

FROZEN ACRES

July/August 2024



Issue 4 / 2024

FROZEN ACRES

Journal of the Canberra Alpine Club Inc.

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www.cac.org.au

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NB: Now that Starlink wifi has been installed at the Perisher lodge we are intending to cancel some of the existing Telstra services, including the landline 6457-5225.

Editorial

June and July have been busy months for the Club. Starting with the June long weekend, some 40 plus members celebrated Jill and Ken's 40th anniversary as managers of Perisher Lodge. Family and Youth Weeks held in July proved to be very successful weeks. Then on 27 July we held the Club Championships competing against Cooma Club, and **we won!** (Articles with photos about all these events are published further on in this issue.)

Another anniversary, 31 July was the Clubs 90th Birthday.

Following a call for Expressions of Interest for various club positions, these have now been filled, many by new members wanting to take a role in helping to run the Club. After 20 years as Editor, I will be handing *Frozen Acres* over to Nola Charkos and Jenni Bodell who will be taking over from me as Joint Editors, I wish them well as I take up my new position of Editor-at-Large. ☐

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Club Calendar

2024

August	3-10	XC Ski Week	Perisher
	24	Brumby Cup Dinner	Perisher
	31	Balmain Cup (XC)	Perisher
September	1	Balmain Cup (Slalom, GS, Snowboard)	Perisher
	14	Perisher Cup	Perisher
October	27	Post Season Presentation *	Canberra

Details tba* See article page10 for details of races.

The following members are responsible for organising work parties.

Perisher: Andrew Cupit, perisher@cac.org.au

Jindabyne: Doug Boast, jindabyne@cac.org.au

Mt Franklin: Jenny McLeod, secretary@cac.org.au

O'Keefes Hut: Michael Griffiths, okeefes@cac.org.au

Admin Officer's Winter Hours 2024

Mon - 8:30am to 1:30pm

Tues to Fri : 8:30am to 1pm

Sat: 9am to 11am

Vicki can be contacted at office@cac.or.au or on 0499-257-463

Subject to change if it's a bluebird powder day 😊.

In this scenario, leave a message and she will respond after 1pm.

Copy deadline for the next issue: Thursday 20 September, 2024

Please send your articles in Word, to editor@cac.org.au

Photos welcome (best placed at the end of a paragraph or article).

Brumby Cup Race Dinner

To Members and guests staying at Perisher or Jindabyne Lodges
on **Saturday 24 August**.

You are invited to join in the **Brumby Cup Club Dinner**
at Perisher Lodge from 6pm.

The cost is \$35 per adult and \$25 per child for a 3 course
dinner.

Please RSVP to *office@cac.org.au*, with any food allergies or
dietary requests by 9 August to allow for invoicing & food
purchasing.

*(Note - those staying at Perisher Lodge will be contacted
separately.)*

However, if you do not wish to join in, you will need to make
alternative dinner arrangements.

Unfortunately the lodge kitchen will be closed after 4.00pm to
allow for dinner preparations.

President's Precis

By Caroline Walker, President

While the snow largely failed to show for Opening Weekend, an enjoyable time in the mountains was still had by many. Guests enjoyed the Peak Festival bands performing at several venues around Perisher Valley and some also took the opportunity to embark on mountain walks.

But the undoubted highlight of the weekend was Jill and Ken's 40th Anniversary Soiree. Cheryl Taylor and her many helpers prepared delightful finger food and champagne cocktails, while the beer served was, of course, VB. Jill and Ken were presented with a mountain ash plaque, now hanging in the newly named French's Foyer at Perisher Lodge, engraved glasses commemorating the occasion, a voucher for a weekend away (once the season is done) and even a pineapple (for those not in attendance, ask Doug Boast to explain!). And Ken's speech was certainly one attendees will remember for a long time! All in all – a fantastic celebration for our very special lodge managers and a huge thank you to everyone involved in the organisation.

