



Outdoor News

Journal of the Outdoor Educators' Association of South Australia
Volume 26 No 4, July 2008

From the Chairman

Mike Meredith

It was great to catch up with many of our members on 13 June for the annual OEASA presentation night. Once again nearly 100 people got together to celebrate the successes of those who enjoy learning and working in the great outdoors.

I would like to congratulate the many award winners (acknowledged later in the newsletter) for their efforts and endeavours in the many categories for the inspiration they provide to us all in their efforts to achieve excellence in their study or work in the outdoors.

Students undertaking SSABSA Year 12 courses were acknowledged for their great efforts in Stage 2 Outdoor and Environmental Studies. It always amazes me that young people have such incredible talent; they only need a suitable outlet to display it. Their involvement in the course and wider efforts in related activities was amazing. Students from TAFE and University Outdoor courses were acknowledged for their efforts and once again the quality of these future outdoor leaders was inspirational and leaves no doubt that future generations will be in capable hands whilst learning and adventuring in outdoor environments.

I would like to thank Rebecca Beazley for representing Recreation SA in presenting the two awards for an individual and Group who encourage involvement and display excellence in Outdoor Recreation. This year's recipients; Peter Carter (individual) and The Port Augusta Aquatic and Outdoor Adventure Centre (Organisation) were greatly deserving of these awards; their efforts within the Outdoor Community are a shining example to us all. I must thank Recreation SA on behalf of the

Outdoor Community for this much valued contribution to the awards night.

Community leadership organisations acknowledged trainees gaining awards in bushwalking leadership, canoeing and climbing.

Awards were also made to Arbury Park who were honoured with the first Kris Mosher Award for their excellence in Environmental Education, and to Heather Miller as Outdoor Educator of the year, through the service to Outdoor Education award, for her efforts at the Port Augusta Aquatic and Outdoor Adventure Centre, It was an honour to acknowledge their great achievements.

As with all events it is the efforts of a few people who make them such a great success and I would like to thank Wayne Hooper and Libby Robertson for the many hours of work put into preparing for the event. Phil Noble for setting up the financial aspects, Clay Hunter preparing the certificates and once again the performance of our auctioneer Dave Rawson: he is getting that good we may have to pay him next year. There were many contributions to the night in terms of donations for the auctions and prizes and a big thankyou must go to Andrew Govern, Nick Allan and Julia Vine for coordinating this. Daniel Polkinhorne did a splendid job as MC leading us so entertainingly through the evening.



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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

This issue is dominated by an account of the recent presentation dinner, with the citations and pictures. It seems a good time was had by all. The other big event is to come in September, in the form of the Outdoor Conference, and you'll find information about that also with this issue, together with forms.

Another forthcoming conference is the 11th International Consortium for Experiential Learning (ICEL) Conference in Sydney in December, and you'll find some information, with links to the conference site, on page 10.

People sometimes ask if I'm concerned about sharks when I paddle at sea. I'm not, and the only shark I know I've seen was the one that swam under the Wardang Island jetty when I was standing on it one day. It took no notice of nearby kayakers. That wasn't true of the shark that lost some teeth in John Wilde's kayak off the coast of Tasmania. You can read about that on page 11. I've paddled with John on a number of occasions, in fact he was my assessor at one stage: a thoroughly competent paddler, and one we're pleased to have as a member of Australian Canoeing's Education and Safety Technical Committee.

That committee has been busy in recent weeks with work on the revised, non-VET Award Scheme. By the time you read this it will have met here in Adelaide to review progress and finalise a few more things. The revised Safety Guidelines are already available, and I plan to give a brief overview at the conference.

As for Wardang Island, if you're going that way make a stop at the Port Victoria Maritime Museum. As Stan



Squire explains on page 12, the museum offers a glimpse at an interesting period in the state's maritime history.

On 19 May I attended the official opening of the Kidman Trail, a riding, walking and cycling trail running from Willunga to Kapunda. It's a credit to Julie Fiedler and the team from Horse SA, and joins the established Heysen, Mawson, Lavender Federation and Battunga Trails. For more information on the trail, see its site at www.kidmantrail.org.au. There's a pic on page 13.

One of the Web sites I look at three times a week is Joy of Tech, www.joyoftech.com/joyoftech/, run by a pair of cartoonists who make perceptive comment mainly about Apple products, but occasionally about more general topics. I've included two recent ones in this issue.

A sea kayaker's trophies are normally found objects—a collection of fishing buoys, a couple of paper nautilus shells—or worn out equipment like a delaminated paddle blade or drowned GPS. However, I now have on the mantelpiece an etched glass trophy from OEASA and Recreation SA. As I have said elsewhere, I took up paddling to go paddling, but somehow that led to meetings, writing, administering, instructing... Thank you. 

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

OEASA would like to thank the following organisations for their support on the evening: Paddy Pallins for the very important job of taking bookings and their donations, and also the Scout Outdoor Centre, Snowy's Outdoors, Columbia, Vertical Reality, Boots Camping, Griffin Wines, Wilderness Escape and Venture Corporate Recharge for their generous donations. Without their valuable contributions the night would not have been such a success. I would encourage all members to express your support of these organisations wherever possible with your patronage. Frank and his team of caterers at the Sturt Football Club must again be thanked for providing such a wonderful venue and fine food to complement our celebration.

On other matters:

1 Coming up later this year is the State Outdoor Conference 11–12 September at the Education Development Centre Hindmarsh. Day sessions on the Thursday will be predominantly 'Recreation' based with the 'Outdoor' conference proper set to commence on the Thursday evening with an opening address, sessions and guest speaker Tim Gill presenting on Antarctica. Friday will be a good mix of 'Outdoor' sessions covering the areas of Education, Recreation and Adventure. Bookings through Recreation SA. See registration form in this edition of outdoor news. Visit the OEASA Web site for updated information or register over the phone at Rec SA on (08) 8351 2644.

