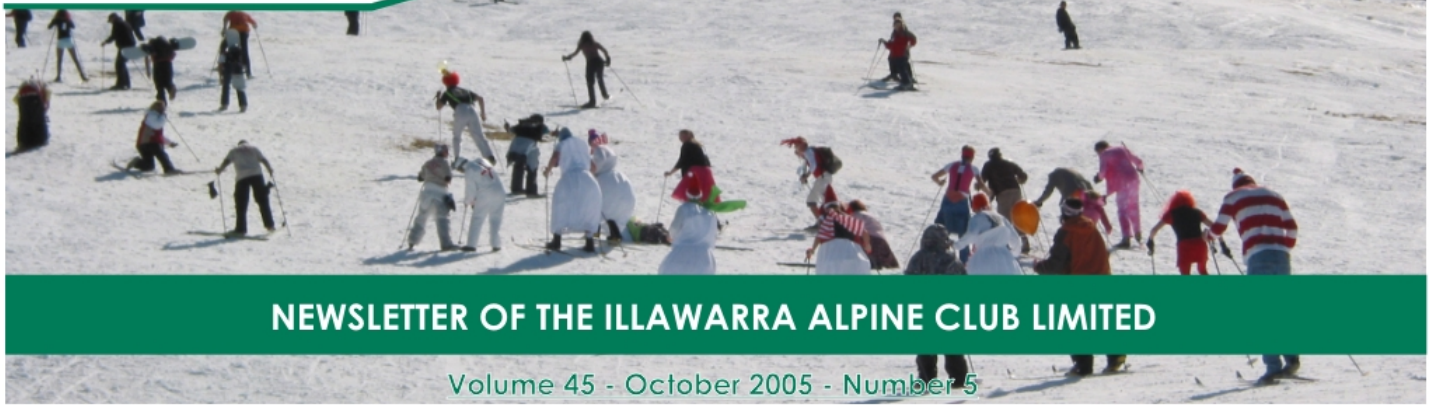




# COLD FACTS



## Lodge

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Cover Photo: Crazy costumes and get-ups galore in the annual Pub to Pub Classic start at Smiggins front valley, September 1 2005 (Where's Wally?)

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## Message from the Editor

Why does the end of the season always come too soon?  
Why must we bear 270 more sleeps before we make fresh tracks out the Lodge door?  
...ah, as Ned said – “such is life”.  
For those lucky enough to be skiing fresh snow in the Northern Hemisphere this summer – think of us poor peasants back home and dedicate a few runs for us!

The Club highlight of winter's tail end was without doubt the superb achievement of retaining the 'Smiggins Bowl' overall as the No#1 Club in 2005. Despite a seriously rapid melt and summer temps the show went on...

- a small miracle!

With a combination of great group results and some outstanding individual performances it was a hard-fought event.

Illawarra's competitive spirit prevailed to the end, and our old foe and good friends at *Snow Country* were denied this year. The win gives IAC the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year of breaking Snow Country's 4-year winning streak on the Bowl since 2000!

I'm sure everyone who enjoyed the fun and spirit will be back in 2006 to make it a 'hat-trick' for the Club.

The Bowl success, along with the hard work and energy behind IAC hosting the Senior and Junior Interclub racing events in 2005 are tributes to our outgoing Club Captain, Geoff Sturday. Take a bow, Geoff -and accept the Club's thanks and appreciation for all the background co-ordination, negotiations and endless official's meetings this year and last.  
Geoff and his team of member-volunteer race/gate marshals on the courses delivered brilliantly efficient and reliable results every time.

All in all a great job in leading our racing program forward so successfully.

This year we say a reluctant 'Tchuss' (*see you soon*) to John and Beata Pihlman, who have hosted their last group of members at the Lodge earlier this month. This next stage in their lives is a sea-change in Hervey Bay, Qld.

I'm sure all who have enjoyed the professionalism, great meals, hospitality and friendship over the past three years will join in wishing the very best to John and Bea, who I'm sure will continue in the Illawarra tradition of past Managers staying very close friends of the Club! Remember your contributions as articles or accounts of travels are always welcome in your newsletter, Cold Facts!

