

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE KOOMERANG SKI CLUB

(Incorporating Scotch College Ski Club)

ABN 87004620795

die brettln



Mid Season Edition, 2016

Presidents Report

Offer for Full Season Rental 2017

Club Championships

Stuart Buscombe

Around the Mountains

Member News

DieBrettln is published four times a year by the Koomerang Committee to keep members up to date. We welcome articles from members on their experiences at the ski resorts and also on resort events

.Peter Cass Koomerang Publications 2016

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Welcome to the September 2016 Die Brettln report.

The Jones Clan enjoyed their annual August trip to Thredbo. Despite the volume of snow that had fallen I must admit whilst we experienced fantastic weather (except for one wet day) the snow consistency was lacking. This being said it was, as usual, a great week.

A word of warning though if ever skiing out of bounds with me as your guide I recommend you do not follow. We decided that it had been a long time since we had skied to Dead Horse Gap. For me 1988, with Rodney Tidmarsh, during an APSI ski instructor training week. Our friends the Cushman-Kain family, Ben Ashkanasy, my brother Sam, my wife Olivia and I decided it was time take a trip down memory lane. All was planned and the sky blue. We even consulted with a local Bill Larkins, an old friend of my fathers.

The start of the journey consisted of a little hike slightly to the left of Karel's T-Bar as we wanted to maximise the skiing aspect and minimise the traverse. The result provided us the chance to turn on open plateaus of crust covered powder, descend into a little boot deep powder before the spring like snow eventuated. My future recommendation - best to stick to the ridge on the left hand side or the result involves a little creek crossing, boulder jumping (note picture – the body of moving water is hidden) and a hike. Enough said. Regardless this was the highlight of our week.



In terms of club developments:

1. The Buller Development Sub Committee is established. Yes – Buller is our next asset in need of a face-lift. The focus is for the sub-committee to come up with 3 design concepts for the membership to review and provide feedback on. We need to know what you want us to do. For any inputs and suggestions please contact David Morley, Buller Building Manager. For now the revamp of the ski and drying rooms will finally be implemented over Summer 2016/17.
2. Falls Creek Lease improvements set to be completed this summer with new steel balconies and exterior painting to be implemented. Internally Roslyn Steel found a plumber with a solution to install a washing machine/dryer.

Events for 2017:

The club reaches another milestone next year. We aim to organise for a Cocktail Style Celebration for our members, friends and family to attend. Planning is underway and we will keep you posted. Any help appreciated.

Regards

Seth Jones
President

Offer for Full Season Rental 2017

A few of our Buller Members and their families are heavily involved each season with Race Club or Team Buller Riders. These parties recently lodged requests to secure accommodation for 2017 prior to Stage 1 opening. The reasons for this are simple – a significant investment required to take part in these programs, all long term accommodation options are locked in by the time the clubs Stage 1 booking process is completed and to provide some surety over options they need earlier confirmation.

Following a review by the committee we have decided to offer the opportunity for all our members to lodge their interest in securing limited number of rooms or an apartment for full season rental in 2017.

The proposal for members to lodge interest:

- 2 rooms at Buller Lodge available for Winter season rental (1 per successful family)
- 1 Falls Creek apartment available for Winter season rental

Basic Terms

- Season Period Opening Weekend to Sept 30th (over 110 days)
- For room at Buller a non- refundable fee of \$20,000 room applies
- For 1 apartment at Falls Creek a non-refundable fee of \$25,000 applies

This is a pre-stage 1 offer

As with current rules the member taking up the offer must be present at all times when the room is being utilised (ie it cannot be offered to friends for use)

If member interest exceeds availability the parties will be selected by simply drawing names out of a hat. Full payment will be required within specified timelines (to be finalised) or the offer will be made to unsuccessful parties.

Please register your interest by October 1st with Diana Barker (Booking Liaison Manager) or Seth Jones (Club President) accordingly.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mt Buller turned on a clear afternoon for the 31 participants in this year's Koomerang Club Championships. The long course on a good cover of snow was fun for all ages with the youngest competitor Lachlan Wang, just 7 years old, showing anyone can participate in the event.

