



Australian Speleological Federation Inc.

ABN: 15 169 918 964

2011 Annual Report

(Adopted January 7th 2012)



Cape Range, now part of a World Heritage listed site

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CROP in Tasmania
November 2011

Photograph by
Jay Anderson

Executive Members

President	Stan Flavel
Senior Vice President	Joe Sydney
Vice President	Jim Crockett
Vice President	John Cugley
Vice President	Phil Maynard
Treasurer	Grace Matts
Executive Secretary	Deb Hunter
General Secretary	Bob Kershaw
Membership Secretary	Colin Tyrrell
Non-executive Vice President	John Dunkley
NSW Conference Convener	Bob Kershaw

President's Report

President: Stan Flavel

The Australian Speleological Federation continued to grow and mature in 2011!

The vision and direction of the ASF remains focussed and moves forward to continuously improving its service to Members, promoting the role and relevance of Speleology in a changing world and fostering connections to the international fraternity of Speleologists.

We are growing in size with increasing membership. We are increasing in efficiency and impact with better guidelines and operational modes to relate to all the individuals that we represent and provide service to. We strive to meet the requirements of an increasingly fastidious society that seems more intent on making us prove our competence and limiting spontaneity than acknowledging common sense and innate survival skills of troglolithes.

The ASF represents the accumulation of considerable amount of expertise by a large number of dedicated individuals, working in dedicated teams and receiving the lowest wages imaginable. The ASF is as always attaining new benchmarks for productivity and output and today as always it is an opportune time to reflect on the past and on the future and to consider what changes may be necessary for this sustained output. What is it we produce? We generate Information, we develop skills, we foster imagination and we give purpose to life. We exist to promote Science and to promote Art. The Federation exists to provide unity, purpose and direction for clubs around Australia

We seek to make research and conservation of the numerous karst environments a priority and

have schemes in place to support scholars and conservators in their work and in the dissemination of their knowledge. We are able to provide financial support to allow students to attend conferences. We continue to provide funding for approved projects upon application to appropriate ASF funds. Information on supported projects and the pathway to successful project funding is available and will be updated on our website.

Our Publications are of high standard and help us to showcase persons and their projects in an international forum. The regular rate of publication is enabled by sufficient content being obtained and processed by a team of enthusiastic professionals into globally significant and available information. We must be willing to make the time to write and document what we do and say, it is important and it necessary!

We have our wide range of club publications to personalize and report events accurately. Being able to access publications from Australian and International clubs is an ongoing commitment of ASF and I see maintaining the complexities and breadth of the libraries and records systems of ASF and all clubs as particularly important and in need of streamlining. It is encouraging to see a number of clubs continuing to update and digitize and thus secure and archive club records and information alongside newsletters and regular publications.

The Federation is a colourful mixture of personalities mostly grouped in state based clubs that have a common passion for the beckoning darkness below our feet. Regularly toes get stepped on in the darkness and feuds may ensue while passions flare and noses get realigned. Some misunderstandings persist for eons longer than they should. Diplomacy and tact never go out of date. Cave managers must be respected at all times and realizing that reported cases of neglect limit our access to caves and facilities often taken for granted.

The year 2011 has shown us personal triumphs and personal tragedies in caves. I never feel comfortable reporting either, as I wasn't there, and yet I feel it with real emotion. Being aware of what we may see and do whilst underground and the common energy that drives us all must be coupled with common sense and self-knowledge for it to balance appropriately. 'Push the Limits', but know the Limits

It is encouraging to see Cave Managers discuss and take on initiatives with ASF members. I cite one of a number of examples where a government agency in South Australia purchased a property near Naracoorte with known caves, to add to an already significant World heritage site. Lobbying and working with the Government works for us. Sometimes the best way to conserve a cave is to change the management system or buy it!

ASF is seriously considering a bid for IUS International conference in 2017. A bid for this large International event will need to be made in 2013 and sits on the back of two previously unsuccessful bids by ASF for Australia over the past 15 years. I believe now is the right time with the Federation and clubs being energised, financially more stable and with a forward looking vision. Australia has a lot to showcase to the world now is the time to put our Caves and our people in the Limelight for the first time and what really is *downunder in the land Downunder*.

The best way of finding out what is happening is to be doing it!

In Caves

Stan Flavel

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer: Grace Matts

This report was presented and accepted at the Council meeting.

The ASF Karst Conservation Fund

Report by: John Dunkley

During 2011 the Special Appeal in support of the Timor Caves court action was fully acquitted, and reports have appeared in Caves Australia and several other newsletters.

Four grants were approved during the year, including top-up funding to several ASF Grants because of their significance for cave conservation and sound management:

1. The Exit Cave surveying and management project (Southern Tasmania Caverneers) \$1,950
2. Installation of a bridge to prevent damage to a significant palaeontological site at Bungonia, NSW (Highland Caving Group) \$583.94
3. Nullarbor data loggers (Peter Buzzacott) \$381
4. Research to better understand the Mt Etna ghost bat population, including population sites, roosting sites and foraging range. (John Augusteyn, in partnership with Central Queensland Speleological Society, Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service, Griffith University and the Fitzroy Basin Authority) \$8,000

Money for future grants

Unlike the ASF Grants Scheme (which is funded as a line item directly from the ASF budget), the Karst Conservation Fund relies entirely on the goodwill and generosity of members and the public for donations, which are tax-deductible. The grants in 2011 have somewhat depleted the funds available to finance future meritorious projects, and the Management Committee with some external advice is about to launch a new appeal.

The quality of proposals submitted to us has been uniformly high, with an extraordinary level of unpaid volunteer contribution, and both ASF and our members are certainly getting not only very high value for money, but greatly enhanced visibility and credibility among management authorities and the community at large.

If members want us to be able to continue funding these very valuable projects, we must have strong support in the current Appeal. We ask the ASF Council members to ensure that the Appeal receives wide publicity among club members and strong encouragement from their clubs.

KCF Management Committee: Peter Berrill, John Dunkley, Grace Matts, Nicholas White

KCF Directors - Peter Berrill, Tony Culberg, Maria Comino, John Dunkley, Kevin Kiernan

Conservation Commission Reports

National

Convener: Nicholas White

World Heritage Listing for Ningaloo Coast

The Ningaloo Reef and Cape Range Region in WA were accepted onto the UNESCO World Heritage list in June 2011. This was for superlative natural phenomena including its karst, caves and cave biota. It was ASF through Rauleigh Webb who objected to mining leases on Cape Range to the EPA WA which won one of the early battles which prevented mining on Cape Range. This was based on the natural karst values and the cave biota which Bill Humphreys of the WA Museum had studied for many years. Evidence at the EPA enquiry was given by a number of ASF's karst experts.

South Australia Nullarbor Plain Wilderness Protected Area

The SA Nullarbor Plain was included in this declaration in March 2011. It is too early to judge the effect of this declaration. The ASF questioned the wisdom of this since the area is under serviced at present and certainly needs considerable management of exotic wildlife such as camels, cats and rabbits which are now beginning to re-occupy the Plain. Should adequate funding and resources be provided to protect the values of the Plain then we may be proved wrong. At another level the listing may provide better protection from development activities (mineral exploration) than the Nullarbor Conservation Reserve provided. Currently speleological access requires Scientific Research Permits which only VSA and the diving community have been prepared to take out.

