

September 2010

KIAMA ALPINE CLUB NEWSLETTER

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Photo courtesy of Karyn Bartholomew August 2nd

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Photo courtesy of Karyn Bartholomew August 2nd



President's Report

Life's been a whirlwind since taking up the post as President. In between moving house twice and planning a dream trip to South America trekking the Inca Trail, it has been a little hectic but wildly positive.

Thank you to out-going President Alan Fredericks who has made the transition very smooth and has been a great mentor and sounding board given his lengthy history in the role. I suspect Alan was concerned with how he would fill the gap, but that seems to have completely dissipated with his role as President of the Thredbo Historical Society.

Unfortunately there was no skiing for me this year – the first in a long time. Work commitments and limited leave meant my only opportunity to ski this season was the Club Weekend. A bumper snowfall in August and members talking about it being some of the best skiing they had seen in 20 years, I was desperately looking forward to putting the skis on for some racing and off-piste skiing into Dead Horse Gap. Alas it was not meant to be - Thredbo received the highest rainfall for the state causing us to cancel the races. Instead of watching the snow wash away we kept lodge full of kids and adults highly amused with crazy games and Olympic trivia. No medals but great memories!

Congratulations to all those who raced for Kiama Alpine Club this year – our Club Captain, Rob Molino has included a detailed update. I'm glad they all did better than my racing this year!

On a more serious note, the Board continues to remain committed to maintaining a positive operating budget in 2010. At this stage, strong winter revenues from the late bumper season and tight expense control will result in a solid financial performance.

Members continue to provide feedback on the upper level bathroom renovations with the vast majority preferring option 2 – to retain the communal style with some additional privacy. The Board will make a final decision in 2011 as part of an ongoing project to establish a long-term capital works program.

Rob and Sally Walker continue to manage the Lodge very successfully. In their second winter season, the Lodge looks spotless and has greatly benefited from Rob and Sally's personal touch. The new fixed check-out and check-in times will provide greatly improved operational efficiencies. It gives Rob and Sally the ability to clean the entire Lodge in the shortest time possible and significantly reduces congestion in the car park on major changover days. Overall the feedback has been very positive and further improvements will be made to the timing to further improve it.

In the latter part of this year we will be focusing on rebuilding the website and launching a new online booking system which is more robust than Guestmaster and has improved online features. James Garner is project managing the implementation with help from a number of members. If you have web skills and are interested in participating we would welcome you in the team.



Photo courtesy of Karyn Bartholomew August 2nd

Lodge Operations

OH&S

Throughout our winter season there were no in-house OH&S issues to report. The safety to our members and guests is important. Sonia Henry did slip on back ice at the bottom of our drive and fractured her arm. This was reported to the board and will be addressed at our October working bee.

We are still receiving complaints of coldness in rooms 11, 12, 13 and 14. It has been suggested that we install bed heads to reduce the heads touching the walls. This will also be addressed at our October working bee.

Winter Check-in and Check-out times

For the winter season 2011 the check-in and check-out times have been revisited by the Board. **The times will now be changed to check-in 3.00pm and check-out 11.00am** (New times include rooms, bathrooms, kitchen and car park).

There was plenty of confusion and disruptions during the 2010 winter season and we will keep all members and guest fully aware of when these new times come into operation. The new times will be detailed on your invoice.

The new Skope fridges have been put to the test this winter and everyone has given only positive comments.

Sam McKnight was been a great support helping out with the problems the Lodge Managers incurred with the clubs computer. A **HUGE** thank you Sam!

Gayle Pugh | Operations Manager

President's Report

With winter all but over, our attention has moved to summer activities. The October Working Bee will focus on creating facilities to encourage and support mountain bikers. We will be participating in the second Kiama Sports Expo to promote our lodge for summer visits. Karyn Bartholomew, our Promotions Director is organising Bushwalking and Mountaineering Weekends, which will appeal to many as a different way to see Thredbo.

I encourage all members to participate in the October Working Bee and the summer activities.

Kind regards
Liz

My new contact details
36 Elizabeth St
Rozelle NDW 2039

VOLUNTEER CARETAKERS WANTED FOR JANUARY

We need some members to volunteer to look after the lodge during January. If any members are interested in being a caretaker in January, please contact Tony on 0419448092.

WELCOME**NEW****MEMBERS**

Samuel Lapin
Avalon, NSW

Arne Utiger
Avalon, NSW

Bilitis Smith
Woden, ACT

Want to go to Japan?

Niseko & Furano

23rd January, 2011

A Kiama member has a ticket & accommodation booked in the two best hotels in each resort, transfers, night at Narita, plus night in Sapporo for the Ice Festival.

All this for \$4,477. A great price for 17 days. It's flexible. Hotels are now fully booked.

If you are genuinely interested, please email tatianamaxwell@y7mail.com for more details.