The awards ceremony that followed was well attended and enjoyed by all with a lot of laughter and cheering. Thanks to Paul Aberdeen and Tom Gibson for generously donating prizes for this year's winners.

I hope the first time racers enjoyed the event and that we'll see them again next year. I encourage more members to participate and highlight that competing members get priority access to the lodge on the race weekend. If you can ski a simple blue run then you're more than qualified to join in!

Congratulations to all the winners.

Results

A Grade: Time Gibson

B Grade: Matt Brown

C Grade: Olivia Black

D Grade: Sophia Kaleski

Girls Champion: Alice Harrison

Boys Champion: Tom Brown

u/10 Boys: Lachie Brown

Hugh Kuiper

Vale Stuart Buscombe

Stuart Adrian Buscombe Aged 42, passed away July 24th 2016

Stuart, class of 1991 and supporter of OSCA, became a Koomerang member in 2011. Right from the beginning his family was entrenched with the clubs community. It was not long before he joined the committee (2013) and Stuart immediately helped bring the club systems up to date.



He was the principle driver in getting Wi-Fi up and running at the lodges, setting up a Facebook Page and the introduction of an almost paperless stage 1 booking process. When our website was 'black listed' due to online attacks Stuart is the key reason it became functional again. He recently took on the role of Club Secretary and over his last few weeks during treatments in hospital often touched base with me regarding new membership enquiries. He died, peacefully on Sunday July 24, 2016. He fought for every day to maximise his time with his wife and best friend Rebecca and his children of Poppy and Archer. He took each day at a time not as his last but to remain true to himself. He fought to live and it is truly remarkable. My memory is of courageous gentleman, a person of true strength that lived for each day. At his last committee meeting he still brought a smile to your face.

Stuart loved sitting in front of the fireplace at Buller with friends and family. I understand these are moments that provided him with much enjoyment and laughter.

The Celebration of his life was held at the Abbotsford Convent, on 1st August with friends, family, colleagues and passionate followers of Alpine pursuits.

Vale Stuart.

Words by Seth Jones



Buller has some fantastic snow conditions and for those who can get away. At the time of writing, all lifts are operating with blue sunny conditions to enjoy. There is still more snow forecast, so we expect good September skiing.

The annual Victorian Interschools Snowsports Championship, held from 22 – 28 August, have enjoyed fresh snow, and sunshine!

A cold front last weekend blasted the resort with nearly fifty centimetres of fresh, topping up all the runs, and making conditions ideal to welcome the largest snow sports event in the Southern Hemisphere.

After a brilliant fireworks display, that was the highlight of the Opening Ceremony, competitors awoke to sunshine today, where Division 4 and 5 boys and girls battled it out across a variety of divisions.

Don't forget, the Committee has decided to review options for the future redevelopment of the Buller lodge. To facilitate this, the Committee is calling for interested members to be involved and form a subcommittee. You do not have to have building skills, just ideas on what the lodge should be like in the future. Please contact any of the Committee members if you would like to be involved. Contact details at the end of this newsletter.



On the Baldy 2 Lift



Falls has great snow conditions this year and there is plenty of availability at the Koomerang flats.

Here are some the events coming up for the rest of the season:

Onesie Weekend, 9 -11 September 2016

Get your old school one piece or animal onesie and hit the slopes in a wonderful resort-wide celebration.

All sorts of discounts are available across the resort for those wearing a onesie along with plenty of activities to keep the whole family entertained.

The Amazing Adventure race will see plenty of prizes up for grabs too.

Don't have a Onesie? You can purchase one when you arrive.

If that is not your style dress up in your coolest or most embarrassing one-piece from the past and wear it with pride.



Wallace Hut

HOTHAM

We have just returned from Hotham and it was great to see the whole resort open with great skiing to be had in beautiful weather. Combining this with our fantastic lodge, we had a great holiday. The new snowmaking provides much better snow cover, and gives much more certainty for good snow conditions. Even at higher temperatures the snow was still very good.

