

CEGSA NEWS



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

Volume 52 Number 1

Issue 205

FEBRUARY 2007



CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) Inc.

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

<http://www.cegsa.org.au>

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.

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

Cover Photograph: Stan Flavel ("Batman" sans Robin) and bat (or is the bats name Robin). (See article on P9)

Photo: Roy Van Der Vegt. Messenger Newspapers.

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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 52 Number 1 (Issue 205) must reach the Editor by Wednesday **9th MAY 2007**. 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, or on a CD, in Word or ASCII text format. Of course other forms of communication will still be gratefully accepted. Photographs are preferred to be in colour (jpg format) and not embedded in the text.

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

Here I am sitting in the Presidential Chair again and I thank those that have re-elected me to this position.

Last year activities in CEGSA were varied yet consistent with our aims and objectives. Caves were located, explored and documented. New people were introduced to caving and older familiar people were welcomed back into the fold.

The ASF conference that CEGSA hosted at Mt Gambier is deservedly reported as the biggest and best to date. The organisation and smooth running of all aspects of the conference and the inclusion of all from the very young to the not so young in activities, bears testament to the mature and flexible approach of the dedicated organisers.

When this group puts its mind to something it does it exceedingly well,

WELL DONE CEGSA !

The challenge this year continues to be for each one of us is to decide what our contribution to speleology and CEGSA can be.

This year we have the opportunity to train and enhance our skills as well as bring beginners into the world of caves and forge long term enthusiasm in us all. It will be our enthusiasm and openness that will capture the attention of visitors who show more than a sideways glance towards us. We know we enjoy caves and caving, let's pass on our expertise and enthusiasm to a new wave of apprentices!

Stanley C Flavel

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2006 AWARDS

Leather Medals

Pillow Class

Marie Choi

For comfort whilst sleeping on the job. Sleep deprivation was not an acceptable excuse. Marie was noticed sleep walking during her magnificent preparation for and within events of the ASF conference.

Limestone class

June MacLucas

Despite her efforts in warding off wanton pokers and prodders of Limestone sculptures and collected artworks in the art show, June did manage to irrevocably damage a limestone sculptured decoration.

Golden Compass

Paul Devine

For assistance in the exploration efforts to relocate lost 'Jennings' features on the Nullarbor. Looking for previously reported features has uncovered many new features. Some of the old features are still to be found.

Rivett's Reward

Damian Grindley

For his ongoing, enthusiastic but futile attempts to locate "Theory Buster Cave" at Naracoorte, in defiance of Geo "logical" certainty!

Stan Flavel.

TRIP REPORTS

Naracoorte, 10 Jan 2007

All Photos By Graham Pilkington.

GPS'ed and photographed 5U-26, 27, 28, 104.

During the ASF Conference day-outing to Naracoorte, I took a group to VDC Cave, U-26. While the others were caving, I walked about in the heat taking snapshots. VDC stands for "Volunteer Defence Corps" because they used this cave for training during the Second World War. The best cave names are those that describe the cave in some way rather than an activity held at the cave. A better name would have been "Skull Cave" or maybe "Head Hole"— see photo of entrance pitch.



