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# Off Piste



2017, ISSUE 6

6TH NOVEMBER 2017

## President's Piece

Sadly it's now time to bid farewell to the 2017 ski season. Although it was very slow to start, it more than made up for lost time with excellent skiing from August through October (and maybe November).

The club's AGM was held on 27 September. All previous committee members were elected for another term. Please note that we do need new people to consider taking a role on the committee in the future, as some of our current committee members deserve a well-earned break and it is always good to get fresh ideas. We urgently need to fill two vacancies - social meeting coordinator and lesson/training coordinator, before next season starts. If you are interested please contact me or another committee member and we'll be happy to discuss the roles.

The October lodge weekend had to be moved to the 20-22 October, as the opening of the road to Charlotte Pass was delayed due to too much snow! Heavy rain had washed some snow away

just before we arrived, but it cleared for the weekend and we had beautiful spring weather. This made for some great skiing as the tour reports in this edition will attest. The Saturday night dinner was another epic feast of fine food. Thank you to Paul Room for organising the weekend and apologies to those who couldn't make it due to the change in date.

As always, please take care when exploring the high country whatever the season. A warm spring day can turn suddenly turn into an

ordeal so be sure to always carry warm clothing, extra food, first aid kit, a PLB or other communication device and perhaps even a headlamp. Read about Ken Moylan's ski touring accident in this issue for a sobering demonstration of what can go wrong. Fortunately it ended well and Ken should be back on track for his upcoming World Loppet races.

There are plenty of club activities happening over spring and summer. On the touring side, Alan Levy has offered to lead ski tours for



**Kosciuszko Tour pre race briefing - 19 Aug 17.**  
**Photo: Maggie Salmon-Room**

## President's Piece (cont'd)

as long as there is skiable snow and Dave Drohan is seeking expressions of interest for a club trip to Norway in Feb-Mar 2018. The club's Christmas party is on Wednesday 6 December. Nordic shelter and trails work party weekends will be held from Feb-May 2018. More details are in this issue or check the club website.

I hope you have a great summer and I look forward to

catching up at the Christmas party or in 2018.

*Jo-Anne Clancy*

## Xmas Party

The CCCSC XMAS Party will be held on Wednesday 6th December at Lennox Gardens (on the lake shore behind the Hyatt Hotel) from 5:30pm. A club banner will be erected near one of the BBQs. This is a BYO food and drink event. So come along and say hello and goodbye to your ski mates till next year.



## Tour Report—Tate West Ridge - Saturday 7 October

Nine of us (Ian Turland, Melinda Brouwer, Adam Lilley, Bruce Barnett, Robin Collins, Greg Lawrence, John Carr, Tony Brown and myself) met at the bakery at Nuggets in Jindabyne at 8:20am on Sat 7 October. The weather over the mountains looked perfect where we were heading and it promised to be a good day. We drove to Guthega where the snow cover on the Main Range looked more like a mid-winter cover.

We left about 10am and were able to ski down the road to the dam wall on a bumpy, icy cover of snow. There was a slight breeze but it felt almost hot out of the wind and the snow soon started to soften. We spent the next 50 minutes climbing up the slope to Guthega Trig where we stopped for morning tea. From here some skirted the rolling

slopes overlooking Falls Creek whilst the rest of us skied and walked along the ridge until we reached the top of the slope leading towards the Rolling Grounds. We continued on to Consett Stephen Pass then out to the western edge of Tate West Ridge, arriving around 1pm.

The weather was sunny, the wind light, and the views of Watsons Crag, the Geehi Valley, and south to Mt Bogong were great. We had lunch on the grass admiring the views. Robin couldn't resist practising on the slopes whilst a few others in the group headed off to explore the northern end of Tate West Ridge. We regrouped at 2:30pm and retraced our route back to the top of Falls Creek, then we had a good descent to the dam wall made easier by the great cover of snow. Bruce returned via Mt Tate and Tate East Ridge. We were

all back at the cars by 4:30pm and headed off to Island Bend for an overnight car camp by the river.

The following day Ian led a group from Guthega to Illawong then up to Blue Lake. Tony opted out and I decided to explore the area beyond Illawong towards Spencers Creek. The Main Range looked great with the darkening clouds above it. I returned early to meet Tony and we managed to avoid some light rain which developed during the afternoon. A great weekend with a deeper snow cover than last spring, which hopefully means many more weeks of skiing.