Here is one of the events coming up at Hotham:

7th September 2016 Camp Quality Fancy Dress Fun Walk

Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board's annual Fancy Dress Fun Walk is on again and this year's theme is "All Colours Olympic." All donations to the event will go to Camp Quality whose purpose is to create a better life for every child living with cancer in Australia.

See more at: <http://www.mthotham.com.au/events-activities>



Looking up Heavenly Valley

Words and Photo by Peter Cass 2016



Here are some of the events happening at Thredbo in September:

Flare Run & Fireworks

Up to 24 Sep, 2016

One of Thredbo's finest traditions Look to the skies and the Supertrail for one of Thredbo's finest traditions, the flare run and fireworks display. It lights up the village on Saturday nights and it's a sure fire way to kick start a night on the town. For over 30 years visitors to Thredbo have enjoyed

Snow Tunes Music Festival

3 September 2016

A great line up of artists is headed by epic producer What So Not, Ball Park Music, Hot Dub Time Machine and much more.



Thredbo Cruiser Run 2015

Member Communications

Are you an individual skier or snowboarder?

Want to go to your favourite Koomerang Lodge this Winter but it is unavailable when you want to go?

If this is you, please send an email to the booking manager and KSC Booking Liaison manager with your dates as there may be a bed available for you.

Are you a weekend skier? Then the time is right to get your bookings in for this season as there is still some availability on **peak weekends** and during the week, particularly at Falls Creek.

Diana Barker

Booking Liaison 2016

REMINDER \$250 off current season accommodation for finding new members

The Committee has agreed that a Full member who introduces a person who subsequently becomes a Full financial member will receive a Club credit of \$250. This can be used by the introducing member for lodge accommodation over the following 12 months.

- 1) The "introduction" requires more than the introducing member just signing an application form. It requires them to have suggested to the potential member the benefits of joining Koomerang and talking him/her into joining when they would not have done so without such involvement by the introducing member.
- 2) The introducing member will normally be the proposer. The introducing member and the prospective member must identify and obtain the signature of the seconder. This criterion would not be met if the Membership Secretary has to provide a list of members who may be potential proposers/seconders. If the introducing member cannot be the proposer (see point 4, below), they are still eligible to apply to the committee for the introduction award.
- 3) The introducing member is responsible for applying for the award in writing, explaining why they should be given this award.
- 4) Only one person can apply as the introducing member and they would be the proposer on the application form unless they are unable to do so because they are a member of either the family of the proposer or the seconder.
- 5) The prospective member must be financial (ie. has paid the entry fee and subscription) before the award is granted.
- 6) The award can only be used to pay for lodge accommodation booked by the introducing member.
- 7) These bookings must be for a period within the 12 months immediately after the award is made (based on end date of the bookings).
- 8) The award cannot be used to pay for subscriptions. The introducing member must be financial before a credit is posted to their account. Stage 1 bookings will have to be paid for if the introducing member is not financial.
- 9) When these criteria have been met, the Membership Secretary will post a credit note for \$250. If, after the 12 months, the \$250 has not been "used up" in paying for bookings, the balance of the credit will be debited.

COMMITTEE NEWS

With the passing of Stuart Buscombe, the Committee is keen to hear from members who would like to take on the role of Web Master for the club. The role does not entail attendance at Committee meetings and only involves maintenance and development the club's website as a minimum. Of course there are numerous further opportunities to improve the clubs facilities for the members through internet access at the lodges and through the website which the webmaster would play an important role. Please contact any Committee member to find out more if you are interested.

NEW MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Membership admission and categories have been substantially revised and present opportunities for family members of a member to join the club and enjoy the benefits of being a member.

Old Boys, and current or past teachers, of Scotch College are eligible to join..

The spouse, parents, children and brothers/sisters of an Old Boy, or current/past teacher, who is a Full member of Koomerang, are also eligible to join as Full members or Junior Family members (children under 18).

Current Scotch schoolboys are eligible to join as Junior Schoolboy members of Koomerang Ski Club.

