

# Elouera Ski Club Ltd



Pygmy Possum Lodge, Charlotte Pass  
Kosciuszko National Park  
And  
Castaways Unit, Shoal Bay  
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## Newsletter May 2019

**ELOUERA SKI CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019** will be held at 7.00 pm on June 25 at Burwood Club, Shaftesbury Avenue, Burwood.

### PYGMY POSSUM LODGE BOOKINGS 2019/20

Winter bookings are filling fast and there is limited accommodation available from July 21 to August 3 and from September 8 onwards. If you want to make an online booking use the Online Form at <http://www.eloueraskiclub.asn.au/bookings/>

Paper copies of booking sheets can be obtained by contacting the booking officer at [booking.officer@eloueraskiclub.asn.au](mailto:booking.officer@eloueraskiclub.asn.au) or phoning 0425 256 255.

### BUILDING WORK

The Board is currently considering how best to plan and implement refurbishment to Pygmy Possum Lodge. Some initial work was undertaken at the recent working bee including installing new internal stairs, remediation work under some east wing bedrooms and installing new stoves in the kitchen. A special thanks to all the members, volunteers and contractors who helped with these necessary tasks.



Making room for the new front door



Installing New Insulation



Installing Stairs

### Front Door

The front door of the Lodge has been replaced and a digital entry lock installed. The digital lock will make it easier for members and guests to access the lodge without relying on the Lodge Captain arriving with the key. It will also simplify the administrative tasks of issuing and returning keys. The entry code will be forwarded to the Lodge Captain and all visitors prior to their stay.

The Lodge Captain will be responsible for deciding if the door is to remain locked during the week or remain open. For example, in summer months when fewer people are at the Lodge/village it may be safer to keep the front door locked at all times compared to winter when the Lodge is close to capacity and the door can be left unlocked so members and guests can come and go easily.

## **WATER ISSUES**

Unfortunately, during summer there were a number of water issues at the lodge. These included road excavations that accidentally cut the water pipe, leaking inlet valves, loss of water pressure and low dam water levels caused by a long period of unseasonal dry weather. The Board extends thanks to the members and visitors in residence at the time for both their understanding, patience and management of these issues.

Charlotte Pass Snow Resorts and National Parks are looking into ways to better manage the village's scarce water resources.



The first photo shows the dam on March 3 after no significant rain had fallen since beginning of February. The second photo is 3 days later after significant rainfall (22.8mm recorded at Thredbo Tops Station)

## **MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

The club has a number of older non-active members who wish to sell their memberships. Do you have family or friends who are interested in purchasing a membership/s? There are great benefits in being a member of ESC including access to priority bookings, member booking rates and accommodation credit points for work undertaken for the club and bringing non-members to the lodge.

In 2018, 24 memberships changed hands at an average price of \$3100 and generally including member credit points. Contact the secretary for further details [secretary@elouerskiclub.asn.au](mailto:secretary@elouerskiclub.asn.au)

## **MISSING MEMBERS**

**Does anyone know the current address of these members:**

Peter Fitzhardinge, last known address Christchurch New Zealand.

Neil Allen , last known address Townsville Queensland.

## **TELSTRA TOWER**

A Telstra 4G "Small Cell" tower has been installed at the village over summer. This tower will support only a select number of mobile phones i.e. the most recent models. Apparently, it does not yet support Telstra Wholesale customers e.g. Aldi or Coles etc.

Telstra has provided a list of compatible devices here:

- Apple iPhone 6 onwards, Apple Watch 3 onwards
- Samsung Galaxy devices, S7 onwards, Note 5 onwards, A5 onwards
- Google Pixel devices
- LG devices G5 onwards
- Telstra Signature Premium & Enhanced devices
- Sony devices Xperia Z5 onwards

We will continue to provide access to the internet via Skymesh satellite until a better and more viable option becomes available.

## FOOD STORE

A food store deposit is no longer charged for winter or summer bookings. It is your responsibility to record all food store items that are used and these must be paid for after your stay. It is preferred that cash payment is made to the Lodge Captain or alternatively payment can be made directly to the club using the club BPAY Biller Code and the BPAY Reference number of your original booking.

We rely on your honesty to pay for food store items that are used.

Please ensure children aren't in the food store unsupervised for safety reasons as glass bottles and reasonably heavy tins are stored on high shelves and children may bump or try and climb the shelves.