2 The Network of Outdoor Education Associations (OEA) is progressing well. With the departure of Mark Dingle discussions quietened down a little but seem to be picking up momentum again. At present we are discussing the framework for a constitution and details of incorporation. Drafts of these documents will be emailed to anyone interested. Please let one of the committee members know if you are keen to have input.

3 Our next committee meeting is planned for 15 August at the EDCH, starting at 6.30pm. This meeting will be to finalise preparations for the conference so anyone is welcome to attend.

If you have any feedback on how and/or where we are going as an organisation or any thoughts on the dinner for 2009, requests for activities or professional development, etc, etc, please drop one of the committee a line, as we would love to hear from you.

It is as always a pleasure to be of service.

Yours in the outdoors...



News and notes

OEAS News

The OEA representatives from OEASA (Wayne Hooper and Mike Meredith) have participated in several teleconferences this year and considerable progress has been made to develop a viable National Association.

A draft logo has been circulated and after discussion re possible colour schemes will be launched soon. Progress is being made on incorporating OEA.

The next National conference hosted by Outdoors WA will be held at Notre Dame University Fremantle 10–13 January 2010. There will also be pre- and post-conference activities planned. Put these dates in your calendar. Maybe the conference can be incorporated in a summer holiday in WA.

OEA is exploring its role with Teaching Australia which has been established as the national body for the teaching profession, encompassing the professional practice of teaching and school leadership in all settings, sectors and jurisdictions. Teaching Australia is funded by the Federal Government.

OEA will have several representatives at the National Summit hosted by the Outdoor Council of Australia (OCA). Mike Meredith and Scott Polley are representing SA.

OEASA database

At the end of the year a new membership database will be produced with any outstanding memberships being removed from the system. If an oversight has occurred and you would like to continue your membership an opportunity still exist to become a financial member before the end of the year. Simply return the invoice with payment and your details will be updated.

Please email Phil Noble, OEASA Treasurer, at pnoble@pac.edu.au if you require a new invoice.

EPIRB reminder

Remember that signals from 121.5MHz EPIRBs will not be processed after 1 February 2009. From that date only digital 406MHz beacons will be detected by satellite. If you haven't already bought a 406MHz beacon, now would be a good time to buy.

Looking for work in the Outdoor Field?

Take a look at this web site: www.cooeeads.com.au

Important dates for 2008

Committee meetings: Friday 15 August, Friday 5 December. Meetings begin at 6:30pm, at Hindmarsh Education Centre, Milner Street

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> or Clay Hunter <Cclay.hunter@unisa.edu.au>.

Awards 2008

In recognition of candidates who achieved leadership awards over the past twelve months we present these lists and citations for the awards presented at the dinner on 13 June.

Instructor qualifications

New SAREA (Rock Climbing) instructors: Jarrod Searcy, Mark Sorrell, Ben Taylor, Ross Powell, Duncan Henderson, Nick Wenzel

Bushwalking Leadership: Felix Noble, John Pertl, Meridee Shearing, Nicola Winter, Jamie Holland and Patrick Johns

Jim Murphy, who read out the names of the recipients of Australian Canoeing Awards, acknowledged that Australian Canoeing had financial difficulties in the past and that its performance had been below par. He said that the issues were being addressed and that he was confident that in the future the management of the Award scheme would be vastly improved.

Secondary Awards

Certificate of Excellence

Katherine Pilmore

Katherine is an outstanding Outdoor Education student. She is currently undertaking the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. She has completed self reliant expeditions in bushwalking, climbing and kayaking. Her planning and conduct of activities followed by review on completion was meticulous, and her analysis of environmental issues is superb.

Jonathon Doran

Jonathon has demonstrated a high level of commitment and a quest for excellence in his involvement in Outdoor Education. He has completed the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award and self reliant expeditions in climbing, bike touring and sea kayaking. Jon was a volunteer instructor at Westventure 2008. Jon's analysis of environmental issues is superb.

Secondary Education Award of Merit

Trent Searcy

Trent has demonstrated outstanding ability in Senior School Outdoor Education. His achievements include lead climbing, undertaking the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, and leadership on a wide range of expeditions at the school. He achieved 18/20 in Year 12 OE in 2007. He is currently freelancing as an Outdoor Education Instructor and is planning further training in bushwalking leadership in July.

Stacy Braithwaite

Stacy demonstrated strong leadership in the Senior School Outdoor Education program. She is currently undertaking the requirements to complete the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. She has acted as peer mentor and



Secondary winners: L-R: Eve Craker, Jonathon Doran, Stacey Braithwaite and Trent Searcy (Not present: Katherine Pilmore)

mediator on a wide range of expeditions while at school. She achieved 19/20 in Year 12 OE in 2007. She is currently a trainee Outdoor Educator at Westminster School and plans to undertake further training in bushwalking leadership in July

Mark Auricht Award

Eve Craker

Top student, with 20/20, Eve has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the Outdoor Education program at Westminster School. She completed the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award in 2007. She has been involved in bushwalking, sea kayaking and rockclimbing expeditions. Her analysis of Environmental issues is outstanding. Her planning and conduct of activities followed by review on completion was meticulous

TAFE Award

Moira Love

Moira is currently a second year student in the Diploma of Outdoor Recreation, where her theory work is excellent. Moira extends herself in her field trips and expeditions, showing excellent leadership skills and team work. Time permitting, Moira is working in the field to achieve her assisting hours for her specialisations and to gain more experience and knowledge.

