

Outdoor News

Journal of the Outdoor Educators' Association of South Australia
Volume 26 No 3, April 2008

From the Chairman

Mike Meredith

Once again OEASA has had a very busy year with activities and national discussions a plenty. The association has continued to represent its members and provide a service to Outdoor professionals in SA. The national outdoor arena has moved forward and the development of an incorporated national Outdoor Education body moves ever closer.

I would like to thank the committee members for their significant service and help throughout the year. Without their help little would get done and we as an organisation would provide limited service to our members. Whilst everyone has supported the organisation to the best of their time and available effort I would like to particularly thank Wayne Hooper as sub-editor and Libby Robertson as secretary for another sterling year. Their efforts during the year organising our many events and newsletters are without equal. Phil Noble for another great year's work with membership and finances. Andrew Govan and Daniel Polkinghorne for their efforts with sponsorship at the presentation dinner and Peter Carter for his efforts as editor and looking after the Web site. Nerillee Flint is taking a break from the committee this year and I would like to thank her for many years of diligent service and trust she will have an enjoyable break. Without the help of such a wonderful committee we would have achieved very little. Thanks and well done.

What has the OEASA committee been up to since the last AGM?

- The last AGM was well attended with a very interesting talk from Duncan Chessell on his recent exploits in the Antarctic.

- Continued discussions regarding DECS Aquatic Centre review, which was favourably finalised.
- Organised another very successful presentation dinner attended by 100 people with the presentation by numerous bodies of their leadership and achievement certificates.
- Four newsletters distributed.
- Two editions of National Journal of OE distributed.
- Web site development has continued under Peter Carter's patient eye.
- The committee has held discussions with the other state Outdoor Education Associations to pave the way for the incorporation of Outdoor Education Australia—A Network of OE associations. This represents a national body whose main focus is Outdoor Education. Discussions were also held regarding the running of future national conferences and how this would be best facilitated by the national body. At this stage the next conference should be in WA 2009/2010.
- Input into OCA regarding the AAS, NOLRS, and 2008 national outdoor summit.
- We have met regularly with Rec SA and they have



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Outdoor News is supported by



And: Paddy Pallin, Mountain Designs, Outdoor Adventure Skills and Scout Outdoor Centre

From the Editor

Peter Carter

As the first issue following the AGM, this one has Mike's report, the minutes, and Phil's financial report. It also has a number of items to do with forthcoming events: the Presentation Dinner, the Conference, and others. Included is a form for expression of interest in presenting at the conference, and inside the back page you'll find a nomination form for OEASA awards.

We also have reviews of a number of recent books, and links to a variety of resources and sites. Two items turn out to have the same theme: the decline in outdoor activities by adults, and then children. On page 10, Mark Dingle comments on some research reported in *The Guardian*, and on page 12 there's a review of *Reconnecting Children through Outdoor Education – A Research Summary*. As the researchers in the UK pointed out, 'The root cause may be videophilia.' One computer per student is all very well: real world experience is even better.

Something that always puzzled me about the SACE Stage 2 Kayaking course was the inclusion of the Eskimo rescue, the rescue in which the capsized paddler remains in the boat waiting to grab the bow of a partner's boat to roll up on. It certainly had value to the Arctic people, but I question its usefulness to beginners. To many Year 12 students it is a disincentive.

Another line in the syllabus reads 'Ability to use body rotation to enhance stroke.' This statement betrays a misunderstanding: torso rotation is not to 'enhance' the stroke, it is the very foundation. The power for paddling strokes comes not from the arms, but from the lower body, indeed, strokes start with the feet pressing on the footrest.

After a meeting with the moderator, I've prepared a proposal to amend the syllabus. Eskimo rescue would be deleted, replaced by two strokes, stern rudder and low brace turn. Stern rudder is of immediate use when students are paddling downwind, and the low brace turn is a useful exercise in boat control and stability. Many instructors already teach them.

More importantly, there would be a section provisionally titled 'Injury prevention' which would contain material on posture, paddling with proper torso rotation, the 'paddler's box', etc.

In my view, it's more important to teach the foundation skills as they are taught by the peak body, and not techniques more suited to more advanced paddlers in particular situations. If you'd like a copy of the proposal, please contact me.

As this issue was being prepared there came the news of a canyoning accident in NZ in which the lives of a teacher and five students were lost. Clearly, weather was a key factor, but other comment will have to wait until investigations are completed.

The GPS Daily Web site recently reported on the increasing use of PLBs, personal locator beacons. With the imminent demise of 121.5 and 243 MHz devices, is this the time to be thinking about PLBs for your activities? See what you think of www.gpsdaily.com/reports/PLB_Usage_Grows_In_USA_999.html.



The Outdoor Educators' Association of South Australia

Aims

- 1 To promote the development of Outdoor Education in South Australia
- 2 To represent Outdoor Educators on issues and matters concerning the use of the outdoors
- 3 To maintain the professional development of personnel working in the area of Outdoor Education
- 4 To maintain, support and develop the role of Outdoor Educators in South Australia
- 5 To promote the professional interchange of information between members and other related organisations through conferences, meetings, seminars and publications
- 6 To promote a philosophy of environmental awareness, preservation, conservation and positive attitudes towards the use of the outdoor environment
- 7 To act in an advisory capacity to community, government and non-government agencies

The Outdoor Educators' Association of South Australia

supports these national ethical guidelines for outdoor educators:

- The Outdoor Educator will fulfil his or her duty of care
- The Outdoor Educator will provide a supportive and appropriate learning environment
- The Outdoor Educator will develop his or her professionalism
- The Outdoor Educator will ensure his or her practice is culturally and environmentally sensitive

OEASA Committee 2008-2009

Chair: Mike Meredith

Treasurer: Phil Noble

Secretary: Nick Hartog

Assistant Secretary: Libby Robertson

Editor and webmaster: Peter Carter

Sub-Editors: Wayne Hooper, Clay Hunter

Committee: Scott Polley, Peter Kellett, Cath Jenner, Dale

Hobbs, Andrew Govan, Mick Dennis, Julie Engelhardt,

Kim Wood, Nick Glover, Darryl Spencer, Meridee

Shearing, Danielle Meuring



Chairman's report

...continued

sponsored two new awards for the presentation dinner, namely for an outstanding Outdoor Organisation and for Individual/group promoting participation in OED. We are planning to run the 2008 outdoor conference as a joint venture.

- We have maintained membership of CEASA and participated in meetings on teacher professional standards which may be pursued at a national level.
- A meeting was held with Barry Hayden from DEH/NP&W regards issues in park management. Agreement to continue this association discussing aspects of mutual interest.
- OEASA representative participated in the Service Skills Australia review of Outdoor Recreation Industry Awards, Certificate to Diploma.
- The 15th National Outdoor Education Conference was run by VOEA (including a National Risk Management conference) at Ballarat with a good representation from SA in attendance. Three of our members Wayne and Libby and Dale Hobbs presented at the conference giving inspirational sessions. Well done.
- A Risk Forum was held on 19 October 2007 at Hindmarsh, attended by 18 people at EDC Hindmarsh.
- OEASA had sent a letter to the Minister for Rec and Sport as well as other Ministers including the Premier with regards to the funding situation with BLSA. Ongoing discussions have been held by the board of BLSA and it is hoped that progress is being made.
- Planning has been under way for a state conference 11–12 September 2008.
- OEASA has maintained a healthy financial state and is in a position to maintain, if not improve services, in the short term at least.
- After the success of Adelaide adventurer Duncan Chessell speaking at the 2007 AGM we have organised for Phil Noble to present on his trip to Kakoda following this year's AGM.

We saw with great sadness the passing away of one our longstanding and active environmentalists, life member Kris Mosher. Her passing from this world was a sad loss to many who have known her over the years and whilst her illness was longstanding it did not make the loss any easier.

We also see Kerry Houston moving on to work in America and Brazil, and thank her for the support she has given the Association over the years, and of course wish her every success with her new enterprise.

