

NSG's
NEWSLETTER

CAVERNDISH

Sept

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Hi All,

Has been some little time with lots of dark spaces between issues but here we go again. Bit of a bumper edition this time, I hope you've been keeping the Caving spirit alive.

Thanks required

To all

I would like to take this chance to thank all those that have put there energies into NSG over the last year in particular those that have elected positions.

Thanks to **Andy Bagley** who is now our immediate past President. Thanks for your efforts, we all know it's been hard at times.

Thanks to **Michael Brewer** for his long standing and hard work as Treasurer.

Thanks also to **Bronwyn Mountford** for your work filling in Michael's position whilst he was away recently.

Thanks again **Bronwyn** for your secretarial skills.

Thanks **Oz** for your help in keeping the Club alive as Hut Officer, Trip's co-ordinator and looking after the Archives.

Leo, Thanks to you too for being so available, often at short notice, as gear officer.

Thank you **Jenny** for keeping the books and Magazines under control.

Thanks!

Welcome

New committee

I know most of you were on the committee last year but It's got to be said "welcome"

Trip Report.
Bruce Mutton

Dan and I had an epic trip, assisted at the periphery by a team from Christchurch. Thank you all! The water was high / normal, based on my recollections of trips a decade ago. My noise-induced nervousness was high. The sumps were mighty appealing as the way home. We rigged the bottom bunch of pitches and hand lines. Fearful of running out of equipment we went back and derigged the hand lines. Finding a bypass for a pitch, and then the blissful calm of the quiet zone before the sumps.

The first sump was dived easily, however the second sump's dive line was too limp. Sure enough, we pulled it back to meet us, and the horror of a trip back up the cave started to sink in. I gave a free dive a valiant attempt towing another line. But at the crux point, the sand bar at the bottom of the sump and the start of the tunnel I thought better of it. Gumboots are not the most effective propulsion system in water. (One of the very few things gumboots are not good for) 🙄

So began a gruelling trip out.

The good news (I think) is that Dan is keen to take some tanks down so we all have the opportunity to do it all again! She's thinking about September sometime.

Who's keen?

Bruce



Yoni has problems with his gumboots also.

Derek Lipyeat's van
Has 100,000 kilometres

On the clock. Derek was almost cheated from a celebration when the odometer stuck at 999,999 for a day or two. Congratulations to both concerned.

Riwaka wanderings

Dave Hume

Encouraged by a quick trip into Riwaka's "Simply Sumpless" with Jonathan Carr.

(on the way from caving at Paturau at Easter)

Talking to both Martin Groves and Joel Corrigan after there diving exploits past sump 3b, I've become a bit more interested in the Nelson area, even if it is a couple more hours drive away.

A recent prospecting trip (21st May 2005) from the Riwaka Resurgence to the NSG Hut with Joe Falconer failed to find a single cave entrance!

(We were in the completely wrong place really....) The route taken was straight up the hill from about 1km or so, South of the Riwaka car park.

Plenty of grunting pigs were found and heaps of supplejack (worse than most places on the west coast!!) much steep terrain was covered. In one spot we had to haul our packs up an exposed climb, although there was lots to hang onto. About 1/2 way up we had only 2hours daylight left which meant high tailing it to the top as neither of us had been in the area before. We got to the hut with a good hour of daylight to spare but were quite disappointed with the lack of results or caves found. It took 6.5 hours to cover 2.5kms (as the crow flies) with a bit of extra fossicking about. Better prospects are bound to lie in the obvious, less steep, valley effectively above the Riwaka itself and or, above the Simple Sumpless entrance.

cheers

Dave.

Descent Magazine issues #180 to #182

Oz

Just over a year ago NSG changed it's subscription from British caving Magazine "Caves and Caving" to its competitor "Descent Magazine" Soon afterwards Caves and Caving stopped publishing, they obviously took our subscription change personally!

Descent Magazine is a two monthly publication with an emphasis on local UK caving, but also excellent reports on caving activity around the world, exploration notes, book reviews, new equipment reports and lots of photos! The healthy discussion on all sorts of issues (some pretty minor) is good to see.

If you want to find out what cavers are getting up to around the world the magazines are available to loan at club meetings or contact Jenny our librarian.

Recommended articles –

(#182) A report on the New World depth record of –2,080m in Krubera Cave in Georgia.