*Alan Levy*

***Ian, Robin and John skiing towards Consett Stephen Pass – 7 Oct 17***

***Photo: Alan Levy***





## Tour Report—Tate West Ridge - Saturday 7 October (cont'd)

*Having lunch  
on Tate West  
Ridge, with Mt  
Twynam and  
Watsons Crag  
in the  
background –  
7 Oct 17*

*Photo: Alan  
Levy*



*Ice on  
Guthega Dam  
– 7 Oct 17*

*Photo: Alan  
Levy*



*Spencers  
Creek and the  
Main Range –  
8 Oct 17*

*Photo: Alan  
Levy*



## Tour Report—Tate West Ridge - Saturday 7 October (cont'd)

*Ian's group  
approaching  
Illawong Bridge – 8  
Oct 17*

*Photo: Alan Levy*



*Bruce skiing on  
Blue – 8 Oct 17*

*Photo: Ian Turland*



*Ian's group on their  
way to Blue Lake –  
8 Oct 17*

*Photo: Alan Levy*





## Tour Report—Tate West Ridge - Saturday 7 October (cont'd)

**Guthega Dam—  
springtime melt.**

**Photo: John Carr**



**Barnstorming  
up to Guthega trig.**

**Photo: John Carr**



**The  
photographer  
(Alan Levy)  
photographed.**

**Photo: John Carr**



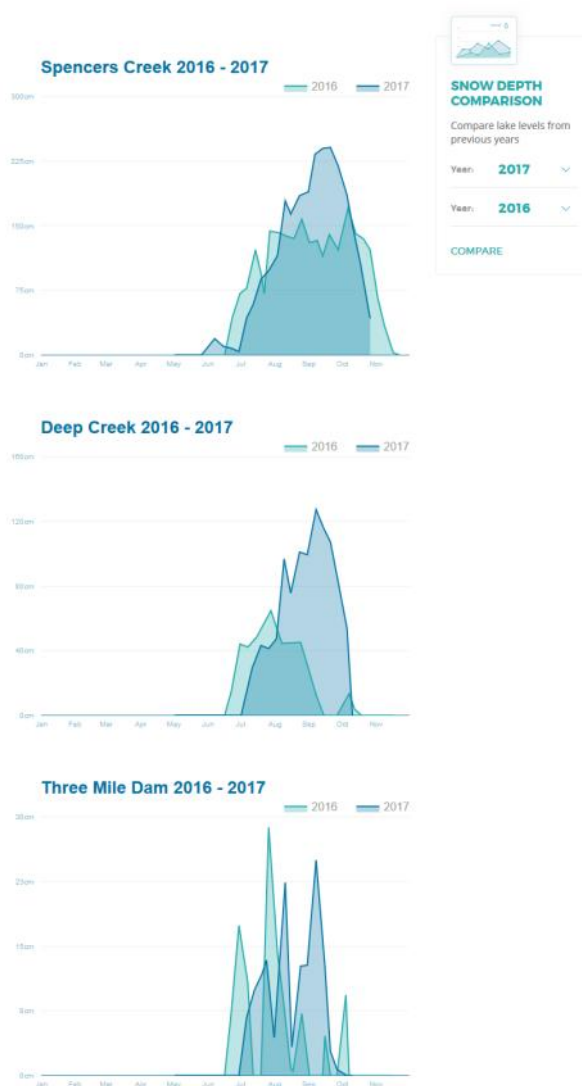
## Tour Report—Tate West Ridge - Saturday 7 October (cont'd)

***“You first!”...  
“No after you,  
dear boy”.***

**Photo: John  
Carr**



**Snowy Hydro  
Snow Depth—  
26 October  
2017**



## Tour Report—Mount Stillwell - Sunday 15 October

We started the day meeting at Nuggets in Jindabyne (Alan Levy, Sonja Weinberg, Bruce Porter, Greg Lawrence, Adam Lilley and myself) at 8.15 on Saturday 14 October 2017). It was another beautiful day with hardly a cloud in the sky.

Following breakfast we headed towards Charlotte Pass. The road past Spencer's Creek was clear of snow but gate was closed, possibly due to large amount of snow alongside road making parking up around the lookout limited. We put skis on and skied alongside the road up to the lookout. From there we skied up to Mount Stillwell trig. We had morning tea next to the trig with beautiful views over the main range.

From Mount Stillwell we skied (and walked approxi-

mately 200m) over to the remains of the Stillwell restaurant where we had lunch overlooking the ruins and the Thredbo Valley.

After lunch we were tossing up whether to return via Mount Stillwell or try to ski down alongside Wrights Creek. We chose to try Wrights Creek. After walking back across the grass from the ruins we skied down towards a single snow gum that stood out all on its own. From there we headed to a large waterfall at the top of Wrights Creek. After admiring the waterfall and grabbing a few photos we managed to ski all of the way down Wrights Creek to where it meets Spencer's Creek. We sat down beside Spender's Creek to have afternoon tea. Following afternoon tea we had a bit of a dilemma, how to get across Spencer's Creek.

