

Rimstone News

Official Correspondence of Rimstone Cooperative Ltd

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This newsletter is short like the last one, but the co-operative needs to make information available in a timely and regular manner. This Newsletter has several matters which need to be addressed soon. In particular please note the calendar dates and activities and the raise in fees which takes place from 1 July 2016.

Susan White, Newsletter Production.

Greetings from the New Chairman

For those who don't know me, my name is Darryl Pierce. I have been a part of Homeleigh and Rimstone for my whole life. I have heard it said that we are an aging organization. I hope to bring to the Rimstone directorship, a younger generation approach and point of view, using my drive and enthusiasm to enhance and modernise Rimstone whilst maintaining the core values that I grew up with.

Since joining the directors, there have been repeated themes in many discussions. First is the high cost of conducting capital works to Homeleigh. Secondly is the lack of attendance (apart from the regular faces) at working bees. I hope to bring about a solution to these problems soon and am keen to look towards implementing the following ideas.

Long overdue is an increase to the bed rates. These increases are modest to say the least and will be reviewed annually. Our rates have fallen way behind other accommodation options in Buchan, including the caves reserve, which now charges around \$50p.n. for an unpowered camp site. The new rates will go some way towards the costs of the new lounge room, which is a fantastic addition to the improvements of recent years, which have been greatly adding to the pleasure of staying in Homeleigh.

It is now standard practice amongst nonprofit organizations (kindergartens, ski lodges, canoe clubs, etc.) to use a levy system to encourage participation at working bees. This works twofold, by greater physical attendance and adding much needed funds to buy materials (contributed by those who do not attend). It allows those who don't feel 'handy' to offer meaningful contribution. To give you some idea, the kinder my son attends levies \$200 at the start of each financial year which is returned (or rolled over) providing a family member attends at least 4 working bee's/sausage sizzles / fund raising, etc. per year.

I have been very impressed by the benefits of this system. Whilst further consideration into a viable means of implementation is required, I firmly believe this is a key direction that Rimstone should take. Consideration of

ongoing tasks such as cutting lawns, making the property fire-safe, general maintenance conducted by members outside of working bee's balanced against the disincentive of attendance due to fuel costs / time investment and distance must be looked at, to ensure it doesn't continue to be "just the same faces doing the work for all". Ideas would be greatly appreciated!

I feel blessed to have taken on such an important role and feel that with the reshuffle of positions, we the directors will continue to deliver the outstanding performance required to see both Homeleigh and Scrubby Creek property and future prospects, prosper well into the future.

Hope to see you caving soon,

Darryl Pierce

Calendar

July 8 - 10	Lounge Room Painting Bee
Sept 17 - 25	Homeleigh Working Bee
October 7 th Friday	2016 AGM 8.00 PM
	Place/Time to be decided

Details of the working bees over the page

New Members

Welcome to these new members. All have been actively caving at Buchan with VSA and David Bardi and Sandy Varin are active cave divers.

David Bardi, Liz McCutcheon, Abhijeet Anand

Need to contact a director?

Nicholas White: H 93863970 M 0427110143
Paul Brooker: H 5148 0406 M 0427482630
Nigel Cooke: M 0409967084
Gary Coleman: H 9808 3716 M 0418108274
Darryl Pierce M 0428746139
or directors@rimstone.org.au

Homeleigh Fee Changes

After many years without a change the Directors have decided to raise accommodation fees at Homeleigh. All existing bookings are to be at the old rates. These rates will apply from 1 July 2016 until further notice.

	Old rate	New Rate
Rimstone Members		
Adults	\$10.00 AUD per night	\$12.50 AUD per night
Family	\$20.00 AUD per night	\$25.00 AUD per night
Rimstone Non-Members		
Adults	\$20.00 AUD per night	\$25.00 AUD per night
Family	\$40.00 AUD per night	\$50.00 AUD per night
Full-Time Students	\$13.00 AUD per night	\$17.50 AUD per night

Free accommodation at advertised Working Bees

Homeleigh Working Bee Details

Lounge room Painting Bee

July 8 to 10

It is time to complete the Lounge Room and occupy it.

We need 5-8 people to get the lounge room painted..

Phone Peter Robertson 0430 728 836

Homeleigh Major Working Bee

September 17 to September 25

A full week working bee. Come for some or all of the period. Lots to do; contact Paul Brooker if you intend to come.

Painting bedrooms 5, 6 and 7

Installation of door locks for safety compliance

Grounds maintenance

Install lounge heater and flue

Re-stumping under lounge room floor

Window glazing in Lounge

Firewood collection

Plumbing of kitchen waste

Annual Service Fees

Annual Membership Fees Invoice will be sent out in July

The treasurer Nigel Cooke will send invoices for the Annual fees of \$50 per member in July. If your annual fees are not up to date you cannot use Homeleigh at member's 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

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 **DO NOT** leave messages on the booking officer's landline; if you must use a phone message use his mobile number.

Please remember that although bookings are not mandatory, you cannot be assured of a bed, even as a member, if you have not booked. There have been several overbooked periods, particularly in holiday times. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Also bookings are for a **bed**, not necessarily a room to yourself especially if there are large numbers of people using the facility at that time. As we have been experiencing good usage of Homeleigh, please be aware that this can occur. If you have specific needs you should notify the booking officer when booking.

There are also some periodic large bookings e.g. the RAAF. Long weekends and holiday periods need advance bookings. .

The directors are examining the current booking system in the light of the discussion at the AGM. All systems will have their disadvantages and advantages but it is worth while investigating options. If you have any suggestions please contact the directors.

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