West Kimberley National Heritage Listing

In August the Minister for the Environment, Tony Burke announced the listing of the Western Kimberley under the National Heritage legislation. There are many attributes which were recognised in the listing not the least of which are the landscape and karst areas of the uplifted Devonian reef of the West Kimberley. The listing controls activities which may occur in the region. Significantly the listing was of the whole area and not just smaller parts of the region. This may have bearing on areas yet to be nominated or now being considered.

Cave Conservancies

It is becoming more apparent that the speleological community needs to develop significant capacity to acquire land with caves on it. The Sand Cave property was out of our reach, however, ASF was able to provide useful information on the karst values of the cave which supported the SA Department of Environment and Heritage's acquisition of the property. This will become a valuable addition to the Naracoorte Caves National Park.

This aside there have and are several properties on the market deserving of consideration for acquisition by cavers to protect caves and karst but the amounts of money concerned in each case exceeds \$100,000. We need to examine depths of our pockets and how good outcomes could be achieved which serve karst conservation objectives. There could be regrets if we do not develop the means and capacity to put these properties within our reach. The state cannot always acquire all such places. I know of several properties which have changed hands in recent time and where new owners deny access to the caves they now own. This may protect their values but it removes them from speleological study and recreation.

Cave Biota and Stygofauna

The protection of cave ecosystems, their biota including the stygofauna in cave and underground waters is vital. The Land and Environment Court decisions on the Stoneco case at Timor were determined on the basis that quarrying not damage underground biota. This is a very powerful argument to use in calls for better protection of karst systems. We need our cave ecosystems better studied and described. Cave groups can conduct such studies. Formal identification of cave invertebrates often leads to the need to describe new species. This costs money but it is just what the ASF Grants Scheme and the ASF Karst Conservation Fund are able to support. Better descriptions of cave ecosystems may play an important role in protecting karst.

Structure and Capacity of the Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission is only as good its members. I have not been very formal in my interactions across the country. I endeavour to pick up matters which come to my attention. Ideally perhaps the Commission should have a named representative from each Corporate

Member. In the absence of this I operate and support on issue I consider important which are brought to my attention. I put a lot of effort into the Grants Commission and the Karst Conservation Management Committee. Both of these are supporting very good effective projects of immense conservation value.

Mentioned above is the question of cavers buying caves. This needs to be supported in a big way with both energy and dollars.

There are a number of karst areas deserving of Federal legislative protection. In the near term the Commission intends to work towards National Heritage listing of important areas.

Western Australia Conservation Commission Report

Conveners: Jay Anderson and Rob Susac

There are a number of cave and karst conservation and management issues in WA. Many issues again revolve around developmental impacts on karst. We continue to receive a number of requests for consultation and advice relating to karst issues around the state and will continue to provide support as required and as appropriate.

Several WA cavers are undertaking projects on the Nullarbor. Recently a presentation on bat sensitivities and those of microbial mantles occurred (to the Cave Divers Association). It is understood that Data loggers have been installed in certain Nullarbor Caves (to record visitation and documentation) and monitoring of the mantles in certain caves is being undertaken.

Last year's rainfall in WA was particularly low, with water levels in some caves at record lows. This highlights our continual plight of watertable decline here on the West Coast. At Yanchep, Water Cave stopped flowing for the first recorded time leaving the lake as a mud bowl. There is only one other cave in Yanchep with naturally occurring water. This continuing trend poses our most serious threat to cave conservation in the form of loss of aquatic habitats. The Department of Water has sought to more actively include Subterranean Groundwater Dependant Ecosystems as a consideration for planning approvals. It has done this by requesting spatial information and ecological characteristics information for the Mid-West and in general regarding known locations where these ecosystems are in the broader South-West. Compiling this information has been complex and taken some

time due to the sensitivities regarding cave location information.

The gating of selected caves vulnerable to abuse has continued within Yanchep National Park, along with reporting of gate condition for repairs. Gate tampering and attempted unauthorised entry to caves is an ongoing issue. Currently water is being pumped to artificially recharge Crystal Cave at an elevated rate due to the recharge in Carpark Cave contributing to a significant collapse. Lighting within Crystal Cave has been replaced with a new LED system running on 24 volts and supplemented by solar power technology. It was excellent that cavers were involved in this project, and we anticipate a reduced need for future lampenflora removal projects.

Housing development proposals on karst include Breakwater Estate Lot 202 north of Yanchep, where a detailed Karst Landform Management Plan was developed for the Special Rural zoned area. Residents north of Perth, in Nowergup and the broader community have continued to rally against WA Limestone's quarry and concrete batching plant proposal at Lot 1. Rezoning issues are resurfacing within the City of Wanneroo as the DEC has decided not to relicense the proposed industrial uses on the land (it is currently zoned "Rural Resource" as apparently this prohibits industrial uses).

The last report mentioned a development proposal south of Mandurah near Dawesville. The organisation involved requested detailed maps of the cave extents from WASG. A detailed report was compiled based on surveys conducted previously by Barry Loveday *et al.*, which were newly supplemented with significant discoveries, such as a 'permanent' freshwater pool. Whilst mapping the caves, aquatic subterranean fauna were noted in one cave. Unfortunately the Developers refused a sampling request and so the significance of this site cannot be quantified, nor appropriate protective measures implemented. In addition, the Developer did not understand that the Speleological Groups were able to make an independent report regarding karst management issues at the site. In context of the water decline conservation issues raised in this report it is imperative that our last remaining freshwater cave pools be appropriately protected from unsuitable developments.

Karst Conservancies

Karstcare

Co-ordinator: David Wools-Cobb

It's been a quieter year than usual throughout 2011 with a total of 85.5 hours work achieved.

After the unseasonal January flooding in Northern Tasmania, a site inspection and some revegetation was carried out in an attempt to stabilise one entrance of Honey Comb Cave during April.

These floods also caused considerable damage in Gunns Plains Cave, with loss of much of the matting that has been placed in the non-tourist section. All matting was replaced and secured; hopefully 'more resistant' to these rare flooding occurrences.

Our Parks & Wildlife Service (PWS) used the good name of Karstcare to secure \$28,000 in funding to revegetate a number of sites in the Mole Creek Karst National Park. Karstcare members' involvement in this project has been minimal as 9000 trees needed planting: too big a job for our small band; so contractors were engaged. These plants were specifically selected for each site to assist in re-establishing native species on open grazing areas. Our group was involved in one huge day on two of these sites doing repair work after a strong wind removed a number of the plant guards and caused considerable damage to many plants.

Another small job was conducted in Little Trimmer cave. This cave had been used as a study site many years ago, with a broken concrete dam being left on site. A few able bodies and many trips out to the entrance soon dispatched this material. (NB: I thought concrete was made from limestone, gravel & water...so this intrusion would not be on the great end of the scale!)

Northern Tasmania hosted the recent ACKMA conference, with Karstcare's coordinator, David Wools-Cobb giving the delegates a presentation on what work members had achieved in Gunns Plains Cave over the past few years.

Shortly after this a full report of our many hours spent on the Tailender Project was published in the ACKMA journal.

