

CEGSA NEWS



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

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CAVE EXPLORATION GROUP (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) Inc.

PO Box 144, Rundle Mall, 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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Website Trip Log	All Trip Coordinators	See list p64

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CDAA liaison	Ian Lewis	As Above
SA Scout Liaison	Ian Lewis	As Above

Cover Photograph: Sinkhole opens up under Kybybolite farmer's tractor.

Photo: Andrew Shepherd (Kybybolite farmer) (See article p65)

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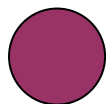
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QUARTERMASTERS NOTE.

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.

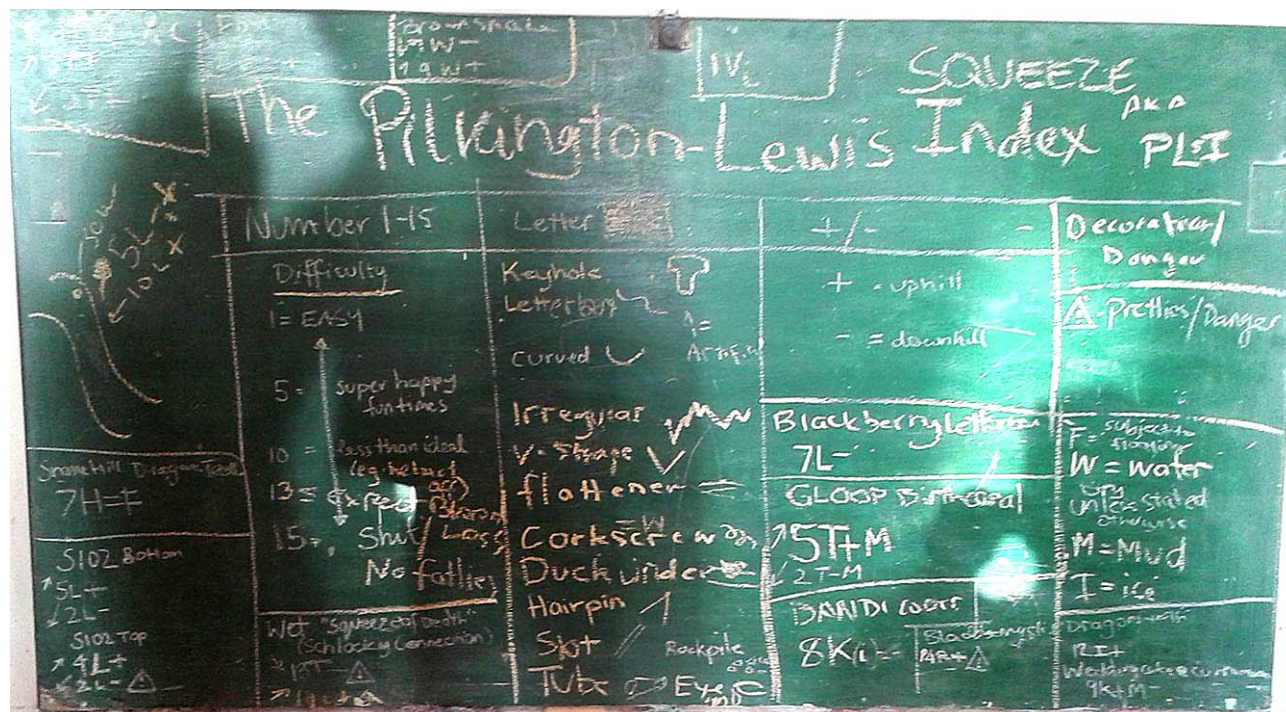
NEWSLETTER MATERIAL

The deadline for copy or background material for Volume 61 Number 4 (Issue 244) must reach the Editor by Wednesday **9th NOVEMBER 2016**. 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 a memory stick or CD, in Word *.doc(x) or *.rtf files. Of course other forms of communication will still be gratefully accepted. Photographs are preferred to be in colour as separate files and note in the article where to be inserted. (*.jpg format under 500Kb unless for the cover). 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

I was amazed to see a blackboard recently covered with an intricate series of cave exploration formulas. Yes, on a blackboard! And the formulas were very detailed. A bunch of incredible minds set themselves the task of analysing cave passages according to their levels of complexity, thus elevating the art and science of cave exploration to a mathematical model. Scary! Even more scary was the name allocated to this rigorous mathematics - see the picture below.



Now, I am all for innovations but this is space-age stuff. Observe the detailed columns from the left –

Difficulty

Passage Shapes

Slope

Decoration/Danger

Examples comments: 15 no fatties

corkscrew

+ = Uphill

pretties/mud/ice etc

With the resulting cave codes ...

S102 = 80Ham

Snake Hill = 7H

Blackberry Letterbox = 7L-

Gloop Birth Canal = 5T+M (going upwards!)

Which brilliant minds gathered together in a secret location to evaluate all this? Physicists in some remote mansion protected by secret agents? NASA Planetary Geologists bending their intellectual talents to advanced terrain modelling? IT Engineers in a super hi-tech laboratory designing fiendishly obscure global Pokemon hideaway locations? No – far more advanced than all of these! Hi-level intelligence reveals that the blackboard is located on the wall of the Naracoorte Scout Hall where a large bunch of South Australia's Scout Caving Leader Group were ensconced for a weekend's caving activities. No doubt inspired by the collective enthusiasm of 40 Adelaide Foothills Scout Troop kids whom they were taking caving for the first time, this highly-perceptive and creative-minded collective devoted an entire Saturday evening to devising the Pilkington-Lewis Squeeze index, no doubt for the benefit of untold future young caver generations! It must be noted that neither the said Pilkington or the said Lewis were present. It is rumoured that several in attendance asked who were these strange names, with the reply that they were mystical beings remembered for inhabiting caves of small twisty dimensions in the ancient past, but that they were no longer able to traverse such locales due to the mists of time and body evolution processes. Thus the Index was in memory of prehistoric cave activity rather more from the time period of the World Heritage Fossils.

How inspiring for South Australian Speleology that our young enthusiastic Scout Caving Leaders should devote their pizza-and-beer fuelled evenings to such a conceptual contribution rather than going out in the rain on a cold Naracoorte winter's night to go actually caving! A most noble sacrifice. Indeed, it evokes memories of many ancient CEGSA members who originated from Scouts and transmogrified into speloedwellers. Great to know there are more of them emerging from darkness!

Ian Lewis.

TRIP REPORTS

LOWER SOUTH-EAST CAVES TRIP REPORT

Thurs 31st Dec – Sun 3rd Jan

By Neville Skinner

Photos by Neville Skinner

Trip participants: Neville Skinner (FUSSI, CEGSA) and Deborah Johnston (SUSS).

On Sat 26th September 2015, whilst attending the Cave Divers Association (CDAA) AGM in Mt Gambier, I was approached by a fellow CDAA and SUSS member Deborah Johnston, who had travelled down from Sydney to give a presentation at the AGM on exploration diving and mapping in Jenolan Caves.

Deborah explained that she would be back in Mt Gambier sometime between Xmas Day and the New Year and wondered if I could arrange some caving at Naracoorte caves during that time. I eagerly said: "Yes, I'm sure I can find fellow cavers that would eagerly jump at the chance to go caving over the Xmas break."

