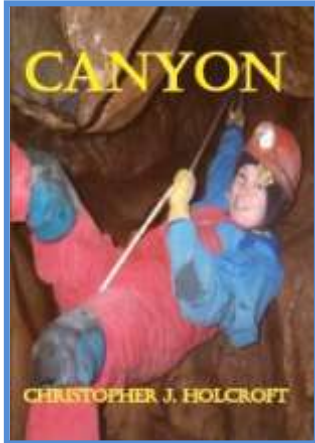


MEDIA RELEASE

4th December 2008

YOUNG ADULTS CHALLENGED TO HELP SERVE THEIR COMMUNITY



A new book launched tonight challenges young adults and teenagers to undertake rescue training to help themselves and others who do adventurous activities in the wild.

In **CANYON**, the latest book by Sydney author Christopher J. Holcroft, young men and women in the 17 to 26 age group are asked to rise to the occasion across Australia and help train to rescue and assist those who fall victim to misadventure.

Holcroft has called on the real time example of the Canadian Rover Scouts who have joined their local rescue organisations and become accredited in their own right to save others who engage in adventurous activities but fall foul to misfortune.

In **CANYON**, Holcroft also highlights a current real time problem that has been missing within our '000' and '112' emergency mobile telephone numbers for people participating in adventurous activities or even at home and can't speak because of either adverse weather conditions or becoming hoarse and losing their voices because of shock.

If you have lost your voice and only have an ordinary mobile phone, who do you send an SMS requesting emergency help? What service is available throughout Australia that can assist people undertaking adventurous activities, but due to adverse weather conditions their voices can't be heard when requesting help on their mobile phones? .

NSW Communications Manager for the State Emergency Services, Mr Steve Delaney, will launch the book at St Joseph's church hall, Parker Street, Rockdale **tonight** (Thursday, 4th December) at 7pm.

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