VDC Cave Entrance Pitch

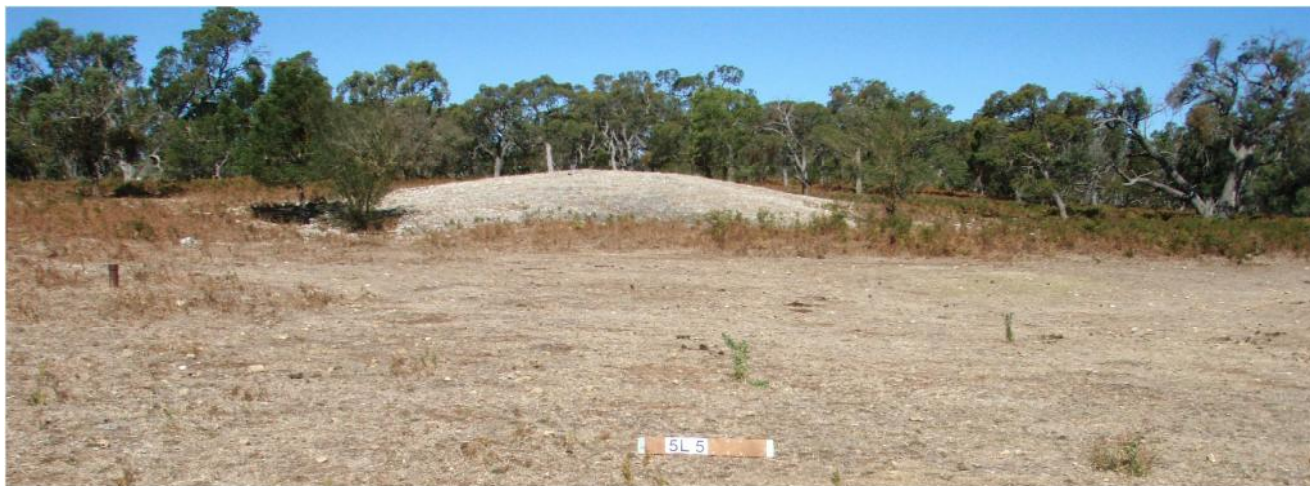
Graham Pilkington

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Monbulla, 14 Jan 2007 (Post Conference)

Party: Graham Pilkington, John Taylor, Serena Benjamin, Miles Pierce, Alan Caton, Ian Curtis, Denis Marsh, Glen Griffith, Adam Griffith.

GPS'ed and photographed 5L-5, 21 and most of the other 37 entrances to Monbulla Cave.



Monbulla Cave limestone rise over eastern extension

A post ASF Conference trip detour conducted on the way to the Naracoorte camp. Monbulla Cave was featured several times during the Conference and was on the front cover of the Conference Field Guide hence it was a MUST for a visit.

Graham Pilkington

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Naracoorte, 15-18 Jan 2007 (Post Conference)

Party 15-18: Graham Pilkington, Ian Curtis, Denis Marsh, Ann-Marie Meredith.

Party 15-17: John Taylor, Serena Benjamin, Miles Pierce, Alan Caton, Glen Griffith, Adam Griffith.

Party 15-16: Tracy Robins, David Watterson, Vicki Bresnan, Mike Winn, Brian Combley.

Party 15th only: Eve Taylor.

Party 17th only: Rhonwen Pierce and others.

GPS'ed and photographed 5U-14, 15, 20, 22, 37, 42, 47, 61, 63, 65, 66, 68, 71, 94, 116, 119, 132, 147, 148, and new features 235, 236, 237.

The number of cavers to attend this post Conference trip increased from 2 of us at the start of the Conference to about 20. However, a few persons just used the camp site as a stay-over or did no caving. With so many, I had to alter my plans of leading trips through caves because we would have spent all of our time just entering and exiting. I split the group up into 2 or three parties, took them to each cave entrance, described the cave, and left them to their own devices while I went with another party or stayed on the surface gathering GPS coordinates and photographs.

On Monday morning we all visited Beekeepers Cave since that cave could handle the numbers and has a quick entry via a short ladder pitch. Miles and I went off to locate Brownsnake, Rabbit, and Echidna caves and to obtain access permission for the latter two if they were suitable as Conference trip caves. However, the cave owners were not readily available and I had to choose somewhere else. In the afternoon, we all went to S102 Cave with it's slow but easy access down a constricting pipe. This gave me time to obtain access permission for Tuesday's caves.



U68 rubbish-filled pipe with dead sheep

Tuesday saw us off to U-68, a rubbish-filled pipe right on a fenceline. I had obtained permission to remove rubbish to gain access and set some of the group up to map the cave. However, the pipe was blocked by rubbish 3m down. Excavation became the order of the

day and by late afternoon after clearing 2m depth of debris consisting of soil, rocks, sheep bones (see photo, the farmer uses the land close to this entrance for disposal of his dead stock), bottles, wire and ironmongery, access was gained via a 3m passage into a 10x7x0.25m high soil-choked chamber. The Clinc diggers made a sketch of the cave.

While the dig was going on, a few of us went over to U-61 which is blocked by an inverted tree stump. It was on the adjacent property but the owner had given permission for access. The U-68 farmer, Chris Haynes, runs a vehicle workshop from his property and had offered to use his forklift to remove the stump but could not gain access to the locked property until tomorrow. A large runaway hole U-236 is at the bottom of the hill containing U-61. Just east onto the swamp flats was a rubble-filled depression with a limestone fringe. On removal of



U236 rubble-filled well and runaway hole

1.4m of rubble, we found that the depression was an old well lined with natural limestone boulders. Why anyone would dig a well into the sticky black clay of the flats is a mystery. About 150m south is another large runaway hole U-237 that appears to be treated as a garden by the people of the nearby house because it's in their front yard. Maybe the house was sited there because of the presence of the intermittent pond?