There was supposed to be a

wooden bridge along the pole line so we headed towards the pole line only to find the remains of a bridge over the other side and at the bottom of the creek. We then headed back along the creek to find a place where we could cross without getting too wet. We ended up back near where we had afternoon tea and even though the water was flowing quickly it did not look too deep. I volunteered to test the crossing. Taking off my boots, socks and pants, so as not to get wet, I waded across easily. The water was nice and refreshing. The rest of the group then followed.

From there it was a short ski back to the car.

*Tony Brown*

***Tony testing the crossing at Spencer's Creek.***

***Photo: Alan Levy***





## Tour Report—Mount Stillwell - Sunday 15 October (Cont'd)

### Thredbo to Charlotte Pass Chairlift History

The chairlift between Thredbo and Charlotte Pass ran from a point on the Alpine Way a few km east of Thredbo to a restaurant at the top of Mt Stilwell and then down to Charlotte Pass.

The building of the lift commenced in 1963 and was completed in 1964. The chairlift was built by Transfield on behalf of Kosciusko Chalet who at the time were owned by Broken Hill Holdings. The project reportedly cost 150,000 pounds. It ran during the 1964 & 1965 season before going into receivership.

The chair only operated for a year. High winds caused operational difficulties and the operators had great difficulty rescuing passengers if the chair broke down. Because the chairlift traversed remote thickly wooded areas on the Ramshead Range, passengers were at great risk of death by exposure.

The Thredbo Valley terminal is still there. It is an isolated building on the north side of the road that has, at various times, been a ranger station, accommodation for park workers and a police station. It is presently used by the Public Works Department (I think). The Stilwell restaurant is a ruin after it was demolished by the Australian Army in the 1980's. Prior to demolition, it provided a welcome and cost free haven for cross country skiers and bushwalkers.

It was essentially two separate lifts. The second lift, which terminated at Charlotte Pass, hardly ever ran due to the high wind problems. In addition, there were problems with snow banking up on some of the towers. The operators may have been a little unlucky in opening the project in one of the biggest winters in terms of snowfall (and possibly windiest) on record.

The lift had brightly coloured fiberglass canopies that one pulled down for protection against the wind. In addition, there was window in the middle so you could see where you were going. The whole thing was pretty dicey in bad weather. Once or twice, the chairs came off the pulleys and down they went, passengers and all. At that time, chairlift technology was relatively primitive and other nearby operators may have had similar problems. (Thredbo also had similar problems, in particular when the chairs jumped the pulleys just above the old Ka-reela station.)

The Chairlift was advertised as the longest chairlift in the world but that claim was not widely accepted, since it was actually two chairs which both terminated at the central restaurant. The chair was in two sections. Within each section were platforms for getting on and off.

The stations/platforms were called in order:

Alpine Way Terminal Station  
Snowline Station Bella Vista Station  
Top Station - Ramshead Res-

taurant Wrights Creek Station  
Main Range View Station Chalet  
Terminal Station

The lift had 50 towers, 8 stations and stretched over 5.5 kilometers. The skiing between the stations was a series of shallow bowls much as you see in the photos. The "cell block" at CP (now staff accommodation) was the bottom station so the lift line was almost perpendicular to the present chair at CP.

Once dismantled the chair was sold to Jamberoo Recreation, after having been kept in storage for at least 15 years. The Eddy family bought the chairlift and transported it to Jamberoo. As the lift was isolated inside a National Park it was removed, in pieces by helicopter, as the alternative was to drive vehicles "off road" and this was not permitted.

Once in Jamberoo the chairlift was upgraded and erected by experienced contractors from "the snow". The drive unit required a new motor, the sheave assemblies (which were the cause of most of the derailing problems of the original lift) were redesigned, the cable was replaced and new chairs built around the frames of the originals. The remainder of the chairlift, including the towers and bull wheels, was in good order and was erected without modification.

