



Shortland Alpine Club Co-operative Limited

ABN 42 791 472 128

Mulubinba Lodge
Perisher Valley
Kosciuszko National Park

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SHORTLAND ALPINE CLUB 2015 AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

As another season approaches it is time to reflect on last season which, statistics show, was quite a good one at Perisher Valley. According to <http://www.onthesnow.com.au>, a total of 265cm's of snow fell, occurring over 14 days, a maximum base depth of 168cm's and the biggest single snowfall event depositing 70cm's. Unlike previous years which had the biggest snowfalls in August & as late as September, this season's biggest falls occurred in the more traditional months of June & July. Thanks to Perisher's snowmaking facilities and grooming fleet the downhill ski season extended to the closing weekend...just. Virtually no snowfalls of significance occurred in August and September. The resort's ability to make and move snow around is a benefit we can all enjoy.

Last season and this season, many members and guests have made good use of Perisher's end of season Buy Early On-Line Season Ticket offer which provides a full season ticket for less than the price of seven single day tickets. So popular was last year's buy early offer, one member almost took up residency at the lodge and many other members and guests had multiple visits which helped the club's financial position. Unfortunately this super deal is only available at the end of the season for the next season. If last year is anything to go by, the resort may offer money saving deals with savings on lift tickets, ski / board hire and clothing when purchased / hired over the internet early, before visiting the resort. It could pay to occasionally look at www.perisher.com.au prior to travelling down.

Speaking of Websites, Shortland Alpine Club's new website is up and running with all the previous information, plus extra, in a new modern format. Visit <http://mulubinba.com.au/>

The new bathrooms were welcomed by all guests last season, well almost all guests. Unfortunately there were a couple of blockages of some toilets early in the season, probably due to remnant building waste in the pipes. The Board very much appreciated the efforts of the lodge captains and other guests who assisted in rectifying this unpleasant 'teething problem.' It appears that all is good now. There were comments that it is difficult to know if the toilets were occupied because there is no lock or engaged / vacant sign on the doors. This can easily be rectified if everyone adopts the practice of leaving the door ajar when exiting the cubicles. Pretty simple!

While on the subject of toilets, the Board has good news for families and large groups. The construction is complete of a single toilet on the top floor to alleviate the night time trek downstairs for calls of nature. The toilet is located inside the Loft to the right. Was that a **YAAA HOOO!** I heard from the many sleep deprived parents and those with small bladders? The ski storage area, to the left, will be locked offering security for those who have equipment or lockers. It is believed that all who have skis stored have keys to the locked door; however some who have lockers may not have a key to the door. If you are one of these and would like a key, please make contact with Bob Towers on 0407 289372 so a key can be provided.

Over the years the pantry had developed into a pseudo shop where some members and guests purchased foods and other provisions as their first option. This creates an unnecessary burden on the volunteers to keep it stocked requiring additional shopping, additional trips to the lodge from Newcastle, getting stock up the ski-tube and then with Hans over-snow as well as additional packing. The small supermarket in the Ski-Tube centre now has fairly reasonable prices and can provide all requirements for members and guests.

The pantry is for emergencies and forgotten items only. Not to live out of for the duration a visit.

The Board underwent a recruitment drive during the summer months to maintain the clubs membership numbers. The Board welcomes all new members and trusts you will enjoy the services the club and lodge have to offer.

BITS OF HISTORY

A HAPPY REUNION

In 1994 Marvin & Mette Heaston, Margaret Lloyd, Bev Bennett as well as John & Pam Edwards, were billeted for a week in Lillehammer for the Winter Olympics with Borgunn & Johan Dosronningen. Last year Marvin & Mette were touring Norway after Marvin had participated in the veteran's hockey tournament in the Netherlands and decided to try to make contact with their host family of twenty years ago. Having lost the contact address and details, he sent four photos to The General Manager of Lillehammer asking if anyone recognised his host family. One of the municipal officers thought there was something familiar about the young boy in one of the pictures and contacted his colleague, Steiner Dosronningen, who recognised himself, the house guests & his family. Contact was made and the friendship renewed during a visit last year. Marvin was also able to return the house key that he had inadvertently not returned in 1994! For the reunion, Marvin wore his souvenir 1994 Olympic T-shirt, which those of you who have skied with him in Australia might recognise.



Marvin Heaston handing back the house keys to his long lost friend Johan Dosronningen in Lillehammer

PEAK MUSIC FESTIVAL

Last year the Peak Music Festival was held again at Perisher & Smiggins on the long weekend in June to celebrate the opening of the Ski Season. A few members and guests made the trek down for a great weekend. As usual, there was very little snow at this time but the variety and quality of the music made up for it. It is also great to have our lodge in the Valley so it is only a walk (or quick drive if it is cold) back to comfort and the fire at the end of the day. Why not add the Queen's Birthday weekend to the diary for this year? There are plenty of rooms still vacant at the lodge and it's not too late to book-in?



A good time was had by all at last year's Peak Music Festival

RESORT NEWS

PEAK MUSIC FESTIVAL

Again this year's festival is sponsored by SLOPES (the Ski Lodges Organisation of Perisher Smiggins & Guthega), of which Mulubinba is a member. It is possible to purchase a 4 day Festival Pass for \$79 which includes:

- Entry to all 10 venues with over 120 performances and 35 artists;
- Free Saturday night skiing (if conditions permit); and
- Unlimited scenic foot passenger chairlift rides.

This price is the same as last year and available until 31 May. To purchase in advance go to the link below: <https://shop.perisher.com.au/estore/Content/Commerce/Products/DisplayProducts.aspx?ProductGroupCode=2675&ProductCategoryCode=2764> and take advantage of the savings.

SNOW

At the time of writing this newsletter Perisher has commenced snowmaking on Front Valley and a dusting of natural snow has settled above about 1,850m. With the present cold weather forecast to hang around for at least a week it will be interesting to see how the season kicks off. Fingers crossed.

IN CLOSING

Keep an eye on the club's website, before and during the season. It is updated regularly showing available accommodation as well as links to many other relevant websites.

AND ABOVE ALL, SAFE AND HAPPY SKIING

*****STOP PRESS*****

Viewing www.perisher.com.au reveals that the Freedom Pass is on sale again during the month of May offering full 2015 season lift tickets for only \$749. And if you are thinking of skiing in America in their next season, take a look at the deals that the Freedom Pass has to offer.