

COLD FACTS

RACING

2011



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NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLAWARRA ALPINE CLUB LIMITED

OCTOBER 2011

Cover Photo: TEAM-ILLAWARRA ALPINE CLUB!

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Message from the President

The October long weekend brings down the curtain on another successful season for Illawarra Alpine Club on many fronts.

Our new managers Lou and Teddy are a great success. They have blended in well with Members and Guests, not to mention the great food served through the season to a sometime eclectic Illawarra clientele. Along with a very well run kitchen, the cleaning and general management of the lodge throughout the season was also of a very high standard.

Racing (and training) through the season brought special challenges as Illawarra was the host for several events. A special thanks goes to our Club Captain, Jonathan Mandl for his tireless efforts in organising and running these events. Be sure to read Jonathan's report later in this edition and see successful his efforts have been and the results they have produced.

In terms of bookings and total bed occupancy, again we have had a successful season. Budgeted bed-nights were achieved and this means the club continues to be financially sound. Costs as always are rising and with consistent patronage from Members and Guests, we will continue to be a viable operation. This financial status will allow your Committee to plan not only for scheduled maintenance but for ongoing refurbishment of the lodge. Substantial bookings together with a very short Australian snow season however, bring a special challenge for our club. That challenge brings enormous pressure on our Booking Officer to accommodate those bookings, especially in peak season and around the race and training dates. To ensure our booking system remains relevant to Members requirements and up to date, your Committee will conduct a post season review of bookings in response to some enquiries made by Members during the season. Finally, a reminder that we are in our 50th year as a club and the celebration of that event is only weeks away so don't forget to get your booking in for the party.

Mike Di Leva

president@iacski.com

Committee 2011

President:	Michael Di Leva
Vice Presidents:	Jonathan Mandl (Club Captain) Phil Warren (Hut Captain Liaison)
Secretary:	Fiona Montgomery
Treasurer:	Susi Eager
Maintenance:	Tony DiMilia/Craig Fairweather
Bookings:	Julie Irvine
Procurement:	Duncan Oliver
Website/Email:	Viola Hallahan
Cold Facts Editor:	Geoff Mettam (Huts)

Editorial

So, another season bites the dust a great July, but things "faded", or rather "melted" in August. A great year with Teddie & Louise, who will be back again next year. Success elsewhere reported in Smiggs Bowl & Junior InterClub. And our 50th Year celebrations coming up in a couple of weeks.

Various people heading OS in the northern winter. John & Shauna to Utah, likely joined by myself & partner Gai & perhaps others ???????

Please remember that we are looking to streamline our communications, & we would ask that if you have changes to your email address or any other contact details, could you please notify the committee via committee@iacski.com as soon as possible so you don't miss out on information.

Also, if you receive a hard copy of Cold Facts and now have an email, could you please notify the committee ASAP with your email address.

Email and visiting our website, is by far, the best way to receive IAC information as we only send hard copies of Cold Facts and AGM notices for those who don't have internet access. All other communications is now efficient, more detailed and instantaneous via the web.

Finally, if you have a Cold Facts submission, please send it to me via email coldfacts@iacski.com.

Geoff Mettam

coldfacts@iacski.com

Bookings

Wow, what a fantastic season we have had. Another good year for bookings, 2543 beds (69% occupancy).

Next season we (the committee) are planning a few changes to the booking rules to help the booking process run smoothly. Keep an eye out for the changes which should be published in the January/February 2012 Cold Facts.

If you would like to make a summer booking, please email me as during the off season I will only be checking the ski club phone once a week. I will be checking the email's every day (Monday to Friday).

Hoping to catch up with a lot of members at the 50th Anniversary Party.

As always, the best way to contact me is via email. Happy skiing.

Julie Irvine

0424 617 707

bookings@iacski.com

Maintenance

An end of season working bee planned for some time in November. Tony & Craig will advise.

Craig Fairweather & Tony DiMilia

maintenance@iacski.com

From the Club Captain

Brian Donegan Memorial Senior Illawarra Interclub 2011

This year's Illawarra Interclub hosting duties came to IAC, so a very busy year of co-ordination and racing kicked off on Saturday, August 13.

Six Clubs competed in perfect conditions on the Blue Cow Upper Rollercoaster alpine course, followed by XC on the Perisher Nordic Trails.

A strong IAC team of 23 gathered to challenge the Senior Trophies, including four champion graduates from the Junior Racing Development Program, Andrew and Alexis Dengate, Krista Sturday and Carrin Di Milia.

