

### EVERYBODY ROAR IN 94

Let's face it, 93 was not the best ski year, but the good news is.....you can't have two years in a row as bad as that. In fact, the fact that 93 was a bad year will probably dissuade many people from going skiing this year. So there is every chance that we will have beautiful snow and no crowds. So don't wait, get your bookings in before everyone else wakes up to the above.

John Dengate tells me that member bookings this year are solid but not as heavy as in the past year or so. Week ends are fully booked from July to October but there are mid-week vacancies in all months except August. So, if you have some friends who would like to visit our lodge, check it out with John.

Some more good news! Our daughter in law, Shen, was invited back into Australia as a permanent citizen after only 3 months in China instead of 12. Our granddaughter Alice is now 7 months old and about to start speaking english, such as dada and mama. Incidentally, in Chinese she would say papa and mama. Apparently all children throughout the world start speaking the same words, it is only as they develop that we teach them different languages and beliefs.

### AGM Well Attended

The Annual General Meeting on Friday 25th March was attended by 43 members from Sydney, Wollongong, Canberra, and Melbourne plus about 10 family and friends.

The new committee for 1994 is:

(Phones in brackets-042 unless stated)

- President 1995  
Simon Smart (W-756666) (H-288158) ✓
- Vice President & Booking Officer ✓  
John Dengate (W-756261) 0R756984
- Treasurer  
John Henry (W-756763) (H-617924) ✓
- Secretary *K. Chapman*  
Ted Fairbrother (W-756486) (H 046.461466)  
Please send all mail to:  
The Secretary, Lysaght Alpine Club  
c/o BHP-SCP.  
PO box 77  
Port Kembla 2505
- Social Secretary & Spa Manager ✓  
Richard Taylor (W-756014) (H-831711)
- Junior Racing Co-ordinator & Provisions officer  
Kevin Burke (W-201872) (H-293159) ✓
- Lodge Housekeeping  
Maree McCulloch (H-287803) ✓
- Supervisor of Lodge Managers  
Ross Livermore (H-02.3112890) 018 224 893
- Club Rep on NSW Ski Assn & SLOPES  
Keith Chapman (W - 02.2285669) ✓  
(H - 02.7272478)
- Lodge Maintenance Supervisor & Working Bee Co-ordinator  
Ron Fitzgerald (W-286733) (H-283330)

In addition to the elected Committee, the President has appointed the following:

- Club Captain  
Ben Salon c/o LBI, 41-43 Coward St., Epsom, Vic 3551. Phone (W-054.484600)
- Membership Registrar.  
Mike Salon (W-03.6093641)
- Newsletter Editor & Historian.  
Noel Arnold (H-284020)

Ben Salon transferred to LBI Bendigo in April and may find it difficult to organise racing from there. Watch this spot for further reports.

In his report President Simon advised that the NPWS advised SLOPES that they hope to proceed by August this year with negotiations to extend Perisher leases. This could involve us in substantial costs & the committee will keep members informed.

In the past year, through SLOPES lobbying with the Valuer General, the committee managed to get the new valuation reduced from \$262 000 to \$210 000. This is extremely important when we consider that the yearly lease is based on this value.

Simon advised that after much consideration of many factors, the committee has elected to retain the debenture value at last year's rate, ie \$9500.

President Simon then referred to a report prepared by Mike Salon in January which included the following matters:

a) Since 1982 when 100 debentures were introduced, there have been 64 transfers, 19 occurring in the three years from 1991 to 1993.

b) There are 36 members who are present employees, 23 ex employees, and 13 spouses of those members. Of the 28 balance, many are children of present or past employees. However, recent new members have mainly come from outside Lysaghts.

c) The diminishing component of Lysaght employees is almost certain to continue when one considers that there are no Lysaght employees on the current waiting list of 11.

d) Lysaghts (or BHP) has provided immense support over the years to the club, but this is being significantly reduced away as costs are controlled. Printing, postage and other services are no longer free, but are now all paid for.

e) The time required to perform club duties during working hours is also more and more difficult to find. Therefore, the club will gradually weaken its ties with BHP. The challenge for the committee is to manage the transition and ensure the service to members does not suffer. We therefore need the new member to become active in the lodge administration and maintenance. To this end, I was extremely pleased to find that five new members and spouses attended the working bee earlier this month. It is extremely important that we, as members, realize that the club can only prosper if all its members participate.

After thanking all who had contributed to the club's operations in 1993, President Simon presented the President's trophy for Mike Salon to hold for 1994, in recognition of the 12 years of outstanding service he provided as president - managing its transition from the "old lodge" to the magnificent building we have today.

