

MAY 1977





# WARRUGANG NEWS MAGAZINE

MAY, 1977.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Royal Automobile Club was again the venue for the Annual General Meeting. The Meeting followed the usual pleasant dinner and was enlivened by reports from all the international ski tourists who had returned only the day before from the U.S.A. Reports on the trip were given by Nev Fulthorpe, Kaye Morrison, Don Widdicombe, Barbie Graham, Mike Shearer, Alison Vickery, Ewan Morrison, Elton Squires, Lorraine Stevens. Tourists also present at the A.G.M. were Aileen Fulthorpe, Greg Fulthorpe, Liz Squires and Janet Shearer. (Where were you Greg Brookes on the night of the A.G.M.?) What tales YOU could tell!

The tourists all told us that O-R-G-A-N-I-Z-A-T-I-O-N is the theme of American skiing and all were impressed with the service provided for skiers both on and off the snowfields visited.

## SOME SNIPPETS FROM THE TOURISTS.

..... The A.G.M. carried a vote by acclamation for an outdoor heated swimming pool at Warrugang. The motion was moved formally by (would you believe?) Barbie Graham but the motion lapsed as she omitted to ask for a seconder.

..... Sign on ski slopes - "Inverted Aerial Manoeuvres are Prohibited" and after that (for interpretation) "FLIPS"!!!

..... Verger at the Mormon Church in Salt Lake City, Utah, approached Don Widdicombe and informed him that God only made a few perfect heads and these he left bald so that their full splendour could be observed.

..... Mike - What does an English yodeller sound like? Pretty good from the example given at the A.G.M.

..... How do you keep so trim after so much food Alison?

..... Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves on Kaye and Ewan Morrison's honeymoon.

..... When is the next "Warrugang Ski Tour". Might we suggest Rules Point,

Yarrangobilli, Kiandra, Eaglehawk, Franklin?

..... The only injury during the tour was to Elton Squires who sustained a nasty shoulder injury. He can still lift a glass of pale amber and hopes to be able to satisfactorily hold both stocks by the time the deep snows arrive.

BOOKINGS.

Members tariff rates for this year have been held at 1976 rates and friend's rates have increased only marginally. We had 244 full weekly bookings last season and current bookings are already very heavy so if you want to take advantage of the superb facilities at Warrugang, we suggest you book immediately. Note that mail bookings are preferred but if you have to ring Barbara Williamson on 949.2124, please do so only between 4 - 5 p.m. or 7.30-8.30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays. If you give Barbara's phone number to your friends, be sure to advise them firmly of these times as Barbara has her private life and is a voluntary officer of Warrugang.



LODGE IMPROVEMENTS.

After many years Warrugang is now wearing a new hat. The last of the fire damaged roof has now been replaced by Canberra builders, Kell and Rigby. Our honorary building consultant, Norm McAdoo was there to ensure that the work was done to our satisfaction. Again this summer, Norm has proved a great friend of Warrugang by attending to a multitude of small jobs to ensure your continuing comfort.

Central heating of the Lodge should be more reliable this winter following the replacement of the heating with a brand new unit by Simpson Heating Services of Canberra. Shortage of time and finance precluded any

significant work on the duct work but this will be re-examined next summer.

Our porta gas bottles have been corralled at last! Norm has built an attractive slatted fence around the gas bottle area and the work was finished off in granite facing to the front by Kore Grundsens.

We also have a brand new supply of commercial quality English crockery together with new condiment sets. With the fondue facilities and the outdoor barbecue cooker etc., we hope all members will feed well during this season.

Stan Williams has donated a mammoth barbecue plate to the Club. We hope it will be installed next summer. All we need now are some volunteers to build a granite barbecue in a suitable position.

Also next summer we plan to paint the interior of the Lodge because we have had an offer too good to refuse. All we have to do is to provide the paint. Finances permitting we might also install recessed lights in the Common-room and ski storage racks outside the Manager's flat.

POT-POURRI.

..... Don't forget to take your favourite musical tapes down to the Lodge. (There are no records and you may or may not appreciate the three tapes there at present.)

..... Congratulations to Claire Keating on her recent marriage to David Davies.

..... Peter Grant has bought "Lodge 21 at Smiggins but he and Carol will still be managing Warrugang for this current season.

..... Note that all weekly bookings start on Saturday mornings after breakfast.