- wikipedia

## Tour Report—Mount Stillwell - Sunday 15 October (Cont'd)

**Remains of  
old mid  
station**

**Photo:  
Alan Levy**



**Bruce  
crossing  
Spencer's  
Creek and  
Greg  
cooling his  
feet in the  
snow**

**Photo:  
Tony  
Brown**



**Alan Levy  
skiing along  
Wrights Creek**

**Photo: Tony  
Brown**





## Tour Report—Mount Stillwell - Sunday 15 October (Cont'd)

*The restaurant and mid station on Mt Stillwell*

*Photo: Wikipedia*



National Library of Australia

nla.pic-vn4235724-v

*Thredbo to Charlotte's Chair*

*Photo: Wikipedia*



*Ad in "Ski Australia" April/May 1963*

*Photo: Wikipedia*

**TAKE THIS CAB TO AUSTRALIA'S HIGHEST RESTAURANT—**  
**"UP KOSCIUSKO WAY"**

*This new "Capsule" lift spans over three miles from Alpine Way to the Kosciusko Chalet. It's the longest and the only fully enclosed chairlift in Australia. It gives easy access to Australia's best snow and widest variety of ski runs, none less than two miles long. Halfway along its run you can stop off at the Ramshead Restaurant—the finest Continental and Australian cooking in the mountains. This is just one of the Chalet's features which are open to all, guests and visitors alike. There's a Poma lift, rope tows, a complete equipment hire service, a gay bistro for après-ski and evening relaxing, and a coffee bar for snacks. Kosciusko Chalet is open all summer, too. Drop in anytime—our car park at Alpine Way is open to all.*

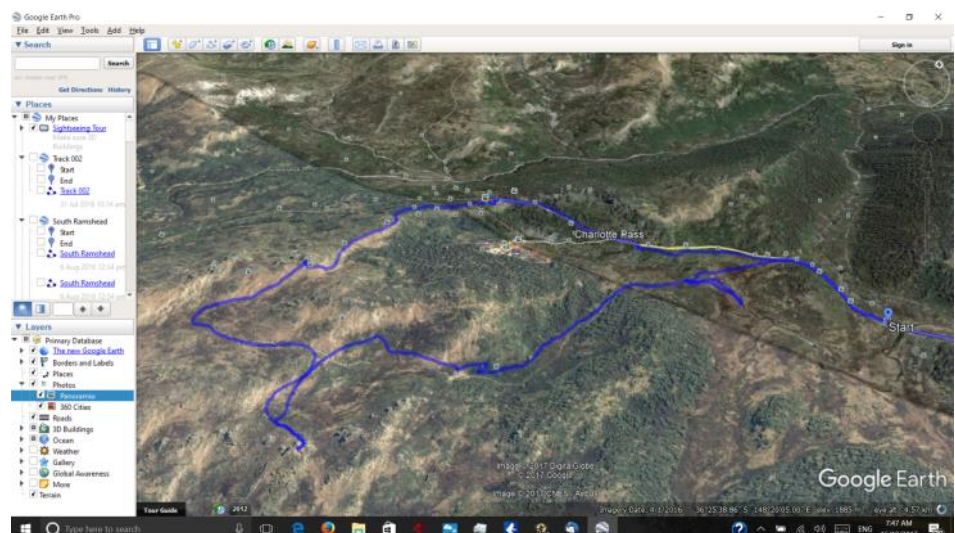
67231/15P

**KOSCIUSKO CHALET LTD.**

CENTRAL BOOKING OFFICE  
 ANSETT ANA TERMINAL  
 157 Phillip St., Sydney. 'Phone: 2 0364

68 SKI Australia, April/May, 1963

*Google Earth map of route taken on Mount Stillwell tour on Sunday 15 October*





## Tour Report—Mount Tate—29 September 2017

### Trip Report: An Adventure on Mt Tate

On Friday, 29 September 2017, Ken Moylan lead John Carr and Paul Room on an attempt to ski to Mt Tate.

#### Route

Starting from Guthega Dam, we climbed up Guthega Trig, along the ridge and made our way to Consett Stephen Pass for lunch.

On reflection, we should have given up a little height and dropped down into Falls Creek, as we would have avoided the troublesome downs & ups of getting around many snow drifts and instead have a more consistent climb. We had considered exploring Tate West Ridge, but time was getting on and the wind was getting stronger and colder, so we kept to the original route and headed up Tate East Ridge with the aim of bagging Mt Tate, skiing down Gills Knobs, the East Ridge and finally down to Guthega River near where it empties into the pondage.

#### Unexpected Change of Plans

Of the many little down & ups we had to cross that day, there was one that felled Ken and resulted in a grade 1 or 2 tear of the collateral medial ligament in his left knee. At the time the main symptom was 'it hurts' and 'I don't want to put strain through it'. This resulted in us abandoning the plan to bag Mt Tate and just trying to get out the safest way. To keep warm, Ken put on the long underwear and Goretex coat that he always carries, as it was go-

ing to be hard to keep warm by being active.

Paul rang 000 and eventually reached the local SES, at about 15:10, after at least 20 minutes of trying.