Another move in the outdoor community has been the resignation of Mark Dingle from VOEA as executive officer. Mark has been a driving force and inspiration in the development of the OEA and has provided great energy and objectivity to discussions. His great efforts must be acknowledged and he will be missed. We wish him all the best in his future

I would like to thank our many sponsors for the valuable support they have given us: including Paddy Pallins for their considerable help taking bookings for the presentation dinner, which is a much-appreciated job, and also for their donation of items for the Raffle. Wilderness Escape and Corporate Venture Recharge for their very generous donations as well as Snowies Outdoors, Columbia, Scout Outdoor Centre, Mountain Design, Vertical Reality, Anaconda and Mission Kayaking for their donations of gear for the presentation dinner, and Griffin wines for the door prizes. Please show your support for these organisations with your patronage and help repay some of their great support. I would also like to thank the support given by Prince Alfred College, Uni SA and Satisfac.

In summary, I would like to once again thank the committee on behalf of the members for its efforts throughout the year and our many sponsors and people who have helped out.

I look forward to another exciting year with another presentation dinner on the way, a state conference and the OEA—Network of OED associations moving toward an incorporated body, and of course the opportunity for further professional development opportunities for OEASA members.

It is as always a pleasure to be of service.

Yours in the outdoors.



Memberships due for 2008

We are reviewing our membership list and those who have not renewed their membership over the last few years will be removed from the database and thus will not receive information from OEASA in the future.

You are invited to renew your membership for 2008 by post to the treasurer Phil Noble (membership form on the back page) or in person at the AGM.

We regularly use e-mail to provide information to members between newsletters, so an e-mail address is desirable.

Important dates for 2008

Committee meetings: Friday 23 May, Friday 15 August, Friday 5 December. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm, at venues to be advised

Presentation Dinner: Friday 13 June 6:30 pm, at Sturt Football Club

State conference: Thursday 11–Friday 12 September, at Hindmarsh EDC

Outdoor News deadlines: second to last week of school term.

Send items to either Peter Carter <pcarter@acslink.net.au> or Wayne Hooper <Waynelib@bigpond.com>

Minutes of the 2008 OEASA AGM

Held at the Hindmarsh Education Development Centre, 14 March 2008, starting at 6pm

Attendance

Present: Mike Meredith, Wayne Hooper, Libby Robertson, Phil Noble, Daryl Spencer, Nick Hartog, Liz Liebing, Rob Hogan, Peter Carter, Meridee Shearing, Danielle Meuring.

Apologies: Scott Polley, Dale Hobbs, Grant Henwood, Belinda Biesegel, Kim Wood, Peter Kellett, Nick Glover, Clay Hunter, Nerilee Flint.

1 Minutes of the 2007 AGM

The minutes were read and confirmed: Moved Wayne Hooper seconded Rob Hogan

2 Chairperson's report

Mike Meredith gave the chairperson's report, indicating the achievements of OEASA during the past year. (See elsewhere in this issue)

3 Treasurer's Report

Phil Noble presented the report (elsewhere in this issue)

Accepted: moved Libby Robertson, seconded Meridee Shearing

A vote of thanks was given to Phil for his good work as Treasurer, keeping up to date with the membership and the newsletter distribution.

4 Election of Officers

	Nominated	Seconded
Chairman: Mike Meredith	Wayne Hooper	Liz Liebing
Treasurer: Phil Noble	Mike Meredith	Rob Hogan
Secretary: Nick Hartog	Libby Robertson	Wayne Hooper
Assistant Secretary: Libby Robertson	Phil Noble	Nick Hartog
Sub-editor: Clay Hunter	Wayne Hooper	Libby Robertson
Assistant sub-editor: Wayne Hooper	appointed	
Editor and webmaster: Peter Carter	appointed	

Committee: Scott Polley, Peter Kellett, Cath Jenner, Dale Hobbs, Andrew Govan, Mick Dennis, Julie Engelhardt, Kim Wood, Nick Glover, Darryl Spencer, Meridee Shearing, Danielle Meuring

Rec SA rep: Mike Meredith

CEASA rep: Libby Robertson

OEA network reps: Mike Meredith, Wayne Hooper Moved Nick Hartog, seconded Daryl Spencer

(Late nomination Peter Kellett ratified by the executive)

5 OEA

A paper is being developed for discussion for OEA to be incorporated. There are issues about funding, and who gets what from national Conferences.

Rob Hogan asked where it is to be incorporated because costs and rules vary between states. It is needed to protect board representatives.

There was a question whether OEASA is officially tax exempt. Phil will confirm what we have to do.

6 Outdoor News

Deadline for next edition is April 18. Must make sure that the nominations for presentation dinner and expression of interest to present at the next State Conference are in before then. Phil is looking at whether printing can be done more cheaply through PAC.

7 2008 Major Events

Committee meetings 6:30 pm Friday 8 February venue TBC

Friday 23 May, Friday 15 August, Friday 5 December (end of year drinks)

Suggested committee meetings begin at 7 pm to allow people back from camps time to get there

AGM and Speaker: Friday 14 March

Presentation Dinner: Friday 13 June 6:30 for 7 pm start at Sturt Football Club

State Conference at Hindmarsh Education Development Centre:

Thursday 11 September: Evening dinner, speaker, sessions

Friday 12 September: day sessions

8 AOB

New membership fee for students be \$20. They would get newsletter and emails but no Journal: moved Mike Meredith seconded Phil Noble

Scott Polley suggested another award be given in memory of Kris Mosher for Services to the environment: seconded Wayne Hooper, unanimously accepted

Next AGM will be in March 2009



OEASA Financial report 1/1/2007-1/1/2008

Balance brought forward from 31/12/2006 \$25,907.02

Balance at 31/12/2007 \$24,930.08

Income

Bank Interest	\$402.98
Award Dinner	\$2,840
Auction	\$1,460
Membership Individual(19)	\$1,140
Membership Student (1)	\$45
Membership Family (5)	\$350
Membership School (30)	\$2,100
Membership Corporate (5)	\$350
Membership Organisation (5)	\$350
Membership Award Winners(13)	0
Membership Complementary (13)	0
Membership Life Members (6)	\$250
Meetings	\$565
Miscellaneous	\$30
Total	\$9,882.98

Expenditure

Government Bank Charges	\$350.15
Newsletter: Editing	\$428.75
Newsletter: Printing	\$935
Postage & Stationery	\$1,241.05
Membership (CEASA, OEA)	\$143
Public Liability Insurance	\$163.95
Award Dinner	\$3,779
Conference	\$543.37
Journals	\$2,312.50
Meetings	\$957.35
Miscellaneous	\$5.80
Total	\$10,859.92

Summary

Total Income	\$9,882.98
Less Total Expenditure	\$10,859.92
Loss	-\$976.94

Association funds at the end of 2007 year stand at \$24,930.08

Members 2007: 97

Phil Noble

OEASA Treasurer

Recreation SA Awards

Recreation SA has undergone many changes in the 2007. RSA developed a new strategic and marketing plan to take us to 2009 and part of those plans is to form stronger relationships with other industry bodies, recognise best practice and or excellence in the outdoor, community and fitness industries.

As part of this commitment we make available two Awards to be presented at the OEASA Presentation Night.

The Award for Encouraging Participation in Outdoor Recreation

The recipient of this Award will have achieved significant success in encouraging participation through innovative program development and/or marketing.

Nominees for this Award may include organisations or individuals who have facilitated increased participation in outdoor recreation for either the general population or specific client groups through one or more of the following:

- a innovative program design to attract a broader client group
- b program modification to target a selective client group
- c the marketing of their programs
- d effective program delivery.

In developing the nomination, the following questions should be considered:

- 1 What are the specific achievements that would set the individual/organisation above all others in this category?
- 2 What are the positive outcomes resulting from the nominee's initiatives within this category and the significance of the increased participation?
- 3 How do the nominee's actions and achievements benefit the organisation and/or the greater outdoor community?

