

C. e. Kleihe

F U S S I



**The Quarterly Newsletter of the
Flinders University Speleological Society Incorporated**

Vol. 13. No 3 2001

WHO IS WHO IN FUSS

Librarian Catherine Sellars 13 Monmouth Rd, WESTBOURNE PK 5041 8271 1707	SA Speleo Council Rep. Kevon Cocks, 43 Nash Lane, MORPHETTVALE 5162	SA Speleo Council Rep. Kevon Cocks, 43 Nash Lane, MORPHETTVALE 5162	SA Speleo Council Rep. Kevon Cocks, 43 Nash Lane, MORPHETTVALE 5162
Equipment Officer Debbie Callison, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820	Equipment Officer Debbie Callison, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820	Equipment Officer Debbie Callison, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820	Equipment Officer Debbie Callison, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820
Newsletters Editors Paul Wacławski, and Debbie Callison 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820	Newsletters Editors Paul Wacławski, and Debbie Callison 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820	Newsletters Editors Paul Wacławski, and Debbie Callison 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820	Newsletters Editors Paul Wacławski, and Debbie Callison 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820
Secretary Heath Nitschke 20 Honey Suckle Dr HOPE VALLEY 5090 8395 9678	Secretary Heath Nitschke 20 Honey Suckle Dr HOPE VALLEY 5090 8395 9678	Secretary Heath Nitschke 20 Honey Suckle Dr HOPE VALLEY 5090 8395 9678	Secretary Heath Nitschke 20 Honey Suckle Dr HOPE VALLEY 5090 8395 9678
Treasurer Paul Wacławski, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820	Treasurer Paul Wacławski, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820	Treasurer Paul Wacławski, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820	Treasurer Paul Wacławski, 62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 (hm) 8278 4820
Safety Officer. Clare Buswell P. O. Box.325 MACCLESFIELD. 5152 8388 9516	Safety Officer. Clare Buswell P. O. Box.325 MACCLESFIELD. 5152 8388 9516	Safety Officer. Clare Buswell P. O. Box.325 MACCLESFIELD. 5152 8388 9516	Safety Officer. Clare Buswell P. O. Box.325 MACCLESFIELD. 5152 8388 9516

Rolling Around Cora Lynn	3
Bats and When to Avoid Them	4
Australian Speleological Federation Council Meeting	5
Yarangobilly Gear List and Location Map	6
Club Contact List	9
WHAT IS ON	10

Front Cover Photo: Kelly Hill Cave, Kangaroo Island. Photographer: C Buswell

ROLLING AROUND CORRA LYNN

C. Buswell

Corra Lynn Cave. August sometime.

Members present: Kirsty Kitto, Joe Sullivan, Clare Buswell, Cory Trezise, and Amy and Chital, a couple of overseas exchange students from the US of A.

The usual pre-caving organisational nightmare of who has the keys to the cave, finding out through whom one goes to get access, (the farmer, the CEGSA key holder, the CEGSA president, the farmer again or Lloyd's of London!) and transport problems occurred. At one stage it looked as if we had to tie a couple of people to the non-existent roof rack of the station wagon.

Ten in the morning found us in Curramulka looking around the entrance to Town Well Cave. It was a sad and sorry state of affairs. A six foot high fence with a couple of strands of barbed wire on top to prevent any access and a large pool of water seeping into the collapsed entrance was the scene beheld. This cave was once the place where SRT skills were honed before one ventured into the vertical systems of Bungonia or the Junee Florentine in Tasi. The bolt fairies had been and placed strategic little numbers here and there. To make life more interesting, rope protectors (FRPs) could be cursed at around the entrance and elsewhere in the 33 metre entrance abseil or ascent. Now the entrance has

subsided and is too dangerous to contemplate.

Ten minutes later we were at Cora Lynn cave. Kirsty was in charge of opening the door, but Mavis had happily jammed the lock so that the key would not do its thing. Chital, who had never done this type of cave thing before, offered to have a go after the more experienced members had spent a good fifteen minutes failing to unlock the door. Chital managed it in two minutes. The 'Order of the Key Holder' was passed on to her.

A trip around Grand Central, out through Beard Squeeze and back via the Cauldron got everybody orientated with some map reading skills and general cave talk. The two exchange students led the way back to the entrance stairs without even so much as a: "I think this is right," statement. It was then decided to trundle out to Rope Crevasse and chimney up it.