Wednesday started for most with a Park's Tourist trip of Alexandra cave and Wet Cave but Ann-Marie, Alan and I went to U-71. Leaving the others at U-71 I returned for the tourists and guided them to U-63 on the adjacent rise to explore and map. Ann-Marie and Alan ended up spending all day pushing U-71 down every nook and cranny and have the map to prove it. U-63 was not much more than a 10x7x1.7m high single chamber with a 13m long 1x0.4m high passage leading off to the NE and has a survey drawn up by Miles.

After lunch most of us visited Cave Park Cave enjoying the cool large passages. Well, some large passages. Only a couple could fit along the passage to exit out of "Fox Hole", the back entrance.

Thursday with only 4 of us left, we went out to Smoke-Tortoise Cave. Ann-Marie, Ian and Denis did the through trip while I searched out U-116, U-148, U-147, U-22 and U-94. I could not locate U-117 because of the grapevine plantation now over the top of it. One owner said it had been ploughed over and lost, the other said that it had had a cover-stone placed over it. With an accurate location of U-116, it should now be easy to find again from the known distance and bearing when converted to a GPS coordinate. The recovery of the scrub over the Fox Cave-Pavys Plunge ex-paddock has been spectacular.

For the last year the owners have been planning to fence Smoke-Tortoise Cave and chose the time that we were there to do it. It was very pleasing to **not** to see the Tortoise entrance and doline piled high with rubbish and bottles, which is how I remembered it from 30 years ago.



Tortoise Cave fencepost installation

Graham Pilkington

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Past Trips from General Meetings

November General Meeting

Steve Milner: A group of cavers from CEGSA, the UK, New Zealand and Tasmania went to the Nullarbor for a little over a week. They surveyed 19 small caves, and then continued on to Old Homestead Cave. The survey of the route from RDF Ruxton to Strata Title was completed but no leads from the latter could be found despite an extensive search. The party then checked out a number of other entrances and surveyed 16 new caves, half of which were from 20 to 100 m in length.

January General Meeting

1. Marie Choi ran several photo trips to LSE caves as post ASF conference trips. Fossils previously observed in one of these have been removed by person(s) unknown. Kevin Mott also ran several photo trips.
2. Graham Pilkington ran several post-conference trips at Naracoorte which were attended by 20 people.
3. Grant Gartrell went to Delamere following recent heavy rains to see where the runoff sank into the limestone, but the ground was so dry at the time, it simply absorbed the rainfall.

TECHNICAL and OTHER ARTICLES

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to New Members:-

A David Fielder **0701** 5/43 Harvey Street NAILSWORTH SA 5083
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dfielder@chariot.net.au

A Andrea Gordon **0702** 4/43 Harvey Street NAILSWORTH SA 5083
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andrea.gordon@adelaide.edu.au

MEMBERSHIP FEES

CEGSA MEMBERSHIP FEES became due on January 1st AND ARE NOW **OVERDUE**. To ensure continuity of membership and privileges (particularly insurance) please pay by 31st March, otherwise re-application for membership and the Joining Fee will be imposed in addition to the current fees

CEGSA MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2007 YEAR

Full Membership	\$ 51.00
Full Country Membership	45.00
Associate Membership	42.00
Long Term Associate	51.00
3 Month Introductory	5.00
Joining Fee	12.00
Discount for e-mail CEGSA News	15.00
Discount for Country Membership	6.00

ASF LEVY FEE FOR 2007 YEAR

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

2007 YEAR FEES

	CEGSA	+ASF	TOTAL
Full Membership	\$51.00	\$68.00	\$119.00
Full Country Membership	45.00	68.00	113.00
Associate Membership	42.00	68.00	110.00
3 Month Introductory	5.00	20.00	25.00

Variation for Family Membership

1st Full Member + 2nd Full Member
Less \$16.00 for only 1 CEGSA News \$86.00 \$121.50 \$207.50

1st Full Member + 2nd Associate Member
Less \$16.00 for only 1 CEGSA News \$77.00 \$121.50 \$198.50

1st Associate Member + 2nd Assoc Member
Less \$16.00 for only 1 CEGSA News \$68.00 \$121.50 \$189.50

Discount for Country Membership applies for Family Memberships

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

Chris Gibbons

Treasurer/Membership Officer

BATMAN'S MISSION TO SPREAD THE WORD

STAN Flavel might not look much like a super-hero, but he did live in his very own bat cave for 10 years.

