

# Elouera Ski Club Ltd



**Pygmy Possum Lodge, Charlotte  
Pass  
Kosciuszko National Park  
And  
Castaways Unit, Shoal Bay  
ACN 002 703 988**

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## Newsletter June 2020

### BOARD'S MESSAGE

It has been a very challenging start to 2020 with the bushfires closing Kosciuszko National Park during the summer season and more recently the COVID-19 isolation requirements preventing Easter and autumn holidays at both Pygmy Possum and Castaways.

Now there is some welcome news with Charlotte Pass Snow Resort (CPSR) announcing on 28 May 2020 that winter season operations will commence on 26 June 2020 including a series of wellbeing measures to be implemented to give guests peace-of-mind for their 2020 snow holiday. Full details of this announcement and for CPSR latest notice, visit their website <https://charlottepass.com.au/>

The Board has established a COVIDSafe committee to plan how Pygmy Possum Lodge could operate safely during the busy winter season. A detailed email was sent to members setting out a number of steps that will be taken at Pygmy Possum Lodge this season. The important thing to note is that visiting Charlotte Pass this winter will be vastly different to any other year and we trust that all members and guests will adhere to strict COVID-19 protocols to ensure their safety and the safety of others. A few key messages from our recent email are as follows:

- We must maintain the 4-square metre social distancing protocols at the lodge so there will be a limit on accommodation of 32 people or 16 people per wing. This is a reduction from our maximum occupancy of 54.
- A COVIDsafe manager will be resident at Pygmy Possum Lodge for the season to ensure all members and guests are aware of and maintain the COVID-19 protocols. Richard Mason, a Board member, has agreed to take on this role and responsibility for the majority of the season.

If you missed the detailed email sent out on 28 May, you can access full details at [https://eloueraskiclub.asn.au/newsletters/archive/2020-05-28\\_COVID-19\\_Update.pdf](https://eloueraskiclub.asn.au/newsletters/archive/2020-05-28_COVID-19_Update.pdf)

We will endeavour to keep you up-to-date via separate emails over the coming weeks.

### ELOUERA SKI CLUB LTD - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The club's AGM is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 28 July 2020. The Board has decided to hold the meeting online via zoom due to the uncertainty about the COVID situation .

If you intend to attend the meeting you should register your intention by providing your details via this link <https://forms.gle/pJcW4kp5xaLm7fmS7>. Details of zoom meeting will be provided separately.

Note that some vacancies are expected on the board so please consider nominating to become a director of your Club.

## **PYGMY POSSUM LODGE REPORT**

The Lodge is not quite as 'perfect' as usual. In 2019, the drought and lack of water meant that the normal pre-season clean was curtailed and the timing of COVID-19 restrictions stopped the March 2020 working bee completely. However, small self-isolating teams have been onsite, and there have been some wonderful achievements.

### **COVID-19 Preparations**

Hand sanitiser and sanitising surface spray (70% alcohol), as well as disposable rubber gloves and wipes, have been deployed around the lodge. The surface spray should be used regularly on commonly touched surfaces like bench tops, light switches, taps and door handles. COVID-19 signage has been placed in the kitchens, lounges and each room. The cleaning store cupboard in the laundry has been re-stocked with adequate supplies for the next 12 months.



### **Food Store**

Due to the uncertainty of the upcoming season, perishable goods have not been re-stocked this year. Food and drink supplies are limited to what was left over from last season. Please refer to the website for a complete list of what is available. If visiting this season, you will need to bring more of your own food supplies.

Non-perishables such as toilet paper, paper towel, foil, cling wrap, hand sanitizer and garbage bags have been re-stocked.

### **Magnetite treatment to Windows**

Magnetite window coverings have been fitted in some bedrooms as a trial. These covers provide double glazing and have improved the room temperature by approximately 6°C. The covers are fixed magnetically to the existing window frame and are not readily opened. Please do not try and open these new covers. Work on this type of window covering is ongoing. For winter we rely on the vents of the bathroom exhaust fans to supply fresh air to the bedrooms.

