



THE ARLBERG EDGE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ARLBERG SKI CLUB INC

December 2013

Volume 10

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The Ski Season is now but a fading memory as we welcome in the summer.

Bookings for the 2013 Ski Season achieved 1119 bed nights; this figure is down 6% from 2012. This is a good result considering the challenge of a warm winter across the country. The brief cold snap helped boost club numbers and a very good start with the July school holidays followed by low snow depth and closing with heavy rain falls.

Tongariro Junior Races

Prepared by Andrea Alston, Arlberg Club Member

On the 14th of September Arlberg entered a snowboard and ski team into the inaugural Tongariro Juniors Club race. The ski team Jack, Carolyn, and Amelia all raced well on the full race course set in the valley. The boarders Charlie, Henry, and Luca also performed admirably. Prize giving was held at the Tongariro Ski Club and all the children received prizes and thoroughly enjoyed the event. This race is going to be held again next year and we look forward to entering another team!

Other Photos can be found on the Tongariro juniors race Facebook page



Important Dates

See Events on Arlberg Website

Visit the website

www.arlberg.co.nz

Contact Us

www.arlberg.co.nz

Arlberg Ski Club Inc.

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Children's numbers

- Jack 49 (4th individual race)
- Henry 43 (13th individual race)
- Amelia 14 (4th individual race)
- Charlie 8 (4th individual race)
- Carolyn 84 (9th individual race)
- Luca 113 DNF

The Arlberg ski team was placed 18th overall – a good result! Well done all children!

RMCA News (Ruapehu Mountain Club Association)

Prepared by Linda Danen, RMCA Councilor and Arlberg Club Member

Arlberg Ski Club, is a long standing member of the Ruapehu Mountain Club Association. The RMCA represents over 50 member clubs from Iwikau village, Whakapapa and National Park. The key purpose of the RMCA is to advise and co-ordinate responses to matters arising that may impact the activities of the member clubs. As such the RMCA works closely with Ruapehu Alpine Lifts (RAL), Department of Conservation (DOC) and the Ruapehu District Council (RDC). The RMCA also provide and manage the Iwikau grocery room which Arlberg uses and the RMCA Group Insurance Scheme.

The key focus during the past year has been the Clubs' license renewal with DOC. The license allows the clubs to operate within the Tongariro National Park. The main discussion item during the renewal process was 'enabling future viability for the lodges/clubs'. Although no significant changes were made to the license, the renewal process provided good discussion.

In April, RMCA held its bi-annual forum at Whakapapa. This is an opportunity for club representatives to work together, learn and discuss items of interest such as; DOC and RAL future planning, electricity price challenges, waste collection and recycling, Whakapapa sewage scheme and club membership opportunities. Linda Danen (RMCA Councilor) and Michael McLean attended this year's forum on behalf of Arlberg Ski Club.

Currently on the table is the 'trial' Tongariro National Park Building Code driven by DOC, and open to feedback on the code for 12 months from 1 July 2013. Key impacts include:

- DOC require that any building work to be properly supervised by a competent person approved in advance by the Department.
- A works approval is required for all works affecting the external part of any building, any internal work that increases or decreases the number of bunks in any building
- Colour palates for Iwikau – When Arlberg re-paints the roof, the colour will need to change.

In October the RMCA held its AGM followed by presentations from RAL and RDC. Items of news included:

- Engineering Consulting firm, AWT, engaged to redesign the waste water treatment facility. There are 2 years left to run on the discharge consent.
- RAL concession licenses up for renewal, Turoa in 2 years Whakapapa in a few years.
- Clubs that have a waiting list and that are well booked for weekends have ski programs in place.
- The RMCA insurance scheme has reopened for additional clubs to join. Note: Arlberg committee will review this option when the insurance is up for renewal in 2014.

