STEEL MAKERS ALPINE CLUB

Summer 2024

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WELCOME!

Welcome to the Steel Makers Alpine Club newsletter. We hope you will enjoy it.

If you have any suggestions for future editions, or any photos for inclusion, please email them to raychel_parovel@yahoo.com

Do we have your email address?

To be more environmentally conscious and efficient, your Committee will be moving to electronic communication.

Please make sure we have your correct email address by contacting us at smac.secretary1@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Kids Week Lessons at Perisher

I guess you could say "this ski season was not the best, late start, very short middle and an early finish". I hope those that got to the mountains, enjoyed their stay at the Lodge and the snow that was available. Is it me or do the lifties appear to be getting younger every year?. By way of a thank you to them (for working in sometimes miserable conditions), Sarah and I, for a few years now, have been handing out a limited supply of Freddos to those deserving lifties. Maybe this is something that all Arimac members might like to do, one day a year (as long as we all don't pick the same day or the same lifties)

I am always amazed at what the mountain grooming team can manage to do overnight, they manage to push and groom snow around the mountains so we arrive to fresh, enjoyable runs most mornings. Does anyone else remember the days before snow grooming?

I am looking forward to riding the new 6 seater Mt Perisher Chair next season, and I wonder what new terrain it will open up. I am told it will be a similar arrangement as the Village 8 and travel faster between the top and bottom stations.

This newsletter should see another round of profiles of your committee members. Raychel, our newsletter editor, posed some questions to us and our

response kind of make up the profile.

Steel Makers Alpine Club will turn 40 years young in 2025, Keep a look out on how we will celebrate this milestone, I would love a huge member and family turn out to the event that Gary, our Social Director, will be organising.

Since the last newsletter we had our preseason working bee in May, getting the Lodge clean and ready for the season as well as giving the recast fireplace a healthy work out. The committee has been working on defining and arranging for the manufacture of the new curtains to be installed at the October working bee

Junior Development Week was a big success again this year. The Teddy Bear Hunt on the mountain had our new club mascot heavily involved. Members, please consider getting involved in the week long activities, there are sponsored lessons organised as well as a lot of social activities for the kids and parents alike. Thanks again to Troy for organising.

Our Club Members and guest weekend, was held with a mass ski day touring as a group and enjoying lunch at the Sundeck and a BBQ meal in the evening.

The additional, albeit limited, power outlets for charging electrical vehicles was used again by some members this year. Please remember to bring your own extension leads as cars will need to be parked in the normal spots to charge, so we don't destroy the grass around the Lodge.

Jamberoo Action Park event is on again this year in late November – See the article for the details – The club is subsidising entry and supplying a BBQ lunch and soft drinks

I will let other committee members tell you more in their articles.

Have a great summer everyone and I hope to catch up with you at our Club events or at the Lodge.

Barry

From the Secretary's Desk

Just as the snowfalls have been a little light this year, so have the changes to our membership and lodge improvements. That doesn't mean we haven't been doing anything, as many ideas were discussed, reviewed, and agreed as not in the best interests of the club.

Membership movements have been quiet in the past year after a busy previous year. We've had 1 application from a members' child, 1 resignation of membership, and 1 transfer of membership. Our total member numbers still remains at 140. One of the things we are progressing is to approach dormant members to see if they would like to resign and free up a membership, to reduce our numbers or encourage more active members.

Member's children are eligible to take up membership in their own right from 18 to 21 but after 18 they are no longer classed as member's children, they become either a member's guest or an associate member. Contact the Club secretary Kevin for more information.

We've had a lot of communications from members this year which is great to see. There has been a mixture of questions, and suggestions for improvements to the lodge and also how the club is run. One item widely discussed and investigated was double glazing of the main floor sliding doors/windows. Eventually we decided not to proceed on cost/benefit grounds. We did however agree to new curtains for that area and they will be installed during the October working bee.

Regardless of the suggestions or ideas, all input from members is welcome and nothing is turned down without a discussion by the committee. If I am slow in getting back to you it is probably because we're waiting for the next committee meeting, but all emails will be addressed. Keep 'em coming.

We are a family friendly club, and we've always had an ethos to encourage kids to enjoy the snow. To this end we will continue to subsidise the costs of skiing/boarding and lift tickets within the means of the club. The rules for this in general are:

1. Reimbursement of 50% of lift ticket and lesson costs during the season, with maximums to apply
2. Subsidies are relevant for Members' Children only

3. Subsidies are paid annually and must be submitted by the end of November
4. Reimbursements are at the discretion of the Committee, and will depend on the number of claims being made and the financial position of the Club at the time
5. Subsidy requests must include a completed Expenses claim form (available on website) and receipts of the claimed costs
6. Requests should be emailed to the Club Secretary or Treasurer

Lastly can I ask you all for a favour. When I send out emails to all members please read the details and respond directly to an email address nominated, such as the Booking Officer or Maintenance Manager. It's a small inconvenience for me, but any delay in getting it to the right person might mean you miss out.

