

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Summer Activities
- Revised Transport Costs

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2021, ISSUE 4

5 OCTOBER 2021



Group photo on the summit of Mt Piper - Sun 8 August 21. Photo: Kathryn Dwan

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be produced in November if there is enough to report on.
Please send any articles or photos to ccsceditor@gmail.com

President's Piece

For most of us, our lives are currently significantly circumscribed by Covid-19 restrictions. And, even with some relaxation of rules, things are looking uncertain for the remainder of the 2021 skiing season. We will continue to monitor the situation, but spring skiing opportunities may only be available for those few club members who live in regional areas close to the snowfields.

With a truncated season and so that we don't lose sight of our ski companions until next year's skiing, the club is looking to run a few summer activities. This may include some walking/camping trips, as well as work-parties at the Perisher trails. We hope to hold our traditional Christmas party in December.

At the club's Annual General Meeting, held on 22 September using Zoom teleconferencing, current committee members were returned to their positions for the coming year. I look forward to continuing to work in the committee with a very constructive and cooperative team. In recognition of the immense contribution she has made to the club over the years, Jo-Anne Clancy has been conferred honorary life membership of the club. Well-done, Jo-Anne, and well-deserved. The President's Report, presented at the meeting, is included in this newsletter (page 21).

As foreshadowed in the last newsletter, the committee has agreed on new Guidelines for Sharing Transport Costs. These are intended to be relatively simple to apply and are aimed at providing a degree of consistency and predictability for drivers and passengers. A copy of the new guidelines is included in this newsletter (page 24) and is available on the website.

*Ian Turland,
President*



Snowy Bridge, Mon 27 September 2021. Photo: Ken Moylan

Summer Activities

This is a summary of some activities / events that will occur over the summer and autumn months. Additional details will be provided to members by email and in any further newsletters.

Virtual Challenge *(further details on page 5)*

A virtual event during the months of October and November to promote exercise in the outdoors during the current restrictions. People can choose to cover a preferred distance either by walking, running, cycling or skiing etc and record the session by phone or sports watch.

Zoom Presentations

If there is enough interest, the club may hold some extra social meetings via Zoom over the summer period if members are interested in giving a presentation and showing photos from previous activities or trips.

XMAS Party

Wed 8 December 2021.

At Nara Park, 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. Further details will be provided to members closer to the date.

Summer Bushwalking Trips: *(further details on page 22)*

Some walking and camping trips are planned over the summer period to help keep members active after a stagnant winter.

Nov-Dec 21:

- Stockyard Spur / Mt Gingera (Day walk)
- Spring in the Mountains (Day walk)

Jan-May 22:

- The Sentinel (1 night camp)
- Abbots Range (1 night camp)
- Mt Kalkite (Day walk)
- Cave Creek / Blue Waterholes (2 nights car camping)
- Cascade Hut (Day walk)
- Pretty Plain (2 nights camping)
- Geehi Flats (1 night car camp)

Nordic Shelter & Trails Working Bees in 2022

The good work done by the XC Summer Work Parties will continue in 2022. Snow fence and pole repairs, summer grooming, further trail audits, and work in and around the Nordic Shelter are expected to be on the job list. Accommodation for participants is usually provided by Canberra Alpine Club.

The dates for the 2022 XC Work Parties are yet to be confirmed but are usually held on the first weekend of the month from February through to June. Once the dates are confirmed, members will be advised by email or in a subsequent newsletter.

First Off-Piste Newsletter for 2022

Early May 2022

First Social Meeting for 2022

Wed 25 May 2022, at the Hughes Community Centre.

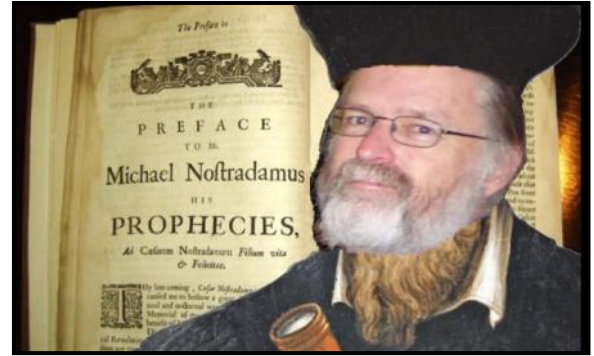
An End of Snow Prediction

For want of anything better to do, I've been looking at the published snow depth charts of the last few decades, trying to find any pattern to help predict a year's snowpack. The Spencer's Creek chart looked most promising, as it had the simplest depth profile. No pattern appeared to me — it was all too unpredictable. Several years had early falls that melted down to nothing and 1993 had a dump after Winter's snowpack had gone. But then a pattern appeared to me — the Spring thaw saw the snow depth decline at a roughly constant rate for that year.

A first attempt tried relating length of remaining snowpack to peak depth, but that lead nowhere. A second attempt used maximum depth, after August and at the start of the annual Spring decline. The tricky part is picking when it starts. Anyway, I created some charts of Depth at Start of Spring Decline vs Number of Days of Spring Decline, added linear trend lines and now feel sort-of confident about making a prediction.

This year, based on a maximum Spring depth of 161.1 cm, on 2/9/2021, the snow at Spencer's Creek, as measured by Snowy Hydro, will last a further 43 days. i.e. ending on 15 October 2021.