### Restock

Our food store officer Karen Marshall has again stocked the food store in March and removed all food that is past its 'best before' date.

Due to commercial unavailability, this year we will not be stocking Grapefruit juice, Tomato juice, Diet Coke 1.25L Bottles or Apple Black Current Juice. Also Coke Zero will be replaced with Coke No Sugar; Jelly Crystals with artificial colours will be replaced with Natural Jelly Crystals and Quick Oats Plain will be replaced with Uncle Toby's Oats in the community food section. Additional milk has been provided so hopefully supplies will last well into September.

We are trying to gradually reduce the number of varieties of certain items e.g. soup so that we can increase quantities of more popular varieties and/or items. A 'suggestions' box or notepad will be placed in the food store and your feedback or suggestions are most welcome.

### More about 'best before' and 'use by' dates

Food and drinks with a 'best before' are checked and removed when they no longer comply with the requirements set by Food Safety Standards Australia, however should you find an item that you believe is not of an acceptable quality when opened, please inform the club. Because the food store is not serviced between March and October there may be items on the shelves whose 'use by' or 'best before' expire between these services. The items with an expired 'best before' will still be within the acceptable limits set by the standards. However please do not consume any items with an expired 'use by' date.

## MEMBER'S ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The 2019 Annual Subscription fee has been set at \$110 (incl GST). The invoice for the year from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 was sent in February 2019 and was due by 1 April 2019. If you haven't already made the payment, please do so promptly as penalties will apply to late payment. As of late May there were 141 memberships still with unpaid subscriptions to 31 March 2020. Have you paid yours? If you have an email address registered with the club you can check your membership payment status via the Membership tab of the website.

Payments for subscriptions must be made in cash/BPay/transfer and cannot be made using accommodation credit points. The club needs a minimum level of cash flow to ensure funds are available to satisfy the financial obligations arising from the new lease and the ongoing running costs at Pygmy Possum Lodge. The Board has reluctantly decided that the penalty for late payment of the fees is \$55 and will apply to fees not paid by 1 June 2019. It should also be noted that membership rights will be suspended if fees remain outstanding. There are currently 27 members who have not paid their subs to 31 March 2019. They were removed from the club's register in January 2019. Payment of the subs in arrears plus a \$55 late fee is required to have the membership re-registered. Note that the \$55 fee is additive. For each year the subs remain outstanding, an extra \$55 is required to be paid before the membership can be re-registered. After 5 years of non-payment, the membership cannot be re-registered - the subscribed capital units and any credit points are forfeited back to the club.

## SUMMER SNAKE ENCOUNTERS

**Safety alert:** In April this year, two snakes (*a Red-Bellied Black and a Copperhead*) were spotted near the front drain of the lodge. This is no surprise with the warm weather and proximity to the drain as a food source. We hope they were not targeting pygmy possums! National Parks came to the Lodge and tried to remove the visitors but the snakes had fled the scene.

If you do see a snake leave it alone (don't try to catch it or move it on) and warn other guests. If it is close to the Lodge and you are concerned then:

1. Have someone keep a constant eye on the snake
2. Call National Parks in Perisher on 6457 4444.

The NP Perisher office may have a qualified person on duty in which case they can help. If not, they will likely seek help from the Jindabyne office.

## MEMBER BEHAVIOURS

There have been recent reports of members behaving inappropriately. While this can be a matter of opinion it is best to follow some simple guidelines have been introduced for use of the Lodge.

- Nobody should ever go to the Lodge and the facilities (bedroom, kitchen or toilets) without a prior booking or unannounced except in an emergency.
- If a member is only dropping in to stock their locker in Summer they are required to contact the booking officer to notify of the intended visit.
- If there is an emergency:
  - introduce yourself to the Lodge Captain and politely ask to enter the Lodge;
  - also contact the booking officer to notify them of your visit;
  - If the Lodge is full and the booking officer has been contacted, it may be possible for a passer-by member to make use of the non-bedroom facilities. This is to be pre-arranged by the booking officer in consultation with the Lodge Captains in residence. If bedrooms are available they are to be booked and paid for.

## CASTAWAYS AT SHOAL BAY, PORT STEPHENS

Have you considered a holiday at beautiful Shoal Bay? Special provisions apply for members including a 20% discount on the PRD advertised rates for periods other than the Christmas holiday and Easter Holiday peaks and payment of the booking fee or security deposit is not required.

## PICTURES FROM THE VAULT

