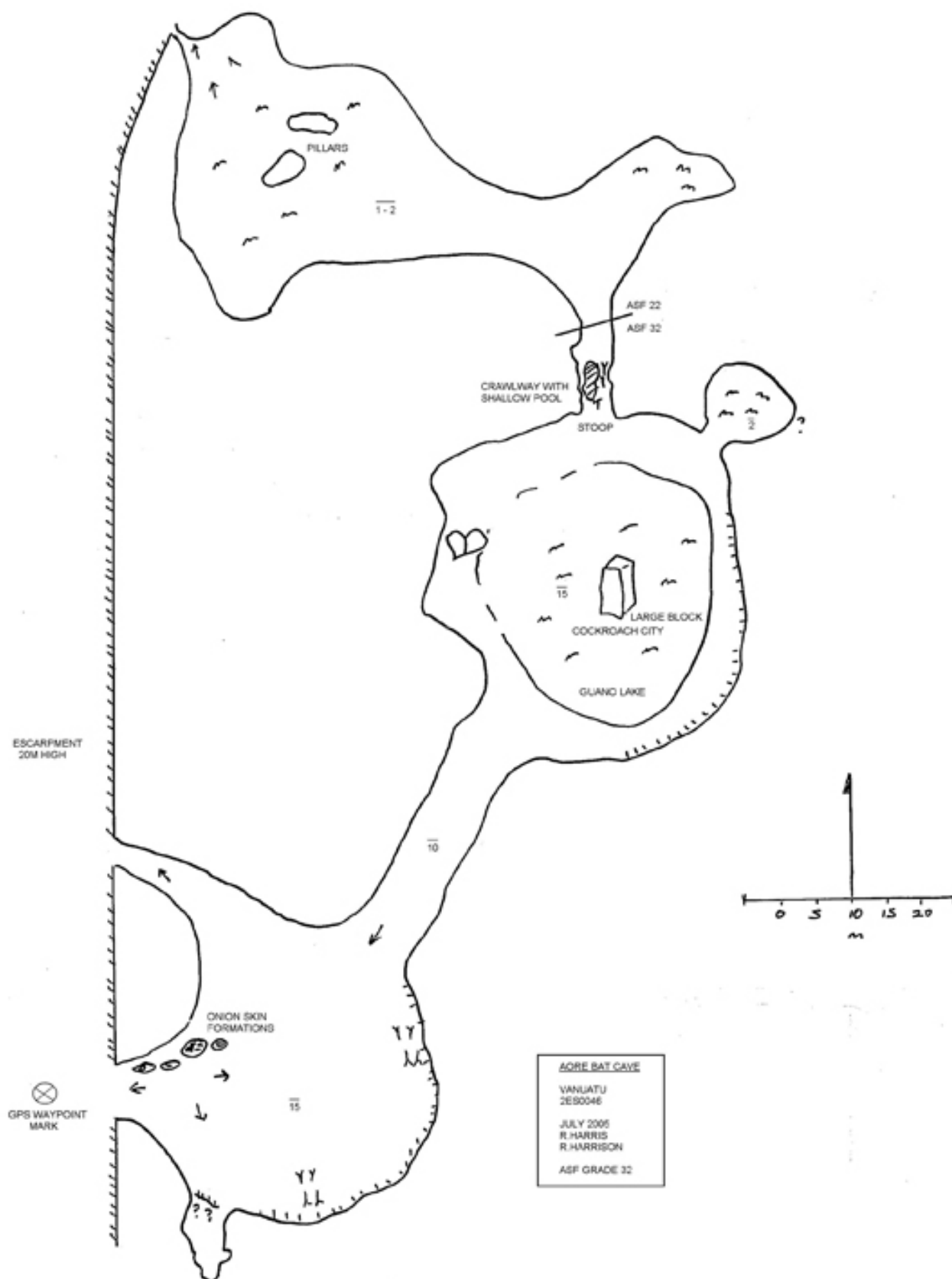
As you walk into the next tunnel the first sounds of the many thousands of bats are heard. Any careless wave of your light from here on in brings a shrill response and a flurry of activity. Robert has been coming to the cave for 12 years and says he has never seen the bats leave the cave, day or night. This might be explained by the enormous number of insects inside the chambers including cockroaches (I saw one albino one) and some small flies of some kind.



(Comment from Ellery Hamilton-Smith

I am sure the bats are Hipposideros cervinus, but will check it in the next day or two (details are archived right now due to lack of space) and will let you know if my memory has let me down. It is commonly known as the fawn horseshoe bat - also a number of Papuan names.