Work has also been carried out in Kubla Khan Cave, with the replacement of a lock on the egress gate after a group had been temporarily trapped. PWS hope to replace this gate with stainless steel at some stage and considerable input from Karstcare and cavers with regard to the design of this gate has been made.

Most boot wash stations through Kubla were serviced, with the removal of mud during November, ready for the usual busy summer of visiting mainland cavers all wanting a through trip.

Partially due to changing staffing within PWS, and partly with ever-changing policies, some major projects originally given to us were taken away. This is most frustrating, but Karstcare as an ASF affiliated organisation continues to lobby for better cave & karst management.

Speleological Council Reports

NSW Speleological Council

President: Denis Marsh

On behalf of the NSW Speleological Council I would like to present the following report on the affairs of this State Council for 2011.

Two meetings of the Council were held during the year. At the May meeting an election resulted in the appointment of the current Executive being Denis Marsh as President and Cathy Brown, Colin Tyrrell, Jim Crockett and Mark Euston as Executive Officers.

Current focuses for the State Council's Executive include: (a) a review of the NSWSC Charter; (b) development of a NSWSC.caves.org.au web site hosted on ASF's server to hold State related files and information and; (c) a review of the Terms of Reference for the NSW Cave Numbering and Documentation Committee.

NSWSC Charter

Following advice from the Federal Executive about a possible inconsistency between the Council's Charter and the ASF's Constitution this matter was discussed at the most recent Council meeting and it was felt that there is no conflict, however the Council Executive have been directed to conduct a full review of the Charter and to advise of any proposed amendments to Council members by 31 March 2012, for consideration at the May 2012 meeting.

Subsequent to this, a review of the ASF's Constitution highlighted some issues concerning certain clauses and wording, suggesting a review of some sections of the ASF Constitution might be warranted. One issue is the double meaning of Individual Member.

Publication of 'Karst Atlas of NSW – The Documentation System'

The NSW Speleological Council by resolution supports the ASF proceeding to publication of this current volume and also supports the publication of further potential volumes by ASF if and when they are produced in the future.

Meetings Between Caver Representatives and National Parks

Meetings of the Kosciuszko Speleological Reference Group were held in June and November, attended by the three caver representatives. A freak storm in November caused significant damage to the historic Cotterills Cottage which is used by caving groups while caving at Yarrangobilly. It is believed that the Park's insurance will cover the repairs. A field trip is planned to the Indi karst area in conjunction with the next meeting of this committee in February, 2012.

A discussion group has been established by the Wombeyan Caves management and representatives from several NSW caving clubs have participated in two meetings during 2010 to discuss future access arrangements and caver projects in the area. A further meeting is planned for February 2012.

Karst Management Advisory Committee (KMAC)

With the change in the NSW State Government earlier this year there is still no advice on the reappointment of the KMAC whose term expired during August 2011. I am led to believe this is also the case for a number of other Government appointed committees.

Deua Karst Area Management Plan (KAMP)

A Karst Area Management Plan has been finalised for the Deua karst areas. CSS and ISS were involved in the early development of this Plan. The Plan was signed off by the Regional Manager, Far South Coast without the opportunity by cavers to comment on the final draft. There are numerous concerns over the content of the plan and it is not known if any amendments may be made to the plan before the proposed review in 3 – 5 years. CSS and ISS representatives met with local area managers to discuss the Plan at Batemans Bay on 21 October. At this time the NSWSC Executive has not been involved in any discussions and is concerned about the process which has been involved in the Plan's finalisation. The Karst and Geodiversity Unit (KGU) is also pushing for a KAMP for the

Macleay karst area and have met with representatives from KSS to discuss the proposal. KSS are concerned about the restrictions on access in the Deua Plan having implications in the Macleay area.

Cave Surveying Course

Following the success of a basic cave surveying course run jointly by Hills Speleological Club and Highland Caving Group in 2010 for NSW cavers, a second course is being planned for 11/12 February 2012 with possible involvement also of cavers from other states.

KID Data Input Workshop

Mike Lake ran a workshop on inputting data into the online KID in October. Seven cavers from five NSW clubs participated in the workshop and it is hoped that inputting of data into the KID might move forward with these clubs in the near future.

2013 ASF Biennial Conference

Mark Euston has withdrawn as convenor for the Conference due to work commitments. Jodie Rutledge and Grace Matts had taken over in the short term until Bob Kershaw volunteered prior to the January 2012 Council Meeting. Planning is progressing and it is hoped a Conference web site will be established soon.

Bungonia Caves Projects

HCG and CSS have successfully coordinated projects at Bungonia recently. A bridge constructed in B4 Fossil Cave to preserve palaeo-sediments received funding assistance from the ASF's Karst Conservation Fund. A large boulder blocking the B35 entrance was also removed. Further projects have been proposed by HCG and clubs will be invited to assist.

NSW Karst Area Documentation

The Speleo Council Executive has been assisting the convenor of the State Cave Numbering and Documentation Committee (CNDC) with finalising a list of clubs and respective feature numberers currently coordinating the documentation of the various cave areas in NSW. It is also intended to seek a report from each area numberer to ascertain where the numbering is at for the various cave areas.

As directed by the last NSWSC meeting the Council Executive is in the process of reviewing the Terms of Reference for the CNDC.

Possible MOU between ASF and SSS

The ASF owns and operates a process for documenting Australia's cave and karst features. In NSW the process of documenting caves and karst features is shared with an outside organisation, namely the Sydney Speleological Society (SSS), who use the same ASF documentation process to document karst features in a number of cave areas in NSW. This partnership has operated in NSW for a considerable time without any formal or informal agreement between our organisations for following ASF procedures or for sharing data on the areas where SSS undertakes this work.

Additionally SSS conducts caving and related activities in accordance with ASF Codes and Guidelines and gives undertakings to this effect to cave area managers when applying for permits to enter caves.

SSS holds significant data records on a number of karst areas in NSW and manages the allocation of feature numbers in those areas in accordance with ASF procedures.

Discussion at the recent NSWSC meeting resulted in the Council Executive being directed by the State Council to explore the opportunity for entering into a Memorandum of Understanding between ASF and SSS.

Recommendation to the ASF Federal Council from NSWSC Executive:

The NSWSC Executive recommends to the ASF Federal Council that the ASF agree to initiate discussion with SSS on this matter to explore any opportunity for mutual benefits between our organisations with entering into a Memorandum of Understanding.

Tasmanian Speleological Liaison Council

By David Wools-Cobb and Deb Hunter

1. On-going frustrations with PWS over Kubla leader accreditation: no leader approval trips have occurred since the original one early 1990s. TLSC have suggested an alternative succession protocol or policy, but have had no response.

2. Co-ordination of CaveSAR in May and November 2011, with a vertical CaveSAR to be held March 2012.

Speleological Council of Western Australia

THE SCOWA was due to meet in late November, however the Margaret River karst region was under fire/emergency and the SCOWA meeting was cancelled. As such, SCOWA did not meet and was therefore unable to submit a report. The next meeting is planned for early February 2012. Three of the four WA speleological groups have been in regular attendance at the meetings held during 2011. The ASF Executive is copied in to SCOWA list emails and would be aware of when SCOWA meetings occur and the agenda of such meetings.

