

FROZEN ACRES

May/June 2022



Issue 3 / 2022

FROZEN ACRES

Journal of the Canberra Alpine Club Inc.

GPO Box 27, Canberra, 2601

*www.cac.org.au - password for protected areas 'franklin'
(maintained by Mirabel Wilson)*

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*Admin tasks are temporarily being dealt with by volunteers. Please ensure
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2022 – 23 Office Bearers

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Editorial

As Winter approaches, and with some snow already on the mountains, we are looking forward to the opening of the season in June. Let's hope there will be some good falls, or at least freezing temperatures to get the snow guns firing.

Many of our members spent time at our lodges over the summer, as well as attending our work parties, walking was a popular activity, the new Charlotte Pass to Guthega track being a popular one to try.

Our annual pre-season social was a successful event enjoyed by those members, waitlisters and families who attended. See article and photos on page 13.

While the situation with COVID has eased, the virus is still around, so keep an eye out for changing regulations, check the website and abide by any new decisions. You might consider packing some RATS (rapid antigen tests) in your bags when going up to the lodges.

As *Frozen Acres* is now only being published bi-monthly, and is concentrating more on magazine type articles, it is a good idea to make sure you are on the list to receive Skimail, as this will keep you up to date with Club matters. The Club also has a Facebook page that members can join.▣

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Copy deadline for the next issue: Friday July 15 2022

Please email your articles, letters, photos etc to editor@cac.org.au.

Frozen Acres is published online 7 to 10 days after each deadline and distributed by post a few days later.

Club Calendar

| | | | |
|-----------|-------|----------------------------|----------|
| June | 17 | Peak Season Bookings start | Lodges |
| July | 3-9 | Youth Week | Perisher |
| | 10-16 | Family Week | Perisher |
| August | 6-13 | XC Ski Week | Perisher |
| | 8 | KAC XC Classic* | Perisher |
| September | 11 | Off-season Bookings start | Lodges |
| | 17 | Perisher Cup | Perisher |

**Note: The KAC XC Classic is being held on a Monday this year.*

Admin Officer's Hours

The Admin Officer only works part-time for the Club, therefore, the best way to make contact is by email.

If you need to telephone, the best times are:

Tuesday: 9.30am – 12.00noon

Thursday: 3.00pm – 6.00pm

Saturday: 9.00am – 12.00noon

Outside these hours the Admin Officer will still be checking bookings and other requests, and will respond as appropriate.

President's Precis

By Caroline Walker

As the weather turns colder and the mountains receive their first dustings of snow for the year, the Committee has been busy getting ready for the upcoming Winter season.

Cheryl Taylor, our new Social convenor, organised the Pre-season Social Event held on Sunday 15 May at Maddies Bar & Restaurant at the Kingston Hotel. I am glad many of you were able to make it along to enjoy a drink and catchup with fellow Club members before the season gets underway.

Peter Cunningham has again taken the lead on getting the lodges ready for Winter and we've had a good turnout of members at recent work parties at Perisher and Jindabyne. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Club in this way and a special thanks to both Peter Cunningham and Peter Richards for their efforts as lodge coordinators. Peter C is also convening a new subcommittee specifically tasked with progressing the Perisher refurbishment and we will keep members informed about its work. At this stage we anticipate consulting members (probably sometime in August) about the design of the Perisher basement refurbishment ahead of finalising the design and going out to tender for builders later in the year.

Jenny McLeod recently organised a Mt Franklin Work Party to prepare for the Heritage Festival Open Day. Unfortunately, very few members were able to assist Jenny on this occasion, in part due to the forecast weather and condition of the road. We will be explicitly calling for volunteers for next year's Open Day as the Club continues to value its association with the site of our original lodge and it is important to have enough people on hand to do the work required.

Bookings continue to come in strongly for Winter and many weeks of the season are now at, or close to, capacity in both lodges. The Club is also experiencing strong interest in new membership with around 20 people added to the waitlist at the past two Committee meetings. This is fantastic news for the financial viability of the Club and reinforces the view that we should take forward plans for the Perisher refurbishment.

We recently advertised for a new Admin Officer for the Club on Seek and received a large number of very strong applications for the position. We expect to announce the outcome of the selection process shortly. I have certainly gained some valuable insights into the work of our Admin Officer while I have been filling in, as has fellow Committee member Jeremy Lucas. And as I write this, we're handing the baton to Teresa Harrington and sincerely thank her for her willingness to help out.