They were joined by three of our 'graduating class' of 2011 – Whimbrel Wilson, Blythe Fairweather and Eric Mandl, who as 16 year olds are eligible to compete in both the Senior (for the first time) and Junior events (for the last time) in that same year. Unluckily, Lorenz Weiss, our Junior Club Champion in 2011 was unavailable.

The 'Grads' brought us good luck on the day with fresh & welcome talent to bolster the IAC Senior team led by our revered 'racing tribal elder', Tim Lee.

It was also a special occasion with a Fletcher family triple-treat, with Russell, Jarvis and Margaret Anne (King) all in action on the GS course.

Russell showed courage in not only coming back from a suspended racing career and Dad-duties to race again, on carve skis for the first time –after hanging up his faithful vintage straight skis on the wall. Marvellous effort, that! Margaret Anne and Jarvis were also in great form, both anchoring our Ladies and Mens GS teams as always with speed and style.

Jarvis took 1st place in the Men slightly over 50 (Vets) GS event, with Tim Lee and Geoff Mettam combining for a Team 1st.

Very impressive was the clean sweep of the top Womens' GS places with Alexis Dengate 1st, Margaret Anne King 2nd and Whimbrel Wilson 3rd.

The Ladies team podium blitz was well backed up by Krista Sturday, Fiona Montgomery, Carrin and Narelle DiMilia. Andrew Dengate claimed 2nd place in the hotly contested Mens GS event, with team-mates Eric and Jonathan Mandl, Blythe and Craig Fairweather, Ottmar Weiss, Tony Di Milia, Russell Fletcher, Phil Warren and Jason Kolsky backing up.

Our Champion GS team (2nd overall – bested by Port Kembla) was Andrew, Eric and Jarvis.

In Snowboard GS our team of six included Lodge Manager, Teddy Masters as our guest. Teddy had two great runs and finished equal to 7th place.

Eric took 2nd place backed up by Blythe, Whimbrel, Alexis and Jonathan.

Our Champion SB team (3rd overall – bested by Port Kembla and IMBAC) was Eric, Blythe and Jonathan.

The XC team showed courage against a field with many specialist skaters, and Blythe's 10th place was an exceptional achievement, leading team-mates, Alexis, Andrew, Eric, Whimbrel, Carrin, Ottmar and Narelle to the finish of the gruelling 2.5km course.

The great news at Presentation's end was the Combined Champion Open Ladies wins to Alexis Dengate (1st) and Whimbrel Wilson (2nd) – and an Open Men's 3rd place to Eric Mandl. A ringing endorsement for the Club's investment over the years in our Junior program and a sensational effort.

Congratulations to our Senior Champions, the supporting team and their families. Thank you for making the effort to join us on the day!

Thanks to Teddy and Lou for a wonderfully catered evening hosting over 100 guests and our volunteers setting up the lounge and providing friendly hospitality.

Special mention of the invaluable work provided by Steelmakers' Alan Ritchie, who generously assisted me with preparations and race-day calculations.

Overall IAC placed 4th, narrowly off the top 3 to IMBAC.

Next year, we'll shoot for the elusive Senior podium with Port Kembla Ski Club hosting the 2012 events.

Brian Donegan Memorial Junior Illawarra Interclub 2011

With perfect conditions, the Junior event was held on Sept 3 with our biggest contingent ever of 19 competitors challenging to retain the overall Trophy.

The energy and enthusiasm of this team was electric, and they let loose with everything they had in the events, with everyone in the Junior Program competing in all three disciplines.

We welcomed back young Tegan Hunt, who loves her GS racing and we hope to see join our program in 2012, plus young Madeleine Lysaght and Jack Mettam – all wonderful prospects for our junior racing future.

The Girls teams were on fire this year, with the U17 GS event seeing Nina Weiss claim 2nd with Whimbrel Wilson and Brooke Eager narrowly edged off the podium this year. Great team back up by Louise Stuart in her first year of racing with the program and representing a new generation of the family in Club competition.

In U13 GS the buzz with IAC was strong, and Iris Simpson-Wilson took 2nd place, with team-mates speedy Tegan Hunt, Liesl Harmey (in her first program year and doing brilliantly) and Madeleine Lysaght in her first Junior Interclub – welcome aboard!