4 What can others learn from these innovative initiatives implemented by the nominee?

The Award for Outstanding Achievement (Organisation)

This category is open to clubs, organisations and enterprises who can be characterised as possessing professionalism and high standards of conduct, that have made a valuable contribution to the outdoor community at large.

The Awardee will set themselves apart through their dedication to best practice and high standards in the delivery of outdoor recreation.

Nominees for this Award may have demonstrated excellence:

- a by providing a contribution which has achieved significant outcomes, or
- b by displaying dedication and commitment to the broader Outdoor Recreation community over and above what their role requires.

In developing the nomination, the following questions should be considered:

- 1 What is the significance of the nominee's professionalism and outstanding achievement to the broader outdoor recreation industry?
- 2 Why does this nominee stand out above all other candidates as the industry's top achiever?

Members are encouraged to submit nominations for these Awards to Libby Robertson: libby.robertson@unisa.edu.au



State Outdoor Conference 11, 12 September 2008

OEASA and RECSA have combined forces to present the 2008 State Outdoor Conference at the Education Development Centre Hindmarsh 11, 12 September 2008.

Running over the evening of Thursday 11 and Friday 12 of September, it is hoped the conference will offer a wide variety of presentations on Education, Recreation and Adventure in the great outdoors. The three strands of education, recreation and adventure are planned to run throughout each session offering everyone who attends something of interest with a choice in each session. Presentations should reflect the diversity of the outdoor community and offer insight into activities, programs and research within the three strands.

Anaconda has agreed to be the major sponsor and we are looking forward to their partnership. We are still looking for other minor sponsors who can help out with components of the conference, so if any organisations are interested in being involved, please speak to one of the OEASA committee members.

The next edition of *Outdoor News* will contain up to date information on the conference as well as the OEASA Web site which will be updated with conference details as they become available. Please set the dates aside so we can make this combined conference a very successful opportunity to network and gain professional insight into the various fields of the Outdoor Community.

If you would like to receive email or mail out updates please ensure you are on the OEASA or RECSA mailing lists. To check or add your details contact one of the following:

Mike Meredith, (08) 8269 5693 or mimeredith@esc.net.au
Rosemary Sage, (08) 8232 6477 or recca@tpg.com.au

Presenting at the 2008 State Outdoor Conference

Expressions of interest are sought from individuals, groups or organisations to present at the 2008 State Conference. Teachers, educators, recreation leaders, outdoor facilitators, adventurers and others involved in

SA Youth Environment Conference

The 2008 SA Youth Environment Conference, 'One life, One world, Our future', is the culmination of a process that involves students working with expert mentors for many months prior to the event, and results in children who are motivated, have high self esteem and respect for others.

Using the Kids Teaching Kids model, the 2008 SA Youth Environment Conference will provide students with skills in environmental education, but more importantly it will build students who are optimistic, have a sense of future, are capable public speakers and can communicate ideas in many different forms.

The process is about promoting Kids Teaching Kids as the



the outdoor community are asked to consider presenting at the conference. If you have an outdoor program, theme, area of expertise, research or activity that you could share with others then we would be interested in hearing from you.

The three general strands of the conference are Education, Recreation and Adventure. Within these major strands are opportunities to present on many areas of interest to others, e.g. environmental, indigenous, special programs, methodology, youth at risk, fitness and health, adventure tourism, land use conflicts, leadership programs, ecology, ecological footprints, interest group forums, risk management, outdoor equipment, outdoor activities, research findings, etc. Please submit on the Presenters Expression of Interest sheet in this edition of the *Outdoor News* or visit the OEASA Web site to obtain a form. These need to be submitted by 4 July to either Mike Meredith or Rosemary Sage.

Pre- and post-conference activities

Expressions of interest are also called for groups or organisations interested in conducting pre- or post-conference activities. Organisations would have a good opportunity to advertise through the Conference for participants to join activities, courses or 'come and try' activities conducted by your organisation. Ideally these could be conducted after the conference on the Saturday or Sunday but could also include the days before. Participants would be expected to book and pay separately for these sessions although this could be negotiated with the organising committee depending on the nature of the activity.

If you are interested in offering a pre- or post-conference session please contact either Mike Meredith or Rosemary Sage.



highest form of learning and aiming for a cultural change in the way our natural environment is viewed, used and perceived.

The event is less about a conference and more about a lasting commitment to our youth and the sustainable use of land, freshwater, air, biodiversity, marine and coastal resources and environment.

Dates and venue: 28, 29 July, Shores Function Centre, West Beach

Visit the Web site at www.onelifeoneworldourfuture.com/ (via the Kids Teaching Kids and Conferences links) for information and registration details.



Active Australians Outdoors

A National Summit facilitated by the Outdoor Council of Australia

Dear Industry Colleague,

Outdoor adventure activities are a consideration within many Federal and State Government portfolio areas (e.g. conservation/land management, education, sport and recreation, tourism, health, youth, communities), yet regrettably for such a critical component of everyday life, there is little recognition of the role of these activities as an essential component of the Australian lifestyle and cultural identity. As a consequence of the disparate nature of the organisations involved in the provision of outdoor adventure activities, there is limited opportunity to present as 'one voice' to ensure that outdoor adventure activities are recognised and valued as a significant contributor, providing educational, social, economic, physical and psychological benefits and a potential solution to some of society's current issues such as childhood obesity.

Further to our initial correspondence in 2006 regarding the concept of a Summit, the Outdoor Council of Australia (OCA) is now inviting the involvement of outdoor adventure organisations, enterprises and associations in a National Outdoor Summit to initiate dialogue with the new Federal Government. If we do not present a united front with compelling arguments, the issues confronted by all those that participate in and/or lead outdoor activities, either for recreation, education, tourism or personal and team development will continue to be ignored. The National Outdoor Summit is proposed to provide government, private and community-based organisations with an opportunity to engage in the dialogue required to ensure the necessary facilities, access and resources are available to enable outdoor adventure activities to remain as a valued and sustainable part of Australia's cultural identity.

The OCA, in conjunction with a number of state and national organisations, has recently commissioned the Australian Outdoor Adventure Activity Benefits Catalogue project that will identify evidence-based research that recognises the value of outdoor adventure activities and quantifies their benefit (either from a health, community, educational, environmental, personal development and/or tourism perspective). The OCA will build upon this research to develop a Discussion Paper (due for distribution in May 2008) that will detail current and emerging trends, issues and policies relevant to outdoor adventure activities. At the National Outdoor Summit, the Discussion Paper will contribute to the identification of possible solutions, a plan of action for a national agenda and, ultimately, the development of a National Outdoor Strategy.

For sale

Garmin GPS 72 Personal Navigator, with documentation and data (serial) cable: \$200.

Peter Carter 8443 4298, <pcarter@acslink.net.au>

The National Outdoor Summit will be held at Riverglenn Conference Centre, Brisbane, on Friday 8 and Saturday 9 August 2008. Hosted and facilitated by the OCA, this Summit is a user funded summit as the OCA has been unable to source financial sponsorship for the Summit. The cost per attendee is \$125 (as a contribution to room hire and catering). Accommodation is available at the venue for \$60 per person; information about the venue and its facilities is available at www.riverglenn.com.au.

Invitees to the Summit include:

- Two representatives from each relevant national organisation
- Directors and managers from relevant Federal Government Departments (e.g. Health, Environment, Education, Tourism)
- Directors and Managers from relevant State/territory Government Departments (e.g. Sport and Recreation, Health, Environment/Parks, Tourism).

This Summit will provide an unprecedented opportunity for networking and dialogue between community groups, national activity organisations and Government representatives at State and Federal levels. It will allow for the establishment of a framework for continued consultation, engagement and development across the full range of traditional and emerging outdoor adventure pursuits.

