

# Lysaght Alpine Club News

Views and News of Management and Members August 1994 Vol 5.2

## 94 is WOW

In June Betty and I were in Stockholm when we heard that Perisher Australia had 100cm of powder snow. While we sunbaked in Rovaniemi in the Arctic Circle and Helsinki we heard temperatures had dropped to -12C. In Tallin and St.Petersburg we heard a record low of -24C and powder best ever. WOW! All you lucky people here in OZZIE. I hope you all dropped everything and raced down there.

There was still plenty of powder when we went down to our wonderful lodge in August.

Do you all feel pleased and proud to be members of Lysaght Alpine Club? You should. Considering we are a small 100 member club, we have many outstanding benefits. Most members know each other and enjoy each other's company. We have many very good skiers, and as you will see later, a few world class skiers. Who knows, we might even have some members at the next Olympics. We have many families whose children are keen skiers and who will undoubtedly carry our club successfully into the future. We have a beautiful lodge, good lodge managers, good lodge meals, a sound financial position. All this does not just happen. A lot of active and interactive members, (who all have troubles, worries, families, work, no spare time, etc), make it happen by serving on our committee, attending working bees, or even just going to our social functions, like the ball or AGM. Some interstate members contribute by sending me notes for our newsletter, or donating some small thing to the lodge. They can all feel rightly proud of the contribution they make. A small number of members make no contribution except to use the lodge for skiing, and some of these even complain if things aren't to their liking. If you feel guilty, good. You can make a big contribution by just getting involved in our social functions and having a fun at the same time.

## ROLL UP to the BALL

Our ball this year is on Fri October 21 at 7.00pm at Kembla Grange Turf Club (easy parking). The cost of \$30 per head is very reasonable for such a great location, and includes pre-dinner & dinner drinks, dinner, entertainer, dancing, prizes, and a lot of people you know, or should know.

As usual we are sharing our ball with the Steelworks and Maranatha Clubs.

Mark it in your calendar now and ring Richard Taylor (042)756275(w) (042)831711(h) and book.

Richard puts a lot of work into making this a good night on your behalf, so give him just a little bit of your time and help by booking in early, LIKE NOW. Don't wait 'till the afternoon before as some people did last year.

## Eddie's OK

Eddie Viatos is a relatively new member (2 years) who is Jim Viatos' brother. Eddie can ski well on his head, is a partner in a Sydney Pharmacy, has a wife Alison (Ali), and 2 daughters, Zoe (5) and Connie (1.5). Eddie was at the lodge by himself this year but you will meet the whole

family there in future years. You will identify Eddie by his black beard.

This year he found a new longest way to Blue Cow from our lodge. What you do is catch the ski tube to Bullock's Flat, discover you don't have car keys to drive to Thredbo, and then buy a day ticket for Blue Cow. Of course I would never do anything like that but for some reason long forgotten, I hide a key externally on every car I own.

## Bookings This Year

John Dengate has reported that bookings this year have been excellent. The lodge is now booked out to the end of the season except for a couple of spare beds in the October long weekend and the following weekend (which is the end of the season).

There are sure to be a few cancellations so if you or any of your friends want to get to the excellent snow, keep ringing John Dengate on the special new answering service, (042-756213), which will give a message re vacancies, then take your message.

Good news for summer visitors. Your committee has decided that rates for next summer will be the same as last year, which is very low. Bookings are now open, so book in now for the best, lowest cost holiday you can get. Ring the answering service.

## Working Bees

The 11th-13th March saw Henry Barracosa, Stephen Beckhouse, Leo Delisson, David Bizant, Fed Cursio, Ted Fairbrother, Ron Fitzgerald, Lyn Gibb, Bob Gibb, Brian Harrison, John Henry, Geoff Hoskins, Ross Livermore, Cathy Livermore, Ben Salon, Eddie Zeller, and Helmut Zeller, all drinking heavily on the Friday and Saturday night.