..... Eric Lawrence had the experience of a trip on the Trans Siberian Railway last winter.

..... George Failes didn't meet the Peanut Farmer when he was in Washington last year.

..... An informal barbecue was enjoyed by a few of our family members at Shelley Beach early in April.

..... Kunama Lodge has been sold and Rudi and Anneke are presently residing at their house in Jindabyne.

..... Sue and Andy Kelly are going to San Francisco in June where Andy intends to take a Masters Degree in Economics.

..... John Bible intends to spend the May holidays caravanning in the Warrumbungles.

..... Joan and Chris Robinson are proud parents of a son.

..... Gwen Oldfield and Eula Guthrie should now be in Persia on their way to the Nile and U.K. (subject to air transport).

..... Perisher and Smiggins this year offer free skiing to snow bunnies under 5 or kids over 65 years of age.

..... Don't forget the concession available to high school students on the lifts (\$2 per day). Evidence required is a valid student's travel pass or letter of authority from the school.

..... If you buy ski gear in Sydney this year, the odds are you will be dealing with Kosciusko Alpine Resorts Pty. Limited. There have been a number of silent take-overs through the summer.

..... Overheard in the Sundeck Bar:

She: "Darling, if I wasn't wearing all this beautiful ski gear, would you still find me attractive?"

He: "You bet!"

#### DEVELOPMENTS IN THE VALLEY.

Quotations from Harold Droger at a recent Perisher Zone Dinner:-

"Skiing is a choice, not a necessity."

"You, as a consumer, have every right to demand service, but you can only expect to get it at a cost."

The mountain has been divided into four areas. Mountain Manager to co-ordinate these four areas is Rick Phillips. He wears a bulls-eye parka and all complaints are to be directed to him. (When you can see the parka.) Kosciusko Resorts has also appointed Chris Brown as "Goodwill Manager" and his phone number in the Valley is 75.234 - Chris assures us that they are determined to improve service. They want feed-back, so please ring him at that number if you have any problems.

A new self-loading T-bar for experts called the "International" is being built between Eyre and the Perisher Chairlift with a capacity of 1300 skiers per hour.

A "Tom Thumb" poma is being built up Sundeck hill to take the bunnies off Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

There are two new food outlets on the mountain, free bus service between Smiggs and Perisher and free day parking at Perisher on weekdays; and a new Mercedes 4-wheel drive with 64(!) forward gears, for mowing and grooming slopes.

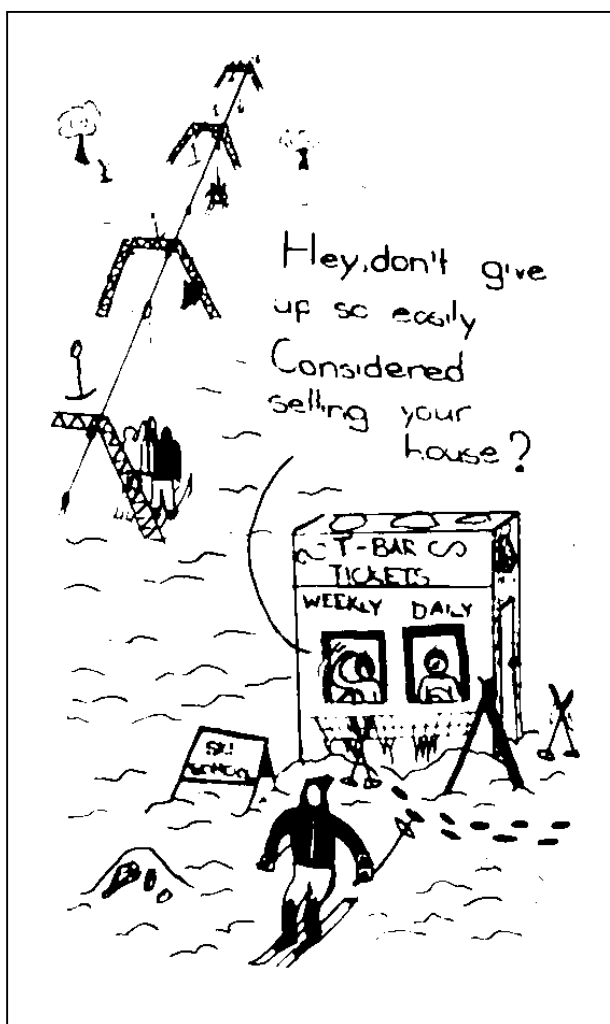
The Valley has also purchased another snow gun which can cover No. 1 Slope in a day and Perisher Resorts intends to have package deals available

right throughout the season (but this apparently depends on the P.J.T. judgement on prices).

