



AUTUMN 2025 NEWSLETTER

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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President's Message

Dear Members,

We are all hoping for some early snow and a long ski season. Now, onto the boring stuff. The long running DA approval saga is getting close to approval. Prior to Easter NSW Planning issued their draft Consent Conditions. The club is working through these conditions. The plan emerging from this work is that we will commence our lodge work in October 2025. The initial work will be internal and focus on sprinklers, fire doors and balustrades. These projects are all finite and achievable prior to December 2025. The larger cladding project will be deferred to February 2026 or February 2027.

In other club business, historically the club has run accounts on an April 1 to March 31 financial year. This has caused issues with the ATO and with Charlotte Pass Ski Resort. For example, our land rental is based on our annual July-June turnover. This requires a second set of financials. This year we are moving to a July June accounting year consistent with the rest of the country. Consequently, all future AGMs will be held in November when the audited accounts are available.

Jon Barber
Club President

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Help Needed

Web Dev - Ideally anyone with professional web development experience, especially in Python, JS and modern Django. If this is you, we'd love to hear from you via email at webmaster@

Birthday Celebrations

This winter marks the 40th anniversary of Pygmy Possum Lodge!

Our beloved lodge has been providing memorable skiing and mountain experiences for members and guests since that first 1985 season. We'll be sharing more details about celebration plans in a Winter mailout, so stay tuned.

Did you experience those early days at the lodge? We'd love to see any photos, memorabilia, or hear stories from the inaugural season to share with our club community. Please email your contributions to history@elouersaskiclub.asn.au. We have a growing memorabilia collection, so let us know!

Activities in Charlotte Pass

- Night Skiing & Boarding: Every Wednesday and Saturday night from 6pm-8pm (requires valid day lift pass)
- Groomer Tours: One-hour behind-the-scenes tour showing how the corduroy runs are created (\$49 per person)
- Mount Stilwell Snow Experience: Early morning first tracks with sunrise viewing (Wednesdays only, \$65 per person, requires valid lift ticket)
- Snowshoe Tours: Guided walks with picnic lunch, routes vary based on weather conditions
- Standard Race: Competition against Snowsports Instructor times
- Flare Run: Every Friday at 5:30pm, family-friendly event with twinkling flares (\$5 entry, option to purchase \$10 flare)

Make your enquiries with CPSR here:
<https://charlottepass.com.au/things-to-do/>

Accommodation

June and September Special!

Winter 2025 bookings have been strong, with the lodge being almost booked out from July 7th. We still have bookings available in the last week of August (usually one of our most-wanted weeks), and we have very few bookings from 22nd June to 6th July, and 7th September to 28th September.

September usually means Spring skiing, pleasant sunny days, good snow cover and soft go-anywhere snow. The last two years have been unusual, and warm weather at the end of August has meant an early end to downhill skiing, and premature closure of the resort. 2022 (not very long ago) was quite different, and there was so much snow in September that the resort stayed open until the end of the month.

Every year is different, and this year could see another bumper September - or another poor one.

The board has decided to take on the risk of poor snow conditions and offer full 'any cause' refunds for any bookings made for 22nd June to 6th July and 7th September to 28th September. You can book that early season or spring skiing trip, knowing that if conditions aren't ideal, you can cancel your booking and get a full refund! Note that Charlotte Pass Snow Resort expects lifts to be operational from 21st June to 14th September 2025.



Don't Forget Your Oversnow Transport!

A reminder to all members heading to Charlotte Pass this winter: book your oversnow transport early!

Seats on the oversnow transport fill up quickly during peak periods, and waiting until the last minute could leave you without a way to reach the lodge. Bookings can be made directly through the Charlotte Pass Ski Resort website or by calling their booking office.

Remember that the oversnow transport schedule may change throughout the season, so please check your confirmation details carefully and arrive at the Perisher terminal with plenty of time before your scheduled departure.

Charlotte Pass Ski Resort Winter Season Opening Dates

Dates are as communicated by CPSR by the time of publication and are subject to change.

- Opening - 21st June 2025
- Closing - 16th September 2025

Charlotte Pass Update: Guthries Double Chair Delayed to Winter 2026

Charlotte Pass Snow Resort has announced that the new Guthries Double Chair will not open for Winter 2025 as originally planned, with its debut now rescheduled for Winter 2026.

Despite significant on-site progress and Doppelmayr's construction work proceeding at pace, the project has faced delays due to extended regulatory approval processes. The NSW Department of Planning has imposed a condition requiring all work to cease by 30th April 2025 until October 2025—one month earlier than similar restrictions for other chairlift projects in the Snowy Mountains.

"We have done everything in our power to get Guthries open for Winter 2025," said Lucy Blyton-Gray, General Manager of Charlotte Pass Snow Resort. "Unfortunately, the extended approvals process created unavoidable delays beyond our control."

