



Welcome to a “Hole” new world

Try caving with OUCC and discover a whole world of underground adventure playgrounds just waiting to be explored!



Michaelmas 2012 Termcard

Week	Day	What?	Where?	When?
0	Weds 3rd Oct	Social	Eagle and Child	20:30
1	Weds 10th Oct	Social	Chequers	20:30
2	Weds 17th Oct	Intro Talk	St Edmund Hall	20:30
2	20th - 21st Oct	Caving weekend	Mendip (BEC)	Weekend
3	Weds 24th Oct	Social	Chequers	20:30
3	27th - 28th Oct	Caving weekend	South wales (WSSG)	weekend
4	Weds 31st Oct	Expo talk	St Edmund's Hall	20:30
4	Sat 3rd Nov	SRT Training*	Wolvercote Bridge	tba
5	Weds 7th Nov	Social	Chequers	20:30
5	10th - 11st Nov	Caving weekend (CHECC)	Mendip	Weekend
6	Weds 14th Nov	Termly General Meeting	St Edmund's Hall	20:30
6	Sat 17th Nov	SRT Training*	Wolvercote Bridge	tba
7	Weds 21st Nov	Social	Eagle and Child	20:30
7	24th - 25th Nov	Caving + Varsity Match	Yorkshire (YSS)	Weekend
8	Weds 28th Nov	Christmas party	tba**	20:30



*SRT stands for Single Rope Technique and is how cavers going up and down the vertical bits in caves. If you want to go on caving weekends to Yorkshire and Derbyshire, SRT training is necessary because there are lots of deep holes around. Email ka.leung@chem.ox.ac.uk if you want more info or to book a training session.

**Updates will be made throughout term, so check out our website, www.oucc.org.uk, or join our Facebook group, Oxford university cave club, to keep up to date!

What is caving? Imagine a mix of climbing, crawling, scrambling, mountaineering, abseiling, wading, standing on people, headlamps, a lot of laughter, great teamwork, and wellies and you begin to get an idea of what caving is like. Also add a lot of beer. But mostly it's just indescribably incredible!

Why come caving? So many reasons. Caves are awesome adventures and frequently breathtakingly beautiful to boot. Cavers are amazingly friendly and fun. Club weekends are a great chance to get out of Oxford and do something exciting every day and have a great time with friends every night. And best of all, caves are one of the only environments on earth that are still being explored by humans...and you could be one of them.



Photos by Martin Hoff of OUCC's expedition to Northern Spain this summer. Achieved the 3rd deepest through trip in the world - 1264m.



What does it involve? On a typical fresher's weekend, we meet at the hut at Iffley Road Gym, lend club gear to anyone who needs it, pack up a minibus, and drive to the caving hut we're staying at. These are places near caves for people to stay, which have cosy communal areas, a big kitchen, bathrooms etc., and comfy bunkrooms. In the evenings, we have a bit of a social in the hut or at a nearby pub, then during the days we go on caving trips, always led by an experienced and trained caver. We provide food, transport, gear, and accommodation for as little as £35 per weekend and your first term's membership is free!



Is caving scary? Not really. A lot of people think it's all very small, very dark, and very dangerous. In reality, most of the time you spend in caves is walking around or scrambling over boulders. People very very rarely get stuck, and if they do, they always get themselves out with a little help. We all wear helmets with headlamps too, so it's never completely dark (that would make caving anywhere really hard!). And because caves are an unfamiliar environment and because accidents in them have serious consequences, we have plenty of safety equipment and procedures which mean that our accident rate is actually far lower than that of, say, climbing. Nonetheless, if you're severely claustrophobic or scared of the dark it's probably not for you.

How do I get involved? Come along to any of our socials (see the termcard on the back page) and just say hi! You can also sign up for our fresher's mailing list (if you haven't already at Fresher's Fair) by emailing victoria.lim@regents.ox.ac.uk. Our website is www.oucc.org.uk and for any further information email ka.leung@chem.ox.ac.uk or victoria.lim@regents.ox.ac.uk. We'd love to hear from you so please do get in touch! 😊



Below : Cavers in typical gear getting ready for a trip in South Wales.

Right: A caver in less typical gear...

Left: Demonstration during SRT training session.