Thanks,

Kevin

Treasurer's Report

Hello

Electricity Capacity of the Lodge

When the lodge was constructed back in the early 1980's the electrical requirements for occupants were much less than today. Then all we needed was power for hot water, cooking, lighting and some appliances and that was the design requirements for houses in those times. Now that we are heading for electrify everything including communications and transport, the houses of today are needing more capacity and wiring to handle our daily living.

Our lodge is at near electrical capacity, and it is a topic that is spoken about at committee meetings though out the year. To accommodate better charging of electrical vehicles (EVs) and maybe an air conditioning system would require us to boost the electrical capacity which would incur costs of around $10000. If you need further more technical explanation about this ask one of our electrical qualified members. This will be something that may happen in the next 10 years as more members become owners of EVs.

Currently we have on the kitchen side a 10amp and 15amp supply and on the electrical board side we have a 10amp supply for EV charging. Only one EV can be charged / connected at the one time. You need to bring a cable to connect between your car and the lodge. We require at the end of your stay to provide via an email the amount of electricity the car has taken. Send the email to either the booking office or the secretary and they will pass it onto the treasurer. An invoice will be sent to the member who made the booking and not the owner of the EV if these are different people of the booking group. For 2024 the current invoice charge is 50 cents per kwh.

Bookings

Bookings were slow at the lodge for the second winter in a row due to the below average snow conditions. Aside from the storm in July that caused some carnage and extended delays on the roads (I heard it took some people 5 hours to drive from Jindabyne to Perisher), most weekends were good weather. The snow depth peaked at just under 125cm in July then continued to deteriorate for the rest of the season causing some bookings to get shortened or abandoned totally. Even though the weather didn't cooperate outside, good memories were still made inside the lodge, which is what Arimac is all about.

Summer bookings have been accepted for Christmas, New Years and Easter. Another season has passed too quickly, as far as I know there wasn't any booking issues, please feel free to email me with suggestions to improve the process if you have any.

Good luck to all of those who are heading overseas in a few months to get their snow fix in the northern hemisphere.

Pete.

Maintenance Update

September 2024 Maintenance Report

Another snow season has come and gone and although it was a bit disappointing due the overall poor conditions, the lodge was still well used. Maintenance wise there weren't many things that needed fixing and thankfully they were able to be sorted by guests onsite, including myself. These included replacing a couple of light dimmers, the clothes dryer filter and replacing the recycle box near the fridge.

The preseason May working bee was well attended including a number of committee members at my request as we needed to make some onsite decisions about curtains and pelmets.

We had a long list of tasks to work through but as usual we got everything done plus a lot of extra stuff. I have previously posted the job list on the club's Facebook page so won't repeat it here.

The October W/B is scheduled for the weekend of 19th and 20th and the first item on the list is to replace the lounge area curtains and install pelmets. Also there are a few repairs and upgrades planned along with the usual end of season cleaning. I was lucky enough to get in 4 visits to the lodge during the season and on each occasion I was pleased to see the lodge was well cleaned. This makes our W/B cleaning a bit easier.

As always, if you know of anything that needs fixing or if you have any suggestions for improvements please let me or the committee know.

Cheers Gerry.

Club Captain's Update

Thankyou Arimac for another season of great times and memories. While it was another season a bit lacking in the white stuff, we were fortunate to have reasonable coverage over the school holidays and all had a wonderful time during junior development week.

The club sponsored lessons for the kids, and hosted a number of social events - including the annual teddy bear hunt where our new club mascot made a special appearance! Some of the kids had the idea of making next year's hunt even bigger and better by making it a fancy dress event. So if you are thinking about attending next year, plan on some sort of costume or helmet decoration!

The annual junior art exhibition and auction was again another big success with the kids raising well over $132 for Disabled Wintersport Australia, donated in memory of Merry Duxbury. You can view some of the preserved works upstairs in the memorabilia cabinet.

If you have young children and haven't attended a junior development week yet, be sure to try and book in next year - guaranteed your kids will love it!