A few weeks ago, we were advised the Valley intends not to increase the price of child's day tickets this year.

Some oversnow transport will be operating from Centre Valley this season. It is being operated by three new operators using Porsche and Bombardier vehicles. Phone No. (0648) 75356 between 8.30 - 5.30 Mon. to Fri. and 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sat. and Sun.

STOP PRESS --- Kosciusko Alpine Resorts have just published the 1977 Season Prices (subject to P.J.T. approval). They have announced that they will hold last year's lift prices till the end of the voluntary Government freeze.



	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Child</u>
Day Ticket	\$12.00	\$6.00
1/2-Day Ticket	8.00	4.00
Single T-bar	1.20	.80
Single Tom Thumb	.60	.60
Single Chair-lift	2.50	1.40
7-Day Ticket	70.00	36.00
6-Day "	63.00	32.00
5-Day "	56.00	29.00
5 x 2 hour class lessons	30.00	25.00

Sundry packager; for lifts, lessons flexi-plan etc. are also available.

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LODGE MANAGEMENT - 1977 SEASON  
Peter and Carol Grant (STD) 0648-75215

LODGE ADDRESS  
Warrugang Ski Club Ltd.  
Post Office,  
Perisher Valley. N.S.W. 2630.

CLUB CORRESPONDENCE  
Warrugang Ski Club Ltd.  
G.P.O. Box 1075,  
Sydney. N.S.W. 2001.



SKI RACING.

The Perisher Smiggins Ski Racing Club will be running training programmes for alpine racing during 1977. If you, or your youngsters (age 9 - 15 years) are interested, the Secretary, Mrs. Joy Myers at G.P.O. Box 2222, Sydney, 2001, will be very pleased to hear from you and will provide necessary details and application forms to join the club.

LETTER FROM CRAEME CURRIE - MAWSON STATION IN ANTARCTICA.

Dated 12th February, 1977.

"Just a note to let you know we arrived all O.K. at Mawson Boxing Day. Still a lot of heavy ice so we flew last 40 miles into the Base by helicopter. Nella Dan returns this week for second time and will unload all cargo this visit. Have been out skiing a few times so far. With 24 hours of daylight we've been skiing at 11.30 p.m. at night. Have also had a snowcat trip to mountains 25 miles south of the station for four days. Hope to do some dog sledging along the coast in the winter to some of the Penguin Rookeries. So with job and all the things to do guess time will pass quickly again - it usually does.

Guess by now the group who went off to the States skiing and to Europe, will be back. Hope they had good times and plenty of good snow.

Hope to spend a bit of time at the Club in 1978. May take temporary job at Mt. Hotham for winter as friend of mine is managing a lodge there for SCV.

Regards to all the Gangsters - Cheers - Graeme"

EUROPEAN SKI TOURING.

Liz and Elton Squires preceded the Warrugang American Ski Tour by a private tour to Europe. The following account of a similar tour appeared recently in one of our local rags and we hope the Squires' experiences were of a different kind to this one!

"Day 1. Take cross-channel train from Victoria Station. Leave wallet containing \$50 in English, German and Belgian currency in hotel room. Join queue at railway station to cash more traveller's cheques. Almost miss train. Journey to Ostend, in state of shock.

Day 2 (actually begins late on day 1). Join coach for leisurely 14-hour trip to Austrian ski resort. Seats do not recline, cannot sleep. Rest of coach gets drunk and plays loud music through coach speaker system directly above seat. Curse frequently, become aggressive.



Day 3 (actually half way through day 2, feels like day 10). Arrive at Austrian ski resort. Breathtaking scenery. Buy breakfast in enchanting restaurant. Prices also breathtaking. Allocated room in hotel. Someone says have been allocated lousy hotel. Rotten food, no service, constantly runs out of lavatory paper. Feel glum. Afternoon pick up ski gear, feel better. Buy ski tickets. Feel worse. Prices very high. Tour brochure did not mention this. Have first fall on ski slopes. Bruised.

