

SNO SECRET

No 1 March 2019

THE THIRROUL SKI CLUB LIMITED

MARANATHA LODGE

PERISHER VALLEY

KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK

ABN: 33 000 801 338



PO Box 70 Thirroul NSW 2515

Club website: www.thirroulskiclub.com.au

March 2019

Dear Members,

I hope you all remember that The Club's AGM will be held at the Russell vale Golf Club next Sunday (31st March) at 10.30am.

If you are planning to attend and stay for lunch please let Gai Curtis Know for catering purposes ASAP. gmcurtis@optusnet.com.au

The number of nominations for committee is equal to the number of positions so no election is necessary.

This newsletter brings a couple of reports from skiing overseas, some member news and other important information.

Enjoy your skiing

and your summer activities

Kevin Donegan

Publicity Officer

Sad News regarding Two Long-standing but retired Members

Vale Mary Curtis

Mary, wife of the late Ern, passed away in early January. She and Ern were some of the original members of our club and their children and grandchildren are still members. You may remember Ern passed away last July. We offer our condolences to the extended Curtis family.

Vale Kevin Grew

I have received notification as I prepared this newsletter, that Kevin Grew passed away today. Kevin and his wife Patsy were also original members whose children and grandchildren are still members. We offer our condolences to the extended Grew family.

I found the following on the Wollongong City Library's website and members may wish to read it.

<https://illawarrastories.com.au/austinmer/kevinpatsygrew/>

News from the committee

The following two items are being reprinted because we think they are important.

50th Anniversary

2019 marks the 50th anniversary of Thirroul Ski Club. We think it is appropriate to do something to celebrate the milestone. One possibility is to combine it with an end of season social function. However, if you have any suggestions, our social secretary would be happy to hear them.

Website photos

Our Webmaster, Nicola Curtis, would like to liven up our website with some new photos. If you have any photos that you think would be appropriate, preferably relating to snowsports and/or Maranatha, please send them in.

NEW LOUNGES

Most of you will be aware that competition for a place on the lounges near the fire can be fairly fierce just before dinner. Well, it's about to get tougher. This winter we will have new lounges on the dining room level. Once again, we have gone for leather and the model/colour combination is described as Puccini/Gunbarrel. I'm sure that, like me, you can't wait to see them and sit in them with a drink in front of the fire.

Want to save some MONEY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

RHYTHM SNOWSPORTS are offering 30% off snowgear hire until the end of March. Pre-book your gear and save.

RESORT ROUNDUP

Lots of useful information at:

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/research-and-publications/publications-search/resort-round-up-summer-2018-19>

News from our members skiing in the Northern Hemisphere

From Kevin Masters

Hi Kevin

Just thought I would let you know we are missing you and the other Mark over here. The conditions are very good snow, although very cold at Keystone, Vail and Beaver Creek.

Mark and his wife Sandra are enjoying the slopes. Owen and Rasma are currently at Vail. I have attached a few photographs of the Maranatha overseas ski team in the USA.





USA Road Trip using an Epic Pass and the new Icon Pass.



Snowbird at the Cirque

It was a very cold season in USA this winter with many days being between 0 to -20 degrees centigrade, other than an exceptional day of -40 (plus wind chill) in Vail.

Talk about layers, but it also was a bumper year for snowfalls. There was not one single day we didn't wake to the sound of bomb blasts as teams worked on avalanche prevention strategies, which would continue throughout the morning in almost every resort. We drove through California, Utah and Colorado, visiting Mammoth, Squaw Valley, Snowbird, Alta, Park City, Canyons, Vail, Breckenridge, Keystone and Copper Mountain.



Squaw Valley Spa action just outside our room - by day 4 you could not see the fence.



Had a shot at curling in Mammoth with Stuart Brown (former TSC member)

The Epic Pass and newly introduced Icon Pass were fantastic assets in making this skiers road trip more affordable than in the past. The Icon pass cost about \$900 which proved to be a bargain considering some of the day ticket prices we noted. Between the two passes, all the mountains we visited were covered and the set up and activation proved to be very simple. We had purchased the Icon Pass online prior to our trip and at the first resort we presented our ID at the ticket office and were provided the pass seamlessly.



With some Illawarra friends in Snowbird



Geoff and I were on this road trip with 2 friends and we met up with 10 other friends from home and the US in various locations along the way.

Here are a few happy snaps. Don't let those blue skies fool you. I wore 5 layers, liners in my gloves and toe warmers in my boots but the snow, that beautiful snow, it squeaked as I planted my poles and many a dream run was had. We struggled at the end of each day to decide if our day had been epic ...or iconic but without doubt it was regularly celebrated over a mulled wine or two.



Breckenridge- at the highest lift serviced location in North America



Evidence of one of those moments !

Happy snow days,

Gai Curtis



He's in the Army now



Anyone who has seen Oscar Olsen recently might be wondering why he has a big smile on his face.

Oscar has made no secret of the fact that his number one career choice was to join the army. He has been accepted and he fronted up on 26th February at Kapooka. We wish Oscar all the best for this new chapter in his life and hope that the Defence Force will grant him leave at appropriate times so that he can enjoy some time at Maranatha and maybe even race for the club.



For those of you with better photo editing skills than myself, here is a photo of an Australian Army uniform. Cut and paste Oscar's face from the above photo into this picture and see what he will look like. Please send in the results of your efforts.



NEWS FROM SLOPES

Dear SLOPES Members and Associates

The attached flyer has information on the events at Back to Perisher Weekend to take place from 20 to 22 April.

This year Back to Perisher Weekend is over the Easter Weekend and also coincides with the Term 1 NSW school holidays.

Back to Perisher Weekend continues to grow in popularity.

SLOPES is a co-sponsor of Back to Perisher Weekend with NPWS.

Fun Run Change of Route and Time

Please note the change this year to the route of the Fun Run (Walk) - '*The highest (altitude) fun run in Australia*'.

Since its inception the Fun Run route has been from Perisher to Charlotte Pass along the Kosciuszko Road.

This has required police and RTA approvals to partially close the road during the run - approvals which have required, over time, an increasingly early start due to the popularity of KNP over the Easter weekend.

The new route goes from the Perisher car park to the Blue Cow summit chair base via the lower Perisher road (past the North Perisher lodges) and returns via the upper Perisher road (past the Sundeck).

It traverses a mix of sealed and unsealed roads and is approximately 7km from start to finish.

The new route will avoid the traffic on the increasingly busy Kosciuszko Road and will make the Fun Run more interesting and challenging.

Along the way there are some great alpine views and the route through the Perisher Village past commercial and club lodges and spectators will add colour and variety to the experience.

Not being on the Kosciuszko Road, we can also start the run a bit later - please note the new start time of 9.30am.