*P.S. Happy 70<sup>th</sup> to the evergreen Tim Lee!*

### In Memoriam

Members will be saddened to note the passing of Dr Harvey Chesterfield-Evans in late September after a long illness at the age of 83. A tribute published in the Illawarra Mercury described him as a very talented clinician, generous mentor and a man committed to community service. A founding member of the West Wollongong Rotary Club, and highly regarded surgeon, Dr Chesterfield Evans was remembered by his family as a compassionate man with an 'incredible aptitude for lateral thinking' who 'loved to party'.

Dr Chesterfield-Evans is survived by wife Enid and children Jan, Arthur, Nigel and Deidre. The Committee of the Illawarra Alpine Club would like to offer their condolences to the Chesterfield-Evans family.

### From the Webchief

Hi everyone!

Don't forget to visit our website regularly for any news and updates – this may save you the ring around to get any info you may need year-round.

Also, for those Members that receive Cold Facts via email, please notify me of any changes to your email address so I can keep our online distribution list up to date!

### COMBINED ILLAWARRA SKI CLUBS 2005 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Come on everybody and get ready to party! This year we are having a huge combined Christmas Party with all Illawarra Ski Clubs invited to the reinvented Illawarra Interclub Christmas Party.

Make sure you keep this night free and come join us for a night to remember!! The details for the night are:

WHEN: Saturday 26th November

TIME: 7:00pm

WHAT: Combined Illawarra Ski Clubs Christmas Party

WHERE: Illawarra Master Builders Club – Stardust Room

COST: \$45 per person includes:

Smorgasbord meal

Some complimentary beer, wine, soft drinks

Lucky door prize

Band

Video of Interclub races (a World Exclusive!)

For more information or to reserve your spot, contact Kent Barnes at reekent@bigpond.com or IAC enquiries to webchief@iacski.com

### From the Booking Officer

Spring and Summer bookings – NOW OPEN. The great flat rate of \$15 pp for Adults and \$10 pp Children remains.

Bookings can be made via email or calls to the Bookings mobile number as usual: 0424 61 7707 (7-9 pm Mon-Fri)

### From the Club Captain

#### Smiggins Bowl 2005 highlights – well done!

The BIG news is that we won not only the Bowl, but the Junior Bowl/Shield and the Smiggins' Shield as well! (Also Jarvis Fletcher has found a new career as a cross country racer)

Thank you to Caloola who were the Bowl event's hosts in 2005 – great work!



Photo: IAC 2005 Junior team triumphant with the Jnr Bowl Shield



Photo: Our Bowl team at the presentation party – you bewdy!

Individual IAC racer highlights:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place BOWL GS – Lucy Ainge
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place BOWL GS – Gavan Fletcher
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place BOWL GS – Jarvis Fletcher
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place BOWL GS – Tim Ainge

- 4<sup>th</sup> Place BOWL S/Board – Andrew Dengate
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place BOWL S/Board – Andrew Brown
- 6<sup>th</sup> Place BOWL Board – Gavan Fletcher

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place BOWL XC – Jarvis Fletcher
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place BOWL XC – Gavan Fletcher

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place VETS Shield GS – John Dengate
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place VETS Shield GS – Tim Lee

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Ladies Shield GS – Susi Eager
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Men's Shield GS – Phil Warren
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Junior Girls Shield GS – Brooke Eager

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Girls Shield GS – Alexis Dengate
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Girls Shield GS – Brittany Ainge
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Girls Shield GS – Carrin DiMilia

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place U/8 Boys Shield GS – Max Mandl
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Boys Shield GS – Andrew Dengate
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place Boys Shield GS – Andrew Brown

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Shield Jnr XC – Andrew Dengate
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Shield Jnr XC – Andrew Brown
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Shield Jnr XC – Brittany Ainge
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place Shield Jnr XC – Carrin DiMilia



Photo: Soaking up the moment – the Bowl, Shield and Trophy all won!

Geoff Sturday

**Maintenance and next Lodge working bee**

The next working bee will be Friday 18th to Sunday 20th of November.

Jobs planned include:

- repairs to wiring at the front door security system
- painting of the male toilets
- repair to Boiler external funnel near rear ramp

If we have enough people also re-grouting of stone work north-western corner of the Lodge.

Contact me at [maintance@iacski.com](mailto:maintance@iacski.com) or 0418 423 091. All welcome!