The Boys weren't going to miss any action either, starting with the U17 GS domination where our team of six claimed the first six positions – starting with Blythe Fairweather 1st, Tyler Irvine 2nd and Eric Mandl 3rd. Max Mandl, Robert Stuart (in his first year of Junior Program and Club representative racing, continuing the family tradition) and Louis Fairweather made up the perfect combination.

The U13 GS Boys were not taking any prisoners with Jack Mettam 2nd (another new generation proudly flowing through our ranks), James Irvine 3rd and top support from Jeremy Eager just off the podium with Ethan and William Priddle showing talent and awesome promise in only their first year of IAC Jnr Program.

Our Snowboard U17 Girls ran into heavy traffic with a strong field this year, but Whimbrel claimed a well deserved 3rd and Brooke just behind with Nina and Louise making a very competitive team. Nina overcame a dramatic crash at speed in her first run, and showed true grit to gather herself for a second run.

The U13 team were a power of two, with Iris snaring a great 2nd placing and Liesl bravely running her first SB GS course with style.

The U17 Boys team had a tough challenge with some specialists to deal with, however Blythe split the Maranatha pack and claimed 2nd with two great runs, supported by Max, Eric, Tyler, Robert (first SB race – and a family male first?) and Louis – all giving 110%.

Channeling the bigger boys, the U13 team scored with an impressive 2nd for James Irvine, with Jack Mettam almost snatching a podium place on his first SB race event, backed up by Jeremy, Ethan and William – all showing tons of promise for the future.

The afternoon's XC events were held on a shortened section of the 2.5km trail under a blue sky, hot sun and softening snow.

Our U17 Girls team showed a masterclass in style and speed from the top with Whimbrel 1st, Nina 2nd and Brooke 3rd, with Louise making a fine contribution too in her first such XC event.

The U13 Girls had great success with Iris 1st, and Liesl showing courage holding onto her mid-pack place in her first exhausting XC sprint!

In the Boys U17 the challenge was met head on with Blythe taking out 1st once again in 2011, Eric 3rd just

bumping brother Max off the podium and closely followed by Tyler, Robert and Louis – no-one giving up a place. Not to be outdone, the U13 Boys threw everything at the hill and James Irvine finally snared his deserved 1st place (well done 'Spider-Pig!') and backed up by Jack Mettam (first XC event), the never-tiring Jeremy and William and Ethan (first XC event).

The overall results speak for themselves, a fantastic outcome for many long hours in training, plus skill and courage on the race courses. The Champion GS team (1st overall) was Blythe, Tyler, Eric and Nina. Our Champion SB team (2nd overall) was Blythe, Max and Eric. This year's Champions XC team (1st overall) was Blythe, Eric and Max. The wins dominating two from three disciplines comfortably saw the Illawarra Alpine Club Junior team win by a huge 70 points from Maranatha (Thirroul Ski Club) then 53 points to Port Kembla Ski Club. I'm delighted to confirm that Whimbrel Wilson was the overall Girls Combined Champion (1st) and Blythe Fairweather was the overall Boys Combined Champion (1st) with team-mate Eric Mandl 3rd. This result for three of the four Juniors leaving for the Senior ranks in 2011 is outstanding, and a tribute to their skills across alpine and Nordic disciplines. Lorenz Weiss is our fourth 'graduate'-sadly turning 17 a week before the event saw him ineligible under the rules. Lorenz is our reigning Junior Club Champion and we welcome him to Senior competition in 2012 and onwards.

Thank you to all the wonderful Parents who made the Presentation and after-party such a success, also again to Teddy and Lou for the best mass catering for over 120 hungry juniors attending with their families. A huge success in 2011, and well deserved for a fine team showing sportsmanship that honours our Club tradition. Next year we have a hat-trick challenge to defend the Trophy against Host Club Port Kembla – let's show 'em what we've got!

Smiggins Bowl

Team Illawarra performed above all expectations this weekend with the Bowl and Shield competitors putting 110% effort & pride on the line! 5 Clubs contested the Bowl and Shields – Caloola (Hosts), Snow Country, IMBAC, Muniong and IAC. The Alpine course was on Front Valley, Perisher – a fenced off top-to-bottom strip between the Terrain Park and the V8 chairlift pylons – fast, straight and long. The XC course was an uphill, traverse and downhill bush-bash set south of the Eyre T-Bar on the lower slopes of MtP. Conditions: Sunny and partly cloudy morning (with freeze overnight) turned to fog by SB event, with SL run as last Alpine event in thick fog then same for XC at 3pm. Snow – rapidly softening! With the smallest team for many years, the challenge was on to defend the overall Bowl Trophy, Ladies Shield, Vets Shield and Junior Shield with a fiercely determined **22**. Our Juniors courageously retained the highly contested Junior Shield, with many individual highlights and personal bests.

