

Deborah Carden (left) and Ann Augusteyn (right) receive their Fellow of ACKMA awards from ACKMA President, Steve Bourne, at the 2008 ACKMA Annual General Meeting at Capricorn Caves.



TWO NEW FELLOWS

- Greg Martin and Kent Henderson

At the recent ACKMA Annual General Meeting at Capricorn Caves, two new Fellows of ACKMA were elected by acclamation.

In proposing Deborah Carden as a Fellow, ACKMA Past President and Life Member, Greg Martin, said: 'Deborah has had a long time interest in cave and karst management, both professionally and recreationally. She is a committee member of ACKMA and was co-convenor of the 15th ACKMA Cobnference at Wesport on New Zealand's South Island in April 2005.

Deborah has been a great supporter of our organization and has also been instrumental in achieving higher standards of cave management in New Zealand, especially in relation to the recreational use of caves, and by commercial operators, both tourism and adventure.

Deborah has an important in New Zealand's Department of Conservation in which she has been able to influence and provide some priority for karst management through her positions, and this was particularly so in the important period following the aftermath of the Cave Creek Tragedy in 1995, when staff confidence needed rebuilding. It is with great pleasure that I propose Deborah Carden as a Fellow of ACKMA'. The proposition was seconded by

ACKMA Vice-President, Past President and Life Member, Peter Chandler.

In proposing Ann Augusteyn as a Fellow, ACKMA Publications Officer and Life Member, Kent Henderson, said: 'Ann Augusteyn has been a tremendous supporter of ACKMA over many years. In her management of Capricorn Caves with her late husband, Ken, which started in the late 1980's she has always been innovative, and committed to the higher possible standards of cave and karst management, and this is aptly demonstrated in the facilities we see around us at Capricorn Caves today. She has always been prepared to give and take sound advice, and this is reflected in the quality of her staff and the experience of visitors at her caves.

Ann convened the 10th ACKMA Conference at Rockhampton in 1993, our first 'big' conference (it terms of attendance), which was a stunning success, and set the pattern for others to emulate in the future. She served as ACKMA's Australian Vice President from 1996 to 1998, and has attended seven ACKMA Conferences over the years.

Ann has long been an outstanding contributor is cave and karst management, and it is with great opeasure that I propose her as a Fellow of ACKMA'. The proposition was seconded by ACKMA Fellow, Dianne Vavryn.