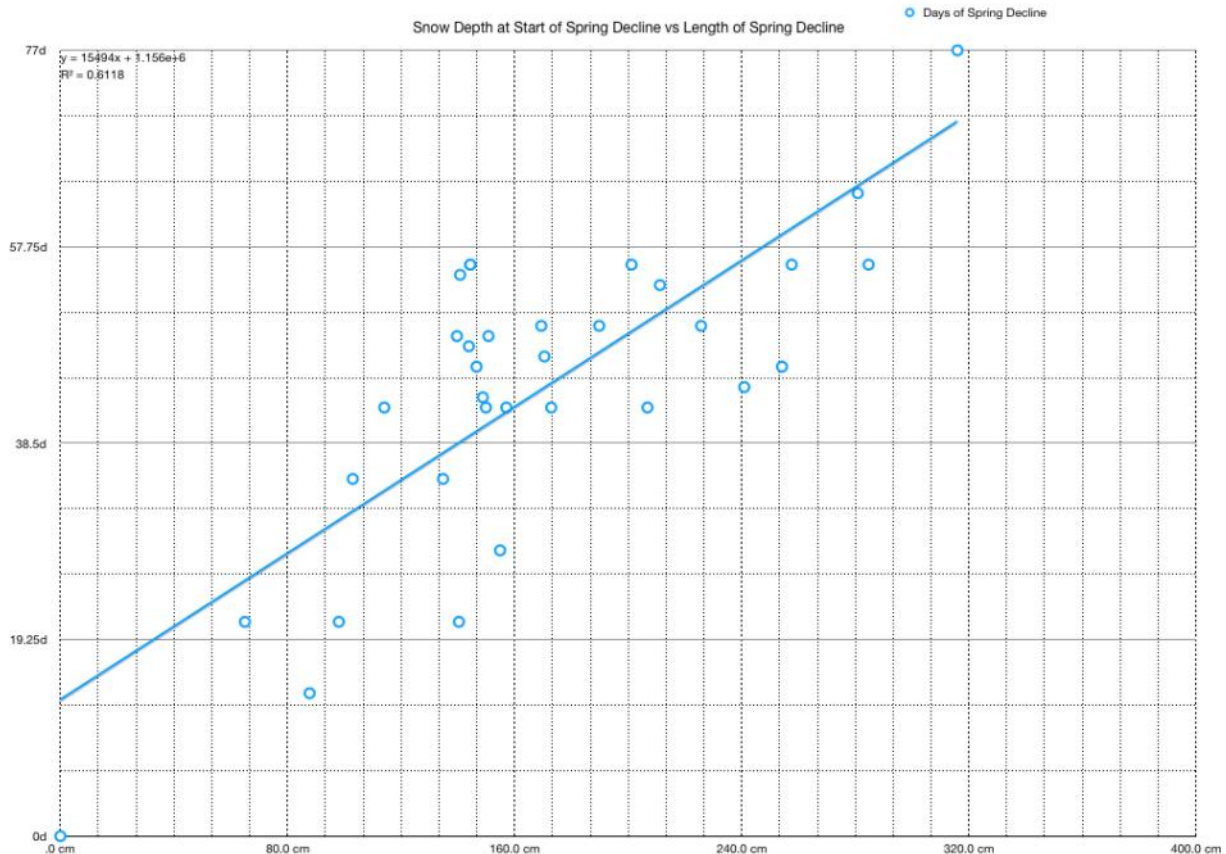
Skistradamus, September 2021

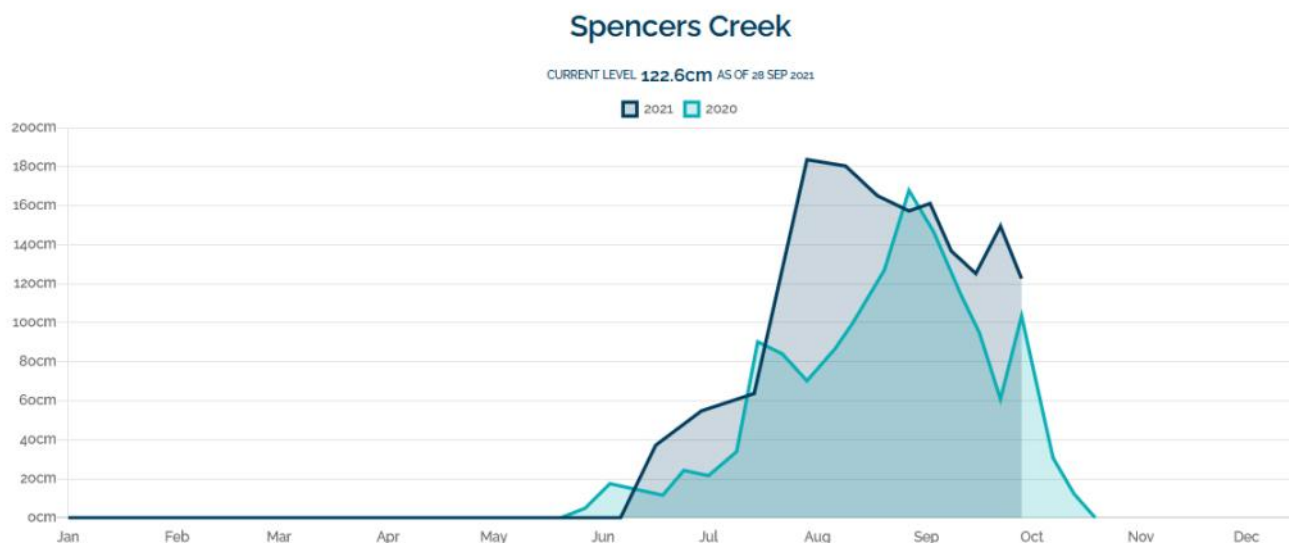


An End of Snow Prediction, Updated

Earlier I had predicted the date of the last snow at Spencer's Creek. I hadn't allowed for a significant, late September dump, which has upset my calculations. The new end of season max depth is 149.5 cm on 22/9/2021. The snow, at Spencer's Creek, as measured by Snowy Hydro, will last another 42 days, i.e. ending on 3 November 2021.

