

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- August Lodge Accommodation
- Bogong Lodge

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

President's Piece, Membership for 2020	2
August Skiing, Accommodation	3
Bogong Lodge History	4
Ski Tour Photos	7
Ski Tour Gradings	8
Ski Tour Program	9
Mountain Sports Collective, Recycled Recreation Canberra	11
Trip Intention Form	12
Campground Bookings, Snow Depth Chart	13
Nordic Shelter COVID-19 Rules	14
Club Committee Contacts	16
COVID-19 Safety Plan for Social Meetings	18
Social Meeting Program	19

2020, ISSUE 2

24 JULY 2020



*Mike, G and Rebecca making their way up Rock Creek. They are on the flat below the saddle at the top of the valley. On a CCCSC ski tour up Rock Creek. Saturday, 18 July 2020.*

*Photo: © K. Moylan*

## Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be produced in late August. Deadline for contributions is 28 August.

Please send any articles or photos to [cccsceditor@gmail.com](mailto:cccsceditor@gmail.com)

# President's Piece

At the time of writing this, there had been a dump of snow the previous week that provided a sound base. Hopefully, we will have some good follow-up snow to provide for some great skiing in the weeks (and months!!) to come.

We are now looking to ramp up our tour program. This is to include a program of activities in the first half of August, catering to those staying in, or near, the mountains during that time. Details are provided in this newsletter and on the club's website.

The Covid-19 restrictions, while currently eased in a number of ways, will continue to have an impact on the club's activities. It is important that we adhere to Covid-19 requirements and guidelines in our accommodation arrangements and also on our tours. Unfortunately, owing to the currently constrained environment, we have had to cancel the Kosciuszko Tour ski race. For those wanting to test their racing abilities, at least against themselves, we are planning a "Hoppet 2020 ... Do It Your Way" event on 22 August (see details in the tour program).

We have re-commenced the club's social meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Under the requirements of our venue, we are limited to 20 participants and there is a need to book in advance to attend. But the meetings have been a welcome chance to catch up with ski buddies and a chance to canvass ski intentions for the season.

I have been getting my maps out and planning a few tours. The anticipation of some great days on skis is building. I'm sure that is true for others in the club too.

*Ian Turland,  
President*

## Social Meetings

COVID restrictions mean there is currently a limit of 20 people at the Social Meetings. Rather than just turning up to a social meeting, people now have to book online beforehand so the Club can control the number of people attending the Social Meetings. Before each meeting the Club will set up a booking page on Register Now and make the booking page link available to Club members via a Club news email and on the Club website.

The Club was also required to provide a COVID Safety Plan for the Social Meetings, and this is contained on page 18 in this newsletter for information.

## Accessing the Members Page

When logging in via the 'Member Login' page, you need to use the "Username" and "Password" previously provided to members via the email "CCCSC May 2020 Update and Newsletter" on 25 May 20.

Please do not log in with your email address as this will not work.

## Membership for 2020

2019 financial members have had their membership extended to cover the 2020 season at no cost.

In lieu of membership fees you are invited to donate to help maintain the Club's finances.

Donations may be made:

- On line via the Club website and Register Now at <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=40128>
- In cash which saves processing fees charged by Register Now.
- By direct deposit to the Club's NAB account which also saves on fees:  
Name: Canberra Cross Country Ski Club  
BSB: 082 906  
Account #: 15 538 0191  
Reference: Donation

New members can join the club in 2020 for a reduced rate of \$10 individual or \$20 family via the Register Now link: <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=39730>

# Skiing Events & August Accommodation

## Accommodation

### Kalkite:

The Club will be using accommodation at Kalkite during the month of August for Club members on weekends and mid-week. Because of the COVID restrictions, the number of people who can be accommodated at Kalkite is limited. The cost is \$xx per night. Email [cccscanberra@gmail.com](mailto:cccscanberra@gmail.com) to express interest.

### Camping at Island Bend and Thredbo Diggings:

A number of members are also camping at Island Bend from 5 -11 August. Site bookings are for up to 7 days x 6 people per booking. \$6 booking fee per booking. Campers need to register with NSW National Parks. Please ensure you have adequate gear if you are camping as this is the coldest time of the year.

Please let the club know what dates you have booked, or if you want to camp and could not get a booking.

## Ski Events

### Beginners Weekend 31 July-2 August

Beginners Ski Lesson: 1 August, 2 hours long, start at 9am.

Cost - depends on numbers. A lesson is \$380 for 2-6 people. We are aiming to have a minimum of 4 people at \$95 each, and reduces with more people.

Beginner tours are organised for Saturday afternoon and Sunday.

Please email [cccscanberra@gmail.com](mailto:cccscanberra@gmail.com) if you are interested and would like accommodation.

### Club Ski Week 3-10 August 2020.

The Club will conduct weekend and mid-week ski tours during August, and will be putting on a ski week from 3 – 10 August, with Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced tours as required.

Some tours will be included in the Tour Program and other informal tours will be arranged at the time by those staying in the accommodation. Tours will be posted on the website or emailed the night before. Club members not staying at Kalkite or camping at Island Bend are welcome to come down on the day to join any of the tours that go ahead.

### Tours 14-16, 21-23 and 28-30 August:

Tours for these weekends will be posted on the tour program. Last minute tours may be emailed.

### Virtual Kangaroo Hoppet - 22 August

On the Perisher Trail system. More information will be posted closer to the event. Details also on page 10.

### Virtual Merino Muster - 29 August

Route and details to be confirmed.

## Membership

People need to be members of CCCSC to join activities.

Members from 2019 have had their membership extended through 2020.

