



CHILLAGOE CAVING CLUB

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President: **Winfried Weiss** Phone: 40955 314 Email: wmweiss@westnet.com.au
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Caretaker: **Carol Davis** Phone: 40947 036 Clubhouse, Cathedral St, Chillagoe 4871

MAY/JUNE NEWSLETTER

WWW.CHILLAGOECAVINGCLUB.ORG.AU

Dear Cavers,

Thank you to everyone who attended the Club AGM this month! It was great to catch up with everyone and do some caving. A special thank you must go to Carol as well for preparing dinner for us again. Carol, it was delicious.

The elections of office bearers were held under the guidance of our patron Tom Gilmore, who was able to attend the meeting. The Executive was returned and is as follows:-

Winfried Weiss – President
Bruce Dane – Secretary
Peter Bannink – Treasurer

Other office bearers were also re-elected. A full list will be available shortly in the AGM minutes. Thank you to everyone who has put up their hand in order to help ensure that our Club goes from strength to strength.

A couple of important upcoming events – our caving trip to New Zealand in January 09 looks like a goer, and we will be applying for significant grant funding for our facilities in the coming weeks. If you feel you would like to be involved in these, then please let the Executive know asap!

There are quite a few caving trips coming up in the short term, in particular the trip to Broken River in the June/July school holidays and our July Club weekend at Chillagoe. We are also expecting a visit from Sydney Speleological Society from the 24th – 27th June 2008.

So it's going to be a busy few months.

Happy caving

CLUB WEEKENDS

Here is a list of upcoming Club weekends and activities. Please note that the July weekend is now the weekend of the Cairns Show (long weekend).

June 29th – 13th of July – Broken River trip

July 18th, 19th and 20th – SRT weekend, working bee - clean and paint 1 room upstairs, bbq shed.

August 30th – BBQ and video night at Alan Cummin's place in Gordonvale.

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

November – 8th & 9th – SRT weekend, Christmas breakup.

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

In relation to the Broken River trip it is probably worth contacting Alan Cummins or Doug Irvin to make arrangements. Doug in particular has some space to take people who are interested in going in his vehicle and will be leaving on the 29th of June, returning on the 5th of July.

CLUB MAINTENANCE

The Club will shortly be applying for significant funding from the Queensland government for Minor Facilities Works. This includes the provision of amenities block facilities. We will keep you updated on how we go. In the meantime if anyone has experience writing grant proposals or has examples that we could utilise, then contact the Executive asap. The closing date for this round of funding is the 27th of June 2008.

One particular project that deserves mention is the effort put into repainting and tidying up the old toilet block that we have. It has been painted outside and inside (partially), the steps have been repaired and new shower facilities are being worked on. Hopefully a hot water system is coming soon, and an exhaust fan will be fitted to the toilets. This should make the block much more usable for Club members and means the facilities under the Clubhouse won't be so stretched.

In relation to our Club weekends the working bees will continue, particularly in painting our Clubhouse and continuing to work on our BBQ shed.

CLUB FEES

There are QUITE A FEW people who have not paid their Club fees this year which were due some time ago. Please get your fees in ASAP. If you are unfinancial, you are not covered by insurance, you cannot go on Club trips, and you cannot access National Park areas. 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.

As discussed at the Club AGM our financial year as regards the ASF has now been changed so that it begins on 1 July. In practical terms this now means that Club fees are due on the AGM weekend, and not on the 1st of March each year, with the ASF component payable two months later. This will simplify things enormously, and also eliminate any potential insurance gap for our Club.

The above change does however mean that next year each member will have to pay approximately \$25 extra in Club fees on the 09 AGM weekend. This money will be needed to cover the 4 month gap from March – June which the Club will pay for members in advance. In the long term though we won't be out of pocket, as our fees will then insure us until July the following year.

If anyone wants any more information about this topic, then please give me a call on (07) 4095 5314 to discuss.

CLUB TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND

Our trip to Nelson in January 2009 has been confirmed. We are definitely going and are now in the planning stages. The tentative dates are the 9th – 19th of January 2009. If you are interested and haven't spoken to anyone yet, then contact Paul Osborne ASAP on (07) 4068 5259.

Please remember that acceptance on this trip is not automatic. The caves are vertical in nature and require a good degree of fitness. SRT experience is preferable, though if you don't have it then we will be running practice weekends for the remainder of the year.

SYDNEY SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY VISIT

SSS will be visiting Chillagoe from the 23rd of June to the 28th of June 2008. They will be bringing approximately 7 members along. I will be out there for the latter half of that time, but it would be excellent if other members could also be at Chillagoe while they are here. If anyone is interested in helping out as a guide etc, please contact one of the Executive for further details.

This is a great opportunity to meet other cavers and network! Who knows when you might want to go caving in NSW.

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