

Your invitation to a major event



The Science of Jenolan Caves:

What do we know?



A symposium to explain, interpret and review recent scientific research on the caves and karst, including the contribution of exploration, mapping and diving to an understanding of the science.

Co-sponsored by The Linnean Society of NSW and the Australian Speleological Federation Inc.



WHEN: Thursday 23rd (from 10am) & Friday 24th (9am – 5pm), May 2013.

WHERE: Kanangra-Boyd Room in the heritage-listed Jenolan Caves House.

WHY: Because recent research results are scattered in many places and can be hard to find.

WHAT: Talks from experts, posters, maps and displays, karst walks, excursions into the caves.

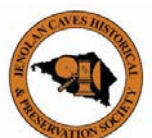
WHO: Anyone with an interest in understanding Jenolan will find this a pleasant and enlightening experience. Scientists, speleologists, guides and others will be present.

CAVE TOURS: There will be field trips into the caves between and after scientific sessions on both days, to discuss issues raised in the presentations. Tours may include cave monitoring sites, the Nettle Cave stromatolites, a show cave and/or karst walks. By courtesy of the Jenolan Caves Reserve Trust and a genuinely world-class guiding staff, the cave trips are free to all registered participants. Surface karst walks will also be available depending on time and demand, and the Blue Lake platypus colony can usually be seen on a quiet walk.

*Official Supporters: NSW Office of Environment & Heritage,
The Jenolan Caves Trust; Jenolan Caves Historical &
Preservation Society.*



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PROGRAM

Symposium talks will be a maximum 20 minutes with cave tours on both days.

The Official opening is at 10 am on Thursday. The Keynote Speaker is Professor Richard Mackay, former Jenolan caver, previously chair of the Jenolan Caves Reserve Trust and current chair of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area Advisory Committee.

Prospective speakers include: Dr David Branagan & Mr John Pickett (geology), Dr Ross Pogson (minerals), Prof. Chris Waring (understanding cave dynamics), Dr Andrew Baker (environmental monitoring), Dr Anne Musser (vertebrate palaeontology), Dr Julia James (stromatolitic stalagmites), Dr Shane Ah Yong, Drs Michael Gray & Helen Smith (spiders), Drs Michael Bosse & Robert Zlot (efficient hand-held mobile mapping), Assoc.Prof. Armstrong Osborne (future research needs). Other speakers will explain how cave surveying, diving and recent exploration has aided an understanding of the science of Jenolan.

An initial overall perspective will be provided by John Dunkley (history of cave science at Jenolan) and Bruce Welch (conservation issues). At the end, Assoc. Prof Armstrong Osborne will discuss future research needs at Jenolan, and a panel discussion will be held on future directions for cave science and related research, exploration and tourism. A number of other speakers have expressed an interest, and a more detailed program will be available in March.

Registration

The Registration Fee is \$55, which includes attendance, cave tours on both days, along with morning and afternoon refreshments and lunch on both days. *Please register now using the attached registration form. Closing date 15th April 2013.*

Other meals and refreshments are available at participants' expense from venues in Caves House: the Grand Dining Room (Chisolms), Trails Bistro, or Jeremiah's Bar. A Dinner (a-la-carte \$50 two courses, \$65 for three) will be held in the grand Chisolms Restaurant at Caves House on the Thursday to which all registrants are welcome at their option.

Deadlines and Publications

Presenters are asked to check the dates on the attached Presenters Form. *Both the Registration Form & the Title Submission Form must be completed by the due dates.*

Suitable research papers will be accepted for the Journal of the Linnean Society of NSW. A book suitable for general public will follow, and presenters may be approached to assist this later in 2013.

Accommodation

The cost of accommodation is *not* included in the registration fee.

Jenolan Caves House

In the same building as the Symposium, the main accommodation in heritage-listed Caves House is worth the experience. The management has offered special discounted accommodation for the event, available only to registered participants. Accommodation is in several room categories in the Victorian splendour of Caves House itself, or behind the main building in the motel-style Mountain Lodge, or the more basic Gatehouse. As the event starts at 10am you will probably need reservations for two nights, Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd May.

To find out more about the facilities, visit www.jenolancaves.org.au/accommodation and click for details of each room type. Then telephone to make a booking. In Caves House itself are Traditional Rooms (shared bathrooms) for \$71, and Classic Rooms (en-suite) \$121 to \$170. Behind the main building there is the motel-style Mountain Lodge (en-suite) at \$107 per unit, and the Gatehouse (backpacker style) for \$64 single or twin (extra for more in the room). *To obtain these rates, you must book directly with Caves House reception (ph: (02) 63593900), NOT on-line or through a third-party agency AND you must say you are registered for the Jenolan Science Symposium. Book early to ensure you get the accommodation of your choice.*

Other options further afield include:

Jenolan Cottages (\$150 for up to 4 people) are fully equipped self-contained cabins with 2 bedrooms, a kitchen & balcony, near the top of the Five Mile Hill 8km north of Jenolan. Book through Caves House.

Jenolan Cabins : 4km from Jenolan, near the top of the Two-Mile Hill, accommodate up to 6 in two bedrooms, with a kitchen, living room and excellent views. \$125 for 2, + \$10/\$15 each additional child/adult. Visit www.jenolancabins.com.au for details, book direct with the owner, guide Barry Richard.

McKeowns Rest (www.mckeownsrest.com.au) is a luxury B&B at the corner of the Jenolan-Oberon and Kanangra Walls Road, 4km west of Jenolan. From \$200 a double inc. breakfast. Book direct.

In Oberon and nearby, 30km (30min drive) away, there are motels and B&Bs e.g. Titania Motel: from \$ 99, Big Trout Motor Inn: from \$112, Highlands Motor Inn: from \$125, Also www.sunsetsatoberon.com.au, from \$190 inc. breakfast. Book direct for all these.

Additional copies of this brochure and the forms are available from the web sites of the Linnean Society of NSW (linneansocietynsw.org.au), the Australian Speleological Federation Inc, (caves.org.au) and the Jenolan Caves Historical & Preservation Society (jenolanhistory.org.au).