They were at that moment in Charlotte's Pass but would be able to help, albeit with a long walk in from Guthega. We had some discussion about exactly what to do, and we decided that walking out was by far the best option. Sunset was in about three and a half hours, it was only about 4km back to Guthega Dam and another 0.5km back to the car, the SES wouldn't have reached us until well after sunset, skiing for Ken would likely have resulted in worsening his injury, we had very little equipment or clothing for staying overnight and staying on top of the ridge would have made for a miserable night.

At about 15:40, we started down, walking on the snow in our boots and carrying our skis and other gear. Paul heroically carried most of Ken's pack and John carried the rest. Ken made his way down as best he could.

At about 18:45 we met the SES coming up to rescue Ken. By the time they'd checked us out, it was after 19:00, the sun had set and it was head torch conditions. Finally, by about 20:00 we had snowshoed back the car and were safely back.

#### Afterwards

It was really late by the time we got back to Jindabyne and the planned dinner choice became an 'eat at whatever's open' choice.

Ken was so spent that at both

stops (Jindabyne and Cooma) he was unable to keep warm, despite wearing much more clothing than normal. I don't want to think about what might have happened if we had been benighted after walking all the way back.

#### Lessons

- \* Walking on snow is very slow. It took more than 4 hours to walk about 4km.
- \* Always carry a set of long underwear and an extra warm top.
- \* Always carry a head torch.
- Don't rely on the SES, as it might take them a long time just to reach you.
- \* Don't rely on good mobile phone coverage. Reception was poor on the ridge and worse inside the valley, so Paul's mobile phone was barely adequate for making the initial phone calls and unusable when we were down inside the Guthega River Valley.

#### Best Bits

- \* Getting to Consett Stephen Pass.

#### Worst Bits

- \* Ruining the rest of my ski season.
- Using snowshoes. What have I become!

#### Wax of the Day

Skins followed by universal klister.

Boots followed by snowshoes.

Ken Moylan

## Tour Report—Mount Tate—29 Sept 2017 (cont'd)

Here are a few more lessons learned from the tour out of Guthega up Mt Tate on Friday 29 Sept by Ken Moylan, John Carr and myself.

Ken injured his knee crossing a snow drift at 2:30 pm and could no longer ski. We called 000 but it was not possible to get a rescue team to us high up on Mount Tate due to the deep soft spring snow. With wind gusting at 65km per hour and snow forecast, we were advised by Jindabyne Police to try to walk out. The Police advised they would assemble a team and come to assist us but would take a long time to reach us.

We were very slow descending the mountain due to sinking deep into the soft snow as we walked. A police team and an SES team walked in and met up with us at about 6:30pm just as it got fully dark. It took another two hours to reach the visitor

car park at Guthega at about 8:30pm. The 000 operators kept asking for my street address and did not seem able to deal with us being in a remote area.

Lessons learned:

- Download the “Emergency + App” for your smart phone. If you do not have an EPIRB or accurate GPS it will provide sufficiently accurate grid reference for a rescue team to find you.
- Using an EPIRB radically increases the feasibility and probability of a helicopter rescue.
- On calling 000 ask to talk to the local town police, in this case Jindabyne. They understood the situation and along with the SES provided expert advice and support.
- The people who answer 000 calls are not connected to the SES and can only read out a phone number – unfortunately the number they gave us was in the wrong state!
- The ambulance service is not in communication to the police and vice versa.
- There is no central repository of 000 call data that the different emergency services can see, so each person you speak to has the same set of questions starting with what is your street address, name and date of birth?
- Talking to 000 can consume critically large amounts of time in a remote area incident that may be better used on other activity.

*Paul Room*



**Paul Room and John Carr climbing up Guthega trig. In the background is the Perisher Range and Tate East Ridge. On a ski from Guthega towards Mt Tate and back. Friday, 29 September 2017.**

**Photo: Ken Moylan**

## Tour Report—Mount Tate—29 Sept 2017 (cont'd)

*Paul Room and John Carr climbing up Guthega Trig. On a ski tour from Guthega towards Mt Tate and back. Friday, 29 September 2017*

*Photo: Ken Moylan.*



*Paul Room and John Carr climbing up Guthega Trig. On a ski tour from Guthega towards Mt Tate and back. Friday, 29 September 2017.*

*Photo: Ken Moylan.*



*John Carr and Paul Room near the high point of the day, near where we were going to drop down from Guthega Trig and into Consett Stephen Pass. On a ski tour from Guthega towards Mt Tate and back. Friday, 29 September 2017.*

*Photo: Ken Moylan.*



## Tour Report—Mount Tate—29 Sept 2017 (cont'd)

*Ken Moylan  
and Jon Carr  
on the way up  
to Mount Tate  
— 29  
September*

*Photo: Paul  
Room*



*Snow Gum  
near Mount  
Tate — 29  
September*

*Photo: Paul  
Room*



*Recent  
Avalanche on  
way up Mount  
Tate — 29  
September*

*Photo: Paul  
Room*



## Kosciuszko Tour 2017

### Chairperson

JO-ANNE CLANCY

### Chief of Race

ROWAN CHRISTIE

### Race Secretary

PAUL ROOM

### Chief of Course

PETER WARD

### Technical Delegate

PETER CUNNINGHAM

The Chief of Course advised that it would be best to delay the starting of the race by 2 hours (hence 12:00 start) due to the weather conditions which had also affected the ability to groom the course.