Other Commission Reports

Administration

Convener: vacant.

The 2011 version of the ASF Handbook has been distributed to clubs as a pdf version. Many policies have been updated and the 2011 version includes the updated Codes, Guidelines and other administrative matters.

Australian Cave Rescue (ACRC)

Convener: Ross Anderson

The years 2010 and 2011 have seen a number of major steps forward for the ACRC and caver rescue awareness in Australia.

Over the last two years the ACRC has successfully taken its Cave Rescue Orientation Program (CROP) from multiple presentations in one state, to having been presented in four states, including Western Australia & South Australia (2010), Queensland (8/2011) and Tasmania (11/2011). One more state is in the process of applying for funding for remote first aid courses and a CROP presentation.

Furthermore, a follow up trip to Tasmania is planned for March 2012, to have the initial presentation of a basic vertical rescue weekend, which once again will be based upon teachings of the American National Speleological Society and also the Federation Francaise de le Speleologie, Speleo Secours Francais.

Also on the agenda for ACRC representatives are:

- a multi-agency/ organisation 3 day cave diving rescue exercise, with SA Police and South Australian rescue agencies
- a multi-agency cave rescue exercise in WA
- presentation of the CROP in WA and NSW
- Further involvement in SA, WA, Qld and Tasmania

Just a reminder that the base level documentation referred to by ACRC includes:

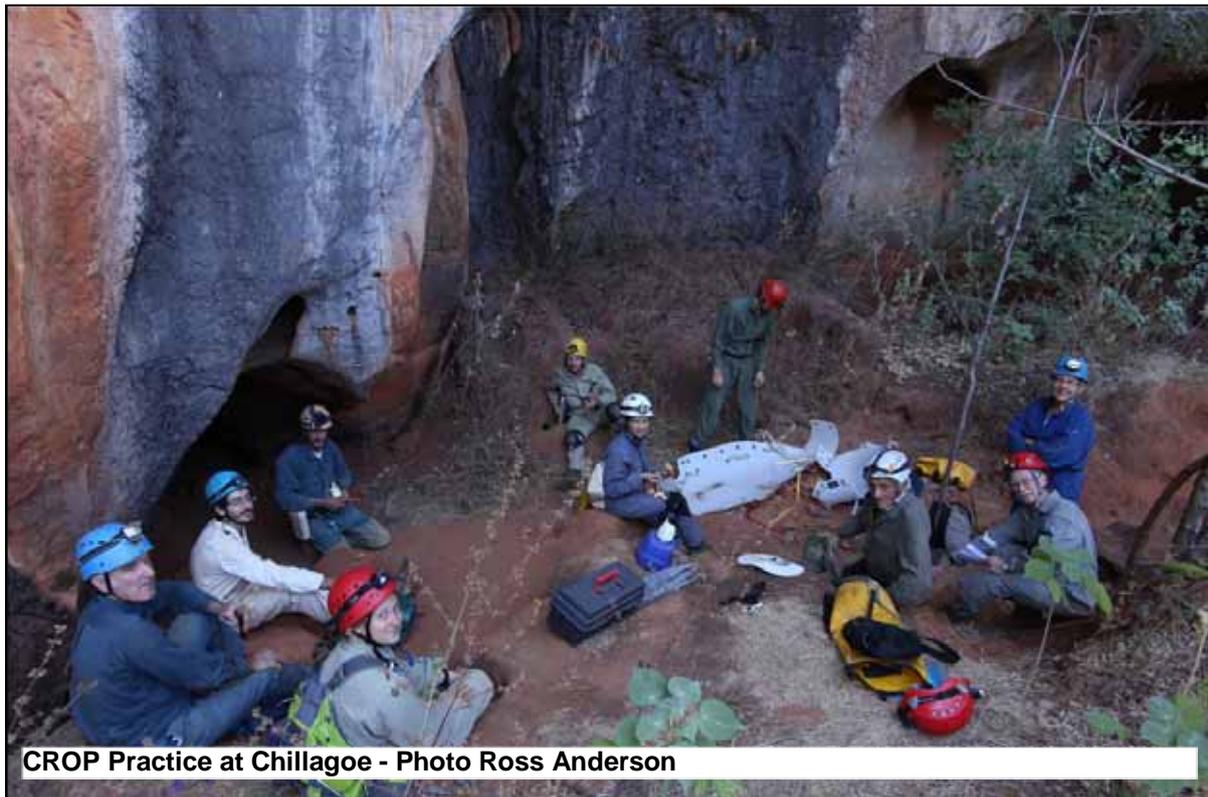
- Al Warild's book "Vertical" - the principle training resource for SRT training
- Dr Dave Merchant's book "Life on a Line – 2nd Edition" is the principle training resource for vertical cave rescue.

These books were accepted by the ASF council meeting in 2009 and form the basis for any vertical cave rescue practices promoted by the ACRC.

During this year there was a query as to the objectives of the ACRC and it was apparent that there may still be confusion between the old objectives of the ACRC, repealed in 2009, and the current objectives. Below, I am republishing the objectives of the ACRC as they were voted and passed at the 2009 ASF council meeting.

This commission will be charged with the following objectives:

- facilitate the provision of cave rescue training to cavers
- facilitate the exchange of information and training related to cave rescue
- facilitate the provision of skills and equipment for cave rescues Australia wide
- provide a national communications framework for cave rescue organisations
- encourage an ethos of minimal impact for cave rescue training and rescues
- facilitate the establishment of cave rescue organisations in states where such organisations do not exist
- organise national cave rescue workshops at the Biennial ASF Conferences
- spread the self-rescue ethos amongst other caving groups
- enhance the first aid skills of cavers and other caving groups
- establish relations with overseas cave rescue organisations
- in nearby countries where cave rescue organisations don't exist, establish relations with relevant organisations to enable the delivery of assistance
- Education of government bodies and management authorities about cave rescue.



CROP Practice at Chillagoe - Photo Ross Anderson

So, 2012 is looking like a good year for the ACRC. I look forward to working with state ACRC representatives as we move forward with providing opportunities for Australian cavers and people interested in cave rescue to get together, share their knowledge and skills and create networks.

Awards

Convener: Lloyd Robinson

As far as awards are concerned, this is the slack period in the cycle. It is approaching time to consider anyone who deserves to be nominated for an award. During the approaching February, clubs will be invited to nominate those they consider worthy of recognition.

Bibliography

Convener: Greg Middleton

Unfortunately there is really nothing to add to my report for 2008-09.

No abstracts have been sent to IUS in Switzerland since the 2007 material in Feb. 2009 and no further requests have been received.

Despite a rumour that the combined 2006-07 issue of *Speleological Abstracts* has been published, no copy has yet reached me. Nothing further has been heard of negotiations that were supposed to take place between the publishers of *Speleological Abstracts* and the US operators of the Karst Information Portal with a view to putting the abstracts on-line.

I am personally coming to the view that the idea of 'abstracts' as we have known them are rapidly being rendered redundant by on-line publication of journals. Where material can be readily located by a web search there seems little point in compiling, arranging and printing abstracts. Of course, while some publications are not available on-line, abstracts remain a way of locating articles of interest but it seems only a matter of time before everything worthwhile will be on the World Wide Web. This may not be the case with all earlier publications and abstracts may continue to serve a function in locating past publications.

