

COLD FACTS



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NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLAWARRA ALPINE CLUB LIMITED

Volume 48 - July 2008 - Number 3

Cover Photo: It's great to see the smiling faces of Mel and Kirk back for another season at the lodge. At the last working weekend, Jonathan Mandl went searching at Jindabyne tip and came home with a couple of old snowboards to meet Craig Fairweather's design specifications. Craig then set to work creating what has become known as the "snowmobi".

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Messages from the Editor

This is my first "Cold Facts" after taking over the role from Jonathan Mandl who has been working tirelessly in a number of areas of club life (and continues to do so!). I hope I can help relieve him of some of this work while maintaining the high standards he has set in previous productions.

After spending a few days down at the lodge enjoying not only the recent snowfalls, but also the culinary delights that Mel and Kirk continue to serve up, I thought it fitting to include them in this cover photo. Thanks guys, you make our holidays all that more enjoyable and special!

Please continue to contribute to cold facts by sending your snippets to coldfacts@iacski.com

From the president

So, fellow Illawarra members, in the recent traditions of Presidents, greetings from Shanghai, China hot, humid, hazy & wet (its the "plumb" rainy season right now) !!!!! rather like our Snowys at the moment. From viewing the web-cams, & talking to various people "the almighty Hughie" has not exactly blessed us with a "snowy" start to our season. Never mind, keep the faith, everyone, its coming for August when I return, so all those booked in from mid to end August will be getting "buckets of steep & deep".

For me a short secondment in China, doing some work with our businesses over here look for me at the Opening Ceremony, I'll be waving !!!!!, then back mid Aug as indicated above.

On the Club Committee front I can also report another successful "secondment" - Gaye Tarrant, formerly Kolsky, has agreed to come on-board as our new Treasurer, filling Mikes VERY big shoes (no pressure here Gaye !!!!!) This is particularly pleasing to report on since my last PrezReport, so welcome aboard Gaye, great to see more of our second generation standing up & becoming involved.

This is also our first Cold facts from Adam West, who as previously reported agreed to join the Committee after the AGM, & is newly appointed to CF, some illustrious "linguistic geniuses" (or is that "genii") have preceded you so standards have been set !!!!!!!!!!

On the Lodge front very pleasing to report the completion of our Lodge improvements for this year. The feedback from those who have already enjoyed the changes has been quite positive. A new configuration to the downstairs corridor bunk-rooms, creating 2 extra 2-bunk rooms & a very large family room has made life in peak times a little easier to manage for Julie as Booking Officer. Up-graded bathroom facilities in Siberia, bringing them in line with the main bathrooms, has been long overdue & has improved peoples visiting experience in those rooms. The new hot water system has given us greater reliability of supply, and the new ski storage arrangements have resulted in better organisation of storage. A VERY BIG thanks to our "Maintenance Man" TDM his powers of persuasion & language skills with "Dave the Builder & Bob the Plumber" just had to be heard. Still some work to do here, & your Committee is considering our next steps on our total Lodge storage situation - skis / boots / linen / wine / soft drink / bunkrooms / kitchen & dining areas. All up we have spent approximately \$100K to date.

New HotWater System & move / Siberia bathrooms - \$55K

Downstairs corridor bedroom renovations - \$35K & the balance on various Architects / DA's / Parks / DeptPlanning / RuralFireService applications / approvals / licences etc etc etc

Thats enough from me in Shanghai, see you in August, & keep those "snow dances" going.

ps - I hear it has actually started snowing, so "keep on dancin' Maria !!!!!!!!!!"

Geoff Mettam

From the Booking Officer

Currently we have 2280 beds booked for the season, out of a possible 3904 (58%).

There are still a few vacancies for mid week stays in August. September has a lot of vacancies. Spring skiing, excellent food and great company, what could be better. Organise a group of friends and enjoy the lodge in spring.

We have a new door code. When you pay your final payment, the new door code will be on the invoice I send you.

Thank you to all who pay their deposits and final payments on time. It saves me a phone call to chase the money up.

Julie Irvine

bookings@iacski.com

Ph: 0424 617707 - 7pm to 8pm Mon to Fri.