In between, they did some work, like;

- New cavity wall in room 1.
- Hardiplank weatherboards fitted and painted above balcony.
- Void shelves and void stock cleaned up.
- Stocktake of cleaning consumables taken.
- Spa ozoniser commissioned.
- TV/Video wall mounted on bracket.
- Lounge walls & ceiling painted.
- Door combinations changed.
- Double load of firewood stored.
- Drinks & cleaning consumables taken to lodge.
- New front door mat fitted.
- Double power point fitted for fax.
- Washing machine hose replaced.
- Vacuum cleaner hose replaced and spare bags.
- Dishwasher repaired.
- Screen doors removed for winter.
- Miscellaneous repairs.
- Old tumble drier repaired & taken to lodge.

In May there was a clean-up working bee attended by Keith & Dianne Chapman, Maree &

Bob McCulloch, Brian & Helen Askie, Peter & Judy Gracie, and Leon (me backwards) Craymer.

They all had a great time, but the people who will have the best time are those who will go on the next working bee on 11th-13th November, because that is when they get to somehow dispose of all the grog left over from this season in the drink locker. If you want to help them do this, get in touch with Ron Fitzgerald, and book in.

## Really Fit Champions

As a group, skiers are probably fitter than most, but how do you think you compare? Frank and Jane Zeller are both former ACT Triathletes of the Year, and competed in March in the Forster Ironman event which involves 3.8 km swimming, 180.2 km cycling, and 42.2 km running. Frank took 9 hours 34 minutes and Jane 10 hours 28 minutes. These times qualified them to be among 75 Australians, many of whom are professionals, selected to contest the Hawaii Ironman on October 15. Frank and Jane will travel to Hawaii on October 1 to acclimatize to the 35 to 38 degree heat and 80 percent humidity. Their training involves a couple of hours each day plus a 6 - 7 hour bike ride on Saturdays, and a 2 - 3 hour run on Sundays.

The Hawaii Ironman is the pinnacle of Ironman Racing in the world, and you may be able to see it on your TV. If it is, make sure you watch for Frank and Jane and give them a cheer.

I remember some years ago when I gave Jane inspiration to do well in the Martini Rossi. It was my best finish, 52 minutes. It was her first try at cross country skiing and she was tiring badly over the last kilometer, which was a climb up the road behind Charlotte's. I caught up to and passed her about 200m from the finish and all I said to her was "I can't let a mere woman beat me"! Wow! She took off like a rocket, and has gone like one ever since.

## Crazy Man

Did you watch the DASH for CASH on TV in August? If you did you undoubtedly saw Ben Salon competing. He did not get to the money first but said this year was for the experience. Next year might be different. Do you remember the first Dash for Cash when a masked man ran out of the bushes and grabbed the money and took off on a snowmobile? I have it on good authority that was one of our members. So Ben would be our second member to get the cash if he gets it next year.

Helmut Zeller (who is not the person mentioned above), in summer does things like the "Dash for Cash" by racing down steep mountings, sometimes including our ski slopes, on a mountain bike. He had a fall last Easter and dislocated his shoulder and his hip. Although it affected his training, it didn't affect him having another successful ski racing season.

## X-C Race Week Success

In mid-August the Cross Country race week saw our club very successful, again.



The Perisher Valley X-C Night Relay involved approx. 50 teams, including many of the past and present National Ski Teams. The race started at 6.30pm and involved 4 X 2km circuits. The Lysaght Alpine Club team of Lucas Molloy, Christeen Clifton, Helmut Zeller, and Friedl Bartsch CAME SECOND in a very close result.

The Martini Rossi from Perisher to Charlotte's Pass was held in beautiful sunny, calm weather, and was a delight to race in. The result was also a delight with Lysaght Alpine Club getting a 4th out of over 450 racers. The winner was a world class racer from Switzerland, and our own Lucas Molloy came 4th (1 minute behind the winner), and was the best NSW racer. Other Club members all performed well and included in order of finishing, Frank Zeller (only 4 minutes behind the winner), Friedl Bartsch, Helmut Zeller, Rodrigo Torres (15 min better than last year), Belinda Arnold, Noel Arnold, and Betty Arnold. Noel and Betty are again the club veteran X-C Champions. Surely we don't have to wait another 32 years until Lucas is over 55 to find someone to beat them? Unfortunately we were 2 short of the 10 racers needed to get a banner.

