

Rimstone News

Official Correspondence of Rimstone Cooperative Ltd

ESTABLISHED 1974

Registered Address: 15 Gelantipy Rd Buchan VIC 3885

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Treasurer & Enquiries - info@rimstone.org.au

Homeleigh Bookings – accomm@rimstone.org.au

Directors – directors@rimstone.org.au

No. 15 May 2013

This is a very short newsletter so that all members get the latest information; that regarding the next working bee, some Scrubby Creek property news and a welcome to a new member.

Rimstone Calendar 2013

June 8-10 Queen's Birthday Homeleigh Working Bee

Sept 13 Annual General Meeting

Details of this event is in this Newsletter.

2012 AGM – Notice of Meeting

Friday 13 September, 8pm

At the home of Gary & Joanne Coleman

22 Prospect Street Mt Waverley 3149

More news in a Newsletter closer to the time.

Homeleigh Property Management

The Homeleigh Property Manager, Paul Brooker, had a detailed discussion on the directions for on-going renovations at Homeleigh in the September 2012 Newsletter. If you have any comments please direct them to Paul.

New Members

The directors welcome the following new member, Doug Henry: a long time visitor to Homeleigh and member of VSA.

Also we apologise to Evan Brooker for getting his name wrong last newsletter.

Need to contact a director?

Nicholas White: H 9328 4154 M 0427110143
Paul Brooker: H 5148 0406 M 0418384245
Nigel Cooke: M 0409967084
Peter Robertson: H 5663 2276 M 0430728836
Gary Coleman: H 9808 3716 M 0418108274
or directors@rimstone.org.au

This Newsletter was put together by Susan White with material provided by the Directors..

Homeleigh Working Bee Queens Birthday Weekend- June 8-9-10

Jobs for the weekend include finishing off the preparation and painting of the passageways. There is quite a bit of sanding and painting (including a lot of cutting in!) so bring your overalls and favourite paint brush.

The external western wall of the toilet block is in need of some weather proofing and general maintenance. Are you comfortable working at heights on trestles and planks...we need you! This job is weather permitting.

If there are sufficient attendees we will gather in some fire wood for the winter - we all like burning it so we should all contribute to collecting it.

If you feel you may be deficient in skills to assist with these jobs there are always general maintenance and tidying up jobs that require minimal skills that are screaming out for someone with your talents.

Come along and join in. These weekends are very social and you will be contributing to the ongoing upkeep of your property.

Paul Brooker:

Homeleigh maintenance manager

Email: paul@pitchblack.com.au;

H 5148 0406 M 0418384245.

Bookings.

All Homeleigh bookings should be made to Homeleigh Booking <accomm@rimstone.org.au>. This is important as periodically the booking officer is away and arrangements are made to cover his absence through the accommodation email. Please remember that although bookings are not mandatory, you cannot be assured of a bed if you have not booked. Also bookings are for a bed, not necessarily a room to yourself if there are large numbers of people.

Homeleigh Grounds Maintenance.

The directors are working on a maintenance schedule for the grounds. Currently there is no external provider undertaking the grounds maintenance and we are going to trial doing the work 'in house'. The idea is that the mowing and brushcutting need doing about 12 times a year, roughly (every six weeks in Autumn/winter and every 3-4 weeks in spring/summer). We are calling upon 12 members to contribute one weekend each a year to undertake the grounds maintenance.

The earlier you reply to directors@rimstone.org.au and nominate the weekend (week!) you would prefer the better chance you have of getting the time that suits you. The directors will put together a calendar of who is doing the grounds and when and publish in a future newsletter. Rimstone provides all the equipment/fuel and accommodation. You just need to get to Buchan and have an enjoyable time pottering around in the garden. Instruction will be provided on all the equipment as required.

Scrubby Creek Cave Property News

The property has had little stocking, partly because of wild dogs, a number of which have been shot. They have been filmed on the property by DSE. The low stocking is therefore providing a chance for the grass to recover. Initial spraying some of the blackberries was undertaken in Autumn.

There was a trip in December 2012 to the outer portion of Scrubby Creek Cave using scaling poles to investigate high level leads. This did not get high enough and another trip is planned. Rudy Frank has taken some aerial photographs of the tufa using his camera mounted on a 6 m pole. Please note that all caving access is by prior arrangements and via a listed trip by an ASF Member Club (VSA). Please check with the more detailed information in Newsletter 14 (November 2012).

We have paid down the outstanding loans from members and friends with recent donations. We need further donations which can be direct to Rimstone or via the ASF Karst Conservation Fund tax deductible facility. This is now on the new ASF website with a Pay Pal donation account (you need to identify that the donation is for Scrubby Appeal). See information below.

The following assistance is needed

1. Assistance with **planning protective fencing of the tufa terraces**.
2. **Planning assistance and expertise with a weed control program**, for implementation in Spring-Autuum. Weeds are blackberry, thistle (2 species), fleabane, horehound and bracken.
- 3 . Assistance with **weed control**.

For further information or offers of assistance please contact Nicholas White.

Donations towards paying off the debt for the Scrubby Creek Property

As Rimstone still has a significant debt as the result of the Scrubby Creek purchase, the Rimstone directors are asking for you and others to continue to make donations. Donations can be made in the following way:

1. Directly to Rimstone Cooperative Ltd. Anyone who is not a current Rimstone member, who donates \$300 or more DIRECTLY to Rimstone, will be given membership of the Cooperative. The total donation will be put to the Scrubby Creek Project. Membership details will be organised as quickly as possible and application for membership forms are available from Nicholas White (nicholaswhite@netspace.net.au).

Cheques to be made to Rimstone Cooperative Ltd and mailed to the Treasurer, Nigel Cooke PO Box 155 Boronia 3155 (this has slightly less delay than the Rimstone PO Box 2543 Mt Waverley 3149).

Direct payment to account: Rimstone Cooperative Ltd BSB 063011 Account No: 10086510

2. Via the ASF Karst Conservation Fund. If you wish to donate through the KCF please use the form downloaded from the ASF website (www.caves.org.au) and follow the instructions. These donations will be tax deductible.

ALL donations are welcome and are urgently needed. For any further details contact the Rimstone Secretary, Nicholas White (nicholaswhite@netspace.net.au) or 03 93284154.