



COLD FACTS



NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLAWARRA ALPINE CLUB LIMITED

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Message from the Editor

Thank you to all who have indicated and supplied their email addresses for the efficient distribution of 'Cold Facts'! This will continue, as will the Australia-Post mailing of hardcopy versions to those that have specifically requested a copy.

This edition of Cold Facts has been produced quickly following the AGM to inform on news and updates without delay.

As a new face on the Committee I aim to make a positive contribution to maintaining and developing the great work and passion shown by our past 'Cold Facts' Editor, Ian Stuart.

Thank you Ian!

Continuing the important work and tireless input from our WebChief, Viola Hallahan, we aim to make the timely distribution, archiving and user-friendliness of 'Cold Facts' a priority. As always, your feedback is important and welcome!

Editor

President's Report

Dear all,

A newsletter from Perisher Blue quotes - "Long range weather forecaster John Moore has made the first of his predictions for this season. According to John, good falls are expected in June with heavy snow on June 1st and 2nd, a medium dump of 16-35cm on June 8th to 10th and a further 36cm plus expected June 16th to 18th".

Well I hope John Moore is right, this should see a great start to the season!!

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held at North Wollongong Surf Club on Wednesday 27th of April. Each year the number of members attending the AGM is reducing. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you all to make an effort if you can to come along to the AGM each year. IAC is your club and to have your say in how the club is running, we'd like to see as many people as possible at the meeting. Decisions are made at the AGM that affect you and the running of your Club, so come along and be involved.

Your new committee and their primary functions are:

President	Fiona Montgomery
Vice President	Geoff Mettam (Supplies)
Vice President	Phil Warren (Lodge Management)
Treasurer	Mike Di Leva
Secretary	Karen Irvine
Directors	Robert Hannam (Booking Officer)
	Jenny Charker (Huts)
	Tony DiMilia (Maintenance)
	Geoff Sturday (Club Captain)
	Viola Hallahan (Website Management)
	Jonathan Mandl (Cold Facts Editor)

I like to take this opportunity to thank two outgoing members of Committee for their contribution to the Club. John O'Donnell has served on Committee for 9 years and his legal expertise has been put to good use during that time. We will continue to consult with John on any legal matters associated with the club. Ian Stuart has served on Committee for 9 years as Cold Facts editor. I'm sure you will agree that over the years we have seen the quality of Cold Facts improve significantly. Thank you both for your contribution the Club and Committee over many years.

Life Membership

At the AGM, there was a motion that Adolph Ploss be elected as a life member.

Adolph Ploss was nominated for life membership for the tremendous contribution that he has made to the Club, not only as an outstanding representative in Club competitions (he was senior club champion in 1962, 1963 and 1964), and Martini Rossi events, but also for his personal effort and contributions over the years to the enhancement of the Club facilities. In particular, Adolph was responsible for carrying out the construction of the stone fireplace in its present form and with assistance, the stone façade of the lodge.

Adolph, now in his late seventies, has always been a most regular visitor to the lodge, participating in the sport he has loved for most of his life. Recently, however, he was forced to undergo a serious operation, which without the fortitude he has displayed so often in competition, it is doubtful he would have survived. Skiing is now almost an impossible option for him, but he continues to serve as exemplar of the "Illawarra Spirit" through his personal attributes of determination, good humour and unselfish attitude despite the personal hardships he must endure.

At the meeting, the motion was amended to include life membership for Ria Ploss.

I am pleased to announce that Adolph and Ria Ploss have been elected as life members of the Club. Congratulations to them both.

Club Person of the Year

This year the Club Person of the Year Award is shared by two people.

The recipients of this year's award have made a significant contribution to the club in many ways over many years, and in particular we wanted to recognize their contribution over the years to the Hut projects. They have attended many Huts Working Bees over the years, and the Committee feel they represent the ideal of club fellowship and commitment to mountain pursuits. They have had a huge impact on the work weekends. This is an appropriate thank you to a couple that has helped the club both physically and in spirit.

I am pleased to announce that the recipients of the 2004 Club Person of the Year Award are Bob and Maureen Irvine.

Lodge Management

I would like to welcome John and Beata Pihlman back to the lodge this season. This is John's 3rd season at the lodge and Bea's 2nd. If you are spending time at the lodge this season you will be very well looked after. I am certainly looking forward to the fantastic meals that await us again this year!!