At this stage somebody complained about a small belly grovel over body loving 2" gravel and clay gluing overalls. Clare decided that Dicks Extension was the go and sent Joe on to experience Dicks usual sticky self. Joe being the generous spirit he is, decided that everybody should come through just for the experience. Further, he was sure that he had found the way on. Joe was wrong on the way on bit at least as far as Rope Crevasse was concerned. Joe, Clare and Amy trundled up Rope

Crevasse whilst Kirsty, Cory and Cheteel met us at the door. Amy lead the way out from the top of the Crevasse and soon met up with Kirsty.

Kirsty must have had something strange for lunch as she decided that she wanted to visit Gravity Cavity, with its overall eating rocks and body hugging crawl. As Clare had a new pair of knee pads to try out she agreed. With Cory or Amy in the lead we trundled our way out through Bush Walkers Runs and into Bush Walkers Chamber. This 'runs' business was a crawl and belly grovel. Cheteel was beginning to gain a number of dark red blotches on her knees, elbows and soon, as she had devised a new caving technique of rolling over and over, just about everything else would be the same. Gravity Cavity, if she made it that far, would either make her look as if she had a very bad skin condition or as if somebody had bashed her up.

A rest in Bushwalkers Chamber and a bit of a scout around saw us under the influence of siesta time and it was decided to call it a day. Chital rolled her way out and rejoiced in being able to stand up. Joe, it was noticed, looked very lovingly at Dicks extension on the way out, muttering that he was sure it was the way on. Kirsty and Clare only said 'Beer'!

NOTES ON BATS AND HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH THEM

Terry Reardon and Steve Milner

This article was sent to us by the Cave Exploration Group of South Australia and is reprinted here in the interests of conservation.

This short article is simply a reminder that as part of our code of caving practice, we are obliged to care for caves and their fauna. Part of this care includes not disturbing bats, especially during the cold months when they are most vulnerable. What should one do when bats are encountered in caves...

In South Australia, three bat species are commonly encountered in caves - the Chocolate Wattled Bat (*Chalinolobus morio*) is resident in several caves of the Eyre Peninsula and Nullarbor, and allegedly Punyelroo Cave; Finlayson's Cave Bat (*Vespadelus finlaysoni*) is found in caves and fissures in the Flinders Ranges and to the north; and the Large Bent-winged Bat (*Miniopterus schreibersii*) which is found in caves of the upper and lower south east. Two other species are less frequently encountered - the Large-footed bat (*Myotis macropus**) is found in small holes and caves in the Lower Glenelg River region and also along the Murray River; and Hill's Sheath-tail Bat (*Taphozous hilli*) occurs in small caves and rock fissures in the ranges to the very far north of the state. All five species are vulnerable to disturbance by cavers.

Of course, seeing bats can be one of the pleasures of cave exploration, and by observing bats in their natural state, we can appreciate and learn much about them. Moreover, cavers contribute vital information on the distribution and status of bat populations. As general principle, cavers should always act to minimise their impact upon bats. The following is a protocol for planning and caving in such a manner as to reduce adverse impacts upon cave bats yet allowing the opportunity to appreciate bats and to contribute to their conservation..

A simple protocol to minimise your caving activities on bats

If your trip is planned for the period of the beginning of May through to the end of August, then consideration must be given to the following options;

- do not visit any caves which have bats roosting in them, or
- do visit bat caves but only those parts of the cave where bats are not roosting

The reason for avoiding sleeping bats in winter is that disturbance (light from your torch, or noise) may cause them to awaken from their sleep. Sleeping bats in winter are very cold (a few degrees above the ambient temperature), and it requires considerable energy for them to fully awaken. This energy is drawn from fat reserves that the bats have built up in the warm months and which may be finely balanced to get them through the winter. Therefore purposefully or inadvertently waking bats in winter could ultimately cause their death.

If your trip is planned for the warmer months, try to plan your time so that visits to bat caves happen during the night when the bats are already active and where your presence will have minimum impact. This is a good time to see bats at close hand. Con't p.10.

ASF Council Meeting

Melbourne 26 January 2002

☐ Venue

St Mary's College, Melbourne University, Swanston Street, Carlton.
Telephone (03) 9349 9555. (For location see attached maps).