"I used to have a colony of bats living in the house, in my bedroom. I had about 30, just in the wall," he says. "Somebody didn't want them so I removed them from their house and they stayed in my house, so that was fine I didn't have mosquitoes and they probably did!"

By day, Mr Flavel works as a research assistant in the Human Physiology department of the University of Adelaide's medical centre. But when the sun goes down he moonlights as Adelaide's own batman, studying the furry, flying creatures that make up a third of SA's native mammal population.

"It's sort of quirky," he says. "It's a different thing, there's not many people that study bats and so people look at you a little bit strange but . . . I'm very comfortable with it."

For the past three years Mr Flavel has worked with other scientists, Landcare groups, SA Museum representatives and the local community to document bat distribution and breeding patterns in the Adelaide Hills. "We've started groups that actually use bat detectors to go out and monitor their properties. They record the calls which then can be analysed, so we can see which species occur or were using that area or property for that period of time. "We hope (the project) will continue indefinitely, because it's . . . making people more bat aware, it's . . . helping us put dots on the map, and helps us in terms of conservation, we can see which numbers are declining."

And while many may be repulsed by the idea of working so closely with these creatures of the night, he says bats are "little bundles of fur" more akin to "cotton balls with wings" than the ghoulish blood suckers shown in horror movies.

Mr Flavel says SA bats eat fruit or insects and are quite friendly. Facts he enjoys teaching children in his regular talks at schools across the state.

"The next generation is coming through and is aware about bats," he says.

"I came through and thought bats were bloodsuckers and lived in old abandoned churches and caves and were scary. But they're not, they're fascinating!"

Petra Starke

Reprinted with permission from Messenger - Eastern Courier Wed 08 Mar 2006, Page 14.

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Report on The AGM

The Annual General Meeting and social BBQ was held at Damian and Amanda Grindley's home on Saturday 10th February with about fifteen members and visitors plus children present. A great time was had by all, especially the children in the spa pool and on the trampoline.

Thanks Damian and Amanda for the use of your home and for the great salads..

Stan Flavel presented the awards as per the list on p3 and the annual report was presented and accepted by the members.

Stan thanked the outgoing committee and declared all positions vacant. The new committee was duly elected unanimously and comprises the following members:

President: Stan Flavel.

Secretary: Peter (puddles) Horne.

Committee: Marie Choi, Chris Gibbons, Damian Grindley, Graham Pilkington and Mark Sefton.

Athol Jackson



Caves, Craters & Critters

26th Biennial ASF Conference, Celebrating 50 years
of the Australian Speleological Federation
January 6th – 12th 2007. Mt Gambier, South Australia

Well after 2 years of planning and 12 months of frenzied organising the 50th Anniversary conference has come and gone. If you didn't attend you don't know what you missed.

So what were the highlights of the conference? Well it had the highest number of attendees, 156 to be exact. I hear it raised the most money ever at a caver's dinner auction. It had some of the oldest and youngest attendees ever. Of the four 1956 veterans 3 were CEGSA members, these were Elery Hamilton Smith, Bob Sexton and Noel Mollett.



1956 Veterans

Photo: A Jackson

The conference also brought out a number of other old timers, some who hadn't been to a conference since 1965, that's a long time between drinks. Overall the conference received mainly positive feed back, such as 'it was very family friendly' and that 'the range of activities and presentations suited all tastes and interests, from the scientific to the creative'.

No conference can work well without its support team and the people behind the scenes. Beside all the work that went on prior to the event there was much to do before people arrived. Athol Jackson, Chris Gibbons, Kevin Mott, Adam Branford and Monica Burt and I worked hard 2 days before the event setting up the venue, organising food, and electronic equipment. We also had a number of interstate cavers that turned up early and were "recruited" into helping to set up. Most notable of these were Chris Gillard (NSW), Greg Leader and Ian Farhall (VIC). Then there was June and George who arrived to set up the art show with help from Samantha and Geoff Aslin. The art show seems to get bigger each time and many local artists were represented.