Skistradamus, Late September 2021





The snow depth chart for Spencer's Creek, as at 28 Sept 21, and compared with last year. The peak snow depth this year was at the end of July whereas it is usually in early September. If the chart follows a similar trajectory to that of last year, then the prediction of Skistradamus should be fairly accurate. However there should still be snow on the higher parts of the Main Range into November.

A Ski Shop Returns

Three years ago, Jindabyne (and Canberra) cross-country skiers lost one of the two local ski shops when Paddy Pallin closed down. Since then, a new shop has taken over the space and is building up a business. This last Winter they expanded their range to include rental cross-country equipment - skis, boots and stocks. Snowline Sports has racing skis (classic and skate) and lightweight metal edge touring skis. Just what we need for a day on the trails or an easy day away from them.

For more information, go to the website of Snowline Sports, at: <http://www.snowlinesports.com.au/>

Accessing the Members Page

When logging in via the 'Member Login' page, you need to use the "Username" and "Password" provided to members via the email "Login" on 8 August 2021 or via subsequent email when joining the club.

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

October-November Virtual Challenge

For those who are keen for some outdoor activity during the current restrictions, the Club will run a Virtual event in the months of October and November. People can choose to cover a distance of 5, 7.5 or 10km over a route of their choice either by walking, running, cycling or skiing (for those lucky enough to be at the mountains). The session should be recorded by phone or sports watch using Strava or a similar app.

Afterwards, the participant's name, recorded time and distance should be forwarded to cccscanberra@gmail.com. The results will be collated at the end of each month and reported on the club website and may be published in a future newsletter. Participants are also welcome to provide a photo of their activity if they also want this published.

Unfortunately no medals or diplomas are provided, just the satisfaction of exercising in the outdoors with like-minded people during this challenging time.



Trip Report - Three Mile Dam - Saturday 7 August

Seven of us (John Giacon, Sonja Weinberg, Jacqui Rosier, Caroline Archer, Michelle Frost, Trevor Lewis and myself) met at the Adaminaby Bakery at 8:30am. Ken Moylan had decided not to come but he did put in a request for a cherry pie, which was subsequently used in a comparison test against the cherry pie from the Nimmitabel Bakery in Jindabyne (see report elsewhere in this newsletter). We continued on to Kiandra then up to Three Mile Dam. Much of the snow that had been on the ground at Kiandra two weeks earlier had disappeared, but the snow cover higher up at Three Mile Dam was excellent and the best I had seen in years. The weather was cloudy but otherwise good.

We headed off on a circumnavigation of the frozen lake. This whole area had been decimated in the fires from early last year, with almost every tree burnt and devoid of leaves. The only intact trees were out on the end of the peninsula and on the northern shore of the lake. We initially headed northwest under the powerlines towards the edge of the plateau, which provided views to the west. We then heard some noise amongst the burnt trees which turned out to be a very large herd of wild horses. From here we skied across the dam wall and had morning tea out of the wind behind a bank of snow. After this we skied around the eastern shore of the lake back to the road.

Crossing the road we continued south up the valley and onto the Goldseekers Trail. The remains of the old vehicle was still there but mostly covered by snow. We had lunch in the snow next to the collapsed stamper battery which had been a feature of the Goldseekers Trail. During lunch one of the conversations was about COVID and whether it would impact the ski season. Little did we know that a few days later it would! After lunch we continued on the Goldseekers Trail in a clockwise direction up the hill to the small plateau. With all the trees burnt there were now clear views to Mt Selwyn, Kings Cross and Cabramurra.

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Skiing at Three Mile Dam. Photo: Alan Levy



John Giacon at Three Mile Dam. Photo: Alan Levy



Caroline, Trevor, Jacqui, John & Michelle. Photo: Alan Levy

***Having lunch next to the collapsed
stamper battery on the Goldseekers
Trail. Photo: Alan Levy***

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We headed back to the cars, crossed the road, then skied out to the end of the peninsula jutting into the lake. The ice on the lake looked too thin to attempt to ski on, although I am sure Ken would have found a way if he had been there. We were back at the cars around 3pm then headed home.

With a great snow cover and a good group of people this was an easy and enjoyable ski tour, but the extensive bushfire damage was a bit depressing knowing how good the forest in this area used to be.

Alan Levy

***Horses at Three Mile Dam.
Photo: Alan Levy***

***The group framed by a burnt
snowgum. Photo: Alan Levy***



The Snowy Mountains Cherry Pie Taste Test

For many years, the Adaminaby bakery had the only cherry pies in the Snowies region. They made a great addition to the daypack for morning tea. Recently, a challenger appeared for the cherry pie bragging rights. The Nimmitabel Bakery opened a shop in Nugget's Crossing, Jindabyne and they also offer cherry pies.

It has been hard to make a direct comparison of the two bakery's pies, as it was difficult to get an Adaminaby pie to Jindabyne without it going stale or getting eaten. A kind benefactor recently brought me an Adaminaby pie when I was in Jindabyne, so the comparison was on.

Adaminaby Bakery Pie vs Nimmitabel Bakery Pie

From above, Nimmitabel promises better value, as it is larger, but from below Adaminaby wins by virtue of being larger. Nimmitabel is more of a truncated cone compared to Adaminaby's cylinder, which might explain why Adaminaby comes in its own aluminium pie tray. I couldn't weigh the two pies, so the truly larger pie is as yet unknown.

I liked the Adaminaby pastry better, because it held the pie together better than the Nimmitabel pastry, an important quality of a pie.