Summer Lodge Stays:

Summer is upon us and with eight months before the ski season starts there is plenty of opportunity to invite non-skiing friends that you know would appreciate the opportunity to stay in the lodge. Mountain bikers, hikers, triathletes, fishers or foodies; anyone really. With a lot to do on the Central Plateau using Arlberg Lodge as the base at \$15 per person per night. (Three nights exclusive use of the whole lodge is available for \$500.) Going to the effort of arranging a group booking for your friends, your colleagues or a group you belong to will give immense satisfaction, they will love sharing in our special experience.

Here are links to some of the activities available:

DOC Ruapehu area: www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/tracks-and-walks/central-north-island/ruapehu/

Tongariro Crossing: www.tongarirocrossing.org.nz

Whakapapa Trails: www.mtruapehu.com/summer

National Cycle Trail Mountains to the sea: www.nzcycletrail.com/mountains-sea-nga-ara-tuhono

National Cycle Trail Timber Trail Connection: www.nzcycletrail.com/timber-trail

The Old Coach Road: www.ohakunecoachroad.co.nz/pages/bike-trail.html



Arlberg 50th Anniversary

17 May 2014

Preparations have moved ahead for the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Arlberg Ski Club next year. At the centre of the celebrations is a dinner to be held on Saturday, 17 May 2014. Remembering the Club's roots, a private function room has been booked at the Howick Club.



The function will comprise of a buffet dinner followed by dancing. With two drinks included the ticket price will be under \$60. The buffet includes both hot and cold selections, plus a carvery and a range of desserts. A cash bar will be available for further drinks.

This will be a great opportunity to catch up with ski families and friends you may not have seen in years. So please let any past Arlberg members you may know of this upcoming event and encourage them to get in touch with me to find out more information and register their interest.

Also, if you have any interesting photos and stories that you have collected over the last 50 years, please contact me as we would love to have the opportunity to share them on the night.

We are looking forward to a wonderful evening and hope you can make it along. Can you please email me your interest as I need to confirm numbers with the venue at this stage.

Kind regards
Leonie Deane
Ph: 6233 767 : 027 428 9003
Email : leonie@deaneco.co.nz

Work Party's.

Novembers work party was lead by Kathleen Stone, (our food officer) on the 15/17 November. This was mainly a cleaning party and was attended by Allannah-Marie Morgan, Jos Van Hees and children Alec & Erin McDonald. A few others pulled out last minute.

Cleaning of Kitchen, Bunk Rooms & Bathrooms were carried out, a great effort for the few people attending. Thanks to all who attended.

Next Dates are:

February Friday 21st / Sunday 23rd

March Friday 7th March / Sunday 9th

Arlberg Ski Club has relied on Volunteer Labour from new and existing members to give freely there time and efforts / skills, in building, maintaining and upgrading the club for all to enjoy, there are fixed rules to joining the membership & Five yearly work party requirements have been well publicized via the news letters and minutes from the AGMs on the website.

However although a very large group of existing members have all been personally emailed to remind them of this and to either contact Maintenance or Membership. This has largely been passed over by the intended recipients. Please contact Maintenance and Membership to advise your situation. The Maintenance manager is aware of only one email passed to Committee and discussed regarding this issue, What are the rest of you doing?

As members appear to be more time constrained to carry out their work party commitments, this is causing a rethink at committee level. There is also an increasing amount of compliance & licensing within the Building Sector and DOC have put in there own requirements as well. An option:

For getting maintenance and improvements completed; pay professionals to carry this out, as there appears to be a decreasing source of skilled people within our club membership, and off set the costs by an increase Annual Subs and or implement a Work Party levy each & every Year, with the option of having this amount deductible if a work party is attended, alongside trade's people.

We are also looking at other options for aged seniors.

We are interested in feedback to this idea from you, or any other options thoughts or suggestions. With the AGM looming in April changes will have to be made, to keep the club building safe, healthy and economically viable.

Please email maintenance@arlberg.co.nz with your thoughts