It wasn't until December that Deborah emailed me to confirm the dates would be "from Dec 27 until about Jan 7th". After advertising the trip with CEGSA, FUSSI & the Scouts, I could only muster up 4 available cavers - Thomas, who was only available Tues 29th - Wed 30th Dec, Daniel who was only available Wed 30th Dec – Sat 2nd Jan, and Ian Lewis who was available Fri 1st – Sun 3rd Jan! I suspect this also may have had something to do with the two weeks of 40+ degree heat that we were encountering at the time, as well.

After several iterations and the need to organise the permits before Xmas, I settled on the following plan:

Tues 29th - Wed 30th Dec - Naracoorte caves – Sand Cave, Fox Cave & Blackberry cave if possible;

Thurs 31st Dec – Wrecked Car Cave & Monbulla Cave in the Penola area;

Fri 1st Jan - Gran Gran Cave & Mt Burr Cave in the Mt Burr area;

Sat 2nd Jan – Tindales & Three Sisters caves in the Glencoe area;

Sun 3rd Jan – Bakers cave (CDAA cave-dive) in the Bellum area.

This meant Thomas could join us for the first two days, when Daniel would arrive and take his place.

Clare started the process of arranging the permits, while I continued to try and convince the potential participants that it was always cooler in Mt Gambier. It wasn't long before Clare advised that Naracoorte caves would not be issuing permits for access to Sand Cave or Fox Cave because of the extreme heat and subsequent fire danger, and access to Blackberry Cave was also declined. At this point Thomas was forced to withdraw because these were his only available dates due to work commitments.

Then Dan pulled out, because he was concerned at the likelihood he might not get back home on time Sunday, to prepare for work the next day (it's an 12-hour drive from Mt Gambier to his place), and he wanted to spend the time with his family.

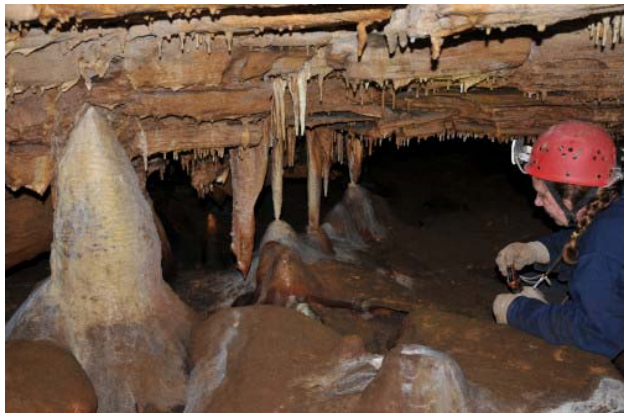
Thursday 31st December:

I was staying at my sister's place in Mt Gambier, so Deborah drove from the Kongorong Church where she was staying, to Engelbrechts Cave to meet me. We then moved her gear across to my Honda CRV, and left her Honda CRV under the shade of a tree before heading off to Forestry SA to see if any permits had been left in the receptacle for us. There wasn't, so we then headed off to the Lady Nelson Discovery Centre, where we were informed that things are done differently now – if I could produce an email from Forestry SA that showed the permits had been approved, they will provide us with keys. To assist, they offered use of a public PC with internet access, for this purpose. So I quickly logged onto to my ISP and pulled up the email that I knew was sitting in my mailbox. Once they sighted this, we were able to pick up the keys for Gran Gran cave, which we planned to visit the next morning.

Then we left for Penola. The temperature was to be around 39 degrees, so we were keen to get underground as quickly as possible.

By the time we arrived at the property it was already hot, but at least we could park under the shade of trees. We did a quick tour of the area, locating half a dozen cave entrances, and because the two caves were adjacent to each other, we needed to spend about 10-15 mins determining which entrances we needed to enter. Having examined the maps for both caves, we decided to do the smaller cave first, with a limit of 3 hours to see it, then do the larger one that was likely to take longer and appeared on the map to be more interesting. By the time we had geared up, we were already starting to dehydrate so we slowly headed to the entrance of our first cave, Wrecked Car cave. The entrance was a small collapse, and 3m diameter and 1-2m deep. Easy to access and once in the cave it was cool. To our surprise the cave was really interesting and very pretty in places.

The following images are but just a sample of the many that I took, and we found that 3 hours was not long enough to fully explore this cave.



The feature on the left is made up of fine roots. Tree roots travel across the floor to seek a source of water. When they locate a small wet area, fed by constant drops from the ceiling, they produce fine hair roots that compete with other hair roots, growing upwards as they go. The result appears to be a hairy stalagmite, and feels just like a sponge.



In addition to the natural formations, the cave roof contained several hundred (I'm guessing) surnames with first initials of people that had visited in previous eras, and each name was accompanied date or year, all written in candle smoke. In many cases, people also provided the name of the place where they lived. These people were clearly proud of their achievement in getting so far into a cave, with only candles for lighting. This contrasted dramatically with today, where people put meaningless tags, designed to hide their identity, in the caves and in many cases these are designed to cause the most impact to the environment.



A few of the names of the early settlers that visited Wrecked Car cave.

We very much enjoyed Wrecked Car cave, but had run out of time having only seen about half of it (maybe less?). The cave contains very few tunnels, and for the most part is one big low flattener, probably 200m long and about 20-30m wide, held up by a lot of sections of rock wall that give the appearance of many tunnels going in every direction.

Of course this did make it a little difficult to know which direction one should be heading in, and which areas one had visited and which direction the exit was in!

We never got to the other end of the cave; perhaps we only got half way before we turned and headed around the perimeter in an anti-clockwise direction. Even then it took an hour to get to the exit, with so much to see and so many names to look at on the way. It wasn't that important, we had another cave to do and it was New Year's Eve. Deborah wanted to spend NYE with her partner, and I had a virus-infected computer at my sister's place to fix.



When we got to the exit, the extreme heat hit us again and we lost no time in getting to Monbulla Cave, where we sat inside the entrance and ate our lunches. In fact, where we had chosen to have our lunches was bordered by three corners, each with a separate entrance. One of these had a tree growing from the floor of the cave, up through the entrance and into the sky. At least that was how it appeared, looking up from the base of the tree.



One entrance had a tree growing from the floor of the cave

Once we had eaten our lunches, we ventured down one of the small tunnels that led off in a north-easterly direction. This brought us into a bat chamber, with iron mesh covering its overhead entrance. Given this was the only entrance that was covered, I am inclined to think this was to stop people or animals from accidentally falling in



The bat chamber, which was the nicest of all of the chambers we

Leaving the bat chamber we ventured down another tunnel that led us back to where we started. This time we tried another tunnel and it took us into a different chamber, but the results were the same. Each tunnel reminded me of Corra Lynn, having the same rough gravelly texture that tested the knees.

Deborah had mentioned a smaller tunnel that headed in a southerly direction, so while she looked in there, I tried another tunnel that didn't seem to lead anywhere either. When I returned, Deborah was nowhere to be seen, so I headed down the southerly tunnel to see if she had found anything. First thing I noticed was that it started to bend around to a westerly direction, before entering a wide very low flattener. This was a wet area with active stalactites, and the further I went, the tighter it was getting. I had a choice of leaving the camera behind and continuing, or returning. The area I was in was now only about 300mm high and looked like it was getting lower. I looked for evidence that Deborah had come this way, but could not see any. So rather than push on, I aborted and headed back to the entrance to see if Deborah was there.

She was, and she had been wondering where I had got to and why I had taken so long. After explaining what I had seen, we both agreed that we should take a closer look at the walls of a couple of the entrance chambers where Deborah had observed signatures scratched into the walls, before leaving.