From the Club Captain

If you haven't already scraped your summer wax coat off your skis and boards – better do it now because your Club needs YOU!



Photo: Nick Brown carves his way to another win on the slopes in 2007

Get ready for some HOT AUGUST NIGHTS after raising a sweat in the Alpine, XC and Snowboard events in the best of company – Team Illawarra.

Grab a fat red texta and circle the 2nd of August for the 2008 Smiggins Bowl, the 16th of August for the Senior Interclub, the 23rd of August for the 2008 Club Championships and the 30th August for the Junior Interclub races. (Plenty of time to recover in September)

This year we defend the Smiggins Bowl again on a hat-trick – can we steal it again for the 3rd year running? There's no doubt that the Illawarra tradition of fielding a highly competitive team and enjoying each other's company on race day is alive and kicking, so make sure you don't miss out with your part in our success. Illawarra have always kept the 'fun' in competition, so ALL ages of Members are ALWAYS welcome to

compete and test your skills – no matter WHAT level you ride at.

So whether you SMS, phone, email me or just send me a blank signed cheque – LET ME KNOW this month when you'd like to join us for a great day out in August!

Illawarra Juniors are race-fit and ready for another great year in our 2008 Development Program, and the squad warmly welcomes newcomers James Irvine, Brooke Eager, Grace and Thomas Mutch. Ongoing Junior Members Whimbrel Wilson, Tyler Irvine, Blythe and Louis Fairweather and Eric and Max Mandl.

Coming up the ladder are Iris Simpson and Jeremy Eager, so we are fortunate to have a great selection of talent and sound future. The strong commitment from these families is acknowledged, allowing Illawarra to develop Snowsports confidence and excellence in our junior ranks, a legacy of fun, fairness and competitive spirit we hope they keep all of their lives. I'm sure 2008 will be a stellar year for our juniors!

Handy notes for Race participation:

Smiggins Bowl (2nd Aug) – Junior and Senior Events open to all financial Members. Open to all Smiggin Holes Ski Clubs. Individual and Team events – Bowl is won by Club accumulating the most points from results and participation. Competitors in multiple events receive additional points – rewarding participation.

Events:

Alpine GS – 2 runs

Snowboard through GS gates – 2 runs

Freestyle XC with a distance of 2.5km

Award ceremony and party at host Club follows.

Illawarra Senior Interclub (16th Aug) – competitors must be over 16 on the day of the race.

Open to all Illawarra –originating Ski Clubs in Perisher Blue. In the Junior Interclub event, a team is made up of the 3 best results out of any of the 8 pre-event notified "Eligible Competitors" *

* Registered IAC Members

Events:

Alpine GS – 2 runs

Snowboard through GS gates – 2 runs

Freestyle XC with a distance of 2.5km

Award ceremony and party at host Club follows.

IAC Club Championships (23rd Aug) – Junior and Senior Events open to all financial Members

Events:

Alpine Slalom – 2 runs

Alpine GS – 2 runs

Snowboard through GS gates

Award ceremony and legendary party follows at IAC.

Illawarra Junior Interclub (30th Aug) – competitors must be 16 years or less on the day of the race.

Open to all Illawarra –originating Ski Clubs in Perisher Blue.

If 16 in 2008 – you can race in BOTH Junior and Senior Interclub Championships. In the Junior Interclub event, a team is made up of the best 3 results out of any of the "Eligible Competitors" *

*Registered IAC Members

Events:

Alpine GS – 2 runs

Snowboard through GS gates – 2 runs
Freestyle XC with a distance between 600m - 800m
Award ceremony and party at host Club follows.

Jonathan Mandl – 0434 602 644 – racing@iacski.com

From the Maintenance Chief

Greetings, after hundreds of phone calls, four trips to the lodge and a few tense moments the lodge extensions are nearly finished. Only the outside stone work remains to be done plus the back drainage needs to be fixed up. The old downstairs fire exit also needs to be filled in, but everyone will be pleased with the new room layout and makeovers.

Thanks to Craig Fairweather, Jarvis Fletcher and Bob Davis, there is now new ski storage where the Coke machine used to be. Snowboarders will be pleased there is also now a new storage rack for their boards.