Moira specialises in scuba diving and bushwalking, and has qualifications in bushwalking, kayaking and scuba, and is working towards challenge ropes course accreditation and a higher level in bushwalking and scuba awards. Moira is committed, responsible and professional.



Tertiary Outdoor Education Award

Andrew Senyszyn

Andrew achieved the highest Grade Point Average for Outdoor Education courses at UniSA. Andrew was

extremely professional in his approach to his studies and leadership roles (including coordinator of one of the Human Movement first year camps). Andrew was a role model to second year students, assisting them wherever possible to undertake further studies in Outdoor Education. He currently works at Wilderness Escape as an outdoor leader, where he is held in high regard.



Scott Polley writes:

I am pleased to be able to present the tertiary award for excellence in Outdoor Education to Andrew Senyszyn.

When Andrew commenced Human Movement at UniSA, it was for the purposes of becoming a physical education teacher. He had been inspired by some very positive experiences in Physical Education and sport at Sacred Heart College. He was a role model at the school, and was invited back to facilitate leadership retreats at the school, and later other schools also.

Things went slightly astray when Andrew attended the four-day first year camp at Kuitpo Forest. He knew there was something special about this stuff, because his mates had been raving about their experiences at school (Sacred Heart has an emerging OE program, but it is not a focus). But up until the camp, he was not quite sure. The following year he did the compulsory OE course if you were going to be a PE teacher and was hooked. He did another course in second year and made the decision to go to New Zealand at the end of the year on the UniSA biennial expedition. 'Endo' became the stuff of legends on this expedition, always giving 110%, and throwing himself in where angels fear to tread. This resulted in the odd embarrassing moment, but mostly accelerated his learning curve regarding safety in the outdoors, developing a stronger relationship with the natural world and the role adventure can play in developing the individual.

In his final year at University Andrew impressed all staff with his giving nature, energy and enthusiasm for his studies. He volunteered to be one of the coordinators of the first year camp, and despite being unwell did this in a very professional manner. 'Endo' again became the stuff of legends when attempting a creek crossing and getting stuck in the University 4WD. He learnt a valuable lesson about trusting his own judgement that day, rather than the advice of others. He finished the year with an expedition to Tasmania, and began to undertake assistant instructing with a passion he discovered in New Zealand, white-water kayaking.

'Endo' undertook the Bushwalking Leadership course, and has completed his Flatwater Instructor award with

Australian Canoeing. During his university course he spent some time at Wilderness Escape Adventures gaining experience, and they were quick to spot his potential. He is currently employed there, and is well respected by his charges, peers and staff alike.

Andrew was fortunate to have many peers that supported his development, and provided him with some high benchmarks. His achievements are partly a result of the group that Andrew spent a lot of time with during his studies, and such is Andrew's nature that he would be disappointed if they were not acknowledged.

I am pleased to endorse Andrew as a worthy recipient of the Outdoor Educators' Association of South Australia Tertiary award, for his excellent grade point average, his professionalism, and his potential as a leader in the field in the future.

OEASA Service to Outdoor Education Award

Heather Miller

It all started when Heather was about to christen her new second hand canoe. A local architect who asked what she was doing for the day mentioned that there was a meeting to start an Aquatic Centre at Port Augusta. Heather decided to attend the meeting, and when they asked for prospective instructors Heather put her hand up. The first course was a snorkelling course with Mary-Ann Stacy.



She will never forget going down the gulf completely kitted out in wetsuit and snorkelling gear, including mask and hood looking at the Flinders Ranges in the background thinking 'I am a woman of the hills. What am I doing snorkelling?'

She started work in February 1999, with Brett Yardley in charge. Brett started up the centre and had the task of finding staff, participants, equipment and programs. In 2001 Brett decided to return to Adelaide to continue his career there. Heather applied for the job and was successful. At the time, Heather was juggling a number of other jobs, and decided to devote herself full time to development of the Centre.

The centre would not run on just Aquatics bookings, and Heather continued to develop a range of outdoor recreation skills including sailing, kayaking, bushwalking and rock-climbing and transformed the Aquatic centre to the Port Augusta Aquatic and Outdoor Adventure Centre. This also involved developing a range of supplementary programs that engaged the local community and others in outdoor recreation. These programs included orienteering courses in the arid lands botanic gardens, Warren Gorge and the streets of Port Augusta; a bike

route that incorporated some of Port Augusta's major attractions and another at Spear Creek; Yoga and walking programs, and cycling and aquarobics programs targeting women; developed a publicly accessible holiday outdoor recreation program; programs for the Aboriginal Education unit of TAFE at Port Augusta; programs for sail-ability including a competitor in the state titles; a walking program for the intellectually and physically disabled; a teambuilding and initiative games program, working with the local high school to deliver senior school outdoor education, and developed a VET program in outdoor recreation. In her spare time she did three Operation Flinders programs, freelanced for a range of providers, and continued her professional development.

Heather brought rich experience to the role, which included 12 years managing pastoral properties in the Northwest and Nullarbor with husband Marcus Miller, where they brought up their two children, Callan and Alicia, who are now adults. She is passionate about arid lands, conservation and has a strong background in outback photography.

In 2007 she decided that she had spent enough time knocking on council, department of recreation and sport and other funding bodies' doors to help pay the bills. Jeff Bowey, another local, has decided to take on the challenge from April 2008. Heather hopes to spend more time devoted to caring for the land, as well as spreading her wings further in the outdoor world.

Over 1500 people per year took part in Aquatics in 2007, with around 2000 per general public taking part in the Adventure program, with Heather juggling two bosses of DECS and the local council. It has been a marvellous (nearly) 10 years that Heather has been at the centre, and we wish her well in her next adventure

Recreation SA Award

Individual

Peter Carter

Peter Carter has made a significant contribution to Recreation over many years, in particular Canoeing. He was a member in the 1980s of the Board of Canoe Education, what is now the Education and Safety Technical Committee of Australian Canoeing.