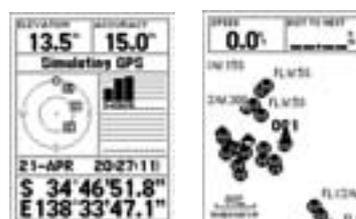
We look forward to your attendance at and input into the Summit. Further details and registration will be available on the OCA Web site (www.outdoorcouncil.asn.au) after Easter. This correspondence is intended as an initial 'heads up' and further detail, as well as the draft Discussion Paper, will be sent over the coming months. As you will appreciate, maintaining updated contact details of organisations is an ongoing process and we would appreciate being notified of any changes to the current contact details for your organisation. In the future, we would prefer to correspond with your organisation via email so current email addresses of relevant personnel would be appreciated.

I look forward to working with you as we progress towards the Summit.

Yours sincerely

Kathy Kingsford
President
Outdoor Council of Australia

OEA is expecting to send delegates, and Mike Meredith is planning to attend.



Annual Presentation Night and Dinner

June 13, Sturt Football club, Oxford Terrace, Unley, 6:30pm for 7:00pm

Cost: Buffet meal \$25 members, \$30 non members, students \$20, payable by 10 June

Late fee: \$35

Bookings: Paddy Pallin, 228 Rundle Street Adelaide, 8232 3155

An opportunity for the whole Outdoor Education community to get together and celebrate the achievements of those who have excelled at Primary, Secondary, TAFE or University level in the past year.

We also honour those who have achieved leadership awards in bushwalking, canoeing, sailing and rockclimbing. OEASA sponsors an Award for Service to Outdoor Education. Jim Murphy and Anthea Shem have received this Award. This year we have a new Award, the Kris Mosher Environmental Education Award. RecreationSA sponsors two Awards, one for an individual who has made a significant contribution to Outdoor Education/ Recreation and the other for an organisation. Last year David Mallet/Margaret Stuart received the individual award and Westminster School the Organisation Award.

From time to time OEASA recognises outstanding service by awarding Life Membership. Current Life Members are Rob Easther, Rob Hogan, Liz Liebing, Rosie Brink, Wayne Hooper, Kris Mosher, Scott Polley, Peter Kellett, Mike Meredith, and Libby Robertson.

We invite members to nominate anyone in the Outdoor Education field who they believe is worthy in the above categories.

Nominate, addressing the criteria, to Mike Meredith, mimeredith@esc.net.au or post to 37 Burwood Avenue Nailsworth 5083 by 20 May (proforma on later page)

OEASA awards criteria

OEASA Awards are presented annually at the Certification Presentation Dinner.

The following awards may be approved by the OEASA committee, following submission of an application for selection of an appropriate award.

The application should state:

- 1 Candidate's full name, address, phone number and email if applicable
- 2 Nominee(s) full name, address, phone number, fax number, email and institution(s) they are associated with
- 3 The Award that the candidate is being nominated for.

Conditions

- 1 One candidate nomination per application
- 2 Nominee may nominate multiple candidates
- 3 The nominee does not need to be an OEASA member
- 4 The decision to accept the nominee(s) recommendation lies with the OEASA committee
- 5 Successful awardees will be advised by OEASA, and invited to attend the certificate presentation dinner
- 6 Awards may not be awarded in all categories every year.



Awards

- 1 A certificate will be issued by OEASA, signed by the chair, bearing the OEASA logo
- 2 The award will be posted out to candidates who are unable to attend the certificate presentation dinner
- 3 Awardees will be provided with state OEASA membership for 12 months
- 4 Mark Auricht Award, Tertiary Award and Kris Mosher Award students will be offered membership to the Australian Outdoor Education body, including receipt of the national journal
- 5 Mark Auricht Award, Tertiary Award and Kris Mosher Award will be provided with a small prize
- 6 All awardees and their friends and family are invited to attend the OEASA Certificate Presentation Dinner, at OEASA member rates
- 7 The committee may from time to time provide awardees with limited means financial assistance to attend
- 8 The OEASA tertiary award will also be recognised by UniSA Alumni in the graduation ceremony
- 9 All senior secondary, tertiary and professional awardees will be invited to join the OEASA committee.

Categories

1 Student:

a Primary Education

Open nomination, including teachers, principals, volunteers and others.

- i Significant application to outdoor or environmental education
- ii Involvement in outdoor journeys and/or environmental action
- iii Role model for other primary outdoor or environmental education students.

b Secondary Education (Stage 2 Outdoor and Environmental Studies or Outdoor Education)

Nominated by teachers of Stage 2 Outdoor and Environmental Studies or Outdoor Education

- i Achieves a result of 20 (pre-scaling) for Stage 2 Outdoor and Environmental Studies or Outdoor Education
- ii Demonstrates application to outdoor journeys and/or environmental action
- iii Is a role model for other Outdoor Education students.

c Mark Auricht Award

Nominated by the SSABSA Chief Moderator, Outdoor and Environmental Studies.

- i Achieves the highest mark for Stage 2 Outdoor and Environmental Studies
- ii Demonstrates application to outdoor journeys and/or environmental action
- iii Is a role model for other Outdoor Education students.

d VET/TAFE Outdoor Recreation award

Nominated by the Program Director, Diploma of Outdoor Recreation.

- i Achieves a high academic standing within the Diploma of Outdoor Recreation
- ii Demonstrates application to outdoor journeys and/or environmental action
- iii Is a role model for other Outdoor Recreation students.

e Tertiary Outdoor Education Award

Nominated by the Outdoor Education study stream coordinator.

- i Achieves a high academic standing within studies of Outdoor Education
- ii Demonstrates application to outdoor journeys and/or environmental action
- iii Is a role model for other Outdoor Education students.

f Certificate of Merit in Outdoor Education (all students)

Open nomination, including teachers, principals, volunteers and others.

- i Demonstrates a high level of application to Outdoor Education studies
- ii Demonstrates application to outdoor journeys and/or environmental action
- iii Is a role model for other Outdoor Education students.

2. Professionals and Volunteers

a Service to Outdoor Education

- i Demonstrates significant and sustained application to the provision and improvement of Outdoor Education and/or Outdoor Recreation
- ii Demonstrates significant and sustained impact on the provision, quality or development of Outdoor Education in South Australia
- iii Is a role model for other Outdoor Education/ Outdoor Recreation/ Environmental Education professionals or volunteers.

b Krish Mosher Environmental Education Award

- i Demonstrates significant and sustained contributions to Environmental Education and/or Earth Education and/or Environmental Action
- ii Demonstrates significant and sustained impact on the provision, quality or development of Environmental Education and/or Earth Education and/or Environmental Action
- iii Is a role model for other Environmental Education and/or Earth Education and/or Environmental professionals or volunteers.

3 OEASA Life Member

- i Demonstrates significant and sustained service to the Outdoor Educators Association of South Australia
- ii Is a role model for other Outdoor Education/ Outdoor Recreation/ Environmental Education volunteers or professionals.

People

Kerry Houston

Hello to all,

Well, some of you may have heard by now that I have decided to jump at an opportunity in America and Brazil.

The last ten years, working with Outdoor Adventure Skills & Rock About, have seen me take a journey that I could not have done working with any other company. I have experienced much, learnt a life time, visited destinations around the world and met people that I will call friends for the rest of my life. My thanks go out to every one of you, thank you all for your help, support and friendship over this time. I am confident that I leave behind an infrastructure that will continue to have strong growth along with the people involved. I look forward to the changed, but continuing relationship with OAS & RA.

Thank you all, for the Journey. It has been and an unforgettable adventure that has shaped who I am and how I will behave for the rest of my life. I value and trust that I have had my parachute packed by friends.

As of Saturday 1 March 2008, Daryl Spencer becomes the new owner of Outdoor Adventure Skills & Rock About.

We (Wayne Hooper, Libby Robertson, Mike Meredith) wish Kerry the best of luck in her new venture. She was the top student in SACE Outdoor Education in its first year. (It wasn't called SACE then and OEASA didn't give out awards!) She has been a generous supporter of OEASA over many years and has made a significant contribution in kayaking, rock climbing, ropes courses and developed the concept of a mobile climbing wall in SA.