For those heading up to Perisher in coming weeks, please take a look at the stunning new photos now hanging in a few of the rooms. The images were contributed by members Angus Hatch-McKendrick, James Muldowney, Rory Muldowney and Gene Ross as well as the Franklin collection. We hope that seeing these images hanging on the walls will inspire other members to take photos in the Alpine region and submit them for consideration as there are still plenty more rooms to decorate. A huge thank you to James Muldowney for the work he has put into coordinating this project.

By the time I write my next precis, I hope to have enjoyed some skiing and hope that many of you also have the opportunity.
All the best. ▣

Reminder

Family and Youth Weeks – Perisher

Both Family and Youth weeks are planned to go ahead,
subject to COVID restrictions.

Youth Week will be from the evening of Sunday 3 July to the morning of Saturday
9 July
and Family Week will be from the evening of Sunday 10 July to the morning of
Saturday 16 July.

The catering costs will be \$180 for adults, \$150 for juniors and \$50 for under 5s.
The Admin Officer will send out an invoice for the full amount for the catering a
bit closer to the time.

As in previous years, there will be themed meals and those booked into the lodge
will be rostered on meal preparation duties. An email containing rosters and
information will also go out closer to the time.

If you need any more details, contact:
Mel (Youth Week) on: 0411-514-209
Chrissie (Family Week) on: 0401-953-420

Committee Member Profile

Jeremy Lucas Vice-President

Jeremy was born in Sydney, then moved to Canberra in his early childhood. After leaving school, he travelled to Europe where he lived for three and half years working as a ski instructor in Austria during the winter months and a travel tour guide throughout Russia, Scandinavia and central Europe in the summer season.

On his return to Australia, Jeremy started his working career as a cadet with Channel 7 as a TV producer. After finishing his cadetship and five years later, he left his television career and purchased and ran with his brother-in-law, The George Harcourt Inn, an old English pub at in the tourist vicinity of Cockington Green in Canberra.

After starting a family, Jeremy sold the pub five years later and returned to television working for the WIN television network. From television, he later joined National Recording Studios, where he produced special interest documentaries and training programs as well as partnering arrangements with the ABC and TEN networks for sporting programs.

He then was lured by the desire to go back into hospitality. He purchased Da Cellini Italian restaurant in Braddon, which he ran successfully for seven years. At the same time he established Lucas Productions, a freelance video production company, specialising in management services for broadcasting, training programs for Government as well as working as a freelance director to Film Australia.

After selling Da Cellini and his final stint in hospitality, Jeremy had some time off to decide what his next adventure was going to be. It was during this time he was approached by a start-up animation company where he went on to work as their business development manager. He also won a contract with the (then) newly opened National Museum of Australia, to produce a series of animations for their block buster exhibition: 'To Mars and Beyond'.

Shortly after, the former head of the Museum's ICT Product Development section approached Jeremy to join them and set up their Multimedia Development team. Jeremy recently retired from the National Museum of Australia after 19 years, and now runs his own production company, Lucas Creative.

He is a passionate skier. He skis most northern winters with his wife, Kate, in either Europe, Canada, USA or Japan. He also races with the Perisher Masters when time permits.▣

Changes to By-laws

Those who keep a keen eye on the rules of the Club will be aware that the By-laws are generally published each June, with updates to fees and charges, and usually some tweaks to the rules themselves. They are occasionally updated at other times as required.

The recent By-laws review by the Committee has resulted in changes to when bookings open - more information below. These changes mean that accommodation charges don't have to be fixed as far in advance as they used to be. As a result, fees and charges for the 2023 season are not included in this set of By-laws updates. The Committee is reviewing some of our other By-laws in more depth, and will publish further updates at the end of peak season 2022.

The following changes to the By-laws take effect from the time of publication.

Please note that the complete current By-laws can always be found at https://www.cac.org.au/?page_id=1195

Season dates for 2023-24:

The following dates will be included in the Schedule:

- Peak 2023: Friday 16 June 2023 - Saturday 9 September 2023
- Offpeak 2023-24: Sunday 10 September 2023 - Thursday 13 June 2024
- Block booking restrictions, Christmas 2023: Saturday 23 December 2023 - Sunday 31 December 2023 inclusive (3 nights minimum booking)

Cleaning/Damage Bond

Previously, the By-laws permitted a refundable damage/cleaning bond to be imposed before confirming an External Booking. This change extends this ability to other types of bookings. As a consequence, another clause relating to External Bookings is renumbered.

- Booking rule 11.1 ("The Committee may, at its discretion, take responsibility for an External booking for the purposes of Booking Rules 4.3 and 4.4") is renumbered as rule 4.6.
- The heading for Booking rule 11 (previously "External bookings") is reworded to "Damage/Cleaning Bond"
- Booking rule 11.2 (currently "A refundable damage/cleaning bond as set out in the Schedule may be required by the Committee before an external booking is confirmed") is renumbered to 11.1 and reworded to "A refundable

damage/cleaning bond as set out in the Schedule may be required by the Committee before a booking is confirmed".