The Commission operates without a budget and without members claiming any costs.

I am prepared to continue to act as Convener of the Commission until its future is determined.

Cave Diving

Conveners: Tim Payne and Peter Kraehenbuehl
No report received.

Cave & Karst Numbering

Convener: Peter Dykes

Verbal Report at Council Meeting
There is a plethora of issues.

Karst Managers have moved to GIS in NSW and SA. The different scale of map sheets used by various state departments is causing some problems in adjusting to GIS Database information.

CEGSA and NSW decided to remove the dual numbering system and regardless of the type of rock a cave receives the next number in a sequence in that area. And in these states numbering has returned to a geographic area rather than a map sheet numbering system. They will maintain the current serial numbers and general cave features not tagged or sea caves that have had their numbers removed is not really a big issue in NSW – less than 200 features. Procedures will be published soon as we change from one to another.

The NSW Karst and Geodiversity Unit (KGU) contracted a club to photograph and provide entrance data of an area for management purposes.

KID needs upgrading to accept data from other databases and it does not hold area or outcrop details. Any future OzKarst programming will be completed in due course when Graham Pilkington is available to do so. ASF should find funds to do this.

GIS is only working fully in NSW and SA with karst areas.

NT must be re-thought as to how to continue its numbering systems.

I would like to have a meeting of State Co-ordinators some time and ASF look at how to fund ways of merging data of the various data bases.

Microsoft has no plans to stop continuing development of Access and ESRI continues to develop its programs to use Access databases.

Codes and Guidelines

The convener position for this position is currently vacant.

No changes to Codes or Guidelines were made this year

Grants

Convener: Fiona Beckwith

The need to complete details of the ASF Grants Scheme initiative and the absence of some members left insufficient time to conduct an inaugural program in 2010. As a result, the budget for 2010 was carried over and two rounds were conducted in 2011. The successful recipients in the inaugural round were announced at the ASF Conference in Chillagoe and appeared in *Caves Australia* 185 for June 2011. A second round was advertised in the same issue and completed in late 2011.

Successful applicants:

Research and Exploration Grants

1. "Exitravanza": \$500 towards a project by Southern Tasmania Caverneers to modernise, complete and extend the survey of Exit Cave in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, one of the longest and most significant in Australia. Additional support came from the ASF Karst Conservation Fund, and from the managing authority. The Society has called for expressions of interest from speleologists for an expedition in February 2012 to continue the work (see *Australian Caver* No.186 p. 23).

2. Peter Buzzacott: \$750 towards installation of data loggers in Nullarbor caves to measure variability in water temperature. The ASF Grant was supplemented with a contribution from the Karst Conservation Fund. An account of the work appeared in *Caves Australia* 184 and another is in press.

3. Flinders University Speleological Society Inc.: \$500 to assist an expedition to conduct bat research on the Nullarbor in conjunction with the South Australian Museum.

4. Chillagoe Caving Club: \$250 to assist the survey and documentation of two important caves in the Broken River district, north Queensland, containing significant bone deposits.

5. Pippa Waterworth & Dene Buckley, Cavers Leeuwin: \$500 towards a study of the spatial

distribution and growth of microbial communities in the water of deep caves on the Nullarbor and Roe plains.

Conference Attendance grants

6. Shannon Burnett, Latrobe University & Victorian Speleological Association: To assist attendance at and presentation to the ASF Conference of a paper on spatial distribution of Nullarbor caves and karst using GIS techniques.

The Grants Commission congratulates these recipients. We were very impressed by the quality of project applications, particularly by the manner in which applicants sought and obtained financial & in-kind partnering support from member societies, management authorities and other organisations. Prospective applicants should not be deterred by thinking it's all about research - the grants cover all of conservation, research, exploration, public education programs and conference attendance. And most research requires at least some exploration. Members of no less than 9 ASF member clubs (or the clubs themselves) have received funding under the ASF Grants Scheme or Karst Conservation Fund in the last 2 or 3 years. Have a go!

Unfortunately we are not able to fund every application in full, and were able to conduct 2 rounds in 2011 only because there was none in 2010. The Grants Scheme is subject to ASF budgetary limitations and in 2010 & 2011 totalled \$1,500 per year with an additional \$1,000 to \$2,000 in years leading to a Conference. When the scheme was devised, provision was made for a review in 2012. The Grants Commission intends if possible to conduct this review prior to the January 2012 Council Meeting with a view to the next Round being advertised for closing on 31 March 2012.

Grants Commission Members: Fiona Nitschke (Chair), Grace Matts, Susan White, Nicholas White, John Dunkley

Helictite

Convener: Susan White

The Helictite Commission continues to be run in tandem with the Publications Commission. When ASF received Helictite from the Speleological Research Council (SRC) it was agreed to form a separate commission to enhance the chances of continuation of the journal. The Commission currently consists of Susan White (Chair and joint editor), Ken Grimes (Editor), Stefan Eberhard (Editor), Grace Matts (ASF Treasurer), Glenn Baddeley (Business Manager) and John Dunkley. The ASF President is an ex officio member.

Volume 41 is a double issue on the Gregory Karst comprised of invited papers. We have tentative layouts for most papers as of the end of November. However we are still waiting on the OK from the NT Parks Joint Management. We suspect the delay is in getting the Traditional Owners to meet and check that there is no information or photos of sensitive sites. We expect Volume 41 very soon.

We also have enough general papers for Volume 42. These are being sent out to referees. The submitted paper situation is much better but there is still a need for more.

The updated Helictite page on the web site states that hard-copy sets and back issues are no longer available, and this service will be replaced by PDFs on the web site or PDFs mailed by disk. PDFs of the main articles from Volume 36 onwards are downloadable from the website. There are no complete sets of hard copies to sell although a very limited number of hard copy back copies are available from Susan White. Financially we remain healthy.

Scanning of back issues has continued and we intend to have these available on CD as PDF and as we move towards digital publishing downloadable from the website. This will also relate to having material on the Karst Information Portal, an international system for digital dissemination of karst material, which was outlined in the 2009 annual report. Australian hosting sites are also being investigated. The Commission needs to work this through carefully.

We are moving towards digital publishing of Helictite, and the last Council meeting cleared the way for this to proceed. However, the problems of Helictite continue to relate to the time available for volunteers to edit and produce the Journal. This is further complicated by changes in the expectations of academic publishing, which has limited the articles

available. This is further compounded with the refereeing process, as many ASF members do not appear to understand refereeing and editing processes.

I would like to thank those who have put time into Helictite in the past year, especially Ken Grimes, Glenn Baddeley and John Dunkley and the reviewers of papers. I would welcome anyone else who is interested in becoming involved.

Insurance

Convener: Phil Maynard

The ASF maintains two insurance policies. The first policy is the Association Liability cover designed to protect the Federation and its membership against claims for wrongful acts. The second policy is the Adventure Activities Combined Liability insurance, which protects the Federation and its membership against claims for Injury and Damage.