Above all we will miss her bubbly personality, professional approach and creativity.

Heather Miller

Heather is moving on after 9 ½ years at Port Augusta Aquatics and Outdoor Adventure Centre.

Under Heather's guidance PAAOAC has provided excellent programs in aquatics, bushwalking and rock climbing for many students. The Training and Development Week for leaders offered by the Centre in the October school holidays holidays has been a valuable service to the Outdoor Education community. We wish Heather well in her future ventures. The new Centre Manager is Jeff Bowey.

Mark Dingle

After almost five years of dedicated service, VOA Executive Officer Mark Dingle has moved to a new role at Marine Safety Victoria.

OEASA has passed on our best wishes to Mark. He has worked tirelessly to raise the profile of Outdoor Education both nationally and in Victoria. He is a tireless worker and was the driving force behind the formation of Outdoor Education Australia. He has been instrumental in developing strong ties between OEASA and VOA.

News from SAREA

The year 2007 saw a number of SAREA top rope instructor graduates, a rescue seminar, but no courses. Courses will commence again in 2008, and full details can be found on the SAREA Web site, supported by the Climbing Club of South Australia <www.climbingclub-southaustralia.asn.au/sarea.html>

Upcoming Events

Monday 5 May: Rock Climbing Instructor Information Evening

This evening will be held at Regency TAFE and is a general information evening about the processes and opportunities of becoming a rock climbing instructor. There will be presentations by Regency TAFE, SAREA, the Australian Climbing Instructors Association (ACIA), and other providers of training. In addition, employers, schools and other groups able to provide experiences and employment will be invited to attend.

Monday 21 July: Top Rope Instructor Course commences

This semester-long course commences, with a full list of dates on the SAREA Web site. Costs are yet to be finalised, but are expected to be around \$750 for the full course and assessment.

Application Procedure for SAREA Rock Climbing Instructor Program

- 1 Attend Rock Climbing Instructor Information evening. 2008 Information Evening: May 5. 6–9pm @ Regency TAFE, Sport and Recreation.
- 2 Complete a SAREA log book of experience, demonstrating experience and skills at least to Assistant Rock Climbing Instructor level.
Log book to be submitted to SAREA at PO Box 601 North Adelaide 5001 by May 30. Excel spreadsheet format preferred.
Candidates will need to enclose a cheque to SAREA for \$50. This fee to be refunded if candidate unsuccessful.
- 3 Applications will be processed at the June AA Panel and Board Meeting. Applicants will be notified as soon as practical following the meeting.
- 4 SAREA Seminars and Assessment program begins July and concludes in November.

Current Assessors

SAREA currently has a small group of dedicated assessors who are active in assessment and training. They are Darren Williams, Duncan Chessell, Tim Catherwood, Peter Daish, Scott Polley and David Trehearne. Tim Gill is on leave to Antarctica.

Trainee Assessors 2008

A new group of highly motivated top level instructors have commenced training to become assessors. SAREA would like to officially welcome the newest members to the AA Panel. They are Nic Van Buuren, Neil Turner, Greg Rolton, Sally Michelmore, Nick Hartog, Tyson Gilbert, Duncan Henderson, Bec Salvado,

Ben Williamson, Jo Link, Ben Taylor, Jarrod Searcy, Ross Powell, Michael Caruana, Martin Donelley and Stephen Carter. Adam Saffin and Wally Olenich continue their training from previous years. These trainee assessors have a rigorous program of theory (Workplace Trainer and Assessor) and practical prior to recognition as an assessor. The process takes 12 months to two years, and it is a credit to these folk that they have accepted the challenge and thankless nature of this role!



Guidelines for use of Morialta and Onkaparinga for rockclimbing instruction

In 2006, the guidelines for instruction on DEH managed land changed. Permits are no longer required, and the responsibility for ensuring that Instructors have adequate training, accreditation and insurance now becomes the responsibility of the agencies that conduct activities in the park. This is to reduce DEH's exposure to litigation.

The latest word from Michael Kidd regarding the actions that DEH would like to see happen for groups conducting rockclimbing instruction in Morialta and Onkaparinga is:

Morialta

"We are trying to encourage people in groups who are wanting to climb in Morialta to contact the District office and leave their details, date, time, group size, contact details and location. This information is mostly so we know what is happening in the area and when if there is an emergency then we can contact someone. We also book this into a diary, so if there are other groups we can let them know, and they might change the area or date depending upon what is happening."

Onkaparinga

"For a group to use Onka they need to contact the Southern Lofty District Office and get themselves marked in the diary to ensure no double bookings. We also like to see public liability insurance and a training certification if it is a training group."

So basically, each office would prefer groups to contact the office beforehand and book in.

Contact details for the offices

Northern Lofty District Office (for Morialta):
(08) 8336 0924

Southern Lofty District Office (for Onkaparinga):
(08) 8339 2444



Insurance for climbers

I am writing to you with a proposition from the Australian Climbing Association. As you know, the ACA is a non-profit climbing organisation with a focus at a national level.

To get to the point, international travel insurance that covers climbing is not available locally to climbers in Australia. The reality is that insurance is a numbers game, and it requires a certain population to sustain it. But we think it can be done—if we can get the wider climbing community to support it.

The ACA has been working with a local insurer, Insure4Less, to develop a policy for Australian climbers, which is now available and already insuring climbers. But for the policy to be commercially viable the insurers need to achieve a certain number of policies. Accordingly, I would like to invite your members to use the service.

As incentive we have negotiated with Insure4Less to give a 10% discount to members of climbing clubs. Our preferred mechanism for this to happen is via an affiliate membership agreement. With such an agreement in place between our clubs, your members become de-facto members of our association, entitled to some benefits and discounts.

Insurance is one part of a wider effort by the ACA. There are more initiatives underway. For example, Adam Donoghue is in the process of transferring the Australian Climbing Festival to the ACA, in the interests of keeping it alive for the community. Accordingly, Lee Cossey and Amanda Watts have been contracted to run the 2009 festival, and planning is well under way. If you support us, we can support and build on these kinds of initiatives.

In regard to insurance, by accepting affiliate membership, you are indicating that insurance discounts are provided via the ACA. There is no financial agreement here, the ACA doesn't handle one cent of money, nor does any member of the ACA have any financial interest in insurance.

Some people will view affiliate membership as a 'threat to local sovereignty'. But, with an affiliate agreement in place there is no threat of cannibalisation. The reality is that we see strong relationships with local clubs as being fundamentally important to a national approach. As the ACA develops we hope we can strengthen that relationship.

Of course, you are free to sidestep the ACA and go directly to Insure4Less. However, to do this would a) cloud any useful data that we might gather, and b) dilute any bargaining power that climbers might possess. In the future the discount may be much more. In any case, all climbers are welcome to buy insurance through Insure4Less without being a member.

So there it is. I trust you will present this to the committee for their consideration. I look forward to hearing your response.

In the meantime, your members are immediately free to use the insurance discount with Insure4Less, simply by entering ACA in the discount box. I encourage you to let them know about it ASAP.

Cheers,

Kyle Dunsire

Secretary, Australian Climbing Association.



Wilderness under threat as visitors stay indoors

Mark Dingle (VOEA News)

Educators who have spent any length of time working with young people in the outdoors may have noticed a diminishing degree of confidence their students bring to outdoor experience. *The Guardian* newspaper reported recently on research that may point to some reasons behind this: www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/feb/05/conservation.

The research compared records of visits to dozens of national parks, state parks and other public land across the US, Japan and Spain combined with analysis of US licence applications to hunt deer, fish and shoot ducks, as well as surveys on the popularity of outdoor pursuits such as camping and hiking.

