

UAC NEWSLETTER



March 2011

There's plenty of interesting news in and around Perisher in the following pages of the first Edition for 2011.

The "MyRide" ticketing system has me interested. Check it out in the "What's New at Perisher 2011" article.

- **Page 2: "Perisher Village Centre Development Gets Green Light"**
- **Page 3: "Back to Perisher Weekend - Easter 2011" (as well as some great walks)**
- **Page 7: 58th Perisher Cup held in September 2011**
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- **Page 9: Australian Timbers Used in Skis - Perisher Historical Society**

LODGE VACANCIES

Below are current lodge vacancies. If you're interested in any of the dates below, please contact Barry - barry.price@optusnet.com.au

May and June	No bookings
2-8 July:	6 rooms vacant
23-29 July:	2 rooms vacant
13-19 August	3 rooms vacant
27 August - 2 September:	2 rooms vacant (children not encouraged)
3-9 September:	8 rooms vacant
10-16 September:	1 room vacant
The hut is then vacant until Christmas.	

FROM HOUSEKEEPING

Some good news from the Housekeeping Committee advises that new carpet is being laid to the hall and bedrooms 1-5 in the lodge. This follows water damage to the lodge last year.

If you have anything interesting or topical for the Newsletter, please email me:
ljayne@optusnet.com.au

Below is an article I found on the Perisher website.

This article is dated 7 March, so things could change, depending on election results.

Steve Whan MP

Member for Monaro

Minister for Primary Industries

Minister for Emergency Services

Minister for Rural Affairs



Perisher Village Centre development gets green light

Monday March 7, 2011

Member for Monaro Steve Whan today announced agreement had been reached to bring forward a new Village Centre and additional accommodation at Perisher in Kosciuszko National Park.

Steve Whan said the development would improve the overall visitor experience and mean more tourist dollars and jobs for the region.

“This is much-needed commercial village centre for Perisher is great news for the region and the State as a whole,” Steve Whan said.

“The new village centre development will be staged, beginning with 66 new apartments - including 218 beds and almost a thousand square metres of retail space.

“The centre will be built on the site of the existing Perisher car park and will eventually include 800 new beds and a retail, commercial and entertainment centre.

“It’s an opportunity to give Perisher a heart, a focal point that will make it a more enticing year-round tourist destination.

“Construction of Stage 1 will mean 65 full-time jobs in the local region and 35 jobs elsewhere in NSW.

“The addition of the first 218 beds is likely to translate to another 16,000 skiers taking to the slopes generating a further \$500,000 in local income – with around four times that amount expected once it’s all finished.”

Steve Whan said the development would be undertaken within the strictest environmental standards, especially given its location in Kosciuszko National Park.

“It’s been a while coming but today’s agreement means we’ll soon see the construction of the world class village centre that Perisher deserves,” Mr Whan said.

The agreement was approved today following the conclusion of negotiations with Perisher Village Developments (PVD), a wholly owned subsidiary of PBPL following a public tender process.



(ABN: 97 748 239 046)

The Ski Lodges Organisation of Perisher, Smiggins, and Guthega

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BACK TO PERISHER WEEKEND - EASTER 2011.

22ND – 25TH APRIL 2011

EVENT TIMETABLE

SLOPES and the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service will be holding the "Back to Perisher Weekend" over the Easter period.

The following is a summary of the events to held.

Friday 22nd April.

Informative bush walk along the Waterfall Track at Sawpit Creek under the guidance of Dave Woods (NPWS). The final time and meeting place for the walk on this day will be emailed later. ***These free walks***

(see also Sunday 24th & Monday 25th) are confined to members of SLOPES affiliated lodges.

Saturday 23rd April.

The Perisher Fun Run (Walk).

Start 0900 just past Eyre "T" bar at the Perisher Gap. Registration from 0830 on site.

RTA approved, fully insured by All Class Insurance. Attended by members of the Perisher Volunteer Ski Patrol.

Finishes at Charlotte Pass where the Chalet will be open for coffee and drinks and the chair lift operating.

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The Great Perisher Duck Race.

