

Warning signs in volcanic areas



Above: this sign was seen when visiting the Popocatepetl vulcano (after the Mexico symposium 2006).

Below: this warning is on Reunion Island. It is a rock on a rope. The list tells the situation according to the movements of this stone: when wet = it rains. 'Pas de galet' means stone is invisible – hurricane. ... sauté de haut en bas = earth quake. And no stone means 'hurricane'.



International Union of Speleology Union Internationale de Spéléologie

Commission on Volcanic Caves



Newsletter

May 2009

14th International Symposium
on Vulcanospeleology,
August 2010, Australia
(see inside for more information)

55

This Newsletter is send free to members of the commission, and others who are interested in lava-tubes and volcanic caves.

It is not possible to subscribe – but news and information are always (very much!) appreciated.

Honorary President: Dr. W.R. HALLIDAY
wrhbna@bellsouth.com

Web-master: John PINT
ranchopint@yahoo.com

www.vulcanospeleology.org

Chairman & editorial address: Jan-Paul van der PAS
Vauwerhofweg 3
6333 CB SCHIMMERT
Netherlands

jpgvanderpas@hetnet.nl

Contributor for 'Speleological Abstracts' (BBS – Commission of Bibliography – U.I.S.):
Greg MIDDLETON – Tasmania

"WoMOVoc" – project: Worlds Most Outstanding Volcanic Caves
João Paulo Constância
jpconstantia@worldvolcaniccaves.org
<http://www.worldvolcaniccaves.org/pages/aboutus/>

The commission logo is a design by Conny SPELBRINK, introduced for the symposium on the Canary Islands (1994). She gave the approval to use this for the commission.

Major Lava Tubes in Syria

Via Michael Laumanns & Fadi Naderit is reported that members from Spéléo Club du Liban (SCL) found two major lava tube caves, one of which is reportedly 1.6 km long. The Lebanese results will hopefully be published in the next issue of Al-Ouat' Ouate (the SCL Magazine).

Volcanic Caves: Geological and Microbiological Terrestrial Analogs of Potential Extraterrestrial Conditions

NASA & NCKRI have teamed to organize a session at this year's Geological Society of America (GSA) Convention. Event will be held 18 – 21 October 2009 in Portland, Oregon (U.S.A.) and for most current information see:
<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2009/>
NCKRI (National Cave and Karst Research Institute) can be reached via the Executive Director - George Veni – at:
gveni@nckri.org

Harry Marinakis asks:

Anyone who has NOT received their Jeju photos should contact him at

harrymarin@gmail.com

Expedition to find lava tubes on the Kilimanjaro

Dutch speleologist Sjoerd van der Schuit is planning an expedition to find lava tubes on the Kilimanjaro (Kenya). The basic idea (at this moment) is to stay at least a week on a level of 3700 meter (around 12.000 feet). Total duration for the trip some three weeks. In Oct. (2009) a meeting of interested people will take place (in the Netherlands or Belgium). Final date is expected to be end 2010, but a training week in Switzerland is planned for summer 2010. For serious information:

sjoerd.s@home.nl

Sensitivity of locations (GPS etc.)

to be continued

Here a note which came from a very famous caver and geologist, Russell Harter. He is a long-time lava tube caver (his name will be found often in early publications).

After looking into the commission website he notices that due to publication of older proceedings that sensitive locations are now easily transferred to GPS data. So he worries about this. So just forget, he talks about the 'Pisgah Crater Caves'. Our webmaster, who knows this caves very well, responds to the question/problem and admits this could be a future problem. So John, our webmaster, removed the article, but asked for another publication to replace this. So, most interesting ... read below

Sensitivity of locations (GPS etc.)

note by John Pint

I'm working on an article on the pros and cons of GPS's in relation to finding caves in Saudi Arabia and your comments (Russell Harter) have given me a new angle to think about: Bygone publications which did not reveal cave locations but which - today - could lead people straight to a cave entrance.

