

Message from Ross Stanton to the members

After 17 years as a Director of the Club I thought this year was a suitable time to stand aside to enable a new director to make a contribution.

I am sure the Club will successfully weather the current Covid 19 problems and looking back I am pleased with what the club has been able to achieve over the last 17 years. Good practical matters have been attended to in the form of:

- Introducing lodge managers.
- Acting on geotechnical advice to improve the stability of our Thredbo site.
- Updating our constitution.
- Securing long extensions to our Perisher Lease and Thredbo Sub-Lease.
- Refurbishing most of the interior of the Thredbo lodge.
- Renewing the kitchen at Perisher.
- Cladding the Perisher lodge and replacing most of its windows.
- Developing the club's web page to facilitate online bookings.
- Generally keeping member tariffs and subscriptions low.
- Maintaining a sound financial position.

I am particularly appreciative of the excellent advice and support I received from Greg Middleton - who was the Club's treasurer for most of my time as a Director.

When the Covid 19 situation passes I will be interested to see what paths the club takes. For my part I would like to see;

- A continuation of our recent efforts to encourage club camaraderie with activities such as ski racing, ski touring, fly fishing, cycling and bush walking.
- The second week of September at Thredbo being set aside for club ski touring along with further long weekends in summer and autumn being set aside for club fly fishing. I hope the web page can facilitate a membership events calendar to assist with these sorts of activities.
- The refurbishment of the bedrooms and bathrooms in the Perisher lodge and the completion of the refurbishment of the Thredbo lodge.
- Keeping the lodges accessible for member bookings during peak seasons.

The latter is an interesting issue. The recent capital expenditures on the lodges have been largely funded from membership joining fees but of course newly joined members are understandably keen to use the lodges and hence lodge accessibility is becoming more of an issue. My current view is that when the Club's finances permit, that membership vacancies could generally be left unfilled. This would gradually improve lodge accessibility. The alternative of acquiring a further lodge would be much costlier.

I hope to continue to encounter my fellow members in the alpine environment we all so like.

Regards,

Ross Stanton