



COLD FACTS



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Website: www.iacski.com

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLAWARRA ALPINE CLUB LIMITED
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Cover Photo: Former IAC Jnr Development Program graduate Andrew Dengate in action at Smiggins with Tony and Narelle DiMilia in hot pursuit – July 2007

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Message from the Editor

A Barista has joined Mel and Kirk at the Lodge... a robot Barista that is – you can now enjoy one of the best Cappuchinos, Latte, flat white or short black on the snow for the princely sum of \$1. The Club has purchased the top-of-the-line DeLonghi Coffee machine for the enjoyment and convenience of members and guests. The milk attachment lives in the adjacent fridge and it just takes one press of a button for a perfect brew.

Cold Facts' friendly Lachlan Valley correspondent Sue Brown has drawn our attention to the stark comparison between last season and current, with the following July photos – what a difference 365 days makes! (Thanks Sue! – photos Graeme & Diana White)



'06



'07

Almost every year, there is a bout of sickness that goes through the lodge and knocks people over. This has already happened once this year. The Committee recommend that if you are already sick before you leave home, be considerate of your fellow members, stay at home and contact the Booking Officer.

Got news? Email coldfacts@iacski.com

From the President

Hello everyone,

I am writing this report from a waterlogged Senior Championships weekend. I can't remember a time when I was wetter than I was on Saturday during the race. Back in the lodge I watched people turn their boots upside down and literally pour out the water, and wring out their gloves.....needless to say the drying room was pretty "ripe" on Saturday night. However, despite the horrendous conditions, this senior championships was one of the biggest we have had for some time - congratulations to all who participated and finished the event, that in itself was quite an achievement! A special thanks to Mel and Kirk who catered for almost 50 people over the weekend for all meals - it was sensational. You will see later in Cold Facts the results of the event - congratulations to all the winners.

I am somewhat disappointed also that in this edition of Cold Facts we needed to include a "reminder" to members and their guests about what is expected when staying at the lodge - in terms of behaviour, respecting lodge property, consideration for the management team and fellow members when staying at the lodge. Please read this carefully and I hope that we can all enjoy our stay at the lodge for the rest of the season.

Fingers crossed for some new snow to get us through to the end of the season and top up what the rain washed away this weekend.

I look forward to seeing you all at the end of season party (details later in Cold Facts) if I don't see you on the slopes beforehand.

Fiona Montgomery

Lodge Maintenance

During this season so far, a lot of items have been damaged and people keep placing the damaged items in the dining room waiting for a 'fairy' to fix them. Things need to be reported straight away if they are broken.

Also please educate your children that the lounges are not trampolines and the curtains aren't swings, both will break if treated in this way. Our Lodge is for all of us to use and enjoy, so treat it like your own home and take care of the furniture.

Tony DiMilia – 0418423091 maintenance@iacski.com

From The Booking Officer

What a great start to the season. Currently 2580 beds are booked out of a possible 3680 (70% occupancy). As usual the school holidays were very busy and enjoyed by all.

I still have a lot of vacancies in September. Think about getting a group of friends together for some spring skiing. Viola is keeping the vacancies page updated on the web site, so check out the availability today.

Just a reminder, for all bookings please call the IAC bookings number 0424 617 707, not my private home phone number. I am very happy to answer your emails anytime during the week.

Email is still the best and quickest way to contact me.

Julie Irvine - bookings@iacski.com

From the Club Captain

The 2007 IAC Club Championships were held on the 11th of August. Club spirit and good humour shone through and with 44 keen competitors despite the unrelenting rain and wind gusts in bleak conditions that we have not yet seen this season. There was no escaping the rain, wind and drifting low cloud on the Lindner course at Guthega, all racers an extra kilo or two heavier with freezing water seeping into every layer and boots – still, on a heavy surface and soon rutted runs we witnessed great skill from all racers, dripping determination from our volunteer gate judges and marshall, and gutsy perseverance from James Irvine, Jeremy Eager and Iris Simpson, our youngest racers who inspired all by not giving up in awful conditions! Many thanks to all parents of our other Junior racers who got them across the mountain, cajoled, encouraged and re-assured them when things got tough. Thank you to all members and families who came from far and wide to join in the events, our course officials Ian, Geoff, Linley and Julie - and the evening of merriment celebrating Illawarra club spirit that followed.