Our first hiccup came with the cold room at the function centre. It had broken down before we arrived and they were still waiting for the repair guy when we got there. Thank god for Vilma at the Racecourse, she kept chasing them up so it was running by the time the first lot of food arrived.

Then Hiccup number 2, Damian found Stan broken down on the side of the road the morning the conference opened with our T-Shirts, mugs and half the programs. Damian and Amanda unloaded their car and put the conference gear in to get it to us ASAP. Whilst Stan got his car repaired.

Although some were recruited to help us, having a quite a few conference attendees turn up days early also created some problems at Willow Vale where most people were staying. As the place was virtually booked out, some major shuffling had to happen but in the end it all sorted out, even all the extra people that turned up at the last minute. Willow vale was a little overcrowded but the atmosphere was pretty good and relaxed and many people were impressed with the owner's hospitality.

Another group that requires a special mention were the volunteers that took care of feeding the hoards at lunchtime and during tea breaks. We had decided to include lunch in the cost of the conference to keep everyone together and ensure things ran on time but it was a big job, mostly the washing up



The Conference Angels

Photo: A Jackson

after each break. These volunteers included Monica Burt, Samantha Aslin, Christy and Dannielle Thomas, Julie Mott and Sharon Dykes. They were our conference angels so much so I went out and found halos for them all, except Cristy, because if you ever stay at the farm at Avenue she can be a little devil. So she got the bright red devils hat complete with horns and tail. Anyway they did an extraordinary job and it was probably the most physically demanding.

Then there was Adam Branford who ran numerous errands, organised some of the local equipment and kept some of our attendees entertained on a number of caving trips. He was also an entertaining bus driver for our Naracoorte field day trip.

Athol and Stan took control of the presentations ensuring it all ran smoothly and I have to wonder just what equipment Athol doesn't have. He brought so much down from Adelaide. It included PA systems, projectors, TVs, video and DVD players, printers, computers, cabinets, display boards, screens you name it he had it. Damian of course took care of his special project of the wines along with numerous other jobs including dobbing me into the local media for an interview when I had just woken up from a quick nap. But the wine was really his baby, it proved so popular he had to have another 12 cases shipped to Mt. Gambier. Tim Payne put together an SRT race along with an SRT obstacle course that proved rather challenging.

Day one was registration day. There were a number of self guided adventure caves available for those that turned up early along with some snorkelling at Ewens Ponds. We also had a number of very late registrations, and people went about setting up all sorts of displays. We then had a welcome BBQ and Andy Eavis, President of the International Union of Speleology then presented a viewing of the BBCs Planet Earth Caves.

Day 2 saw the official opening with Elery as the key note speaker and then the presentations began. Later that afternoon we had the official opening of the Speleo Art show and there was a great range of artistic styles presented ranging from sketches, sculptures and paintings. Unfortunately the only work Brigid was able to submit this time round was the logos that she designed for the conference which impressed a lot of people. After the Art show opening Andy Eavis gave an excellent 3D slide show of impressive caves from around the world.



Opening Art Show Photo: D Grindley

On Day three more presentations with the day having a strong diving contingent, Peter Horne even managed to make it between work and ill health so he could present a History of CDAA and Cave diving. One of the activities that proved successful was a Limestone sculpting workshop run by local artist Ivo Tadic. Some of the participants came back wanting that to be run at all conferences. These proud new sculptors put their handiwork on display

during the conference and a number of them even managed to sell their creations, possibly some future artists in our midst. We also had another group of budding artist who paid \$5 for a wooden bat that they could paint or decorate. These artists ranged from 2yrs to 50yrs plus, with the majority being 12 and under, they even decided to put on their own little art show



Some of the Bat Art and Artists



The Brains Trust (quiz show winners) Photos: D Grindley

and covered the place with signs announcing their bat art exhibition. The bat art proved so popular we were cutting them out of cardboard for the kids to do. The evening ended with a Speleo quiz night with about 10 teams entered, The Quiz included a range of serious scientific, general knowledge, Historical and funny story questions. Did you all know that Dick Smith (Dick Smith Electronics) was once a member of a NSW caving club, or that Steve Bourne's (Manager of Naracoorte Caves) previous job was a Sheep Shearer? What I'm trying to work out though is even though the judges (Damian Grindley and John Dunkley) were open to some bribery, how did my table (the one with all the kids on it) manage not to win when we had most of the answers. The winners ended up being a mixed team of Tasmanians, NSW and Western Australians I believe.

