



# CHILLAGOE CAVING CLUB

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## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

[WWW.CHILLAGOECAVINGCLUB.ORG.AU](http://WWW.CHILLAGOECAVINGCLUB.ORG.AU)

Welcome to 2008!

Club members did some great caving in 2007, with trips to Broken River and many Chillagoe weekends. This year we are continuing our Club weekends with a different focus for each weekend, including rescues, SRT and new member weekends. The Club is also planning to run a Club trip to Nelson, New Zealand in early 2009, and we will have to get people up to speed on SRT for this.

Last year we began a clubhouse renovation program and hopefully we can continue our enthusiasm this year. Major projects in the pipeline include a new bbq in the shelter shed and improvements to our current toilets and showers.

So it's shaping up to be an exciting year for the Club and we do hope to see everyone at the various weekends and events we have planned.

Happy caving

### CLUB WEEKENDS

Club weekends will be run on every second weekend of every second month unless exceptional circumstances exist. Hopefully this will allow club members to plan ahead during the year. The only weekends that will not hold to this is the May day long weekend which is traditionally our AGM, and the March weekend which will take advantage of the Easter holiday this year.

We are going to continue to use the weekend format we developed last year, with a working bee for two or three hours on each weekend, and then caving the rest of the time. The specific dates and planned activities are listed below:-

#### **Club weekends - second weekend of every second month starting from January 08**

**March – 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>** - General caving, working bee -clean and paint 1 room upstairs.

**May day long weekend – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>** – AGM, General caving & new member trips, working bee – renovate toilet block, paint 1 room upstairs, begin bbq shed

**July 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>** – SRT weekend, working bee - clean and paint 1 room upstairs, bbq shed.

**September – 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>** - Cave rescue weekend/course, working bee – bbq shed.

**November – 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>** – SRT weekend, Christmas breakup.

We also plan to hold a video weekend on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2008. It is tentatively planned to have this at Allan Cummin's house due to its central location and plenty of space to stay overnight. He also has a new data projector ☺.

If you are planning to come to a club weekend, it is imperative that you contact our Secretary, Bruce Dane, to let him know you are coming. This is particularly important for new members as otherwise you may be left without a trip leader! Bruce's contact details are:-

Bruce Dane:- Ph: 07 4095 5314, [bdane1@eq.edu.au](mailto:bdane1@eq.edu.au)

If there are any changes to the club weekend dates everyone will be notified via newsletter in advance.

### **CLUB MAINTENANCE**

It is with great sadness that we announce to the club the demise of one of our oldest and most venerated members. Green in colour and composed primarily of rust, this trusty and cool companion served many of us over the years. As a fitting tribute we ask that all members pause for a minute's silence next time they open a fridge.



The club now has a new fridge and freezer combination in stylish white. We have also obtained some new couches for the Clubhouse. So come out and try the new facilities.

Ongoing work this year will include renovating the clubhouse sleeping quarters and working on turning our carport back into a bbq shed. In particular, if any club member is able to help us with sourcing a bbq plate (1m x 600mm x 12mm thick) could you please contact either Alan Cummins or the Secretary.

### **CLUB FEES**

Club fees are due again on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2008. The fee amount is unchanged from last year. If you are intending to direct debit into the Club account, please contact our Treasurer, Peter Bannink to let him know or for further details.

## **CLUB TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND**

Chillagoe Caving Club is intending to do a fly away Club trip to New Zealand in January 2009. The region we will be visiting is the Nelson area of the South Island which has many large, vertical caves. Caves we are intending to visit include Nettlebed (889m) and Harwood's Hole (176 metre entrance pitch) & Starlight cave.

There are 7 spots left on the trip, so if you are interested you need to contact the trip leader, Paul Osborne, asap. Please be aware that due to the vertical nature of the caves a certain amount of SRT currency and fitness WILL be required and that prospective trip members will be assessed on these criteria. We will be running SRT training weekends through the year, so even if you don't have much experience there is opportunity for you to learn and come along.

## **AGM & ANNUAL REPORT**

The Chillagoe Caving Club's Annual General Meeting will be held on the May Day long weekend. The AGM will be on the Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2008 commencing at 7:30pm. All members are invited to attend the meeting itself, and the pre meeting dinner at the Clubhouse starting at 6pm sharp.

The Annual Report is also due for the May Day long weekend. Could all Club office holders please complete their individual reports and forward them to the Secretary by 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2008.

**Have fun caving and hope to see you at  
a Club weekend soon!**