At 12:00 noon on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017 twenty four skiers started the Kosci Tour race from the Nordic Shelter at Perisher and headed along the Valley Trail to 7.5km loop – then turned onto the Swagman Link to Rock Creek where they turned right and skied down to meet the Kosciusko Road. Here they skied beside the road up to Perisher Gap - then up the Wheatley Link trail to meet the Porcupine Trail and the SES supported drink station. From

here Skiers headed down the Porcupine trail and Rock Creek and turned right up the Swagman Link and left where they met the 7.5km trail again and back to the Finish Line at the Nordic Shelter.

Thank you to all the volunteers: Sonja Weinberg, Jo-Anne Clancy,

Martin Lindsay, Paul Room, Rhonda Cunningham, Gale Funston, Ken Moylan, Marg Mahoney, SES- Bill & Robert, and Peter Watchel - Perisher Ski Patrol.

Thankyou also to Cliff from the Sundek for providing a great venue for presentations at a very reasonable price.

Thankyou to our Sponsors: Paddy Palin, Mont Adventures and Wilderness Sports for providing great prizes.

We had 24 starters and 23 finishers. All the participants I spoke to after the event enjoyed the event and the course.

*Regards*

*Rowan Christie*

### Kosciuszko Tour start – 19 Aug 17

*Photo: Maggie Salmon-Room*



### Members of the Pirate Team – 19 Aug 17

*Photo: Maggie Salmon-Room*

## Kosciuszko Tour 2017 (cont'd)

**Kosciuszko  
Tour winner –  
19 Aug**

*Photo: Maggie  
Salmon-Room*



**Kosciuszko  
Tour second  
place – 19 Aug**

*Photo: Maggie  
Salmon-Room*



**Kosciuszko  
Tour third –  
19 Aug**

*Photo: Maggie  
Salmon-Room*





## Kosciuszko Tour 2017 (cont'd)



Photos from  
Kosciuszko  
Tour 19 Aug

Photos: Maggie  
Salmon-Room



## Kosciuszko Tour 2017 (cont'd)



**Photos from  
Kosciuszko  
Tour 19 Aug**

**Photos:  
Maggie  
Salmon-Room**



## Kosciuszko Tour 2017 (cont'd)

6/9/17, 14:26

## Kosciuszko Tour 2017

## CrossCountry

## COMPETITION JURY

TECHNICAL DELEGATE Ward Peter  
T.D. ASSISTANT  
CHIEF OF RACE Chritie Rowan  
TIMING Blake Adrian

## TECHNICAL DATA

COURSE Perisher Trails  
LENGTH OF LAP 8500 m  
NUMBER OF LAPS 2  
RACE DISTANCE 17.000 km

LOCATION : Perisher Valley

CATEGORY : Tour

STYLE : Classical

WEATHER : sunny, strong winds

SNOW : excellent

TEMPERATURE: SNOW : -5.0°C AIR : -4.0°C

Records : 29

At Start : 27

Did Not Finish : 1

Disqualified : 0

At Finish : 26

Rank	Bib.	Name	Category	Team	Time	Gap
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## Gender: Men / Style: Classic / Distance: &lt;&gt; Short

1	26	Brennan Michael	U40	Cooma hard heads	1h05:59.0	
2	24	Hinckfuss Hugo	U18		1h07:34.3	1:35.3
3	11	Howorth Sven	U40	Navy	1h07:46.6	1:47.6
4	15	Norris David	U60	Navy	1h24:12.7	18:13.7
5	21	Wall Chris	U70	Cooma hard heads	1h24:40.5	18:41.5
6	22	Ward Peter	U70		1h27:09.6	21:10.6
7	1	Carkeet Matt	U60		1h27:41.4	21:42.4
8	2	Edmondson Pat	O70	Pirates	1h32:03.9	26:04.9
9	3	Finnie James	U70	Pirates	1h33:30.3	27:31.3
10	20	Van Den Bos Luke	U30	RAAF	1h35:07.9	29:08.9
11	8	Hopkins Chris	U60		1h37:07.7	31:08.7
12	6	Guinness Nathan	U50		1h43:11.7	37:12.7
13	16	Poole Stephen	U70		1h49:16.1	43:17.1
14	25	d'Bras Arnold	U70	Pirates	1h54:26.5	48:27.5
15	17	Porter Bruce	U70		1h54:56.8	48:57.8
16	18	Room Paul	U70		1h56:02.7	50:03.7
17	14	Musgrove David	U60	Navy	2h01:42.5	55:43.5
18	23	Wharrie Bruce	U60	Perisher Pirates	2h10:36.1	1h04:37.1