Day 4 again was full of presentations and the ASF Council meeting. Other than that the most significant event that was developing before our eyes was a young romance budding between 4 year olds Merran Grindley and Mitchell Payne, these 2 little love birds were often seen running hand in hand towards the large sprinklers on the very hot days we were having, ignoring Amanda's and Pams calls not to get wet. Could this be the start of a new caving dynasty, the joining of 2 prominent CEGSA families? Stay tuned you may never know what may happen over the next 20 years. Maybe the big event at the 70th anniversary conference will be a cavers wedding!!!!!!



Attendees at Naracoorte

Photo: D Grindley

Day 5 saw the field trip at Naracoorte; poor Steve and the staff at the caves, it was a stinking hot day of about 38c and even though there were a few hiccups the day was a big hit. Cavers were made most welcome by Steve and his team to manage his normal busy Xmas holiday visitors and then have 140+ cavers turn up for the day was a big ask, with tours and talks through all of the show caves and a number of wild cave tours available. Of the group that went to brown snake, only a few managed to get through that tight entrance and of course Damian had to stay on the surface and entertain those that couldn't get in.

Everyone met back at Wirreanda for a relaxed BBQ dinner and even the staff at Naracoorte got to relax for ½ an hour. Then as it began to darken most people headed to the bat cave with their wine and beer to view the bats flying out. Mind you there is a bit of a concern that the drought is impacting on the bats if you saw the advertiser article from early January when Steve went in to do some maintenance on the Bat cave cameras and came across a large number of dead bat pups. Anyway we headed back to Mt. Gambier at around 10pm with Adams Bus picking up a number of stragglers. The ride back was very entertaining and if Adam ever wants a career change he should consider being a Bus tour driver.

By Thursday Chris and I were exhausted, but there was little time to rest as we had to organise a number items for Friday. One of those was green Jelly for the Speleo sports; we ended up buying every packet of green jelly in Mt Gambier along with plain gelatine. We spent the afternoon make gallons of the stuff for the Speleo sports. We also had a heap of BBQ items left so Thursday night saw a free BBQ dinner for those that wanted it. A number of Videos and DVDs were also presented after dinner.

Well Friday was the last day. There were a few presentations but the big events for the day were Speleo Sports and SRT races. Stan and I set up the Speleo sports utilising the winner's area of the race course. We wound about 300mts of cheap rope around, over and through various gates, fences and steps as well as through a detergent covered tarp tunnel and then the tarp covered paddle pool full of green jelly and Ice. Yes I said Ice, because we left the lids



Speleo Sports Action

Photo: D Grindley

down on the eskies when we put them in the fridge. A lot of the jelly didn't set. We also placed a key in the pool that the teams had to retrieve. Teams of 4 had to move through the course whilst connected to ropes and carrying an egg. Damian and Stan assisted many of the teams at the paddle pool by diving on top of participants once they started looking for the keys in the pool to make sure they got low enough to find the key.

There were a number of teams ranging from adults to kids and a couple of mixed teams. One of the funniest sites was when Pam Payne and her 2 young ones were in the event with a friend and young Mitchell kept deciding he wanted to run off (I think he was looking

for Merran) and she had to chase him down . He's fast for a little tacker.

The competition was at an end when Stan was duly dumped in the jelly pool and bombarded with the left over eggs. Of course I missed that as I was setting up for the Dinner and I'm not sure what Damians excuse was.



Speleo Sports Winning Team

Photo: A Jackson

The dinner was great, and did I mention that 3 people rang up and booked in the night before for that.

The caterers were great and the meal was excellent so if you ever want to cater something in the Mount I highly recommend Posh Nosh, and their prices are reasonable. We decorated the tables with candles and black and gold Helium balloons. I have to say Adam looked really funny when he rolled up with his car full of 150 balloons.



