

TALARIA SKI CLUB Inc.

Circular No.220, June 2019
GPO Box 1197, HOBART, TASMANIA 7001

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Dear Talaria members

In this edition, we have much to relate ...

The re-cladding project is almost complete, providing the exterior of the Lodge with a makeover that will last us for decades, with the additional and significant benefits of the removal of all asbestos from external walls and the insulation of previously uninsulated walls. As a result, the appearance of the Lodge has improved significantly (see photos later) and, just as importantly, is definitely warmer than it had been which will, in turn, lead to cost savings. The Club is eternally grateful to the mystery benefactor who has financed this important work, and that member's legacy will live on through their generosity.

Karl van Drunen must be singled out for special mention here, as he is not only coordinating the re-cladding bees, but has been up to his armpits, along with Gordon Clarke and Kane McLeod, in assessing options around replacement of the oil heaters, and all this in addition to coordinating the general maintenance bees, and much more besides. Similarly, we must also recognise the expert contribution of Ian Smith as technical cladding maestro, the participation of several other members in re-cladding activities over time and latterly, being only a very new member, the enthusiasm and generosity of Kane McLeod, who essentially spent a week on the hill removing cladding, dealing with the asbestos removalists, setting up and removing scaffolding, sharing his building skills, ensuring a safe worksite, and being the first out working every morning.

Following a long dry spell, there has been a surge in club memberships over the past three years which, apart from reinvigorating the Club and injecting enthusiasm into the operation (and many new children into our ranks) has also put Talaria on to a much more secure footing. The previously parlous membership situation had led the Executive to the inevitable conclusion that the Club could no longer afford the insurance premiums, and so the Lodge has been without insurance for some years now. I can now report that re-insuring the Lodge is back on the agenda, but will require an increase to either annual subscription fees, overnighing fees, or a mix of both. If the momentum of new memberships can be maintained, the fee increase may no longer become necessary into the medium term, but as I see it, we all have so much invested in being part of a lodge on 'the Hill' that it doesn't make sense to leave the Lodge uninsured, which could potentially result in disappointment for all, including the loss of our communal asset and capacity to overnight on the hill.

Last year's 50th anniversary dinner at the RYCT was yet another highlight coinciding with the reinvigoration of our Club, and a fabulous and entertaining night was engineered by the dedicated organising committee. See Zoe's erudite description of the goings-on and high jinks later in this circular.

Given the variability of weather patterns these days it would be more than my life is worth to make a prediction on the potential quality of the upcoming season, but I choose optimism ... and I see we're off to a promising start.

Membership

The latest inaugurated members are **Kane McLeod and family, Julia & Russ Ebert and family, Alistair & Darian Cole, and Mike Rushton.**

NOTE: Membership subscriptions payments are now due. If you have not yet received an invoice, please contact Gordon Clarke via the email or phone number on the circular header (also, please refer to the 'Lodge Discount Cards' topic in relation to financial membership being a requirement for eligibility, and the tight timeline around this).

Also, if you are actively skiing, it is very much in your interest to read the advice in the following section in relation to the cut-off date of June 10th for paid-up club membership in order to be eligible for a discount card.

Ben Lomond Discount Cards

Alpine Enterprises and Ben Lomond Snow Sports are again offering discounts for members of BLC affiliated lodges in 2019. This program provides extra value for members of lodges that choose to be paid up members of the BLC (Ben Lomond Committee).

'Alpine Enterprises will reduce the full day tow ticket price by \$10 for adults and \$5 for those under 18 (please note ages for junior members). No discount applies for part-day tickets or where the standard ticket price has been reduced that day.

Ben Lomond Snow Sports will offer a free cup of coffee or hot chocolate each time a snowboard or skis are hired and a 10% discount off the retail price for apparel purchases (e.g. gloves, goggles etc). A 10% discount on instruction for weekday private group bookings for BLC members (excluding school holidays) also applies.'

Once issued, current members will be able to collect their discount pass from the lodge warden next time they attend the lodge.

To support this Talaria will be providing a list of members who are financial as at Monday 10 June 2019. Therefore, if you haven't paid your subscription yet, but would like to be included on the discount ski pass list, please ensure that your membership has been paid by that date! Because it can take time for EFT payments to come through, if you have paid within a few days of this date it would be a very good idea to send a confirmation of your payment to the Treasurer, Gordon Clarke (at gordonclarke@netspace.net.au) so you don't miss out on your pass.

