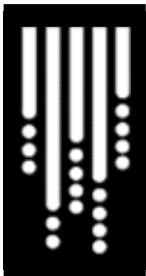


# Cave and Karst Management in Australasia XXIV

Proceedings of the 24th Australasian Conference  
on Cave and Karst Management  
Wellington, NSW Australia, 2025



Australasian Cave and Karst  
Management Association  
2025

Proceedings of the  
*Twenty Fourth*  
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Australasian Cave and Karst Management Association  
Cover illustration: Top Image: Speleothem damage to crystal formations in Gaden Cave, Wellington NSW †  
Photograph © Kirsty Dixon  
Bottom Image: The Ancient Landscapes Gallery at the Wellington Caves Visitor's Centre, NSW - an interactive display giving details of the animals and environments around the caves over time.  
Photograph © Michelle Tonkins

† Jill Rowling proposed the following hypothesis for the damage caused to the speleothems. "The white patches seemed to be mainly located near the show cave lights, and you did say that there had been an infestation of leopard slugs. It suddenly occurred to me that the slugs may have been grazing on lampenflora, and consumed the calcite along with the lampenflora. Yum. Slugs have very raspy tongues, and calcite crystal is rather soft. The cave coral has lots of nooks that lampenflora can grow on, so when the slugs munch down on the green bits, all that's left is the white calcite that does not have any green on it (yet)."

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