Winter Bookings

Our bookings for the winter 2010 season were robust but just below the very solid levels of 2009. However we did have a drop in the percentage of those bookings that were members compared with last year but fortunately most of that gap was taken up with non member bookings. Thus overall our accommodation receipts were not affected by the small overall drop in occupancy.

The winter bookings were buoyed by some good snowfalls in August which saw Thredbo for a number of days with conditions close to or equal to its best.

Going forward we have plenty of spare accommodation for the Spring and Summer periods, including during the more popular times of Christmas and January so I would encourage all members to consider spending some time at our lodge during the summer months.

Rob and Sally Walker our lodge managers continue to do fantastic jobs keeping the lodge spotlessly clean for changeovers and keeping all the bookings administration and subscriptions completely up to date.

They will be taking annual leave in January so we will need to have some member caretakers to volunteer to look after the lodge during that period. So if any members are interested in doing that would they kindly contact myself on 0419448092 or email me on apjilloyd@optusnet.com.au.

Best wishes to everyone.

Tony Lloyd
Booking Director



Photo courtesy of thredbo.com.au



Working Bee

The next Working Bee will be held on the weekend of October 23rd and 24th.

There will be a bit of landscaping, painting and general cleaning. We are also going to look at options to store more bikes.

Accommodation is free but please book in so we know you are coming. Email Rob and Sally at lodge@kiamaalpineclub.org.au

Remember that if you attend a working bee you will receive a working bee credit of \$125 on next year's annual subscription.

All are welcome.

Please contact James jamesgarner.is@gmail.com



Photo courtesy of Karyn Bartholomew August 2nd

THREDBO MUSEUM

The Thredbo Historical Society wish to thank the Kiama Alpine Club, who together with the Avior Lodge, Silver Brumby Lodge and the Ski Club of Australia, all assisted in providing volunteers to staff the museum during the past winter. As a result we were able to meet our advertised opening commitments for June, July and September and only fell short on two days in August.

In particular, thanks to the following Kiama members - Jane Carroll, Brian Lubczyk, Rob Walker and Lois Woollams - all of whom volunteered their services to man the museum.

With summer approaching the Museum will close on the 16 October, reopen for the Snowy Ride weekend and then close again. It will reopen on 26th December and be open daily (except Mondays) through to 26 January then on weekends thereafter through to the end of April.

If you are visiting Thredbo during this time please feel free to drop in and see our interesting collection and our theme for this period will be depicting some of the history of "Summer in the Mountains". Entry is FREE!

Alan Fredericks - THS



Photo courtesy of thredbo.com.au

Racing and Club Weekend

The racing calendar was hectic again in 2010 with the snow creating the greatest challenge.

It started with the Junior interclub with a notable performance by Naomi Waters in 1st Place and with Zara Owens in 3rd place in the Under 11 ,Helena Waters in 6th place in the Under 14 to 12 age ,followed by 3rd place by Colette Molino and 4th by Matt Hubner in the 15 to 18 year old category against a very strong age group. The 18 to 15 year team of Matt Hubner ,Colette Molino and Nicholas Lloyd came 4th on fastest time and whole Junior team 7th overall. A great result and it shows some encouraging depth for the Club incoming years to bolster the Senior team rank .

The next event was the Seniors Inter Club and the team came 7th overall with notable performance by Anton Lindel in 14th, Dion Hubner in 40th place with a personal best times and with Kim Hubner coming 21st in the women. The point to note this year is we had a maximum participation of 14 members, which is really great. Mitchell Coleman had a theory that if you spoke to me I would get you racing by the next day and it shows that with a bit of enthusiasm (badgering) it has worked .The results will come but I hope that all who participated really enjoyed the racing .

The Top to Bottom was also well represented by Kiama members. They were Rod Booth, Tony Lloyd Mitchell Coleman, Dion and Kim Hubner. Well done.

The Inter schools were again well represented by members in all divisions. Congratulations to Josh McKnight, Matt Hubner, Helena Waters , Naomi Waters and Colette Molino who all made it through to the Australian with a notable 3rd place by Matt Hubner Redlands team in the Skier cross Division 1.



Finally, the Club Weekend was well attended and great expectation but the weather wasn't kind with 165mm of rain in 24 hrs was the official records so wisely the race was cancelled.

The weekend was themed as Olympic, with organising skills that matched the Sydney Olympic of 2000, numerous Olympic style events were held in the lodge that confused the onlookers even more than the costumes worn by all. Well done.

Thanks to Anton Lindel who stepped into my ski boots to take over the role as Club Captain due to personal reasons I couldn't attend the Club Weekend.

As a result of the rain the Club race was "non event" so we have used the inter club event as our selection of Club Champions. Since we don't have a snowboard interclub event there will be no club champion for this year in the Snowboard discipline.