The lodge is looking very smart after the summer working bees, with a new coat of paint inside and out, and the dance floor polished and ready for dancing in the dining room. I'm sure it will be put to good use this season!!

Happy skiing!

Fiona Montgomery



Mid-winter glory (2004)

From the Booking Officer

Greetings, Members - from the new kid on the block. I thought that after 40 years of membership in the Club and never having taken part in a working bee, never having served on a committee (except for a small building subcommittee when plans to build a Lodge in Jindabyne was the go) that I should put my hand up for the task of Booking Officer to contribute something to the Club.

I have to say that the work required has exceeded my expectations both in volume and difficulty but I'm getting a little more comfortable with it. There are still elements of the booking software program that frustrate me (it's designed reluctance to make changes to bookings) and the mobile phone is always running out of credit.

I have yet to learn the bunk allocation process on the computer and expect to receive some tuition in this area of science in the next few weeks. I'll try not to mix the Martins with the McCoy's but I come with the disadvantage of hardly knowing anyone in the Club due to my eighteen year absence in California and my use of the Club being limited to Summers only since then. In fact the last winter visit to the Lodge was my honeymoon in 1969.

It's been said by a few so far that I'm a hard one to contact. I must confess this is true and I do apologise for that. My lifestyle/career is not one of predictability and is subject to considerable variation from week to week.

My memory too is not up to the task of retaining on a day-to-day basis the status of the bookings for each day of the season. I therefore need to be in front of the computer whenever an enquiry or booking is made.

Unfortunately, for the reasons already mentioned, I cannot sit by the computer from 6-9pm each day and wait for calls that might come in to make an enquiry or booking. I therefore make the following suggestions to ease the process and ensure that I can help you in the shortest possible time.

Treat the phone as a message bank only. Call and leave a message with as much detail as you can. State your name slowly and clearly (I have had great difficulty identifying many of the callers for this reason).

If you've left enough information on the message I can usually process your booking without the need for a further contact.

I think it is arrogant to expect everyone to have e-mail access but it is my favoured means of communication.

It's very simple to click 'reply', compose a response and press 'send' than spend the next week playing telephone tag trying to get in touch by phone. I can also generate a 'hard copy' that has been created by the sender rather than scribbled notes over the phone for the record.

Of course, I don't have a problem with a mailed request. I'm quite a dinosaur myself (I still use a fountain pen to write with) and there's nothing more assuring than seeing it in writing. I'm committed to giving this assignment my 'best shot' and making the booking process as hassle-free as possible. Your assistance will be appreciated.

Robert Hannam



(2004)

From the Club Captain

Although the Club racing program has been published earlier, it is included below for your information. Racers have priority with weekend bookings for the events but be sure that you secure your beds in the lodge ASAP. Note that the Smiggins Bowl Weekend is to be held on 24/9/04, the first Saturday of the September/October School holidays. Caloola are to host this event and they intend to vary the format by introducing skiercross and boardercross races. These races are aimed to keep the juniors interested and involved. There is a bit of risk with the snow but let's support the event and join in the fun. This also encourages a bit more use of the lodge later than usual in the season.

All members are welcome, and encouraged, to get involved with our racing and junior development programme - these are like "fun runs" and you don't have to be an expert. Assistance is also needed in running these events so please let me know if you can help in any way.

Events

5-7 July Recreational skier training for Juniors in the lodge

12-14 July Recreational skier training for Juniors in the lodge

11-15 July Junior racer squad training

13 August IAC Club Championships

20 August Illawarra Senior Interclub races - (Alpine, Snowboard and Cross Country events)

* Illawarra is the host club

29 Aug - 2 Sept Junior racer squad training

3 September Illawarra Junior Interclub races - (Alpine, Snowboard and Cross Country events)

* Illawarra is the host club

24 September Smiggins Bowl (Junior and Senior races)

Please call me and discuss any issues about our racing or development program.

Geoff Sturday
02 98108414



IAC wins Smiggins Bowl (2004)

Lodge Maintenance

Due to family commitments I could not make the last working bee on the 21- 22 May, however 3 weeks ago my "boys" and I went down and refurbished all the timber flooring in the dining room. This meant sanding the materials back to raw timber, sealing the timber and then applying a new polish to make it appear good as new - without the added cost of completely re-laying the floor. All this work was done at no charge to the club, so if anyone needs any work done at their place, please don't call me! Instead, call Glenn Drabble on 0407 269 091- he is the master of the sanding machine. The new refurbished floor should last at least another 15 years before it needs to be polished again. All else seems to be up and running for the season.