2007 IAC Club Championships Results in brief:

(Look for full results on www.iacski.com soon)

Slalom (Girls)

1. Alexis Dengate
2. Carrin DiMilia
3. Brittany Ainge

Slalom (Women's)

1. Krista Sturday
2. Lyndsey Ainge
3. Fiona Montgomery

GS (Girls)

1. Alexis Dengate
2. Carrin DiMilia
3. Brittany Ainge

GS (Women's)

1. Susi Eager
2. Krista Sturday
3. Lyndsey Ainge

Snowboard (Boys)*

1. Eric Mandl
2. Max Mandl

Top Gun for 2007 – Jarvis Fletcher

Women's Champion – Krista Sturday

Men's Champion – Jarvis Fletcher

Jnr Girls Champion – Alexis Dengate

Jnr Boys Champion – Blythe Fairweather

*NB No Girls or Women's SB competitors in 2007 and only one in Men's event.

Calling all Boarders, Skiers and XC'ers!

Please make a point of copying all the dates on the 2007 events calendar as seen on our website – down into your diary, PDA, Blackberry, Outlook schedule and trusty kitchen calendar. Illawarra welcomes all Members who will be available for the Senior and Jnr Interclub events and the Smiggins Bowl.

Many thanks once again this year to John Weir and his team at Paddy Pallin Jindabyne for their generous

support for our Junior XC race squad. With top quality XC Hire gear, our Juniors have a competitive edge. Please support our good friends at PP on the Thredbo turnoff if you have Hire or new requirements this season!

Members needing more race event info or wishing to register interest, please email coldfacts@iacski.com or call Jonathan Mandl on 0434 602 644 / 02 6295 8141

In Memoriam – Arthur Date

Sadly on the 2nd of July Arthur Date passed away. Arthur was instrumental in the original construction and building of Illawarra Alpine Club in 1964. Being an avid skier since an early age and visiting the mountains since the 1930's, he was very much apart of the early labouring and heavy work that was needed to set up the foundations for the beginning of our club. He was aged 97.

Lesley Warren (nee Date)

Special Notice: Attn all Members and their guests

It saddens your Committee to flag this alert, but if it prevents recent unnecessary incidents and unwanted behaviour occurring, then everyone will enjoy their time spent at the Lodge in future holidays.

Most people do the right thing at Illawarra Alpine Club. We acknowledge this and thank the responsible majority for their ongoing co-operation and common courtesy. Our club Lodge must be cared for and respected. Some recent events reported and witnessed have been less than favourable in the committee's eyes. If you bring guests to stay, then they are your responsibility and must act accordingly and adhere to Club rules. Ensure your Guests have read our rules. The Lodge is not a motel or backpacker's and our shared facilities must be looked after and not abused. Our booking rules are also very clear - we are restricted to a maximum of 32 beds by law – no more.

Simple things need to happen for the lodge to function smoothly - like roster duties being done, linen used on beds, leaving the lounge room clean, cleaning and vacuuming your room, actively supervising your children, ensuring they are behaving in a reasonable manner & not unduly impacting other members stay and of course absolutely no smoking within the lodge or use of illicit substances.

It is also not our resident managers, Kirk and Mel's job to clean up after people or be expected to supervise Guests.

Most Members and Guests are polite, friendly and courteous – setting the right example. But to the small number of people who are slackening off - be warned. Some people are starting to abuse the privilege of staying in the lodge and this is not a good thing. If you wish to continue having the use of the lodge please do the right thing. Some of these issues may seem small things but they make a big difference to everyone's overall stay, safety and enjoyment while in the lodge. If it comes to our attention that the rules and conditions of your stay are not being met then any future bookings will be in clear jeopardy and you can expect prompt further action to be taken.