Tony Dimilia

**Website Caption Competition winner**



The witty winner of the Ocean & Earth retractable ski and board cable-lock from the August Ed of *Cold Facts* is Stephanie Brown

For her caption “...Jarvis! I said I'd only do this if I could see both your hands!”

-Thanks to Wetspot Watersports for the great prize

**After 21 years... a return to the Lodge**



Photo: Family Brown re-united on the Smiggins slopes – August 2005

After 21 years, it finally happened – I got to stay at the lodge!

Summer in a ski town is typically a time to enjoy green grass, warm weather, to immerse yourself in the benefits of mountain living and reacquaint yourself with your family. Living in Mammoth Lakes, California is no different. Understandably, most residents were perplexed when I said I was going skiing for my summer vacation. All of my friends know that I'm Australian and most are aware that there's skiing in Australia (not just NZ), but after our eight month, record setting 607” (50+ feet) season, why would I want to go skiing or let alone anywhere near snow covered mountains?

My reply was quite simple:

“Because I'm going skiing with my whole family and staying at the best club lodge in Australia – Illawarra Alpine Club.”

Returning was special for me as I had so many fond memories of growing up at the lodge in the 70's and 80's

with the gang from the Gong. You only have to look at some classic prints on the wall that I was still amazed to see (sun-bleached and all) that triggered memories and emotions from a long time ago – if only I could remember what year that was (or maybe I shouldn't). Anyway, returning with my family was even more special and reaffirmed that there is life after ski racing.

Changes to the lodge over the last 20 years to say the least, have been nothing short of awesome. To once again experience the thrill of "Speedy Gonzalez" in the morning (now on CD), the roaring fireplace (now gas), the 'dodgy' ski tuning facilities in the loft (now rivals most ski shops) and the stunning kitchen (now the envy of all lodge managers) was simply amazing. One thing however, that didn't change and hopefully never will is the extremely accommodating and welcoming lodge managers. I believe Brian and Leonie set the standard back in the day and John and Bea during my brief stay, easily maintained and even raised the high dining standards and ability to assimilate into the Illawarra culture – many thanks, and for the benefit of future guests – I hope you never leave!

What a tremendous asset the lodge has become and will continue to be. I was honoured to come back and eagerly look forward to returning so I can impart on Katherine the fine values that the lodge instils and the lifelong friendships that are started at the dining table, around the fire or on the slopes.

Thanks for reading along and we hope to see you on a chairlift in Mammoth soon!

Best wishes  
Stu, Julie and Katherine Brown

E-mail: [stuanjuliebrown@npgcable.com](mailto:stuanjuliebrown@npgcable.com)

P.S. – A big thanks to Mum and Dad, my sister's family and Geoff Mettam, Fiona Montgomery, John and Bea and all lodge guests (you are too many to name) for making this trip a truly memorable experience.



Photo: Stuart, Katherine and Julie Brown Aug 2005

## Huts Working Bee – Easter 2006 update

Your help will be welcome and needed in 2006 as we work toward assisting with projects around either Teddy's or Cascades Hut.

At Teddy's this may involve the reconstruction of walls and fireplace, however details are being finalised and will be communicated through Cold Facts.

In 2006/7 the major project of re-stumping of Cascades Hut is being planned. The Dept of Environment and Conservation have indicated that they will replace the whole post, not just the stump which is a near complete reconstruction.

Professional carpenters will be involved, however Illawarra members' assistance is as welcome as ever in work around this project.

Start planning now for your involvement next Easter – you can reach me at [charker@optusnet.com.au](mailto:charker@optusnet.com.au) or on 42264269

Jenny Charker

## Could it happen here?

Authorities in Hungary have decided that a fine is not enough for bad drivers – they should also be wracked with guilt, and what better way to inspire guilt than have their punishment meted out by a child.

Schoolchildren will go on patrol with traffic police in the fruit-growing region of Szabolcs-Szatmar-Bereg and hand out fruit to drivers pulled over by police.

Good drivers will receive an apple, bad drivers will receive a lemon.

But will it be enough to convince everyone to start using their indicators on roundabouts, go easy on the pedal and keep off the wrong side of the road?

-*Lawyers Weekly*

(Look out for the boom in homemade Hungarian lemon tarts – Ed.)



Photo: One of the 'regulars' waiting outside the kitchen window for fresh seed. We'll miss these guys too! – John Pihlman