☐ Program

Friday 25 January

ASF Executive meeting

Saturday 26 January

9.00am (until finished) – ASF Annual General Meeting

Evening – Dinner

Sunday 27 January

ASF Executive meeting and Special Interest Groups meetings

☐ Accommodation

Comfortable accommodation has been arranged at St Mary's College, Melbourne University, on the northern fringe of the Melbourne CBD. Bed and a breakfast of fruit juice, fruit, cereals, yoghurts, toast & spreads, tea & coffee is \$45 per person per night. The single rooms are carpeted and contain a bed, chair, desk, wardrobe and hand basin. Bathroom facilities are shared. Most rooms have garden views.

☐ Catering

The host clubs will be catering for morning & afternoon teas and lunch on Saturday at St Mary's College at a cost of \$10 per person. Catering requirements and costs for those attending Sunday's meetings will be determined on Saturday. Special diets can be catered for if noted on the booking form.

On Saturday night there will be a dinner at Miles and Rocky Pierce's house, 42 Victoria Crescent, Mont Albert, approximately 15 km east of the city. It can be conveniently reached from St Mary's College via the Eastern Freeway and transport will be arranged for people without cars. Dinner will be a barbecue and salads followed by selection of sweets and tea and coffee. BYO drinks. Following dinner, Susan and Nick White will entertain with tales of the recent UIS Conference in Brazil and their travels since.

☐ Transport

It may be possible for the host clubs to arrange transport to and from Melbourne Airport, however this will depend on flight times and the availability of club members. Taxi fares from Melbourne Airport to the city are approximately \$40.00, alternatively, St Mary's College is a short tram ride up Swanston Street from the city's airport bus terminals in Franklin Street (see map). For further information about public transport in Melbourne, or directions to St Mary's College by road, contact the host clubs. **Warning:** If you drive on a CityLink toll road in Melbourne you will need to purchase a day pass before or immediately after travelling, or risk being fined (see enclosed CityLink brochure for purchase options).



CCV Contact: Ros Quick
minky@pacific.net.au
Tel: (03) 9888 3696



VSA Contact: Miles Pierce
piercemc@iaa.com.au
Tel: (03) 9890 8319

Gear List for Yarrangobilly Caves

Average temperature of the caves is 10 degrees. However, Y1, Y2 and Y3 are around 4 degrees. A number of the caves are out flow caves and the water is freezing. So the aim of the exercise is to keep yourself as warm and dry as possible.

Clothing

- *Thermal underwear: Peter Storm brand. Don't be sold on the lighter varieties, Peter Storm is more expensive but it is worth the money. (You will have to shop around for it and probably have to have it ordered in.) If you have woollen thermals that will be fine, they will just take a little longer to dry out each day if they get wet.
- *Gloves, rubber for general use. Obtain the strong rubberised type used for protection when spraying herbicides etc. Make sure they are tight fitting. Thermal gloves are useful if they fit under the rubber gloves.
- *Beanie that fits under your helmet.
- *Fiberpile jacket or old woollen jumper.
- *Walking boots are fine, but in a couple of caves your feet are going to freeze with out some sort of wet suit boot protection. A fair amount of walking to and from caves and along the odd river is part of caving at Yarrangobilly so be prepared.
- *Wet suit booties not slippers. Booties provide far better protection for the soles of your feet than slippers.
- * Normal caving overalls are fine. Bring some knee pads.

Optional

- *Waterproof overalls.

Caving gear

- * 3x Caving lights. Make sure they are water proof.
- * Spare bulbs for all torches
- * Spare torch. e.g., Petzel Zoom
- * Batteries for spare torches.
- * Caving gear bag
- * Light charger from a car battery source. There are no recharging facilities at Yagby.
- * Medical cards. eg., Medicare.

Rescue

- * Light weight space blanket or
- * large plastic garbo bags (the orange ones) if you have to bivvy or wait around for a while.
- * First aid kit in a water proof bag. heavy duty snap lock bags are good. Available from the super market.
- * Triangular bandage, crepe bandage, etc.

NOTE: A spare sleeping bag is to be carried to cave entrances at all times.

Gear List for Caving at Bungonia Caves

The caves at Bungonia are vertical and require competent vertical skills. They also contain CO₂ which is a tad deadly if found in high concentrations. The temperature of the caves is similar to those in South Australia. Permits are required.

