

# Speleo 2017 eBulletin

4 June 2017

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**#SeeYouInSydney**

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Have you checked out Circular 3 yet? It is now available at <https://www.speleo2017.com/Circulars/Circular3.pdf>. Previous eBulletins can be found at <https://www.speleo2017.com/Circulars.html>. Not long to go now! Don't forget to visit <https://www.speleo2017.com> for further information or email us at [info@speleo2017.com](mailto:info@speleo2017.com) with any enquiries.

## Speleo 2017 Organising Committee

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### Important Dates

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 1 July 2017  | Photographic Competition entries close  |
| 14 July 2017 | Pre-Congress excursions begin to start  |
| 23 July 2017 | Speleo 2017 begins!!                    |
|              | Day Registrations open                  |
|              | First UIS General Assembly              |
|              | Welcome Party                           |
| 24 July 2017 | Opening Ceremony                        |
| 26 July 2017 | Mid-Week Excursions                     |
| 28 July 2017 | Speleo 2017 Banquet                     |
| 29 July 2017 | Second UIS General Assembly             |
| 30 July 2017 | Post-Congress excursions begin to start |

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### Program

We are delighted to announce that one of our keynote speakers will be Associate Professor John Webb of Latrobe University in Melbourne. Associate Professor Webb has studied Australian karst in all its diversity across the continent. Caves in Australia have developed in limestones and dolomites of all ages from the Proterozoic to dunes as young as 125,000 years. Most Australian caves have phreatic origins but in some instances they clearly have hypogenic origins. These will be discussed as well as the role science has played in understanding our megafauna; as well as geochemistry developments such as U/Pb dating techniques together with spore and pollen analysis for detailed Pliocene climate records. You won't want to miss this exciting presentation!

## Donors' Dinner

A special Donors' Dinner will be held on the evening of Monday 25 July in the peaceful Penrith Lakes setting, only a short distance from the venue. The restaurant overlooks the International Rowing Regatta lake, but the action will be indoors as we dine on a sumptuous buffet meal.

By attending the special Donors dinner at the Congress you will be supporting the ASF's Karst Conservation Fund. The KCF spends funds on projects ranging from karst research and karst conservation all over Australia, to bat studies and assisting in the acquisition of properties with caves under them.

Our guest speaker for the evening will be Steve Milner, a caver from South Australia, who has been exploring the Nullabor Bunda Cliffs for nearly twenty years. The KCF recently supported a light plane flight along both the Bunda and Baxter Cliffs to take close up video and still footage of 190km of Nullabor sea cliffs to assist with further exploration of cave entrances found in this extremely remote part of Australia.

It is not too late to sign up for this exclusive dinner with funds raised going to projects of the ASF Karst Conservation Fund. Tickets are \$250 and anyone can reserve a place by sending an email to David the ICS Treasurer at [registrations@speleo2017.com](mailto:registrations@speleo2017.com) or ticking the Donors Dinner when you register.

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## Field Trips

The following Congress Field Trips have limited available places:

### Mid-week excursions

One spot available on Blue Mountains Dry Canyons on Wednesday 26 July.  
All other mid-week excursions are now closed.

### Pre-congress excursions:

B1.MR Margaret River.  
B6.SKC Southern Caves and Karst of New South Wales.  
B11.HS Highlights of Sydney.  
B13.CHC Chillagoe. Due to a cancellation three places are now available.

### Post-congress:

A10. Uluru and Central Australia.  
A12.NL Nelson, New Zealand.  
A13.WCK West Coast Karst, New Zealand.

Please send any excursion enquiries to Cathie at: [excursions@speleo2017.com](mailto:excursions@speleo2017.com)

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## Cave Monitoring Workshop

There will be a workshop on cave monitoring at the ICS. The scope of cave monitoring is wide, including topics of physical, climate, paleontological, biological, health, aesthetic, cultural and historical values which may require documentation or protection. If you have a special interest in monitoring then you would no doubt enjoy this workshop.