

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 AUTUMN 2021

SAVE THE DATE

ELOUERA SKI CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021 will be held via Zoom at 7.00 pm on 27 July 2021. Details to come later.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL WORKING BEE

A big thank you to the total of 17 brave working bee members who made it through flooding rains to attend this year's Club working bee and also to those who were turned back due to flooded roads.

With the 2020 working party cancelled, the focus was on maintenance and deep cleaning. The lodge is now ready for the winter season!

We have started the process to install 4 new dishwashers and two heavy duty air purifiers to assist with our COVIDSAFE plan hopefully for this year's ski season. An additional Wifi point was installed in the laundry area to help manage the food store. The 1980's battery storage has been removed. This will provide space for additional storage facilities for members.

This year's team was Julie & Bill Dowsley, Roger Hook, Maurice Ripley, Sarah Fitzherbert, John Rodger, Zigi Georges, Jonathan Hillman, Karen Marshall, Greg Marshall, Michael Stevens, John Anderson, Christian Druminson, Nik Milosevic, Alex Rachlewicz, Dennis Tramacco, Ian and Merran Warlters and Peter Hill.

Highlights of the work completed:

Bathrooms

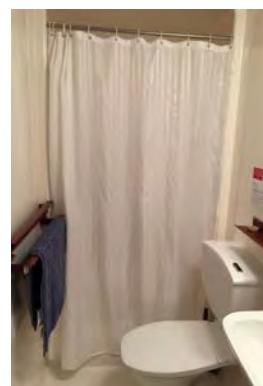
- Replacement of shower washers and curtain hooks, new bathroom exhaust fans
- Cleaning of shower curtains. REMEMBER to leave shower curtains loosely outside shower recess and leave the bathroom door open, especially on departure.

Drying Rooms

- Major overhaul of a drying room dehumidifier.

Kitchen

- Introduction of reusable pepper grinders



- More Victoronix knives, now with colourful handles to make them easier to find
- Trialling the rearrangement of drawers to separate cooking utensils from gadgets eg egg slices, large spoons and tongs.
- Cleaned waste pipes in East Wing kitchen. Drumming can be suppressed by inserting all six plugs.

Living area

- Updated instructions for the Dyson Vacuum Cleaners. REMINDER: These cleaners need to be emptied more frequently as they will stop working if the filter becomes dirty. Every month the filters must be washed in cold water and dried thoroughly in the drying room.

Bedrooms

- Microfibre doonas are available in the upstairs storage cupboards for those who find the new feather/down doonas too hot. REMEMBER to put them back in the storage cupboards on departure.

Laundry area

- Removal of the old battery backup system and reorganisation of stores. This has created space for the new lockers scheduled installation in the coming spring.
- A number of Lockers and Trunks were cleaned out and allocated to those at the top of the storage waiting list.
- Lost property moved to the four drawer filing cabinet.
- The WiFi facility now extends to the basement level which will eventually allow remote monitoring of stock in the Food Store and electronic billing.

Landscaping

- Clearance of vegetation from around the lodge as a fire safety requirement.

Food Store

With COVID and uncertainty around occupancy levels, it has been tricky to restock this year. As such we have tried to stock for the current booking capacity as at March 2021 as well as identifying what items are most prone to wastage. A lot of products have a short shelf life and/or have inconsistent usage patterns year to year. In the past this has resulted in surplus food requiring disposal. We are trying to avoid this wastage. Whilst at the Lodge, if you do notice anything out of stock please contact the Food Store with the email address provided to let us know.

Take your own personal video tour of our re-stocked storeroom, with commentary from Karen!

- 2 [Videos - showing community items and items that are available for purchase](#)
- The stock list for this winter can be found via the page <https://eloueraskiclub.asn.au/lodges/PygmyPossum/facilities/food.php>

A few changes from last year:

- Panadol/aspirin will now be stored in the Foodstore in a secure locked box (key with foodstore key)
- A limited supply of feminine hygiene products have been stocked for emergencies.
- Not stocked this year: Aunt Betty's Puddings, Nutri Grain, Coco Pops, Cup-a-Soups, Long Life Custard and Pancake Shaker Mixes
- Moved to Community items and therefore free to use: plain flour, self raising flour (perfect for pancakes!) and custard powder.

COVID-19 SAFE PLAN

Finally Some Good News: Increased Occupancy, New Dishwashers And New Air Purifiers

The COVID Safe Plan for Pygmy Possum Lodge is being updated following the easing of some COVID-19 restrictions in March 2021. Pleasingly, near full occupancy will be possible during the winter season. However, any new outbreaks may result in the reintroduction of restrictions and we will let you know if we are forced to limit accommodation once again (keep fingers crossed, and we're wishing for snow this year).

The COVID Safety Committee has been working hard to keep on top of the changing government COVID safety protocols. Thank you to all Members who have been so supportive and understanding in following the guidelines when staying at the Lodge and helping to keep us all safe. Unfortunately, it's not back completely "to normal", and the updated plan still requires physical distancing in the dining/lounge area, limiting people in the kitchen and enhanced cleaning.

The committee has been busy also looking into other ways to keep members safe. We are very excited to be implementing two other major initiatives:

- Two heavy duty air purifiers will be installed to improve air quality when the building is closed up in winter. These will also help manage aerosols which are a major source of COVID (and cold and flu) infections. These are Australian designed and made!
- Dishwashers are being installed, these should ease kitchen congestion and ensure that all shared cutlery and crockery will be washed at a hygienic temperature. Unfortunately installation will occur after the ski season.