Over the years he has served on numerous committees associated with canoeing both in South Australia and nationally. He has been instrumental in training many people both in the skills of canoeing and as leaders. Until recently he was a Level 3 Instructor, reluctantly relinquishing this role due to advancing years. He has made a major contribution to the technical side of canoeing, designing a range of craft and coming up with a multitude of gadgets to make the activity safer. He almost single handedly did the field checking of the Torrens Island and Environs map and developed resources. He has written numerous articles and handbooks on all aspects of canoeing. He is actively involved as a volunteer for Canoe SA and is often called on to run school and community programs. He is currently the secretary of the Adelaide Canoe Club. There are not too many days when Peter



Rebecca Beazley presents the award to Peter Carter

isn't either volunteering in some capacity or sitting in a kayak somewhere in SA.

Peter is currently the Editor of the quarterly OEASA newsletter and the Bike SA magazine *Cycle!*, among other publications. When Peter is not canoeing or sitting behind a computer he is more than likely pedalling a beloved Moulton bicycle.

He is also a computer whizz and is the webmaster for OEASA. His computer publishing skills are of great benefit in his many volunteer roles. Peter is also an accomplished photographer and he uses his many photographs to illustrate any point he is making. Peter is a man of few words but the ones he uses are thoughtful. (Peter is a doer rather than a talker.)

Peter is a most worthy recipient of this Award. His contribution to Recreation over the years has been enormous. He has spent countless hours serving as a volunteer to promote healthy activity and the comments above are only a snapshot to illustrate his contribution.

Recreation SA Organisation Award

Port Augusta Aquatic and Outdoor Adventure Centre

PAAOAC offers a range of activities including kayaking, sailing, sail boarding, bushwalking, rock-climbing, orienteering, cycling and aquarobics. Clients include school children, and community members. Activities are tailored to meet client needs, including programs especially for women, the disabled and Aboriginal groups...

As many qualified Instructors are unwilling to move to Port Augusta the Centre has involved the local community members as leaders. As well as DECS, the Port Augusta Council has provided funding to ensure the viability of the Centre.

Each October holidays the Centre offers a comprehensive leaders' training week in a variety of disciplines, which gives candidates the opportunity to undertake intensive training. This program is unique and provides a wonderful opportunity for teachers and other people involved in

Outdoor programs throughout the State to obtain appropriate qualifications.

Heather Miller, who received the Award on behalf of the Centre, acknowledged the support of the Port Augusta Council which ensures that the Centre is viable and supplements the resources provide by DECS. She emphasised the involvement of the local community and the dedication of the staff. Heather highlighted the potential of Port Augusta and surrounds as a venue for Outdoor Education.

Kris Mosher Environmental Education Award

The Kris Mosher Environmental Education Award is our newest award, and it honours the commitment Kris made to Environmental Education throughout her life. Kris, who was a life member of OEASA, died last year after a long battle with cancer. Kris was passionate about the environment, living sustainably and dedicating herself to educating about the environment.

It is appropriate that the recipient of the first Kris Mosher Award is Arbury Park Outdoor School, which worked cooperatively with Kris in the early days of Environmental Education in South Australia.

Arbury Park Outdoor School provides programs in Environmental Education for thousands of students every year. The school has significant involvement in the community promoting conservation and sustainability.

As well as providing instruction to students in areas such as catchment studies, ecology, sustainability, plant and animal biology and weather, staff and students are involved in seed col-

lection and plant propagation, Water Watch, weed control and tree planting along Cox Creek

Arbury Park was one of the first schools to install solar panels to offset their carbon footprint. They are in the process of updating storm water catchment infrastructure which, it is anticipated, will provide their water needs for six months of the year.

Arbury Park liases with a range of community organisations, promoting Environmental Issues, e.g. Friends of Mt George Conservation Park.

Arbury Park works with students from Junior Primary to Secondary and provides inservice training for the teachers who come with their classes.

Liz Liebing (Principal APOS) accepted the Award on behalf of the staff, several of whom were present on the night. Liz acknowledged the dedication of all the staff, both teaching and non teaching which contributes to the school program. She also referred to the collaboration between Kris and the school in the development of the Arbury Park curriculum.



Arbury Park staff: L-R: Richard Geytenbeek, Richard Page, David Doherty, Caroline Bawden and Liz Liebing

Award night sponsorship

Donations for the evening came from:

- Scout Outdoor Centre
- Columbia
- Paddy Pallin
- Snowy's Outdoors
- Vertical Reality
- Boots Camping
- Griffin Wines
- Wilderness Escape
- Venture Corporate Recharge

We appreciate the generosity of our corporate sponsors.

Griffin Wines

Griffin Wines, a family owned winery at Kuitpo in the Adelaide Hills, has been a generous sponsor of OEASA over the past three years, providing numerous bottles of wine which have been used as gifts for speakers at presentations, given to award winners in recognition of their achievements, and used for fundraising. We are grateful for their generosity in providing a quality product which we can use in these ways. There is a price list and order form included in this newsletter which enables members to support our valued supporter.