Change to opening date for bookings

Currently, the By-laws allow for bookings to be made up to one year in advance, however bookings for a Peak season are not processed until the beginning of October. In practice, the booking system opens bookings for a season at a time, not one year ahead. This change aligns the By-laws with the actual operation of the booking system. It also allows feedback from a Peak season to inform other possible changes to By-laws or to fees and charges in time to take effect for the following Peak season.

- Booking rule 3(e) [currently "may be made up to one year in advance (Booking Rule 8.2 provides that Peak bookings made a year in advance will not be processed until 1 October);"] is amended to "may be made from the first Monday in November for the following Peak and Off-peak seasons;"
- Booking rule 8.2 [currently "The Administrative Officer shall not process Peak season booking requests received for the next year prior to 1 October – and as soon as practicable on or after that date shall process requests in accordance with guidelines issued from time to time by the Committee. Note: present guidelines provide that requests for each night made a year in advance be considered first: when this is done, if there are more requests than beds available a ballot shall be held to determine priority."] is deleted.
- Booking rule 9 [currently "Booking requests will be accorded priority in order of their receipt by the Administrative Officer – except that requests received more than one year in advance will be deemed to have been received exactly one year in advance."] is amended to "Booking requests will be accorded priority in order of their acceptance in the booking system, except that bookings entered before the first Monday in November will be deemed to have been accepted at the start of the first Monday in November."

It is expected that, in practice, bookings will be able to be entered in the booking system prior to November (with the exact date to be determined), but **all** bookings will be wait-listed until the booking opening date, and all bookings made "early" will be treated equally for priority. ■

Franklin Work Party/Open Day 9-10 April

By Jenny McLeod

The road to Franklin on Saturday morning was in an 'interesting condition' - the first stretch of red clay above Blundell's Flat was thoroughly churned up after recent rain. I slithered up the road in my 2WD, and even those in AWD/4WD thought it was pretty ordinary.

NPWS has completed remediation work on the toilet block, to install tanks in the pit. This has been planned for quite a few years - they have been concerned about 'leakage' from the toilet pit - which was an unlined pit created with the assistance of some after-dinner dynamite several decades ago. As the toilet block is heritage listed, installing tanks was not a simple task. NPWS lifted the entire wooden structure off the slab, widened the pit, installed the tanks and new slab, and put the building back in place.

Only a small group attended the work party, with several people pulling out due to concerns about the weather or due to illness. Saturday morning was spent weeding, cleaning the window slats looking out to the east (which made a huge difference to the view), retrieving some of the skis and stocks from storage to display on Sunday, and splitting some of the firewood that had been left by ACT P&CS. The Rihani/Shepherd family arrived shortly after noon, after a later than expected start from Sydney. They promptly got stuck into eradication of saplings and weeds around the shelter area.

After lunch we cleared encroaching bushes from the Wood Run track to the summit and to the old Austin, and also cleared the track from the shelter to the lockspit border marker nearby. The boys (under supervision) also practised their axe-work on some more of the wood.

Mim, Nathan, Asher and Noah headed off before dusk, on their way to an airbag camp. The Tyhouses and McLeods settled in for the evening; no spectacular sunset, as we were in cloud with occasional rain.

We were still in cloud in the morning, so really weren't sure whether anyone would venture up for the Heritage Festival Open Day, however it didn't actually rain, and the cloud almost thinned to sunshine a few times over breakfast. We assembled a representative collection of skis, stocks, boots, skins, and other paraphernalia, with explanatory signs. We did get a small but respectable number of visitors over the day.

Serendipitously, Mitchell Wall and a friend stopped by in the afternoon, and after a walk to the summit, reappeared as we were about to pack all the gear away – very helpful to have somebody tall to help pass the heavy skis up to the storage area!

A productive weekend despite the small number of attendees – and the road had dried out by Sunday for the trip down.▣

Vale Chic Henry

A Person of Note Loved by All

By Sam DeLorenzo

On the 14 April 2022, long-time Club member, Chic Henry passed away following an ongoing battle with cancer.

Andrew Robert ‘Chic’ Henry was born in Launceston, Tasmania, on 15 December 1946, where with great adventure, he grew up to go on to lead an extraordinary life, all chronicled in his autobiography ‘*I Remember a Time...*’.

In his playful youth he participated in several sports, excelling in swimming and diving, going on to several occupations, training as a blacksmith/welder, and including a period working in a funeral parlour. Joining the Army, he carried on enhancing his trade and life experiences.