Caving gear personal

- * A lighter or packet of matches, carried at all times.
- * Chest harness
- * Sit harness
- * Dynamic cowstail
- * UIAA approved helmet with four points of attachment.
- * Ascender for feet with foot loops.
- * Dynamic loop from foot ascenders to harness
- * Chest ascender to sit harness
- * Chicken Loops
- * Whaletail or rack

- * Caving gear bag, large for carrying ropes.
- * Caving light.
- * Spare bulbs
- * Spare torch. e.g., Petzel Zoom
- * Batteries for spare torch.
- * Light charger from either 240 volts or a car battery source. There are recharging facilities at Bungonia.
- * Medical cards. eg., Medicare.

Clothing

- * Fingerless gloves.
- * Overalls.
- * T shirt, shorts.
- * Boots.
- * If you have long hair then a hair net comes in handy to stop those loose ends * from getting hooked up in SRT and descending gear.

Rescue

- * Spare ascender
- * Pulley
- * Short length of rope for counter balance rescue 2 -2.5m.
- * Light weight space blanket
- * Large plastic bags in case of bivvying
- * Prusik cords.
- * First aid kit

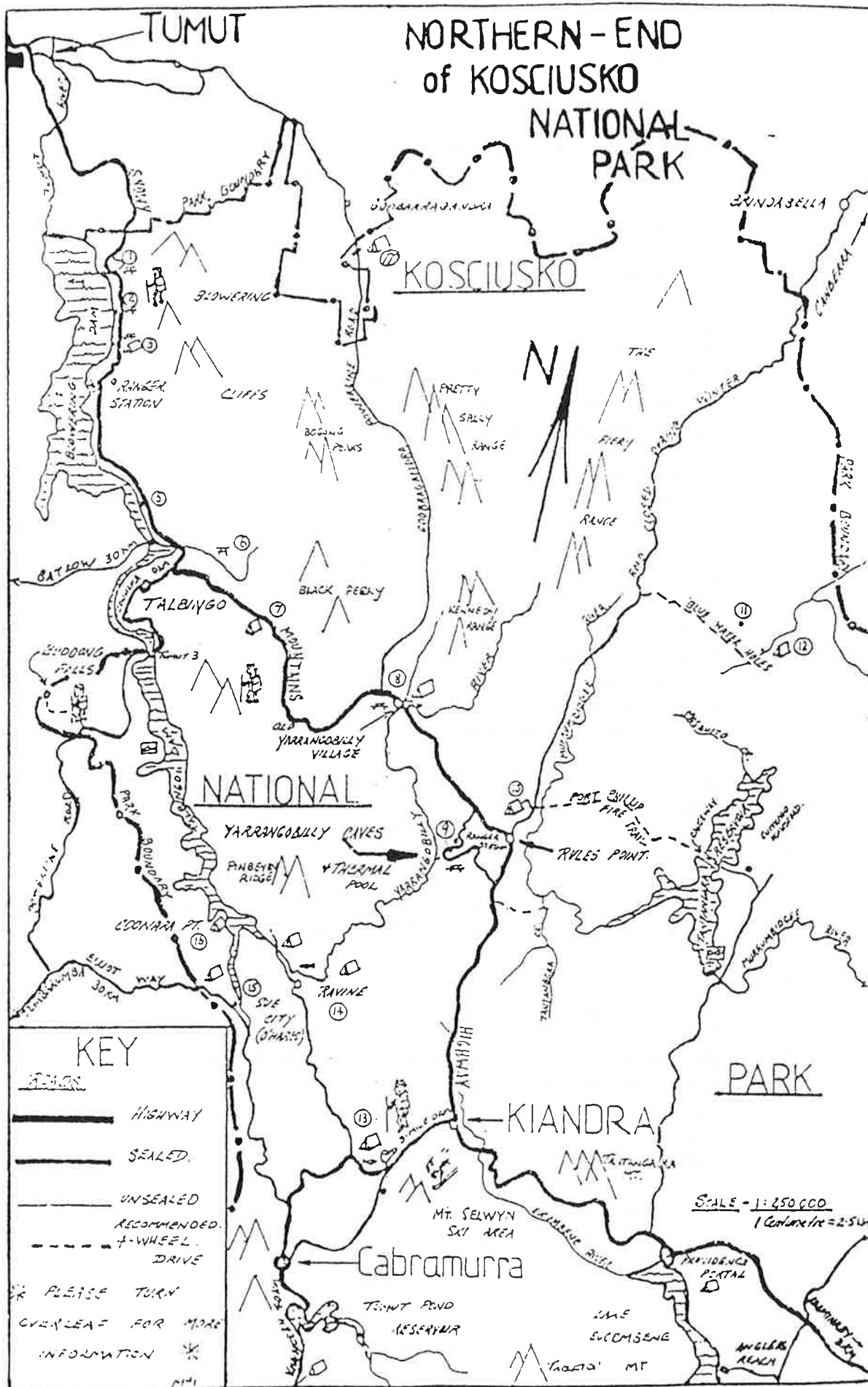
Suggested reading: All of these are in the FUSS library and can be borrowed. Kirsty as she is likely to be on campus over the holidays.