(#181) A new world length cave dive record of 6.4km set in Bananeria Cave in Brazil. The dive was a solo dive using 33 tanks, 2 scooters and an average visibility of only 1.5m? The dive took over 11hrs.

Each of the last 3 magazines have letters to the Ed on Petzl Stops, while they are widely used in the UK, this may be changing as concern mounts about their suitability in unskilled hands and inconsistent ability to control descents on different thickness and types of ropes.

We are so lucky here. I read the article (#182) about testing of bolts in a particular cave, and the only time they could do this job when no one was in the cave was on a cold and wet Thursday evening. As it turned out there was a caving party in the cave that night!! (I have unexpectedly met another caving party in the same cave in NZ only 3 times in 30 years!)

Oz

NSG Proposed trip list July 2005 to February 2006

To assist the trip leaders please inform them as early as possible if you are interested in going on the trip. If you have a trip planned and would like others to join you contact the trips co-ordinator (Oz Patterson Ph 5477395) Note: Some trips will have limits on numbers and may also require that you have certain skills for the cave.

3 September	Suggestions required for Club trip. come to the meetings with ideas.	
15 th Sept	<u>Club Meeting September</u> Note club library is held at Steve and Jenny's!	Steve and Jenny's Ph 5447052
Mid Sept	Greenlink – Swissmaid crossover trip.	Mike Brewer Ph 03 5287541
1 st Oct	Club trip – details to follow	Contact trips co-ordinator
13 th Oct	<u>Club Meeting October</u> Note meeting a week earlier due to activities at Labour w/e	Mike and Jane's Ph 5457457
22/24 th Oct	NZSS AGM Takaka Hill. Labour W/e	NSG hosting event. Lots of caving!
2 nd October	Takaka Hill, Andy's mystery caving trip	Andy Bagley Ph 5457488
13 th Nov	Gorge Creek Cave.	Andrew Smith Ph 5481490
17 th Nov	<u>Club Meeting November</u>	Jim Palmer's Ph 5479694
26 th /30 th Nov	Heli-caving Villa-Maria Area, Mt Arthur prospection and exploration	Oz Ph 5477395
18 th Dec	Xmas BBQ at Bronwyns and Kevin's 18 Hanby Park Ph 5484363	
Over new year - Mt Owen Exploration, Bulmer Area		
19 th Jan	Honest Lawyer Cave	7.30pm
January onwards	Turks Torrent Cave, weather dependent	Andrew Smith Ph 5481490
16 th Feb 06	<u>Club meeting February</u>	Greg and Alisons Ph 5447085
February	Honeycomb Hill Cave, Karamea.	Debbie Cade Ph 5477395
March	Possum Patrol Cave, Western Basin, Mt Arthur. Details to come.	

A comment from Oz

Just thinking about the club logo.

My thoughts are that we should encourage draft concept drawings. As someone may have a very good idea, but not be able to present it in a professional final drawing.

While someone with a not so good idea but with good drafting skills may win.

People shouldn't be put off by not being a good drawer, we can get someone more skilled to do a final draft of the winning one (if we decide to use it).

Entry found in log book from NSG's Pre-Xmas expedition 30/11/94

... moved on from the first cave due to lack of rope. Headed across to "The Dark Slot" seen from Karst field opposite 2 days earlier. Entrance closer than we thought as didn't take long to reach it. The hole is not obvious until you are right on top of it.

Oz descended first, free climbing down a narrow canyon. Reached a point where passage was steep but still free climbable. Arthur climbed down to join him, a chock stone wedged between the walls fell away when Arthur touched it. Oz had previously been standing on it with both feet. Canyon continued down another 10m before passage opened slightly and the floor disappeared into a 20 – 25m pitch with good echo. Unfortunately walls were absolutely featureless, bolting kit needed on next trip.

Footnote: First cave mentioned above was later called "Granity Cave" and kept us busy for a while. The Dark Slot has not been re visited!

Congratulations to Kevin and Bronwyn

7.54 am Sunday 28th August 05 ... A baby boy was found under the cabbage tree out back.
Name still to be advised at this stage.

Talks Logging

Are still happening regarding the logging in the Green link / Middle-Earth catchment. TDC appears to be on our side.

Subs for NSG & NZSS Are now due.

Upon request I can email out the subscription form and also the NSG bank account number for payments via online banking.
Bron.

See you in the Entrance
Ed.

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