

# POSITION VACANT

## Volunteer wanted

**Starting no later than May 2021!!**

## Journal Editor (unpaid)

### EDITORIAL

Undoubtedly these remain challenging times for us in both Australia and New Zealand. The scale of commercial activities in show caves necessarily remains constrained (if possible, at all) as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic. Moreover, for some of our colleagues, personal lives and cave operations remain impacted by the disastrous Australian bushfires at the beginning of 2020.

However, information emerging from the data logger project, as discussed in an article from Andy Baker, Andy Spate and Dave Gillieson later in this edition, shows that at least some potentially interesting science can emerge from what otherwise would be broader mists of gloom.

This edition includes electronic posters for two important forthcoming events in the life of the Association. The first, announcing the inauguration of the Ann Augusteyn Award for Guiding Excellence provides an opportunity to give recognition to those, whether members of the Association or employees of organisational members, who make an exemplary contribution to the richness of the experience of paying visitors to show caves in Australia or New Zealand.

The second poster is for the 2021 Guides' School and the immediately following ACKMA Annual General Meeting and seminar. These are to be held at Wellington Caves in central western New South Wales in May next year. By then, although we will undoubtedly remain in some Covid induced "new normal", it is to be hoped that the new pattern of human existence will still permit a socially and intellectually rewarding experience for those who attend.

This Journal (and, probably, several future editions) is slimmer than might otherwise be expected – with this

likely being as a consequence of our general collective inability to travel. Perhaps readers might contemplate writing an article of a more historical and reflective nature such as that which has been contributed by Ian Edison concerning the Historic Gardens of Jenolan. Any contributions to future editions will be gratefully received!

There is little other news to impart. However, I am delighted to advise that I have not needed to recycle large numbers of back issues of this Journal. A few requests were made seeking to fill gaps in individual collections while Regina Roach volunteered to take bulk back issues to distribute amongst the guides at Yarrangobilly and, for the copies that were left over after that, to offer them to patrons who might be interested in reading about caves in a broader fashion.

I must conclude this editorial by making reference to the banner which appears above this editorial and which, for this edition, is in a larger font than has appeared previously. Come the 2021 Annual General Meeting, I will definitely cease to be the editor of this Journal. As I have previously noted, I reluctantly agreed to continue for an additional year because of the absence of a willing volunteer to take over from me some four months ago. It is, however, as our immediate past president indicated before the 2020 Annual General Meeting, time to pass the baton to a younger generation.

I am happy to assist in effecting a smooth transition – but a transition there must be!

**Tim Moore**