There was also an epicure night X-C race involving 3 lodges and finishing at the Sundeck about 10.30pm.

In the Paddy Pallin, Friedl came in 14th out of about 150 racers.

In the Inter Club Races, Lysaght Alpine scooped the pool being team winners in the Alpine, XC, and Combined events. In the XC Lucas Molloy was 1st, and Friedl Bartsch 3rd. In the Alpine Graeme Williams was 1st and Ben Salon 3rd, and one of our young up and coming racers Cameron Nell was 5th. Watch for Cameron's name in future years. In the Men's Combined results, Helmut Zeller was 2nd and Ben Salon 3rd.

Late in August Lucas Molloy competed in the Australian XC Classic events and came 7th in the 15k and 9th in the 20k races.

As I said earlier, we can all be proud to be members of our club, but we should also be proud of our racers. On behalf of all our members I congratulate them, those who achieved top results and those who competed.

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## Eye of the Beholder

In August I was in the Charlotte's Pass Hotel when the meanest, ugliest woman I have ever seen came into the bar. She was built like a ten ton truck, and my first reaction was "boy, I would not like to go against anything she said". The funny thing was, she had this little blue budgerigar on her shoulder, which could talk. She walked straight up to me and when she opened her huge mouth to speak I cringed away from her bad breath and three black rotten teeth. In a voice like a rusty hinge she screeched down at me "if you can guess what kind of bird this is on my shoulder, I'll take you up to my bedroom for the night.

Sweat broke out on my brow as I thought, then quick as a flash I said, "it's an emu".

My smile disappeared as the budgie screeched "HE HE HE, CLOSE ENOUGH, CLOSE ENOUGH"!!!! I found out later that was all he could say.

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## You Can Do It

Grahame and Ruth Leonard went up, (they travel from Melbourne), to the lodge in June and really enjoyed themselves in the terrific snow skiing cross country. One trip was to Charlotte's Pass and back, others into the wilderness with a couple of tinnies - really a great holiday.

Everyone should try cross country skiing. It is cheaper, less crowded, you can do it with a friend, you can do it in bad weather, you can do it with a beer on your back and it can be a lot of fun. You will lose weight and feel really fit when you return home. Give it a try next year.

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## Photos Found

Remember in the last newsletter I asked for the return of the album showing the lodge construction?

Good news and bad news.

The good news is that although we have not received the original album showing all the shots of the lodge construction, Ross Livermore has found a set of the photos showing the construction, and a few shots of some of the people who did the construction.

The bad news is that there are only a few shots of the people.

Do you remember building the lodge? How often do you think about those times? Well, now would be a good time to bring out your old photo albums and reminisce for a while.

SO-O-O-O.... if you have any photos of the people at the working bees, please send them to me immediately so they can be included in our records. Please note on the back of each photo details re. your name, and if you can, the names of people in the photo, the date etc. If you want the photos back just add on the back "RETURN" and your address. We will copy them and return to you.

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## A Lodge Antique

Have you noticed the cuckoo clock in the dining room? Did you know it was made in the Black Forest in Southern Germany? Well it was. Keith and Dianne Chapman purchased it in 1977 when they were in Friedrichafen, on the edge of the Bodensee, especially to present to the Lysaght Alpine Club on their return.

It had pride of place in our old lodge on the dining room wall. The only problem was the darn thing was also just outside the bedrooms and kept me and many other people awake going cuckoo all night. I never touched it but some others found ways to stop it, permanently. But somehow, it always got repaired and was going again the next season. Now it is just about as far away from the bedrooms as you can get and causes no problems. It is also a source of fascination to our young skiers who watch for hours to see the birdie come out, some of the older ones too. Used to be the same in our old lodge. Will continue to be the same in another 17 years too, even for me. Thanks Keith and Dianne.

