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Dear Members

We are counting down the days to winter and talk of snow - after April flurries at Falls Creek and Mt Buller – is well underway. The arrival of the TechnoAlpins snow factory at Mt Buller earlier this year means they can now make 'snow' in temperatures up to 15 degrees Celsius – now that's a game changer and I'm safely predicting good snow on Bourke Street for the opening weekend! Over the season keep an eye on the SkiLib Facebook page for updates, photos and commentary from our members you're up to date.

It was great to see so many members attend the 53rd Annual General Meeting on 30 March 2017. All serving members of the Board were re-elected and SkiLib is in great financial shape. I encourage you to log in to the members area on skilib.com.au and check out the Annual Report and financial statements.

In the first weekend of May, a hardy crew of members led by Mark Besley made their way to Mt Buller for the regular pre-season work party to ensure we are ready for winter.

The season officially opens over the Queen's Birthday long weekend and school holidays start for many schools on 1st July 2017. Bookings at Falls Creek and Mt Buller are strong through the peak July and August months. However, you'll still find plenty of rooms available so don't delay your booking.

Please read on for more updates.

Best wishes for a cold and snowy winter.

Malcolm Ross

Chairman

The sport of skiing consists of wearing three thousand dollars' worth of clothes and equipment and driving two hundred miles in the snow in order to stand around at a bar and get drunk.

~P.J. O'Rourke, Modern Manners, 1984



Each year, the Booking Office spends time following up members who are overdue on completing payment for bookings, which comes at a considerable cost to a non-profit co-operative.

Bookings need to be fully paid no later than 1 month prior to the booking start date. Our Booking Terms & Conditions states that *“A booking may be cancelled and the reservation removed from the booking system if full payment is not received within 1 month of the start date of the booking”*.

All bookings receive a reminder email from the booking system at the point payment is due. Please ensure all your bookings are paid in accordance with the above requirements. The Board have determined that in order to reduce unnecessary Booking Office overheads, if you have not completed payment for a booking by the due date, you will receive 1 courtesy reminder. If payment is not completed within 48 hours from that time, your booking may be cancelled and any deposit paid forfeited.

The May 2017 Skilib work party at Mt. Buller was held on the weekend of May 5 and 6. A smaller group of around 14 members attended to a range of tasks to prepare the lodge for the coming winter season.

As well as the normal work party job of stacking 5 cubic metres of firewood, we completed a total clean of the kitchen, painting of some walls as needed, cleaning of scuff marks on other walls, thorough clean of the bedrooms, bathrooms and living areas, complete cleanup of the possum mess in the members loft, together with some woodwork to seal off various gaps, and replacement of smoke detector batteries.

This was followed on Saturday evening by pre-dinner nibbles around the fire and a roast dinner and dessert which was enjoyed by all after a tiring day. Thanks to all those who participated and gave their time.

Stretch pants - the garment that made skiing a spectator sport