The onion speleothems are not uncommon in this sort of situation and result from a variable mix of processes. During deposition, the annual layer of new calcite is deposited on the top of the dry season's layer of guano and other waste, and so the layers are fragile and easily separate from each other. Thus, in the re-solution phase of the annual cycle, it is readily dissolved / flaked away.)



AORE BAT CAVE

The second chamber is even larger and contains a large guano lake in the centre...good luck to anyone brave enough to test its depth! Sulphurous and ammoniacal aromas belched from the guano as we skirted around its periphery. The bats start moving about by the time you enter the second chamber. Keep your mouth closed due to the bombardment of flies, bat's piss and the bats themselves! In the centre of the guano lake is a large rectangular rock named "Cockroach City" as it looks like a high-rise apartment for the critters. It apparently fell to the floor 8-9 years ago.

Off the second chamber runs 2 passages. The right one is short but contains another bat colony. On the left is a crawlway (yuk!) about 20m long which opens up into 3 small interconnected chambers (more bats) and a small hole (30cm) out to the fresh air of the escarpment.

There are other possible leads for those willing to immerse themselves further into the guano, but I think I have seen most of the cave. A gas mask would be a useful item to explore further.

VU-5EF0008 The Cathedral Cave

Location Pango Point, Efate Island. GPS pt. not marked

Cathedral Cave is a sea cave on the tip of Pango Point, Mele Bay, Efate Island. It is a well-known dive site, commonly frequented by local dive operators. A wedge shaped fissure in the submerged cliff, it was likely formed by wave action rather than being a karst feature. The innermost part of the fissure forms a cave where the cliff is undercut.

VU-5EF0009 Lelepa Island Cave (Feles Cave)

Location NW side of Lelepa Island. GPS not marked.

Feles Cave lies on the NW side of Lelepa Island near Havannah Harbour and Moso Island. It appears to be an old sea cave with an entrance facing south and a dogleg to the right about half way into the cave. The floor gradually rises to meet the roof and the terminus of the cave. On the left wall you can see some negative images of hands? Charcoal paintings dated to 900AD according to the Lonely Planet guide. The guides illuminate the path with candles but if you wish to see things clearly, take a torch. The limestone walls are otherwise pretty featureless. A small bat colony lives in the cave. I note the existence of another cave on the topographical map, on the south central side of the island.



Richard (Harry) Harris.

TECHNICAL and OTHER ARTICLES

MEMBERSHIP

Changes to Membership details:-

7201	Graham Pilkington	Delete Work Telephone Number
0006	Barbara Wiesner	New E-mail address wiesner51@bigpond.com
9603	Tom Szabo	Include Home Telephone Number 8267 2314
0004	Paul Deer	New E-mail address borganism@gmail.com

CEGSA MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR YEAR 2005

Full Membership	\$ 46.00
Full Country Membership	40.00
Associate Membership	38.00
Long Term Associate	46.00
3 Month Introductory	5.00
Joining Fee	12.00 (not applicable to 3 month intro)
Discount for email CEGSA NEWS	15.00

ASF LEVY FEE FOR YEAR 2005

Single	\$ 68.00
Family	121.50
3 Month Introductory	20.00
Student	61.00

YEAR 2005 FEES

	CEGSA	+ASF	TOTAL
Full Membership	\$ 46.00	\$ 68.00	\$114.00
Full Country Membership	40.00	68.00	108.00
Associate Membership	38.00	68.00	106.00
3 Month Introductory	5.00	20.00	25.00

Variation for Family Membership

1 st Full Member + 2 nd Full Member			
Less \$15.00 for only 1 CEGSA News	\$77.00	\$121.50	\$198.50

1 st Full Member + 2 nd Associate Member			
Less \$15.00 for only 1 CEGSA News	\$69.00	\$121.50	\$190.50

1 st Associate Member + 2 nd Assoc Member			
Less \$15.00 for only 1 CEGSA News	\$61.00	\$121.50	\$182.50

Please make sure your payment of fees includes CEGSA and ASF, if applicable.

Chris Gibbons

Treasurer/Membership Officer

Records and Library

The periodicals binding project is progressing well. So far this year we have bound 134 covers. A cover holds about 15mm of issues. The number of issues in a cover depends mainly on the number of pages in the issues and the paper thickness.