### **Second Washing Machine**

A second heavy duty washing machine has been installed as a back-up for the now aging but still very serviceable machine.

### **New doonas, pillows and beds - no more double beds!**

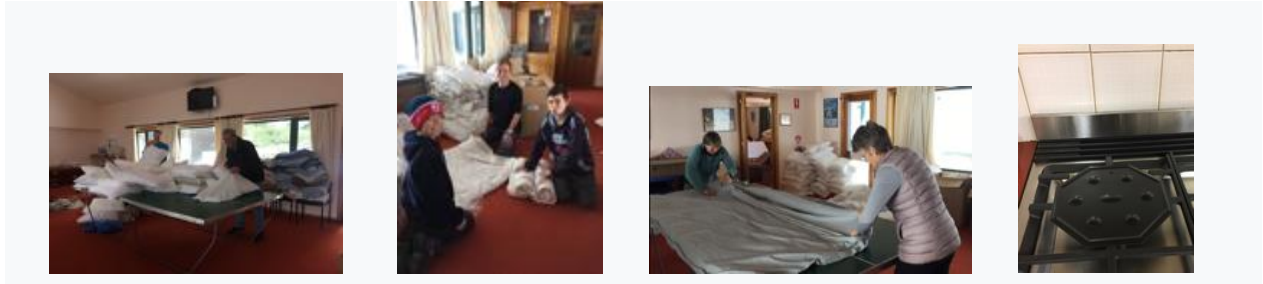
All the standard double beds in the lodge have been removed and replaced with either queen or long doubles, depending on the size of the room. New doonas have been provided for all beds. They are very warm with 85% duck down/15% duck feather fill and baffled cassette construction to eliminate cold spots. They've been tested already as it snowed the weekend they were rolled out and the lodge was very cold. You will find double quilts on the single and king single beds, and king quilts on queen and long double beds.

Visitors with allergy issues, or those who really feel the cold and need an extra layer, can find spare microfibre doonas in the storerooms on the upper bedroom level.

60 new pillows have been distributed equally throughout the bedrooms.

## Stoves

The remaining new stoves have been installed in both wings. All the stoves are now updated and fully functional and importantly safe for all to use. Note that the simmer settings on the burners are not as low as we expected so metal simmer mats (2 per kitchen) have been provided. Use them with the points (half-domes) face up on the gas stoves.



## Vacuum Cleaners

New cordless vacuum cleaners have been installed in each dining area in the communal lounge/dining areas. They will also be very handy for the stairs. Their charge time is limited so please continue to use the corded vacuum cleaners at the end of the week when cleaning your rooms.

Thanks to:

- Peter Hill for organising the Magnetite windows,
- Ken George for organising the washing machine,
- Jon Barber for organising the beds,
- Richard Mason for the wonderful work to fit the stoves into the slots and being there to take delivery of the new doonas and pillows,
- Karen Marshall for the essential cleaning supplies and toilet paper restock,
- Greg Marshall for his plumbing fixes,
- Julie Dowsley for organising the wonderful new doonas with Malcolm Mathie, complete with the necessary extras of new covers, mattress protectors for the new beds, new pillows and pillow protectors, stove simmer mats, large heavy based pots; and
- Tom and Lachlan Marshall, Bill Dowsley, Judy Jenkinson and David Singleton for helping out.

## PYGMY POSSUM LODGE BOOKINGS 2020/21

Bookings are available from 20 September 2020.

## MEMBER'S ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE NOW

The Club's financial position has been impacted by the refunds during summer bush fire season and closure during autumn of Pygmy Possum and Castaways. There has not been any relief to our ongoing lease and running costs. We respectfully ask that if you haven't already paid your 2020 subscription, please make this a priority. Late payment fee applies for fees not paid by 1 June 2020. Membership rights will be suspended if fees remain outstanding and will lapse after 5 years of non-payment. BPay payment is preferred, but you can also telephone Peter Quinnell on 0425 216 477 if you prefer to pay with a credit card.