See you on the slopes!

Tony DiMilia



(2004)

'Food Weekend' 21-22 May (Update)

Special thanks to all the faithful parties that gathered for the traditional 'stocking of the larders' on this bright and sunny weekend. Tim Lee, Geoff Mettam, Mike DeLeva, John Dengate and stalwarts Karen and Narelle Irvine were joined by Wayne and Chris Moore, Julie Edwards (Langbien) with son Connor and daughter Ruby for their first IAC experience.

'All hands on deck' completed the Saturday truck offload in record time while many other small outstanding repairs and installations were actioned. Highlights included a brand new 'conveyor Toaster' unit was unveiled and road tested with great results, plus new rubber feet on all chairs in the dining room will see the refurbished floor well protected. Well done to all involved!

Phenomenal five-star cooking by John and Beata made it a working bee to remember, with much anticipation for a great winter ahead! (Editor)

Official IAC Club Clothing survey

Hi, everyone. Thank-you to all of you who completed our survey last year down at the lodge. For those who missed it, people were asked to list, in order of preference, 5 items of clothing they would be interested in purchasing. The choices were a t-shirt, polo top, jersey, vest and windcheater. The overwhelmingly popular choice was a polar fleece vest, with the jersey coming in 2nd.

Now the Committee has asked us to proceed to the next step of coming up with possible designs. To help make this happen, we'd love to hear from anyone who would like to join us on SCRADCI (that's Sub-Committee for Research And Development of Clothing for Illawarra!!!) It would be ideal to have representatives from the most Junior, less Junior and least Junior age groups and a mixture of men and women/boys and girls as well. Anyone interested please contact us by e-mail on williamsr4@optusnet.com. Look forward to hearing from you.

Zoe and Robin Williams

Official IAC Club Clothing survey

Huts News

Kosciuszko National Park huts - draft strategy

The draft Kosciuszko huts strategy has been prepared by heritage experts commissioned to provide independent advice on the future management of huts still standing as well as what to do in regard to the many huts destroyed in the 2003 bushfires.

Extract from strategy: Vision statement

"The group of Huts, hut ruins and sites of former huts within KNP comprise a heritage resource of exceptional significance to the state of NSW. The collection provides evidence of key historic themes in the development of NSW and retains social significance to Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities through family connections and ongoing patterns of use. The collection of huts has great power to contribute to the historic and continuing story of human interaction with this unique landscape.

The huts are important as markers of past use and for their present use. Strong social associations with the huts provide a foundation for a cultural landscape based approach to hut

management, where huts are placed in a broad landscape context rather than being managed as individual objects. The network of huts also has strategic importance for both heritage and emergency shelter reasons.

The vision for this project sees the huts collection managed as a key element of the landscape story of KNP in a whole-of-landscape approach where natural and cultural values are managed in a holistic manner. The project vision is to retain and recover social significance and associations with patterns of use and travel networks in the landscape. Associated communities should be involved in the management of the huts and their setting. Threats should be reduced. Required resources should be allocated for conservation and the hut collection should be interpreted to park users and the broad community."

The full draft is on public exhibition from 13 May to 10 June 2005. During this period, you can comment on the plan by sending us a submission. You can do this in one of the following ways:

Link to view draft:

http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/npws.nsf/content/kosciuszkonp_huts_strategy_draft

See also Map

http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/pdfs/kosciuszkonp_damaged_huts_map.pdf

Kosciuszko huts might be rebuilt

Saturday, 14 May 2005 (*Canberra Times*)

