

# ***SNO SECRET***

*No 4 July 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](http://www.thirroulskiclub.com.au)

July 2019

Dear Members,

We are well into the 2019 ski season and there is plenty of snow. Clarky is back on duty for his 11<sup>th</sup> season and I, for one, look forward to enjoying his culinary delights.

In this newsletter we have invited our sponsors, SLOPES, Steve's Snow Store and Rhythm Snowsports, free advertising in our newsletter. We do this to show our appreciation of the support that they give us. We hope you will return that support.

This newsletter also contains a tribute to Bill Torrey written by Zoe Farrell (nee Percy). Several members attended Bill's memorial service at Sydney University's Grandstand.

We also give notice of the date for our 50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations. Put the date 27 Oct in your diary now.

Enjoy your skiing

*Kevin Donegan*

*Publicity Officer*

### **From the President's Desk**

Dear Fellow Members

As I write this article the snow is bucketing in Perisher Valley and hopefully you will be able to take advantage of this fresh cover.

This is a a very special year for our club as it marks the 50th Anniversary of Maranatha's inception. From our humble beginnings we have grown into a very successful and well patronised club. We have flourished over the 50 years into a modern and efficiently maintained 'home in the snow'. Many lasting and long term friendships have developed along the way.

Following in this newsletter is a flyer notifying everyone of this great occasion. Therefore I would ask all members to keep this date free and join with us to celebrate this milestone. It would be wonderful to have as many past and present members attend to make this a successful event. Can't you just imagine the amazing stories that will be exchanged during the festivities along with rekindling friendships.

Anyone with old photos or club memorabilia please get in touch with the Social Secretary on [Socialsecretary@thirroulskiclub.com.au](mailto:Socialsecretary@thirroulskiclub.com.au) so they could be displayed at the gathering. This input would be much appreciated.

On another matter, just a reminder regarding some housekeeping. As all members should be aware, we are a club lodge with duty requirements, including meal duties along with bedroom cleaning upon departure. Please ensure that these duties are strictly adhered to.

Also please ensure that no children 16 years and under are left without suitable and appropriate adult supervision in the lodge.

Looking forward to catching up with all of you at our 50th Celebration.

Yours in skiing,

*Bruce Norton*

President

## **News from the committee**

### **Member Protection Policy**

The committee has drafted and approved a Member Protection Policy. One of our members suggested that we have a grievance policy. We took it further than that. It covers child protection as well as other potential grievances. We are planning to make it available to our members on our website.

## Vale Bill Torrey

**Bill Torrey**

**12 July 1948 – 24 May 2019**

For those older members of the lodge, in particular the cross-country members, it is with great sadness that I share the news that William (Bill) Torrey passed away on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2019. Introduced by his partner, Chris Blatch, Bill was an active member of our lodge for 30 years and will be sadly missed.

Bill passed away whilst kayaking on holiday in Sardinia with Chris. A wonderful celebration of Bill's life was held at the Sydney University Grandstand Sports Bar on Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Jun 19. Below is a copy of a speech given by one of our lodge members, Zoe Pearcy.

Our thoughts go out to Chris and her family. Vale Bill Torrey

### **Roast and a Toast to Bill Torrey**

- Bill was a very colourful man, full of life, laugh and laughter. He had many personas .....
- Bill was also known as;
- **Bongo Bill** - he would regularly get up on stage and join the Band at the Man or the White Spider at The Eiger and play the bongos - **brilliantly** – a Star act, and random strangers would chant “Bongo Bill” “Bongo Bill”. The next day on the slopes you would hear people yell out “there goes Bongo Bill!”
- **Billiards Bill** - If there was no band and no bongos, Bill also had the chance to show off part of his misspent youth (of hanging out in pool halls)

**And BILL would hold the table all night!** Two quick stories; Bill and my husband nearly died one night in Perisher as a result of this misspent youth – the Maranatha crew had been celebrating at the Smiggins Pub, Bill and my husband were playing pool and as per usual were holding the table. We left them there, thinking they would catch the next snow cat back to the lodge. They ended up holding the table till 3 am, they got kicked out and had to walk 3km back to the lodge. A raging blizzard had struck up, the temperature had plummeted, wind chill was minus 20 and they had to walk into the gale force head winds, through waist high snow drifts, blind drunk. I was too happy to see them stumble into the lodge at 4:40am to be angry with them.

- **The second Billiard Bill story, Chris and Bill** were at a party at The Lansdowne Pub in the city, and on their way out they thought they would play some pool to sober up. Similarly, they held the table till 4am, they left to go home, but the fresh air got to Bill and somehow Bill ended up in the gutter outside Broadway. Bill also happened to be wearing his mother's see-through pink satin pyjamas.... I will stop there, and Chris can fill you in – it's hilarious.
- **Butterscotch Schnapps Bill** - a tradition of Bill's at the ski lodge. He would make his own butterscotch schnapps and at the end of a long day's skiing, you would walk in the door to be greeted by Bill with his cheeky, lovely smile on his face and his FAMOUS home-made schnapps - Jenny Andrew commented when she first met Bill 30 years ago with the schnapps, she thought, this could be a bit awkward, maybe a bit dodgy and then not a fan of schnapps, politely took it and with one sip was converted ! - not realising that this was Bill's job and was a world class influencer in this area!

- **Brave Bill** – Bill loved going on adventures with Chrissy. He had to be brave to go away with Chris, because as anyone who has been away with Chris, knows that it can be challenging and always interesting, always searching and hunting and gathering up and finding her stuff that she loses. Recently, Bill drove at 4.30 in the morning from the inner city to the Northern Beaches just to collect Chrissy's mobile that she left behind at my place. He was proud of his round trip only taking 30 minutes..... (a record perhaps??)