The researchers said: "All major lines of evidence point to a general and fundamental shift away from people's participation in nature-based recreation. The cultural shift away from nature recreation appears to extend outside of the US, to at least Japan, and the decline appears to have begun 1981-1991. The root cause may be videophilia [a preference for indoor media activities]."

They say the findings could represent a general shift

away from interest in nature, and that "if this is the case, it is of enormous importance". The report authors say contact with the environment produces more eco-friendly behaviour and people must be exposed to nature as children if they are to care about it as adults. With fewer adults spending time in the great outdoors, children are less likely to experience it.

They conclude: "Declining nature participation has crucial implications for conservation efforts. We think it probable that any major decline in the value placed on natural areas and experiences will greatly reduce the value people place on biodiversity conservation. Accordingly, it becomes less likely that attempts to raise public awareness of the current biodiversity crisis [will succeed]."

Clearly this research points to the critical importance of outdoor education and the role we as educators can play in connecting young people with the natural environment. We know that the educational benefits of outdoor experiences can be invaluable on a range of levels, and it seems that the long term health of the planet may be helped if we rebuild the connection with nature through outdoor experience.



Bushwalking Leadership SA Update

The following letter was sent to the Training and Assessment panel members of BLSA:

Dear Panel members,

As you might be aware BLSA is experiencing a funding crisis, again. The Office of Recreation & Sport, (ORS), have made it very clear that we will not receive any more than \$5,000 a year and this is only for projects. We are investigating other sources of funding and are also in the process of relocating our office (we give most of our funding back to ORS in rent). Some of our many friends and supporters are also helping us through this tough time and we receive much moral support from the outdoors community in general.

We have been proud to be able to volunteer our services for over 30 years and are firmly committed to maintaining this volunteering foundation for our valued work. Because of our strong volunteering beliefs we ask you to also support us by continuing to volunteer your services as a Training Assessment and Advisor Panel member. We are immensely thankful for your past support over the years, which have been many for most of you. We are very aware though that it is difficult to continue volunteering your expertise, time, money and good will and we, as the Board, don't take you for granted.

We have agonised and beat ourselves up over our predicament but we have all arrived at the same conclusion. We don't want to see BLSA die and we are firmly in favour of a continuing our volunteering tradition. As such we have renewed our commitment as the Board to continue volunteering our time and effort and try to maintain our services at as cheap a rate as possible for the service we offer to the community.

This is why we are writing to you, now that we have a much clearer understanding of our position, to ask for

your support. As with all management processes we must take stock of our resources and count the raised hands in support, so could you please write back to us, email us, phone one of us or send us a carrier pigeon to let us know if you will support us. Attached is a list of Board members and their email contacts.

For those of you who are worn out by the years of support we again thank you and we understand if you can no longer offer your services. You can be proud of your part in what we have achieved over the years.

We will be having a normal TAA meeting on 7 May where you can also let us know if you can continue your support. It will be a meeting where we can answer questions (even the hard ones) and especially make some plans for our continued functioning, to which your input will be invaluable. For those that cannot continue with your support, we welcome you to this meeting so we can thank you in person and say goodbye.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Gordon Begg, Chairman

And the rest of the Board:

Gordon Begg Chairman gordon_begg@hotmail.com

Scott Polley Scott.Polley@unisa.edu.au

Daniel Barry daniel.barry@tafesa.edu.au

Dave Rawson daverawson@ozemail.com.au

Peter Kellett peter.kellett@unisa.edu.au

Andrew Govan andrew@wildernessescape.com.au

David Lloyd-Wright dll95926@bigpond.net.au

Gordon Lehmann gordon.lehmann@internode.on.net

There has been a positive meeting with Walking SA who are supportive of the role of BLSA. OEASA has agreed to provide financial support to BLSA so that it can continue to function while alternative funding is being explored. 

Useful Resources

Indigenous Australians theme page

In support of the Apology to the Stolen Generations, www.edna.edu.au has updated the Indigenous Australians theme page. It contains information about Indigenous history, culture, reconciliation and also has links to relevant study guides.

International Polar Year

Amazingly, it is also International Polar Year, though this goes from 2007 to 2009! Although it is coordinated from USA, there are many activities for students and teachers all around the world. In particular Global POP—an investigation of environmental pollutants in fish worldwide, and Seasons & Biomes Project—an opportunity to conduct scientific inquiries on seasonal change in their local environments. There are also educational pages with fact sheets available: www.ipy.org.

Antarctica

www.theage.com.au/multimedia/newiceage/start.html

This site provides access to Jo Chandler's look at life at Casey Station.

Of more interest are the videos about the Australian Antarctic Division: details of air travel to Casey, shortening travel time to five hours for scientists. Information on Logistics, Policy (Antarctic Treaty) and Science

Antarctic Treaty

www.antarctica.ac.uk/about_antarctica/geopolitical/treaty/

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antarctic_Treaty_System

www.coolantarctica.com/Antarctica%20fact%20file/science/antarctic_treaty_summary.htm

Hazard 66 Spring 2007 Injury in Snow and Ice Sports

An excellent report: www.monash.edu.au

Free Climate Change Kit

Go to this ACF site to get your free climate change kit. It includes an Inconvenient Truth booklet among other things and ideas: www.acfonline.org.au

Reviews

Reconnecting Children through Outdoor Education—A Research Summary

Elise Houghton

'If you care about healthy children, this is a must-read report.

Information alone can never become knowledge, and knowledge never becomes wisdom without some kind of rooting in the good soil of experience.'

James Raffan, quoted in *Reconnecting Children*

Author Richard Louv did the thing that coining a marvelously succinct new phrase can do when he invented the term 'nature deficit disorder'. With those three words he made his American and Canadian readerships realise that contact with nature is something that people—and specifically children—need. That human beings are a part—not just interested observers—of the natural world. And that having no contact with nature is a real deficit in one's life.

Jolted into a new concern for the health risks—physical, psychological and emotional—that being predominantly 'indoor children' can pose, Americans responded to Louv's nature deficit disorder idea with the rallying cry, 'No child left inside.' (See www.kidsoutside.org) Getting kids outdoors suddenly became a national project. Louv himself established the Children and Nature Network (www.cnaturenet.org) to help build a movement that would reconnect children with the out of doors. It's a real comment on the kind of society we've created when we need a movement to get children to go outdoors.

Here in Ontario, outdoor education has been losing funding and centres. This erosion in a once well-funded field has led outdoor educators to re-think their position and respond in some creative new ways. One of these responses was the compiling of an invaluable research summary that makes the case (since there is now clearly a need for making a case) for ensuring the current and future generations of kids are given time outdoors.

The Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario (COEO) has produced a visually forceful, and intellectually and emotionally compelling document that summarizes the best research on the benefits to children of outdoor and experiential education (OEE). Authored by Andrea Foster and COEO past president Grant Linney, *Reconnecting Children Through Outdoor Education* reminds us that children thrive in outdoor settings. The converse of this once-simple truth, is that deprived of time outdoors, they are subject to obesity, increased levels of ADD/ADHD, and other serious health risks.

The report asks a profound question: 'Could it be that, through losing their connectedness with the outdoors, children are becoming disconnected with themselves as well as suffering severe health consequences?'

Disconnection from nature, disconnection from others through increased use of indoor enticements such as video games and television, disconnection from self

given a lack of free outdoor time to explore, to ponder, to stare at the sky, observe life, bugs, clouds, hide under piles of leaves, contemplate the grandeur of the world. Busy parents, often wistfully watching their own children miss out on the simple happy times they remember 'going outside to play', nonetheless feel safer driving children everywhere, and using electronics as both teaching devices and Play Stations. Some see actual competition between time spent gaining computer competence (a marketable work skill) and idle time spent in an unsupervised and possibly unsafe outdoor environment. Both increased (and often unfounded) fears of 'stranger danger', and growing worries about liability have resulted in what Richard Louv has termed 'the criminalisation of natural play'.