During 2011, a number of queries were raised by members about the Injury/Damage policy and possible extensions to cover. One query concerned whether the policy included cover for claims by members against other members. The short answer to this question is yes, subject to the same exclusions as other claims against the policy. Another query was about the possible extension of cover to include bushwalking and canyoning in the list of activities specified in the 'Insured's Business' section of the policy. Inquiries to the broker were met with a positive response, and these activities have been added to the renewal proposal for 2012. A final quote on this basis has not been obtained at the time of writing. The Insurance Broker claims "no major surprise" in the quote for 2012 to be finalised by 13/1/2012.

There were no claims against either policy in 2011, and no claims are pending as the renewals for 2012 are negotiated.

International Relations

Convener: Nicholas White

Little to report this year.

The next international congress will be in Brno, Czech Republic, from 21-28 July with field trips before and after the congress. www.speleo2013.com for more information.

Jim Crockett of MSS and the Executive prepared a presentation on ASF hosting the 2017 UIS Conference for the Council at the Chillicon Conference.

Following this Council resolved to more fully consider whether to proceed with a bid for the Conference in 2017. Jim Crockett has been further investigating East Coast facilities with a preference for those in proximity to Sydney. A presentation will be made to the January 2012 ASF Council meeting on the feasibility of ASF hosting this Conference.

Action: Consider whether ASF should bid for the UIS Conference in 2017.

Library and Archives

Convener: Cathy Brown

Thanks to all the clubs who continue to supply journals to the Library and to John Dunkley for continuing to house it. The digital catalogue of Australian material is up to date and material has recently been shelved. The overseas journals have been added to the digital catalogue and we are working to progressively add the books.

John Dunkley continues to do a fantastic job in chasing and acquiring material to fill gaps in our collection. Thanks also to Colin Tyrell and Bruce Welch for digitising Management reports and ASF newsletters for the library.

While in UK earlier this year I did some investigation to re-establish our journal exchange with the British Cave Research Association. I expect this to come to fruition shortly.

Membership

Convener: Colin Tyrrell

Membership declined slightly this year (-47), with currently 972 members spanning 27 corporate member clubs with 6 Individual members outside the club framework.

This decline appears largely related to university clubs' introductory (Orientation week) student numbers being less than 2010 (Last year there were around 300 student type memberships; this year only around 220).

This year has seen an increase in the number of individuals enquiring about Individual membership.

There are 2 Associates and one Complimentary Associate (ACKMA).

There are 4 Caves Australia subscribers.

Membership Database

At the beginning of 2011 the Membership Database was moved to a new server with minimal issues.

Its primary use is for ASF to record members. The email lists operating through the membership database is used for all official ASF correspondence. As such it acts as a vehicle for communications (to club contacts (asf-members), to individuals (all-comms).

This has continued to work well, as long as those receiving the emails continue to pass on the correspondence to their club committees. Members can be nominated by their club database administrator to receive these emails and it is recommended that more than one person in each club be nominated to receive them.

The Membership database is also used for sending the eSpeleo newsletter to those who have their email address recorded.

It is also the distribution list of Caves Australia, which comes as part of ASF membership.

A secondary use is to validate if a person is an ASF member and covered by insurance. Parks Tasmania being the only known non-club user of this facility. Several clubs use the facility to confirm whether a visiting member is actually a financial club

The main issue to arise this year continues to be that some clubs have been slow in updating their member records and keeping member details current. There have been several emails from people receiving Caves Australia at an address vacated by a financial member. The main impact is that members missed receiving a copy of Caves Australia.

Clubs should update membership data as members pay their fees.

It should be noted that it is not the responsibility of either the ASF Treasurer or Membership Secretary to update members on the database for clubs. If, as a club, you are experiencing problems updating members please ask for help from the Membership Secretary.

Publications

Convener: Susan White

The Publications Commission is run in tandem with Helictite but is a much more complex commission as it involves Caves Australia, ESpeleo, the website and a myriad of other publications.

The commission currently comprises Susan White (Chair), Grace Matts (ASF Treasurer), Colin Tyrrell (Webmaster), Greg Middleton, Alan Jackson (CA Production), Ian Binnie (ESpeleo editor) and Ian Curtis (CA Editor). The ASF President is an ex officio member and others are co-opted for specific tasks as required. I wish to thank everyone on the commission for their hard work this year as well as their (often nameless) assistants. We have continued to achieve a lot this year and the Publications area of ASF continues to be a major part of our public relations.

I would like particularly to thank John Dunkley for the work he has put into the commission over many years.

Caves Australia

Caves Australia has been produced regularly in 2011. CA 187 should be in everyone's mailboxes in January 2012. These slight delays are usually the result of production matters out of our control or because there is insufficient material and chase up is necessary. The issues are between 24 - 32 pages in size depending on the material available.

The chasing up of material continues to be a problem. At the moment we have no material in hand for the rest of 2012. Don't complain if you have not written anything! Interestingly there seem to be very few classic cave areas in Australia.

Digital publishing continues to be explored and eventually we will move towards this, however there are some complex issues involved and it is not without cost. The commission still is interested in your comments.

We have a "no returns policy" and therefore clubs need to make sure their members' addresses are kept up to date in the membership database. Returns of CA cost us money.

A major issue, which has recently arisen, is that Alan Jackson wishes to give up driving the production team due to other life pressures. I therefore URGENTLY need one or 2 volunteers to help with the production of CA in the near

future. Without volunteers ASF cannot produce Caves Australia on a regular basis.

Thanks to the editor, Ian Curtis (OSS), the Tasmanian production team (especially Alan), the proof-readers and the writers of articles which continue to be dominated by a limited number of clubs.

Website

The webmaster, Colin Tyrrell, continues to upgrade aspects of the website. There is a need to upgrade the site with a dynamic menu system that is more efficient for management. We have asked for specifics about what people would like to see in a new site but have received no useful responses; to redesign the website some clear ideas and guidance on what is wanted. We need these positive responses from a wider source than the commission. To just tell us the site is tired is not useful.

The site is stable and reliable and Colin continues to fix up those little errors and omissions that always seem to appear. Additions and updates are uploaded as requested, usually within 48 hours of receipt. The site usage statistics show that 3716 visits by 2567 separate visitors were made to the site between the end of November 2010 and the beginning of November 2011.

Very little new information on ASF activities has appeared since the last Council meeting. Material submitted has a very quick up load and the small "bugs" and link breakages are fixed as soon as they are reported. Please remember that it is not the webmaster's or commission chair's job to produce material.

I would like to remind clubs that material is vetted for potential defamatory material and this includes links to other sites including ASF member clubs.

We continue to increase the information on the site so that it becomes very much an integral part of getting information about speleology in Australia.

ESpeleo

During the Chillagoe meeting in April 2011, Ian Binnie volunteered to take on the editing of ESpeleo. Three ESpeleos has been produced and he would like more information so that this excellent method of communication can be used more effectively. Ian would like to be able to produce ESpeleo between each Caves Australia, however material is needed from members. This material does not replace articles for CA.

Related to this is the urgent need for someone to collect information about events, local, national and international, and compile the calendar. This needs to be collected on an approximately monthly basis and forwarded to the ESpeleo Editor, the Webmaster and the Commission chair. At the moment this is done in a very ad hoc manner and could be better. Please see the chair if you could help.