Finally, the most important part - the filling. Adaminaby's filling consisted of many firm, individual cherries, darkened by cooking to a purplish plum colour and sweet. Jindabyne's filling was red, a bit mushier, and a little tart (the sour in the sour cherry pie's name), but still enjoyable.

Conclusion

Both cherry pies were tasty and I would never knock back either. But, if they were side by side and I was buying one to put into my day pack for morning tea, I would choose the Adaminaby cherry pie every time, for its robustness and greater proportion of cherry filling to pastry.

Ken Moylan

Two cherry pies. Nimmitabel pie on the left and Adaminaby pie on the right.





The two cherry pies, illustrating the difference in casing shapes. Nimmitabel pie on the left, Adaminaby pie on the right.



The two cherry pies, illustrating the difference in the fillings. The left pie, Adaminaby, has individual cherries in a firm casing. The right pie, Nimmitabel, is a little mushy in a casing that has crumbled a bit during opening.



View towards the Main Range from Mt Piper, Sun 8 August 21. Photo: Sonja Weinberg



Group having lunch near the new bridge over Spencer's Creek, Mon 9 August 21. Photo: Sonja Weinberg



The new bridge over Spencers Creek, Fri 6 August 21. Photo: Mike Hinchey



Near the Snowy River - Spencers Creek junction, Fri 6 August 21. Photo: Mike Hinchey



*Gale Funston and Roslyn Carroll approaching Cesjacks hut, Mon 26 September 21. Photo: Mike Hinchey
Ken & Gale finally got to Snowy Vale, and along with Mike & Roslyn, went walking in the Cesjacks area and to the site of the old Bogong Lodge.*



Near the Snowy River - Spencers Creek junction, Fri 6 August 21. Photo: Mike Hinchey



John Giacon, Kathryn Dwan & Jacqui Rosier climbing the slopes of Mt Piper, Sun 8 August 21. Photo: Alan Levy



The Coffee Tour at Perisher, Tues 10 August 21. Photo: Alan Levy



The Question Mark Tree, on the 7.5km Trail at Perisher. Sun 5 September 21. Photo: Ken Moylan



Margaret Mahoney near Betts Creek, Mon 9 August 21. Photo: Ken Moylan



Mike Hinchey on his way down Mt Perisher, Wed 15 September 21. Photo: Ken Moylan



The Coffee Tour. Photo: Sonja Weinberg



Jo-Anne Clancy and Ken Moylan at Perisher before the KAC race, Wed 11 August 21. Photo: Ken Moylan



Perisher Nordic Centre, with a good layer of fresh snow, Tues 24 August 21. Photo: Ken Moylan

Trip Report - My COVID Winter - Jun-Oct 2021

As I write this, at the end of September, after the COVID-19 Winter, it is raining and Jindabyne is locked down again. Our newsletter editor has asked me for two months of ski touring reports, as I have been one of the few members of the Club still skiing.

Instead, I'll tell you about my Winter.

It started normally, with a tour in June, based on the Perisher trails, just to get our ski legs back. July is for the North end of KNP, for tours near Kiandra, although I also took part in the first on-snow Australian ski race for 2 years, the *Cooma Clean Out the Waxbox*. August is for racing, with touring between races. NSW Cross-Country Ski Week and the Kangaroo Hoppet. August rolled around and the racers in our Club joyously took part in NSW Ski Week. And then the wheels fell off my ski season.

Sydneysiders weren't allowed to come and it showed. Jindabyne wasn't flat out bustling and the Perisher car park wasn't the usual Winter horrendous. We Canberrans were grateful for the relative calm but wondered when it would touch us. Jindabyne shops were hurting, like many of the NSW and Victoria locked down areas, as they had lost roughly 60% of their trade.

Then, on the day of the Sundeck Handicap, COVID finally got into Canberra. Club members rushed to



Gale Funston touring in Perisher downhill resort. Note lack of people during official ski season, caused by COVID lockdown. Photo: Ken Moylan

return home or else face a fortnight of quarantine. The next day, NSW declared Canberra to be unsafe and locked its inhabitants out. I had a decision to make. Should I stay or should I go? If I stayed, I faced lockdown and then would get more glorious skiing. If I went, I faced a fortnight of seclusion and isolation in my home and little hope of skiing again this season. I rolled the dice and stayed. Would it turn out to be worth it?

Life in Jindabyne

With Canberrans locked out, Jindabyne lost another 30% of its Winter trade. Jindabyne was as quiet as November. The

courtyards and forecourts had only a few people, hanging around the few take-aways. The down-hill ski shops were closed. Wilderness Sports was doing a trickling trade. The Perisher carpark had the weirdest pattern - instead of the usual clustering on the right, towards the Perisher Centre, the most popular spots were now on the left, near the cross-country trails. The locals had their town back, with a handful of long-term interstate visitors who came for all of Winter.

Virtual Racing

Once out of my lockdown, with almost no-one to ski with, I was completely free to ski wherever and whenever I wanted. But where and when? Virtual racing provided one direction.

Because of COVID, the three Southern Hemisphere Worldloppet ski races this year went virtual. I love the challenge of skiing as far as I can, and entered all three. I misread the local COVID restrictions, thought I was allowed a mere hour a day of skiing and entered the shortest races — 10km Ushuaia Loppet, 7km Joey Hoppet, and 14km Merino Muster. They were easy distances so I skied up Kosciuszko Road for variety, distance and scenery.