Our Ladies and Vets Teams bravely laid down great challenges in their GS events, but were very unlucky this year.

(Special Managers' mention – Teddy 3rd in Shield Snowboard in his first year at the lodge)

The Bowl teams took the challenge to the Slalom, GS, Snowboard and XC specialists in the other teams, and refused to be intimidated.

Some would say that with the event apologies list almost exceeding the competitor list, a 2011 win by Illawarra had very long odds.

I would disagree and say that Illawarra Alpine Club competitors rise to any challenge, and can 'punch above their weight' when needed.

This year's team delivered our Club the 27th Smiggins Bowl victory since winning the inaugural running of the event in 1963.

Our young athletes from our Race Development Program have succeeded again in 'owning' the Junior Shield.

Significantly, we will now hold the Smiggins Bowl Trophy across our 50th anniversary year of foundation, 2011 - and the 50th anniversary of the Lodge that is our winter home base in 2012.

Ladies and Gentlemen, boys and girls – your Club salutes you!

Juniors:

William Priddle / Ethan Priddle / Whimbrel Wilson / Iris Simpson Wilson / Brooke Eager / Jeremy Eager / Louis Fairweather / Max Mandl *(Bowl reserve)

Vets:

Tim Lee / Gerald Davies / Roderick Simpson

Ladies:

Susi Eager / Catherine Priddle / Lyndsey Ainge / Brittany Ainge / Andrea Wilson

Mens:

Greg Eager (GS) / Teddy Masters (SB)

Bowl:

Craig Fairweather (SL, GS) / Blythe Fairweather (SL, GS, SB, XC) / Eric Mandl (SL, GS, SB, XC) / Max Mandl (SB & XC) / Jonathan Mandl (SL, GS, SB, XC)

Bowl Overall	SL	GS	XC	SB	Total	Position
Caloola	3	1	3	4	11	2nd
Illawarra	4	2	4	5	15	1st
Imbac	2	4	5		11	2nd
Snow Country	5	5			10	4th
Muniong	1	3			4	5th

Jonathan Mandl
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racing@iacski.com



Golden Tracks / 50 Year Celebrations

Fellow members,

As previously announced in Cold Facts, we are currently preparing our 50 year anniversary book, the sequel to the Silver Tracks which marked 25 years of the Illawarra Alpine Club.

"The first AGM of the Illawarra Alpine club was held on Monday October 16, 1961" Silver Tracks, 1985.

A Golden Anniversary Dinner is now planned for October 22nd, 2011.

Cost will be approximately \$60, so keep the date free and stay tuned for further updates.

As collaborators of the Anniversary Book, one chapter, in particular needs more member support - Social Activities. If you have photographs or stories about partying at the lodge (winter or summer), group skiing activities (in resort or back country), Pub to Pub, or anything fun, could you please contact me.

The other chapter we need more submissions for is when members have enjoyed ski holidays overseas together. This is something that has become much more popular in the second 25 years.

So, if anyone has a good story (not too long though) or photo(s) of any of these activities, please email Jarvis Fletcher on jfletcher@kembla.com.au. Please have a look through your albums, digital or that old paper copy stuff, we'd really appreciate your help. Remember not to send low resolution files designed for internet. Photographs should be between 400KB and 1MB in size.

Jarvis Fletcher & Phil Warren

<http://www.iacski.com/DOCUMENTS/IACPartyFlyer.pdf>

Club / Lodge Internet

Please remember

If you need internet connectivity while at the lodge you must bring your own connectivity via your smart phone, ipad or mobile internet modem.

New Arrivals

Cleo Grace Mason, born June 2nd 2011

..... she is a handful right now but look forward to a personal introduction in the future.

Regards

Craig & Letitia Mason

From the Perisher Historical Society

A big issue for Winter 2011 to celebrate Kiandra – the birthplace of Australian skiing; & 50 Years of the Mt

Perisher double chair lift & a World History of Skiing site to name a couple of the articles. Attached is the link.

[http://www.iacski.com/DOCUMENTS/PHS Newsletter Issue 6 - Winter 2011.pdf](http://www.iacski.com/DOCUMENTS/PHS_Newsletter_Issue_6_-_Winter_2011.pdf)

or go to the NEWS page on the IAC website where you will find the link.