Start 1600 on Perisher Creek next to the centre, this year 100 ducks for sale at \$2.00 with proceeds to the Perisher Volunteer Ski Patrol.

JAX

JAX will be open on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. On Saturday starting at 1600hrs there will be the presentation for the winners of the "Fun Run / Walk". Nibbles provided by SLOPES.

Perisher Fire Brigade.

In attendance outside JAX to give the kids rides and a bit of water.

Sunday 24th April.

Guthega Treasure Hunt.

1100 hrs at Guthega, the Guthega Super Sleuth Treasure Hunt. A fun event where a walk around Guthega will reveal some interesting facts while children collect Easter Eggs. The Guthega Hotel will be open.

Porcupine Walk

Dave Woods of the NPWS will be conducting a guided walk along the Porcupine Track. Some of the most spectacular views of Kosciuszko National Park are seen along this walk. *Exclusive to SLOPES lodge members.* Walk to commence at the NPWS office in Perisher – details to be circulated.

Perisher Bike Ride

Starting around 2pm and led by Dave Woods. An informative family ride around the Perisher Range where Dave will give an interesting account on some of the history, flora and fauna of the area. Not to be missed. You'll need to bring your bike! Further details to be circulated.

Monday 25th April.

Blue Lake Walk

Some of the best scenery in Australia is gained by walking up to the Main Range. Perhaps few places are as spectacular as the Blue Lake Cirque – a perfect place to have lunch. This full day but moderate walk is *Exclusive to SLOPES lodge members*– details to be circulated.

VEHICLE ENTRY.

NPWS have again agreed for "pay for two get three" days of park entry. To register Lodges must email David Read on djread@bigpond.com at least a week before arriving giving Names, Vehicle Registration, Dates In/Out and Lodge name.

The Back to Perisher Weekend" is an initiative of SLOPES and NPWS to increase patronage in the park during autumn. All lodge members are encouraged to attend for a successful weekend.

For any further information please contact David Read as above or on 041841938.

David Read

SLOPES V-P

EXTRA WALKS BY DAVE WOODS FOR BACK TO PERISHER WEEKEND**WATERFALL TRACK**

This forested walk is a nice contrast to the other walks on the Main Range and the open plains of the sub-alpine area. Commencing at Sawpit Creek we'll observe the regenerating forest of Candlebark, Mountain Gum and Ribbony Gum as we make our way to a cascading waterfall on Sawpit Creek. Crossing the bridge we'll pass through a stand of Alpine Ash that used to be logged in this area in the late 19th century. Bring your binoculars and count how many species of bird we see and hear by the end of the walk.

*Bookings essential – this free guided walk is not part of the NPWS Discovery program but is being especially provided to members and guests of Perisher clubs as part of the Back to Perisher Weekend activities. **Please contact Dave Woods on 64505616 or 0418689250 or email: dave.woods@environment.nsw.gov.au**

Dates: Friday 22 April

Time: 09.30am – 12.30pm

Grade: Easy

Cost: FREE

Meet at: Kosciuszko Education Centre, Sawpit Creek.

PORCUPINE WALK

Commencing at Perisher Valley, this walk meanders through a mosaic of sub-alpine vegetation including snow-gums, heaths, bogs and herb fields as you head towards the top of the Crackenback Range overlooking the Thredbo Valley. A short scamper up some boulders will reveal 360 degree views including the Main Range and the Monaro Plains – a perfect spot for some brunch. Returning via the same walking track, interpretation will cover flora, fauna and history of the area.

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Dates: Sunday 24 April

Time: 09.00am – 1.00pm

Grade: Easy-Moderate – approximately 5 km return

Cost: FREE

Meet at: Perisher Valley NPWS Office (in the Perisher Valley Carpark).

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PERISHER INTERPRETIVE BIKE RIDE

This guided cycling activity is aimed at families who wish to participate in an interpretation of the Perisher Resorts area. Information on history, landforms, flora and fauna will be shared about this very special part of Kosciuszko National Park. Some animal traps will be set around the area the night before. Why not see if we've caught something? Bring your bike (or hire one in Jindabyne).