Re-reading the NSW COVID restrictions, revealed that I could ski for longer. Half

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Bridge over Rock Creek. Between Perisher Centre & Skitube Building. Fri 27 August 21. Photo: Ken Moylan

(Continued from page 16)

length marathons here I come! Australian Birkebeiner, (NZ) Snow Rake, and 21km Ushuaia Loppet. All done. Twice wandering around the Perisher trails and once going out to Charlotte Pass and village. I was running out of routes to do that were long and flattish and not repeats. One day was the 10km Perisher Trail, forwards & backwards, plus the Valley Trail for the distance. Another day was a mashup of the 7.5km Trail, forwards + Porcupine Link + Wheatley Link + reverse 10km Trail. All the little surprises in the trails revealed themselves to me. They were becoming as familiar as the back of my hand.

By 2 September they were all done. I felt more authentic to have actually skied my virtual races, in contrast to the ones over Summer that I had cycled.

Late news came in! Iceland's Fossavatn was running a virtual race in the last half of September. I could do 25km and brag about it internationally. But where? The Perisher Trails were shot, with more grass than snow. Luckily for me, Jindabyne was just released from lockdown and the Thredbo chairlifts were running. A route from Thredbo to Carruthers Peak was plotted. We had a good fall of fresh and sticky snow, so I waited a week for it to settle and the weather to peak. I caught the first chair up, at 09:00, arriving to morning ice. The plan was modified. Instead of a spectacular and icy ski along the Main



Seaman's Hut and dunny, with a tent in the lee of the hut, Mon 27 September 21. Photo: Ken Moylan

Range, I took the road to Charlotte Pass, with detours to Seaman's Hut, coming and going, down to the Snowy River (no useful snow bridges found), and Rawson's Pass. The day was beautiful, just what you get underneath an all day high pressure system, with the ice giving way to firm & controllable snow. 29km and almost 9 hours later, I became the only skier to complete the 25km Fossavatnið mitt September 2021.

Skiing by Myself

Most days I've been skiing alone. I've been staying in Kalkite, which is only about an hour's drive from the snow, and which makes it easy to go up for half a day. It has also been easy to visit minor destinations, such as the Plains of Heaven or the Smiggin Holes trails. On the other hand, I

have been more cautious, as no-one's around to help in case of injury. I can thank years of familiarity, of this area and Australian snow, to be comfortable out there by myself.

Strava has helped me greatly, tracing where I've skied. Some days I've forgotten to start recording, so they start partway into a day's ski. The worst loss was the afternoon I spent walking up and skiing down Front Valley at Perisher. Three of four runs were lost, including all the beautiful turns. Maps generated by Strava accompany this article (see pages 19 & 20).

Touring with Mike and Gale

I skied not entirely on my own. Fellow Club member Mike Hinchey lives near Jindabyne and was available for a ski when Jindabyne was out of lockdown, and Gale was available for weekend skiing.

One good day was the visit to Mt Perisher. We had the resort almost to ourselves and I learnt how much higher Mt Perisher is compared to The Paralyser, something that looking at maps doesn't hit you with. A tour from Guthega to Mt Guthrie was aborted, due to more mud than snow on the track out towards Illawong Lodge. A play on Guthega Trig saved the day. We also skied tours of Rock Creek & Betts Creek and The Paralyser.

Skiing the Perisher Range

There is an area of the Perisher Range, between the Kosciuszko Road & Guthega Road, and Paralyser Gap & Piper's Creek

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Spencer's Creek in full thaw, from near the Kosciuszko Road bridge. Fri 1 October 21. Photo: Ken Moylan



Main Range from lookout at Charlotte's Pass, Mon 27 September 21.

Photo: Ken Moylan

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that is normally too busy for us self-propelled skiers. During the Jindabyne lockdown, the lifts were stopped and its character changed. One Sunday, Gale & I were skiing around Mt Piper and came across handfuls of boarders and skiers just hanging out, enjoying the vibe and generally having a relaxed good time. Another day, Mike, Gale & I were on top of Mt Perisher, enjoying the view and some snowboarders walked up to join us. We all enjoyed the camaraderie engendered by us all putting in the effort of getting to the top.

After exhausting the variety and snow cover of the Perisher Trails, my touring moved to the other side of the Perisher carpark. For a few days I explored the downhill slopes, by myself, without crowds, getting to know the relationships between the hills and the valleys. Lift and run names live only on the official trail map and are mostly a mystery to me, however.

One Thursday, after a tour down Happy Sunny Valley and over to Blue Calf Mountain, on climbing up from somewhere in North Perisher, getting to Front Valley, a ski patroller appeared, who said that Jindabyne was out of lockdown, as of 13:00 that afternoon. On breasting the rise, I saw

dozens of happy downhillers riding the lift and cutting up the ungroomed snow. The sparse carpark of the morning was now close to half full and on the drive down the mountain dozens of cars were coming the other way, everyone inside them looking very happy and expectant. Jindabyne hadn't looked so happy for weeks. Perisher Blue was again too busy for touring. The Thredbo chairlift would be running and I could access the Southern Main Range. I could buy food on the mountain.

Finishing

I have enjoyed these last 8 weeks living in Jindabyne and Kalkite. I took a chance that I'd be able to ski after my lockdown and it worked. Life has been far better than inside Canberra, as I was facing a fortnight of quarantine and then (now) a month of lockdown. I skied many more places than in a normal season, and changed destinations according to the weather or snow, something harder when staying near the snow for a week at a time. Gale has been "working from home", in Kalkite, so she has been able to ski each weekend, weather permitting. Despite my best sunscreen application, a racoon suntan is starting to appear.