Youth and Family weeks have again been well attended and I hear much enjoyed by those who participated. An enormous effort goes into getting everything ready for these weeks, including preparing menus and rosters, shopping and getting all the supplies to the lodge. I'd like to record my thanks to organisers Chrissie Young, Mim Rihani, Melissa Randall and Lachie Hatch.

The Committee received a great response to the call for Expressions of Interest in a number of positions and I'd like to thank everyone who submitted an application. Having numerous members willing to put up their hands to take on these roles is so important for the future of the Club. There is a separate article announcing the outcomes and I congratulate everyone who has been successful.

There is also a separate article providing an update on the Jindabyne lodge capital works but I'd like to record here how pleased the Committee was to be able to re-open the lodge on 6 July, just in time for the school holidays. We were able to hit this target because the architect, structural engineer and builders put in a massive effort in the preceding few weeks, along with the fantastic efforts of our Admin Officer Vicki Hughes, and Peter and Rhonda Cunningham, in getting the lodge ready for members to reoccupy.

Congratulations to all our junior members who competed in the recent regional interschools events and we wish those who have qualified for state and national events all the best. A special mention of those who attained individual podium

places – Darcy Barlow, Jemima Court, Sebastian Court, Ali Guseli, Jet Lange, Winter Lange and Ryder Young.

And what a great day we had for the Club Championships and Canberra/Cooma Cup race. Congratulations to our Club Champions for 2024 – Ali Guseli (women’s and girl’s snowboard), Valentino Guseli (men’s snowboard), Sebastian Court (boy’s snowboard), Sarah Brake (women’s ski) and Darcy Barlow (men’s and boy’s ski). And in the all important Canberra/Cooma Cup, Canberra came out ahead 6-2, with Sebastian Court, Ali Guseli, Darcy Barlow, Valentino Guseli, Sarah Brake and Stephen Bygrave each winning their respective divisions. The post race presentation hosted by Cooma Ski Club was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Many thanks to Club Captain, Sarah Brake, for organising this event and to everyone who participated.

I’ll be heading to the Perisher lodge for XC Week in early August and look forward to seeing many of you on the mountain. And also for the Brumby Cup races and dinner being held on 24 August.

As always, if there are any issues you would like to raise with me, please email me at president@cac.org.au. ☐

Frozen Acres in the Internet Age

By Jenny McLeod, Secretary

The sharp-eyed among you may have noticed that personal contact details for Committee members are no longer shown inside the front cover of *Frozen Acres*.

Frozen Acres has always been publicly available; as the Club’s journal, a copy is provided to the National Library. However with the increasing visibility of *Frozen Acres* on the internet, it is a lot easier for electronic creepy-crawlies (whether benign or nefarious) to pull information from it, so we have removed these details to improve the privacy of our Committee.

If you are writing an article for *Frozen Acres* and want members to be able to contact you, talk to Jenny at secretary@cac.org.au to arrange an email address or forwarder.

And... related to this, *Frozen Acres* is now lodged electronically with the National Library – recent editions are available on Trove. ☐

EOI Outcomes

By Caroline Walker, President

Following are the outcomes of the Expressions of Interest process set out in the May/June *Frozen Acres*.

Perisher Lodge Coordinator – Andrew Cupit, Assistant Coordinator – Amanda East

Jindabyne Lodge Coordinators – Doug Boast, Lynette Johns-Boast and Teresa Harrington

Mt Franklin Coordinator – Jenny McLeod

O’Keefe’s Hut Coordinator – Michael Griffiths

Frozen Acres Editors – Jenni Bodell and Nola Charkos

Frozen Acres Editor-At-Large – Judy Lejins

Club Captain – Sarah Brake, handing over to David Hislop ahead of 2025 season

The Committee would like to thank everyone who expressed interest in the roles – it is testament to the strong culture in the Club that we had so many applicants to fill these important positions.

The Committee, on behalf of the entire Club, would also like to record heartfelt thanks to the following members who have made outstanding contributions over many years in the following roles.