*Bookings essential – this free guided cycling activity is not part of the NPWS Discovery program but is being especially provided to members and guests of Perisher clubs as part of the Back to Perisher Weekend activities. **Please contact Dave Woods on 64505616 or 0418689250 or email: dave.woods@environment.nsw.gov.au**

Dates: Sunday 24 April

Time: 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Grade: Medium – up to 6 km of cycling (pending ages).

Cost: FREE

Meet at: Perisher Valley NPWS Office (in the Perisher Valley Carpark).

BLUE LAKE WALK

This walk will explore one of the most popular glacial features on the Main Range – Blue Lake cirque – carved out of granite and dammed by terminal moraine over thousands of years. After rock-hopping across the Snowy River below Charlotte's Pass, the track climbs through alpine herbfields past Hedley Tarn Lookout to Blue Lake Lookout. Before descending to Blue Lake for lunch, we'll side track to the edge of the Main Range to view the western slopes and some of the most spectacular mountain landscapes in Australia.

*Bookings essential – this free guided walk is not part of the NPWS Discovery program but is being especially provided to members and guests of Perisher clubs as part of the Back to Perisher Weekend activities. **Please contact Dave Woods on 64505616 or 0418689250 or email: dave.woods@environment.nsw.gov.au**

Dates: Monday 25 April

Time: 09.30am – 3.00pm

Grade: Medium – approximately 12km return

Cost: FREE

Meet at: Charlotte Pass Turning Circle.

Perisher Cup

The Perisher Cup competition was initiated by the NSW Ski Association the year after it was formed in the early 1950s and is now conducted by Cooma Ski Club. With Anthony Evans (Cooma) as enthusiastic Convenor, the event has grown significantly in recent years. Originally an inter-club event, entries are now accepted from other groups. Thanks to these enthusiasts for keeping the event alive.

The Perisher Cup is a team event with four participants, each of whom competes in three events: Cross Country 4x2 km relay - all times to count; Giant Slalom - best three times to count; and Jump - best three jumps (by three different competitors to count). The Perisher Cup weekend provides another occasion for clubs to prove their credentials as supporters of the sport of skiing. We are looking forward to a time when we can resurrect the 'Perisher Pot' for the most improved team. Below are last year's results. A complete result sheet will be posted on the PHS website.

Results of Perisher Cup 2010

Perisher Cup – Open event

1st Guthega

2nd Cooma Stallions

3rd The Man From Snowy River

4th Sundeck

Perisher Bowl Women's Team

1st Cooma Chicks

2nd Canberra Alpine B

Perisher Plate

1st Technology B

2nd Cooma Degenerates

Fastest Man on Mountain – GS

Rupert Winkler - Guthega

Fastest Women on Mountain – GS

Emily Frain – Canberra Alpine

**Get Ready –
It's on again!!**

58th Running of The Perisher Cup

17-18 September 2011

Motivate your club, Rally
your team, Book your
accommodation

Clubs – start
your managers!

Managers – gather your
competitors!

What's New at Perisher 2011?