Day 4 (actually day 3 but losing track of time). Has sausage and burnt coffee for breakfast. Take packed lunch prepared by kindly hotel staff (presume there is hotel staff, have not seen any as yet). Packed lunch also lousy. Feel hungry all day. Wife and he join ski school for grading in classes. Take nasty fall. Everyone watching. Put in bottom class. Wife put in top class. Feel bitter.

Day 5. Limp down to breakfast. Every muscle, bone, fibre ache. Sausage and burnt coffee for breakfast. Another packed lunch (hotel staff still not appeared but obviously not friendly). Hate skiing. Wish was home. Dinner of cardboard chicken and boiled string. Handsome skier attempts take wife away. Sulk all night.

Day 6. Food poisoning. No lavatory paper. Must go skiing however. Am paying fortune for this. Must not miss one minute. Brought down mountain on stretcher. Smiling bravely. Am laughing stock.

Day 7. Schnapps.

Day 8. Where am I? Dying in strange country. Very sad.

Day 9. Cannot ski properly because ski boots too tight. Change ski boots. Cannot ski properly because ski boots too loose. Change boots. Feet very sore. Fall over all day. Want to cry.

Day 10. Starving. Buy food at supermarket, smuggle back to hotel. Wire home for more money. Today, however, observe how you are learning to ski. Made a turn today. Know how to stop. Things looking up.

Day 11. Today we take a coach to another ski resort. Note how you ski quite well now. Obviously a natural athlete. Get off coach at brief stop on way home and buy wine to celebrate. Coach leaves when you are still in shop, and you have to walk three miles in ski boots. Hire taxi at frightening expense. How many days can you hold out?

Day 12. Today the splendour of the Alps works its subtle magic, and you attempt to take a ski jump, which wife says is easy. Crash. Cannot breathe for 10 minutes, bones loose, teeth loose. Don't want to ski any more. Silly sport.

Day 13. Riot in dining room. Fellow carefree holiday-makers demand more food, claiming that malnutrition is setting in. Tonight carefree holidaymakers given a big meal, even carrots. Stomach not accustomed to food. Diarrhoea. No lavatory paper again. Oh God!

Day 14. Beneath the awesome beauty of a ski jump, chief ski instructor and skier collide. Injuries include a broken jaw, broken collarbone, lost teeth. There is blood on the snow. Very picturesque. Even experts get hurt. Frightening thought.

Day 15. Friendly staff must think the insurrection is over. More cardboard food. Party after dinner (what have we got to celebrate?). Party costs a fortune. Wife pinched on bottom. Wife threatens to punch culprit on the nose. Culprit is horrified. Husband is horrified too. Culprit is very big.

Day 16. Ski instructor takes class to bar on mountain top, where everyone will drink beer followed by schnapps, beer followed by schnapps, etc. This is an old Austrian custom. Everyone gets drunk. Ski instructor falls over five times coming down and one man is left asleep in the snow. He is brought down on a sled hours later. Lucky escape, everyone says. Ski instructor disappears next day. They say he has an advanced class somewhere else. Everyone sorry he's gone. Nice fellow.

Day 17. Join wife's class. Instructor is maniac. "Go straight down," he shouts. Everyone follows. Fall over all day. Frightened.

Day 18. Cannot ski any more, and join people with broken legs. Wish you had one too. Wife goes skiing by herself. Wife falls over too, almost killed. Feel much better.

Day 19. Almost made it through ordeal. Today is for big race ski classes. Must do well. Frightened of falling and looking like a fool; you go too slow. You get a bronze medal. Wife gets a gold medal. Who cares?

Day 20. Everyone packing up. Tour officials cannot hold out any more. All get drunk and throw snowballs at everyone. Old Australian custom!

Day 21. Cannot face another coach ride. Go to Switzerland instead. Must do it again, you think, as you traverse the enchanting Alps. How much does it cost for 21 days in Belsen?



SUBSCRIPTIONS.

This year saw the return of subscription notices for many members who had previously paid in advance to help finance the extensions. Some members expressed the view at the A.G.M. that the option of paying in advance might be attractive to members. Why not write and give us your views.