The 'International Show Caves Association' asks:

During the Korea symposium there was a distinguished participant, Mr. David Summers, the president of the above mentioned association. From a letter from him: ... I am interested to know if there may be volcanic show caves, which may be interested in becoming members of our worldwide association
In case you are interested:

dsummers@bcec.bm
renatamarinelli@libero.it

New mail address

Fadi Nader
Bat. B.
7, Boulevard Marcel Pourtout
92500 Rueil-Malmaison
FRANCE

About Proceedings of the 13th Symposium (on Vulcanospeleology) Sept. 2008, Jeju Korea.

During the symposium participants got a book, called the proceedings. Actually this were the abstracts, but with some lectures in full. Apparently not all participants had taken the trouble to deliver the full lecture for the final proceedings. During the symposium Kyung Sik Woo, responsible for this publication, responded that at least 10 participants should deliver their material for the proceedings. This did not happen

So, maybe, some participants have their lecture not published!! Still there is a possibility - look at the note from Jo De Waele.

Jo De Waele (editor of IJS - International Journal of Speleology) asks:

high quality scientific papers

jo.dewaele@unibo.it
www.ijs.speleo.it
www.jodewaele.it

Future plans of this commission.

First of course the UIS-Congress in Kerrville (USA). There will be a commission meeting for those of the commission present, but also for those who want information, or are just interested. All items about the commission will be represented at the congress, but decisions about future projects have been taken during the commission meeting already in Korea (2008).

Known now via all channels:

*Next: the 14th Symposium on Vulcanospeleology in August 2010
Australia - Undara & North Queensland*

Australia 2010 'the Symposium' on Vulcanospeleology

Preliminary Circular / Invitation for Expressions of Interest

14th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology

Undara, North Queensland, Australia

August 2010

Australia is pleased to host the next vulcanospeleology symposium, under the auspices of the International Union of Speleology's Commission on Volcanic Caves.

While the symposium will be co-sponsored by the Australian Speleological Federation and the Australasian Cave & Karst Management Association, it will be planned and organised by a small, though enthusiastic, group of volunteers – please bear with us.

Formal sessions, plus a number of field trips, are planned to take place in the McBride Volcanic Province, at the Undara Volcanic National Park < <http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/projects/park/index.cgi?noback=1&parkid=133> > and Undara Experience (Lodge) < <http://undara.com.au/> > some 300 km south-west of Cairns in Australia's tropical north.

There will be a single post-symposium excursion – to the Western District Volcanic Province of Victoria – about 2,500 km to the south!

These are remote localities and participants will be requested to travel together in the transport provided. There will be opportunities for independent travel both before the symposium and after the excursion. Participants will meet in Cairns which is serviced by a number of international and domestic flights and will finish the excursion in Melbourne which has many international connections.

The preliminary draft program at this stage is:

Symposium

- Wed 4 Aug 2010 Participants arrive Cairns
- Thu 5 Aug (Day 1) Travel by bus to Undara (stops en route)
Evening: Welcome drinks, dinner
- Fri 6 Aug (Day 2) Official opening First paper session.
Afternoon: cave tour
- Sat 7 Aug (Day 3) Second paper session.
Afternoon: cave tour. Evening: Commission Meeting
- Sun 8 Aug (Day 4) All-day field trip
- Mon 9 Aug (Day 5) Third paper session.
Afternoon: formal close. Evening: final dinner
- Tue 10 Aug. Travel by bus to Cairns airport.



Post-Symposium Excursion

Fly Cairns-Melbourne - bus to Ballarat(?)

- Wed 11 Aug (Day 1) Bus to visit caves (via Skipton); overnight hotel/motel
- Thu 12 Aug (Day 2) Cave/lava field visits vicinity of Hamilton
- Fri 13 Aug (Day 3) Cave visits
- Sat 14 Aug (Day 4) Cave visits
- Sun 15 Aug (Day 5) Bus returns to Melbourne (via Tower Hill) (end excursion)

Costs have not yet been determined, but accommodation at Undara currently ranges from fixed tents @ A\$45/night (2 people) to restored railway carriage rooms (with double beds, some en suites) @ A\$170. (April 2009, A\$1 = €0.53 = US\$0.70)

Economy airfare, Cairns-Melbourne is currently around A\$220. A double or twin room in a country hotel is around A\$90-\$120/night.

