

The SWCC Caving Bursary Scheme

OVERVIEW

During the AGM 2011, there was a clear steer from the membership that, as stated in the constitution, the promotion of the many aspects of caving should have a heightened priority within the Club. This could include involvement in, and support for, exploration, study and appreciation of all aspects of the sport.

In response to this the committee has decided to set up a bursary scheme to financially support members who wish to develop any aspect of caving that they have particular enthusiasm for, that will benefit their caving activities and that will also support in some way SWCC's contribution to the world of caving.

WHO WILL BENEFIT?

The scheme will

- be open to all full members and will be in the form of a financial contribution,
- benefit the Club through an increase in the range, and number of activities available for Club members to be involved in,
- increase the spreading of knowledge about all the projects active within SWCC and should stimulate further participation,
- increase the range and depth of knowledge and skills within the Club,
- create an attraction to encourage new membership of all levels of ability.

One important benefit will be the linkage of the bursary to a request to produce a report for the Club newssheet or newsletter both to justify the donation to the wider membership and also to encourage further support for both the activity and the scheme.

WHAT SORTS OF SUPPORT WILL THE BURSARY SCHEME PROVIDE?

In every case the support will be in the form of a financial grant. Examples of activities to be supported include, but are not limited to

- assistance with the purchase of specialist equipment for a exploration and scientific research,
- providing funds for the production of presentation / publicity materials,
- providing support for running caver training events,
- providing support for exploratory and / or scientific expeditions,

- assisting with the funding of cave discovery projects, including responsible digging,
- helping to fund a cave conservation monitoring programme,
- providing a stimulus for cave-related artistic and literary activities,
- encouraging links with other clubs and organisations to support the sport.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

Any member can apply for a bursary at any time. A simple application form downloadable from the club website and available in the DO's cupboard will help them through the information needed. After it has been given/sent to the treasurer, the committee will use the form to make a decision on whether to support the project and if so, with how much money. (This will be debated as a standing order in the monthly committee meetings.)

Successful applications will receive a cheque from the treasurer to contribute to the costs of their project and a receipt will be required.

The applicant shall provide (within a reasonable timescale) the SWCC newsheet or newsletter with an article or short summary report to inform the membership of how the project has progressed.

WHAT ARE THE LIMITS?

- The committee will make decisions case by case. Items taken into consideration will include (but not be limited to) the positive promotion of caving in general, the positive promotion of the club and the applicant's personal contribution to the wider caving community. Conditions may be applied in aspects of the application if the committee deems them necessary.
- The Club will try to support as many projects as possible but with limited funds available, contributions, rather than full funding is to be expected.
- Funds will be allocated widely rather than in depth to spread the benefits to as many members as possible, although multiple applications by individuals over time will be acceptable.

HOW DO I APPLY?

- There is a form on-line on our website at :
- Feel free to contact the Treasurer treasurer@swcc.org.uk if you have any questions