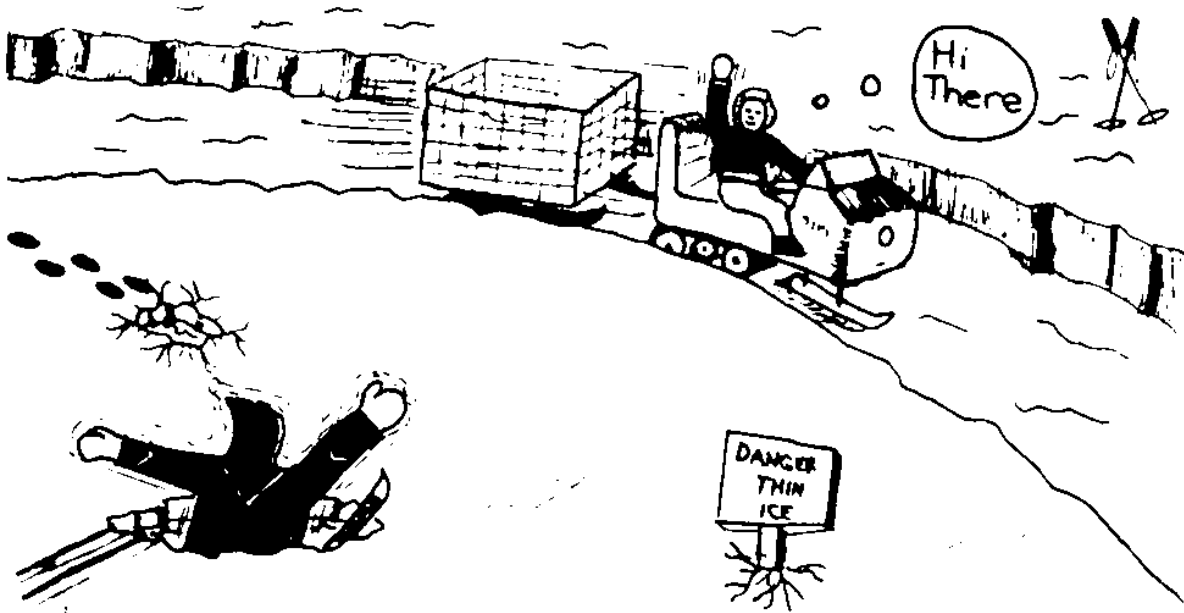
A number of members are well in arrears with their annual subs and are in danger of having their membership forfeited. We have a long waiting list of keen applicants for membership so if you are one of these recalcitrant members, you will be well advised to rectify the situation immediately or alternatively, write and tell us you are no longer interested.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Warrugang members must be the most movingest people in Australia as a fair proportion of the members seem to be constantly changing their address. If this magazine isn't sent to your right address, (or you don't receive it!!!) please write and tell us your current address.

BOARD MEMBERS - 1977/1978

President	George Failes	Phone 412.2771
Vice-President	Jim Brennan	406.4086
Secretary	Myrna Burke	631.9479
Treasurer	John Bible	981.3602
Booking Officer	Barbara Williamson	949.2124
Building Director	Elton Squires	827.1483
Social Director	Kaye Morrison	546.2934
Sports Director	Elton Squires	827.1483
Magazine Director	Jim Brennan	406.4086





SEP 1977





# WARRUGANG SKI CLUB LIMITED

Registered Office  
8th Floor, 170 Philip Street  
Sydney

Ski Lodge:  
Perisher Valley,  
Kosciusco National Park.



Please Address  
all Correspondence  
to the Secretary

Box 1075 G.P.O.  
Sydney, N.S.W. 2001

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE  
and  
PRESENTATION OF PRIZES

By popular request we are returning this year to the A.J.C. Centre for our Annual Dinner. We have been very fortunate in once more being able to secure our very popular band "The Daltons" to provide the music for us.

The details are as set out;

SATURDAY, 5 NOVEMBER, 1977

6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m.

The Vista Room  
Queen Elizabeth Pavilion  
A.J.C. Centre,  
Randwick Racecourse

Per Ticket:, \$12.50

Dress: Lounge Suit/Long Frock

There is ample FREE parking available on the Course, right at the entrance to the Pavilion. Drinks may be purchased at normal hotel prices.

It would be appreciated if you could return your booking forms NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, 21 OCTOBER. Tickets will take the form of entree cards and will be available on the evening.