"Hagred Motty"

Cutting the 50th Anniversary Cake

Photos: A Jackson

There were the usual speeches as well the auction which Andy Spate was the Auctioneer for. He did a great job but you had to be careful as scratching your nose was considered a bid for some. As mentioned it was the most money raised at a conference Dinner and probably the biggest one ever. The prizes and certificates for the Photographic competition winners were also presented at the dinner. There were a number of characters at the dinner. Motty of course was in fine form with his white overalls, Hagred Wig and drinking helmet with flashing bats. We even had a great birthday cake; I had the same people who made the CEGSA 50th cake make this one. It had the conference logos along with the ASF logo and bats on it.

I have to mention a grateful thankyou to Harry's wife who caught him as he backed out of the driveway to remind him that he to was bring the cake to the Dinner from Adelaide on Friday, because like many males he's a bit forgetful when it comes to things like that. Anyway the dinner wound up well after midnight and so the 50th anniversary came to an end (well for some, I still had a post conference trip to do).



Some of the South Australian Contingent at the Conference

Photo: A Jackson

All in all a very successful event and a great celebration of the ASFs first 50 years. We were told by many that we raised the bar. We succeeded I believe in our goals of making it an interesting, diverse and fun event. We wanted to try and have activities and events that appealed to a broader range of our members young and old and make it as cost affordable as possible and I think we did that. However I think I can safely say the next time its CEGSA's turn to host the conference there's quite a few people that will be hiding because its "bloody hard work!". Congratulations and thank you to all involved in helping out, hopefully I haven't forgotten anyone. Also Special mention and thanks to our sponsors: Department Of Tourism, Department of Environment and Heritage and their respective Ministers, Scout Outdoor Centre, City of Mount Gambier, Limestone Coast Tourism, District of Grant and Willowvale Caravan Park.

For Those from CEGSA that didn't make it you missed a great time and if you didn't get a T-shirt I have a few left in L, XL, XXL left at \$30 each

Marie Choi.

Conference Co-ordinator

%%%%%%%%%

Approved CEGSA Trip Leaders

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

All the above named are also CEGSA Trip Coordinators.

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

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

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

Book Review (By Damian Grindley) **Price:** Approx 83AUD. Plus postage costs.

Subterranean fishes of the world

An account of the subterranean (hypogean) fishes described up to 2003 with a bibliography 1541 – 2004

Graham Proudlove (illustrations by Rhian Hicks.)

Tropical fish were one of the sustained interests of my teenage years. A large tank warped the floorboards and kept the room suitably damp and cave like. By far the most fascinating fish were the blind cave adapted ones. Many hours were spent watching these incredibly agile swimmers navigate obstacles and dominate the food chain.

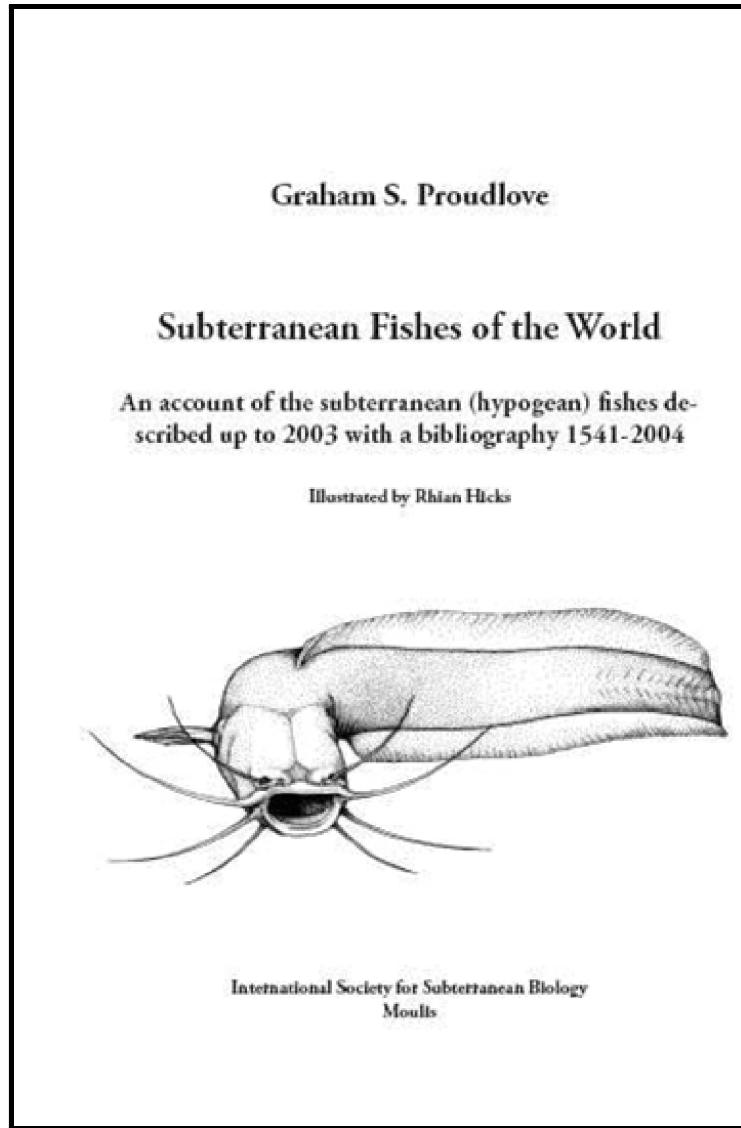
Although the above explains my interest. This book is of course a serious academic summary of the 104 species of Subterranean fishes known up to 2003. (Inc 2 from Australia) An appendix deals with an extra 21 species described prior to publication in 2006 (Further 2 from Australia). The recognised format covers systematics, distribution, habitat, conservation status and all known publications for each species. It is certainly a long overdue update on the last review in 1969 when a mere 35 species were described.