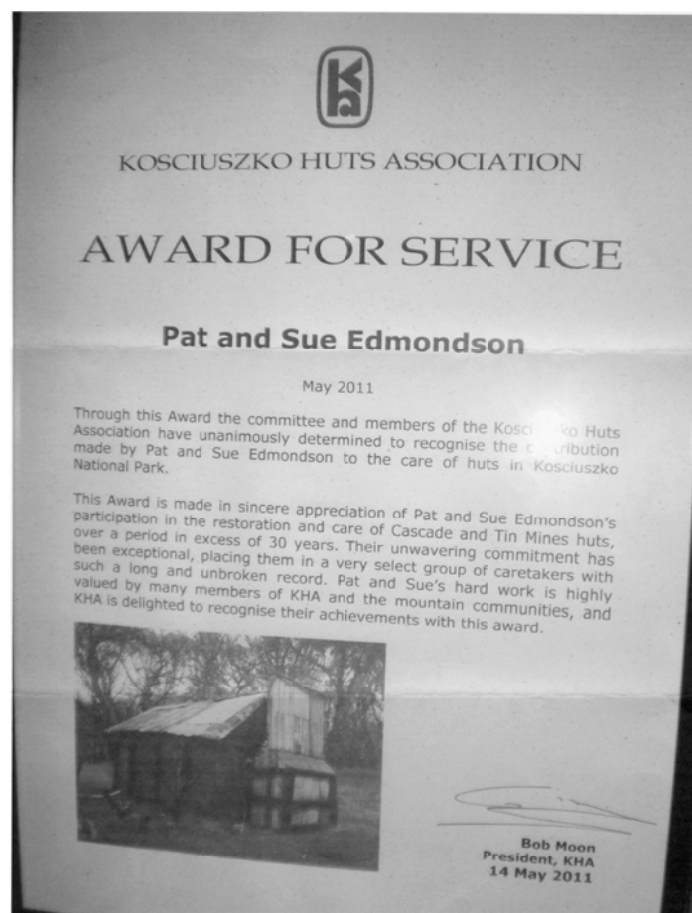
Huts

Award

Pat & Sue Edmondson were recently recognised by KHA for their long & dedicated service to Huts. Very graciously they, in their reply to KHA, they dedicated the award to all Illawarra members who have participated in the Huts program over the years.

From the point of view of someone who has been involved in huts over the years, I can say that without the dedication & perseverance of Pat & Sue the excellent work that has been done would not have been achieved.

Thanx Pat & Sue from all in Illawarra who have been involved & all Club members in general.



Huts November – Pat Edmondson

Ranger Rob reports - at this stage I would like to possibly kick off work at Tin Mines on Fri 18th through to Fri 25th November. These dates are fairly broad but gives a bit of flexibility for the project and with a range of weekends (19th/20th Nov, 3rd/4th Dec and 10th/11th Dec) that may suit volunteers. I hope to go out to Bobs Ridge tomorrow to have a look at the trail conditions and see how close we are to gaining vehicular access etc.

From Robs timetable I think a work party would be best Saturday 19/11 to Monday 21/11 to provide labour for the dismantling, excavation and pole gathering. As well or alternately individuals or small parties could come at any time in either of the periods. Periods of less than 3 days would not be very productive. It would be good if more retirees could be involved.

WORK TO BE DONE -- IAC HUTS

MESS HUT TIN MINES

1. Restump the NW corner post
2. Dismantle the chimney, part of the fireplace and woodbox. Pour a new foundation. Restump the other 3 posts in the northern wall- straighten if possible
3. Reconstruct the chimney and fireplace
4. Replace 5 shingles and refasten loose ones
5. Replace weatherboards as required
6. Refasten existing roof bracing and fit new bracing
7. Divert road drainage away from huts
8. Fireproofing and weatherproofing
9. Improve water supply??

MANAGERS HUT TIN MINES

1. Replace hessian. ??
2. Renew Floor - Rats

CASCADES HUT

1. Fire Retardant
2. Mow
3. Free Latch

Alpine Way to Charlotte Pass Chairlift

Matthew Quomi is doing reaearch on the old alpine way / Charlottes Pass chairlift & the Perisher Historical society is looking to assist him as he explains below.