On the competitive front, the Armstrong girls continue to impress with loads of placements this season, including Abby taking third place at moguls National Championships, and Izzy taking a first place at the Thredbo Rail Jam. A number of our club kids participated again in the NSW Interschools competitions. Well done to all who competed and a special congratulations to Brandon Flinn who made it through to State for the first time. As always, I'd love to hear of any accomplishments - kids or adults, to include in future newsletters. Just send me an email and photos are always great.

Now mountain biking season is just around the corner. Hope to catch up with some of you at the lodge over the summer months.



Ou Kids Week Mascot

60 seconds with Gerry Campbell

Where do you work?
Retired

Committee role
Maintenance Manager

How long have you been a member of ARIMAC?
Since the beginning, foundation member.

How long have you been on the Committee?
First stint late 80s till 93, second stint 2014 till present.

Ski or Snowboard?
Ski.



Bike or Hike?
Bit of both and some fishing.

Favourite ski resort
Been so many, probably Sun Peaks Canada

Favourite ARIMAC memory
Again there's been so many, I think the first night in the lodge when we bought it, we picked up the keys the same day. We were all so excited.

What do you like best about being a member of Steel Makers Alpine Club?
Staying in the lodge, we've lived in 6 different houses since the 80s, the lodge feels like a constant in our lives where we catch up with old friends and meet new ones. Some people believe that buildings have a soul, I think they're right, I feel it every time I walk in the door, welcoming, comforting, relaxing.

Get to know Kevin Larkin

Where do you work?
DXC Technology, but working from home full time

Committee role
Secretary. Was also previously committee member then Club Captain

How long have you been a member of ARIMAC?
Foundation member since Frank Parovel talked me into it as a young guy.

How long have you been on the Committee?
Difficult to remember, but over 10 years

Ski or Snowboard?
Only Skis



Bike or Hike?
Don't really do either, but probably Hike

Favourite ski resort
Limited overseas skiing, but Treble Cone for the views

Favourite ARIMAC memory
Junior Development weeks/weekends – seeing the kids enjoying themselves. Club Race weekends when we had lots of participants. The first time I stayed at the Lodge with family and friends decades ago – it kept me coming back for more.

What do you like best about being a member of Steel Makers Alpine Club?
The communal living at the Lodge. Catching up with old friends and meeting new people. It doesn't take long when you're sharing the common areas.

Steel Makers Christmas Party 2024

Yes folks it's that time of the year again, for all the kids and the adults who are kids at heart, to join us at Jamberoo Action Park.

When: Saturday 30th November 2024 gates open at 10.00am if you get to the Park after 10.30am text me on 0409999942 and I will come outside and give you your tickets.

Where: Look for the Steel Makers banner on the left as you enter the park.

Cost: $50 per head for Members, Members Guest and Members Children. This includes a Club subsidised entry ticket, nibbles and drinks, a bbq lunch and a small lolly bag for the younger children.

Similar to last year, we are allowing each Member's Child to bring **one** friend along if they wish.The Child's friend is the responsibility of the Member, arrangements must be made for them to purchase their own entry ticket from Jamberoo Action Park. Steel Makers will not be providing our subsidised tickets to them.
You must still include them in your numbers as a **Member Child's friend** purely for catering purposes.
Please provide the **number** and **age** of the children attending, again to allow for catering to suit them.
All people wishing to attend please email Gary arimac.social@gmail.com
Members please note I do not need to know that you are **unable** to attend.

Final numbers and payment must be made by Friday 15th November 2024
Please put your "Surname Jamberoo" when paying.
Steel Makers account BSB 814 282 Account 42083876

Your Committee

- **President:** Barry Neill
- **Vice President** Gary Perkins
- **Secretary:** Kevin Larkin
- **Treasurer:** Renato Compagnin
- **Club Captain:** Troy Flinn
- **Maintenance Officer:** Gerry Campbell
- **Bookings Officer:** Peter McIndoe
- **Social Coordinator:** Gary Perkins
- **Web Manager:** Troy Flinn
- **Committee Members:**
  - Rod Valdivia
  - Judy McCracken
  - Kurt Donovan

Lodge Phone	02 6454 7173
Bookings	arimac.bookings@gmail.com Phone: 0456 919 442
Maintenance	arimac.maintenance@gmail.com
President	arimac.president@gmail.com
Secretary	smac.secretary1@gmail.com
Treasurer	smac.treasurer1@gmail.com
Club Captain	arimac.captain@gmail.com
Newsletter	raychel_parovel@yahoo.com
www.steelmakersalpineclub.com	

Club Contact Details:

Don't forget to join the **Steelmakers Alpine Club** group on Facebook to stay up to date on Club happenings!