The old graffiti located on the walls of the entrance chambers

I was disappointed that we had cut short our exploration of Wrecked Car cave to do Monbulla cave, but you don't know if you don't look. For the most part, that area of Monbulla we had seen was really just the entrance section, made up of 6-7 entrance chambers linked to each other by tunnels. The last tunnel I took must have been the only way into the main section, so until next time I will never know what we missed out on. I was very glad we had gone there though, as Wrecked Car cave will remain on my list of favourite caves.

We arrived back at Engelbrechts Cave, and returned Deborah's gear to her vehicle. As I was about to leave, Deborah called out her car wouldn't start. I checked and it appeared the battery had failed. I ran my vehicle up and then found I had not relocated my jump leads into the CRV. I was about to race off and borrow a set from someone when Deborah remembered Dean had bought a new set for her car just before they left for Mt Gambier. Once connected, her car started okay and Deborah was off to her NYE party.

And I was off to a very late night working on a computer that was no longer useable because it was running so slow after having been taken over by computer viruses. I started by removing the existing up-to-date Kaspersky anti-viral software that I believed was part of the problem, along with several unused and possibly questionable applications. I bought my sister a copy of Vipre Internet Security 2016 over the web, installed it on the machine and started a full scan of all files on the computer, before falling into bed exhausted. It was now after 1am.

Friday 1st January 2016:

Having arranged to meet Deborah at Kongorong at 10am, gave me a chance to sleep in. A quick check of the computer showed the Vipre scan was still running, because of its poor performance. Patience required. I had breakfast, made sandwiches for lunch, had a cup of tea with my sister, and then headed off. The weather had changed dramatically, with a cool change arriving overnight that dropped the max temperature to 25 degrees; at least 13 degrees cooler than Adelaide!

Deborah was up and I had a chance to meet her partner Dean, who wanted photos of me with Deborah to send to his uncle Jim, who was actually a very good mate of mine that I had worked with in Townsville forty years ago, whilst in the Army. I had seen Jim since, having stayed at his place in Washington DC for a week in 1989, and had last visited him at his place near Port Macquarie in 2005. We exchanged stories and I shared several funny stories of memorable times I had shared with his Uncle Jim over the years.

We headed off for Gran Gran cave, arriving sometime just after midday. On arrival we both donned our wetsuits, and grabbed our masks so we could see under the water in the small lake section. As we headed down the left side tunnel I could see that we were going to get wet, and I was concerned for my camera. It wasn't so bad until I hit a deep 1m long section of mud, whereupon I sank in the mud up to my thighs! Somehow I managed to walk out of it, but it wasn't easy.

Deborah didn't mind the mud, and I was beginning to think she was actually enjoying it!



Anticipating the wet area, we had brought a groundsheet in with us, which I put over the flowstone to protect it from getting dirty, but it was already filthy when we arrived. At the time I thought it would be good if FUSSI brought a brush and some water next time so we can clean it up.

After entering the area on the western side, we went left toward the water and were faced with a beach of black mud, with a small lake behind it, and then rocks behind that.

I thought about the mud, then thought about the mud again. Just as I was thinking about the mud again, Deborah threw herself into it. Right up to her knees. No, wait... right up to her thighs, no, wait... right up to her... OMG. Just as I thought she was stuck fast, she threw herself forward and slipped away into the water. Well, I thought, I can't stand here looking the part and acting like a wuss, so in I went, trying to look as manly as possible.

After breaking free from the mud I eagerly swam as hard as I could to the centre of the lake. I had been told there could be tunnels under the water that might be dive-able (you know... the usual stories like it goes to 40m), but there wasn't as much as a yabby hole. No surprises here.

We got out of the water on the other side, and then climbed over the rocks to get to the end of the tunnel, which ended abruptly with a short, steep slope. Perhaps this was where the road is, I thought. After that we returned the way we came, and departed the cave.

Since we were already geared up, we decided to pop into Quarry cave close by, and check it out. We looked into the area on the northern side but all we could see were wet clay blocks, which we did not want to damage, so instead we took the other tunnel that headed north. We didn't get far though before it got tighter; we dropped down and twisted into a yet smaller tunnel, and eventually gave up. At this point we both needed to lose a lot of weight in order to gain another 3 metres, so we decided to pack it in, reverse out and head for home. After all it was Christmas Eve and the day was just beginning.

Saturday 2nd January 2016:

We had originally planned to explore Three Sisters and Tindales caves on Saturday, but the Tindales permit had been rejected during the extreme weather at the time. So when Deborah told me she had the opportunity to dive The Shaft with Dean, I replied she had to do it while she had the chance because this was the time of year that dive is really awesome. Besides, it was entirely possible we could finish up at The Shaft in time to still do the Three Sisters after that.

I had not come well prepared for diving the Shaft as I had left my dry-suit at home, but I was happy to visit the site and catch up with a few of my fellow divers. I was pleased to learn that Gary Barclay was supervising on the day, because I had not seen much of Gary or Linda for some years and it would be nice to catch up. As it happened, there were several good friends diving The Shaft on the day so I really had the chance to socialise and enjoy myself. And I was able to assist Gary in getting people in & out of the sinkhole quickly and efficiently.

The entrance to The Shaft is a solution tube, about one metre in diameter and 2-3m deep, that opens out about 5-6m above a very deep lake. This solution tube is located in the middle of a dairy farmer's paddock, with a metal grate that covers the hole when not in use to prevent cattle from getting stuck in it.



There are several CDAA divers that are approved to supervise divers getting into and out of this site and each has his own preferred way of doing so. Historically, most supervisors lower people and gear down attached to a rope, using harness & carabiner and Whale's tail or a rack, with the person topside controlling the speed of descent.

This requires the rope to be pulled back up for the next person/load. Once down, a wire ladder would be dropped down for them to climb back out, and the rope used to haul the gear out, with 5-6 divers hauling at the same time.

But Gary's method of getting people in is a little more imaginative. It involves a length of rope with a figure-8 knot on each end, about 12m long and threaded through a whale's tail attached to the centre of a tripod with a sling. Both ends of the rope (which is threaded through the whales tail) can go down the hole, in such manner as to allow the diver to lower himself into the cave, and control his/her own speed of descent. Once down the end of the rope does not require retrieval for the next person, since one only has to invert the whales tail (and therefore the direction of the rope travel) and connect the next person to the short end of the rope already at the surface.

At this point, I want to highlight a discrepancy between the distance from the surface to the water (previously stated as about 8m) and the length of the rope being used for lowering, which at the point when both ends meet and the diver can no longer control his/her speed of descent is half of 12m, or 6m. And this is not from the surface, but from a point 2m above the surface (aka the tripod).

This means the diver is going to have to let go of the rope about 4m above the surface of the water.

Being directly above the diver and witnessing the various stages of the thought process as the brain worked out something wasn't quite right, to the realisation it was a trick, followed by expletives, then a loud splash, was ... well, really hilarious. And it never stopped being hilarious, as every persons reaction was different.

**Dean about to enter The Shaft****Deborah entering The Shaft****Gary hauling diver out by R/C**

Getting people out was even niftier. The winch was used to lower a carabiner down to the person in the water who connected it to their harness and was then lifted up using the remote control. Once the majority of divers were out of the water, the last couple of divers would send the equipment up before connecting themselves to the rope. I must say the remotely controlled winch on the front of Gary's 4WD was a nice touch!