Binding in progress:

	organization	periodical name	bound	in a set of
complete	CEGSA	NEWS	16	16
	CEGSA	NEWS	10	16 (set 2)
	CEGSA	NEWS	10	16 (set 3)
complete	CEGSA	Annual Report	5	5
	CEGSA	Annual Report	3	5 (set 2)
	CEGSA	Annual Report	2	5 (set 3)
	ACKMA	Journal	6	7
	ASF	Newsletter=Aust Caver	11	12
	ASF	Newsletter=Aust Caver	11	12 (set 2)
	ASF	Helictite	12	13
	ASF	Helictite	0	13 (set 2)
complete	CAVEX	Cave In	2	2
	Chelsea SS	Newsletter	3	19
	FUSSI	FUSSI	0	2
	NSS	NEWS	0	54
complete	PNGCEG	Niugini Caver	5	5
	SSS	Journal	33	49
	SUSS	Bulletin	10	21
	UNSWSS	Spar	7	10
	VSA	Nargun	13	19

Most sets are incomplete because of

- assembled covers waiting to be bound
- missing issues
- odd-sized issues (mainly foolscap) that need resizing to fit into our A4 covers
- illegible and torn/damaged issues that need replacing
- early issues we do not intend to obtain but left space for in case we do

Of course, the number of covers in a set is increasing as more issues are produced by the organizations.

More periodicals (out of the 187 in our library) are being added to the list to bind as the periodical-issue catalogue expands. Over half of the periodicals still need their issues catalogued.

The issue catalogue:

3796	Catalogued issues
2	Skipped by publisher
3	Incomplete
3	Torn or tatty
3	Part or all illegible
296	Missing or not received

11 Library books have also been bound.

The scanned cuttings collection of clippings from newspapers and other publications has reached 1300. We still have to add contents summaries and keywords. Some are duplicates and will be removed. Duplication occurred very easily in the manual system because some articles were submitted many times and different people placed them in different categories. Some identical articles also appeared in different newspapers.

Progress on the digital version of our publications has slowed down because emphasis over the last few months was placed on the binding of periodicals. But the major delay has been the nearly illegible state of some early publications. It appears that the inks used in printing by the "Gestetner" method 30-40 years ago are fading.

Graham Pilkington

%%%%%%%%%

Blogs in Caving. By Damian Grindley

There are predictions that many of the uses of the internet have yet to be thought of. One such use may well be in how caving breakthroughs are communicated. It all started for me when I joined the Cave Diggers list. Well, how could I resist such a politically incorrecty titled caving yahoo group!

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cavediggers/>

Many of the recent posts related to the breakthrough and subsequent discoveries at Shovel Eater cave, West Virginia USA. Which of course, surprise, surprise was dug for many years. These posts were in the form of links to the Potomac spelological Clubs Blog.

<http://psc.cavingclub.org/index.php?name=PNphpBB2&file=viewtopic&t=359>

I had, of course, heard of Blogs before, People communicating their daily experiences in places such as war torn Iraq. After all it's a kind of online diary in which you or a group can insert photographs, edit text and look back at previous entries. However I had not seen their use in caving and frankly got sucked in. Posts would pop up from any of the clubs members (General web public may not post) seemingly immediately after the weekends trip. Blow by blow discoveries unfolded before your eyes. Pictures of Virgin passage and the latest survey snippets all inserted into the text. Way quicker and more atmospheric than waiting for the club newsletter. Certainly made you feel involved. Reminding me of the heady days of discovery in Ogof Dranen, Wales.

More recently Greek cavers pushing the depths of the world's deepest cave, Voronya have started to communicate their exploits via daily blog posts. See;

<http://selas-voronya.blogspot.com/>

Suitably impressed I looked into putting my Caving Diary online. Turned out to be exceptionally easy. A few clicks at <http://blogspot.com/> and I was away. The program even automatically shrinks photographs to the correct size for posting. Mine is still a work in progress of course and I don't seem to have done a huge amount of caving in the last couple of months. All can be found at;

<http://www.pomsworld.blogspot.com/>

As an example, see the 'Sand Funnel Survey Weekend' Article in the TRIP REPORTS section. It is in the form of a direct copy of one of my more recent posts.

Notice of Motion to alter CEGSA Rules

The following changes to CEGSA Rules will be proposed and voted upon at the General Meeting held on September 28th commencing at 7.30PM in the Royal Society room, SA Museum, or at the next General Meeting at which a quorum is present.