New and returning members can register on the club's website: <http://cccsc.asn.au>

*Thanks, Gale*

# Whatever happened to Bogong Lodge?

by Lachlan Kennedy

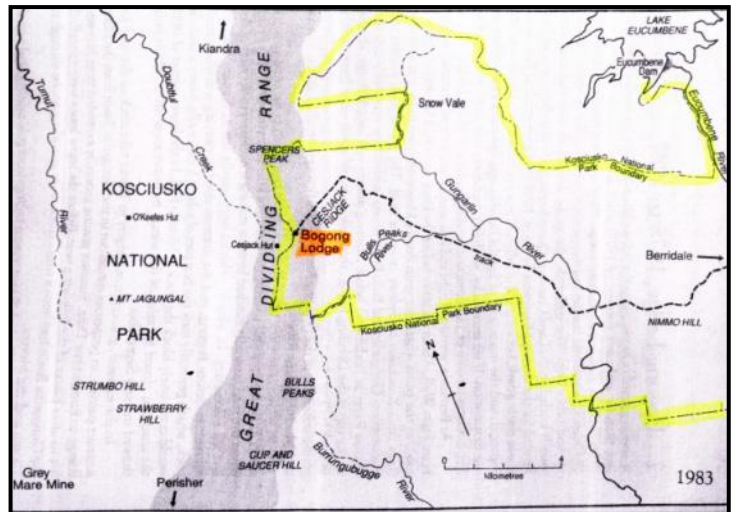
*Note - Much of the material about Bogong Lodge in the following article was adapted from Bryan Haig's book 'On the Edge of the Wilderness - Bogong Ski Lodge and Land Resumptions in NSW' (1990). A copy is held by the National Library, Canberra.*

Some, now very mature, club members will remember Bryan Haig's Bogong Lodge. In its brief life (from 1978 to 1987), it stood immediately outside the Kosciuszko National Park, within the winter snow line, and only about 7 kilometres as the crow flies from the summit of Mt Jagungal. Bryan's was one of several rural blocks that together were surrounded on 3 sides by the national park. The area was known as the Gungahlin Corridor. Bryan's land shared a boundary with a part of the park that was a declared wilderness area.

## Getting to the Lodge

Getting to the lodge was an expedition. The walk/ski in started at Nimmo Hill which was over 14 kilometres from the hut. The trip finished with a steep climb, and there was no shelter from westerly gales for the last mile to the lodge along Cesjack ridge.

Bryan could sometimes drive his land cruiser at least part of the way in if the snow was light, and he also had a ex-bren gun carrier help get people in, although this was not always working. When people were skiing in they had to get to Cesjacks Ridge by 4 pm since strong winds and poor visibility could make the last mile to the lodge hazardous in the dark.



*This was its great virtue and its undoing.*

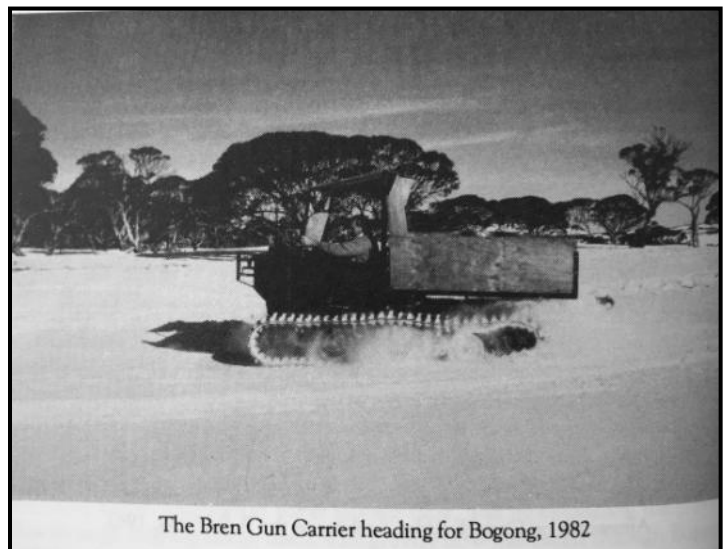
## Staying at the Lodge

I was lucky enough to stay, with a group of friends, in the lodge in each of the winters of 1983 and 1984. At that time the lodge was not on the survey map habitually used by skiers for navigating in the park. We discovered it quite by accident, and happily received some very welcome hospitality there, after a day and night drying our gear in Cesjacks Hut after being mauled by a blizzard while trying to ski from Kiandra to Thredbo.

Visitors stayed at the lodge for a

week and had to carry in their food and gear. The only food-stuffs available at the lodge were essential basic and non-perishable food, such as salt, pepper, sugar, and sometimes, red wine for gluhwein. Food drops were sometimes made by Cessna, which led to treasure hunts in the snow, but care had to be taken to make sure the plane did not violate the no fly rule over the park. Sometimes the Park used a helicopter to watch these airdrops, a costly operation

*(Continued on page 5)*



The Bren Gun Carrier heading for Bogong, 1982

*"Getting to the lodge was an expedition"*



*"The back of the fridge was chilled by the snow drifts outside"*



**Bogong lodge on a sunny winter's day.**

*(Continued from page 4)*

that portended things to come.

Visitors stepped off the snow onto a sheltered verandah, and after storing their skis, and taking off wet clothing, they entered the lodge and found themselves in a large L shaped kitchen dining and lounge room, and if the lodge was occupied, the open fire would throw a flickering light across the room. Through the large northern windows the snow gum forest was visible, and from time to time a snowman would appear. The lodge had a wood fired sauna, although the water from it pooled

disconcertingly under the floor of the corridor leading bunk rooms. The large kitchen featured a fridge, the curiosity of which was, it only worked in winter. The lodge had no power, so the fridge needed no working parts. Rather it had been shoved into a matching hole in the wall of the lodge, so that the back of the fridge was chilled by the snow drifts outside.

