THE CAVE
at the Mount Gambier Library

A children's magic learning place in a big adult building

In 2008 the Mount Gambier City Council initiated a bold and exciting project to develop a new Library. The stakeholders magnetised their vision and passion to create both an impressive building and a whole new world for public research and resource-borrowing.

It was in the latter part of that year when Brown Falconer architects approached ShowTrek to undertake the exciting assignment to design and construct the themed interior for the Children's Section. The early engagement was a critical element of the successful outcome.

Mount Gambier is famous for its local pristine ponds and lakes. The children now enter their Library into a representative environment of underwater mystery and adventure. This special place entices children to explore and learn in comfortable and serene surrounds.

ShowTrek confirmed the requirements and specifications because the architectural building and construction facets of this Children’s Library are truly unique.

The scope of work required precise definition to meet creative and corporate expectations. ShowTrek applied its considerable experience in the theatre and entertainment industry to develop the special effects and scenic finishes.
The architectural plans were translated into Workshop design and drawings for approval. Periodical visits to ShowTrek’s Workshop and regular secure web site updates kept the client and architect abreast of progress on a daily basis. The entire interior of sinkhole land forms, including lighting effects, were fabricated and assembled at ShowTrek. All elements were designed to break down into sections for efficient handling and to suit standard road freight. ShowTrek’s installation crew dismantled and recorded each section and then packaged everything into custom stillages.

Working with the Architect and Builder on site, the crew re-assembled the interior elements, fitted and programmed the lighting effects and applied the scenic art finishes. Cleverly lit underwater flora and aquatic features made for realistic finishing touches to appeal to the most vivid and critical of imaginations.

Public reaction of high acclaim at the official opening was confirmation that the entire Library complex exceeded the wildest expectations. It has set benchmarks for others to follow. This ground-breaking project is further evidence of ShowTrek's specialist building and construction capabilities. The project was completed on time, within budget and the deliverable is a delight to the Librarians in its intuitive visitor use.