Peter Richards – Perisher Lodge Coordinator

Peter Cunningham – Jindabyne Lodge Coordinator

Paul Oboohov – O’Keefe’s Hut Coordinator

Judy Lejins – Frozen Acres Editor ☐

Jindabyne Lodge Capital Works Update

By Caroline Walker, President

As announced recently in Skimail, the Jindabyne lodge reopened to members on Saturday 6 July 2024. An occupancy certificate was received from the certifier late afternoon on the Friday.

The builders (Manteena and their various subcontractors) worked very long hours, including weekends in late June/early July, completing all the remediation and cladding work, to ensure that the lodge was able to re-open for the school holidays. We have expressed the Club's sincere thanks for their efforts, along with the efforts of the architect and structural engineer.

Peter and Rhonda Cunningham, and our Admin Officer Vicki Hughes, also worked hard getting the lodge ready to be reoccupied by members and guests. Among other tasks, all linen was laundered, the kitchen tidied, supplies restocked, items retrieved from storage and rubbish taken to the tip. We thank them for all their efforts.

Given a delay in the delivery of structural steel, the decision was taken in mid-June to put work on the deck pergola on hold. This work is now expected to recommence around September/October and be finished ahead of summer.

And internal painting will also be undertaken by attendees at the summer work parties.

The total cost of the building work is now expected to be in the order of \$650,000. A final update will be provided once the work has been completed.□

By-laws

The By-laws have been updated with fees, charges, and relevant dates for the 2025 season. A copy of the By-laws is included with this edition of *Frozen Acres*, and the most recent version of the By-laws is always available on the Club's website, at <https://cac.org.au/policies-guidelines/by-laws/>

Calling for Expressions of Interest

By Jeremy Lucas, Vice President

The Committee is exploring ways to improve communication among our members.

We are seeking expressions of interest (EOIs) from Club members who are experienced digital marketing specialists to collaborate with me, in preparing a communication strategy for the Club.

You should be experienced and capable of providing guidance in the following areas:

- Identifying digital channels and content that align with the Club's culture.
- Working with the Club's new branding and style guides.
- Scheduling and publishing digital content on social media platforms.
- Implementing effective digital communication using current trends.
- Monitoring analytics to evaluate social media communication.
- Create marketing campaigns to promote bed nights, outdoor activities and social functions.
- Identifying the most effective digital platforms to reach the Club's demographics through written, digital, mobile and social media channels.

If you have the necessary experience, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact me directly at digitalmarketing@cac.org.au 



Ice Awning - Perisher Lodge (late July) - Photograph by Mel Randall

CAC Races

Club Championships

By Sarah Brake, Club Captain

The CAC Club Championships was held on Saturday 27 July. Conditions were hard and fast, with an especially slick racecourse on Front Valley. We shared the race with Cooma, allowing for the second iteration of the CAC Cooma Cup to take place. Snowboarders and skiers also competed at the same time, with CAC and Cooma entrants alternating in the start gate which made for an exciting change to the usual course. Champions are as follows:

- Valentino Guseli taking a break from the terrain park and half pipe to comfortably snag the 18+ male SB championship
- Kristen Guseli won the 18+ female SB championship
- Sebastian Court claimed his first championship, the u18 male SB championship
- Ali Guseli also returned to the club race and was victorious, claiming the u18 female SB championship
- Darcy Barlow was fastest on the course all day, taking both the u18 and open male championship
- Sarah Brake won the 18+ female championship
-

CAC was also victorious in the CAC Cooma Cup, winning six events (18+ male, 18+ female, u18 male ski, 18+ male, u18 female, u18 male snowboard) out of a total eight.



CAC Competitors

Following Events

For those who missed out, the following events are also taking place in 2024.

Brumby Cup: Saturday 24 August

A mainstay on the race calendar, with catered dinner at the Perisher lodge to follow from the race. Less traditional but equally prestigious categories such as the Parent/Child and Brumby Cup (determined by random pairings) are up for grabs. Events are skiing and snowboarding GS.