### **Skiing from the Lodge**

There were 4 main areas for ski tours from Bogong Lodge. The two most rewarding were across the Main Range in the direction of Grey Mare Range, and along the

Main Range in the direction of Smith's Perisher in the vicinity of Gungahlin and the Brassies. Other popular tours were to Jagungal and O'Keefe's hut, and to and beyond Spencers Peak.

The walk in and out was epic, but the experience of staying at a comfortable winter lodge so close to Jagungal is so vivid now that I can barely remember the strain of carrying food for a week over 14 kilometres.

### **So what went wrong for Bogong Lodge?**

Bryan unwittingly set the wrecking ball in motion when he lodged a development application with the local council for about 6 ski cabins on his land. The park policy was to concentrate development, and associated heavy winter recreational use, in Charlotte Pass, Perisher, Guthega and Thredbo. Bryan proposed to build his 6 cabins right next to boundary of the declared Jagungal wilderness area.

Under the NSW Wilderness



**The dining room with the curious fridge on the left.**

*(Continued on page 6)*

*“Once the Park had acquired the land it proceeded to demolish Bogong Lodge”*

(Continued from page 5)

Act, wilderness areas are reserved for recreational travellers who are completely self-reliant. Bryan’s proposal would have increased the number of non-self-reliant skiers in the wilderness area by up to 30 persons a week. In addition to the presence of all these skiers possibly spoiling the wilderness experience for the hardy independent skiers, the Park also feared the cabins would cause environmental damage. (It would have also probably put a lot of pressure on the track in through the Gungarlin Corridor.)

The park was unwilling to take the risk that the council might approve the development, and with what may have been a sense of desperation, decided to resume Bryan’s land. Evidence of desperation lies in the fact that, according to Bryan, the Park had no budget for the resumption. Bogong Lodge was an expensive proposition as the land, zoned rural, had a commercial value, enhanced by Bogong Lodge. More over, Bryan had generously permitted Sydney Bushwalkers to build another hut, Jaanga Hut, on his land.

The cost of the land resumption would mean that money for compensation had to be transferred from other important park management projects. The Park therefore arranged to resume Bryan’s land under legislation which enabled them to compensate him at 1914 values, on the basis of which they offered him \$140,000.

Once the Park had acquired the land it proceeded to demolish Bogong Lodge, and 2 years later rendered Jaanga Hut uninhabitable with, according to Bryan Haig, sledge hammers. This was a quick method of denying the hut to hikers and skiers. And remember, all travellers in the area, in accordance with the



**A skiers’ fashion parade outside Bogong Lodge, 1984. Note the popularity of army and navy surplus woollen clothing, and hand knitted jumpers.**

wilderness declaration, are required to be self-reliant.

No doubt the Sydney Bushwalkers were seriously disappointed that Jaanga Hut was demolished. Building it cannot have been easy. The Sydney Bushwalkers had some years earlier had another disappointment. They had restored an old cattlemen’s hut, Mould’s Hut, which was within the wilderness area nearby. All park users were appalled when a ranger (without authority) burnt it down.

Bryan litigated the compensation issue, and was awarded \$359,500 at first instance. The KNP appealed that decision, and it seems the matter was finally settled out of court, so the final compensation payment is not public.

I miss the Bogong Lodge. After all these years I am grateful to Bryan Haig for his vision for this kind of skiing in the Australian Alps. In the years since our visits to Bogong Lodge we have stayed in many backcountry hotels and mountain huts in New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Canada and the USA. Accessing each required at least a day of cold, and sometimes difficult, backcountry skiing along marked routes. I profoundly regret that Australia does not encourage this kind of park usage, although the hotel and ski lodges at Charlotte Pass come close, in that from

Charlotte Pass day trip ski access to the declared wilderness areas on the western side of the main range is possible.

The pros and cons of any particular wilderness declaration can make for an entertaining and sometimes heated conversation. I understand the park is building a multi day grand traverse from Thredbo, along the Main Range to Guthega. (This is not a wilderness area in case you were wondering.) I suspect a hut will not be included.

Is it time to review the Jagungal wilderness declaration? How about a Great Walk (and ski) from Kiandra, via Jagungal, to Thredbo, or even beyond to the Cascade area, with huts? There are so many precedents, such as, well, almost any mountain walk in New Zealand, and the Overland Track in Tasmania. The Larapinta Track in the Northern Territory does not have huts, although walkers can be taken off the track for overnight accommodation in many places. Many of these tracks go through wilderness areas, and yet do not prevent those who would prefer to be off track from enjoying a wilderness experience.



## Ski Tour Photographs - 2020



*Difficult skiing on mounds of ice and hard packed snow near Rainbow Lake  
— Friday 17 July  
Photo: Alan Levy*

*John Giacon, Bruce Porter, Alan Levy, Greg Lawrence, Mike Hinchey, lunching.  
Near the top of the 7.5km trail. Perisher Trails.  
Friday, 17 July 2020.  
Photo: © K. Moylan.*



*G, Rebecca and Mike making their way up Rock Creek.  
On a CCCSC ski tour up Rock Creek.  
Saturday, 18 July 2020.  
Photo: © K. Moylan*

# Touring News

The Tour Program, containing tour leaders contact details, will be available in the Members Only section of the web site, in the Members version of the Off-Piste newsletter, and also on tour sheets put out at club social meetings where members can put down their names for tours or propose new tours. Between each monthly newsletter, additional tours will be advertised on the web site and/or by separate emails to members. Non-members will also have access to the Tour Program (*without tour leaders details*) in the 'Tours' page on the web site and on the Club Facebook page.

The Club Facebook page has been popular for trip reports and photos and is a good way of seeing what the skiing conditions are like throughout the season. New tours proposed on Facebook will not be designated as formal club trips but people are welcome to propose tours here, and should be aware of the Club guidelines below.