Our Treasurer, John Henry was not able to attend the meeting so John Dengate presented his report. Our occupancy in 1993 was 84.6% (vs. 87% 1992), which when allowing for the snow conditions is really quite remarkable. The big figures quoted were net

loss of \$11721 (vs. budget loss \$8431, after allowing for \$22098 provisions for depreciation and amortization), trading surplus \$10377, club jumper & headbands \$12370. At the end of 1993 the club held \$198 292 cash, which places us in a strong financial position.

Ben Salon presented the Club Captain's report providing the following summary of club champions for 1993.

..... Male.....	Female
Alpine.....	G. Williams...K.Wheelan
X-C .....	L. Molloy.....K. Whelan
Junior Alpine C. Nell.....	L. Specia
Junior X-C.....	C. Nell.....L. Specia
Veteran X-C..	N. Arnold.....B. Arnold

Ben appealed for more female members to take part in competitions. He also referred to the Martini Rossi X-C race in the second week of August being our Veterans (55 years) race which is really an easy 9km walk, and suggested all members should try to reach this age, and then aim to become veteran champions.

### Never Forget

They held an Alzheimers Conference at the Novotel, North Wollongong this year, and two men sitting just in front of me were interesting to observe.

On the first morning one said to the other, "I made sure I didn't forget to take my pills this week by putting all my pills in a weekly organizer. Trouble is I can't remember where I put the organizer."

At lunch time one said "you stay here, I'll go and get the lunches, what would you like?" The second fellow said "a chicken sandwich please". 10 minutes later the first man returned and said "here is your pie". The second fellow looked in the bag and said "you fool, you forgot my tomato sauce".

### Where In The World Are Our Photos

Back in 1984-85-86 when our lodge was being constructed, Ross Livermore took photographs of the progressive construction from foundations to roof capping. He also took photographs of each group of members, as they completed their week of construction. He then put all of these photographs in an album and presented it to the club at the lodge opening in May 1986. It was left in the lodge for member's use. It was admired during the opening week-end, and brought back memories of many friends sharing hard work and great times together, while producing something wonderful.

### THE ALBUM PROMPTLY DISAPPEARED

Ross, Mike Salon, and many other members have told me they did not see the album again after the opening week-end. Ted Fairbrother says he thinks he did see it once after the opening.

A couple of years ago, as club historian, I asked Ross if he had a backup copy of the album which I could use to make a video copy which could be left at the lodge. Ross has told me that he has searched for the negatives but can't find them.



Everyone I have spoken to has said they would dearly love to see that album again and relive briefly the wonderful times we had together. Ross is devastated that the care and effort he put into producing that album has been lost to our club.

Clearly someone else has also valued that album a lot. Enough to take it home with them, maybe intending to return it, but not remembering to do it. Well, now is the time. Wrap the album up well and pop it in the mail to the club secretary. For safety reasons, you could put my name and address as the sender if you wish to remain anonymous. Just think of the pleasure you can give to all your fellow workers, and you will still be able to see the photos on the video and share memories together with your friends when you attend the lodge.

PLEASE, DO IT.

## Kelly's Still at Kelloggs

Congratulations are due to Warwick Kelly who is still getting free cornflakes, says he is working in a great place, and has been put in charge of Kellogg's ADP people world wide. In this role he went to Germany for 4 weeks in April. He says the yanks can't get used to the idea that someone from Australia could possibly know as much as them. (Those of us who know Warwick will know he knows more than them). At the meeting in Germany there will be people from UK, Denmark, Mexico, USA, Canada, and a lone Aussie. He thinks it will be just like a ski club meeting - about three times too long with everyone keen to finish up and get to the pub once the meeting finally ends.

Warwick also provided the following comments:

I haven't been skiing much of late - last time was in Whakappa NZ (Wh is pronounced F believe it or not), in July 93. "The snow wasn't bad but somehow it's just not the same when you get back to the lodge and there's no Alecia to look after you".

Like most Illabundians the effects of time and too many runs down Mount P are catching up on me. In other words, my knees are stuffed. I've had two operations on my knees in the past two years but they have given up on me. They've taken out all the bits they can take out and now it's just a matter of time before I join the Orb Bowling Club.

Given that skiing has been a bit of a health hazard, I've taken up a much safer sport - hang gliding. Josie and I have bought a block of land in Coalcliff (with a view to the take off at Bald Hill, naturally) and we are planning to build a double frame house in the near future. Does anyone in the ski club want to buy a perfectly good home unit in North Wollongong? Special discount for PKSC members.

(Ed's comment... Warwick, you poor old fella, if you have worn your knees out racing downhill, book in for the second week of August and see if you can win the veterans X-C race).

## Creasey's Have a Little Fella

Got a letter from John and Rhonda Creasey in January 94. You know, they got married in October 92. - Beautiful wedding - BIG SURPRISE !!! Live in WA.