## STORAGE AT PYGMY POSSUM

There are members who are waiting for a trunk or locker. Do you have a locker or trunk that you no longer need? A refund on a pro rata basis for the period remaining to 31 March 2021 will be made if you relinquish your storage. Email to [information@eloueraskiclub.asn.au](mailto:information@eloueraskiclub.asn.au) or telephone Peter Quinnell on 0425 216 477 to take up this offer of a refund.

<https://eloueraskiclub.asn.au/lodges/PygmyPossum/facilities/>

## CASTAWAYS AT SHOAL BAY, PORT STEPHENS

Special provisions apply for members including a 20% discount for periods other than the Christmas holiday and Easter Holiday peaks. Payment of the booking fee or security deposit is also not required.

Advertised rates can be found at <https://portstephensaccommodation.com/accommodation/Holiday-Apartment-Unit-8-17-Shoal-Bay-Road-Shoal-Bay/8178-Castaways-Unit-8-17-Shoal-Bay-Road/>

## **ACCOMMODATION CREDIT POINTS**

All members with an email address on the register can access their accommodation credit points transaction report at any time by going to the Membership tab on the club website, then entering their member id and member surname. If these credentials match, an email of the report is sent to the registered email address for the membership. The report includes transactions found in the previous 12 months.

The email also details the contacts information the club has on record for the membership, plus the payments due and made for storage hire and annual subscriptions. Credits are allocated bringing guests with you when you book and compensation for costs incurred for work done for the club. If you don't receive this email, check your spam folders for a message from [information@eloueraskiclub.asn.au](mailto:information@eloueraskiclub.asn.au). Please consider teaching your email filters to accept email from this address!

## **DO YOU HAVE UNWANTED SKI GEAR?**

Consider donating any unwanted ski gear to a charity that supports homeless people. Member Michael Stevens writes:

“If you are like me you will have bought ski clothing over the years and now have a cupboard full of stuff that you never wear. A couple of years ago I cleaned out the family ski gear cupboard and took it to the Wayside Chapel in Kings Cross in Sydney. The Wayside is a day refuge for homeless people who sleep rough in the open. There they can get a meal, have a shower and get clean clothes. Ski clothing is welcome because it keeps them warm. Parkas, skivvies, jumpers, sox, beanies, gloves, track pants and over-pants soon find a new owner. Some lucky person got a down jacket or a sleeping bag. Each year I seem to find something else to give them. If it was given to Vinnies it would generally be sold and not given to someone in need.

Now I ask you to join me and look through your ski gear and donate any surplus items that are clean and serviceable to the Wayside or similar charities that look after the homeless. Similar organisations will be found in other cities and some of them may have a need for children's clothes. April / May is a good time to do this when the cold weather arrives and keep in mind that the homeless need summer clothes in the summer.”

## **OTHER SNOWY MOUNTAIN NEWS**

The drought and the Dunn's Valley fire have impacted the habitat of mountain pygmy possums. Food and water stations have been established in boulder fields to help the possums through their hibernation. Specially formulated Bogong biscuits have been baked. These replicate the nutritional value of bogong moths which is a principle food source of the pygmy possum. Other native animals including the common native bush rat, dusky antechinus, mountain brush-tailed possums and black rock skinks are also using the feeding stations.

Snowy Mountains Special Activation Precinct (SMSAP) is a funding initiative by NSW Government to fund Kosciuszko National Park, including Charlotte Pass, to encourage year-round tourism. Funds will come from the \$4.2 billion Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund. The draft Master Plan and technical studies will be released for public exhibition in early 2021.

<https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Plans-for-your-area/Snowy-Mountains-Special-Activation-Precinct/Snowy-Mountains-Special-Activation-Precinct-Master-Plan>