## Gender: Women / Style: Classic / Distance: &lt;&gt; Short

1	10	Howorth Jasmine	U40	Howorth Skil	1h23:39.4	
2	9	Hopkins Wendy	U50	Navy	1h25:18.7	1:39.3
3	7	Hayes Marg	U60	Perisher Pirates	1h30:12.0	6:32.6

Style: FREESTYLE

Garr Tony Cooma Hard Heads 1:38:21.8

\* Ichikawa Takashi Takashikao 1:49:45.7



## Ski and Snow Photos



**Lunchstop above  
Little Austria - Sat  
21 Oct**

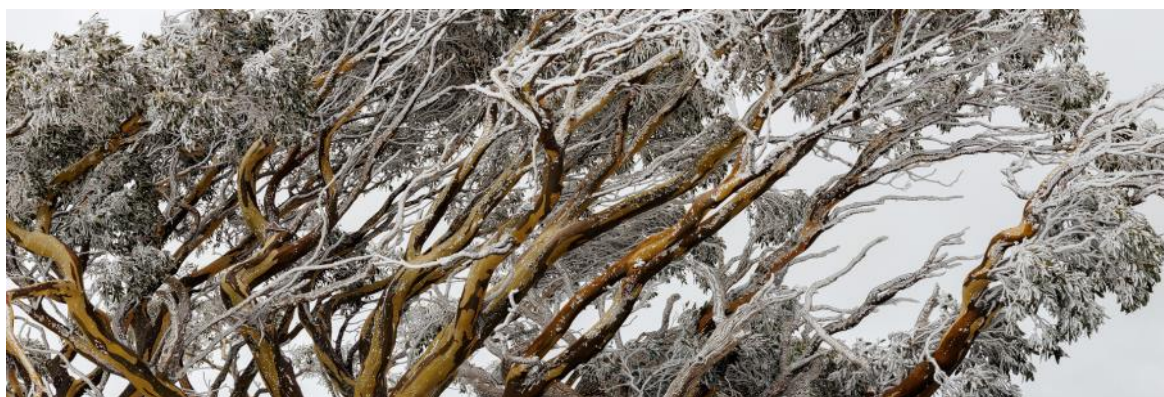
*Photo: Alan Levy*

**Bruce Porter &  
Andrew Porter  
skiing above  
Little Austria -  
Sat 21 Oct**

*Photo: Alan Levy*



## Ski and Snow Photos (cont'd)



## Tour Report—Snowy/Kangaroo Ridge - Sunday 22 October

The plan for the second day of the Lodge Weekend was to ski up along the Snowy River across to Kangaroo Ridge and back down to the Charlotte's carpark via Mount Stillwell.

Eight of us (Alan Levy, David Drohan, Sonja Weinberg, Mike Hinchey, Ralph Gailis, Alex Gailis, Sue Attreed and myself) headed down to the Snowy River to cross at Foreman's Crossing. We stopped before getting to the Club Lake Creek junction. From Foreman's Crossing we skied up along the Snowy River. The day was nice and clear to start off but there were ominous

dark clouds to the north. The ski up along the Snowy was spectacular with lots of waterfalls created by the fast flowing water. The snow was still very thick as could be seen along the river where the water had cut into it.

From the Snowy we detoured up Rawson's Creek to just below Seaman's Hut where we had to remove the skis and walk a couple of hundred metres before meeting the snow to ski to Snowy Bridge. From Snowy Bridge we skied up along Merritt's Creek before heading up Kangaroo Ridge.

We stopped for lunch up along Kangaroo Ridge. The day had become overcast and quiet cool. There was mist closing in along North Ramshead and Etheridge Ridge. After lunch we skied up to Mount Stillwell and back to the carpark. Overall a good day skiing with very little walking. The snow cover had deteriorated a little from the previous week from rain.