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## A Family Affair

Do you ever think about the extent to which ours is a "family with children" club? This winter the following such families will visit the lodge (shown mainly in the order of their visit. Names shown are as they appear on your booking sheet, in a few cases only initials were shown);

Begg Jennie, Adam, Ariana.

Donohue Jack, Michelle, Carlin.  
Herbert Robert, Joanne, Lara.  
Hoskin G, LA, L.  
Russoniello Mara, David, Marc, Matteo,  
Ada, Adam, Amanda, Nicholas, Sarah.  
Tierney JR, J, JW, JD, JB.  
Hall Bronwyn, Rebecca, Lauren.  
Lewicki Andrzej, Anna, Mary, Andrzej K.  
Morrison Greame Pamela, Scott, Adele.  
Fitzgerald Ron, Helen, Kate, Brendan.  
Hargreaves Julie, Chris, Luke, John, Betty.  
Cain B, C, P, E.  
Pattersen P, R, A.  
Livermore Ross, Julie, Cathy.  
Hall Christopher, Matt, Alissa.  
Gibbs Bob, Mark, Lyn, Greg.  
Henson R, D, C, R.  
Strachan Trevor, Kathy, Andrew.  
Beckhouse Stephen, Justin.  
Delisson Leo, Veronika, Natalie.  
Viles Russell, Kay, Alexandra, Reuben.  
Zeller Helmut, Janet, Emma, Ben, Liam,  
Eddie.  
Arnold Noel, Betty, Belinda.  
Taylor Richard, Roslyn, Rory, Regan.  
Chora Ces, Dianne, Jennifer, Andrew.  
Williams Graeme, Janelle, Johnathon,  
Thomas.  
Restante Jenny, Paul, Jai, Ben.  
Bartsch Friedl, Claudia, Renee, Jacinta,  
Dieter.  
Barracosa Maria, Henrique, Steven,  
Andrew.  
Lysaght Marley, Henry, Nikki, Claire, Scott.  
Salon Mike, Claire, Ben.  
Viatos Eddie, Ali, Zoe, Connie.  
McMaster Ian, Chris, Kim.  
Cleary John, Jenny, Kim.  
McCulloch Bob, Maree, Peter, Paul, Jenny,  
Daniel, Elise.  
Dennis Steve, Margaret, Jaye, Patrick.  
Fairbrother Ted, Dianne, Jane.  
Burke Kevin, Sandra, Blake.  
Nell David, Cameron, Shane, Brendan,  
Fason, Anne.  
Edwards Dave, Angie, Joshua, Kaine.  
Martin Mark, Sue, Emily.  
Specia Olindo, Lisa.  
Bizant David, Julie, Emma, David.  
Headlington Michael, Gail, Mitchell, Erin.  
Torres Rod, Julie, Alex, Ben.  
Morris Darren, Robyn, J.  
Tesoriero Adam, Val, Colin, Simon, Ryan.  
Hein Bronwyn, Graham, Cameron.  
Hawker Tom, Vickie, Andrew, Anthony,  
Mathew.  
Hayman Trish, Neil, Angela, Christopher,  
Danielle.  
I spent a couple of hours at Springhill Works getting these records out of John Dengate's files, and eventually I had to leave for an appointment elsewhere, so I was a bit rushed. I am sorry if I missed anyone. I would be interested to hear from Darren Morris about that J Morris. There were only 2 Morrises at the start of this winter so "J" was only a few months old. Was it a boy or a girl? When? How did it go on the snow this year?  
By the way, Peter and Anda Arnold had a baby girl "Tia" on 3/5/94, whose grandfather is expecting her to become an Olympic Skier after winning the Inter Club Races.

Reminders  
Oct 21 Ball  
Nov 11-13 Working Bee  
Nov 20 Next Newsletter

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