Jindabyne is back in lockdown, after a gloriously happy fortnight of freedom. Thredbo and Perisher had re-opened, to make the most of the end of the season. Then that long-running misery returned, brought into the town by a returning worker. On Thursday, it all shut down again. Jindabyne has given up the snow for this year. Shops are closing until the Summer trade, if it happens. The camper vans are leaving. The weather forecast is for rain showers for a week, so cross-country skiing will be dubious at best, unpleasant or dangerous for the desperate. A good time to go home.

Ken Moylan

30 September 2021



Perisher car park on the Sunday of the closing long weekend. No lifts running. Empty carpark. I got the best park ever! Sun 3 October 21.

Photo: Ken Moylan

K Moylan
August 22, 2021 at 10:59 AM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Perisher Trails 2021-08-22

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
10.26 km	211 m	2h 49m



K Moylan
August 24, 2021 at 2:06 PM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Perisher Trails 2021-08-24

Distance	Pace	Time
3.42 km	20:37 /km	1h 10m



K Moylan
August 25, 2021 at 3:13 PM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Perisher 2021-08-25

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
4.72 km	168 m	1h 41m



K Moylan
August 26, 2021 at 3:12 PM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Joey Hoppert 2021

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
8.71 km	151 m	1h 49m



K Moylan
August 27, 2021 at 1:48 PM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X 14km Merino Muster Virtual 2021

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
16.16 km	294 m	4h 15m



K Moylan
August 28, 2021 at 12:36 PM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Mt Piper Loop 2021-08-28

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
5.88 km	175 m	3h 14m



K Moylan
August 29, 2021 at 10:32 AM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Aussie Birkie Virtual 21km 2021

Distance	Pace	Time	Achievements
22.16 km	12:14 /km	4h 31m	2

Lot 142 Porcupine Rd Climb PR (23/25)



K Moylan
August 30, 2021 at 3:31 PM - Guthega, New South Wales

X Guthega <- -> Blue Cow 2021-08-30

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
6.35 km	271 m	1h 28m



K Moylan
August 31, 2021 at 10:49 AM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Ushuaia Loppet 21km Virtual 2021

Distance	Pace	Time
23.47 km	12:07 /km	4h 44m



K Moylan
September 1, 2021 at 4:55 PM - Wilsons Valley, New South Wales

X Plains of Heaven Attempt 2021-09-01

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
3.05 km	105 m	1h 10m



K Moylan
September 2, 2021 at 11:09 AM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Snow Rake Virtual 21km 2021

Distance	Pace	Time
25.47 km	13:22 /km	5h 40m



K Moylan
September 5, 2021 at 12:37 PM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Perisher Trails 2021-09-05

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
8.22 km	156 m	2h 23m



K Moylan
September 7, 2021 at 9:59 AM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Paralyser 2021-09-07

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
14.73 km	433 m	4h 22m



K Moylan
September 8, 2021 at 2:48 PM - Smiggin Holes, New South Wales

X Smiggin Trails 2021-09-08

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
4.81 km	135 m	1h 34m



K Moylan
September 9, 2021 at 10:16 AM - Guthega, New South Wales

X Guthega 2021-09-09

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
5.66 km	241 m	1h 51m



K Moylan
September 10, 2021 at 3:02 PM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Rock Creek 2021-09-10

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
5.54 km	148 m	1h 10m



K Moylan
September 11, 2021 at 12:36 PM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Rock Creek 2021-09-11