On the Club web site, the 'Info / Club Forms' page contains the following forms and guidance that should assist tour leaders and participants:

- *Advice for Tour Participants*
- *Advice for Tour Leaders*
- *Guide to Transport Costs*
- *Tour Intention Form – Tour Details & Acknowledgement of Risks and Obligations*
- *Emergency Procedures*
- *Incident Report*
- *Medical Information & Emergency Contact*
- *Ski Tour Grading*

If anyone is interested in leading tours feel free to contact myself at [cccstours@gmail.com](mailto:cccstours@gmail.com).

*Ken Moylan, Tour Coordinator*

## 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, herring-bone, 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.



Date	Event Description	Leader
	Ski tours will be advertised in Off-Piste, at the Social Meetings and on the Club web site. The web site will be updated with any new tours as soon as they are advised.	
Saturday 1 August to Sunday 23 August	<b>Kalkite August Accommodation</b> See details on page 3	
	<b>August Ski Tours</b>  In addition to the tours on the program below, club members staying at Kalkite, Jindabyne or Island Bend during this period will likely arrange additional tours at the time, which other members are welcome to join. Contact the Tour Coordinator for details of any additional tours not listed here.	
Saturday, 1 August	<b>Perisher Trails and Area</b> <b>Basic Skills      Rolling Terrain      Short- Medium Distance</b>  An easy trip starting from Perisher. Suitable for beginners. Will explore the Perisher Trails and surrounding area.	
Sunday, 2 August	<b>Perisher Area</b> <b>Basic-Intermediate Skills      Rolling Terrain      Medium Distance</b>  Will start from the Perisher Nordic Shelter and go around the Perisher Trails and explore the edge of the plateau overlooking the Crackenback Valley.	
Wednesday, 5 August	<b>Spencers Creek / Johnnies Plain Area</b> <b>Basic-Intermediate Skills      Rolling-Hilly Terrain      Medium-Long Distance</b>  Will ski from Perisher to Betts Creek then explore the ridges and lower slopes below The Paralyser, before continuing on to Spencers Creek and Johnnies Plain.	
Thursday, 6 August	<b>7.5km Perisher Trail</b> <b>Basic-Intermediate Skills      Rolling Terrain      Medium Distance</b>  This will be a virtual Sundeck Race, skiing around the 7.5km trail in reverse.	
Friday, 7 August	<b>The Paralyser &amp; Spencers Creek</b> <b>Intermediate-Advanced Skills      Rolling-Hilly Terrain      Long Distance</b>  From Guthega, we'll make our way up Old Farm Creek to the open areas on the Perisher Range. >From there, we can make our way to The Paralyser and on to the end of the ridge – or another (easier) option would be to descend directly from the saddle towards Betts Camp – and then to Spencers Creek. We'll ski along the eastern side of Spencers Creek to the Snowy River and then follow the southern side of the Snowy back to Guthega. THIS TOUR WILL ONLY PROCEED IF THERE IS GOOD SNOW COVER AROUND SPENCERS CREEK.	
Saturday, 8 August	<b>Munyang Valley</b> <b>Basic-Intermediate Skills      Rolling-Hilly Terrain      Medium Distance</b>  Start at Guthega Power Station and ski along the road up the valley to Horse Camp Hut and beyond.	
Saturday, 15 August	<b>Mt Tate &amp; Mt Anderson</b> <b>Intermediate-Advanced Skills      Hilly Terrain      Long Distance</b>  After crossing Guthega River near the northern end of the Pondage, we'll make our way up to Tate East Ridge and then to Mt Tate. From there, we will ski to Mt Anderson via Mann Bluff (and possibly Mt Anderson West) and then down to the bridge at Illawong Lodge via Pounds Creek, and then back to Guthega.	

Date	Event Description	Leader
Wednesday, 19 August	<b>Dead Horse Gap Area</b> <b>Intermediate Skills   Rolling-Hilly Terrain   Medium-Long Distance</b> Will ski from Dead Horse Gap along the Thredbo River valley. Possible destinations could be Teddys Hut, the Chimneys area or the Brindle Bull.	
Saturday, 22 August	<b>Perisher Trails — Hoppet Do It Your Way</b> With the cancellation of this year's Kangaroo Hoppet at Falls Creek, an alternative event is being held where people can still do the same event in their own way, by skiing, bike riding, running, roller skiing or walking for 7km, 21km or 42km, between 10 & 23 August. Further details are on the Hoppet website <a href="#">here</a> .  Club members interested in doing this event on the day of the Hoppet can join others by skiing their preferred distance around the Perisher Trails.	
Sunday, 30 August	<b>Out from Guthega</b> <b>Intermediate   Rolling &amp; Hilly   Medium</b> We will head out from Guthega. Our destination depends on the snow. Pounds Creek is one possible destination.	
No date assigned yet	<b>Mt Anton &amp; Mt Twynam</b> <b>Intermediate-Advanced Skills   Hilly Terrain   Long Distance</b> From Guthega, we cross the bridge at Illawong Lodge and ascend to Mt Anton via Pounds Creek. From there, we ski to Mt Twynam and Little Twynam, and then return to the bridge and back to Guthega.	

## For Sale

I have two pairs of skis to move on.

They are very light with pattern base - the Rossignols are 200s and the others 190. Also have stocks. They are in excellent condition. I'm asking \$30 for each pair of skis with stocks. They are probably for classical skiing on tracks - are very light for touring and no metal edges.

Melinda Brouwer

[melinda.a.brouwer@gmail.com](mailto:melinda.a.brouwer@gmail.com)



## Racing update

There won't be much happening on the XC ski racing front this season. All citizen races planned for August have been cancelled.