Once we had finished at The Shaft, we found we still had plenty of time to do the Three Sisters Cave. Pat Fitzgerald and his dive buddy were keen to join in and so we all headed off. They also had permits to enter the cave - we had the key - and they had the climbing ropes and tripod we needed, so we didn't have to borrow from elsewhere. It's a 20m vertical pitch, but entry is not all that difficult. I took my camera and slave strobe with me because I craved those more difficult pics - and I was quite pleased with my results.

We entered the cave on the side of the road near Tantanoola after first opening the rusted entry. It appeared that no one else had entered this site in at least 12 months. This was quite challenging as we spent about 30 - 40 minutes hammering away at the rust before we were able to open it with a crow bar.

**Deborah holding the rope while Pat descends****Pat heading for the exit**

Deborah went first because there was no way she would allow anybody to beat her down, followed by myself and then Pat. I had tied the backpacks to the end of the rope and I lowered them down before abseiling down myself. Pat followed with the final person remaining at the surface for safety.

After entering the chamber we dropped our harnesses and climbing equipment near the rope and headed off to explore the main chamber.



Main chamber of the Three Sisters



The lake at the bottom of the chamber

First of all Deborah and Pat went to have a look at the tree roots at the top of the chamber, where Deborah was quite impressed with the waterfall formation. I set my camera gear up before joining them. We then went down to the bottom of the chamber and showed Deborah the lake, which Pat and I have dived in the past. This lake goes to a depth of approximately 40 metres with no other leads going off of it.

After this we headed back towards the entrance, admiring more formations on the southern side of the chamber when Deborah noticed a narrow drop heading down the wall to water below. This got Deborah extremely excited and we decided we would return to that location to explore it the following morning.



Deborah & Pat examining roof decorations



Waterfall formation at top of chamber



Formations on southern side of chamber

As Pat was leaving he started to drive in the direction of Glencoe, when I called out to him and asked him why he was travelling in that direction, to which he replied he was going to Tantanoola Hotel for dinner. I then pointed out to him that Tantanoola was in the opposite direction! At first he did not believe me, until I reminded him that Glencoe was east of Tantanoola, and Tantanoola was west of our location.

Pat was thankful for that, since the Tantanoola Hotel stopped taking dinner orders after 8pm and the time was 7:45pm. Deborah & I left the area at 8pm.

Sunday 3rd January 2016:

I met Deborah at 9.30am at Kongorong, and after a cup of tea we headed off for Three Sisters cave, where we met up with Pat Fitzgerald, as arranged.

We arrived at 11am and spent the next hour rigging and getting into the site. Pat declined to enter the site as he had seen it the previous day, and remained on the surface as our surface support person.

Deborah went in first and by the time I got to the bottom of the rope Deborah had already entered the hole that led to the water! I set my camera up as Deborah was gearing up and then took pictures of her as she entered the water and during her dive. (Photos next page)

It was evident from the smiles that Deborah enjoyed her dive immensely, and was very guarded about what she had found down there. I have vowed to go back another day and see for myself.

A big Thank You to Clare for organising permits, and a bigger Thank You to the landowners who allowed us on their property(s).



Deborah prepares herself for the dive



Deborah looking for that hidden chamber



Deborah puts her hand through the hole in the crutch of her wetsuit while Pat looks on in disbelief

%%%%%%%%%

RAPID BAY CAVES TRIP REPORT

Sun 14th Feb 2016

By Neville Skinner

Photos by Neville Skinner & Daniel Dingwall

Trip participants: Neville Skinner and Daniel Dingwall.

This trip started with a telephone call from Daniel, saying "Hi, I'm in town for two weeks and I want to know where we are caving this weekend"...

I suggested we go back and complete our check of that Rapid Bay sea cave that we never finished exploring last time due to lack of gear and time, but Daniel wanted more. After offering a few words about it would have been nice to have more time to explore other opportunities and arrange cave access, Daniel agreed Rapid bay was the best option.

I checked the weather forecast for Rapid Bay and it said 5-10 knots SE wind swinging around to the SW during the day. This meant the wind wouldn't be pushing the waves into the rocks on the shoreline... PERFECT! High tide was at 8am, and low tide was 2pm, with the next high tide at 8pm... This meant the sea would not be high on the way to the caves, nor would it be high on the way back... and it would be at its lowest while we were exploring the area around the sea caves... High seas means in places you are forced to climb higher on the rocks, but on Sunday we may even be able to walk on patches of beach previously inaccessible without getting very wet... PERFECT!

And a 20% chance of isolated showers meant a cool day and no sunburn cream required... PERFECT.

I had promised Felicia that I would let her know next time I was going there, so I contacted her and Daniel met up with Dee on the Friday night, and asked Dee. She was not able to come due to other commitments, but Felicia was very keen to come and said she would bring her boyfriend with her as well. We agreed to meet at Rapid Bay carpark at 9:30am. We needed to start early because it would be a long day.

Daniel met at my place and we headed off at 8:30am, equipped with ropes, tapes and harnesses (just in case), as well as my Nikon camera with a large slave strobe and 10W LED floodlight for extra lighting. We knew it would be a pain climbing the cliffs with heavy backpacks, but this time we were not going to arrive to find we needed something that we had left behind.

We made the usual mandatory 5-minute stop at Yankalilla Bakery, so I could buy one of the best pasties in Australia (Disclaimer: I have no financial or other interests in the Yankalilla bakery).

As we came through Second Valley, I discovered I had two missed calls on my phone from "No Caller ID" – one at 8:52am and the other at 9am. I didn't know anyone of that name, so we continued.

When we arrived at Rapid bay, I was amazed to find the caravan park was virtually full of tents and caravans, much busier than I had ever encountered before. Was this a welcoming party? Perhaps there had been a Fringe event on the beach the previous evening?

I could only count 6 people on the Jetty and the same number of small boats in the water.

There was no sign of Felicia and her boyfriend. Had their car broken down?



Even the northern end of the Rapid Bay Caravan Park was busy (NS)

I worriedly called Felicia, and she said it was her who had tried to call me earlier. I asked her where she was, and she said she was in Hahndorf.. OMG! “Did you take the wrong turn?” I asked. No, Felicia replied “I did not want to get caught in the rain.”

I looked up at the sun shining down between the clouds, and then at the families walking up and down the beach, and thought to myself “Yes, it pays to be safe.”

The weather was good, so we took our time and had an early morning tea break – we decided there was no point in carrying our pasties and other delicacies all the way to the cave, and then eating them. And they would probably get crushed en-route anyway.

After this, we double-checked our gear, making sure we had everything, and headed off.

We travelled faster as we were closer to the sea than we had ever been, and were able to take advantage of the lower tide. At one stage, I did climb 2-3m higher to avoid running across a short stretch of beach that Daniel sprinted across, because I was afraid of getting my boots wet.

It was this decision that that took me past a small recess that looked like it contained a piece of fossilised tree stump. I called Dan back and went to inspect more closely. It turned about to be just a piece of up-ended slate that gave this appearance, but while I was looking at it and preparing to take a photo of it, Dan noticed a crack in the rocks barely a metre to the left of it, and exclaimed “That looks like a tunnel!”

Indeed it was and off went Dan, like a rat up a drainpipe. Within seconds, I could hear this muffled voice calling back “You gotta see this Neville...”