Dave Rawson and Daniel Polkinghorne auction donated equipment



GRIFFIN
ADELAIDE HILLS

Camp Cooking Commentary

A pot pourri of practical pointers by David Russell

Part two of 'Eight Great Outdoor Cooking Tips'

- 1 Many canned foods can be warmed directly in their own cans. Warm them in a billy of hot water with a vent hole punched in the lid. This also means you don't have to scrub food off the bottom of the pot.
- 2 Line your cooking equipment with foil for easier cleanup. When the meal is over, burn the foil to eliminate food residue. This will avoid attracting wild animals. Crush and pack-out the foil when cool.
- 3 Toast bread by wrapping individual slices in a foil envelope to be placed on the coals for a few seconds. For an interesting variation, try 'Tarzan Toast'. Put the bread directly on the coals without foil. Blow the ashes off and butter. It works!
- 4 Foil dinners tend to burn or scorch where they are in direct contact with the coals. Try double-wrapping and frequent turning. You might also try adding a bit of water between the foil layers. Thin foil dinners are more likely to burn. Larger packages tend to be more successful. Try using a thickness of about 4 cm. Cook on coals, not flame, turning three or four times at 3–5 minute intervals.
- 5 Before leaving home, remove superfluous packaging and/or transfer dry food to a lighter weight, less bulky container (such as self-sealing plastic bags, and these can be reused).
- 6 Measure out food quantities before leaving home. Place the amount to be used for a single meal into an individual receptacle. Not only does this help you plan your meals and make for a more even distribution in the pack than a larger container, but can save you time at camp.
- 7 Take a rag like a clean half metre square of old bed sheet to use as a tea towel come general cleaning cloth. The dirty portion can then be burnt in the campfire. This is a very hygienic option.
- 8 Before you go bush for a few days you know what you are going to cook, so take the right oil: it can make a big difference to taste. If you are cooking Asian or stir fry, take a peanut oil and sesame oil combo, for cooking pasta take an olive oil, and if you are cooking pancakes and savoury flavours use a neutral oil like canola.

The Joy of Tech



Strandwise Failure

Source: Australian Camps Association (ACA) May 2008

The ACA has received an alert from Fall Safe Australia that a StrandVise on a flying fox at a camp recently failed. The StrandVise was correctly backed up and the back up worked successfully and so no injuries resulted from this failure. We recommend that campsite operators who have StrandVises in use contact Fall Safe Australia or their preferred professional ropes course constructor immediately to consider whether any action is required. The ACCT (USA) statement of 7 August 2007 states that "it would be prudent to ensure that any StrandVise currently in use on a course is properly backed up in compliance with the 6th Edition of Challenge Course Standards (and relevant Australian Standards) or replaced with an alternative system."

Motor Vehicle Recovery 'Snatch' Straps Compliance Guide

Source: Department of Justice and Attorney-General

A Compliance Guide on Recovery 'Snatch' Straps is currently available on the Office of Fair Trading website: www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au. The document outlines the packaging requirements of the straps and the responsibilities of the supplier.

The document contains useful guidelines on the safe use of the straps including:

- General information
- Selecting the correct recovery strap
- Keeping people safe
- Setting up the recovery
- Connecting the recovery strap
- Making the recovery
- General care and maintenance

A Surf Kayaking Resource

In the Surf! Performance Surf Kayaking The Basics and Beyond—Learn how to play the ocean swells. No matter what your paddling background is, this DVD will show you how to have fun on the waves.

Examine the advantages and limits of specialised boat designs. Learn about the dynamic ocean environment. Manoeuvres in the green, and in the whitewater are explained and demonstrated. Includes an exclusive interview with famed big wave surfer Richard Schmidt.

Enjoy an hour of awesome surf footage and kayak surfing instruction.

Contents include:

- getting started in the surf
- reading the waves
- wave evaluation and selection
- takeoff spots and advanced rudder techniques
- surf zone etiquette

Order Code: KYKITS

Recommended Retail Price: \$49.95

Available from QORF Special Member Price: \$39.50—Save 20%. Non Member: \$45.00



SAREA News

Scott Polley

Database

SAREA assessors have been busy ringing past and current trainees and instructors to clean up its database, and obtaining permission to put instructor and assistant instructor names on the SAREA home page. Each entry will have expiry dates of their award and a contact number if they wish to be contacted regarding availability for instruction.

Assessor Training

SAREA has had a large influx of new assessors, and most have now completed their units of competence with Regency TAFE to undertake training and assessment. The final stages will now be observing and conducting seminars and assessments, of which many are well under way.

Lead Climbing Instructor

SAREA has not offered the Lead Climbing Instructor for several years due to issues with assessment mapping to the Units of Competence from the Outdoor Recreation Training Package. A small group including TAFE staff are well on the way to resolving this, and it is expected that it will be back on line in 2009. You are welcome to express interest to SAREA so that you might receive information as it comes to hand.

Proposed new Top Rope award

SAREA is examining a proposal to have a new instructional award introduced. It will be titled something like 'Single Pitch Guide Restricted'. The major differences between this award and the current top rope instructor are likely to be demonstrated competence top rope climbing, lead climbing, abseiling, but without the same grade restrictions. Successful awardees will only be able to instruct where there are fixed anchors, such as the crags for Morialta and Onkaparinga. It may well cover artificial surfaces climbing, but further discussion is required.

Proposed new Assistant Instructor award

SAREA is examining a proposal for recognition at the Assistant Top Rope Climbing Instructor Award. Currently, candidates who have the required experience as per the SAREA log book can claim without verification that they are operating at this level. The proposal seeks to provide a level of verification to assist Instructors and organizations that conduct climbing activity. It will also give those that provide recognition at this level for those dedicated assistant volunteers as well as those that seek employment in this role.

Board Members required

SAREA will have its annual general meeting in August. Invitations are invited from interested persons to become board members. This involves six meetings per year. A thankless task but nonetheless an opportunity to contribute to the development of this pursuit in South Australia.

South Australian Rockclimbing Education Association Inc
PO Box 601 North Adelaide 5001

www.climbingclubssouthaustralia.asn/sarea.html

sarea@climbingclubssouthaustralia.asn.au



Canoe SA News

John Hazel

Australian Canoeing released the new *Safety Guidelines* at the recent National Marine Conference in Adelaide, and they were well received. They're on the both the Aus Canoeing and Canoe SA web sites and are definitely worth a look.