Registration below:

Brumby Cup Registration

Contact: *captain@cac.org.au*

Snowy Mountains Classic: Saturday 10 August

A competitive XC event on the Australian race calendar, you could end up rubbing shoulders with the top national competitors, and even Olympians! Race lengths vary from 2.5km to 30km. This is for all the speedy XC athletes out there.

Balmain Cup: Saturday 31 August (XC) and Sunday 1 September (Slalom, GS, Snowboard)

I am seeking expressions of interest for the most prestigious event on the calendar in all four disciplines, Snowboard GS, Slalom, GS and XC. Canberra Alpine had a devastatingly close second result in 2023, and we are looking to do one better and get the win. There is no age limit for participation and your accommodation costs will be covered by the club. Lunch will also be provided by Guthega Ski Club after this year's event, the post event celebration is always a great time to meet and bond with your interclub rivals.

Perisher Cup: Saturday 14 September

A true event for all ages and abilities, Canberra Alpine is again looking to enter teams in the Perisher Cup. Events comprise of XC, GS (on either skis or board) and Jump, and dress-up is encouraged! The club will also cover accommodation costs for participants. Please reach out to Sarah if you are interested in participating. ☐

Ken & Jill's Soiree – Recap

By Cheryl Taylor

What a pleasure and honour it was to be a part of Ken and Jill's 40th Anniversary celebration.

Several months went into the planning of this event to recognise Jill & Ken's forty years of management and service to the Canberra Alpine Club's Perisher Lodge. After many consultations with the Committee and Social sub-committee, we decided upon a number of gifts to present to Jill and Ken as 'Thank You's' for their many years of dedicated service. These comprised a commemorative plaque to be displayed in the foyer, personalized etched glasses, a gift voucher as well as celebratory anniversary biscuits – all caringly prepared and presented to them on the day (see photos on pages 8 and 10.)

The Soiree was held on Sunday the 9 of June which also happened to be the opening season weekend. It was well attended by members, both new and long term, including five past and present Club Presidents! Forty or so friends and acquaintances dropped in or stayed at the lodge, to share in memories and experiences gained during Ken and Jill's 40 years of management. It was a fun party held in the lounge area at Perisher Lodge. Many sipping on cocktails, champagne and beers, while eating tempting morsels like salmon rolls, cheese and basil skewers, mushroom caps and savoury bellinis to name a few! The laughter was infectious as we heard many funny tales and escapades over the years of Jill and Ken's watch.

The funniest story I heard and associated to another gift of pineapples in a hamper, was presented by Doug Boast. Doug related details of when Jill and Ken's patience and perseverance were tested by an 'avocado issue' several years ago, when Doug was President. This tale led to a certain reference to 'pineapples' and hence Doug's gift presentation!! (The full story of which I'm sure Doug would relate again if asked!).

If success could be measured by the empty platters and smiling faces that bid farewell to Jill and Ken at the end of the evening – then it was a job well done! The yummy hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and drinks were heartily consumed!

I wish to convey a special thank you to those who added their helping hands to make Jill & Ken's 40th Anniversary a great success! The lounge area of the Lodge

was transformed into the perfect space for our Soiree, the long table set-up with cloths & floral décor and the cosy seating areas of chairs and sofas. The drinks station and setting out the food. Thanks to Judy Lejins, Amanda East, Lindy Down and Caroline Walker for following my 'recipe' instructions for all the food platters and to Ross Taylor, Roger and Sarah Brake for lending a hand and running errands. Also, the tidy-up team of Doug Boast and Peter Richards! Plus anyone else who I've forgotten, you know who you are! Much appreciation for everyone's efforts.

Lastly, **congratulations** and **thank you** Jill and Ken French for 40 years of Service!



Four past Presidents and a current President - l - r Doug Boast, Amanda East, Lyndall Hatch, Jenny McLeod and Caroline Walker with Ken and Jill in front.