The up-ended rock that caught my eye



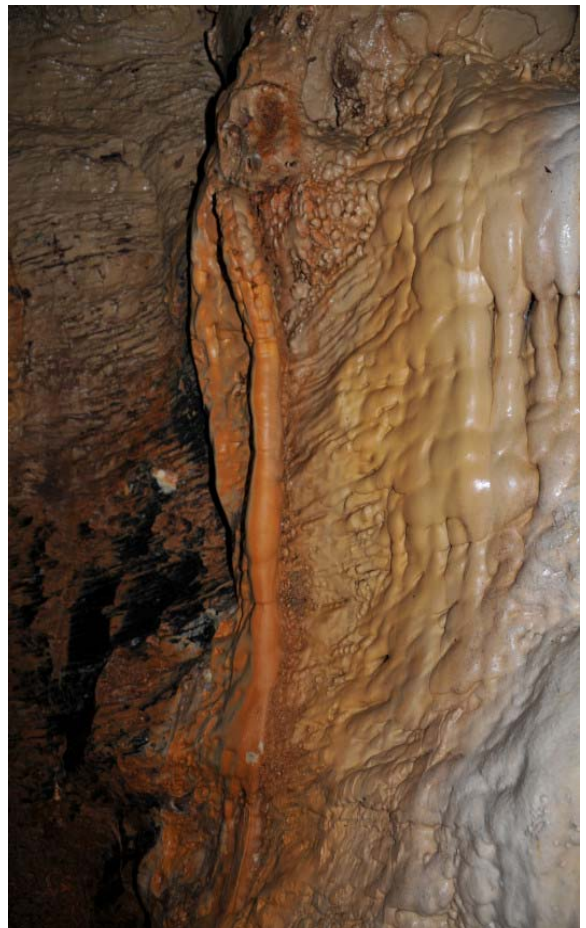
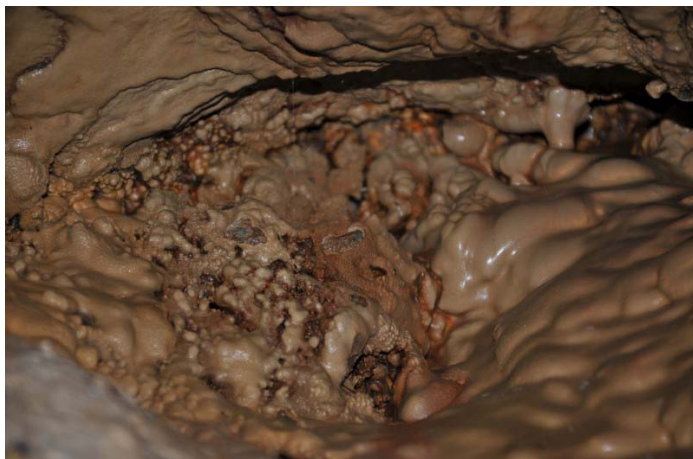
Small tunnel (Dan's light at end)



Daniel checking out the end of Hidden Cave; pretty flowstone formations on wall to the right

Suddenly, I wanted to be a rat also. Scurrying 7-8 metres down the end of a narrow tunnel, I find myself 1.5m off the floor of a small cave, with the right hand wall covered in flowstone of various colours and shapes, some containing small shells with their deceased inhabitants, frozen in time.

A quick check of the cave reveals there are no other accessible entrances, just a damp floor of smooth round stones of various colours, washed smooth and carried in by the tides that enter through cracks between the boulders. What an exhilaratingly magnificent find!





Dan examines the geology of Hidden Cave (NS)



Sea Shells set in flowstone, with various deceased tenants (NS)



Dan exiting Hidden Cave (NS)



Dan waiting for Neville to exit (NS)



Dan takes a look back toward Rapid Bay Jetty before we continue (NS)

After exiting Hidden Cave, Dan decided to take a run up the adjacent slope, which showed significant signs of water erosion from heavy rains (or is this evidence of glacial action as seen at Hallett Cove?).

But we did not stop to check the rocks for scratch marks; we were there to check for caves.

(Since then I have wondered if this could be the safest and most stable route to take to reach the area above those caves that we currently cannot get to from below?)



Dan (lower centre) returning after checking out the base of the slope (NS)



Could this be another cave, 30m east of 'our' cave? (NS)

Dan reported no cave activity in what might have been a glacier or a very large waterfall, and we continued on to reach our goal. We were still on time.

Along the way Dan pointed out the cave we were headed for, and as he did so I noticed a much larger cave about 40m east of it and much higher up the slope.

As soon as we reached our destination cove, we looked up the slope at what had clearly looked like another cave from a distance, and both agreed there was no way we were going to try and climb up to it, as the slope is near vertical from the beach up.

We then checked the area around the main sea cave, and discovered a portable camping toilet. Sadly it was of no use, and hadn't been emptied for some time; it was full of toilet paper and doo-dooos.



Dan slowly descends for a closer look...



and gets his feet wet in the process!

I scaled the rocks and proceeded around the side of the point, using a narrow ledge (think 30mm) to walk on. This was all the encouragement Dan needed, as he worked his way around me and proceeded even further than I was prepared to go. Jumping onto a small beach, he had no chance of keeping his feet dry as a small wave raced up and over both boots before he could make it to the dry section.

Leaving Dan behind, squeezing the water out of his socks and overalls, I returned the way we came, and carried all our bags up the steep slope and into the small cave & tunnel that we were to conquer.

By the time I did this and got ready to enter the tight restriction, Dan had returned. Once I got through the restriction, Dan passed all the gear to me and I stowed it in a small alcove just inside the restriction, and proceeded through a second tight restriction, where we repeated the process.

I was now inside the main part of the connecting tunnel to the sea cave we were to explore, and with Dan's help set about installing a harness tape around a rock that was still firmly attached to the floor and wall. To this we added a carabiner and attached the rope we would use to abseil into and climb out of the cave.

Once completed, I moved down the slope to make room for Dan to enter, and to set up my external slave strobe in anticipation.



Dan abseils down into the sea cave below... and then climbs up to the dry chamber on the other side
Once the strobe was set up, I focused on taking a few pics of Dan as he entered the sea cave chamber below, and then climbed up to explore the ledge opposite where I was. I then abseiled the 8m pitch to the sea cave below, to explore and to see if I could utilise the slave strobe to capture a few good images.



View looking from sea-cave entrance (NS)



View looking toward sea cave entrance (NS)

Dan had found a way to clamber over and around the rock walls to get to the section up high. After a quick look around, Dan excitedly calls back that he has found a room with columns and numerous stalactites in it, and could I come up and check it out with him.

After asking Dan how in the world did he get up there, I concluded that there was an advantage in having long legs, because I could not envisage swinging my leg around those rocks! So I asked Dan to secure a prussik rope around one of the rocks, and I prussiked up that.



Neville prussiking up to join Dan (DD)

Once up, I wasted no time following Dan into the Inner Sanctum of Hidden Cave. I was amazed at what Dan had found. This had indeed been a very successful trip.

By now the tide was returning and we were forced to depart the cave... until next time.



View looking toward sea cave entrance (DD)



Old formations demonstrate existence of dry cave (NS)



Formations protruding from the ceiling (NS)

All images below, showing stalactites, formations and various other speleothems (DD)





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Corra Lynn Cave, 5Y-1, 25th February 2016

Participants: Graham Pilkington, Ray Gibbons, Michael Woodward, Tim, and Steve Wasilewski and 23 3-month Introductory members all from Mercedes College.

Beginners trip for the students and Tim to tryout a Zebedee.