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
7.64 km	248 m	3h 26m

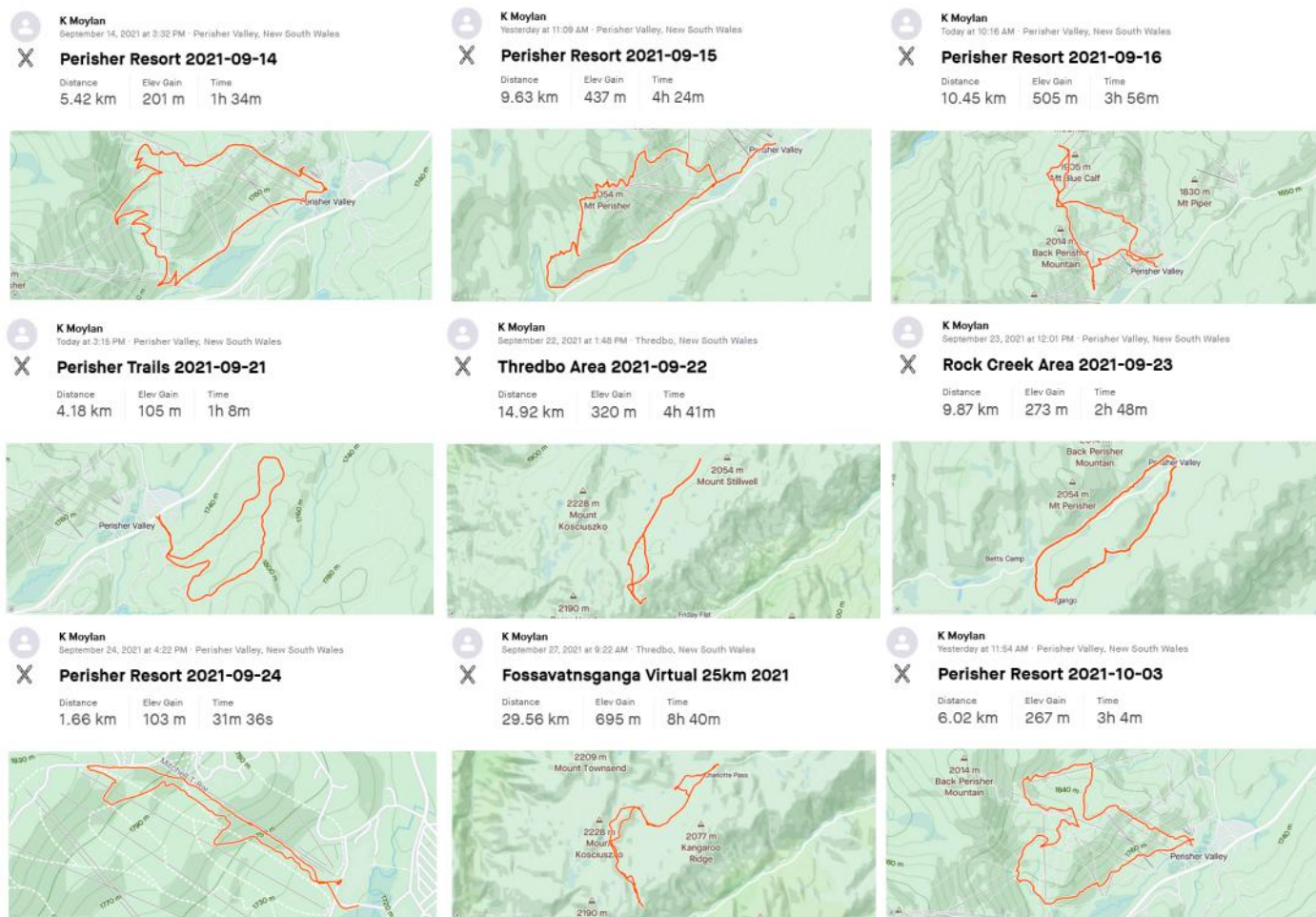


K Moylan
September 13, 2021 at 3:29 PM - Perisher Valley, New South Wales

X Perisher Resort 2021-09-13

Distance	Elev Gain	Time
5.06 km	222 m	2h 9m





Ken's Strava maps showing all the ski trips he completed from late August to early October during the lockdown period.



View from Charlotte Pass lookout. Mt Kosciuszko (in cloud) and Mt Clarke (ridge in middle, with grassy strips). Friday 1 October 2021. Photo: Ken Moylan

CANBERRA CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB – 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The club ran a successful program of activities during the earlier part of the 2021 snow season, including a range of tours, the Kosciuszko Tour ski race and social evenings. Covid-19 restrictions introduced from mid-August have, however, severely curtailed the club's activities from that time.

Tours were held from the June long weekend, with tour numbers increasing over July and early-August as snow conditions improved. A total of 16 tours, as well as two lodge weekends, were held before the lockdown. Most tours were in the Perisher area; however, two were in the northern end of Kosciuszko National Park (Kiandra area and Long Plain) following good snowfalls. A number of keen new club members participated in tours. The scope for spring skiing will be dependent on an easing of Covid-19 restrictions.

The Kosciuszko Tour was held at Perisher on 31 July. There was a good turnout for the race, with 51 participants, despite Covid-19 restrictions inhibiting participation for many NSW residents. Perisher XC Week went ahead this year, with club members participating in the Boonoona Open, KAC Classic, Sundeck Handicap and Coffee Tours. All races were held around the XC trails at Perisher. The Kangaroo Hoppet in Victoria was cancelled due to lockdowns. Some members participated in the Virtual Kangaroo Hoppet and Virtual Merino Muster ski races.

The club has maintained an active program of social activities and communication avenues with members and others. Six social meetings have been held at the Hughes Community Centre this year and one using a video conferencing platform, featuring a range of internal and external speakers. There have been three newsletters produced this year, with at least one more planned. The club's website continues to be a key resource for members, providing a gateway for joining/renewing membership and important for dissemination of information on tours and social meetings. Following reinstatement of the website in early-2020, continued maintenance of the site has kept software up-to-date and ironed out the occasional "bug". The Facebook page is also a useful avenue of communications and the club has seen a significant rise in Facebook members this year. The club had a stall at the Canberra Snow Sale at EPIC on 8 May.

Club membership currently stands at 127, including honorary members. This is a similar level to 2020, and up on the number in the years immediately preceding that. Annual membership fees were maintained at the level of \$50 for individuals and \$75 for families.

Finally, I wish to thank the other members of the committee for working constructively and effectively in managing the club's affairs during the past year. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Ian Turland

CCCSC President

22 September 2021

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

Date	Event Description	Leader
	Some walking and camping trips (below) are planned over the summer period. Specific dates haven't been set yet, only rough timeframes, so contact the leaders for further information. Additional trips will be advised on the Club web site and via email to members as soon as they are advised.	
Mid November	Stockyard Spur / Mt Gingera Will start from Corin Dam and climb the trail up Stockyard Spur to Pryors Hut and on to Mt Gingera. A steep trail with many steps and about 900m in elevation gain. Approx 21km return.	
Late November-early December	Spring in the Mountains A walk in a sub-alpine area to see the sub-alpine plants in flower, either to Broken Dam Hut or the area around Gooandra Homestead near Kiandra. I walked into Broken Dam hut last December and the post-fire wildflowers were amazing. The sub alpine plants flower earlier than the much vaunted alpine varieties but are no less spectacular. In particular the highly perfumed Bossiaea with its yellow pea flowers, in conjunction with the purple flowered Hovea put on quite a display. This could be an overnight trip if people are interested.	