Heater Replacement

Our august Lodge Warden, Karl, reports that the new drying room heater has been installed using the old flue (see photo). However, following testing, it was found that even when the heater is set to 'low', the old flue became too hot, and there were concerns about its passage through walls and ceilings (despite this being a double-skin flue). The plan is currently to go up on the long weekend and put a new triple-skin flue up through the family room – a more direct route that will comply with all the new building standards. The team believes we may be able dispense with the heating coil in the lounge/dinning room heater altogether, and potentially have sufficient excess hot water to (at some stage) heat the downstairs hallway. In short, the new heater is installed, but not operational until the flue issue is resolved.

Talaria's 50th Anniversary Dinner

To celebrate 50 years of Talaria, a marvellous dinner was held on 17th November at the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, with around 50 attendees ranging in age from 8 to 80-something. The anniversary organising committee did a wonderful job at decorating the tables (including mini

topiary-style centrepieces of Ben Lomond vegetation); providing memorabilia to bring back memories; leaving take-home gifts of Talaria fridge magnets at every place; creating a slide show of photos that ran throughout the event and fun activities such as an entertaining and elucidating quiz and heaps of lucky door prizes.

Sincere thanks go to the organising committee: Anna and Tim Jones (with help from Hugh), Jan Colville, Val Baxter, Michele Wilson, Barb Smith and Kate Chappell. Also thanks to Val and Jan who made and decorated the delicious cakes and Kane McLeod who organised most of the lucky door prizes. Michele Wilson did a fantastic job at keeping the evening flowing as Master of Ceremonies and Bruce Cole, Penny Wells, Jan Colville and Andrew Hudspeth were generous in providing some insights into the various going-on at the Lodge over the 5 decades of its history: hilarious in parts and particularly enlightening for those of us more new to the club. Penny was horrified at the ignorance of the younger members of some of the traditional Talaria games, and urged the club to re-establish them, lest they be lost forever.

At the end of the evening, life membership was bestowed upon the indubitably deserving Karl van Drunen for his years of service to the lodge and club, including more than 10 years as lodge warden. Unfortunately Karl was off ocean racing so wasn't there in person, but Joan graciously accepted on his behalf.

Also Tim, Anna and Hugh Jones collected many of the old club photos and collated the slideshow.

What a fantastic way to end the year! (Zoe Magnus).

Upcoming Working Bee

The second pre-season working bee is scheduled for the weekend 22nd-23rd of June, but with arrangements yet to be finalised. The Club strongly encourages you to be part of this bee if you have either been using the Lodge, or intend to use it this season, and haven't recently participated in a working bee. The Lodge is a communal asset, and while there is a core of members that has been undertaking the lion's share of this work over recent years, all active members are expected to attend these working parties periodically. They are also great social events, and are an excellent opportunity for new and prospective members to get to know both the Lodge and its Members.

Please indicate your participation via (preferably) the Lodge bookings page on the website, or by contacting Tim Jones directly on either 0400 740 527 or tim@taz-e.com.au.

Talaria Website

Don't forget that the Club's primary source of information is now the Talaria website, where you can view the latest webcams, check the weather forecast, view the Club calendar and other activities at Ben Lomond, see who is booked to stay at the lodge, and book nights with Tim on-line. Please also feel free to make a suggestion if you feel if there's something you'd particularly like to see added to the site.

The following link will take you there ... <http://talaria.weebly.com/>

Lodge Booking information

A reminder to all members that Ben Lomond is delightful and quiet during the summer months, and midweek in winter is also often quiet, so why not consider booking into the Lodge for a few days with family and friends, with a club or other group to which you belong, or to conduct a cooking weekend or similar.

Our preferred booking method is to lodge requests via the 'Lodge Bookings' eForm under the 'Lodge' menu item at <http://talaria.weebly.com/>

Our Bookings Officer, Tim Jones, can be contacted on either 0400 740 527 or tim@taz-e.com.au for additional information.