The scene is set for another fabulous evening - so please round up your friends and share it with us. I look forward to seeing you there,

KAYE MORRISON  
Social Director

Return booking slip attached.

THE ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - SATURDAY, 30th JULY.

After nearly a week of snow, wind and other unpleasant weather, race day dawned fine and clear. A large contingent of weekenders turned up all keen for the day's events. The organisation worked very smoothly and the races started on time. Our old friend and former manager, Adam Zapenski, set the course and opened it with a sizzling run of 22.4 secs. which was not bettered by our fastest skiers less than half his age!

A record number of members started in the slalom event - 9 ladies, 18 gentlemen and 3 children.

The sweet dulcet voice of Marsha Arnold coming clearly through the 2-way radio started everyone off after Barbara Williamson had seen them safely into the gate. Kim Goold swinging a mean stopwatch and Stan Williams wielding a sharp pencil soon sorted out the men from the boys, and the girls from the ladies. Lyn Polhill and David Hammond threatened would-be traversers off the course with sharpened stocks and the President gave all the young blades a chance of winning by skiing through most of the gates backwards.

So efficiently was the whole event that everyone went off for some pleasurable downhill skiing before lunch.

After lunch the valley was terrified by a massed start of 9 langlaufers sent on their way by Alison Vickery. Every 100 metres or so Elton Squires would have a lie down in the snow while the pack caught up. Thus the times carefully counted off by Stan Williams were not a true reflection of the runners' abilities - but a helluva good time was had by all. Husband and wife teams carried off the honours - there must be some significance in that!

Thanks are due to all who participated, the officials and specially Stan Williams who came all the way up from Berridale (and walked to and from Smiggins) just to help.

RACE ORGANISERS: Elton Squires  
John Williamson

DOWNHILL EVENTS

OFFICIALS: Marsha Arnold - Starter)  
Kim Goold - Timekeeper ) Bottom Station  
Stan Williams - Scribe )  
Lyn Polhill 2/3 Station  
David Hammond 1/3 Station  
Barbara Williamson Top Station



COURSE SET AND OPENED BY: Adam Zapenski 22.4 secs.

LADIES:

Kaye Morrison	30.8	31.8	62.6
Liz Squires	32.8	32.2	65.0
Barbara Williamson	36.2	41.2	77.4
Barbara Graham	38.4	46.4	84.8
Alison Vickery	37.0	63.1	100.1
Aileen Fulthorpe	48.0	52.2	100.2
Leslie Mazlin	48.4	57.0	105.4
Myrna Burke	62.0	99.6	161.6
Barbara Brown	-	43.2	-

CHILDREN:

Melissa McLennan		73.2	
Bettina Hammond		144.8	
Paul Hammond	83.4	90.0	

MEN:

Chris Williams	25.4	25.4	50.8
Greg Fulthorpe	26.8	27.4	54.2
Don Widdicombe	27.8	27.4	55.2
John Williamson	28.8	31.6	60.4
David Goold	31.2	36.0	67.2
Greg Brookes	28.2	43.0	71.2
Fred Arnold	37.0	37.6	74.6
Neville Fulthorpe	34.0	41.2	75.2
Graham Brown	37.0	38.4	75.4
Len Reed	30.0	48.2	78.2
Allan Howard	38.8	46.0	84.8
Hedley Stevenson	43.0	47.0	90.0
Ross McLennan	58.6	52.6	111.2
George Failes	58.2	80.6	138.8
Chris Brookes	35.2	-	-
Brian Mazlin	31.4	-	-
Ewan Morrison	-	31.8	-
Elton Squires	53.0	-	-

LANGLAUF EVENT

OFFICIALS:

Stan Williams - Timekeeper  
Alison Vickery - Starter and Scribe

Elton Squires	10.80 minutes
Liz Squires	10.80
Kaye Morrison	11.23
Ewan Morrison	11.54
George Failes	12.16
Barbara Graham	13.50
Myrna Burke	13.58
Greg Brookes	15.54
Lyn Polhill	21.26

POT-POURRI.

..... The woes of a lodge building director - first he had a fire damaged roof - then he had water in his ceiling - now he has dry rot!

..... After four years with us, our popular management team, Peter and Carol Grant have indicated they will not be managing Warrugang next season. We wish them well in their own Lodge 21 at Smiggin Holes. The board is currently interviewing prospective new teams for the next season. If you know of any suitable lodge managers, please advise one of the board members.

