

# CAVERNDISH

*NSG's NEWSLETTER*

*July 2007*

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## **From the Editor:**

Hello Fellow Cavers and Co,

Hope you're all keeping warm and well this winter. We're past the shortest day and already noticing the evenings being a little lighter longer.

I hear some of you have had the opportunity to get out and play in the snow, hopefully without injuring yourself, hey Oz ☺.

Speaking of snow, the Mid Winter Do went down well and once again the hut looked as pretty as a postcard. A fun evening as it always is, with some lovely mulled wine to help keep us warm. Some far-out weird muso types turned up to keep everyone entertained. I hear they've now gone global.

Next morning the many hands made light work of putting away the firewood. Thanks guys, very appreciated.

With another AGM behind us I would like to say I have enjoyed being your Editor for the past 12 months and many thanks to those that have sent their caving stories to me. It's the stories that make the newsletter a good read.

As always I am looking for some more, so please send them on to me for future editions. It doesn't have to be a long tale, it's always nice to hear what our club members have been up to.

Last Newsletter's "Where Am I" was Babylon Cave, well done Jane for the quick response to that one ☺

With the start of a new financial year upon us, just a friendly little reminder that Club Subs due next month.

Dawn ☺

## **From the President:**

Hi just a small note:

I'd like to formally thank everybody for their efforts in regard to the Mid Winter Doo.

Good work and well done, it was a great night.

Thanks to Kevin who came in unrehearsed at the last minute, what the hell is he doing at Gateway Trust, Kevin's the man.

Seb (Shamus) wow, can he play that Guitar, yeah get on down.

Daryl, well what can I say "Spike" Don't work too hard now Daryl.

Dawn or was it Suzy Q

Thanks too, to all the other helpers either on the night or beforehand.

Good work with the firewood too.

Now here is a thing...

Daryl let it slip that he is now able to relax a little cos he's got a dispensation from the Government due to the "pause" (Man O pause) pause to relax. So well done Daryl more time for caving aye.

Oz has produced a great trip list and some of us have already tried it out. And what do you know, it works!

Great trip on Saturday, Oz.

Have a look at the next trips.

Greg has a full SAR training schedule organised check it out.

Prospecting, Caving, SAR Training Exercises, Social Events, Surveying.

Yes it's a full list with plenty of Variety.

SO get out there and take advantage of what your Club can offer.

Andrew

President NSG

## **Where Am I?**

Our lights had been out for only about 5 seconds when it became apparent that the numbers of lights were so many that the silhouette of the person next to me could be seen. This glow worm grotto must surely be Nelson's best. We traveled through small passages often finding green leaves and sticks on the ceiling. Towards the exit we found ourselves first of all crawling and then climbing steeply upward through a small rock pile before the green of the native bush surrounded us. We had parked our cars only 300mtr from the cave entrance where a sizable stream entered the perfect arch of the mouth of the cave. The straight passage continued for approximately 150mtr until the sunlight disappeared from view. I am nestled amongst the native birds of the area. Where am I?

## **Past Trips in brief:**

### **Queen's Birthday Weekend:**

**Hollywood:** This trip was a washout for some with large volumes of water poring into the entrance.

Jane and her team of cavers did manage to enter the following day. A mesh of chains across the main entrance found to have a bolt or too loose and made the entrance quite a squeeze for some.

**Babylon:** Deb, Oz, Travis, Darryl, Andrew and myself caved through to the Naked Lady Series (cold bare feet at this stage) and found some unsightly damage to the thin calcite floor where mud was seeping through.

Colin and Mush plan to bolt Ray's Reach.

**TeTahi and Metro Caves** were also visited over the weekend.

**Waitui Prospecting/John Richard's Birthday Weekend May 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>:** Andrew and I had the pleasure of driving John and Katrina Richards to their wonderful property at Waitui. Whilst wandering around

through the beech forest, looking for caves, we found an old marked track. Katrina was able to take John for a good explore along it. The next day we were joined by Oz, Deb, Ian McG and Shaun. We spent the day prospecting and found some nice pockets of karst areas. Later we all enjoyed some hot beverages, birthday cake and shared stories before packing up and heading home.