The Merino Muster will go ahead in New Zealand but will be strictly for kiwis only. Some good news is that you can participate in a virtual Kangaroo Hoppet and Merino Muster, by signing up on the relevant website and then doing the distance.

As mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter, the club is putting on ski tours so that members can ski the race distances. We will also hold a tour on the day of our own cancelled Kosciuszko Tour.

So prep your lightweight ski gear and join us on the trails.

*Jo-Anne Clancy*

Advice from the Tumut NPWS (and Yarrangobilly NPWS) is that there is no access for cross-country skiing anywhere off the Snowy Mountains Highway due to fire damage.

## Skiing in Early Canberra

During the 1950s there used to be a well known sports shop in Civic owned by a very affable fellow named Ally Nish. There was a rumour around that if you went in and asked for a backpack he would ask you if it was for bushwalking or skiing. For each sport he sold the same back pack, but for skiers it cost more.

## Mountain Sports Collective

Mountain Sports Collective is a small non-profit organisation aiming to improve snow safety in the Australian backcountry. This organisation started in 2017.

Some of the activities of this group include:

- Issuing weekly backcountry advisories and bulletins outlining the conditions and hazards for backcountry skiers (avalanche danger, ice warnings, weather warnings, detailed analysis of snowpacks etc)
- Providing education tools for backcountry skiers.
- Producing brochures with backcountry safety recommendations, winter specific topographic maps and guides for popular touring areas.
- Running Backcountry Academies, which are two day events aimed at an introduction to safe alpine travel. Participants learn about everything from backcountry nutrition to good safety practices to slightly more advanced fields like rescue scenarios.

The MSC website is at: [www.mountainsportscollective.org](http://www.mountainsportscollective.org)



## Recycled Recreation Canberra

Members might be interested in the new Recycled Recreation store in Fyshwick. A similar store has existed in Hobart for years. The new store in Fyshwick is at 3/151 Newcastle St. and their website is a Facebook Page 'RecycledRecCanberra'.

The store sells good quality 2nd hand bushwalking/skiing/camping/climbing/cycling gear. People who no longer require their gear can bring it to the shop where the store do an assessment and make an offer for it.

One of our members who visited the store recently said the staff are super friendly and the layout of the shop is great, and there was even a pair of xc classic boots! So this might be another option for purchasing or disposing of outdoor gear.



## Trip Intention Form

Anyone doing on-snow sporting activities that occur outside of the resort slopes, such as cross country skiing, snow shoeing and snowboarding in the backcountry, will be required to complete a Trip Intention Form, available on the NPWS website at the following link: <https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/trip-intention-form>. This form is also required for skiing on the cross country ski trails at Perisher.

The central purpose of asking for trip intention forms is to monitor the number of visitors in a given location and track who was with whom in the case of a Covid-19 occurrence. The Trip Intention Form requires the following information:

- Name, email address and phone number of your emergency contact.
- Details of all members in your group, including any known medical conditions.
- Start and finish times, dates and locations.
- Details of vehicles at your start and finish points, including registration numbers.
- Trip location, intended route/s, camping spots, key features or deviations from standard routes.
- The hex or UIN number of your Personal Locator Beacon (PLB). (if applicable)
- Details of the equipment you'll be carrying.

Trip Intention Forms can be submitted online on the National Parks website and should be lodged prior to the visit or heading off on the trip.

After submitting the form online, you will receive an email with your trip intention form number and a summary of your trip details. The summary of your trip details will be emailed to:

- You or the person in your group who completed the trip intention form.
- Your emergency contact/s.

For Club ski tours, it is expected the Tour Leader will complete a Trip Intention Form for the group and provide the details to any other participants and drivers heading up for the tour.

Completed Trip Intention Forms are not a condition of entry into Kosciuszko National Park and will not be checked at the Park entry stations, however NPWS personnel or the police may ask visitors in backcountry areas or track-head locations to show evidence that they have completed a Trip Intention Form.

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Home Safety Access friendly Education services Mountaineering Presses and fees Venues Blog

Visit a park Things to do Camping and accommodation Conservation and heritage About NPWS Alerts 231 Search

Home > Trip Intention Form

< Back to previous page Travel Print Email

1 Your Trip 2 Your Group and Equipment 3 Your Contacts

### Trip intention form

Are you planning a bushwalk, going somewhere remote or where the weather can be extreme? It's important to tell other people about your trip, so they can contact NSW Police in case something goes wrong.

Use this form if you're a walker planning a trip, or the leader of a group organising a trip. The form captures information that might help NSW Police find you in the event of an emergency.

Your trip details will be sent to the relatives, friends, or trusted person that you nominate, with instructions on how to contact NSW Police if you don't return on time.

**Going to Blue Mountains or Kosciuszko national parks?** If you want to loan a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) for free from Blue Mountains Heritage Centre, Snowy Region Visitor Centre, Tumut Visitor Centre, Perisher Visitor Office, Rattoumba Police Station or Springwood Police Station, **wait to fill in your form in person at that location.**

#### To complete this form you need

- Name, email address and phone number of your emergency contact.
- Details of all members of your group.
- Trip details, start and finish locations, departure and return date and time.
- Details of your equipment. For example, your satellite phone number and Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) hex number if available.

## Camping

There will be no restrictions in 2020 on backcountry camping, however a Trip Intention Form still needs to be completed.