During it all, Chic was gravitating towards his natural fascination in cars and street machines, eventually escalating that interest to reaching the amazing achievement of developing the very successful Summernats event in Canberra which he led for over 20 years.

At some time, he took up skiing and, in the mid ‘90s, Chic connected with the Canberra Alpine Club, where, despite his very busy life, he immediately started contributing to Club Activities. He soon became a member having volunteered and assisted greatly with the reconstruction of the north deck of Perisher lodge. I recall the time well and how critical he was to that task.

With his background in steelwork, he fabricated, transported and assembled large steel pieces on site that were cut to fit onto his trailer. He was on the job to help install the substantial structural steel over a very torrid weekend of works in readiness for concrete works to finish the job before the snow fell. Chic was a team player, demonstrating his fine skills in metal work, and ‘can do’ attitude, all of which resulted with the very solid north deck we have enjoyed for the last 25 years.



Chic assembling the Steele Northern Deck, Perisher Lodge, 1997



Applying pressure to the Drill Granite Wall

He enjoyed his skiing and, with his children Georgia and Kody, participated in Club life and notably on juniors and youth weeks, where he was capable of great storytelling, active participation and contributing to the joy that these events are meant to be. Always coming up with ideas for competitions, ski fashion and activities that made events such fun.

On a professional side, he had experienced much and could be seen mentoring and providing life advice to whoever asked and never let anyone down.

Chic contributed to our Club and a bit of him rubbed off onto us all. He will be missed.

Pictures of Lodge Life 2009-2011



Lynette Johns-Boast and Chic



Cooking on the barbecue



Chic joining in the activities.



Chic & Georgia Henry ▣

Pre-Season Social, Sunday 15 May

By Cheryl Taylor, Social Committee Convenor

Sunday's pre-season social was a great success, a super way to kick start our upcoming winter season.

Many members young and old, new and long term, braved the wintery afternoon to join us at the Kingston Hotel in Kingston.

Maddies, library function room, was the perfect location to enjoy good company and conversation. The setting reminded me of 'grandad's' old library. We were cosy in the warmth of the glowing fireplace. The snack food, supplied compliments of the committee, was delicious. The bar staff and personnel were helpful and their service efficient. The time passed quickly with most families bundling up their youngsters whilst others had to leave to prepare for school or work the next day. A few of us enjoyed the longer option, staying to order a meal and dined in!

Thank you to those members who joined us and to the Committee for helping organise this event, it was a pleasure meeting you.

Here's hoping the weather conditions are favourable this winter and we have the opportunity to enjoy more social times at the lodges this season!



Ken Ineson, Jeremy Lucas and Jenny McLeod.



A super way to kick off our upcoming winter.



Fabian Harding, Jon Wilson, David Hartwig and Kathryn Wingett.



Bruce Barnett, Monika Binder, Amanda East with grandson Marius and Bill Peel.



l to r: Lindy Down, Sally Lyon, Doug Boast, Ross Taylor, Lynette Johns-Boast, Teresa Harrington and Leon Down.

Attendees: Ross & Cheryl Taylor; Jenny McLeod; Kathryn Wingett; Jenni Bodell, Alistair, Jemima & Sebastian Court; Teresa Harrington & visiting friend Sally Lyon; Lynette & Doug Boast; Jon Wilson; Amanda East & Marius; Bill Peel; Lindy & Leon Down; Ken Ineson, David Hartwig; Jeremy Lucas; Renee, Craig, Hannah & Jack Appaneal; Monika Binder; Bruce Barnett; Fabian Harding, Zoe Pleasants, Evan & Declan Harding. ▣

CLUB PUBLICATIONS

Available free of charge on request:

- Club Constitution
 - Club By Laws
 - Membership Application Forms
 - Applicants' Information Sheet
 - Guides for lodge users during off-peak.
 - Bedding plans for the lodges
-
- *Check our website to obtain copies of these items.*

ALLIANCES

The Club is a corporate member of the following organisations:

- *Snowsports ACT*
- *SLOPES [Ski Lodges Organisation of Perisher, Smiggins and Guthega Inc.]*
- *The Kosciuszko Huts Association*

The Club is a regular sponsor of the *Perisher Ski Patrol*.

A copy of each issue of *Frozen Acres* is lodged with the *Australian Serials Collection of the National Library*. The collection, dating back to the 1960s, is available for examination on request.

Copy deadline for next issue: Friday 15 July 2022

Please email your articles, letters and photographs or other material to: *editor@cac.org.au*.

If undeliverable, return to

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