It was noted by the Commonwealth Government representatives that there is a National Scheme and this puts us in good stead for the future as they move to National Standards. There has been a lot of work on the Award Scheme over the last few months and significant progress has been made. Peter Carter has been a key player in this process.

Canoe SA wishes also to acknowledge their major sponsors, Australian Sports Commission and SA Department of Sport and Recreation.



Christie Walk

Idea for student excursion

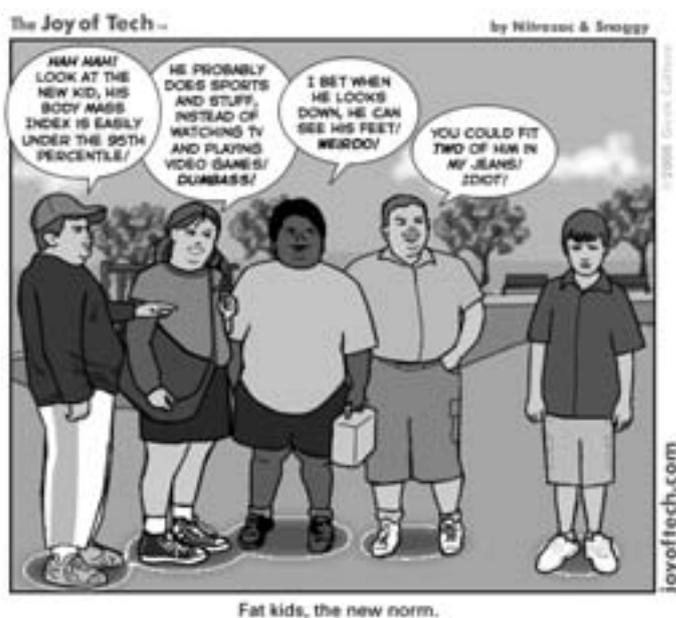
The focus of a visit to Christie Walk, Adelaide's unique eco-housing development, is on the way we live in cities, and measures we can take to reduce our environmental impact.

Students will see energy efficient home design and construction materials, hear about the benefits of solar energy for hot water and electricity generation, and visit a rooftop garden.

Other topics discussed include consumerism, community living and transport alternatives.

Suitable for Years 5 to 12. Cost is \$6 per student.

To arrange a tour of Christie Walk, contact Urban Ecology Australia, 8212 676



National Conference in Experiential Learning

We would like to invite you to join us for the 11th International Consortium for Experiential Learning (ICEL) Conference at the University of Technology, Sydney Australia, 8–12 December, 2008.

Keynote Speakers for the conference will be David Boud (University of Technology Sydney Australia) and Tara Fenwick (University of British Columbia Canada). See below for further details.

Our conference theme—The Identity of Experience—focuses on current and future challenges for experiential learning. These challenges include:

1. the challenge of integration
2. the challenge of difference
3. the challenge of research investigation
4. the challenge of application

Each of these themes will be explored by a team of symposium keynote speakers: Colin Beard from the UK (author of *Experiential Learning: A Best Practice*



Handbook for Trainers and Educators) Hilary Armstrong (Director of Training and Research at Institute of Executive Coaching Sydney) and Paul McKey (Director Red Bean Learning Solutions and international authority on learning and professional development).

Keynote contributors include Yoshimi and Jon Brett (Designers and developers of TetraMap) and Tony McGarn (International authority on outdoors learning). More information on the keynote speakers and the conference program <www.education.uts.edu.au/icel/index.html>.

Early Bird Registration is now open for delegates

Register now: <www.education.uts.edu.au/icel/register.html>



Recruitment for Outdoor Education Instructors

Recruiting for 2008 and 2009 is starting now!

Casual basis employment as a trial for future contract positions in Semester 2 and all of 2009.

Resumes and letters of interest can be directed to employment@wildernessescape.com.au
Wilderness Escape Outdoor Adventures Pty Ltd
Venture Corporate Recharge (Aust) Pty Ltd
PO Box 639 Kent Town, 5071

Position

To be employed as an instructor, may be classified as an assistant instructor or program manager dependant on qualifications and experience.

Position Objectives

To provide a positive and safe learning environment for people who attend a WEOA, VCR or outdoor education program and/ or camps.

To support and uphold outdoor educational learning principles and promote a positive outdoor educational experience that will encourage the desire to participate in future outdoor experiences.

To supply and facilitate an environment in which people will learn skills in a broad range of outdoor educational activities as well as philosophies that will promote a desire to continue to participate and extend their outdoor skills and experiences in the future.

Required qualifications for employment

- Minimum of current CPR and Senior First Aid certification, preference for Wilderness First Aid
- Child Safe Environments, Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect (mandatory Notification), internal training will be provided once a year



- Police Clearance Certificate, no more than 3 months old
- Driver's licence, preference for MR (bus) Licence.
- One or more qualifications preferred. All National Training Accredited qualifications will be accepted
- Basic Skill Sailing Instructor, Yachting Australia
- Basic Skills Windsurfing Instructor, Yachting Australia
- Surf Coach Level 1
- High Ropes Instructor (internal practical training also provided)
- Top Rope Instructor qualification
- Preference for LR/MR/HR Bus licence (with appropriate driver accreditation)
- Bush Walk Leader Day/Overnight/Advanced, Bush walking Leadership of South Australia
- Level 1 Flatwater Kayak Instructor, Sea Kayaking Instructor
- Snorkelling Coach, Dive master, PADI or equivalent
- Power boat handling, or boat licence with experience
- Surf Rescue Certificate for aquatics activities
- Food Handling and Hygiene

Please note: It is not expected that candidates have all of the specialisation qualifications, though multi-skilling is advantageous for secure employment. Two land based qualifications and two aquatics based qualifications can lead to working a diverse range of programs on an ongoing basis.