Cheryl, Amanda, Jenny, Jill and Lyndall.



Jill, Ken and Caroline



FRENCH'S FOYER

Honouring

JILL & KEN FRENCH

for 40 years of dedicated service and
management of the Perisher Lodge



Youth Week at Perisher Lodge 7 – 13 July

By Sue Elliott

Youth week – and what a week it was: good company, good snow and good food.

The good company was found in 40 plus members and guests – families, parents and kids, all snuggling down and stepping up, to make Youth week at Perisher Lodge a roaring success. Lots of great conversations were had, skiing, boarding, heli-skiing, more boarding, which run was that? Along with rosters for afternoon tea, adults’ nibbles and dinner, and rotating groups of youths setting tables, cleaning up and flicking tea-towels.

The good snow, well perhaps a little overstated, but a snow fall just prior to Youth Week kept all the skiers and boarders happy till about Thursday – when Phil’s snow report told us what, in our hearts, we already knew:

“Perisher Lodge, snow report: rather grim”.



Photograph by Phil Bell

But it didn’t matter, because we still had good food!

The daily menu consisted of cereals, toast and juices for breakfast, soup of the day and sandwiches for lunch, and then a different dinner each night. But, this totally undersells the sheer scale, deliciousness and ever changing kaleidoscope of cuisines on offer and the imagination of what members and guests can do with food.

- We crossed the globe with hamburgers from the US, two trips to Italy for pizza and pasta, along with stopovers in Mexico (don't forget the margaritas) and India for a spicy night. (Oops and I almost forgot there was an Aussie barbecue too).
- Nutella, cheese and ham sandwiches became a staple for one injured skier, with his mum declaring “it’s surprisingly good.”
- Steak and Wombok salad became for some the breakfast of kings.
- While marsh-mellows and pasta became the main ingredients for a game – go figure (see photos following).



Photograph by Miriam Rihani



Photograph by Miriam Rihani

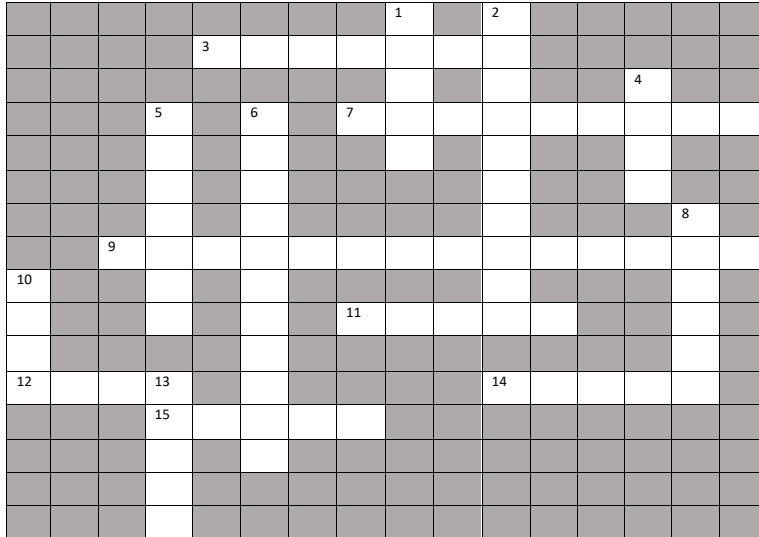
However, of all the delicious food on offer, I think it was the puddings that kept us most in suspense – nervously asking am I really going to make that? How much sugar did you say? Which pudding was best: Chocolate, Sticky or Lemon Delicious? Some questions can never be answered but try the YOUTH WEEK CROSS-WORD below to help make one of them.



Photograph by Sue Elliott

Finally, thanks Mim and Chrissie for keeping us company, getting us organised, and feeding us such wonderful food.