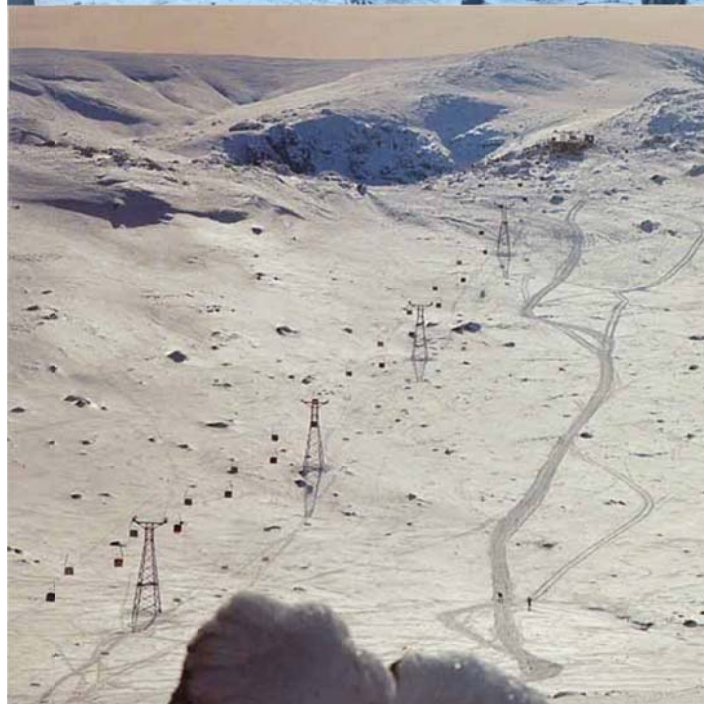
I am currently in the initial stage of researching the above mentioned subject, with my intention being to eventually publish a book of some sort. This stage of my study has concentrated on speaking to people who visited and/or lived in the area during the period of the chairlift's operation in order to document their stories. I'd be grateful to speak to anyone who has photographs, associated memorabilia and/or had any association with the chairlift whatsoever; no matter how insignificant they may deem their relationship to be. Hence my interest in contacting the members of the Perisher Historical Society and the ski club that you are a member of and therefore I would be grateful if you could forward this email on my behalf.

In an attempt to bring the memory of this white elephant back to life, I have attached a few images that I have managed to collect. Apart from the attached images, there is barely any trace of the chairlift left on the mountain however the vast majority of the information pertaining to this endeavor still exists in the living memory of a small group of people. Therefore I feel that it is of great importance that the oral history of this story is documented within the near future in order to preserve the memory of the 'Longest Chairlift.'

I really appreciate your assistance and I look forward to hearing from anyone who you can put me in contact with.

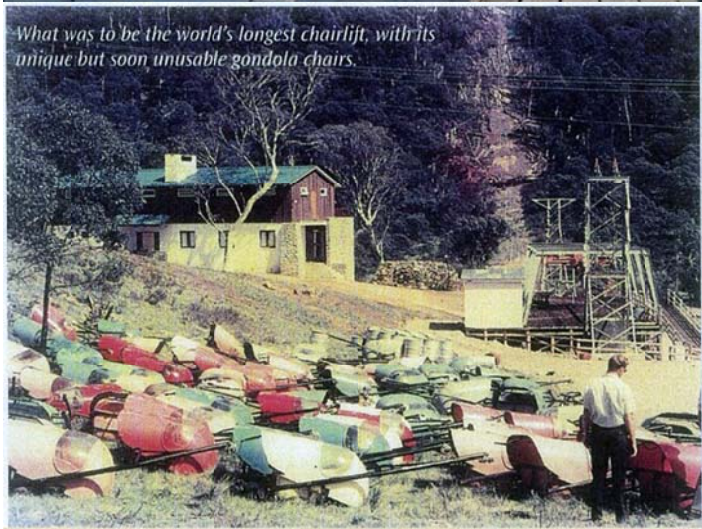
Kind regards

Matthew Quomi





What was to be the world's longest chairlift, with its unique but soon unusable gondola chairs.



**Illawarra Alpine Club
Thanks it's SPONSORS**



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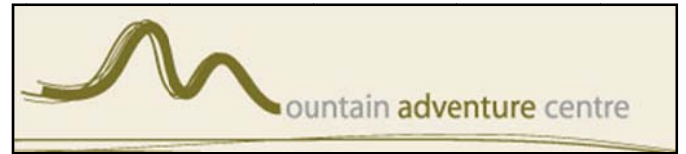
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A D V E N T U R E



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Friday nights open till Midnight when snow falling

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