New hot water services and central heating have been installed. The central heating is no longer run on a timer so if it gets too hot in your room, you will need to turn the heater down yourself.

For people on garbage duty, the garbage cupboard is now extra storage for linen, so garbage is now in bins outside the lodge. Tim's sled can still be used if it is snowy enough, otherwise just take the wheelie bins down to be emptied.

New carpet has been put in the lounge room, and the old carpet was used to cover the hallway and rooms downstairs. This was all done at no charge.

The Siberia bathrooms now have heated floors and all new amenities; this should stop people using the other bathrooms!



Photo: Siberia no more! Heated floors! Maybe a name change is in order...Pacific Isles maybe?

Thanks to Andrea for coming up with such a good design, with such a small space to work with.

The next working bee will be November sometime. Have a good season. Be good at Smiggs pub.

Tony DiMilia
maintenance@iacski.com

Message from John and Marg Fletcher

Congratulations to the Committee for the first-class renovations, which were carried out during the summer. These are a great asset to the Lodge.

Not too much to ski on at the Opening Weekend, but with 23 in residence, most of them Ian Fitcher's guests, including a number of sailors from the well-known Hobart-racing yacht Witchdoctor. We had plenty of time to enjoy Mel and Kirk's delectable meals, go walking and socialise.

So we thought it an appropriate time to fill in an evening with a revival of The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter. Without our renowned, remarkable Roy to play the leading role (what memories!), Ian stepped into the breach. What a ham! Not to be outdone, in many ways, Fletch stepped into Kevin Brown's old role of the Lighthouse Keeper's daughter's mother.



Peter and Stephanie Brown, their friend, Lesley; Elaine Fitcher, Dimity and Brad Hunt completed the cast, A memorable final performance will go down in the history of theatre. And little Tegan Hunt will wonder for a few years yet, as to why her Nanny and Poppy looked and behaved as they did.

Marg and John

New linen procedures

The new process of replacing linen on beds when you leave is working extremely well.

When you arrive you should find linen already on your bed. When you leave you just need to put some on there for the next person, and then take your used linen upstairs for counting and collection.

Linen for the top bunks will be found in the cupboard under the stairs opposite Room 2, and linen for the

bottom bunks is in the cupboard in the Entry (the old garbage cupboard, recently lined).

Please take care to comply with this procedure as it helps reduce the need for linen storage, given that space is at a premium.

Research request from Lynne Whitaker

Charlie Carter was an eccentric who lived in Carters hut after the old tin mine closed. He wrote many articles, some published in the Jindabyne newspaper. An article in one of your newsletters (Cold Facts) told of his niece coming to Australia and leaving copies of her research into his life with the Illawarra Alpine Club.

I am interested in any information that anyone has on the history of Carter's Hut and especially of anything known about the man himself. I believe that he died around 1953 after living in the area all of his life.

Please send any information to lynnnewhitaker@hotmail.com and also cc a copy to [coldfacts@iacski](mailto:coldfacts@iacski.com) please.

Last Run

Snow joke: our lift prices make even Switzerland look cheap (THE AGE, Daniel Lewis June 7, 2008)

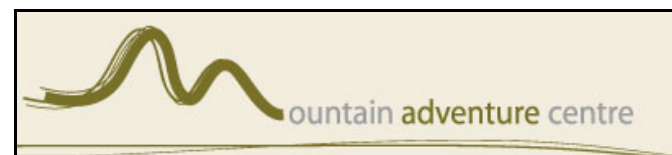
RECORD fuel prices, record food prices and now another economic blow for Australians to kick off the winter ski season - the world's highest lift ticket prices.

For a one-day ticket, Thredbo is charging \$97 and Perisher Blue \$98, figures that top Vail in the United States (\$92) and St Moritz in Switzerland (\$77), according to a comparison done in April by the Australian Alpine Club.

The club has been publishing price comparisons for several years in a bid to get something done about the cost of skiing.



ADVENTURE



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Opening Hours – Winter 2008

Monday to Sunday 7:00 - 7:00pm

Friday nights open till Midnight when snow falling

***Paddy Pallin are the suppliers of Cross Country hire equipment to the Illawarra Alpine Club Junior Development Squad**