Other publications

ASF has a number of other publications. Some of these are material we received from the SRC. The Jenolan and Wee Jasper books continue to sell steadily. Although we have significant amounts of material for the Conservation Book there are still some major omissions and work has somewhat stalled.

The NSW atlas project is nearing completion and should be printed in the very near future. A prototype of the final publication can be viewed at the council meeting. Indicative purchasers can see the commission chair. This publication will be distributed through the Publications Commission.

There are several other ideas for publishing projects that have been suggested but these need to wait until we complete those we have currently undertaken.

Sale of Publications

The sale of ASF publications urgently needs an ASF member prepared to handle the sales of books and back issues of Helictite. The marketing of ASF material needs promotion and management. A request that went out in October has resulted in zero response.

Copyright

ASF is very generous about copyright as our aim is to get material, e.g. codes, out to people to use. However as we hold copyright, some educational institutions have paid educational copyright to use material. Although we do not demand payment, when it comes as part of a centrally collected system we can always use it. ASF is a member of CAL (Copyright Agency Ltd).

ACKMA updated the Cave management CD and acknowledged ASF copyright on the early conference proceedings. However the title of the CD is misleading. I have been in discussion with ACKMA about this issue.

Conclusion

Overall the Commission has worked hard this year but there is always more to do. I particularly thank everyone who has helped keep things moving.

There are some very specific assistance that the Publications Commission needs to continue to function. We urgently need persons to help with Caves Australia, publications sales and the compilation of the calendar.

Safety, Leadership and Risk Management

Convener: Caroline Forest

A meeting was requested by SLARM and arranged by Grace Matts with the ASF executive to clarify the role of the SLARM and recommend that the vacant Leadership commission role to be adopted by SLARM. This was accepted. At this meeting there was discussion of the overlap in ACRC and SLARM. Risk management issues of delivering training and training materials to clubs by ACRC were to be directed to SLARM for review.

Archived Incident reports received 11 Aug 2011 Initial analysis suggests that "bad luck" be removed as an option. Four hours caving appears to be the start of a danger period for cavers. Loose rocks are a common "cause" of injury resulting from a fall.

Three people have now agreed to be on the SLARM committee, but only one is an ASF member Meredith Brainwood. First meeting with the committee was on 20th November 2011 in Sydney. Items discussed were review of the ASF administration handbook, incident response included in safety guidelines and training in leadership and risk management for ASF members.

A study has been commenced on the occurrence of carbon dioxide in Australian caves, with a primary aim to be mapping of potentially dangerous areas. An initial literature review has been completed. Development of a mapping program for carbon dioxide in caves has been completed by Applied Ecology based on a pilot study, and further study is commencing at Bungonia. It is anticipated that a number of papers will be produced that will have application for cavers in the real world.

I am unable to give a report on incidents as I am still compiling the results. The lack of incident reports is alarming. As I look at the incident reports I have been given it is obvious that Mike Lake went to extraordinary lengths to

find incidents, often in journals, and complete the incident report himself. His legacy is appreciated by this SLARM committee.

Recommendations

The inclusion of a regular article on the role of SLARM and the purpose and benefits of risk management in ASF publications.

Based on analysis of incidents, articles are being prepared to report the need to always have three points of contact when climbing. Recommendations of regular rest stops should be included in briefings for all activities. Falls from 2 metres are a life-threatening incident and cavers willingly expose themselves to this possibility with little regard of the consequences. Education on the dangers of this practice can be incorporated into a leadership training course being developed by SLARM. This will include First Aid upgrades and risk management training.

ASF Administration Handbook changes are required to reflect the expanded SLARM role and new safety guidelines.

Removal of "need reviewing" from ASF Risk Management Guidelines heading pg 175. Reviewing is taking place all the time and the inclusion of this "need reviewing" implies that the following of these guidelines is not required.

All references to St John or Red Cross be removed and replaced with Current First Aid Certificate

SLARM is reviewing the ASF Administration Handbook to identify changes required due to new safety guidelines. Eg Removal of reference to Item 2.4 of the ASF Cave Safety guidelines.pg 177 ASFAH

Pg 180 Change date. Current safety guidelines adopted April 2011-11-25

Safety guidelines to include a section on incident response. This is being prepared for submission to the executive.

Training is being developed for risk management and leadership for ASF members. One option includes committee members delivering this training after self-study material is supplied. Preparation of a CD is proposed.

SLARM be included in ACRC correspondence regarding training, publications and training materials produced by the ACRC for the purposes of risk management and inclusion into leadership training

Requests

All SLARM members have provided their time and equipment free to the ASF. Applied Ecology P/L has provided the use of over \$2000 in equipment so far for the carbon dioxide monitoring program being undertaken by SLARM committee. A letter of thanks from ASF for their support is requested by the SLARM committee.

The purchase of carbon dioxide tester is required for investigation of carbon dioxide movement and the development of a prediction model. Quotes will be collected if approval is granted by the ASF executive.

Attendance for a SLARM committee member at risk management training be supplemented by SLARM funds so training can be passed on to members is requested.

Survey and Mapping Standards

Convener: Alan Warild

It's been quiet year in Australian survey and mapping standard scene. However, two things did happen. Joe Sydney/HCG ran a basic cave surveying course that went very well - so they plan to do another in 2012. Congratulations, it's good to see ASF running things that are bigger than individual clubs. I answered a UIS request to vote on which surveying standards they should use. As the proposed UIS standard is based on the Australian standard, I could hardly vote no!

Special Interest Groups

ASF Cave Diving Group

No report received.

ASF Judbarra - Gregory Karst Research Special Interest Group

Liaison person: Mark Sefton (Chair)

Members of the Jutburra-Gregory Karst Research Special Interest Group of the Australian Speleological Federation Inc. (Gregory SIG) continued with the exploration and mapping of caves in the Jutburra-Gregory National Park during July 2011. Although a significant amount of time was spent continuing a program of producing a series of carefully

mapped and checked traverses throughout the Bullita Cave System on which to base the rest of the survey as well as several days being spent resurveying some poorly mapped parts of the cave, the Group still managed to explore and map almost 14 kilometres of newly discovered cave passages. More than half of this was in the Spring Creek area. Over 214 km of cave passages in the park have now been mapped.

As was the case during the previous year, the group split into two camps – one based at Bullita and the other out at Spring Creek. Continuing from last year, surveying efforts in the Bullita Cave System were aimed at correcting some long-standing omissions and errors in the map. Despite this emphasis, we still managed to map more than two and a half kilometres of new cave. The total surveyed length of this cave is now more than 120 km; it retains its place among the 20 longest caves in the world (at number 15) and is the longest in the southern hemisphere. Some of the rangers in the park were able to join in and contribute to the mapping. The Spring Creek camp continued mapping caves in this area where more than 27 km of cave is now documented. On three of the days during the expedition, the two groups joined forces at a karst area that is located half way between Bullita and Spring Creek. Here, several new caves were discovered and mapped, the largest (Atlantis cave) of which is just under 3 km in length. These caves all have going leads, are all in close proximity to each other, and it should be possible to link them to each other and to other caves in the area to form a substantial new cave system.