Construction is being finalised for this summer, with environmental rehabilitation works completed at the bottom station and several towers. Charlotte Pass remains committed to delivering the \$3 million upgrade to the highest standards of environmental responsibility and guest experience.

The new lift will significantly enhance access to advanced terrain and improve overall lift operations efficiency when it opens for Winter 2026.

For more info, head to:

<https://charlottepass.com.au/guthries/>

Resort round-up Summer 2025

The latest edition of Resort Roundup is now available for download from the NPWS website: [Resort round-up summer 2025 | Environment and Heritage](#)

Articles include:

- A day in the life of an Alpine Ranger
- Can snow gums climb?
- Back to Perisher
- Mountain hut rebuilding program
- Per-fluorinated ski waxes
- Walking tracks update
- Jindabyne clean-up day
- Updates from the resorts
- Food organics and composting
- Tree planting days
- Saving our snow gums
- An insight into cross country skiing in Perisher

Memberships

Memberships available!

Memberships can currently be purchased for an unusually low \$3,000. Encourage your friends and family to join the club, direct them to our website to make their application.

Credit Points Held By Former Members

As shared in a recent email to all members, at the time we changed the process for selling memberships a few years back, we removed the ability to sell accommodation credit points via the club brokered sales process. To maintain consistency, former members are being allowed to list their credit points as available for trade with any existing member via a special marketplace. This marketplace operates as a trial programme and may be discontinued at the board's discretion.

The opportunity to be a recipient of accommodation credit points via this process is restricted to members only. You can find the portal via a link on the Membership page of the club website.

Storage

Lockers and Cabinets

A big thank you to the non-active members who have given up their storage, making it possible for people on the waiting list to secure a spot or upgrade. Since April last year, 14 ski lockers and 8 cabinets have come available, and the waiting list is way down.

Ski Bays in the Service Tunnel

- All unclaimed gear has now been cleared out of the Lodge.
- There are now plenty of empty bays available to hire for \$50/year — if you're interested, get in touch at storage@eloueraskiclub.asn.au.
- New shelving for boots, helmets, and snowshoes has been installed at the western end of the tunnel and will be ready for use soon.
- Best find during the cleanup: Geoff Mathie's original skis – a real piece of club history.

Succession Planning

Nobody likes to give up their locker, but under the by-laws, storage needs to be handed back if you haven't stayed at the lodge for five winters or if you pass your membership on.

Some long-time members have been hesitant about this, especially as they would like to pass their lockers onto their family. To make it easier for the next generation to secure storage, we suggest starting the succession process early by passing on a membership sooner. That way the kids or grandkids can get on the waiting list and secure their own locker or cabinet. This has worked for some families already and the waiting list is currently not very long.

April Working Bee

Photos can be found here:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/kKgAmBTWQ2U6RFci8>

Thanks to all for a huge contribution to the operation of the club. The annual Working Bee is always good fun for the participants but hard work and invaluable for the operation of Pygmy Possum Lodge. Notable this year were the repairs to the pool table felt and table tennis table. Supervision of kids in the Games and Family Room is a continuing problem. Guests need to increase their awareness in this area if we are to maintain these facilities in good order for all members. The dishwashers are now on their own dedicated circuits so overloads on kitchen appliances should be a thing of the past.

Foodstore was restocked, and we have a special this year! Tinned soups are reduced to clear - reduced to \$0.00 per item. See the foodstore website for stock estimates.

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

Despite the very short notice we had 19 volunteers this year.

Special thanks go to Ruth Evans for coordinating the bedroom cleaning team and to Warwick Wilton on the maintenance side. Those who had to leave early greatly appreciated the work of those who stayed to the end for the final pack-up and checks.

Some new items to look forward to:

- 30 new high and firm pillows
- Extra coffee mugs, beer schooners and moka pots have been added to the kitchens.

Attendees

John Anderson, Kim Gollan, Kerin Brown, Peter Gollan, Karl Conning, Paul Greenfield, Carol Conning, Peter Hill, Julie Dowsley, Maurice Ripley, Bill Dowsley, Philip Robertson, Brian Evans, John Rodger, Ruth Evans, Glenn Torrens, Sarah Fitzherbert, Warwick Wilton, Robert Fox.

Big thank you to all who provided input into this newsletter. Jon, Julie, Judy, Paul G, Clare, John, Ian, Stafford



Club Calendar

Priority Bookings Open (for the Winter Season priority period)	01/11/2025
Priority Bookings Close (applications and payments must be received)	01/12/2025
General Bookings Open (for the winter season priority period)	14/02/2026 or as soon as the priority bookings are determined.
Pre Season Work Party	March-April 2025
Members Annual Subscription and Building Levy Fee Due Date	31/03/2025
Storage Hire Fees Due Date	31/03/2025
Call for Nominations for Board Positions, Notice of AGM	October 2025
Annual General Meeting	25/11/2025
Start of the Winter Season for Priority Bookings	02/07/2025
End of the Winter Season for Priority Bookings	01/10/2025
Post Season Work Party	November 2025