The solutions? We need, *Reconnecting Children* tells us, to become 'nature mentors'. We need to find many different ways to give nature back to all of our children. Parents, teachers, community leaders, outdoor educators can all be part of this effort to make outdoor opportunities available, fun, educational, inspiring—and re-connecting, for all children.

Whatever connection you may have to children and the outdoors, there is something in this report for you. It covers an impressively comprehensive range of approaches to outdoor experiences. It begins, as one might expect outdoor educators to do, with curriculum and community, place-based learning, and the many benefits of formalized outdoor education in established centres. But from there, it moves to a fascinating and informative description of the many additional benefits of outdoor learning that may be less top-of-mind, and so serve as eloquent calls for renewed effort in connecting children with nature. Education for wellbeing, education for character, and education for the environment are the headers under which unfurls a marvellous array of outdoor experience's contributions to adventure, physical challenge, independence, confidence, self-assertiveness, emotional and spiritual and emotional well-being, and character-building.

Interpersonal growth is another positive outcome of shared time outdoors, fostering caring, cooperative, action-oriented and informed young people.

Perhaps one of the most compelling attributes of outdoor education to environmental educators is its unique capacity to instil a love of and connection to nature in young people, giving them a kinship with the natural world that will help them become environmental stewards in the future. In addition to outdoor centres and wilderness, outdoor learning today has expanded to new settings, in cities, in parks, and in one-paved school grounds. Nature is everywhere, outdoor educators are telling us, and today's young people must learn to better love, understand and want to protect it, everywhere. They will only have this chance if we make sure that they do.

Ask a child to name ten birds. Then ask him or her to name ten trees. Then ask which ten logos come to mind first.

Then ask, 'What are we teaching our children?'

And read *Reconnecting Children*.

And take a child out into nature.

Elise Houghton is an Environmental Education Consultant/Writer and board member of Environmental Education Ontario. This review was published in the Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario Newsletter and is reprinted with permission.

Aboriginal Australia & the Torres Strait Islands: guide to Indigenous Australia

Wayne Hooper and Libby Robertson

As non-Aboriginal people we do not profess to be experts on Aboriginal issues but we found this book to be a useful tool for researching avenues for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives in education programs. As we believe it is important to acknowledge the rich culture of Aborigines in Australia before colonisation and their role in contemporary society as part of education programs, we recommend this book as a useful resource. The information contained could be used in planning appropriate activities as part of a camping program or to organise excursions highlighting Aboriginal perspectives.

The first 116 pages of the book provide, in an easy to read interesting way, a wealth of information on Aboriginal Culture. In this section Aboriginal history is briefly covered with many of the significant events which have shaped contemporary Aboriginal society highlighted. Throughout this section and the remainder of the book, personal anecdotes, stories and insights into the lives of Aboriginal people enhance the reader's understanding of Aboriginal culture.

There is a short section on protocols and responsibilities of visitors in relation to sensitive Aboriginal Tourism issues. For educators unfamiliar with these issues this section provides valuable information.

The remainder of the book is divided into States and Territories with an introduction outlining the Aboriginal history of the area, including unique aspects of the lifestyle of the people before colonisation and the issues post colonisation. There are maps which highlight the location of the various resources in each area. Information such as interpretative trails, cultural centres, galleries, museums, shops, monuments, places of significance, special events, organised tours, art sites and access to books and pamphlets is comprehensive for each State and Territory.

As we are most familiar with the resources available for incorporating Aboriginal perspectives into education programs in South Australia and the Northern Territory we focussed on those chapters. We found the information comprehensive and accurate and believe it would provide important information for anyone wishing to expose their students to Aboriginal Culture when visiting. For tourists, its main audience, the book would be invaluable, because in our experience, tourist brochures do not necessarily provide this information in an accessible way. The book focuses on the uniqueness of the culture of the language groups in different areas which is pleasing,

because there is much diversity between regions. The extensive explanatory notes for each feature are important to highlight the context for each resource.

We recently had the opportunity to holiday in the Gippsland region of Victoria and so we used the book to research the area. We found it to be a useful tool to explore the Aboriginal culture of the area and although we didn't have the opportunity to visit all the sites indicated, the information proved accurate for those we did access.

We are happy to recommend this book as a useful resource to initiate thinking about possible activities to enhance programs at all levels of education and for tourist operators. The information would be suitable for a superficial look at Aboriginal perspectives but, for more comprehensive information, further research would be required.

Wayne Hooper and Libby Robertson were the founding teachers in a new school in the Pitjanjatjara Lands of far North West South Australia which involved determining the school philosophy by negotiation with the Anangu people. They have also developed Aboriginal Studies programs in a variety of schools.

A Walk Through the Southern Sky: a Guide to Stars and Constellations and their Legends

Shannon Haintz (Parks Victoria)

This book aims to make readers 'feel more at home' and 'go for a friendly walk' with the stars. This is achieved, with a lot of information contained in its four parts. The book is light and would easily fit into a backpack. It would be a good accompaniment to a night walking or camping under the stars.

Beginning with historical information about star gazing and ending with finding planets, the guide book offers a lot in between.

The explanation of how to easily find the distance and location (with your fingers) of stars and constellations is practical, worthwhile and easy to use. Seasonal star maps make up the remainder of Part One and detail in which direction to stand and what you will see at different times of the year.

Part Two details where to find the stars and constellations month by month. The section on legends (Part Three) is comprehensive. Legends are told from all over the world including Australia, Africa, Greece and South America. Some constellations are more popular than others in terms of amount and diversity of legends.

There is a brief description in Part Four of the location of planets (those that can be seen with the naked eye). This is given depth with a comprehensive chart of planet locations throughout the year, found with reference to constellations. *A Walk Through the Southern Sky* is by Milton D Heifetz and Wil Tirion and is a comprehensive guide which enables us to decipher exactly what we are seeing.

VOEA Bookshop

Browse the shop at www.voea.vic.edu.au/shop/.

A Walk Through the Southern Sky: a guide to stars and constellations and their legends, Hilton D Heifetz and Wil Tirion

OEASA Member price: \$24, non-member: \$28

This book aims to make readers 'feel more at home' and 'go for a friendly walk' with the stars. This is achieved, with a lot of information contained in its four parts. The book is light and would easily fit into a backpack. It would be a good accompaniment to a night walking or camping under the stars.' From Shannon Haintz's (VOEA member) review.

A Teachable Moment: a facilitator's guide to activities for processing, debriefing, reviewing and reflection, Jim Cain, Michelle Cummings, Jennifer Stanchfield

OEASA Member price: \$55.95, non-member: \$59.95

Jim, Michell and Jennifer bring their extensive experience in experiential, adventure-based and active learning to this resourceful book filled with more than 100 techniques for engaging participants in meaningful processing, debriefing, reviewing and reflection techniques.

Aboriginal Australia & the Torres Strait Islands: guide to Indigenous Australia, Lonely Planet

OEASA Member price: \$24.95, non-member: \$27.95

Use this practical guide to find organised tours, festivals, indoor and outdoor art galleries, films, literature, internet sites and other points where Indigenous people share their culture. Also included are tips and protocols for interacting respectfully with Indigenous people, detailed information on the permits required to enter Aboriginal land, more than 40 detailed maps and a fold-out language group map.

Adventure Education: Theory and applications, Richard G Prouty, Jane Panicucci, Rufus Collinson

OEASA Member price: \$45.95, non-member: \$59.95

This book allows students to get a broad view of adventure education and programming; explore the role of games, low- and high-element courses, and outdoor pursuits in adventure education; use key concepts, student activities, and Web-based research to enhance the learning process; employ real-world examples to explore strategies for adventure education in a variety of settings; and learn core skills for effective facilitation and leadership preparation in adventure programming.

Australian Weather book, Keith Colls and Richard Whitaker

OEASA Member price: \$26.95, non-member: \$29.95

Fully revised and updated, the second edition of The Australian Weather Book describes Australia's climate and weather in a lively and readable way. It gives information on Australia's rainfall and temperature, how the atmosphere works, clouds, measurement and well known disasters.