I personally found the systematic checklist, the history of investigations, the consideration of non-stygobitic fishes in caves, and a detailed analysis of the conservation status of these

relatively unknown creatures of most interest. Hindsight should find the 2000+ entries in the excellent bibliography covering publications from 1541-2005 the most essential information. However for a recent publication, graphs produced on a dot matrix printer and a limited number of quality plates make the material seem somewhat dated. One can only presume some of the poorer figures reflect the quality of the older source material. Interesting but very specialised.

Available from

- www.speleobooks.com (North America) www.speleoprojects.com (Europe)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Type of Event	Description	Contact
28/02/07	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel.	Stan Flavel
03/03/07	Working Bee	Library and records	Graham Pilkington
14/03/07	Committee Meeting	TBA	Stan Flavel
28/03/07	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. Search and Rescue Techniques/Technologies	Stan Flavel
31/03/07	Working Bee	Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
02/04/07	Caving	Corra-Lynn Beginners Trip	Graham Pilkington
06-09/ 04/07	Easter Caving	Southern Flinders Ranges (Walpunda Creek and Holowilena area)	Stan Flavel
06-09/ 04/07	Easter Caving	Avenue Range (Upper South East)	Marie Choi
10/04/07	Caving	Corra-Lynn Beginners Trip	Graham Pilkington
11/04/07	Committee Meeting	TBA	Stan Flavel
14-29/ 04/07	Caving	Nullarbor (Old Homestead + Others)	Graham Pilkington
25/04/07	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. Bones in Caves (speaker TBA)	Stan Flavel
29/04– 05/05/07	ACKMA Conference	Buchan, Victoria	Grant Gartrell
09/05/07	Committee Meeting	TBA	Stan Flavel
09/05/07	CEGSA NEWS	Articles for Newsletter due PLEASE	Athol Jackson
20/05/07	Caving	Corra-Lynn Beginners Trip	Graham Pilkington
23/05/07	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. Dedication of Ediacaran Golden Spike Video	Athol Jackson
26/05/07	Working Bee	Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
05/08/07	Caving	Corra-Lynn Beginners Trip	Graham Pilkington
??/12/07	Caving	Tasmania	Marie Choi
	Caving	Ongoing Vic Fossil Survey	contact Garry Woodcock
	Caving	Sellicks Hill	contact Grant Gartrell

It is desirable that caving trips involving club members should, where possible, be registered as CEGSA Trips. To do this, the nature and timing of the trip must be nominated to the Trip Liaison Officer and/or minuted at a General Meeting of Members. The member registering such a trip must be an accredited CEGSA Trip Coordinator and must agree to act in this capacity for the trip. There must also be an accredited trip leader with the appropriate skill endorsement to take a dependent party caving.

* Please note that trips not arranged by an accredited Trip Coordinator and marked with an * may not be classed as an official CEGSA trip and may not be covered by any CEGSA membership benefits. *

Also, please ensure that a report (preferably written) of the trip is submitted in a timely manner.

YOUR TRIP REPORT HERE