

Elouera Ski Club Ltd



Pygmy Possum Lodge
Charlotte Pass
Kosciuszko National Park
&
Castaways Unit, Shoal Bay
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Autumn 2022 Newsletter

Presidents Message

As we distribute this newsletter, many of us are focused on the approaching snow. We are all hoping for a good season. Most members have missed two years of skiing due to COVID, and consequently the 2022 winter bookings are near 100% occupancy. Pleasingly our summer season bookings have also been strong. Closed borders have upped our summer occupancy; a great win for the club. Thanks to everyone and let's hope for the snow.

In addition to skiing, the board is now focused on our July AGM. The 2020 and 2021 Zoom meetings were highly successful with attendance double that of the 2019 face to face meeting. The 2022 meeting will also use Zoom.

An important function of the AGM is the selection of the incoming board. This year, three board members, Ken George, Robin Griffiths and Richard Mason are retiring after 16, 7, and 5 years service respectively. The board has 11 meetings per year, and we currently we meet over Zoom, so distance isn't an issue. Many of us are in Sydney but we have very effective directors in Newcastle, Canberra and Port Lincoln. Our meetings run around 90-minutes. In addition each board member participates in a sub-committee such as Strategy, Building, Membership, or COVID. The total commitment runs to a few hours a week.

As a volunteer operated Club, member contributions are the lifeblood of our great club. The reward is personal satisfaction and a strong sense of club community. We want to continue our strong family ethos in a great environment.

Over the next two to five years the board will spend a lot of energy on the refurbishment of the lodge. We have 38 years on our lease and a DA is close to submission for cladding, fire exits, fire sprinklers, balustrades and other minor work. We will bring members up to date on the DA prior to its submission. Implementing this lodge DA work will require an energetic committed board.

Your club operates successfully because we have a strong and vibrant board. If you are interested or have any questions about joining the board, please don't wait until the July AGM to advise us of your interest, please get in touch now. Please call me on 0412 163460, for a confidential and informal discussion. Thanks Jon Barber.

Working Bee March 2022

The week of March 20-27 saw an enthusiastic group of 17 tackle the annual clean and maintenance of Pygmy Possum Lodge. Ten of the volunteers were first timers or had not been involved in working bees for many years. A further ten expressed interest but pulled out due to COVID or other commitments. Sorely missed was Julie Dowsley who usually masterminds the cleaning. Julie came down with COVID just prior to the start of the Working Bee, and showed us how effective pre-departure COVID tests were in preventing the virus getting into the lodge. Kerin Brown and Paul Greenfield did a great job in supporting me in the working bee organisation in Julie's absence. In addition to the routine tasks, four new dishwashers were installed, accumulated broken furniture, saggy lounges, etc were removed and almost all incandescent globes were replaced with LEDs. This is a significant improvement for our annual National Parks energy efficiency audit. Paul Dimmock and Allen Caldwell did the lion's share of the heavy lifting in the clean-up, and the floor in the old smoking room is now visible once again and will serve as an expanded dressing area. Paul Dimmock has recently installed new bench seats in both dressing areas. The old West Wing smoking room will also serve as a luggage holding area on Sunday mornings when over-snow schedules force guests to arrive before noon.

As always, lots of lodge knowledge and skills were transferred from the old guard, so many thanks to long standing volunteers like Michael Stevens, Ian Warlters and Roger Hook. New volunteers are always welcome so watch out for emails on the 2023 Working Bee.

The 2022 crew: Ruth & Brian Evans, John Anderson, Gary & Tuula Harman, Jennifer & Garry Smith, Roger Hook, Paul Greenfield, Kerin Brown, Ian & Merran Warlters, Jonathan Hillman, Allen Caldwell, Paul Dimmock, Michael Stevens & John Rodger

John Rodger
Chair Building & Facilities Committee



John Anderson tireless painter



Gary Harman & Garry Smith Sorting out a messy problem in the Games Room



Four Dishwashers installed and featuring a tea towel Cubby Hole



Paul Greenfield sorting LEDs.



