



THE ARLBERG EDGE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ARLBERG SKI CLUB

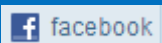
In this Issue -

- Using the Club
 - Waste Water
 - Rubbish and Recycling
 - Internet Access
 - Bed Linen
- New Member Club Trial Options
- Life Members
- BMW 3 Touring Launch
- Arlberg 50th Anniversary
- Second-hand Ski Gear
- A Member's Summer Tale

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School Holidays - the Snow is Here!

Yes, you know the ski season is here when the school holidays arrive and the Desert Road is closed. Currently Whakapapa has a 90cm snow base and all of the lower mountain and the Valley and Waterfall T-bars are open. It looks like another good dump is needed for full skiing but certainly some fun to be had and time to start planning your next ski trip.



Arlberg Club Treasurer Hamish Stevens took this photo of the club last Thursday - looking good for the season!

Using the Club

As the winter season gets underway, and we start to use the club again, there are a number of things to be aware of when using the club. If we all take care of the facilities, then it will enhance everybody's experience at Arlberg.

Waste Water

Waste water from the club is piped to a treatment station down by the Chateau. This facility is like a large septic tank and relies on live bacteria to break down waste. Some of the chemicals and anti bacterial cleaners (eg bleach, liquid soaps and shower cleaner) used in the club kill off all bacteria and thus put strain on the treatment plant. If the plant has to be upgraded to cope we will see significant costs to all clubs, so we are investigating alternative products will reduce the impact on the treatment station.

Expect to see some changes in the cleaners that are available and please refill spray bottles and the like from the bulk supplies in the pantry. If you are familiar with the types of products we need please advise the committee via food@arlberg.co.nz.

Rubbish and Recycling

The rubbish and recycling operation on the mountain is run by the Department of Conservation. Clubs are charged a portion of the total rubbish and recycling costs. These costs increase whenever the rubbish volume increases or if the recycling is not properly sorted.

Therefore separating the glass, metal, plastics, paper and cardboard before it ends up in the rubbish is the starting point. Burn anything appropriate in the fire and only put non-recyclables into the rubbish bag. If your lodge duty is to dispose of the rubbish and recycling please carefully sort the recyclables by bin as indicated at the station at the Top-of-the-Bruce

Internet Access

As most of you will know, the lodge has wireless internet access using an ADSL connection. This service is provided so that club members and guests can access the internet for email and light web browsing.

The connection is on a fixed capacity data plan and so should not be used for downloading video or music files, or other high-use activities such as Skype calls.

There are also a few other things to watch out for which may increase usage. The most common of these are -

- **Automatic software updates** - operating system or other software can use a lot of data quite quickly downloading updates.
- **Automatic file synchronisation** - file storage services (eg iCloud, SkyDrive, etc) and peer-to-peer services can use large amounts of data keeping files up-to-date on your computer.

So in order to allow everybody a chance to use the club's internet access, please turn these features off and re-start them when you are home.

Bed Linen

There are two pillows and a mattress protector for each bunk in the lodge. The mattress protectors are rotated and are taken away for washing at least once per season. New pillows are regularly added and old ones removed.

To keep everyone healthy, everybody must use your own sheets or sleeping bag and pillow cases. To assist with this, here are the bed sizes in the lodge -

- King single (L200cm x W103cm) - one in each of the four main bunk rooms
- Long single (L200cm x W90cm) - one in each of the four main bunk rooms, and two in each of the 2-bunk rooms
- Standard bunk (L190cm x 80cm) - all other bunks

King single flat (or fitted) sheets and Double flat sheets work on all these sizes.

If any spills happen and a mattress protector needs to be washed, please advise the lodge officer and then replace with one of the clean ones from above the lockers in the upper fridge room. The dirty mattress protector will need to be taken home for cleaning and returned to the lodge as soon as possible.

New Member Club Trial Options

With the winter season now underway, it's the perfect time to encourage family and friends to try out the lodge. New members are essential to the on-going growth of the club and in order to encourage guests to try out Arlberg, there are a number of options which you can offer them to help with this.

With the prior approval of the Booking Officer, up to four non-members can have confirmed bookings for their first weekend stay at the lodge (outside of Race Weekend). As usual, they will need to be accompanied by an existing member.

Also, a potential new member can stay for two nights at the member rate for their first visit with an existing member (again, with the prior approval of the Booking Officer).

Please position both of these options correctly with non-members - and they should be used to encourage those guests who we truly think may become members in the future.

For more information, please contact the President or the Booking Officer.

Life Members

Arlberg has a small number of Life Members, who enjoy the privileges of full membership of the club without having to pay the annual subscription. Life Membership is designed to recognise those members who have made a significant contribution to the club over a long period.

In conjunction with the upcoming 50th Anniversary next year, the committee feel that it would be an appropriate time to look at awarding Life Membership to some club members who have played a noteworthy part in the development of the club.

Life Members need to be confirmed at a General Meeting and so nominations should be submitted to the committee by 1 February in order for review and preparation of the motion before the AGM. This may seem like a long time, but if you have an idea of somebody who you feel may deserve this recognition then please start to give it some thought.

BMW 3 Series Touring Launch

Recently, BMW launched a new four-wheel drive 3 Series Touring (wagon) to journalists in New Zealand which involved a two-day road trip and chance to drive the new vehicle off-road in snow conditions at Mount Ruapehu.

Ed Finn, Arlberg member and Communications Manager for BMW New Zealand, organised for the BMW staff and journalists to stay at Arlberg while they were visiting Whakapapa skifield.

And while we didn't get a direct mention in any of the articles, everybody certainly enjoyed their stay at Arlberg. And the wagon certainly looked good in the carpark above the club.



Arlberg 50th Anniversary

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 Leonie Dean (leonie@deaneco.co.nz) 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 Leonie 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.

Second-hand Ski Gear

As you're checking out your gear for the coming season, remember that there may be other club members who could make use of those old skis or boards. Particularly those that your kids have outgrown - and we are happy to post requests for items wanted, or notices of items for sale.

And so -

- Stefan Knight (stefan.knight@telecom.co.nz) is looking for skis and ski boots for a 5 and 7 year old.

A Member's Summer Tale

And a final note to whet your appetite for the upcoming ski season. Arlberg club member, Monica Stone, spent her summer working on Marmot skifield in Alberta Canada. Monica lives in the town of Jasper and buses "up the hill to work" through the Jasper National Park - looking out for moose and elk on the way!



The job was all organised prior to departure through IEP (International Employment). New Zealanders can work in Canada on a one-time 12 month visa.

As you can see she has been tripping around to experience the other mountains, with her fellow Kiwi and Australian workmates. The slopes are vast, plenty of snow and not many other people getting in your way and definitely no queues!!!

Of course Monica's mother, Food Officer Kathleen Stone, had to go and check on how her daughter was doing in February - and try the fabulous skiing at Marmot and Sun Peaks.

