



# THE ARLBERG EDGE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ARLBERG SKI CLUB INC

September 2011

Volume 2

## In This Issue

- Season Update
- Committee Comment
- Booking Rule
- Facebook
- Ski Racks
- Lockers
- New Members
- Member Prospects
- Club Captains Corner
- Did you Know

## Visit the website

[www.arlberg.co.nz](http://www.arlberg.co.nz)

## Contact Us

[www.arlberg.co.nz](http://www.arlberg.co.nz)

Arlberg Ski Club Inc.

PO Box 2876

Auckland

## Welcome to Arlberg Ski Club newsletter

### Season Update

Hi Team Arlberg,

Here we are just half way through the 2011 ski season and after a warm June/July and a delayed opening there has been some fantastic skiing & boarding this season, with many of us raving about the accessibility of great runs, including Home Run; and again skiing right back to the road opposite the lodge. Recently more off piste adventures have been had with spring conditions arriving.

The usual August cold blast visited with extreme weather conditions including snow reported as far north as Auckland. During this time the severe cold resulted in the lodge's aluminum front door and lock to freeze. A bit of kiwi ingenuity by way of a oil heater helped thaw it out.



Making the most of the snow from the mid August southerly blast was Greg Owen's family, which included family from Canada and Australia. Including a full day skiing we were treated to spectacles of cartwheels & snow Angles from the pinnacles across the road and below Graduates ski club, by Shane, Greg's brother; and he treated us later to pancakes after bribing Lorenzo's chef to sell him some cream. Shane exhibited great skill as he was seen merrily running / sliding back to Arlberg on the iced up road. Just goes to show what a great place to stay is Arlberg, winter or summer, with friends and family.



When the weather is fine and clear, the new Knoll Ridge café facilities and deck area go down a treat; and easily accommodate large numbers over the lunch time meals.

With five or six weeks left for the ski season, a warm lodge to stay at; get online and book in for some spring skiing.

Go Arlberg and The All Blacks

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## Committee Comment

The committee continues to work on several initiatives to help grow the membership. We have held two Open Days at the lodge in conjunction with a stall at the Club Promotion Day organized by Snowline and RAL, held a competition for 2 free nights for 2, advertised in the Suburban Newspapers, handed out the nifty Arlberg Business Cards, run a \$400 promotion for joining before the end of August and more.

The website remains a major focus, to make it more relevant, current and easier for non technical committee members to update. We would like to co-opt a club member to help assist with this role. If you have the required skills for this position and are willing to help please Contact [gregory.owen@hotmail.com](mailto:gregory.owen@hotmail.com)

### Bookings:

The weekend booking rule has been in place for a long time.  
(Since Adam was a Halfback).

It requires you to pay for Friday and Saturday together if you want to stay in the lodge on either of those days. The booking system doesn't force you to do this but that is the rule and you are expected to follow it.

## Arlberg is on Facebook!!!

Have you seen we have an Arlberg Ski Club Group on Facebook.com. Click the bottom tab on the Arlberg Home page or go on Facebook (open an account if you don't have one) and then in the search box enter Arlberg Ski Club. Join the group and start sharing pictures, stories, blogging, etc. Anyone can join; they don't have to be Arlberg members, so your friends can get in on the fun.

## Ski and Snowboard Racks!!!

With 20 of the ski and board racks locked but empty the ski room is almost unmanageable during busy periods. To solve this we ask that empty racks are left open. You can still hold the space by attaching the lock to the staple only. Any locked padlocks on empty racks will be cut open by end of September unless written requests otherwise are sent to [president@arlberg.co.nz](mailto:president@arlberg.co.nz).

## Lockers:

The President Michael McLean has had requests from new members looking for lockers. If anyone wishes to give up their locker please let him know and send back the keys so he can re-allocate them.

## Call for Photos:

The website could do with some fresh photos. If you have on the mountain, on the snow, at the lodge or other relevant photos we would love to have them!