Adult Memberships

The categories of adult membership will now comprise:

Full members

Full members enjoy booking rights at member rates and can invite guests to stay at any of our four lodges at guest rates. Eligibility is for Old Scotch Boys and their close family only.

Full (restricted) members

Open to any person eligible for full membership and who is over the age of 18 but under the age of 27. They will not be required to pay any entrance fee until converting to full membership and will only pay a subscription equal to 50% of the full member subscription. These members will have full booking rights but, must pay for their accommodation at adult guest rates less a 25% discount.

Full (senior) membership

Open to any current member over the age of 65. The subscription is half the full member subscription, and they retain full booking rights but over the Winter peak season would pay accommodation at adult guest rates less a 25% discount.

Associate membership

Category is for members who no longer wish to be able book over the Winter season. Any full member is eligible to become an associate member or, any person otherwise eligible for full membership can apply for associate membership upon payment of a reduced entry fee of \$250. Please note that an associate member is not able to transfer to a full member without paying further fees.

Contact the Membership Secretary for details.

Absentee membership

A member who because of distance is unable to use our facilities may apply for absentee membership at a reduced subscription. Contact the Membership Secretary for further details.

Junior Schoolboy Membership

Category is open to any schoolboy at Scotch College. The annual subscription is being reduced from \$135 to \$90. These members have full booking rights for the Mount Buller Lodge and Falls Creek Flats but, they are only eligible to book in one accompanying adult as a guest at our Thredbo and Hotham Lodges.

If whole families wish to benefit from accommodation at member rates across all of our lodges the parents of Junior schoolboy members should consider applying for full membership.

Junior Family Membership

Category is open to any son or daughter of a full member. The subscription is being reduced to \$30 to encourage membership for each son and daughter of our full members.

Although junior family members do not have any booking rights, they will only pay member accommodation rates when booked in by their full member parent.

Entrance Fees

KSC charge an up-front entrance fee of \$1,500 to represent a contribution by new members to the substantial assets built up for the club by other members over many years. This fee is not refundable and is not transferable - it is a one off fee payable by all new adult members. This fee can now be paid by three equal annual instalments and, provided each annual instalment is paid, the member will have full booking rights at member rates.

We also have further discounts on the entrance fee:

1. A partner of a full member who wishes to become a full member will be entitled to a discount of \$750 on the entry fee.
2. A full restricted member upon becoming a full member will be entitled to a discount equal to \$100 per annum up to a maximum of \$500 for each year in which they paid their subscription as a full (restricted) member by the due date;
3. Any existing junior schoolboy member who wishes to convert to full membership in 2016 will be entitled to the current discount of \$25 for each year they were a junior member up to a total of \$250.

2016 Committee

At the 2016 Annual General Meeting the nominations for the committee were elected as follows:

Role	Name	Email Address
President	Seth Jones	sjones@swin.edu.au
Vice President	Nigel Watson	nigel.watson@cbp.com.au
Secretary	Graeme Peacock	graeme.peacock00@gmail.com
Web Master	Vacant	
Membership Secretary	Robert Bruce	membership@koomerang.com.au
Booking Manager	Diana Barker	booking_liaison@koomerang.com.au
Treasurer	Prudy Barker	prudybarker@gmail.com
Mt Buller Building Manager	David Morley	dj.morley@bigpond.com
Hotham Building Manager	Matt Dawson	dawsonm@bigpond.net.au
Falls Creek Building Manager	Rosalind Steel	roslynpsteel@gmail.com
Thredbo Building Manager and Vice President	Jonathan Draffin	jonadraffin@ozemail.com.au
Mt Buller Booking Manager	Craig Aunger	buller@koomerang.com.au
Hotham Booking Manager	Peter Green	hotham@koomerang.com.au
Falls Creek Booking Manager	Trudy Jones	fallscreek@koomerang.com.au
Thredbo Booking Manager	Scott Crozier	thredbo@koomerang.com.au
Membership Communications	Peter Cass	communications@koomerang.com.au

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