



Photo:  
White Scar  
Cave by  
Stuart Gardiner

This cave near  
Ingleton in the  
Yorkshire  
Dales, UK can  
be visited  
during  
[EuroSpeleo  
2016](#)



**This Newsletter is issued  
by the Bureau of the  
European Speleological  
Federation (FSE)**

B.P. 3067, L-1030 Luxembourg

Web: [www.eurospeleo.eu](http://www.eurospeleo.eu)

Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/eurospeleo](http://www.facebook.com/eurospeleo)

e-mail: [contact@eurospeleo.org](mailto:contact@eurospeleo.org)

ISSN 2418-4500

***In January 2016, the FSE will  
call for the contributions for  
2016 by sending out invoices.***

***The General Assembly of the FSE  
will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> August 2016  
and the 4<sup>th</sup> EuroSpeleo Protection  
Symposium on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>  
August, 2016 both during  
EuroSpeleo 2016 in the Yorkshire  
Dales in Great Britain.***

## Editorial

We have received very positive comments from speleologists of various member countries on the new format of the FSE Newsletter.

This, and the fact that there were some important events to report, including those of a fairly "historical" dimension, encouraged the FSE Bureau to release the next issue of the Newsletter quickly.

We intend to provide the Newsletter on a more frequent basis than before, although still occasionally, as soon as noteworthy events and information are available.

A Happy New Caving Year to all of you!

The FSE Bureau, January 2016

## Geological Survey of Iran- Invitation to the Tehran Conference

On 13th December 2015 Abbas Tavassoli from the Geological Survey of Iran (GSI) informed the FSE about the 34<sup>th</sup> national and 2<sup>nd</sup> International Geoscience Congress (Geosciences and Speleology), which will be held from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 in Tehran, Iran.

The conference will cover the following aspects with regard to karst and caves:

- The geology of caves
- Karst landform exploration
- Conservation of caves and karst
- The ecology and biology of caves

- The archaeology of caves
- Surveying and mapping

Two websites have been established to provide information about the conference and details of the costs of participation, the conference venue, presentations and papers etc.:

<http://34nigc.conference.gsi.ir/en>

<http://speleology2016.conference.gsi.ir/en>

It is also possible to contact Abbas Tavassoli directly, who is acting as the Executive Secretary of the event:

[Atavassoli88@yahoo.com](mailto:Atavassoli88@yahoo.com)





**Asian Union of Speleology (AUS) founded, FSE proposes cooperation**



The delegates of the founding member countries of AUS with the new President Prof. Eko Haryono (5<sup>th</sup> from left, lower row), Vice-President Dr. Zhang Yuan Hai (4<sup>th</sup> from left, lower row), and General-Secretary Satoshi Goto (right, upper row), and Prof. Kyung-Sik Woo (acting AUS President in the creational phase) standing in the centre (lower row).



FSE hands over the draft cooperation agreement to AUS president Eko Haryono during the AUS inaugural meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Large photo at the top by Ryan Deboodt others photos by Ernest Geyer.

At the 2nd Asian Transkarst Conference in Lichuan, Hubei (China) the Asian Union of Speleology (AUS) was founded on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015. FSE was invited as an observer to the inaugural dinner on 5<sup>th</sup> November where Asian delegates from South Korea, China, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, Iran, Vietnam, Laos, Malaysia, Lebanon and Indonesia agreed on the Statute, which was formally signed by the founding members on 6<sup>th</sup> November, also with the FSE (Ernest Geyer and Michael Laumanns) present in the room.

Prof. Kyung-Sik Woo (Republic of Korea), who acted as the interim President of the Asian Union during its creational phase announced at the meeting that he would like to resign from leading AUS due to his various other commitments in UIS and IUCN. Mr. Terry Bolger (Laos) and FSE Vice-President M.Laumanns were asked to act as facilitators to bring together a new board of AUS. This was successfully achieved.

Prof. Eko Haryono (Indonesia) was elected President of AUS. Vice-President is Dr. Zhang Yuan Hai (China) and General-Secretary of AUS is Satoshi Goto (Japan). On the occasion of the foundation of AUS, the European Speleological Federation congratulated our Asian friends and handed over a draft co-operation agreement to Prof. Haryono. The final text of the agreement should be finalized during the next months so as to be adopted by the next General Assemblies of both regional federations.

**FSE member organisations to provide clickable link from their website to FSE**

At the last GAM in Pertosa-Auletta (Italy) the following new paragraph in the Internal Regulations of FSE was adopted:

SECTION 1: THE MEMBERS  
 § 6. Each representative national speleological organisation appointed by a member country of the F.S.E. must present the logo of the F.S.E. on the home page of the official website of this organization. The logo serves also as a link to the website of the F.S.E. (<http://www.eurospeleo.eu>) by clicking on it.



## EuroSpeleo 2016: tickets with discount still available

**Tickets for EuroSpeleo 2016, the 5<sup>th</sup> European Speleological Congress, are still available with a large discount until February 2016 at: <http://eurospeleo.uk/tickets/>**

On the regularly updated Congress website <http://eurospeleo.uk> you can find information on:

- The venue and its location
- A list of the accommodation available
- A list of pre-rigged Yorkshire caves to visit
- Pre- and post-event camp information
- Instructions for presentations and posters

This week-long festival of British caving will run from **13 - 20th August 2016**.

Pre- and post-event congress camps are scheduled for the weeks before and after the congress.

