

Rimstone News

Official Correspondence of Rimstone Cooperative Ltd

ESTABLISHED 1974

Registered Address: 15 Gelantipy Rd Buchan VIC 3885

No. 20. August 2014

Contact Rimstone:

Mail - PO Box 2543

Mt Waverley, Victoria 3149

Homeleigh Phone – 03 5155 9520

Treasurer & Enquiries - info@rimstone.org.au

Homeleigh Bookings – accomm@rimstone.org.au

Directors – directors@rimstone.org.au

This newsletter has some important dates to take note of. Firstly, the Annual General Meeting is scheduled on Friday, September 12th, secondly a Working Bee from Saturday 20th to Sunday 28th of September and thirdly we are having a 40th Birthday Celebration with a Dinner at Homeleigh on Saturday October 25th. See below for full details of these events.

There is a report of the working bee held at the end of June.

Homeleigh is seeing a lot of use please book early if you want a bed!

The Directors are wrestling with repairs and renovation priorities. The Ride-on-Mower is to be refurbished with a new motor. This mower is essential to our operations due to large grounds and the cost of having it done commercially. The Directors have decided to complete the bedroom renovation project, now that the hallways are essentially finished. There are still about 9 bedrooms needing to be stripped, insulated and have plaster board fixed. Three to four of these are to be done in September. We are in the process of applying for a Grant (\$5,000) from the Shire to provide the funds for structural engineering assessment and building permits necessary to start the Lounge Room Project. Plans, options and timelines for this project will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting but we intend to continue with the bedroom project first.

The Scrubby Creek Property is looking good. We intend to negotiate that weed control be undertaken by the Lessee, Doug Reidy. We are getting closer to implementing the necessary fencing for the Tufa Terrace Enhancement project. Donations directly to Rimstone and via the ASF Karst Conservation Fund are at a stage that we will be able soon to pay down the loans that friends and members have put up that enabled us to purchase the property.

Nicholas White, Secretary

Need to contact a director?

Nicholas White: H 9328 4154 M 0427110143

Paul Brooker: H 5148 0406 M 0427482630

Nigel Cooke: M 0409967084

Peter Robertson: H 5663 2276 M 0430728836

Gary Coleman: H 9808 3716 M 0418108274

or directors@rimstone.org.au

Official Notice

2014 AGM Notice of Meeting

Formal notice of the 2014 AGM of Rimstone Cooperative Inc is hereby given.

Date: Friday 12 September, 8.00 PM

Where: At the home of Nicholas & Susan White

123 Manningham Street Parkville 3052

Please bring a small plate to contribute to snacks/supper. Tea and coffee will be provided. RSVP: by email to directors@rimstone.org.au or phone Nicholas White (03) 9328 4154.

Agenda

The agenda items for this years AGM will include (but not limited to) the following:

1. Minutes of AGM 2013 (the draft minutes are available from the website www.rimstone.org.au (see the links on the left hand side of home page).
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Homeleigh Maintenance Report (including property, buildings and grounds).
4. Scrubby Creek Cave Property Report
5. Homeleigh Booking Officers Report
6. General Business - Discussion of Lounge Room Project
7. Election of Directors

(the following Directors' terms expire: Gary Coleman and Paul Brooker; both offer themselves for re-election).

8. Supper

Any additional items can be raised by email to the Directors: directors@rimstone.org.au.

Welcome to Ian Leeder as a new member. It is nice to see people who enjoyed the Homeleigh as children joining up as adults.

This newsletter has been put together by Susan White with information provided by the Directors.

Calendar 2014

September 12 Annual General Meeting @ the Whites. Details on page 1..

September 13 to 21 Visiting NSW cavers from MSS and NHVSS

September 20 to 28 Giant Working Bee Details see this newsletter.

September 27 to 28 Karst Tour of SE Australia before the KR7 International Conference of about 15 people.

October 25 to 26 Rimstone Cooperatives Fortieth Birthday at Homeleigh, **Bookings Essential**

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, even as a member, if you have not booked. Also bookings are for a bed, not necessarily a room to yourself if there are large numbers of people using the facility at that time.

Annual Service Fees

Annual Membership Fees will be due at the AGM.

Some people are in arrears with their annual subscriptions. If you think this might apply to you please contact the Treasurer, Nigel Cooke for details. If your subs are not up to date you cannot use Homeleigh at members' rates, nor can you be a Member in Charge.