YOUTH WEEK CROSS-WORD



Clues

Across	Down
3. Place butter, lemon juice, sugar, milk & egg yolks in a bowl to _____	1. Using an electric _____ beat the egg whites until soft peaks form
7. 12 teaspoons of grated	2. 2 cups of
9. Wednesday night's sweets	4. Spoon the mixture into a _____ and then place it into a larger baking dish
11. Pour boiling _____ into the large dish	5. _____ oven to 160 degrees Celsius
12. 24 _____ separated	6. 9 cups of
14. 4.5 cups of sifted self-raising	8. 900 grams of melted _____
15. Beat the egg whites until soft form	10. _____ for 25 to 30 minutes
	13. Using a metal _____ fold the egg whites into the mixture.



Family Week – Friendship, Fun, Food, and SNOW!

By Sarah Jones

Family week launched straight after a very successful Youth Week in a whirl of noise and happiness. The kids were immediately off playing and the lodge was as busy as it gets. Old friends and new greeted each other enthusiastically, and it was a joy to see the kids of all ages getting along, as well as the adults. It was difficult to tell who was having more fun!

Huge amounts of preparation go into the planning for these weeks, and the work does not stop when the week starts. Our organisers showed incredible patience as they were inevitably asked questions as the week wore on. On behalf of us all, I would like to extend a huge thank you to our wonderful party leaders, **Mel Randall** and **Lachie Hatch**. Not only was Family Week well run, it was also a LOT of fun. A few highlights have been included below – enjoy!

Snow!

It was a slow start... the ‘ski-in’ accommodation was ‘walk-in’ for a few days. Those who wanted to go night skiing or to first tracks had to walk to the Sundeck carrying their skis, before they could get onto the snow. But the promised dump arrived on the Tuesday and then we all dispersed throughout the resort for fresh powder.





Hide and Seek

I never knew how many nooks and crannies there were at Perisher, until the inventive children started playing. Hide and seek is always a winner at the lodge, and given the size of the place, these games could go on for quite some time.

Mexican night & margaritas

So many limes squeezed by the kitchen elves, and the result was excellent - Mexican night margaritas! Super tasty and really helped the festive vibe for the grownups.

Snow caves

Some of the kids spent an afternoon digging some quite substantial snow 'caves' outside the lodge, and the little ones really enjoyed the toboggans out the front once the big snow dump arrived.

State of Origin

The one exception to the 'no screens' rule was for State of Origin. A white sheet on the wall served as a projector screen, and the lodge was filled with a lively crowd of enthusiastic supporters. An exciting win for NSW made for a good night!

Marshmallow Challenge

The marshmallow challenge – building a tower with spaghetti and marshmallows – was an absolute hit. So much so that it happened more than once. Youngsters, teens, and adults all had a go, and everyone worked together to make their architectural masterpieces. Mim diplomatically awarded prizes for different categories (tallest, most structurally sound, etc.), so everyone had something to be proud of.



L to R Sunny, Joseph, Gene Ross, Mim Rihani and Emily

Card games

It was lovely to see all the kids playing card games together, and particularly nice to see how kids of all ages played with each other. Another example of the lodge being just like an extended family.

Night skiing

A couple of intrepid adults (myself included) accompanied the enthusiastic kids for night skiing. Tuesday night was absolutely excellent, with no queues, great snow, and a bunch of speedy kids. There was even a bit of racing, which would have been exciting if the two adults had been fast enough to see the second half of the race! The gang of nine people managed 10 speedy runs down front valley and we had lots of fun.

Family week was fantastic fun. New friendships were made and old friendships cemented. We all had a lot of fun enjoying the snow, whether skiing, boarding, racing, or playing, but we had even more fun spending time together. Thanks to everyone for putting in the work to make it happen!



Enjoying Dinner ☐

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: Thursday 19 September 2024

Please email your articles, letters (in Word) and photographs or other material to: ***editor@cac.org.au***. Photographs need to be placed at the end of a paragraph or article, not alongside the text.

Frozen Acres is published online 5 to 8 days after each deadline and sent out by post a few days later to those members who have requested a hard copy.

If undeliverable, return to

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