Graham Pilkington

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Corra Lynn Cave, 5Y-1, 12th March 2016

Participants: Graham Pilkington, Graham Walker, Joel Dillon, Tristan Dillon, David Phillips, and Jason Heritage.

The trip was to tryout a tripod-mounted 3D laser surveying instrument. It is similar in principle to the Zebedee 3D system that was trialled in Corra Lynn Cave in February

Graham Pilkington

Past Trips from General Meetings

May 2016

1. Scout Caving Group took 50 Scouts caving around Naracoorte at the end of April. Visited Blackberry, Wet Cave, Little Vic and Appledore. Also visited SOS Cave on Saturday evening, only to find it blocked!
2. Ian Lewis Field Geology Club SA visited Corralynn cave as part of a field trip. Took the group as far as Grand Central.

June 2016

1. Ken Smith visited Pannikin Plains Cave on the Nullarbor. It's famous for a flood in 1988 due to a rainstorm while divers were inside. Andrew White was a film maker who got to know James Cameron and was involved in the making of the movie Sanctum. The cave was closed down, though some have visited the cave over the years with approval from the government for mapping etc. Ken visited as a follow up to a recent assessment of the cave with an aim to having it reopened. While there is a walk in route, there were concerns this path is unstable, and the recommendation may be that the abseil route is used for regular access. Channel 10 filmed visit to the cave and this footage was shown on The Project.
2. Scout Caving Group visited Mairs & Clara St Dora. One bat in Clara St Dora. Beautiful decoration. Very windy!
3. FUSSI visited Mt Eccles National Park. Thought the caves weren't that exciting. Hope to spend a bit more time at Byaduk next time. The walk through the forest to the caves was very nice, though lots of leeches!

July 2016

1. Mark Sefton, Graham went north to Bullita Caves and also visited the Kimberly with Alan Pryke. Kimberly Caves – Coral Maze Cave – survey complete, several kms long, Fernacopan Cave – big passages, lots of decoration, 7km long, mostly finished the survey. Also participated in the 26th Expedition to Bullita. 14 people with 5 visiting for the first time. The main Bullita system is mostly explored, but still have areas to be surveyed. Spent lots of time in the Northern system. Managed to join several caves together via exploration. Dingo Cave is now over 40km in length, but has potential for plenty more with a thorough survey. Lots of small caves near Dingo which have been joined. Sourthern Karst area had about 10km of new cave added. Prometheus is on the eastern half is well over 50km. Found new caves in the karst as well. The gap between the east and west has decreased significantly, and Mark feels optimistic that they will join. Still plenty of discoveries to be had in the area!

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TECHNICAL and OTHER ARTICLES

MEMBERSHIP FEES

CEGSA MEMBERSHIP FEES became due on January 1st. To ensure continuity of membership and privileges (particularly insurance) please pay immediately.

A Joining fee now applies to all renewals.

CEGSA MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2015 YEAR

Full Membership	\$ 45.00
Full Country Membership	39.00
Associate Membership	37.00
Long Term Associate	45.00
3 Month Introductory	5.00
Joining Fee (N/A to 3mth Intro)	12.00
Discount for Country Membership	6.00
Print Form CEGSA News	25.00

ASF LEVY FEE FOR 2015 YEAR

Single	\$ 68.00
Family	117.00
3 Month Introductory	20.00
Journal Subscription	25.00

2015 YEAR FEES

	CEGSA	+ASF	TOTAL
Full Membership	\$45.00	\$ 68.00	\$113.00
Full Country Membership	39.00	68.00	107.00
Associate Membership	37.00	68.00	105.00
3 Month Introductory	5.00	20.00	25.00

Variation for Family Membership

1 st Full Member + 2 nd Full Member	\$90.00	\$117.00	\$207.00
1 st Full Member + 2 nd Associate Member	\$82.00	\$117.00	\$199.00
1 st Assoc Member + 2 nd Assoc Member	\$74.00	\$117.00	\$191.00

Discount for Country Membership applies for Family Memberships.

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

Membership Fees can be paid direct into CEGSA Account BSB 105-900 Account No 950661040 and reference with your Name, CEGSA Fees or Membership Number.

Chris Gibbons. Treasurer/Membership Officer.

Approved CEGSA Trip Leaders

Name	Caving Leader level
Marie Choi	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
Mark Corbett	Horizontal and Laddering
Stan Flavel	Horizontal and Laddering
Grant Gartrell	Nil
Chris Gibbons	Nil
Paul Harper	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
Richard Harris	Horizontal
Lance Hoey	Horizontal and Laddering
Peter Horne	Horizontal and Laddering
Peter Kraehenbuehl	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical
Ian Lewis	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
Matt Smith	Horizontal and Laddering
Tom Szabo	Horizontal and Laddering
Gary Woodcock	Horizontal and Laddering
Michael Woodward	Horizontal, Laddering and Vertical

All the above named are also CEGSA Trip Coordinators.

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

It is a requirement that each trip be organised by an approved Trip Coordinator to be classed as an official CEGSA trip. It is also a requirement that dependent party trips be led by an approved Trip Leader at the appropriate skill level for the cave being entered.

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ASF's 60th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

On January 7th next year, the ASF is holding its board meeting in Adelaide at the Somerset Hotel, 505 Bridge Road PARA HILLS. Normally these meetings are held during the Biennial Conference but in 2017 the ASF is skipping a Conference because it's hosting the 17th UIS (the Union of International Speleology) Congress near Sydney in July 2017. All ASF members are welcome to attend the board meeting (usually from 9am to 5pm) although they will have to ask their representative to speak for them if they have any comments. The cost of morning and afternoon refreshments will be about \$10 each with lunch obtainable from the Hotel dining room or from the adjacent shopping center.

After the meeting there will be a Dinner held at the same venue (cost approximately \$40 each plus drinks). All CEGSA members are encouraged to attend. This is a good opportunity to obtain contacts for caving interstate as well as put faces to those names that you hear about.

For more information and updates, contact

Graham Pilkington

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Vale Ken Grimes.

It is with great sadness that we have received the news about Ken Grimes' death as a result of a treefall on his property near Wannon Falls. Below is a short note of condolence from all SA cavers which I sent to all ACKMA members.

On behalf of all South Australian cavers in CEGSA, FUSSI and the Scout Caving Leader Group, we offer our heartfelt condolences to Janine and to all of you, and share the shock and sadness of Ken's passing. He was an assiduous researcher but matched that with an incredible generosity of spirit, sharing all his work and knowledge with us all. We are stunned and grieving and will miss Ken terribly.

Ian Lewis, CEGSA

Sinkhole opens up under Kybybolite farmer's tractor

ABC South East SA

By Kate Hill

Updated 5 Aug 2016, 10:27am



Crikey! Worker Max stands in the sinkhole that opened up under his tractor and spray rig on the Shepherd's property at Kybybolite. (Photo Supplied: Andrew Shepherd)

"Holy crap" is how Kybybolite farmer Andrew Shepherd described the moment a small sinkhole opened up on his property in South Australia's south-east on Thursday afternoon.

Worker Max was driving along in a tractor with a spray rig on spraying in a wheat crop, when all of a sudden the ground opened up under him.

"He said the tractor sort of jerked, he got thrown out of his seat and he hit his head on the roof," Mr Shepherd said.

"He got out and had a look behind him and the ground had opened up."

Although it is not quite the

size of the hole that opened up in a Queensland backyard this week, the sinkhole measured a couple of metres in length and width, and was about two metres deep.