The results were as follows for 2010 Club Skiing Champions:

Junior Female

- 1st Colette Molino
- 2nd Helena Waters
- 3rd Naomi Waters

Junior Male

- 1st Matt Hubner
- 2nd Nicholas Lloyd
- 3rd Blake De Zwart

Senior Female

- 1st Kim Hubner

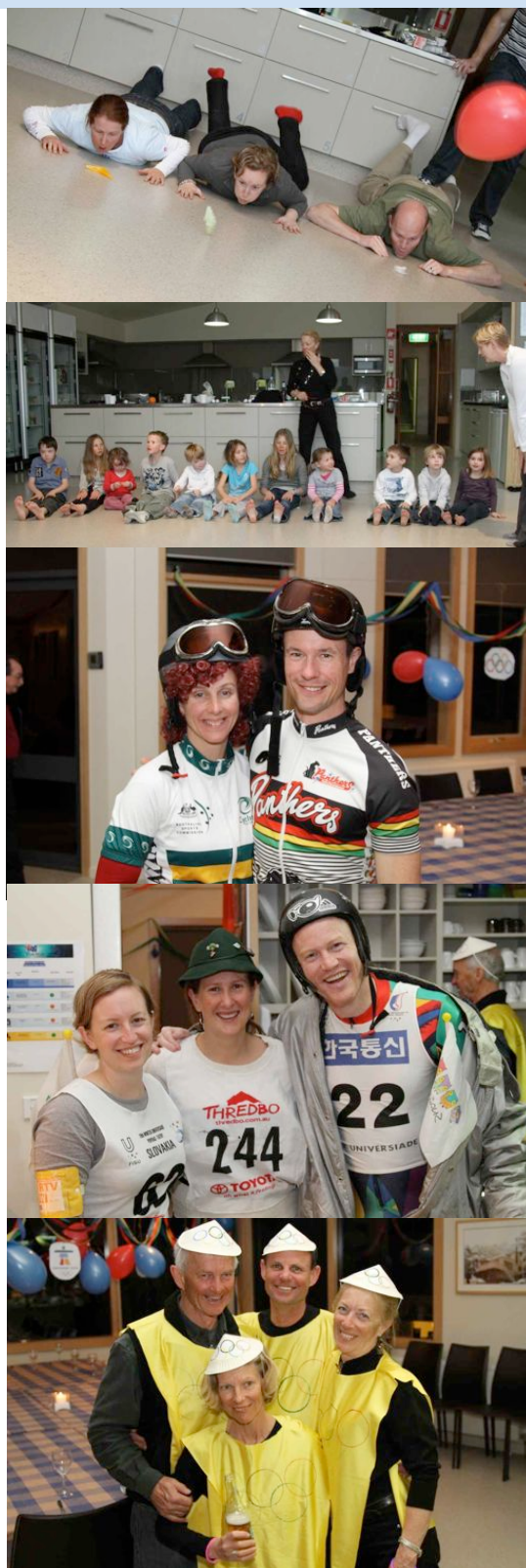
Senior Male

- 1st Aton Lindell
- 2nd Dion Hubner
- 3rd James Garner

Presentations for the above winner will be organised with a separate invite once the date and location has been organised.

Thanks to all who participated and represented the club in all the race events and I hope that all will come back in 2011 to participate in all the events and club activities.

Rob Molino | Club Captain





Summer Activities in Thredbo

PROMOTIONS

Winter is behind us and spring is in the air, and no doubt your thoughts are turning to summer alpine activities.

With this in mind we have arranged a couple of activities with K7 Adventures (www.k7adventures.com).

First up is a half day climbing and abseiling at Signature Rocks, just off the track from Kosi Lookout, on 22nd January. This is suitable for everyone, including families with young kids.

On 27th February we will be setting off on the Glacial Lakes Walk (one way from Thredbo to Charlotte's Pass). We will be accompanied by a guide, with knowledge of the local ecology and geography. This beautiful walk is long, though not difficult, and suitable for families with older kids.

We really hope people can join us – we need a minimum of 10 starters to attract a cheaper group rate.

If anyone is interested or would like more information, please contact us.

barthwaters@internode.on.net

We will send out an eNews email closer to the dates.

Karyn Batholomew | Promotions Director

Photo courtesy of Liz Wynn

KIAMA ALPINE CLUB FLEECE VESTS



Embroidered logo

REDUCED to \$25.00 inc gst

Adults and children's sizes available, but stock is limited.

Please contact Tatiana.

Juan Cerezo was the official photographer for our Club Weekend.
Thank you Juan.

ACCOMMODATION IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR CHRISTMAS

Please contact Rob & Sally
lodge@kiamaalpineclub.org.au
to book now.

The Kiama Alpine Club PO Box
address is **NO** longer in use.
Please send any mail to
PO Box 178
Thredbo NSW 2625

Kiama Sport, Health & Leisure Expo
12th & 13th November
Kiama Leisure Centre
Havilah Place, Kiama
Free entry, All are welcome.

HELEN BANKS

Do you know how to contact
Helen Banks?

If so, please email

tatianamaxwell@y7mail.com

liz.wynn@hotmail.com

More Club Weekend Photos Courtesy Juan Cerezo