Shark attack

Yes, this was some beast!

John Wilde

A big bang, or thump, definitely a feeling of an alien presence and the boat lifted dramatically in the water. Even after 60 kilometres, the adrenalin kicked in, as I sprinted the next 200 metres towards a nearby beach, with some not so pleasant curses on my lips. It had all happened so quickly and as I had been looking at the shore checking out possible camp-sites, I had not seen a thing. Then the brain started to work again.

That could not possibly have been what I initially thought it was. I had just crossed a shallow reef with some exposed rocks in a lumpy sea and strong winds of 30 knots, probably gusting 35 or so at times and had taken my sail down a little while before, as the regularly breaking two to three metre swell was demanding a lot of concentration. Rational thoughts prevailed. I must have misjudged the reef and hit a rock as I dropped off a swell. But it did not seem right. It had felt like something had hit me, trying to lift the total load, me, the kayak, three weeks food, 20 litres of water and all my camping gear, a payload approaching 200 kg, clear of the water. I checked the rudder. Everything seemed to be working. Previous encounters with sharks that I have heard of usually involve a tentative nip at the rudder. Perhaps I was mistaken. On the beach 15 minutes later the answer was clear. Two pure white, broken teeth, still stuck in the carbon/Kevlar of the hull just forward of the seat, centimetres from my thigh, big grooves in the gelcoat and compression cracks in the area of initial impact told an obvious story.

With the boat upside down the evidence was very clear, though amazingly the boat was only holed slightly where the teeth had impacted. Some duct tape soon covered that and with some trepidation I headed back out from the beach to find a suitable camp-site. Within the shelter of Pipers River and adjacent Weymouth a couple of kilometres away, with a tube of Araldite and more duct tape, all I was carrying in my repair kit, a more solid job was made that evening. Whilst examining the damage again, I imagined a shark bite, not just the lower jaw, but the closing of the mouth. Sure enough, a better inspection of the deck showed similar grooves to the hull, not with the same force applied, but a definite closing of the jaws, this time forward of the cockpit, just where I would normally put the paddle in to start a forward stroke. The measurement, from bottom jaw impact to top jaw closing marks was 45 to 50 centimetres. I do not know much about shark dentistry, but something with a bite of close to half a metre seemed to me to be a good sized specimen, probably three metres and possibly considerably more. Yes, this was some beast!

If I had been a seal I would have been in severe trouble and if I had been a penguin, the speed of the attack would have left me wondering why I was suddenly swimming around in a shark's stomach juices.

As it was I consider myself lucky. I was paddling an

extremely strong boat, a Nadgee, which I like for its handling characteristics when the going gets rough, but also because I know how meticulously they are built, one of the strongest constructions on the market. I've paddled one for about eight years, this being my second. (I've still got the first, which after thousands of kilometres of expedition paddling, is showing signs of wear.)

I had decided for this trip, a 600 kilometre solo paddle down the north-east and east coast of Tasmania, following the 1879 paddle strokes of the Reverend Fred Fairey, in his Rob Roy design kayak, (See *NSW Seakayaker* mag 39 for account of that journey and No 43 and 44 for Mike Snoad's and Dave White's trip report seven years ago), that I needed a strong boat with additional carbon/Kevlar support. Initially at 21 kg out of the mould and with strengthened fore deck, sail rigging and rudder, at about 24 kg, this is a very solid boat.

I am sure that a lighter weight boat would have suffered considerably more damage, not just to the structure of the boat, but to the paddler inside. A beast with a half metre bite, hitting and closing its mouth sharply, would, I think, slice through more than just some light weight glass fibre when attacking the centre of a 5.2 metre long kayak. I am sure that a plastic boat would have also suffered considerable damage and if holed, would have been much harder to permanently repair.

Talking that night to a couple of local fishermen, as they inspected the damage with fascination, they mentioned that the area around Weymouth is renowned for big sharks, usually great whites, attracted to the local seal and penguin colonies. Eight years previously a woman had been taken, by the sound of it, near the spot that my attack occurred, by what was described as a great white. What I do remember was the confused, murky water where the attack occurred and suspect that this is more the style of a bull shark, slightly shorter and more stocky than a great white, but just as deadly.

This had not been a 'circle, scare the shit out of you, then take a tentative nip'. This was a full on attempt at grabbing a meal. As several people told me, it's not the shark you see that you need to be afraid of, but the one that you don't.

The following day, as I continued my journey in a 25 to 30 knot wind and confused sea, again with a BoM strong wind warning, bracing regularly, for possibly hundreds of times, I could not help but think what a tasty morsel the arm, probably up to the shoulder, would make to a passing underwater marauder of this size.

Finishing the 600 kilometre journey after 14 days, I felt considerably more admiration for Rev Fred Fairey, in his 14 foot kayak, *The Evangelist*, nearly 130 years earlier, in his tweed suit and boots, without buoyancy aid, GPS, EPIRB, and radio for weather forecasts. Now that was some wilderness journey and if you are after an adventure I cannot recommend this route highly enough.

(Reprinted with permission from *Adventure Education*, newsletter of ACTOEA)



How could a museum visit be relevant to Outdoor Education?

Stan Squire

In June this year an impromptu visit to the Port Victoria Maritime Museum was made by Scott Polley and a group of UniSA Outdoor Ed students. The favourable feedback from the group and Scott's suggestion that I pen a few words about what our unique little museum has to offer led me to submit this short article.