The farmer is counting his lucky stars the unstable ground managed to sustain the enormous weight of the tractor until after it passed over.

"We were lucky," he said.

"If it had of happened when the front of the tractor was going over it, I have no doubt that the tractor would have ended up in the hole and we would have had some very nasty damage."

The Limestone Coast is well-known for its number of spectacular sinkholes in and around the district. Above average rainfall in the Kybybolite and Naracoorte area over the last month may also have assisted.

"The rainfall has been fantastic. By the end of July, we were 50 millimetres better than this time last year," he said.

"Interestingly enough, our neighbours told us they had a similar one open up in the last few months as well."

Letting the locals know

After checking the young worker and the equipment was OK, Mr Shepherd's thoughts naturally turned to his fairly active Twitter account.

"I said to Max, 'are you game enough to stand in it for some pictures'?", he said.

"It's a pretty solid clay base in it, there's no water or anything so it's pretty safe."

The sinkhole pictures raised considerable interest among the local Twittersphere.

"I was blown away by how much interest there was. My phone didn't stop beeping all night," Mr Shepherd said.

"My pants would have been as brown as your top soil after going over that," was one comment that gave Mr Shepherd a good laugh.

While some were amazed, others were more practical.

"On the bright side," wrote one, "you can inspect the roots more easily now".

From the Bulletin of the Field Geology Club of South Australia (Inc) Vol. 45 No. 6 **Page 5-7**

NORTHERN YORKE PENINSULA EXCURSION

17th April 2016 Morning – Cora Lynn Cave, Curramulka

The Journey

Day 2 of The Yorke Peninsula excursion and the group journeyed south, down the spine of the Yorke Peninsula, to the small settlement of Curramulka. There was excitement on the bus, because today we were to meet up with Ian Lewis and Thomas Varga to explore the Cora Lynn cave. Ian and Thomas are highly qualified and experienced cavers who kindly agreed to take the group underground,

The District

The Curramulka district is typical of the landscape of the Yorke Peninsula; broad open cropping country dotted with old stone farmhouses... except for some subtle differences! The town is nestled within a small valley about 80 km south of Moonta and 190km from Adelaide. Agricultural development begun in the district in the 1870's. The township was surveyed in 1878 and named Curramulka after an aboriginal legend; *Curra*=emus and *mulka*=deep waterhole. Today in the centre of town is a 40m deep solution shaft and water is found at a depth of 30m; no waterhole today!

Europeans discovered the Cora Lynn cave back in the 1850's and since then it has attracted many visitors and thrill seekers. The cave is now closed to the public and only groups who adhere to a strict code of ethics are permitted to visit. The Cora Lynn cave is also heritage listed because of its unusual maze like structure and for the discovery of Late Miocene-Pliocene bone fragments. The cave is situated on a hill surrounded by dry cereal paddocks on the south east outskirts of the town on the property of the same name.

As we were driving into Curramulka I saw limestone outcropping in a creek bed. At first I thought the outcrop was a thick bed of the ubiquitous calcrete. It is actually one of the few areas on the Peninsula where Cambrian limestone outcrops inland, most of it is buried beneath quaternary deposits and calcrete. I thought seeing the creek bed also unusual because the rainfall of the district is too low to allow sufficient surface runoff.

The small valley that the town is nestled in was described by Ian Lewis as an Uvala. This is a term describing a small closed valley or basin in a Karst landscape.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uvala_\(landform\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uvala_(landform)) {"Uvala" turns out to be Serbo-Croatian for "valley" or "cove" - Ed). This basin surrounding the town is about 5 km in diameter and the cave is situated on its SE ridge. Also on the SE outskirts of the town, at the base of the low ridge, is an operating Limestone quarry belonging to the Hanson Company. Being a Victorian, I immediately mistook it for basalt because of the grey colour and the dominant vertical Jointing, not unlike columnar basalt rock.

Some background Geology

Several formations of early Cambrian carbonates¹ are found in the mid Yorke Peninsula. They are outliers of the Adelaide Rift Complex. Travelling westward toward the Peninsula the sedimentary rocks of the Adelaide fold belt disappear beneath the Northern Adelaide Plains and reappear in the uplifted escarpment west of Port Wakefield.

Our first stop on the Saturday was a quarry on the edge of the escarpment near the Wallaroo Rd. The rocks in this quarry are also Cambrian limestone. Both carbonates of Curramulka and the Port Wakefield quarry belong to the early Cambrian Parara formation, a sub unit of a group of carbonates, silts, shales and sandstones belonging to the Hawker Group of the Adelaide fold belt. The carbonates quarried at Ardrossan are also part of The Hawker Group. These carbonates were deposited in shallow warm seas on an extensive carbonate platform within the Adelaide Rift.

The Adelaide Rift was a series of crustal extensions that subsided to the east of the Gawler craton in late Proterozoic to Cambrian times (~600My). The sediments deposited in the Adelaide rift were uplifted by the Delamerian Orogeny at the end of the Cambrian. They are of much younger than the

rocks that host the copper deposits to the north. These rocks belong to the early-mid Proterozoic Wallaroo Group, part of the older Olympic Province (1700My).

The Cave

The cave is situated on the top of a low hill, in a fenced off area surrounded by cereal paddocks. The caves are covered by 6m of soils, calcrete and Quaternary deposits. The entrance is 6m below this surface at the base of a sinkhole. The entrance is a thin slot about 6 long and secured with a heavy iron door. The shape of the entrance indicates that the cave system once had higher levels but has since eroded. Uplift in the past has raised the cave system well above the water table and today it is dry.

At the entrance the wall rock appears to be horizontal beds of evenly sized grey conglomerate. (Photo 2) In reality the wall rock of the caves is a grey, slightly dipping, nodular carbonate. The rock is a mixture of limestone (CaCO_3) and the Dolomite ($\text{CaCO}_3.\text{MgCO}_3$). Dolomite is a carbonate mineral which has undergone up to 50% replacement of Calcium with Magnesium. Magnesium is less resistant to weathering than limestone, resulting in the unusual knobby texture of the wall rock. The undulose wall rock is also a result of differential weathering. In the centre of town is a carpark with large boulders of rock from Hanson's Quarry. This rock also exhibited the nodular texture (5-6cm) but was smooth, not the weathered knobby texture of the cave

Serious exploration of the cave began in 1971 by Graham Pilkington and others of the Cave Exploration Group of South Australia. The known length in 1971 was 3 km. Since then a labyrinth of blocked passageways has been discovered by the clearing of debris by volunteers, extending the length of the cave to 14.1km (Photo 3). The unusual geometry of the cave is Joint controlled, the result of the action of slightly acidic ground water with in the Joints. The joint structures act as conduits. Water slowly dissolves the Joint surfaces allowing for increased volumes of rock to be exposed to the chemical weathering processes.

The age of the cave is unknown but as water is the only agent capable of dissolving the carbonate minerals it must have been, in the past, below the water table. Later uplift raised the rock above the water table allowing underground streams to further weather out the Joints resulting in some decent sized passageways. Further uplift raised the caves well above the water table leaving the cave high and dry, apart from occasional surface runoff. In the past more than one entrance had existed but over time become blocked by surface debris, weathered wall rock, and later, farming practices. Four interconnected levels have been discovered, each connected by deep vertical fissures that covers an area of 450X 300m with a depth of 40 m (See map in issue 45(3) of the newsletter). Speleothems are noticeably absent apart from a mound of clay and calcite near the entrance which created quite an obstacle to pass.