The 2011 AGM of the Jutbarra-Gregory SIG was conducted at Bullita on the last day of the expedition. At the meeting, Mark Sefton and Bob Kershaw were re-elected as Chairman and Mapping Coordinator of the Group, respectively, while Megan Pryke was elected as Secretary and Phil Maynard, Deborah Hunter and Steve Milner were elected as Committee members.

Six papers on the caves and karst of the Gregory National Park have been prepared by SIG members for publication in a Special Issue of *Helictite* and are all at or through the refereeing stage. It is expected that the issue will be ready for publication in the next few months. Some articles are now with the National Park management for approval and the remainder will also have to go through the approval process. The papers comprise two on surface karst, one on cave geology and geomorphology, one on cave biology, one on

history and one on surveying methods and data management.

The next expedition by the Group is planned for July 2012.

Committee Reports

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Cultural Committee

Established in January 2008.

Chair: Peter Dykes

No report received.

Conference Committee (Karstaway 2009)

Chair: Margaret James

No report received.

Documentation

Chair: Nicholas White

No report received.

ASF Server and Karst Index Database

System Administration: Mike Lake

Karst Index Database

On the 16 October 2011 a day of training on the Karst Index Database was held for some NSW clubs. This was on the Sunday after the NSW Speleo Council meeting the previous day. Thanks to Joe Sydney & HCG who very kindly catered for the Council Meeting at a very good price with excellent food.

The following people attended the KID training: Dennis Marsh (OSS), Bruce Howlett (OSS), John Wylie (SSS), John Dunkley (ASF), Cathy Brown (HCG), David Taberner (HSC & RSS), Rod Burton (HSC), Jodie Rutledge (NHVSS), Michael Rutledge (NHVSS). John Dunkley attended as an ASF representative to learn more about the KID and its use. Thanks to Rod Burton and David Taberner for getting the networking setup.

The KID is not trivial to use. There are some quirks that users need to know about, and this day was very useful to provide some clubs with a good appreciation of the extent of the KID data and the methodology for entering data. The day provided me with first-hand experience of what sections users have most problems

with. A 'redirection' bug was also found which has only appeared since the ASF went to our new server last January. The day was valuable but we will need some more days like this to get NSW caving clubs up-and-running and entering data.

In a previous report I indicated that changes to the location fields in the database would be made. These had been worked out with Peter Matthews. The changes, and some bug fixing for Peter Matthews, were put off due to lack of time - I will try and do these over xmas 2011 or early in 2012.

ASF Server

The ASF server, which is a virtual Linode instance running Debian Linux (see www.linode.com), has been running very smoothly for a year now. We had to leave our previous hosting provider in January 2011 as they were shutting down the server we had and could not provide the services we needed at a similar price.

Particular thanks go to David Connard for helping me move the ASF services from the old hosting provider to the new Linode instance with no downtime for the ASF website or membership database.

David Connard wrote and maintains the ASF Membership Database.

The ASF server runs the following web sites:

<http://www.caves.org.au> - Main ASF web site

<http://helictite.caves.org.au> - Helictite Journal

<http://suss.caves.org.au> - Sydney University Speleological Society

<http://oss.caves.org.au> - Orange Speleological Society

<http://nswsc.caves.org.au> - NSW Speleological Council

If your club would like a website at <http://xxx.caves.org.au> then that can be arranged quite easily. There is no cost to your club - this is provided by the ASF at present for free.

The server also runs a MySQL database and mailserver for the ASF Membership Database (which uses Java/Tomcat) and the KID (written in Perl).



CROP in South Australia - Photo Richard Harris

Contact List

Corporate Members

Australian Capital Territory
Canberra Speleological Society Inc.
PO Box 156
Curtin ACT 2605

New South Wales
Blue Mountains Speleological Club
PO Box 37
Glenbrook NSW 2773

Cavers & Adventurers of the Snowy Mountains
253 Kitchener Rd
Stafford Heights Qld 4053

Central West Caving Group
605 Jaunter Rd
Jaunter NSW 2787
Highland Caving Group
PO Box 54
Georges Hall NSW 2194

Hills Speleology Club Ltd.
3 Heights Place
Hornsby Heights NSW 2077

Illawarra Speleological Society Inc.
PO Box 94
Unanderra NSW 2526

Kempsey Speleological Society
20 Home St
Hat Head NSW 2440

Queensland
Chillagoe Caving Club Inc.
PO Box 92
Cairns Qld 4870

South Australia
Cave Exploration Group South Australia Inc.
PO Box 144
Rundle Mall
SA 5000

National University Caving Club
c/o ANU Sport & Recreation Association
ANU Building 19,
North Road
Acton, ACT 0200

Metropolitan Speleological Society
PO Box 178
Thornleigh NSW 2120

Newcastle & Hunter Valley Speleological Society Inc.
PO Box 15
Broadmeadow NSW 2292

Orange Speleological Society
PO Box 752
Orange NSW 2800

Rover Speleological Society of NSW
c/o 22/102 Crimea Road
Marsfield NSW 2122

Sydney University Speleological Society
Box 35, Holme Building
Sydney University NSW 2006

University of Technology Sydney Speleological Society
c/o The Union, PO Box 123
Broadway NSW 2007

Central Queensland Speleological Society
c/- Peter Berrill
PO Box 6343
Rockhampton Qld 4702

Flinders University Speleological Society
Alan Mitchell Sports Centre
Flinders One
Flinders University
GPO Box 2100
Adelaide SA 5001

Tasmania

Mole Creek Caving Club Inc

PO Box 209
Mole Creek TAS 7304

Southern Tasmanian Caverneers Inc.

PO Box 416
Sandy Bay TAS 7006

Northern Caverneers Inc.

PO Box 315
Launceston TAS 7250

Victoria

Victorian Speleological Association Inc.

GPO Box 5425CC
Melbourne Vic 3001

Western Australia

Cavers Leeuwin Inc

PO Box 1561
Margaret River WA 6285

Western Australian Speleological Group Inc.

PO Box 67
Nedlands WA 6009

Speleological Research Group of Western Australia

PO Box 1611
East Victoria Park WA 6981

Cave Exploration Group of Western Australia

PO Box 1821
Wangara DC WA 6947

Provisional Members

Victorian Limestone Caving Team

c/o 39 Esdale St
Blackburn VIC 3130

Associates

Australasian Cave & Karst Management Association

PO Box 36, Carlton South, Vic 3053

Scouts Australia (ACT Branch)

22 Lance Hill Ave, Dunlop ACT 2615

Karst Geodiversity Unit (NSW, DECCW)

Level 2, 203-209 Russell St, Bathurst NSW 2795

UNE Mountaineering Club

C/- Sports, The University of New England,
Armidale, NSW 2351

NSW Cave Rescue Squad

PO Box 122, Bankstown, NSW 2200

Victorian Scout Caving Team

PO Box 2277 Mt Waverley VIC 3149

Special Interest Groups

ASF Cave Diving Group

ASF Judbarra-Gregory Karst Research Group

C/- Chairperson, Mark Sefton

C/- PO Box 144, Rundle Mall, SA 5000

Karst Conservancies

KarstWatch (Mole Creek)