By way of introduction, the Port Victoria Maritime Museum is nestled next to the town jetty. The building, which was the general cargo store, was there for the duration of the sailing ship era of bagged grain trade between Spencer Gulf ports and Britain. The trade began in the late 18th century and ended in 1949 when the *Passat* and *Pamir* left Port Victoria for what was the last voyage world wide of totally wind powered commercial sailing ships (often referred to as windjammers or square rigged sailing vessels).

So what does our present day museum showpiece which might have some link with the OE curricula?

- It attempts to relive and portray the era of the windjammers and the crews which sailed them. The adventure loving young men who signed on for the voyage from Port Victoria to the other side of the world were certainly part of an outdoor education experience that many admitted later to being more perilous than they ever imagined. Particularly on the journey eastwards to round Cape Horn! A DVD 'The Last Cape Horners' in which Port Victoria is featured shows the epic voyages to Europe by the grain carrying ships, a journey at sea that lasted between 80 and 150 days depending on weather conditions. Interviews and archival film footage help to give an insight into the crews' experiences. There is also a large photo display and a slide show presentation.
- Also possibly linked to Outdoor Ed are the displays of old navigational instruments which were used on the

ships to plot and measure their routes and day to day positions. These include an old sextant, chronometer and compasses. How a ship's speed was measured by 'streaming the log' from the stern of the vessel is also featured.

- Nearby Wardang Island has been likened to a ship's graveyard as it is surrounded by many wrecks. The museum features items and artefacts recovered in the past from these shipwrecks. The Heritage Branch of the Department of Environment and Planning have produced a booklet which is on sale in the museum that includes GPS coordinates and underwater site plans of some of the wrecks. This waterproof booklet is popular with dive groups.
- The camping skills of the local Narungga aboriginal people are displayed in our 'First Encounters' Display Room. Their knowledge of where to dig wells for fresh water in the deepest hollows of the coastal sand dunes and details of their camp sites are illustrated in the museum.

If you are planning to bring a group of students to the Yorke Peninsula anytime in the future and are interested in visiting our museum you would be most welcome. If you would like to preview what we have to offer you can contact us on 8834 2202 or linstan@netyp.com.au



Outdoor Education TeacherTube

Wayne Hooper

Ian Boyle from Scots College (NSW) has created a set of videos at a site called TeacherTube. This is an educational site on the Internet where educational videos can be hosted for free.

Ian had a thought that outdoor education programs could begin to video model teaching or technical material and post them to this site where it could become a valuable teaching and learning resource.

Perhaps there is scope to get your students, participants or programs involved in producing videos as part of their outdoor ed experiences? It may make for some interesting assessments, and the end result is that they are posted on TeacherTube.

Ideas could include:

- Model teaching
- Facilitation techniques in action



- Technical 'how to' videos: how to pack a pack, how to cook on a Trangia and the associated safety protocols, things to check for when crossing a river, how to belay, etc.

The list is infinite.

You'll find Ian's material at www.teachertube.com/search_result.php?search_id=Ian+Boyle&x=29&y=14.





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



'Somersault in the surf at Falmouth, Tasmania':
Rev Fairey is dumped. Originally from *The Boys Own Paper*, 1892



Opening of the Kidman Trail, 19 May. L–R: Russell Wortley, Member of the Legislative Committee of SA; Saxon, ridden by Pam Brookman; Paul Mabarrack, MC for the day and life member of Horse SA; Nick Champion, Member for Wakefield; Kelly Allen, Bike SA; Chris Bushell, President, Walking SA



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



OEASA and Rec SA State Outdoor Conference

11-12 September 2008
Education Development Centre Hindmarsh



Registration form

Full Conference (Thursday 11-Friday 12 September, including Thursday evening sessions, and Dinner)

Members/students: \$100 (includes OEASA membership for students in 2009)
Non-members: \$115

Note: The daytime Thursday sessions 9am-5pm are Recreation based and not necessarily 'Outdoor' in nature

Day Registration (Thursday 11 or Friday 12 September)

Members/students: \$40 (includes OEASA membership for students in 2009)
Non-members: \$45

Day Registration including the Thursday evening sessions and Dinner (Thursday 11 or Friday 12)

Members/students: \$60 (includes OEASA membership for students in 2009)
Non-members: \$70

Dinner and evening sessions only (Thursday 11 September 5pm-9pm)

Members/students: \$20, Non-members: \$25

Presenters may be eligible for a reduced conference fee: please contact RECSA for details.

Note: These rates are for registrations received before 29 August. A late fee of \$10 will apply after this date.

Students in need of funding assistance may be eligible for further discounts or scholarships

Please make cheques payable to Recreation SA. Tax Invoice ABN 23 156 877 936

Post to Rec SA, 2A/900 South Road Edwardstown SA 5039, fax to (08) 8351 2633, or phone (08) 8351 2644.

Your details

First name _____ Family name _____

Organisation: _____

Telephone: Work _____ Home _____ Mobile _____

Postal Address: _____

_____ Post Code _____

Email (required) _____

Dietary requirements: Vegetarian Vegan Other: _____

- Registration for the conference should be received at REC SA by Friday 29 August.
- Early bird draw: register before 22 August to go into a draw for a great door prize.

Please find enclosed payment for \$ by cheque, money order or credit card.

Please invoice _____ (School/Organisation name) Purchase order number _____

VISA or M/C _____ Expiry ____/____

Name on card _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Cancellation policy: You need to notify Rec SA in writing of any cancellations. There will be no charge for cancellations made before 29 August: after this date no refund will be payable.

Detailed conference information available at www.oeasa.org or www.recreationsa.org or Rec SA (08) 8351 2644.

Major sponsor:

ANACONDA
CORPORATE

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