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## Welcome New Members

Linda Danen, Chris & Ella Donald, Shane and Leeane Gregory. Richard McDonnell. Nicky Ryan. Sean Stowers. P.K. Tan. Chris and Nicola Wilson.

Also Sam Keyte, Connor McDonald, Luca Menzi-Smith, Sarah Shipton and Zoe Stowers as Juniors

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## Update: Turning Prospects into Members

It has been suggested that waiting for notice that guests can be accommodated on the Monday is losing us some prospective new members.

So we are offering a deal where 4 guest bunks per weekend (Fri and Sat) (Outside school Holidays and Race Weekend) can be priority booked at member rates with the prior approval of the booking officer. The prospect is only able to stay once under this special deal. Note Guests can be booked for mid week stays anytime and don't need to wait for approval. The \$400 new senior membership promotion will be extended to the end of September 2011 with the addition of 2 free nights in the offer.

## Club Captain's Corner

The next major event on our calendar is Race Weekend which is set down for this weekend, September 17/18. As this newsletter comes to you we have only two spaces available, get in quick to secure a place.

This year there is no additional catering charge for the Saturday meal because we are self catering as we do most weekends.

The Arlberg Race Weekend:

This year Race Weekend will be open to juniors as well, to encourage more participation.

We will be awarding cups for the following categories

Masters Men

Masters Women

Senior Men

Senior Women

Intermediate Men

Intermediate Women

Junior Men

Junior Women

Snowboard Men

Snowboard Women

Under 12 yr old Skiing

Under 12 Yr old Snowboard

Snowman Building Contest (bring your spades and decorations for this one)

This weekend is also the 'shelf stampede' - A Team Race only open to the Iwikau clubs on the Loop Road. This year's 'shelf stampede' is organized by the current holder of the trophy, Matamata Ski Club. It is planned to start at the top of the Knoll around 4pm with a lemans start (run across to your skis/board, clip in and race downhill). The 1<sup>st</sup> team with 4 home to the Plaza wins. One team per club, team consists of up to ten members.

Prize giving for the stampede will be held afterwards at Matamata Ski Club.

If you have any questions about club racing events let John Hutchings know at [clubcaptain@arlberg.co.nz](mailto:clubcaptain@arlberg.co.nz)

Regards,

*John Hutchings*

## Did you know

In the previous newsletter the editor asked for news of other activities Arlberg members are involved in so that we can get to know our members beyond the snow, so to speak.

First off the rank is Mark Worthington.

Mark grew up with Arlberg Ski Club as a Junior. Now a senior, he enjoys skiing with his 3 children. In addition to Mark's busy schedule as a specialist dentist he is a Major in the NZ Defense Force, Territorial, 2HSB (Hospital Service Battalion) involved in medical/dental and environmental health services.

Mark was recently deployed aboard HMNZS Canterbury, on Exercise Pacific Partnership for the month of April.



From Auckland the first stop was Noumea, where the ship picked up a french helicopter and crew (2 pilots, navigator, engineer and 3 ground support staff). Only one other person aboard spoke French so it was a great chance for Mark to try out his basic French language skills. On board the Canterbury were Swedish marine officers (x2) as well as Australian navy (x6) British army logistics guys and some Americans. This was fundamentally an American exercise based from USS Cleveland. The kiwis did so well during the deployment that the American commander relocated his HQ aboard the Canterbury for the duration.





The main effort was to provide dental treatment to the outermost NW island group of Tonga Nuitongatapu). As well as a contingent of 100 Army engineers, Mark said they did a fantastic job providing some improved infrastructure mainly in water catchments, road works, stock proofing and playgrounds for the local kids. Following that part of the exercise (ten days) they traveled to Vanuatu then to Espirto Santo. Mark then flew home from Vanuatu in time to arrive back in Auckland for the Anzac day commemorations at Auckland Cenotaph.

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## More stories of interest wanted

Editor needs material for stories of interest – please contact Reid Mossman at [reidmossman@xtra.co.nz](mailto:reidmossman@xtra.co.nz) to help out.