There is a nice article on cave exploring in Cora Lynn Cave on the ABC website at -

www.abc.net.au/news/2012-06-06/caving-yorke-peninsula-corra-lynn/4055110.

I would like to acknowledge the work done over the years by dedicated volunteers in conserving and improving our knowledge of the Cora Lynn cave. The Club is very appreciative of Ian Lewis for organizing the visit to the caves and to Thomas Varga who assisted in shepherding us safely through some very small crawl spaces.

Ruth Robertson

Pictures from Mark Dale



The Curramulka Dolomite Quarry



The curious texture of the cave limestone. It resembles sharp fragments cemented into solid limestone



Field Geology Club members exploring the Grand Central Area in all our matching white disposable overalls



Ian Lewis at the entrance to Cora Lynn Cave



Ian Lewis demonstrates the geology of the cave



Malcolm enjoys the sunshine after the gloom of the cave

Water Level Raised

Wetlands help conserve endangered species

LEON RADEMEYER

THE water level of the iconic Piccaninnie Ponds wetland reserve near Port MacDonnell has been raised in the interest of conserving its 60 threatened or endangered plant and animal species. In doing so, parts of the original wetland, which have not been under water for more than a century, have been flooded.

"We have increased the overall water level by about 12cm to 3.5m above sea level in March, extending the total area of the wetland by between 10 and 15ha," National Resources South East wetland ecologist Steve Clarke told *The Border Watch*.

"The latest increase has its roots in a decision taken in the early 1970s to restore the wetland after its water level reached an all-time low in 1968.

"More recently, in 2006, the first stage of a strategic plan was implemented to raise the wetland's water closer to the level prior to it being drained. "Levies were constructed to retain water and the water level was elevated by 12cm." Mr Clarke said a second phase saw the water level rise by around 20cm in 2013, expanding the wetland to over 180ha.

"The whole project is about habitat re-creation for the plant, fish and bird species in the area," he said. "A secure habitat is needed for these species to thrive, as is evident in the 175 bird species that have been recorded in the park.

"This wonderful diversity of birds has excited many visiting bird watchers over the past few years." One of the bird species – the Australasian Bittern - is considered internationally endangered. Nationally, the Orange-bellied Parrot and Bright-eyed Brown butterfly are two critically endangered species.

Also listed as endangered are the Spiny Freshwater Crayfish and Maroon Leek-orchid. Piccaninnie Ponds hosts the largest population of Leek-orchid in South Australia.

Many of the plant species found in the park are rare, including the Grass Daisy, Leafy Twig Rush, Slender Mint and River Buttercup. Of special interest is a small species of fish which lives in the fresh water of the ponds, but migrates each year to the sea, where it breeds. This fish, the Common Jollytail, is one of seven fish species found in the ponds that make similar saline to freshwater journeys each year. To aid in this process, conservation staff have constructed a stream connecting the ocean and a freshwater pond, complete with resting pools for fish as they journey upstream to their breeding grounds.

Mr Clarke said Piccaninnie Ponds was part of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, which provides a framework for international cooperation and national action regarding the conservation of wetlands and their resources. As such, the wetland provides a sustainable environment for people, animals and plants which is perfect for tourism. "An example is snorkelling and scuba diving, which are two of the wetland's main attractions," Mr Clarke said. "People can enjoy the environment without harming it."

Renowned for its crystal-clear water, Piccaninnie Ponds remains a national and international attraction for scuba divers. It holds many treasures for divers accredited with the Cave Divers Association of Australia (CDAA), including The Cathedral - a deep cavern featuring spectacular white limestone walls.

Another feature is The Chasm, which ultimately drops to below a depth of 100m.



JOLLY GOOD FLOW:

to the sea each year to breed. A stream links the sea and a number of freshwater ponds in the Piccaninnie Ponds Conservation Park. Conservation staff have constructed this linkage specifically for the Common Jollytail and other fish species that live in the fresh water of the ponds, but migrate to the sea each year to breed.



WETLAND WONDER: Natural Resources South East wetland ecologist Steve Clarke at a Piccaninnie Ponds Conservation Park lookout point. The Park is frequented by bird watchers with 175 species being recorded thus far. Pictures: LEON RADEMEYER

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FUSSI PROGRAMME

Mid Semester Break. Sept 19 – Oct 3rd

September Saturday 10th One Day trip to Caves south of Adelaide.

Clare Coordinating. RSVP 12 noon Wed. 7th Sept.

September Thurs 15th Practical session on cave surveying, map drawing.

Speaker to be advised. 7pm Noel Stockdale Rm Flinders Uni Library.

September Sat 17th Fundraising BBQ. Bunnings Marion 8.30 – 4.30pm. Aimee Coordinating.

Oct 1-3rd Lower Flinders Ranges.

Thomas Coordinating Three days of great caving.

Oct 8-22nd Nullarbor: Trip is full.

Oct Thurs 27th How do you take great cave photos?

7pm Noel Stockdale Rm Flinders Uni Library.

End of Year Exams 7-20th Nov

University Break 21 Nov - 20th Feb 2017

Nov Sun 20th Caves South of Adelaide along the Coast. Subject to weather One day trip.

Be prepared for a trip in a boat or kayak.

Thomas coordinating.

2017

Feb: 4-12 Tassie Clare coordinating.

RSVP September 1st 2016

April 7-22 Nullarbor.

Clare Coordinating. Trip subject to permit approvals.

IUS international Caving conference: 23-29th July. Jenolan, NSW. Pre and post conference caving trips around the country and New Zealand. See: www.speleo2017.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Type of Event	Description	Contact
24/08/16	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. TBA	Ian Lewis
25/08/16	Caving	Beginners Trip Corra Lynn Cave	Graham Pilkington
27/08/16	Working Bee	Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
03-04/ 09/16	Training & Caving	SCG Navigation and Search and Rescue Training. CEGSA and FUSSI welcome.	Matt Smith
??/09/16	Committee Meeting	TBA	Ian Lewis
28/09/16	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. TBA	Ian Lewis
01/10/16	Working Bee	Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
01-03/ 10/16	Labour Day Holiday Weekend		
??/10/16	Committee Meeting	TBA	Ian Lewis
26/10/16	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. TBA	Ian Lewis
29/10/16	Working Bee	Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
??/11/16	Committee Meeting	TBA	Ian Lewis
09/11/16	CEGSA NEWS	Articles due	Athol Jackson
23/11/16	General Meeting	Royal Society Room, SA Museum, Adel. End of year BBQ	Ian Lewis
??/12/16	Committee Meeting	TBA	Ian Lewis
28/12/16	No General Meeting		Ian Lewis
31/12/16	Working Bee	Library and Records	Graham Pilkington
23-29/ 07/17	Conference	UIS Congress, Sydney, NSW	Graham Pilkington
Jul/Aug/ 17	Caving	UIS Congress Field Trips See: www.speleo2017.com	
	Caving	Ongoing Vic Fossil survey	Gary Woodcock
	Caving	Continuing Fleurieu Peninsula Exploration	Grant Gartrell

****Extra trips will be notified in the Calendar on the Website or at General Meetings****

To be covered by insurance it is mandatory that caving trips involving club members must be registered as CEGSA Trips. To do this, the nature and timing of the trip must be entered in the Calendar of events in CEGSA NEWS, minuted at a General Meeting of Members or entered in the Website Calendar. 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.

Also, please ensure that a report of the trip is submitted to the Records Officer in a timely manner.

NOTES