Bill particularly loved being on the water but had an intense dislike of being IN the water. He would mind the bags, the food and the alcohol, whilst we were all snorkelling, surfing etc. and woe betide any suspicious character looking like they might muscle in our spot!

- **Brazen Bill** - a particularly lovely memory I have with Bill, is the time he got me up on the dance floor and we won the Dancing Competition at the Sydney Jazz Club Australia Day Party – held on a ferry on Sydney harbour. This ended up involving **a pole!!** – That happened to be in the middle of the dance floor. AND so, with plenty of bumping and grinding, Bill and I quickly improvised and instead of jiving, we pole danced! It was worth it because our prize was French champagne for the rest of the night. Bill was responsible for the worst hangover I have ever experienced. The next day was my first day in my new job at a conservative Christian School. A complete contrast to say the least.  
And what did Bill do the next day? - he flew First Class to Singapore for work.

- **Beautiful Bill** - Bill was a keen cross-country competitor and he always took it upon himself to encourage and help those skiers not as strong as he was. An example of this is that

Instead of charging off with the rest of the pack, Bill was always very content to ski alongside with his ski buddy Gordon all the way from Perisher to Charlottes Pass.

- **Bill was also known as “The Phantom”, “The Missile” and Achmeed”**. - Bill dressed up as the Phantom for the Perisher Cross Country Night Progressive Dinner tour and kept his character all night and skied in the outfit the next day.
- **He was the missile** when he stepped out of a snowcat and missed his footing and shot off down the hill only to be stopped by a large granite boulder which sliced his scalp and ended up with 34 interesting sutures. I say interesting sutures because the Perisher Medical centre personnel were having a Party. Thank God for Chris, she took charge. Bill was the talk of the Perisher the next day and he wore a very interesting turban/bandage. Which earned him the nickname of Achmeed! Naturally Bill, fell into this nickname and role-played a person of Middle Eastern descent.





**Bill was “out of the box Bill”**- one of a kind. He died doing what he loved the most. On an adventure, in a remote part of the world with his beloved Chrissy. His memories and stories live on in our hearts. **RIP BILL.**

*Save the Date*

**Sunday 27th Oct 2019**



*Thirroul Ski Club is 50*

2019 is our time to celebrate and get together.

Lunch at Thirroul Bowling Club -just around the corner from where it all began.

Stories and laughter, good food and drinks.

A chance to party and share lots of memories of all the wonderful times we've had at our family lodge .....as we leap into the next 50 years.

**It would be great to have all our members, both past and present to come along so spread the word and mark this in your calendar.**

More information to come.....

## **Advice to Guests to Minimise Lodge Maintenance Costs**

During the upgrade of the showers on level 2 and level 3 during 2019 a number of enhancements were included into the showers such as larger capacity exhaust fans, heated floors and lockable windows.

The new larger capacity exhaust fans are capable of exhausting steam from the cubicles in a very short time hence there is no need for the windows in the cubicles to be opened.

During the recent junior training weekend on the evening of 30 June a guest opened the shower window wide open on level 2 and left the window open all night. During the night after severe weather the cubicle was saturated with rainwater and caused damaged to the exhaust fan circuits and will cost several hundred dollars to rectify the damage.

During winter if windows are left open it also is a waste of heating energy and results in increased lodge heating costs.

The manager has been advised to keep these windows locked to avoid a reoccurrence of this incident unless there is a good reason to unlock the windows eg. an exhaust fan failure.

I seek your co- operation to minimise the maintenance costs.

Kevin Masters ,

Maintenance Officer



#### **Steve's Snow Store 2019 Update:**

Having problems with your boots? Boot services available:

Expansions for width issues for bunions etc,

Heel lift or butterfly, to remove volume in the boot and change foot position

Drop in footbeds from \$69 or Custom footbeds.

Not sure if your boots are the correct fit for you?

Bring your boots instore, we can check the size, shape and flex and test alternatives free of charge.

Steve's Snow Store rental gear is always available, the shop location is next to Dymocks bookshop.

We have all the basic gear if you or your friends need to get started in the sport and save time with it organised before the madness on a Saturday morning at the resort. No charge for the travel days only days on the snow.

Demo snowboards & skis available.

Hot products at the moment:

Giro helmets with a seamless match to Giro Goggles.

Steve's Snow Store goggles with magnetic lens and hard case only \$159.00

Waxing irons & P-tex sticks

See you instore

[www.stevessnowstore.com](http://www.stevessnowstore.com)

### **Cost of sending out printed publications**

Following the recent AGM our Treasurer and former treasurer have noted the significant cost of sending printed copies of the business papers. This could be reduced if more (preferably all) members elected to receive an electronic copy. Please consider requesting an electronic copy by sending an email to either the secretary or assistant treasurer. Just this once I will allow sending a reply to my email for that purpose.

RHYTHM SNOWSPORTS PROVIDE PRIZES FOR OUR CLUB RACES AND THE BRIAN DONEGAN MEMORIAL INTERCLUB



Not the place for a selfie



SLOPES IS THE BODY THAT ALLOWS CLUBS TO PRESENT A UNIFIED FRONT TO GOVERNMENT AND OTHER ENTITIES. THEY ALSO GIVE A GENEROUS DONATION TOWARDS THE COSTS OF RUNNING THE BRIAN DONEGAN MEMORIAL ILLAWARRA INTERCLUB RACES.



*"Whoops, silly me! Another unexpected crash into a good-looking, suave, fit, gorgeous ski instructor."*