*Tony Brown*

***Sonja Weinberg &  
Tony Brown  
skiing along the  
Snowy River - Sun  
22 Oct***

***Photo: Alan Levy***



***Mike Hinchey &  
Ralph Gailis  
skiing along the  
Snowy River - Sun  
22 Oct***

***Photo: Alan Levy***





## Ski Tour Program (2017)

Date	Tour Description	Leader
	Additional tours will be programmed and advertised in future editions of <i>Off-Piste</i> and in the members section of the web site.	
Random Days in November	<b>Main Range in Spring</b> <b>Intermediate Skills   Gentle-Rolling-Steep Terrain   Medium-Long Distance</b> May do some day trips on the Main Range in November depending on interest. Can go on week days or weekends, but this will depend on the weather and when people can make it. Please contact me if you are interested at all and we can try to work something out for trips.	<b>Alan Levy</b>
March 2018	<b>Norway (Expression of Interest)</b> <b>Intermediate-Advanced Skills   Rolling Terrain   Long Distance</b> One week skiing the tracks around Sjunjoen – Lillehammer (no limit in numbers). Then head off for the Rondane Traverse for a week (limit of 4). If more are interested another leader will be required.	<b>Dave Drohan</b>

## Ski Tour Gradings

It is important that tour participants ensure that their abilities match the skill levels required by the tour – a description of the Terrain, Distance and Skill Level descriptors is provided below and under Ski Tour Grading on the club's web-site.

### TERRAIN

**Rolling** — Flat to gently rolling hills, no big hills to climb or descend. There may be some steep sections but these will be short and easy to negotiate.

**Hilly** — Large rounded hills requiring several turns to descend but not technically difficult. There may be some steep sections but these will be short and easy to negotiate.

**Steep** — Steep skiable hills including black runs at resorts, cornices and chutes. Technically difficult slopes to descend.

### DISTANCE

**Short** — Under 8km/day and < 200m vertical climb. A moderate level of fitness is required.

**Medium** — 8km to 15km/day OR 200m to 600m vertical climb. A moderate level of fitness is required.

**Long** — Over 15km/day OR > 600m vertical climb. A high level of fitness is required.

### SKILL LEVELS

**Basic** — Can maintain control and perform the following skills on gentle terrain: kick turns, snow plough, side step, herringbone, traverse and diagonal stride.

**Intermediate** — Can maintain control and perform the following skills on hilly terrain: kick turns, snow plough turns, step turns, side slip, side step, herringbone, traverse, diagonal stride and self arrest.

**Advanced** — Can maintain pace over long distances. Has intermediate skills plus able to link stem, parallel or telemark turns.



## Canberra Cross Country Ski Club

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Email: [cccscinfo@gmail.com](mailto:cccscinfo@gmail.com)

**Fun and fitness  
in the snow**

# Club Committee Contacts

Position	Name	Email	Phone
President	Jo-Anne Clancy	<a href="mailto:cccscpresident@gmail.com">cccscpresident@gmail.com</a>	
Vice President	Ian Turland	<a href="mailto:cccscvicepresident@gmail.com">cccscvicepresident@gmail.com</a>	
Secretary	Greg Lawrence	<a href="mailto:cccscsecretary@gmail.com">cccscsecretary@gmail.com</a>	
Treasurer	Paul Room	<a href="mailto:cccsc treasurer@gmail.com">cccsc treasurer@gmail.com</a>	
Membership Secretary	Gale Funston / Niboddhri Ward	<a href="mailto:cccscinfo@gmail.com">cccscinfo@gmail.com</a>	
Tour Coordinator	Alan Levy / Dave Drohan	<a href="mailto:cccsc tours@gmail.com">cccsc tours@gmail.com</a>	
Kosciusko Tour Coordinator	Rowan Christie	<a href="mailto:cccsc racing@gmail.com">cccsc racing@gmail.com</a>	
Meeting Coordinator	Vacant	<a href="mailto:cccsc meetings@gmail.com">cccsc meetings@gmail.com</a>	
Newsletter Editor	Tony Brown	<a href="mailto:cccsc editor@gmail.com">cccsc editor@gmail.com</a>	
Webmaster	Nick Reese	<a href="mailto:cccsc webmaster@gmail.com">cccsc webmaster@gmail.com</a>	



## Club Snow Camping Gear for hire

The following gear which is owned by the Club is available for hire to Club members. These prices are cheap. The commercial hire charge for a 2-person tent is \$45 per weekend.

**Tent** (Macpac 3-4 person) -\$20/weekend ; - \$30/week



## Club Safety Gear for use by Tour Leaders

The Club has four Personal Locator Beacons (PLB), two GPS units and some first aid kits which are available free of charge to members leading Club ski tours.

**PLB** (GME MT410G)

**Contact** Alan Levy, Jo-Anne Clancy, Bruce Porter or Lachlan Kennedy.