Hopefully we will have a website providing additional information within a couple of months.

Please copy this circular to anyone else you believe may be interested.

Greg Middleton, for the Organising Committee April 2009

14th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology, Australia, August 2010

Preliminary registration of interest (non-binding)



By indicating your interest you will give us some idea of likely numbers and we will provide further details as planning progresses (if you provide an e-mail address).

Surname Given name, initial
..... Title

Address: City/town:
.....

State: PostCode: Country:
.....

Nationality E-mail
.....

No. of accompanying persons []

I am interested in attending the Symposium [] and the field trips at Undara []

I am interested in attending the Excursion to Western Victoria []

I expect to present a paper [] / a poster [] Tentative title:
.....

I/we would wish to purchase souvenir t-shirt(s) No.: []

Suggestions/Questions:
.....
.....
.....
.....

Please e-mail the above information to ozspelco@bigpond.net.au by 30 June 2009

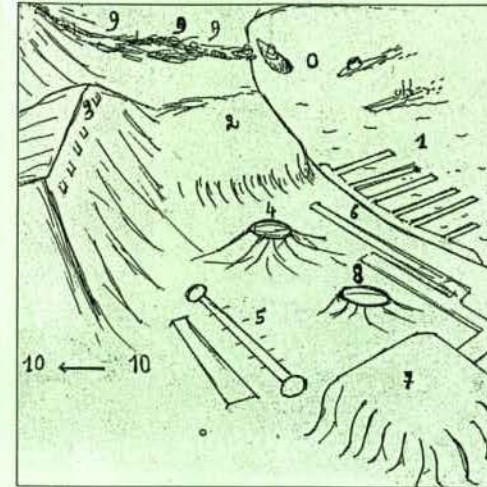
Report Commission on Volcanic Caves

August 2005 – July 2009

- 12th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology – August 2006 - Mexico
Over 30 participants from 4 continents
- 13th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology – September 2008- Korea
Over 60 participants from 4 continents
- 11 Newsletters (# 45 - # 54), 188 pages. Maybe N.L. # 55 July 2009.
- Website in operation since 2007. Designed by John Pint. Contains now
proceedings of Symposia on Vulcanospeleology (# 1 # 12).
<www.vulcanospeleology.org>
- Initiation of the WoMOVoc-project (Worlds Most Outstanding Volcanic
Caves). <<http://www.worldvolcaniccaves.org/pages/aboutus>>
- Some massive books about volcanic caves:
The Underground World of Jeju Volcanic Island in Korea,
by Prof. In-Seok Son – 267 pages, in Korean.
Íslenskir Hellar I & II, (Caves of Iceland)
by Björn Hróarsson - 672 pages, in Icelandic.
- Coming after July 2009:
 - 14th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology – August 2010 Australia
 - 15th International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology – (?) 2012 Jordan
 - book "Lava Tubes and Lava Tube Caves" by Dr. Chris Wood.

Volcanisme et base russe ultra-secrète de Yeramine, au Kamchatka

(Ultra secret Russian volcanic basis in Kamchatka)



0. Baie de Kracheninnikov
1. Port militaire
2. Base de sous-marins (bunker)
3. Radar
4. Z-machine
5. Accélérateur et canon
à particules
6. Pistes d'envol
7. Hangars à aérodynes
8. Centrale nucléaire
9. Coulée et tunnel de lave
10. Vers le *volcan sans nom*

This is taken from an article in the French publication L.A.V.E., (l'association volcanologique européenne), issue 131, March 2008 (ISSN 0982-9601). Report by Benjamin LISAN, April 2008, Paris.

This article describes a trip of a group of L.A.V.E. members with a local Russian agency, *Lost World*. They visit the volcanoes of Avatcha, Vilyuchinsky. Noted are a lead-cover over the volcano, and camouflage nets. They also explore a lava tunnel with a length of several kilometres. When they exit it turns out to be in a military area. They make a sketch, see picture. Point 9. shows a lava field and cave entrances.

Fascinating article (photocopies available from the editor of this N.L.) till you realize the publication was on 1 April