

## Caving days 2011 Mozet

From 16th to the 18th of September the caving days were organized in Mozet, Belgium. A strong program was ment to achieve a successful weekend full of caving and caving-related activities.

On Friday evening everybody arrives and can register at the secretary and receives the detailed program including the description of all caves that will be open on Saturday and the different workshops on Sunday. This gave enough inspiration for discussions and comparisons for the rest of the evening, after having set their tent pitch at the campsite some hundred meters further on, on the vast domain of the Castel of Mozet. The bar with the special caving beer (specially brewed for the occasion) off course helped for some extra inspiration. Cavers from Belgium come together with Dutch, French, German and English cavers

After breakfast on Saturday the inscription of the cave trips was well organized by the closed cave team. The team offered a vast choice of possible excursions to caves in Belgium that are usually closed and inaccessible. These are either some jewels that are closed for scientific reasons, or just to protect their beauty. Others are recent discoveries where local clubs are still exploring and hence keep it closed during the exploration.

A special program is set up for non-caving family members, including young children. For them a Karst-quest brings them in contact with the different karstological phenomens while trying to discover the mysteries of the region.

Before diner the federation offers the 'apero' with a little word from the president of the organizing federations (VVS, UBS, SpeleoNL) and the distribution of the two-yearly "Doemen"-price for caving clubs with a special merit in exploration in Belgium.

Nice weather keeps everyone awake and till late at night people are making new caving plans with friends as well outside and in the castle itself.

Sundaymorning starts after breakfast with a vast choice of workshops. New explorations are presented, we are teached how to make 3D photographs and get some magnificent images to see from the master himself (David De Roest) who is responsible for the 3D slideshow that visitors of Lechuguilla get to see at the visitor center. We are introduced in the magical world of cave diving and a representative of Petzl brings us a sneak preview of the evolution in caving gear. We get to know how to use gps in caving exploration and the WSV (workgroup for training in caving) let us test our skills in the trees around the castle.

By noon our predecessors, the previous caving generation arrives for the BBQ. Seeing them it is hard to imagine them some 30 to 50 years ago as active cavers, and the explorers that gave us some of the great classics in Belgium.