Opening and closing the Lodge: The rationale behind the processes around opening and closing the lodge may not be immediately obvious, but they have been developed in order to minimise the risk of failures such as icing-up and flooding. These can render the lodge uninhabitable, severely disadvantage other members and result in much additional work to rectify. As a result, please be aware of the requirement that, in the interests of preventing freeze/thaw disasters and the like, to be authorised to open and close the lodge yourself you must have first been guided through the process by the Lodge Manager or their delegate on site and then certified as competent. At that point you will be assigned your own lodge key, with the understanding that all overnight attendances at the lodge must be pre-booked through the Lodge Bookings officer.

If you have not received approval from the Lodge Warden to open and close the Lodge, and there is no certified member present, or you have not otherwise arranged beforehand for a certified member to be present, you should not attempt to do so yourself. In this event, you should not attend the Lodge as the sole occupant/s.

Lost & Found

A pair of size 13 Blundstone boots with orthotics was left at the Lodge last year.

Please contact Ian Smith for details on smith.ianandrew@gmail.com .

A pair of blue overalls was left at a previous re-cladding bee. Contact Andrew Hudspeth on hudspeth@primus.com.au .

Email Addresses

For those few members who are still not receiving the Club circulars via email and would now like to, please send your email address to Andrew Hudspeth at hudspeth@primus.com.au .

Read on for Re-Cladding and other photos ...

Re-Cladding Bee, Australia Day Long Weekend

Insulation Central



Looking Better Already



Scaffolding Forest



Rick in his preferred position



The Three Amigos ... enough said



More Simulated Activity (who are these two anyway?)



Long View of the Works (and No, 'Birubi St George' on the right isn't the new wing)



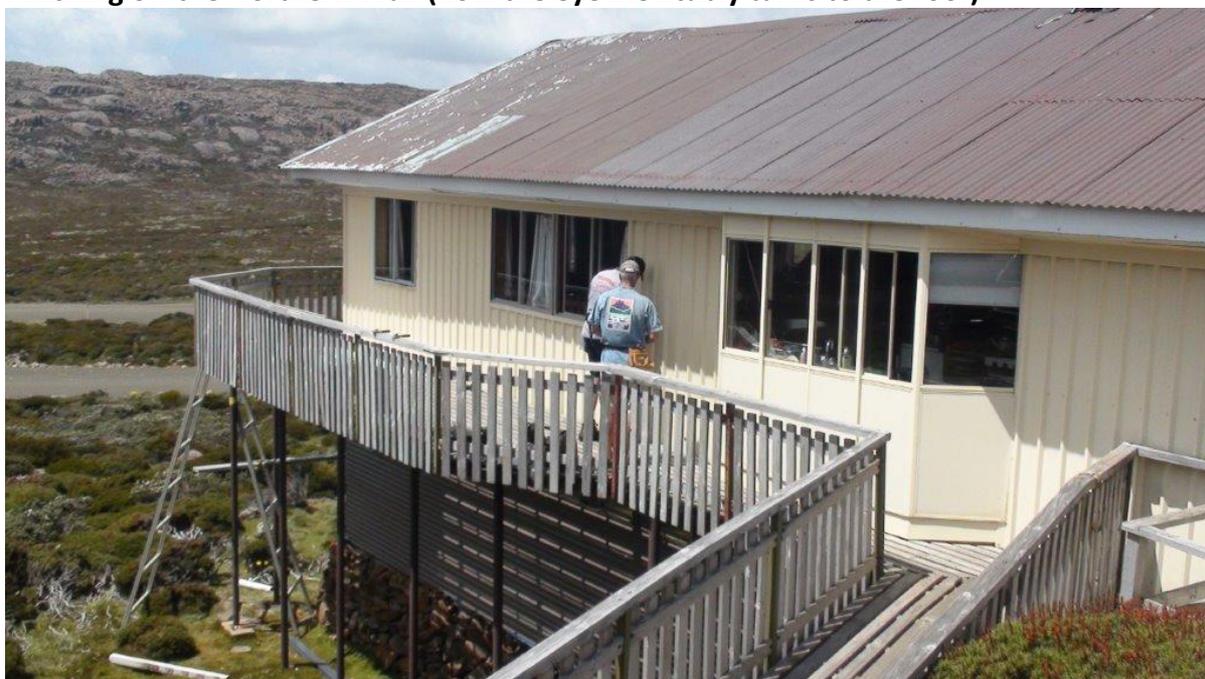
Looking Good (also the cladding)