Illawarra Alpine Club Committee.

Perisher Historical Society

A couple of years ago Pam Woodman and Judy Thomson of Ku-ring-gai Alpine Lodge collaborated on the idea of forming a Perisher Historical Society after earlier discussions about the history of skiing and the colourful characters that have graced the Perisher Range. An article in the 2005 autumn edition of Resort Round-up about an NPWS oral history project stimulated Pam to contact NPWS and Perisher Blue to identify a potential partnership in the historical society and for opportunities to contribute towards the groups' establishment and subsequent exhibition. This article now provides an update as to the formation of the Perisher Historical Society and opportunities for people to contribute memorabilia.

As you read this, the Perisher Historical Society is going through registration with the Department of Fair Trading for registering as an incorporated body that includes the nomination of an inaugural committee and the reservation of a name. The name Perisher Historical Society was selected to be inclusive of what is often called the Perisher Range Resorts. The term Perisher Range and Perisher Range Resorts, whilst an accurate reflection of all localities in this area (eg. Perisher Valley, Smiggin Holes, Guthega and Blue Cow), has incurred a use that tends to be associated with a range of government plans and planning instruments. It was deemed important by the group that no ambiguity was construed in the name as well as imbue an effective identity of what the society was about – hence the compromise in the name.

In due course, consideration will also be given to the group for affiliation with the Royal Australian Historical Society that will help give access to reasonable insurance rates should public liability or voluntary worker insurance be required (amongst other benefits). Furthermore, a call for membership will also be made upon completion of registration.

What we would like to do now...

Whilst the Perisher Historical Society is going through the process of being formalised by registration, it is now timely to commence some of the activities that will help consolidate the type of history the society wishes to interpret. There are many possibilities for the direction of the burgeoning Perisher Historical Society, but in the first instance we would like to start collecting old photographs, articles and other snow-related memorabilia. Given the history of skiing in the Snowy Mountains and the context for the development of skiing in the Perisher Range area, material does not have to be Perisher specific. However, anything that helps communicate stories about ski club and ski lodge development, access to the mountains, interesting anecdotes of misadventures etc. would all be welcome. A number of lodges have been celebrating 50 years and as part of the celebrations have been producing commemorative booklets and DVD's. Clubs with similar upcoming celebrations may also wish to consider contributing these to the Perisher Historical Society or any other historical snippet that is snow sport or resort related. Photographs will always be a welcome contribution. Copies of transcripts and photographs would also be welcome should individuals or clubs wish to keep the originals. Copying of originals can be arranged by the Perisher Historical Society.

As a repository for contributions, the group decided that the NPWS Office in Jindabyne would be the best archiving location and to be managed by the NPWS Environmental Liaison Officer – Dave Woods (that's me). Contributions would be catalogued separately from the current NPWS archive and library and would be registered for the Perisher Historical Society.

What we would like to do in the future...

Having a repository for contributions is one thing, but being able to share and provide information is another. With the proposed development of the Perisher Village there is some negotiations in place to provide some space for a museum to exhibit a range of collected paraphernalia. The eventual relocation of the NPWS Office in Perisher Valley will also provide some space for historic interpretation and the display of memorabilia to the public. Events such as Perisher Blue's Celebration of Winter will also provide opportunities to display images and tell stories of early skiing, as well as special gatherings where guest speakers are invited to recount memories of their time and experiences in the snow and the development of the snow sport industry. If you would like to contribute memorabilia or learn more about the Perisher Historical Society, then please contact:

Pam Woodman - 0417 887 475

pwoodman@iprimus.com.au

Dave Woods - 0418 689 250

dave.woods@environment.nsw.gov.au

Team IAC Polar Fleece Vests & Jackets

An overwhelming response has seen dozens purchased! Priced at \$40.00 ea for Members (\$5 extra for non-members) includes postage to your door - *if stock not on hand when next at the Lodge this season.*

Emailed orders are welcome - send details of quantity, style, size with your postal address to:

coldfacts@iacski.com

Cheque, internet transfer or money order to IAC should be sent when garments received - attention Mike Di Leva, Treasurer at PO Box 359 Figtree NSW 2525.