Jennifer Smith & Kerin Brown dealing with bed linen



'Smokers Lounge' free of debris. New benches are now installed.

Food Store restock

A food store restock was undertaken during the working bee. Thanks as always to Karen Marshall for her untiring work.

Storage Update – new cabinets and service corridor audit.

New storage cabinets have been ordered and should be available this winter. When installed we will advise the locker waiting list members. If you are interested in storage, email storage@elouerskiclub.asn.au



At the March working bee we removed the old skis that were cluttering up the ski locker area. If this is a problem for you, please contact storage@eloueraskiclub.asn.au

We are also auditing the contents of the back service corridor. All the bays where skis are stored are numbered. If you are using this area for ski storage, please email storage@eloueraskiclub.asn.au with the bay number of your ski storage along with your member details.

COVID-19 Update

Our lodge COVID Safe Plan is being updated following the easing of some COVID-19 restrictions. It is anticipated that near full occupancy will be possible during the winter season. However, any new outbreaks may cause the reintroduction of restrictions. This will be advised. The food store has been stocked with 50 RA test kits; these are provided free on a needs basis but they are costing the club \$10/kit.

Wanted - Recycling Bin Liner Missing from West Wing Kitchen



Two sturdy reusable recycling bin liner bags survived Winter 2021. These bags were hand made by one of our members. Unfortunately someone liked them and the West Wing liner is now missing. If you can shed any light on this please email maintenance@eloueraskiclub.asn.au or phone Judy on 0425 016 277.

Winter bookings are strong!

Great news! The lodge is almost fully booked from 3rd July to 11th September, 2022. There are spaces from 17th to 24th July. There could also be cancellations between now and winter. If interested, add yourself to the waiting list for a particular week. To do so, fill in an Application but don't pay for it. If space becomes available you will be sent an Offer. If you get an offer please promptly pay or reject the offer. Lodge bookings can be made via <https://www.eloueraskiclub.asn.au/bookings/>

2022 Annual subscriptions

Members with club registered email or postal addresses should have received the 2022 annual subscription invoice. The invoice for \$110 covers 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. If you haven't seen this invoice please let us know! These fees are unchanged from the 2021 rate and were due on 30 April. Payments for subscriptions must be made in cash and **cannot** be made using accommodation credit points. The annual subscription is an important part of the club's cash flow and one of the only parts that is not subject to the vagaries of weather and COVID. It's an important fee, so early payment is appreciated. It is extremely onerous for the volunteers to chase members in arrears. For members with continuing unpaid fees after 30 June 2022:

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

Memberships

With great sadness we report the passing of Malcolm Cox, Robert Heal, Dr Grahame Ctercteko and Pat Martin. Pat was one of our original members and a signatory of our Memorandum of Association to enable Elouera Ski Club to become incorporated as a Public Company on 18 January 1984.

Warm welcome to new members Margaret and Nick Miranov, Paul Dimmock, Damien Quinnell, Patrick Jackson, Martin Jackson, Toby Jackson and Carolyn Smith.

Castaways at Shoal Bay

Please consider a holiday at beautiful Shoal Bay! There is limited accommodation available in December but plenty available in February. Special provisions apply for members including a 20% discount for periods other than the Christmas and Easter holiday peaks and no requirement to pay the booking fee or security deposit.

Member bookings can made by email to winningholidays@elouerasiclub.asn.au



James Macarthur - the untold story of naming of Kosciuszko.

John Anderson, a longtime member, has written and self-published this book. It covers the 1840 expedition to the Australian Alps, initiated by Macarthur while seeking new pasture for his sheep. Their journey traversed both the settled districts and wilder areas of NS, with encounters with the Indigenous peoples, squatters, convicts and the occasional innkeeper or grog shop. The expedition culminated in Paul Edmund de Strzelecki, a Polish '*enthusiasm in the sciences of mineralogy and geology*' naming Mount Kosciuszko. The book may be purchased from Klaus Hueneke's online bookshop at www.tabletoppressbooks.com or the Visitors Centre at Jindabyne.