**Summit Tomo:** Andrew, Tony Stevens and I made it down to Boots Off where measurements have been taken for a seat to be made for the entrance to Boots Off. This completes stage one of the clean up plan. Deb has been busy sourcing some crocks, to be donated to the cause, to be worn in this area. Good work Deb ☺  
Steve is making arrangements for the construction of the seat. Thanks Steve ☺

**Other Past Trips include:** Aquarius, Corkscrew, Middle Earth, Green Link.

## **SAR News:**

The old SAR stretcher has been retired to the Club Hut for the play-corner... Its saving days are over.

### **SAR Training Evenings:**

Keep an eye on the new trip list for dates and location of these training nights.

July 26 <sup>th</sup>	Patient Handling and Comms
August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Leadership Training
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	Paper Exercise, SAR Scenario type "Who Dunit?"
November 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Rigging/Self Rescue

## **Hut News:**

Whenua-iti have been using the hut on a regular basis.

It has been suggested that some work be done to the hut's driveway to make it more accessible for non 4x4 vehicles. Some places are in need of gravel and other areas need a bit of pick and shovel work.

The hut could do with a bit more furniture, if you have an old chair or two, in particular more dining chairs, that you may like to donate they would be greatly received.

### **Hut fees:**

Members \$4.00 per night

Non Members \$6.00 per night

## **Gear:**

The club now has a newly purchased generator set and is looking to purchase another. Four more helmets have been added to the gear. Plenty of survey gear available for those that require it.

It has been requested from Leo that spent carbide be cleaned out of the generators when they are returned. Thanks.

## **General:**

**Outdoor First Aid Course:** FREE to SAR people Nelson. November 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>.

Contact Sarah Brewer. Email: m.brewer@xtra.co.nz

### **Trip List Date Changes:**

18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> August Corkscrew with Kevin

1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> September Little Cave with Oz

### **Invitation for bulk order of caving gear:**

Seb is organizing a bulk order for the Club and it's Members. If you're thinking of stocking up on kit now is a very good time

Bulk orders will be collected up to **Monday 6th August**, thereafter quotes will be requested from a number of suppliers.

All those who have made an expression of interest will be given the choice to firm up on the order and be asked to pay into the NSG account. An order will be placed once payment has been received into the account. An email or phone call will be made to let everyone know once the order has been received. A bulk order should provide significant purchasing power to get a good price should enough orders be placed.

**Contact Seb before the 6<sup>th</sup> August.**

**Congratulations** go out to Oz Patterson who, at the 47<sup>th</sup> AGM, was nominated and crowned a "Life Member" to NSG, he is now an official Old Fart of caving. Many thanks Oz for your achievements, dedication and commitment to the club over the years. Clap! Clap! Cheer! Cheer! ☺

**John Richards** has very kindly opened an invite for cavers to use the hut for prospecting weekends on his wonderful property at Waitui. It has a great hut that can now comfortably sleep 8 people. Road access is 4x4 vehicles and restricted to dry weather conditions only. Many thanks John for your generous offer. If you wish to make a booking, then please contact John and Brigetta. Phone: 03 5402636

**Many thanks** go out to Ian McGregor for his work as Secretary for the last 12 months. Thank you, Deb for taking up the nomination.

## **Special Features:**

### **A Doddle: by W.A.Holloway**

NSG Records Volume 5, 1964-65

A curse on him, the one who said "It isn't very far".  
"Why it's only just an hour or so, since you left the car".  
Just up this rise and there you'll see the place we camp tonight  
With a bit of luck, if you step it out we'll get there while there's light.

My legs are made of rubber, my shoulders are bent and sore  
By the feel of it the sand in my boots has rubbed my heels red raw  
Mile after mile I've humped this pack and we are nearly there  
So put on a grin and don't give in, the motto is "Nil Despair"

Ah! There's the camp and there he is, sitting by the fire  
The one I cursed, who led the way, from him I will enquire  
Why is it that a word of his, a term he helped to model  
Why a four hour tramp, to reach a camp, should be called a doddle.

### **Shorties Terror: By W.A Holloway**

NSG Records Volume 5, 1964-65

A caving life is not too grim  
If you are tall combined with slim  
In Starlite Cave please spare a thought  
For the caver stout combined with short.