Big events of their 1993 year included Karyn Whelan and a bloke called Joe Fannous

staying with them to see the 1993 year in, and sleeping through John's car being stolen at 3am. On 8th January John and Rhonda went on their honeymoon to USA & Canada, skiing Breckenridge, Vail, Whistler, Blackcomb, and Lake Tahoe, also visiting Disneyland, Epcot, Kennedy Space Centre & Nth California.

Rhonda took up golf because she got a complete golf set as a wedding present, (has improved from 99 to 53 strokes for 9 holes vs John's best of 40), and they often play together - golf that is. They've renovated their Coode St house with new kitchen, new paint, new curtains, carpets, light fittings, outdoor spa, barbecue etc.. John is just starting to find out that a woman's "touch" means money.

They went skiing in the Snowy for 10 days in August and must have been running out of money because Rhonda took up teaching again in September. Barrie & Marlene Knowles visited them in October.

Rhonda got her own back on John by buying him a tennis racquet for his birthday so he had to take up regular tennis, but John got his own back by buying a kayak, and to get some peace and quiet, regularly most evenings can be seen paddling off into the distance toward the Narrows Bridge.

In January 94, John and Rhonda attended Karyn's wedding to a bloke named Joe Fannous in Sydney. I hope this doesn't interfere with Karyn's racing with our club!

Oh yes, their little fella "Snowy Creasey", is learning to say his name now, watches TV and reads...and bangs his seed container up and down for attention.

And I still haven't found out how John managed a courtship with Rhonda over 2 years and 2000 miles, and I knew nothing about it.

## Joe Tierney. Who is He?

He's a new member. Has a beautiful wife Joan and three sons, Jason 19, Jonathon 17, and Justin 14. Has worked at Lysaghts for 14 years.

He claims he enjoys skiing but is still at the stage where his skis have a mind of their own (similar to supermarket trolleys), and trees or rocks move into his path. But I don't believe that. He and Joan took up skiing soon after 1973 when they arrived from England and have often stayed at our lodges since about 1982, always during school holidays.

## Emerald It Is It Is.

One of our members recently moved into a new unit on the first floor of the building. While the units were still being finished she was able to specify her colour scheme, from a supplied colour chart. On the arranged day, she met the builder in the kitchen, and said, "I'll have the ceiling pale green, with cream walls". The builder wrote it down, moved over to the window and shouted to someone below, "I'm in the kitchen...green on top."

They moved into the lounge and she selected white ceiling with pale blue walls. The builder moved over to the window and putting his hand to his mouth, shouted to the man below, "I'm in the lounge room, green on top".

Next in the bedroom she selected pink ceiling and salmon walls. Again the builder leant out the window so he could be seen and yelled at the top of his voice "green on top, green on top."

Turning back he saw her look of bewilderment and suddenly said "don't worry lady, the

instructions out the window are for the man laying the lawn..... he's Irish."

## Melbourne Is Not Too Bad???

Darren Morris is a long standing member of our club who many of you would have known when he worked at Lysaghts PK, or you would have met him at our lodge. Some years ago he transferred to Brisbane and 22 months ago moved to BHP Melbourne. Darren and wife Robyn love Melbourne. The cafes, theatres, shopping, restaurants, events,...the list goes on and on. And everything is easy to get to. The downside is the weather which is extremely unpredictable.

Darren works on the same floor at BHP Melb as Mike Salon and Robert McCulloch is a few floors below. Mike in fact only lives around the corner from Darren in Black Rock while Robert's place is just a few minutes down the road.

Robyn has finished her degree in Australian Literature and worked as a manager at Myers until she retired recently for some reason or other. Darren has completed his CPA and given up rugby mainly because his injuries hurt more and took longer to heal, and has taken up touch football which has a small but keen following in Victoria of ex-pat Northerners and Kiwis.

Robyn is due to have a baby about end April, (about the same time as Peter and Andra Arnold). The next generation of Illabunda skiers does seem to be growing rapidly.

## Bad News Travels Fast

Alan and Alecia wrote to John Henry earlier this year, and said they had heard about the terrible bushfires here. It seems they only hear about OZ when its bad news. They have had a good high season in Andorra, working 7 hour days, 7 days a week but after the peak were able to relax a bit and ski the 2.5 meters of snow available.

The Soldeu resort where they live in Andorra has installed 3 new quad chairs and 120 more snow guns this year and next year will install a gondola from the centre of the village. It was pretty good when Betty and I were there last year, so it should be excellent now.

Alan and Alecia settled into their new apartment in November after a lot of work filling, sanding, painting and wallpapering. Their apartment overlooks the whole valley below but is only a few minutes walk to the centre of the village and the chair. Although it is a wonderful place they are looking forward to meeting with all of us again this winter.

## Tell Me

This month many members sent me notes and letters which have helped a lot in preparing this newsletter. Thank you to all of those members who wrote to me.

Noel Arnold, Editor.  
3 Edward St.  
Wollongong, 2500  
(042) 284020. (18k characters)