However, for car camping, such as at Island Bend, Thredbo Diggings or Ngarigo, the number of sites available has been reduced for this season. To camp at these campgrounds now requires completing an online booking form on the NPWS website at:

Island Bend Campground: [https://nsw.rezexpert.com/book?business\\_code=500649&type\\_id=3805](https://nsw.rezexpert.com/book?business_code=500649&type_id=3805)

Ngarigo Campground: [https://nsw.rezexpert.com/book?business\\_code=500649&type\\_id=3814](https://nsw.rezexpert.com/book?business_code=500649&type_id=3814)

Thredbo Diggings Campground: [https://nsw.rezexpert.com/book?business\\_code=500649&type\\_id=3826](https://nsw.rezexpert.com/book?business_code=500649&type_id=3826)

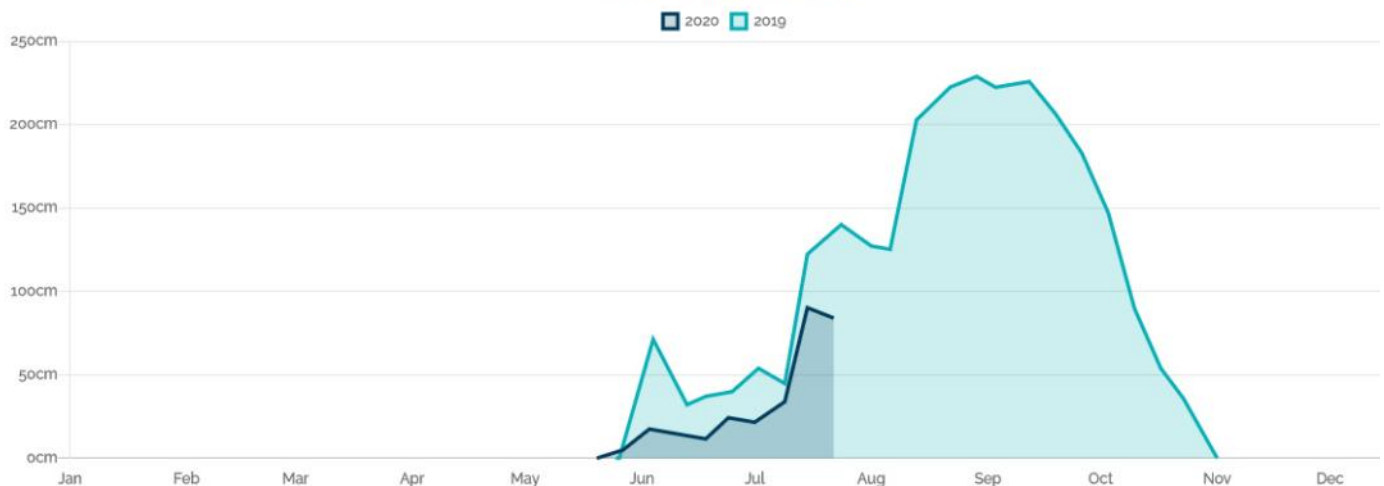
You are allowed to book up to 2 campsites, for up to 7 days, and up to 90 days in advance. A maximum of 6 guests per booking. The sites are not allocated. The campsites are still free but there is a \$6 booking fee per site.

- Only the people booked can stay. Additional people will not be allowed on arrival.
- You are responsible for maintaining the contact details of your guests.

*The links to the Trip Intention Form page and Campground booking pages are also contained on the Club website, under the Tours menu.*

## Spencers Creek

CURRENT LEVEL **84cm** AS OF 22 JUL 2020



***A comparison of the current Spencer's Creek snow depth with 2019, as at 22 July. After a very slow start, the big snowfall in mid July has got the season going, but more snow is needed, especially more soft snow to cover the ice!***

## Nordic Shelter COVID-19 Rules

From the PXC website: <http://www.perisherxcountry.org/>

When you come to the Perisher XC Centre this winter, be prepared to be completely self-sufficient – bring prepared picnics, water, waterproof mats for setting your things and yourself on, everything you need for a ski day without the use of the Nordic Shelter. However, there will be that most essential of services available - toilets!!!

Working through the COVID restrictions, it became clear that it would be impossible to open the Shelter under the current distancing requirements, amongst other issues, so we concentrated on what was possible. Snow Australia and the Nordic Shelter Management Committee developed a workable COVID Safety Plan that would allow XC skiers safe access to the toilets and even limited access to the wax room.

There are lots of rules around access and users are asked to follow them to the letter in order to retain the limited access to the Shelter that we have. There will be plenty of signage but basically you will follow the Blue Corridor clockwise through the South Room, past the re-configured toilets and out through the North Room. The Wax Room can be used by only one person at a time, with conditions. The full Conditions of Entry are copied below.

Please support Geraldine and Arnold by following the rules and sanitising and cleaning every time you get the chance. They will be working in the background to keep the Shelter in good order for those who use it.

There will be very few of the usual fundraising activities this winter, and all of the usual expenses. Consider a tax-deductible donation - <https://asf.org.au/projects/snow-australia---northern/nordic-shelter-development/>. Or if you feel like making an impulse donation, you will find the Flying Pig on the Foyer hand sanitisation station ready to take your cash.

Be sure to sign up for daily XC Trail and Conditions Reports (on the Contact Us page of the PXC website) to get first-hand news from the Nordic Shelter.

So, we have toilets, we have trails that were prepared during summer and we have grooming just waiting to happen. Fingers now crossed for snow!

### NORDIC SHELTER TOILETS - THE RULES

- Leave all bags and belongings outside.
- One person at a time in the entry foyer.
- Sanitise your hands
- Enter the Blue Corridor to the left - keep social distances.
- Move along the Blue Corridor in turn, keeping socially distant.
- Pause at the marked Waiting Place until a toilet is free.
- 1 Person or Parent/Child per toilet.
- Wash your hands and wipe down sink, etc. after yourself
- Exit through the North Room.
- Sanitise your hands as you leave
- Move away from the Nordic Shelter entrance.
- Follow directions of Managers and Nordic Shelter Volunteers.