### **Tane's Feet: By W.A Holloway**

NSG Records, Volume 6, 1965-66

It's said that beauty is in the beholders eye  
Let's follow this raindrop that fell from the sky  
And evades the army that is Tane's feet

Through debris and soil it wends its way  
And arms itself with acids to help it in the fray  
When battle is joined where earth and rock meet

Some small crevice in the armour that the rock does wield  
Makes way for water and the solvents that it yields  
But what it takes of elements it later will secrete

In some dark recess where waits the sculpture, time  
To recreate and mould the secretions from the lime

In wondrous forms and images that may never be complete

And so, the water once again, bereft of what it took  
Continues on its way without a backward look  
From trickles on to streams and borne by rivers fleet

Taken out to sea again where sun and sea combine  
To form the cloud that hurries back to build the shrine  
In caverns deep beneath the spread of Tane's feet

**from the book "The men of Pierre Saint-Martin**  
**by Jacques Attout.**

Submitted By Kevin Mountford.

The young man who has the courage  
to risk his life  
climbing a mountain  
Or exploring some dangerous terrain  
Or crossing an ocean  
or going down some pothole  
Will never turn out to be mean spirited  
Never become an outsider  
or a social misfit  
He has proved himself in meeting the challenge of that kind of adventure  
which offers no material rewards  
and he will prove himself again  
In the adventure  
Where there are many rewards to be won  
The adventure we call life

**Next Meeting:**

**Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm Andrew and Dawn's.**  
**Flat 2, Moutere Highway, Upper Moutere. Phone 035432600**

NB: We are situated approx 350mtr from Sunrise Valley Road, before the church and township. If coming from Nelson we're on the right... look for the gumboot on the letterbox. ☺ Parking is limited to the roadside.

**E2510547 N5992754 ELEV 81m asl**

Be nice to see you here. ☺

Dawn Wood  
Editor

# NSG trip list and events July 07 to February 2008

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 coordinator (Oz Patterson Ph 5477395) Note: Some trips will have limits on numbers and may also require that you have certain skills for the cave.

**Additional trips can be put together at club meetings.**

19 <sup>th</sup> July	<b><u>July Club Meeting – NSG AGM.</u></b>	Oz & Deb's Ph 03-5477395
26 <sup>th</sup> July	1 <sup>st</sup> Cave SAR training evening – Comms and Patient care.	Contact Greg Ph 5481490
28 <sup>th</sup> July	Takaka Hill Caving	Contact Trips co-ordinator
16 <sup>th</sup> Aug	<b><u>Club Meeting August</u></b>	Andrew & Dawns Ph 5432600
11 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Corkscrew Cave, Takaka Hill	Kevin Mountford Ph 5484363
12 <sup>th</sup> Aug	South Branch Riwaka – prospecting	Debbie Cade ph 5477395
23 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	2 <sup>rd</sup> Cave SAR training evening – leadership.	Mike Brien ph 021-0633880
25/26 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Little Cave clean up & Patarau Caving	Oz Patterson ph 5477395
8/9 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Intro to Caving covering the basics.	Andrew Smith ph 021-1784160
13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	3 <sup>rd</sup> Cave SAR training – Paper exercise. Motueka SAR room	. Sarah ph 03-5287541
20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<b><u>Club Meeting September</u></b>	Seb's place ph 5464360
22/23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	Survey of Skiltons Cave	Andrew Smith ph 021-1784160
6 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Swiss Maid Cave, Takaka Hill	Andrew Smith ph 021-1784160
14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Ed's Cellar Cave. Takaka Hill	kevin Mountfords Ph 5484363
18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b><u>Club Meeting October</u></b>	Greg & Alison's ph 5481490
20/22 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<b>NZSS AGM Labour W/e at Punakaiki (West Coast)</b> event. Lots of caving organised! See details in NZSS Tomo Times.	Poutini Potholers are hosting the event.
3/4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Prospect & Surveying Torch Cave area (Flora Plateau)	Oz Patterson ph 5477395
15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b><u>Club Meeting November</u></b>	Colin & Marianne's ph 5482020
17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Aquarius Cave , Takaka Hill	Andrew Smith ph 021-1784160
22 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	4 <sup>th</sup> (and last) Cave SAR training evening– Rigging & Self rescue. Bruce 5467281	
28 <sup>th</sup> Nov – 2 <sup>rd</sup>	Dec Pre-Christmas Expedition, Mt Arthur	Oz Patterson Ph 5477395
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Xmas BBQ</b> at 18 Hanby Park	Kevin Ph 5484363
27 <sup>th</sup> Dec to 6 Jan 2008	<b>NZSS Mt Owen Expedition,</b>	See "Tomo Times" for details.
17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Honest Lawyer Cave 7.30pm.	
19/20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Moonsilver Cave, Barons Flat.	Trips Co-ordinator
21 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>Clubmeeting February</b>	Leo's ph 5441355