Date	Event Description	Leader
Summer / Autumn trips	<p>Mt Kalkite (day walk)</p> <p>A day walk to the top of Kalkite Mountain which overlooks Lake Jindabyne. To walk to Kalkite mountain would necessitate a journey over Nimmo hill to the lower Gungarlin River, then a walk downstream over Botheram Plain to Kalkite Gap (visible from Jindabyne) and then a climb thru light scrub up the mountain to the trig point and an unusual vantage point overlooking the lake. The trail over Nimmo Hill is a bit rough but should be quite feasible for the average AWD.</p>	<p>Leader:</p> <p>Those interested can register with me and we can negotiate dates. Once I have some takers we can plan around the weather, especially for high camps.</p>
January-February preferred	<p>Abbots Range (1 night camping)</p> <p>The Abbots provide another eagles view over the upper Murray country and a 'top of the world' camping experience, and is the place to go to escape the sweltering summer heat. We would leave from Charlotte Pass and probably only follow the road to Snowy Bridge before heading cross country over alpine moorland. This walk would only be worthwhile if the weather was fine and not too windy.</p> <p>Cave Creek / Blue Waterholes (2 nights car camping)</p> <p>Drive along Long Plain to Cave Creek / Blue Waterholes. Will camp for two nights by the creek a short distance from the public camping area and do day walks around the area. There'd be a bit of creek crossing to get down the gorge but some may be interested in poking into the many caves in the area or doing a bit of trout fishing.</p>	<p>Registering with me via email would be preferred in the first instance. These walks may not necessarily be on the weekends and chasing fine weather would be a priority.</p>
March	<p>Pretty Plain (2 nights camping)</p> <p>To go to Pretty Plain we would head along the fire trail from Tooma Dam via Patons Hut and camp near where the trail meets the Tooma River. On the second day some may do a day walk up Pretty Plain to the hut or up towards the Dargals and Wheeler's Hut, while others may choose to try their luck fishing the Tooma for the legendary 'huge' trout. We would return the same way back to the cars on the third day as it is a long drive home.</p>	
Early February	<p>The Sentinel (1 night camping)</p> <p>Will start at Charlotte Pass and follow the walking track past Blue Lake out to The Sentinel to set up camp. There is a great sheltered campsite with amazing views of the steep western side of the Main Range.</p>	Leader:
March	<p>Cascade Hut (day walk)</p> <p>A long day walk from Dead Horse Gap along the fire trail, over Bob's Ridge and down to Cascade Hut. Happy to car camp at Thredbo Diggings on the Sat night if people are interested.</p>	ave provided a likely month for each trip. Will try to do these trips on weekends to cater for as many as possible. Dates will be finalised closer to the event, but happy to be flexible depending on the weather and participants. People are welcome to register interest.
April or May	<p>Geehi Flats (1 night car camping)</p> <p>Drive to the Geehi Flats camping ground to set up the tents for an overnight stay. Will spend the Sat afternoon and Sun morning doing easy walks to the nearby huts (Geehi, Old Geehi, Keebles, Doctors and Doctor Forbes huts). Some river crossings involved.</p>	



CCCSC Guide to Transport Cost-Sharing Contributions

The Club encourages members to share transport and its costs to and from activities. However, the Club does not guarantee to find shared transport for members, nor does it take responsibility for shared transport found.

The aim of this guide is to provide an indication of what could be considered an appropriate contribution for passengers to make to the cost of transport provided to take them to and from club activities. It is not mandatory to follow these guidelines; however, if drivers intend to charge more than these amounts, it is recommended they foreshadow this to their passengers as early as practicable. The cost of transport should normally be divided equally between vehicle occupants, including the car-owner/driver.

Approach taken to estimating transport costs: A return journey from Canberra to the NSW snowfields is around 420km. (Note: There will be some variation around this depending on the starting point within Canberra, possible diversions for the collection of passengers, and the destination location.) The current Australian Taxation Office (ATO) allowance for work-related car expenses is 72 cents per kilometre; however, some of the costs assumed by the ATO are not relevant to our calculations. Taking 50% of the ATO allowance as a proxy for the costs faced by car-owners for our trips gives the following benchmark cost: 420km x \$0.36/km = \$150 for a return trip to the snow. The following indicative cost contributions vary around this depending on differences in vehicle size and vehicle occupant numbers.

Indicative transport cost contributions – note: the number of occupants includes the driver:

Vehicle size		2 occupants	3 occupants	4 occupants
<u>Small vehicle</u> (e.g. <2.0 litre engine for vehicles with ICE)	Per person contribution	\$50	\$40	\$30
	Total cost allowance (\$)	\$100	\$120	\$120
<u>Medium vehicle</u> (e.g. 2.0-3.0 litre engine for vehicles with ICE)	Per person contribution	\$60	\$50	\$40
	Total cost allowance	\$120	\$150	\$160
<u>Large vehicle</u> (e.g. >3.0 litre engine for vehicles with ICE)	Per person contribution	\$70	\$60	\$50
	Total cost allowance	\$140	\$180	\$200

NSW National Park entry fees: The above cost contributions normally incorporate national park entry fees. However, where the car-owner does not have an annual NSW Parks pass and the trip exceeds a single day, the following guidance is provided for recompense of park entry costs. For days after the first day, add the following amounts to the above cost contributions:

No. of persons in car	Additional cost per person per day	Total allowance per day for pass entry fees
2	\$15	\$30
3	\$10	\$30
4	\$7.50	\$30

Snow-chain hire: Where the driver has a need to hire snow-chains for the vehicle, the normal practice would be to divide the cost equally between vehicle occupants.



Canberra Cross Country Ski Club

Web: www.cccsc.asn.au

Email: cccsccanberra@gmail.com

**Fun and fitness
in the snow**

Club Committee Contacts

Position	Name	Email	Phone
President			
Vice President			
Secretary			
Treasurer			
Membership Secretary			
Tour Coordinator			
Kosciuszko 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 Alan or Ken .





*The burnt landscape on the Goldseekers Trail near Mt Selwyn, Sat 7 August 21.
Photo: Alan Levy*