**Bookings for the pre/post congress caving camps are now open on:**

<http://eurospeleo.uk/about/pre-post-camps.php>

Photo: Gaping Gill Main Chamber by Stuart Gardiner

## FSE Contact Group on Show Caves - Mandatory Description

Show caves are recognised as important sites of natural heritage as well as for providing an opportunity for the public to get in touch with the exploration, beauty and protection of the underground world. Consequently, show caves play a significant role in education and also for the representation of speleological organizations.

At the General Assembly of the European Speleological Federation (FSE) during the 9th EuroSpeleo Forum in Baile Herculane (Romania) the creation of a "EuroSpeleo Contact Group on Show Caves" was introduced by a discussion jointly presented by the FSE Bureau and Friedrich Oedl, who manages the Austrian Show Cave Eisriesenwelt. A concept paper on the mandate of this group was pre-announced.

The General Assembly took positive note of this new activity of FSE.

Following that, Friedrich Oedl and the FSE Bureau have developed the following mandatory description for the "EuroSpeleo Contact Group on Show Caves":

1. The "EuroSpeleo Contact Group on Show Caves" is jointly represented by Dr. Friedrich Oedl (Eisriesenwelt) and the FSE Bureau in the person of its Vice-Treasurer (Ernest Geyer, Austria). The representatives may change over time in agreement with both the current representatives and the FSE Bureau.
2. The "EuroSpeleo Contact Group on Show Caves" works on the basis of the "Recommended International Guidelines for the Development and Management of Show Caves" as jointly published by the International Show Caves Association (ISCA), IUCN, and UIS (published in UIS Bulletin vol. 57, 2015).
3. Tasks of the "EuroSpeleo Contact Group on Show Caves" will be (a non-exhaustive list):
  - a) to strengthen the link between show caves in FSE member countries and FSE member organisations;
  - b) to deepen the cooperation between show caves in FSE member countries and its speleological organisations on one side with international and supranational institutions and federations on the other side;
  - c) to organise seminars, workshops and presentations;
  - d) to stimulate educational and environmental programmes organised by show caves
  - e) to encourage show caves in further exploration and speleological documentation by speleologists;
  - f) to participate in EuroSpeleo Forums and other conventions dealing with show caves or speleology.

This mandatory description became effective by an FSE Bureau decision.



### Some upcoming events

- **6-12 February 2016**  
17<sup>th</sup> Symposium of  
Vulcanospeleology, Big  
Island, Hawaii, United States
- **16-22 May 2016**  
7<sup>th</sup> International Workshop  
on Ice Caves, Postojna,  
Slovenia
- **30 May-6 June 2016**  
Rupt du Puits 50 years,  
Robert Espagne, Meuse,  
France
- **21-26 June 2016**  
10<sup>th</sup> Balkan Cavers Camp,  
Vratsa, Bulgaria
- **1-20 August 2016**  
Gouffre Berger Campaign  
2016, Méaudre, France
- **13-20 August 2016**  
5<sup>th</sup> European Speleological  
Congress: EuroSpeleo 2016,  
Austwick, Yorkshire, United  
Kingdom
- **15-16 August 2016**  
4<sup>th</sup> European Protection  
Symposium, Austwick,  
Yorkshire, United Kingdom
- **4-11 September 2016**  
International Speleo Photo  
Meeting ESPM 2016, Suncillo,  
Burgos, Spain
- **5-9 September 2016**  
Eurokarst 2016 Conference,  
Neuchâtel, Switzerland
- **6-10 March 2017** Congress  
Hypogea 2017, Nevşehir,  
Cappadocia, Turkey
- **23-30 July 2017**  
17<sup>th</sup> International Congress  
of Speleology, Sydney,  
Australia

All events, along with detailed information, can be found on:  
<https://www.facebook.com/eurospeleo/events?key=events>

Please send all your international events (expeditions, congresses, symposia etc.) to  
[contact@eurospeleo.org](mailto:contact@eurospeleo.org)

## International training camp for young cavers in Germany, 29<sup>th</sup> July – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2016 – registration now open!



Photographs:  
Uros Illic and Markus Boldt

Every second year the German Höhlenverein Blaubeuren organizes an international youth camp for young speleologists in the village of Blaubeuren-Seissen (Swabian Alb, south-west Germany). It is intended for participants of 16 years or older and targets young people who want to begin caving or who already have some experience and want to enhance their skills.

An additional aim of the camp is to meet other young cavers to establish links, exchange interests and culture, and enable further cross-border joint cave exploration.

A variety of training courses and an extensive support programme with field trips, presentations and practical outdoor activities will cover all important subjects relevant to speleology.

The following courses will be offered:

I. Techniques for Cave Exploration including Rescue Topics

II. Cave Surveying

III. Biology, Fauna and Eco-Systems in Caves

IV. Geology

V. Electronics in Caves

VI. Logging of Climate Data in Caves

VII. Cave Climatology

VIII. Applied Hydrology



The participant fee for the 16 days camp (€ 260 aged 25 and younger, € 350 aged 26 and older) includes: accommodation (recreation room, place for a tent, restrooms with showers), 3 meals per day, training in small groups by experienced cavers, transport and entrance fees for field trips, a CD-ROM with the training documentation, youth group insurance (health, third party liability, accident) for participants aged 25 and younger for the duration of the camp.

Participants should have basic caving gear and camping equipment with them. They should be able to follow a conversation in English or German.

Detailed information and a registration form are available to download at  
[www.juhoefola.de](http://www.juhoefola.de)

Contact: Petra Boldt, Hauptstrasse 4, D - 89601 Schelklingen-Schmiechen.

Phone +49-7394-1566.