Reconnecting Children Through Outdoor Education: a research summary, from the Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario

OEASA Member price: \$30, non-member: \$35

'Ours is the most urban world in history. Dazzled and deafened by our own inventions, we risk forgetting that we are animals—that everything we eat, drink and breathe comes from nature. The young need help to immerse themselves in the outdoors, to make their own connection with nature, and thereby come to understand that the health of the society we build depends on a healthy environment. COEO makes a strong case for public funding to foster this understanding. This important work deserves public support.' Ronald Wright, author of *A Short History of Progress*.

Risk Management and Guidelines links

Mike Meredith

Victorian Ed Dept Safety Guidelines for Education Outdoors

Includes a very good section on Risk Management with a framework and tools: www.education.vic.gov.au/management/schooloperations/edoutdoors/

DECS updated Camps & Excursions Guidelines for schools & Preschools Revised September 2007

A few changes: www.decs.sa.gov.au/policy/pages/OSPP/policy_index

DECS Risk management Policy March 2008

Risk management in DECS: www.decs.sa.gov.au/policy/pages/OSPP/policy_index

DECS Risk Management Framework November 2007

This document refers to all school excursions, camps and activities (in or out of school) requiring a risk assessment: www.decs.sa.gov.au/policy/pages/OSPP/policy_index

DECS Risk Management Homepage PMIA

Some tools: go to Risk management framework and then DECS Risk Assessment Criteria Matrix 2007: www.decs.sa.gov.au/pmia/pages/home/

Carbon Neutral Journey

Linda Beilhartz and her team are embarking on a Carbon Neutral Journey to the North Pole in 2009. Get your class involved with Linda's team, follow their journey, ask questions, meet the team. Resources will become available to download in the future: www.icecapjourneys.com.au

Urrbrae Wetland

www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=258

R-12 student education and teacher PD, in Science, S&E, Tech, The Arts, Languages. Cost for visits: \$3 per student.

Contact: Phil Coles, Urrbrae Wetland manager, 0403 447 064, ph/fax 8272 6010, phil.coles@urrbraehs.sa.edu.au or colesfam@freeshell.org

Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour in Australia

This year's tour features a collection of the most inspiring and thought-provoking active, environmental, and adventure mountain films. Travelling from remote landscapes and cultures, to up close and personal with adrenaline-packed action sports, the 2008 World Tour is an exhilarating and provocative exploration of the mountain world.

Join Paddy Pallin when the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour brings the spirit of outdoor adventure to Australia in May and June.

Tickets for all screenings: \$30.00, or \$27 for members: from Paddy Pallin's online at www.paddypallin.com.au.

Tuesday 27, Wednesday 28 May, 7:00 pm, Mercury Theatre, Adelaide



Year 12 Kayaking at Canoe SA



Mussels on a buoy



How a bark canoe may have been paddled



The remains of *Glaucus*





OEASA/Rec SA
State Outdoor Conference
11-12 September 2008
Education Development Centre Hindmarsh



Call for Presenters

The Outdoor Educators' Association of South Australia and Recreation SA are calling for expressions of interest from individuals, groups or organisations who wish to present papers, workshops, forums or presentations at the 2008 State Outdoor Conference.

Who and what we are looking for:

Teachers, educators, recreation leaders, outdoor facilitators, adventurers and others involved in the outdoor community are asked to consider presenting at the conference. If you have an outdoor program, theme, area of expertise, research, interest or activity that you could share with others then we would be interested in hearing from you.

The three general strands of the conference are Outdoor Education, Outdoor Recreation and Outdoor Adventure. Within these major strands are opportunities to present on areas of interest to others, e.g. environmental, indigenous, special programs, methodology, youth at risk, fitness and health, adventure tourism, land use conflicts, leadership programs, ecology, ecological footprints, interest group forums, risk management, outdoor equipment, outdoor activities, research findings, etc.

Please submit the Presenters Expression of Interest sheet by 4 July to one of the following for consideration:

Mike Meredith: 37 Burwood Avenue Nailsworth SA 5083 or mimeredith@esc.net.au

Rosemary Sage: Rec SA, 73 Wakefield Street Adelaide SA 5000 or recsa@tpg.com.au

The conference organising committee will contact you by the end of July to confirm whether your presentation has been accepted.

Presenter Registration options:

- Participating only for the duration of your session: free, join in for catering either before or after your presentation
- Participating for the whole evening, day or days: Discounted registration.

Note to presenters:

- All presenters are requested to provide a copy of their presentation or notes for inclusion in an electronic summary of proceedings.

ANACONDA
CORPORATE

Diving off the end of a raft is old hat... how about a cartwheel?

These three raft images from video frames





OEASA/Rec SA
State Outdoor Conference
11-12 September 2008
Education Development Centre Hindmarsh



Presenters Expression of Interest

Your details

Name: First Name _____ Family name _____

Organisation _____

Telephone: Work _____ Home _____ Mobile _____

Postal Address _____

Email _____

Co-presenters

Name: First Name _____ Family name _____

Organisation _____

Email _____

Name: First Name _____ Family name _____

Organisation _____

Email _____

Presentation Title and Abstract

(Max 100 words for inclusion in conference promotional materials)

Outline of presentation

(Indication of the manner and style of the presentation, e.g. practical, lecture, etc)

Presentation requirements

(e.g. computer, projector, screen, Internet access, open space, DVD, etc)

Availability

Thursday 11th (evening) Friday 12th Either

Time preferred

45 minutes 60 minutes 90 minutes

Please submit this form by 4 July to one of the following for consideration:

Mike Meredith: 37 Burwood Avenue Nailsworth SA 5083 or mimeredith@esc.net.au

Rosemary Sage: Rec SA 73, Wakefield Street Adelaide SA 5000 or recsa@tpg.com.au

Outdoor Educators Association of South Australia

Outdoor Education Award

For people who have demonstrated a high level of involvement and commitment to Outdoor Education.

Nominations to be received by 20 May. To be presented 13 June at the Certificate Presentation Dinner.

Candidate Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Category

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Primary Education Award | <input type="checkbox"/> | Secondary Education Award | <input type="checkbox"/> | TAFE Outdoor Recreation Award | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tertiary Outdoor Education Award | <input type="checkbox"/> | Certificate of Merit in Outdoor Education | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Service to Outdoor Education | <input type="checkbox"/> | Kris Mosher Award | <input type="checkbox"/> | Recreation SA Award | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Life Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

Statement Addressing Criteria

Nominee: _____ **Organisation/Institution:** _____

Address to

OEASA Chair, Mike Meredith mimeredith@esc.net.au or post 37 Burwood Avenue Nailsworth 5083

OEASA Committee _____

Recommendation: Accept/Not Accept

Comments

Outdoor Educators' Association Of South Australia

ABN 26 588 063 701

Membership form

Membership subscription for period 28 Feb 2008 to 28 Feb 2009

Type of Membership:

Renewal New member

Individual \$60

Student \$45 (with AJOE) \$20 (without AJOE)

School/Organisation/Corporate/Family \$70

(Please tick appropriate boxes Note that we are not charging GST)

Members in the organisational category have been sent a Tax Invoice to use. If you are a new member in this category please return this form without payment and a Tax Invoice will be sent to you.

If you have this membership and would like an extra copy of a year's OEASA newsletters please add \$20. For two extra copies add \$40, etc.

Please make cheques and money orders payable to 'Outdoor Educators' Association of South Australia'.

Members will receive:

- OEASA newsletters *Outdoor News* (four per year)
- AJOE (*Australian Journal of Outdoor Education*) (two per year)
- affiliation to other State Associations via the Outdoor Council of Australia and Outdoor Education Australia

Member details:

School/Organisation/Corporation (if applicable) _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Postal Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

Individual/student/family members: what is the school or organisation you are connected with?

Forward to:

OEASA Treasurer
Phil Noble
PO Box 104
Morgan SA 5320