



Happy Xmas! Wishing you peace and happiness\* in 2012.  
Here's to good health and a relaxing break over the summer holidays.

### AGM 2011 and developments for 2012

Kandahar's 57th AGM at the Kirribilli Club went well, with around 55 members and guests attending. The summary overleaf is also up on the news page of our website. We had an interesting discussion about a few things which members raised:

- Wifi/internet connection for the lodges
- Priority bookings for the purpose of ski racing
- Online booking/payments
- Membership forecasts and demographics
- Ski gear exchange
- Kandahar Facebook and membership interaction
- Improved photo gallery (including archival photos).

#### Wifi

We are investigating costs and options for an Airlan internet connection. Airlan is the snowy mountain region's largest wifi network.

#### Priority for ski race participants

Some members questioned whether a priority week for ski race participants was necessarily fair and we'll put this position to all members in our 2012 survey. (Background: the priority week was introduced to support our tax exempt status).

#### Website

The other bullet points are to be implemented as part of our website upgrade which involves moving to a new platform with a content management system. It would be great if this could happen in time for the next season – but this will depend on finding the right web developer because my level of expertise as webmaster doesn't run to this. We believe either Wordpress or Joomla will be the best platform and if any members have some insights or experience of either, please be in touch.

The Board is putting together a survey to further establish a direction on some of these topics.

#### Kandahar ski tops

Andrew Cutler has had nearly 30 orders for tops and will be negotiating a discount price. Last chance to put in clothing orders, contact Andrew 0423 244 444.

### Membership demographics – snapshot

We have 199 members on our database.

GEN 1 = 26

GEN 2 = 95

GEN 3 = 54 (i.e. Gen Y)

GEN 00 = 24 (the new member intake in 2000)

Email: 47 members don't have or provide email contact.

Of these stats we have had 22 new members join as the children of 2nd generation parents in the last 2 years, and we can expect similar numbers over 2012-14. We had our first booking from a third generation member this year and find that restricted members are not yet requesting bookings. Anecdotal evidence is that overseas trips are where our Gen Y members are holidaying (or else skiing at Kandahar with other family members).

#### Social

Picnic 2012: Maria Silk Young has volunteered to organise another Kandahar picnic planned for **Sunday 12th February** at Andrew and Janet Cutler's Elvina Bay house. Date will be confirmed and an invitation sent.

Last month, our pioneer members, Gen 1, met for a reunion lunch organised by Iain and Judy Wyatt and plan to hold another one in 6 months time.

Maria Silk Young and her husband Scott, joined in in the annual Snowy Ride in November and reported a very successful fund raising event and a brilliant ride.

#### Perisher news

SLOPES is currently representing our interests trying to prevent Fire & Rescue NSW from closing Perisher Fire station in summer (in 2010 they responded 379 times and averaged 27 call-outs / month in summer and 46 call-outs / month in winter so we feel their year round presence is justified).

Happy new year,

Lisa Chandler | lisachandler4@gmail.com

\* For peace and quiet make a booking over the summer.

## AGM summary

For those members who were unable to attend, this is what happened at our AGM.

### 28th October 2011

Minutes and financial accounts for last year were confirmed along with the auditors fees. Andrew Cutler spoke about the transition to a new auditor to fix the problem of delayed audits. Chris Paine, Treasurer, mentioned that ASIC no longer requires a Club of our size to maintain a professional audit, however the Board prefers to continue with an independent (and now timely) auditor just to be financially prudent.

**Election of Directors:** All board members were re-elected, with no other nominations.

**Chairman's Report:** Andrew Cutler presented his report (see the pre AGM newsletter). Andrew mentioned that our Club's bookings for 2011 winter season had been better than many and that this year the commercial lodges had seen a drop in bookings. Andrew thanked Maria Silk Young for organising last year's picnic. Maria will plan a Kandahar picnic in February next year.

Anne Strange reported the **bookings** were solid this year and that we should use the lodges more over the summer as there were very few bookings.

**Building Report:** Dave Humphries reported that there is no major work expected. Dave spoke about the problem we currently have with our mandatory summer fire screens in K2 - it is likely that we'll need to replace either the windows or the screens in the future as the design we have now doesn't work well with our Velux windows. For now, to be compliant for insurance purposes, we are stuck with them however, we can take them off in winter and store under the lodge. The couches have been bursting at the seams for a few seasons now, so we plan to re-cover them. K1's washing machine will be replaced the next time it needs mending. Of the 12 gum tree saplings we planted, we think 11 have survived according to an eye-witness account.

Ian Cutler as **Stores** Officer encouraged members to let him know what items they would like to see as over time people's food requirements change. He did mention it was a record year for toilet paper consumption.

**General business and discussion:** There was some discussion on several topics:

**Internet:** It was suggested that an "Airlan" router be used - now being investigated.

**Online booking and payments:** The Board wants to review online methods of payment as cheques are becoming obsolete.

**Priority bookings for the purpose of ski racing:** A discussion was held on the reasoning behind ski racing families having a booking priority. On the one hand the Club's focus as a tax exempt entity is on snow sports rather than accommodation, however some members expressed the view that this should not necessarily mean giving priority to race participants. The question is to be considered by the Board and put to in a broader survey of member's requirements and needs.

**Membership forecasts and demographics:** We had some questions on the shape and size of the Club.

**Membership interaction:** It was suggested that members be provided an opportunity to opt into a sharing of contact information. It was also suggested a Facebook page may be the ideal solution. Another idea was for a ski gear exchange page. The board will consider these ideas as part of our website upgrade.

**Kandahar ski clothes:** Could Kandahar consider some Club ski gear as had previously been offered a few years ago.

**Website project:** As mentioned, we are researching the best way to upgrade to a dynamic website with the capabilities outlined on the previous page.

The meeting finished at 8.30pm and we were glad to move out of our room which had become hot and airless and move to the Water Terrace which had plenty of air on the verandah and a great view. General consensus with the Kirribilli Club was good - people liked the food and location. Parking was a harder to find for those who arrived a bit later. I have let the Club's event manager know that something was amiss with the air con in the Lavender Room.

**Kandahar picnic 2012:** Thanks to Maria Silk Young for volunteering to organise some social events after the success of last's November's Kandahar Picnic. Maria is planning a picnic in February.

The meeting finished at 8:30pm with a vote of thanks from the members to the Board..