## Nordic Shelter COVID-19 Rules (cont.)

### NORDIC SHELTER WAX ROOM - THE RULES

If Possible, Wax at Home.

- One person in the Wax Room at a time.
- Complete and sign the Register
- Time limit – 10 minutes
- Ski Limit – 1 pair of skis
- Leave other skis, poles, bags and personal belongings outside.
- Sanitise your hands when you enter.
- Only bring in skis to be waxed, wax, scraper and iron.
- Clean the wax bench.
- Wipe down touched areas with disinfectant.
- Sanitise your hands as you leave.



### NORDIC SHELTER - Conditions of Entry

- Enter at own risk. People using the Perisher Nordic Shelter are expected to take responsibility for assessing their own risk of acquiring COVID-19.
- The Perisher Nordic Shelter will not be liable for any health costs that a user may incur as a result of visiting the Perisher Nordic Shelter.
- All users are required to obey any lawful direction from the Shelter Managers or authorised delegate. Serious breaches of protocol may result in expulsion from the Perisher Nordic Shelter.
- You may not enter if you are unwell or exhibiting COVID like symptoms.
- You may not enter if you have had a COVID-19 contact or impact during the previous 14 days.
- All users must comply with all applicable physical distance requirements (presently 1.5m), number restrictions, hand and sneeze/cough hygiene requirements and cleaning and disinfecting requirements.
- All users of the wax room facility must sign and provide contact details in the sign in register located in the wax room. Details will be kept to assist in the event contact tracing is required. Failure to comply with provision of contact details will result in the user being banned from further use of the wax room during the 2020 season, and may result in the wax room being closed for all users.



## Canberra Cross Country Ski Club

Postal Address:

33 Brunswick Circuit, Kaleen, ACT 2617

Web: [www.cccsc.asn.au](http://www.cccsc.asn.au)

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

**Fun and fitness  
in the snow**

# Club Committee Contacts

Position	Name	Email	Phone
President			
Vice President			
Secretary			
Treasurer			
Membership Secretary			
Tour Coordinator			
Kosciusko Tour Coordinator			
Meeting Coordinator			
Newsletter Editor			
Webmaster			

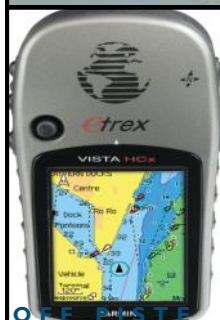


## Club Snow Camping Gear for hire

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

**Trangia stove** - \$3/weekend; - \$5/week



## Club Safety Gear for use by Tour Leaders

The Club has two 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**



### By Lachlan Kennedy

This is an extract from Bryan Haig's book 'On the Edge of the Wilderness'. He describes a ski tour in the Kosciuszko National Park in 1953, at a time before Snowy Hydro had built the road network that has made access to the mountains so much easier for us.

Bryan Haig was an academic at ANU, and also the President of the ACT Ski Council, member of the Australian National Ski Federation, manager of the ACT Interstate Ski Team, and was an 'A' seeded competitor in alpine and cross country skiing. He was also the owner of Bogong Lodge near Cesjacks Hut.

---

'During the trip to Bogong in the winter of 1979 I was reminded of an early excursion nearly 30 years before in July 1953..... At that time I was a member of a small party of bushwalkers and skiers who set out with the intention of touring for a week over the High Country with a hoped for climb of Jagungal. The party comprised mainly members of the Melbourne Walking Club and I was invited to join it by Burt Bennett, also from Canberra, and there were one or two others from Sydney. We rendezvoused for the trip at Berridale, meeting in front of the Berridale pub, as 11 o'clock on Sunday morning.

On that occasion, instead of driving up in a land cruiser, we clambered into a truck at Berridale driven by Mr Mick Nomchong and headed with some comfort into the snowy mountains. We followed the track into Alpine Hut which had been built in 1939 for ski touring, and which had been used, until it was accidentally burnt down in 1979, by clubs and groups including the Kosciuszko Alpine Club and the Outward Bound movement. We put on our skis shortly after crossing the Gungahlin River, crossed the Burrungubugge on stones and reached the Alpine

Hut by 6 o'clock.

As we climbed into the High country early the next morning we encountered the start of the bad weather which stayed with us for the rest of the tour. It wasn't actually heavy snow, but light snow falls, low clouds in a continual gale. When we reached the snow we attached the spare ski to a cord and it rattled on the icy surface where the gales have blown the snowy way. We were the only occupants of Mawsons Hut. Despite the extensive expertise of the leaders of the party, however, we could not safely leave the hut for any distance as the visibility prevented any hope of reaching Jagungal.

After three days at Mawsons, which we only left for short ski tours and some downhill running on the nearby slopes, we decided to make for the next hut, Tin Hut. Visibility was still less than 15 yards and the party collected twigs from the snow gums which we planted at about 10 yard intervals along the route in case we missed the hut. Fortunately, our compass bearings were accurate, and at about 2 pm we glimpsed the ridge line of Tin Hut. There was about 6 feet of snow around the hut and through the window we could see that the hut was at least half full of snow and ice. There was no chance of clearing it by the night, so we decided to push on further to Whites River Hut, at the end of Munyang River.

