



# TALARIA SKI CLUB Inc.

Circular No.221, July 2020  
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Dear Talaria members

As we emerge into a redefined post-COVID world, the Ben Lomond Committee has been hard at work ascertaining exactly what measures will be required of lodges and their members in order to conform to the new requirements, which has allowed the various lodges to adopt a standardised approach that will meet the approval of Worksafe Tasmania, the regulator under which this falls.

As a result, when you next visit the lodge you will find hand hygiene and related posters hung at various points and hand sanitiser and surface sprays provided, which we are all required to utilise.

***Members inviting guests are held responsible for their guests both understanding and following these requirements.*** Worksafe Tasmania has advised that lodges found to have failed in enforcing these measures will leave themselves, or individual members, open to civil legal action in the event of a transmission event being identified. A summary of our response to those requirements, along with copies of the relevant posters, appear further down in this newsletter.

On the bright side, despite the fact that Alpine Enterprises has been on the market for some time now and that the COVID situation has injected additional uncertainty into commercial operations in general, the owner, Kate Williams, has confirmed they will be opening for the upcoming season. We can expect to have enforced distancing in lift lines, and also potentially a limit on the number of tickets sold in order to conform to Government regulations.

The re-cladding project is creeping towards a conclusion, with the lower entrance wall being replaced over the summer, along with the majority of the front wall of Widd's lounge. Despite the postponement of a scheduled bee corresponding to the COVID lockdowns, a successful weekend was held in late June with the primary aims of replacing and re-routing the loungeroom heater flue, which was sub-standard and deemed to constitute a fire hazard, and also the installation of flashings on previously-reclad walls, in conjunction with the standard pre-season resupply and maintenance.

There was much discussion around possible relocation of the heater itself but, given the proximity to the commencement of the season, the additional complexity of running fuel lines and configuring a new location, it was decided that for such a significant change, the wider membership should be consulted at a future time. As it was, Karl and Kane spent the entire weekend working on the flue replacement

Isaac and Al undertook sterling work constructing a new boot shelf behind the central bench seat in the workshop, and also creating additional ski storage capacity, while Ian and Andrew tackled the flashing of windows and doorways (to be completed during the Summer).

Kate, Agnes (membership candidate), Barb and Jill undertook the resupply, hung COVID posters, distributed litres of hand sanitiser and sprays sourced by Geoff Eddington, sorted fire extinguishers and generally covered all the other bases.

Following the Executive's decision to reinsure the Lodge, the premiums have been climbing to a point where they are again edging towards unaffordability. The BLC has formed a subcommittee to look into bulk insurance for interested lodges, but it remains to be seen whether they will be able to attract any significant discount.

Well the temperatures have certainly dropped sufficiently, so we now just need plenty of precipitation to cover the slopes. There have been predictions of a good snow season, so hopefully the pundits are correct!

### **Vale Fiona Rowell**

It is with great sadness that we must also announce the untimely passing of the lovely Fiona Rowell following an illness. Those of you who have met Fiona will have been struck, not only by her lilting Irish accent, but by her humour, engagement and enthusiasm. The Club offers its sincerest condolences to Rob, Katharine and Lucy on their sad loss.

## **Membership**

Talaria's most recent membership candidates are Agnes Nienhaus, Chris Welsh, Kaara Tilasmi, Michael Shrapnel and Tom and Anna Wilcox. Our latest inaugurated members are ex-junior members Sarah van Drunen, Hugh Jones, and Clare, Helen and Elizabeth Browne. It's wonderful to see former Juniors committing to the Club in adulthood. We must have collectively been doing something right all these years.

**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.**

## **Ben Lomond Discount Cards**

There has been no indication from Alpine Enterprises or Ben Lomond Snow Sports that they intend to offer their traditional discounts for members of BLC affiliated lodges in 2020, which isn't a surprise given the prevailing situation.

## **Talaria Website**

The Club's primary source of information is 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 Isaac 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, Isaac Forster, can be contacted on either 0488 279 729 or [rangersac@gmail.com](mailto:rangersac@gmail.com) 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.

## 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@jprimus.com.au](mailto:hudspeth@jprimus.com.au).

## June 2020 Working Bee Photos:



Unloading the truck





Setting up the Eastern face



Getting it sorted





Endra lighting the way





Kane doing his thing



Kael nuancing the chisel





The masters at work





Karl demonstrating the living room heater



Flashings R Us





Flashers