Padgett and Smith. *On Rope*.

Warild A., *Vertical*.

Montgomery N., *SRT*.

The book *The Caves of Bungonia* is available in the Flinders University Library.



FUSSI MEMBERSHIP LIST 2001

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Buswell, Clare	P. O. 325 Macclesfield. 5251 Wholefood Shop	8388 9516 #12886
Callison, Deb	62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051	8278 4820
Choi, Marie	75 Cappella Drive, HALLET COVE 5158 battymarie@picknowl.com.au	8322 0895
Cocks, Keven	43 Nash Lane, MORPHETTVALE 5162 kevencoc@tafe.sa.edu.au	8381 8024
Hunter, Robert	14 Ann St, STEPNEY 5069	83626697
Kitto, Kirsty	44 Fredrick St, MAYLANDS. 5069. Physics Dep't kirsty.kitto@ flinders.edu.au	8132 0091 #12174
Maurer, Heiko	P. O. 325 MACCLESFIELD 5251 Computing Science. Adelaide University heiko@cs.adelaide.edu.au	83536018 83034486
Nitschke, Heath	20 Honey Suckle Dr, HOPE VALLEY 5090 Earth sciences xenonyne@hotmail.com	8395 9678 #13601
Riley, Ivan	14 Ann St, STEPNEY 5069 riley@bigpond.com.au	83626697
Sellars, Catherine	13 Monmouth Rd, WESTBOURNE PK 5041 cathy_sellars@hotmail.com	82711707
Stuart, Lee	44 Maryvale Rd, ATHOLSTONE. 5076	8336 2671
Sullivan, Joe	11 Grand Central Av. HALLET COVE. 5158 Sull0079@ flinders.edu.au	8322 6374
Trezise, Cory	124 Alawoona Rd, MUNA PARA. 5115	8254 7126 0419 827 037
Vandyk, Thalia	11 Grand Central Av. HALLET COVE. 5158	8322 6374
Waclawik, Paul	62 Turners Avenue, COROMANDEL VALLEY 5051 paul.w@loftuscomp.com.au	8278 4820
White, Brenden	Law School. Flinders University brendan.white@flinders.edu.au	8297 2627 0412 613 339

WHAT IS ON

Flinders Ranges.	Nov 23/24	Clare Co-ordinating. 8388 9516 SRT training weekend.
End of Year Dinner	Dec Sat 8th	6.30pm. BYO Food and Drink. Paul and Debbie's place. 62 Turners Ave. Coromandel Valley Ring them to let them know what you are bringing to eat. 8278 4820 A-K Mains. M-Z desert.
Tasmania	Dec 13 -Jan 10	Clare Co-ordinating.
Yarangobilly and Bungonia	Jan 13-Jan 24	Kirsty and Joe co-ordinating 81320091 / 82547126
ASF Council Meeting	Jan 26-27	Melbourne. Kevin Cocks co-ordinating.
General Meeting	Feb Tue 5th	Come along and plan our O week activities. We need people to help us.
Library Day	Feb Tue 5th	1pm. Clubs and Societies. Catherine Sellars co-ordinating. 8271 1707
Orientation week activities	March 11th-15th	Kirsty co-ordinating.
Nullarbor	April 2002	Joe co-ordinating.

GET INVOLVED THE CLUB NEEDS YOU

NOTES ON BATS cont'

If you encounter bats during the day or night, they may be asleep, in which case it may be possible to observe them for a short moment without causing too much distress. If you cause a bat to awaken, they will generally fly to another part of the cave and without much adverse effect, but do not continue to pursue them. Given the potential of acquiring viral diseases from being bitten by a bat, no one should attempt handle bats. In fact, unless you have a permit to do so, it is illegal to trap or catch bats.

Following these simple steps should not be a great impediment to your caving activities and hopefully they will enhance your enjoyment of the cave environment.