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

Giant Homeleigh Working Bee

When? Saturday 20th September through to Sunday 28th September 2014. Can't attend the whole week (it is during the school holidays!) then maybe you can attend part thereof?

Where? Homeleigh!

What? Major refurbishment works to bedrooms 5, 6, 7 & 8.

Why? These works have been on the radar for some time and a concerted effort should see all these rooms in

a serviceable condition by the end of the working bee and before the 40th anniversary celebrations.

With good numbers in attendance we will structure a number of work crews to focus on specific aspects of the project. We will have a demolition crew, a structural crew, an insulation crew, a plaster sheet crew and a crew to carry out the stopping up. This should see a systematic approach and prevent everyone getting on top of each other as each crew will carry out their job and move to the next room allowing the next crew to follow up with their allocated task.

These works will culminate in a majority of the bedrooms being completely refurbished prior to the 40th celebrations of Rimstone Cooperative later in the year. This will mark a significant milestone in Rimstone's history and along with the acquisition of the Scrubby property in recent years will grandstand Rimstone as a significant contributor to the local community. This can only strengthen our (caving community) endeavours to highlight the values of the caves and Karst in the area.

Essentially the work needs to be completed by Saturday 27th as there is a tour of karst scientists doing a pre-Conference Tour before the International KR7 karst research conference in Melbourne.

This is also a great opportunity to spend some valuable time with family and friends at Homeleigh without the need to rush home after an exhausting weekend. There will definitely be time to explore the surrounds for those that have been estranged from the area for a while!

Those that have been involved in recent refurbishment works at Homeleigh are proud of what has been achieved and one can certainly stand back and admire Homeleigh with satisfaction (as well as enjoy a very comfortable facility).

Sound like something you would really like to get involved in (your help is desperately required)? Give Paul Brooker a call: 0427482630 (m) or email: paul@pitchblack.com.au.

Rimstone Cooperative 40th Birthday Dinner

Saturday 25th October at Homeleigh

A weekend to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Rimstones formation and purchase of Homeleigh. Come and celebrate with us various things to keep busy with, go caving, visit the Scrubby Creek Property, relax etc.

Daryl Carr and Sil Ianello will be preparing a sit down meal for Saturday evening.

Homeleigh bookings essential and cost of dinner \$30.00 per person with children free. Bookings through the Booking Officer phone 03 9328 4154 or accomm@rimstone.org.au

Homeleigh Working Bee

June 28-29

A great deal was accomplished at the recent working bee despite limited numbers in attendance - this was expected given the short notice.

Works completed over the weekend included:

1. Modifying the architraves in room 15 to better accommodate the curtain rods. Room 15 only needs the carpet replaced (which we have, but we do require underlay) and the room is finished.
2. Replaced water damaged / rotten floorboards in the front reception. The floor needs sanding and oiling for completion. If we complete this floor it will need to be protected during any further works on other rooms! (see photo).
3. Replaced rotten floorboards midway along E/W passage with yellow tongue flooring as this area will be carpeted in the future.
4. Reinforced floor along the N/S passage where there was significant bounce. The installation of short under-floor bearers has improved this section of floor immensely.
5. Constructed short barrier/ post and rail fence across front of Homeleigh aligning with the dry stone wall (see Photo). This has removed the hazard of people falling off the bank. Some further work needs to be done to bring the stone wall back to a reasonable state (a good project for someone).
6. Collected a good load of firewood - is a bit green but was very easy to get and will dry quickly once split!
7. The ride on mower was removed from Homeleigh for some serious maintenance / assessment. The motor has a terminal bottom-end knock however, a leaking vacuum

(?) hose to the carburetor has failed resulting in significant fuel loss. I will evaluate the options and report back ASAP - work has already commenced with this. (see elsewhere a new motor is to be installed).

8. The top lawns were mown with the push mower however I will return in the next few weeks and do a thorough grounds maintenance with my ROM...this will allow me to compare mower types on the Homeleigh terrain.

9. Planning was carried out and measurements taken to install a box culvert drain at the head of the driveway to alleviate the water run-off problem.

10. Comprehensive measurements and planning was undertaken in preparation for the remodelling of the bedrooms 5-9.

11. Minor changes to the kitchen to free up some extra food box spaces.

All in all a very successful weekend.

Paul Brooker

Repairs to the front hall floor



Nice front fence which prevents cars running onto the verandah

Photos by Nicholas White