A group of historic mountain huts destroyed by bushfires that swept through Kosciuszko National Park in 2003 might be rebuilt, as a result of changes to international laws on heritage management. A draft report by the NSW Parks and Wildlife Service describes the Kosciuszko huts as "a heritage resource of exceptional significance". A team of heritage experts was commissioned to provide advice on the future management of Kosciuszko's historic huts, and to assess if any of the 21 huts destroyed by 2003 fires should be rebuilt. Changes to a United Nations charter governing heritage management now recognise that the cultural significance of a building is just as important as the nails, timber and other "fabric" of its existence. The draft wildlife service report says the huts are of iconic social value and reflect the "true stories, legends and myths associated with ... historic lifestyle". Based on the changes to heritage management, it recommends nine huts be rebuilt or restored. They are Boobee, Brook's, Delaney's, O'Keefe's, Paton's, Pretty Plain, Dr Forbes', Opera House, and Broken Dam Hut - burnt in 1998. Volunteers from the NSW Land-Rover Club and Sydney Range Rover Club helped to restore Geehi and Old Geehi huts last year. There are about 100 historic huts scattered throughout Kosciuszko National Park, mostly built by drovers, farmers and miners. "We've considered the social, cultural and heritage value of the huts and believe they're an important part of the history of the region" wildlife service southern district director Alistair Henchman said.

The report says the huts are important for both their past and present use as emergency shelters, as well as for their historic associations. Mr Henchman said the Burra Charter - which explains how Australia's heritage sites should be managed - had previously stated that when most of the fabric of an historic site had been destroyed it could not be rebuilt or repaired. But recent changes to the charter now allow that the social and cultural significance of a site is just as important. The draft Huts Conservation Plan has been posted on the NPWS web site, www.environment.nsw.gov.au, for public comment until June 10, and is also available from NPWS offices at Jindabyne, Tumut, Queanbeyan and Khancoban.

Other news & trivia

:) Only 8 months until the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy!

:) Australian multi-gold medal winning Paralympian and speed skier Michael Milton smashes his previous world record mark by 12km/h to register 210.40 km/h at Les Arcs, France on May 1. He is now officially the fastest skier in the world on one leg and joins an elite club of only 328 to break 200 km/h. Michael is now aiming to beat the Australian record of 212.26 km/h. Asked on his ambitions, Michael said "...my ultimate goal is to find out how fast it is possible to go."

:(It seems it isn't only IAC members dodging wildlife on the journey to the mountains. A rogue kangaroo has sparked a fight between Kerry Packer and a local council over who should foot the bill for damage to his private jet.

Mr Packer's Falcon 200 jet was landing at dusk on August 6, 2004 when it hit a kangaroo on the runway at the Snowy Mountains Airport, Cooma resulting in an estimated \$400,000 repair bill. He is now claiming the Snowy River Shire Council is responsible.

The council is refusing to pay, citing improper landing procedures by Mr Packer's pilot.

"When you come into the airport you are supposed to radio, it's called notice to airman," he said. "[They] didn't follow procedure so it puts the responsibility back on them."

Airport operators had cleared the runway only 30 minutes before the jet landed.

It is not known if Mr Packer, who owns the Perisher Blue ski resort, was on the aircraft at the time.

However, StateWide Mutual, the insurance company acting on behalf of the council, confirmed the insurance dispute. "Yes, there is a claim and the council is denying liability."

The council has since sold the airport to the Snowy Mountains Airport Corporation.

The kangaroo was unavailable for comment, and is not known whether a summons has yet been served on it.

:) Q. How many ski instructors does it take to screw in a light bulb?

A. Nine. One to screw in the light bulb and 8 to say 'nice turns!'

Q. What is the difference between God and a ski instructor?

A. God does not think he is a ski instructor...

Q. A car has five snowboarders in the back seat. What do you call the driver?

A. Senior Constable

FIS World Cup

(FINAL) STANDINGS SEASON 2004/2005 (fis-ski.com)

Alpine Ladies 1 PAERSON Anja (SWE) 2 KOSTELIC Janica (CRO) 3 GOETSCHL Renate (AUT) 4 DORFMEISTER Michaela (AUT)	Alpine Men 1 MILLER Bode (USA) 2 RAICH Benjamin (AUT) 3 MAIER Hermann (AUT) 4 WALCHHOFER Michael (AUT)
Cross Country Ladies 1 BJOERGEN Marit (NOR) 2 NEUMANNOVA Katerina (CZE) 3 KUITUNEN Virpi (FIN) 4 SMIGUN Kristina (EST)	Cross Country Men 1 TEICHMANN Axel (GER) 2 VITTOZ Vincent (FRA) 3 HETLAND Tor Arne (NOR) 4 ANGERER Tobias (GER)

Renate Goetschl (AUT)



Bode Miller (USA)