- **Perisher's MyRide Lift Tickets.** A new dimension in [lift tickets](#) offering easier purchasing, flexibility and more time on the slopes. The MyRide ticketing system is fully integrated with an online platform allowing guests to buy products online before arriving on the mountain. Guests will be able to log on to Perisher's online eStore and recharge their tickets to get "direct to lift" access. At the end of the day they can also log on to Perisher's website to see which lifts they have ridden and how many vertical metres they have covered. In addition to [lift tickets](#), guests will be able to purchase a range of [group lessons](#), and [hire equipment](#) online to allow you to get onto the slopes more quickly once you arrive at the resort.
- **Top to bottom lights and music on the PlayStation Slopestyle Park** on Front Valley will give freestylers the chance to continue jumping, jibbing and grooving on all [Night Skiing and Boarding](#) evenings. Plus, with the new set up, great new night events can now be introduced for guests to enjoy.
- **New Pony Ride Skier Conveyor at Blue Cow.** The Pony Ride and [Snowsports School](#) Rope Tows have now been replaced with a new 145 metre skier conveyor. It's ideal for first timers and beginners getting to know the snow.
- **Automated snowmaking at Blue Cow.** Close to \$1 million has been invested to improve snowmaking output on Zali's and at the bottom of Exceleator and Lower Roller Coaster runs at [Blue Cow](#). It not only provides quality top to bottom coverage, but the new equipment means better energy saving efficiencies.
- **FREE WiFi at the [Perisher Valley Hotel](#).** Stay in touch, get online! Guests will now enjoy the convenience of free WiFi connection during their stay at the luxurious PVH right on the snow.
- **Fab Four - [Perisher's Fab Four program](#)** offers a premium group lesson program for children aged 5 to 12 years with only four children per instructor. Kids will explore the mountain while fine tuning their skills with one of our friendly, professional instructors.
- **Perisher Teens – [Perisher's teen program](#)** is simply "too cool for school". Teens will now have the opportunity to experience a whole new dimension in skiing and riding; they'll meet new friends, explore the mountain and receive just the right amount of instruction to conquer the slopes, parks and pipes with confidence.
- **New "Super Glide" Skating Rink at Smiggin Holes.** What was the hot ticket in Jindabyne in 2010 is now set to move to outside the Smiggins Hotel in 2011. Located on the snow and open into the evenings, the Super Glide Skating Rink will provide great fun for all ages and is sure to be at hit.

The following article is from the Perisher Historical Newsletter.

Len Hibble is a regular contributor, and he says that for many of the "oldies" most of the info about Aussie timbers for skis is old hat.

Many of them, like Norm Tonkin, Harry Gorman and Len (and there's probably a few more) used Alpine Ash in the late 1940's because it was more readily available and used a Norwegian ski design drawing that had cross section detail about every 20cms for the full length. They made templates of each of these cross sections from sheet metal so they could make sure that both skis were exactly the same.

"At that time our ski-ing skills were such that it probably would not have mattered much if they had differed a bit or even a large bit!!"

AUSTRALIAN TIMBERS USED IN SKIS

Most skis used in Australian ski resorts today are overwhelmingly imported from North America and Europe. However, prior to post-war globalisation and the development of light-weight synthetic laminates, most skis were crafted in Australia from local timbers. Early skis were generally carved from a single piece of wood, the properties of which included a durable straight grained timber (preferably light) that did not warp or splinter when worked with a rasp and treated with a preservative, but which could also be bent at the tip and maintain its shape when cured.

The first skis used in Kiandra were crafted from the straightest and tallest timber in the Snowy Mountains, Alpine Ash (*Eucalyptus delegatensis*).



Alpine Ash (Eucalyptus delegatensis)– arguably the timber used to make the first skis used at Kiandra in the 1860s and easily procured in the areas surrounding the goldfields.

Early reports made reference to 'snow shoes' being made from the local Mountain Ash, but it is likely this nomenclature was used in a general sense and did not refer to the true Mountain Ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*) that grows on the lower slopes in the Victorian highlands. There is nothing to suggest that wood other than Alpine Ash was the primary source of timber for making skis in those early years around Kiandra, however, it is possible that non-local wood from planks and panels of discarded crates, broken carts and housing material may have also been used. Both Alpine Ash and Mountain Ash were available to those crafting their first skis further south.

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As interest in snow sports grew and people started to invest more time preparing for their skiing adventure, different timbers were utilised in the manufacture of skis, often by individuals who wanted the reward of skiing on their own hand-made creations. The motivation for some was also the cost of importing skis from Europe and the limited availability of skis in Australia. Some people also imported wood from overseas to make skis.

The following list of native timber species from which skis are known to have been carved has been collected from the literature, oral histories and from skis in museums and collections. However, if you know of skis being made from any other native timber, please contact the PHS to share your knowledge. We can place this information on the PHS website. Any stories that may accompany hand-crafted skis are also welcome.

Eucalyptus cypellocarpa – Mountain Grey Gum

Eucalyptus delegatensis – Alpine Ash

Eucalyptus regnans – Mountain Ash

Corymbia maculata (formerly known as *Eucalyptus maculata*) – Spotted Gum

Acacia obliquinervia – Mountain Hickory Wattle

Acacia melanoxylon – Black Wood