IAC Committee Position Vacancy in 2008 – Treasurer

Notice is given in advance of the 2008 AGM that our long-serving Treasurer, Mike DiLeva, will be stepping down. ***Interest is invited for this key position which must be filled in the new year.***

Combined Illawarra Ski Clubs' End of Season Party

When: 27th October 2007

From 7.00pm to midnight

Where: Portofino Function Centre - 26 Atchison St. Wollongong

Cost: \$65.00 per person includes a 3 course meal with beer, wine and soft drinks for 5 hours

Entertainment by Graham Wilson (Four Kinsmen)

Dress: neat casual

IAC Members wishing to RSVP please contact

Viola Hallahan before the 12th October

Phone: 02 9742 5518

Or email: viola@vanap.com.au

The white stuff: skiers on natural high

Canberra Times – Aug 4 – by J Dart and D Jean

This year's bumper snowfall has led to record attendances across NSW's snowfields throughout July.

Figures issued by Snowy Hydro show that snow depth at Spencers Creek in Kosciuszko National Park reached 150cm in July, its highest mark since 2002.

It's a stark contrast to the previous snow season, when 80cm of snow was recorded at Spencers Creek.

Combined with improved snow-making capabilities, Thredbo and Perisher Blue resorts enjoyed the thickest snow depth for the June month in 17 seasons.

"The snow has been brilliant," Perisher Blue spokesperson Neil Thew said. "I've been here for 16 seasons and it's the best I've seen as a start in that time. "I believe 1990 was a good season here. They reckon it's the best since then and I'd go along with that."

Thredbo's general manager, Kim Clifford, said the snow has been a huge boost for the village's businesses. Mr Clifford said there has been strong demand for Thredbo's 4500 beds, and was confident the resort would be booked close to capacity for the remaining two months of the snow season.

"We survived last year with a very good snow-making capability, but there's an extra excitement in the air with the natural stuff we've been receiving this year," he said. "The restaurants are packed, the bars are pumping. We couldn't ask for anything more."

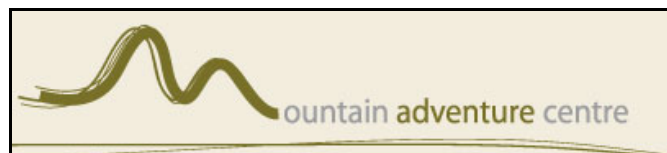
The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service experienced strong increases in attendances to Kosciuszko National Park in July, with an additional 5000 visitors passing through its gates compared with July 2006, a 4 per cent increase.

The Parks and Wildlife Service's tourism and business manager for the Snowy Mountains region, Steve Redden, said the increase was due mainly to a pick up in short-term visitors from throughout the region. "Anecdotally, we have found that people are now coming to the region for shorter stays, perhaps just for the weekend or a couple of days to have a look around, a ski and perhaps to shop," he said. "That would suggest that the visitors are coming from the region, from places like Canberra and Cooma. That's a market we've actively been targeting."

Meanwhile, the snow has been attracting some important visitors away from other snowfields in Victoria and New Zealand.

The Australian Olympic half-pipe team spent the week training at Perisher, in preparation for the Australian Open snowboarding championships, to be held at the resort from August 23.

Perisher's new half-pipe was opened earlier this month, measuring 125m in length.



Paddy Pallin Store Manager and IAC contact: John Weir
Thredbo Turnoff, Jindabyne

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Web: www.mountainadventurecentre.com.au

Opening Hours – Winter 2007

Monday to Thursday 8:00 - 6:00

Friday 7:30 - 12:00 midnight

Saturday & Sunday 7:30 - 7:00