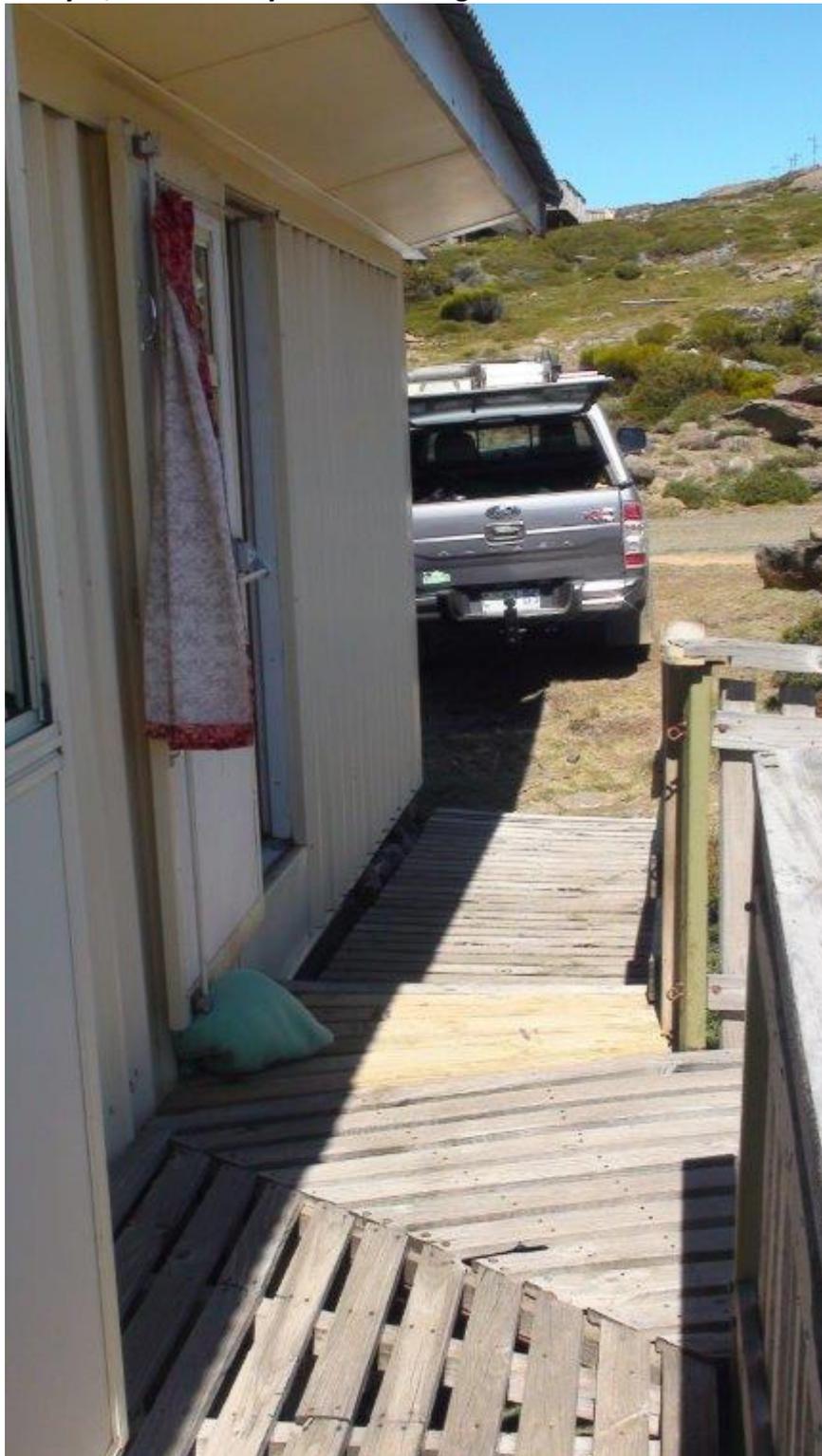
The Last Remaining Wall to be re-clad



Finishing off the Northern Wall (now the eye inevitably turns to the roof)



And yes, we've finally broken through between the two Northern walkways - Rejoice!



Fortune favours the Brave (albeit well-equipped), venturing forth into this unknown world



The new drying room heater in place (yet to be commissioned)