WINTER BOOKINGS AT PYGMY POSSUM ARE STRONG

Winter bookings are currently being finalised now that COVID restrictions have eased. The Board would like to thank members for their patience during this period of uncertainty.

It is great news that the lodge is almost fully booked from 27th June to 18th September, 2021.

Lodge bookings can be made using the Online Form at

<https://www.eloueraskiclub.asn.au/bookings/>

MEMBER'S 2021 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEES

Members with email addresses on record should have recently received the annual subscription invoice for \$110 (incl GST) covering 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. If you haven't seen this invoice in your inbox (or SPAM folder) please let us know! These fees are unchanged from the 2020 rate and are due on 30 April

There were delays in sending out the subscription invoices, as our volunteers were overwhelmed by the work needed to process booking requests in this difficult and uncertain year. The longest delay has been in sending the paper copy to people without an email address on record, and the due date has been extended for these people.

Payments for subscriptions must be made in cash and **cannot** be made using accommodation credit points. The club needs a cash flow to meet the ongoing running costs at Pygmy Possum Lodge.

Prompt payment is appreciated. Consider it as you doing your bit for the club. It is extremely onerous for the volunteers to chase members in arrears. For members with unpaid fees after 30 June 2021:

- Membership rights will be suspended.
- After 5 years of non-payment membership will lapse.

MEMBER SAFETY - NEW DEFIBRILLATOR

A new Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is being purchased by the club to be installed near the first aid kit in the games room.

An AED automatically analyzes the heart rhythm and if it detects a problem that may respond to an electrical shock, it delivers a shock to restore a normal heart rhythm. Thanks to their small size and ease of use, AEDs have been installed in many settings (such as schools and airports), and serve a role in expanding the number of opportunities for life-saving defibrillation.



The device has voice and visual instructions and no training is required to use it in an emergency. It will also self-detect and not provide a shock if the patient doesn't need it. The club was successful in securing a \$1,300 grant from the NSW Government's Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program, which significantly reduced the AED purchase cost.

MEMBER SURVEY - GREAT RESPONSE AND VERY VALUABLE RESULTS

Thank you all, for the time and the quality of the feedback you have provided in the Member Survey we ran late last year. The survey results have been shared in detail with the board committee, sub committees and will be the bedrock on which we are developing our club strategic plan.

The club is pleased to share the following with you on the Club's Web page:

- A [one page snapshot](#) of the survey results
- The [full Member Survey Report](#)
- The [webinar recording](#) where the results are presented and explained

In general, Members are very happy with the club and we don't need to make significant changes to our winning formula. Of course, there are clear areas we need to continue to focus on, including maintaining our faculties, supporting our wonderful volunteers and better communication and knowledge sharing across areas such as credit points and membership value. Very pleasingly none of these topics are in the too hard basket, they can all be addressed.

Thank you again, the club is now developing our strategic plan using the feedback you have provided as valuable guidance.

MEMBER STORAGE AT PYGMY POSSUM IS BEING EXPANDED

We received strong feedback from Members that we should have more member storage available at the Lodge. The facilities committee has moved quickly and additional member storage is being ordered and is planned to be installed in Spring 2021.

The new lockers are slightly larger (102 litres) compared to the trunks we currently use (83 litres). They are Australian designed and made.

These lockers will cost \$50 per year. If you would like a locker, please send an email to storage@eloueraskiclub.asn.au



NEW WINTER ELECTRONIC TICKETING SYSTEM AT CHARLOTTE PASS

Charlotte Pass Snow Resort is introducing a new ticketing and access system. Like Perisher and Thredbo, the new system features an RFID card, to be known as 'The Charlotte Pass' (nice pun!).



Lift tickets, Oversnow Transport, equipment hire and snowsports lessons will all be loaded onto *The Charlotte Pass* which can be used multiple times. There will be new electronic lift entry gates and you will be able to pre-book all mountain products online. Bookings will automatically load to your card.

For the technical minded, CPSR selected the AXESS system, whereas the SKIDATA system is used in Thredbo, Perisher, Falls Creek, Mt Hotham and Mt Buller.

COME AND STAY AT BEAUTIFUL CASTAWAYS AT SHOAL BAY, PORT STEPHENS

Have you considered a holiday at beautiful Shoal Bay? Special provisions apply for members including a 20% discount for periods other than the Christmas holiday and Easter Holiday peaks and no requirement to pay the booking fee or security deposit. [Make your reservation here!](#)

To make a Member booking, please contact Castaways@eloueraskiclub.asn.au

NATIONAL PARKS NEWS

Snowies Iconic Walk

Progress continued during the summer period with:

- Beginning the track linking Charlotte Pass with Perisher via Porcupine Rocks. Right photo shows construction of the track below Wrights Creek snaking between the trees towards Trapyard Creek.
- Construction of a toilet at Seamans Hut (left photo).

For more information go to [Snowies Iconic Walk](#)



Have you ever wondered about the snow gums that are dying?

Dieback of the snow gums is widespread and is caused by the longicorn beetle larva. Environment Minister Matt Kean announced nearly \$1.2 million in research grants into the damaging phenomena.



Researchers at ANU need your help in photographing and reporting sightings of trees suffering from dieback by saving details to <https://www.saveoursnowgum.org/>