9 ACCESS TO CAVES

All trip leaders shall make themselves acquainted with formalities and restrictions for entry onto property on which it is proposed to visit or camp. They must also notify the respective authorities.

Change '*They must also notify the respective authorities*' to 'They must obtain all necessary approvals from the relevant owners and managers of caves, of the land on which caves are located and of land which is traversed to reach a cave entrance or is used for camping by the caving party.'

10 TRIPS

10(a) Except where otherwise authorised by the Committee all caving trips attended by CEGSA members shall be under the control of a leader appointed by the organisation conducting the trip and shall be entered into the CEGSA Log Book of Trips and Activities prior to the activity.

10(b) When a member attends a caving trip that has been entered in the CEGSA Log Book of Trips and Activities, a written trip report must be submitted to the Committee within three months of the completion of the trip. Responsibility for submission of the report shall belong to the person submitting the entry to the CEGSA Log Book.

Change 10(b) to;

'When a member attends a caving trip that has been entered in the CEGSA Log Book of Trips and Activities, a trip report must be submitted to the Committee or to a CEGSA general meeting in a timely manner. Responsibility for submission of the report shall belong to the person submitting the entry to the CEGSA Log Book'.

10(c) Trip leaders have authority to deny any person or member the privilege of attending their trip. Trip participants must obey the trip leader.

Change 10(c) to;

'Trip leaders have authority to deny any person or member the privilege of attending their trip. Trip participants should comply with all reasonable requests by the trip leader.'

Committee.



CEGSA'S 50th Birthday Party

November 4th - 6th 2005

Naracoorte

**Come along for a weekend of caving,
partying, reminiscing and celebrating**

**Caving on Saturday around Naracoorte, BBQ dinner Saturday Night,
And for those still with a desire or energy, caving on Sunday.**

Cost of BBQ Dinner \$15 per adult, Children under 10 \$10, BYO Drinks

Share Bunk Bed Accommodation available at Wirreanda (That's Naracoorte Caves Accommodation) at \$10 a bed per night or camp sites available for \$5 per person per night.

Camp kitchen available with cooking utensils, cutlery, plates, stoves and microwaves. Only 2 fridges available so you will need to bring eskies.

Accommodation will be available from Friday night.

Should you require private accommodation, Naracoorte has a range of accommodation available, but you need to make your own arrangements.

Dinner fees must be paid in full by October 15th

NON REFUNDABLE

**Accommodation Deposits (\$5) to secure a bed must be
paid at the same time**

For more info & registration forms contact Marie Choi on 0429 696 299
or better still email me at battymariec@picknowl.com.au

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Type of Event	Description	Contact
24/08/05	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. Flinders Ranges Caves	Bill Binks
27/08/05	Working Bee	Library and records	Graham Pilkington
03/09/05	Caving	Corra Lynn Cave	Graham Pilkington
14/09/05	Committee Meeting	Hackney Hotel, 95 Hackney Rd Hackney, SA	Graham Pilkington
19-22 /09/05	Caving	Corra Lynn Cave Four Blackfriars School Trips	Graham Pilkington
28/09/05	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. Vic Fossil Survey Update	Garry Woodcock
01/10/05	Working Bee	Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
01-03 /10/05	Caving	Avenue Range	Marie Choi
2-24 /10/05	Caving	Old Homestead Cave + much more on the Nullarbor	Graham Pilkington
12/10/05	Committee Meeting	Hackney Hotel, 95 Hackney Rd Hackney, SA	Graham Pilkington
26/10/05	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. Friends of the Flinders Ranges Nat Park	Athol Jackson
29/10/05	Working Bee	Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
5-6 /11/05	Dinner + Caving	Naracoorte	Marie Choi
09/11/05	Committee Meeting	Hackney Hotel, 95 Hackney Rd Hackney, SA	Graham Pilkington
09/11/05	CEGSA NEWS	Articles due	Athol Jackson
23/11/05	General Meeting	Report on CEGSA's 50 th Dinner W/E and "CEGSA History" Workshop	Marie Choi
26/11/05	Working Bee	Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
October LWE +	Caving	Possible Trip to Kangaroo Island	Grant Gartrell
01/2006	Caving	Tasmania	Marie Choi
	Caving	Ongoing Vic Fossil Survey contact	Garry Woodcock
	Caving	Regular trips to Sellicks Hill 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. You must also be an accredited trip leader with the appropriate skill endorsement to take a dependent party underground.

Also, please ensure that a report of the trip is submitted.