We reached the side of Gungartin, which was invisible in the cloud, and followed a compass bearing which took us around the western side and hopefully above the head waters of the Munyang Creek (or Whites River) and took shelter behind a large rock face to determine our bearings. The visibility was now less than 10 yards and the gale had accelerated. The experts consulted the compass for the course to the hut. At that time, the Snowy Mountains Hydro

Electric Authority had not started their work in the mountains and from Gungartin the safest route out of the mountains was via Whites River Hut. A descent from Gungartin too far to the right would have led us to the headwaters of the Geehi River with nowhere to go from there for 100 kilometres, and a deviation to the left would have led to Disappointment Spur and eventually into old stock routes and tracks 30 or 40 km away. After an hour of deliberation the course was chosen, and it was with some pleasure that half an hour later we saw the glimmer of lights from the hut. Canberra skier Harry Black and Kim Ingram were there for a week's skiing, and when he opened the door Harry Black exclaimed "what an earth are you blokes doing out there on a night like this". The rest of the trip lay along well explored country across the Rolling Grounds, down to the Snowy and then following Spencers Creek to the road to the Summit, near where we picked up a vehicle left the previous week.

There was little to see on that trip but those skiers who have been up to the High Country generally return. That trip was the start for me of regular ski tours, both in the Snowy Mountains and in the Victorian High Plains, as well as ski touring in Europe, and over the next 10 years or so I traversed most of the Snowy Mountains and knew most of the huts. At that time, the NPWS had no objection to skiers using the old stockman's huts, dotted around the High Country. We took in food during the summer, and skied in with a light pack, staying usually at Mawsons, Grey Mare, Cesjacks, O'Keefes or Tin Hut, all huts in the High Country and close to Jagungal."



## Canberra Cross Country Ski Club (CCCSC)

### COVID 19 Safety Plan for

### Participants in Social Meetings at the Hughes Community Centre

1. For the safety of all participants in our social meetings we must all agree to observe the following requirements in addition to taking all common sense precautions:
  - a. Take notice of and act in accordance with signage regarding hygiene measures.
  - b. Hard surfaces used will be wiped and disinfected at the start and end of each session (chairs, bench tops, light switches door handles etc) using the disinfectant and cloths provided.
  - c. Physical distancing of at least 1.5m must be maintained between meeting participants at all times.
  - d. A Committee member will be assigned to be the meeting COVID19 safety coordinator during each meeting to be responsible for the following:
    - i. Bringing hand sanitizer, disposable gloves for use in cleaning and catering for tea and coffee.
    - ii. Greeting all incoming participants and recording their names and phone numbers on the register to avoid the need for multiple people touching the pen and paper used to complete the register;
    - iii. Ensuring a strict limit of 20 people in Meeting Room #3;
    - iv. Ensuring the distancing requirements are maintained during meetings.
  - e. All participants must use the hand sanitizer provided upon arrival.
  - f. All social meeting participants must provide their name and phone number for every meeting they attend.
  - g. All meeting participants who develop COVID like symptoms after a meeting – or later discover they had close contact with someone who had the symptoms before a meeting – should self-isolate immediately and inform a Committee member so that appropriate action can be taken.
2. The CCCSC Committee will continue to monitor the effectiveness of each of these safety measures and adjust them as necessary.

# Social Meetings 2020 (All Welcome)

## Wednesday 12 August 2020

### What's involved in climbing a 6000m peak in Ecuador and other adventures, by Dave Drohan

Climbing some of the high peaks in Ecuador are technically easy, yet only about half of those who try, succeed in reaching the summit. Dave did succeed in summiting two of those volcanoes in 2019. His high point was 6278m. Come along to discover the travels of the small team he was involved with, as well as the amazing experience of watching a solar eclipse in Chile, walking an ancient Inca trail and skiing over the equator.

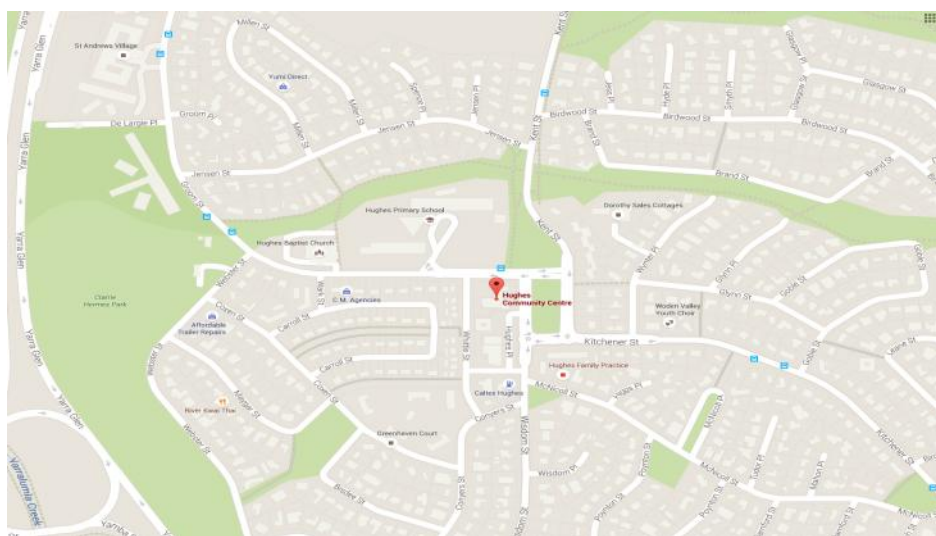
## Wednesday 26 August 2020

### Worldloppet Skiing in Europe

Alan Levy & Dave Drohan will talk about their trip to Europe earlier this year skiing in the Dolomites and participating in Worldloppet ski races. The countries visited included Austria, Italy, Germany, Czech Republic, Estonia and Finland.

## Wednesday 9 September 2020

### To be advised



Meetings are held at the Hughes Community Centre, Hughes Place, Hughes, Canberra, Canberra on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month from mid May to October. Door opens at 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm start. Light refreshments will be provided.



*Mike, G and Rebecca having a break for morning tea. On a CCCSC ski tour up Rock Creek. Saturday, 18 July 2020. Photo: © K. Moylan*



*Stormy rocks on Tate East Ridge. Photo: Lachlan Kennedy*