..... Taking part in Volvo Langlauf - Thredbo, Charlottes Pass to Perisher on weekend 17/18th September, was Peter Roberts. Peter and Melba Roberts will be visiting the U.S.A. later this year. Peter is planning to do research into ski injuries.

..... John Bible and Brian Budden are off to Europe in November for three months skiing.

..... Gloria and Ron Campbell were recently sighted in Sydney - they are on leave from Pakistan where they are working for the United Nations. They hope to visit Warrugang Winter 1978.

..... Is it true Barbara Brown and Leslie Mazlin are starting a Lodge catering ONLY for young male Ski Instructors?

..... Picture the Sundeck bar - the corner with the picture of the old time skiers sliding down the slopes sitting on their skis. The "four o'clock club" is just in session and Brian Mazlin, complete With salt and pepper beard, is about to recount one of his day's triumphs. Just then along come two elderly be-whiskered skiers from Mount Baw Baw Ski Club and sit down next to Brian. Quick as a flash Fred Arnold said - "look, three skiers have just dropped out of that picture".

..... This other day the "four o'clock club" had settled down to exaggerate their jet turns and play down their linked parallel crashes when a great shout went up from the back of the Sundeck. They took no notice but when the crowd surged over to their downhill Window, they decided they ought to see what was going on. Looking out the window they saw two skiers schuss-booming Sundeck hill - starkers except for ski boots and skis. After a couple of full frontal falls on their way to the Valley Inn, goodness knows what they did to their future.

..... A few minutes later Myrna arrived having climbed Sundeck hill on her toothpicks. Despite spirited questioning she remained the epitome of the three wise monkeys - insists she saw nothing - perhaps her glasses fogged up.

..... It was one of those days because on their way home the "club" langlaufed up to the first floor window of the V.I. to see some of the fairer residents demonstrating how to shower.

..... Then there was this little green bird and this little yellow bird skiing down the slopes together until they got to the T-bar queue. Then they parted and each called out "single" - they didn't ride up together! Married Warrugangsters shouldn't be still on the prowl!

..... One night late in July there was a telling of tales about the supernatural, ghosts, séances and all that lot. Then twelve of the gangsters went out to hear and see Marcia Hines in concert at the Valley Inn. Whilst they were away the Perisher Ghost and the Flying Dutchman came by. The returning party (two drinks only to the wind) were greeted at the door by a large sign which said, in part, "Enter At Your Peril". Scoffing at this they entered and had to fight their way through cobwebs across the door and entrance foyer, a large black spider hanging in the ski room doorway and were then scattered by a bucket of balls that fell down the stairs when they opened the door to the stairs. Coming up the stairs they were pounced on by a pink panther. On reaching the top they were greeted by another sign - "You have failed the entrance test - go back to the end of the queue". Who didn't sleep very soundly that night?

..... Fred Arnold wasn't very happy - he went to sit on the throne and found he was on a trampoline. The ghost had stretched gladwrap across the bowl. He called out to Marsha who would have none of it - she was afraid they had put a frog into it. The spider was quite friendly, for the very next week, it climbed into Lyn Polhill's bed - it did give her a fright but she must have put a hex on it in return as the next night she found a book in the bottom of her bed instead of the spider. But the spider had the last laugh because when she got home from a party the next night, there was a body in the bed.

..... One of the girls has found an easy way to get into tight pants - you lie down on the bed and wiggle in. That's what Myrna must have done with her new bib and brace because once in she could not bend down to do up boots or skis.

..... Elton Squires has developed a new turn called the "linked ostrich turn" - the main requirement being to bury your head in the snow as you go round.

..... Barbie Graham looked fabulous in her Jackson Hole T shirt. On the prominent part of the front was depicted a mountain peak and the exhortation - "Ski the Big One". The mind boggles.

..... A well known gangster had been skiing the Chair and Eyre for several days with one of our prettier members when he ran into Len Reed at the International. "Alan", Len said, "You're skiing like a girl". Alan was not nearly as upset as some unknown bird in the queue who took great offence at the remark. Obviously a surly bird!

..... The Flying Dutchman returned early in August. All but the Williamson's and the Kershaw's went out to dinner. To cut a long story short, the dinner was a disaster - 5 ducks were sent back because they were "off", 2 fish were sent back because they were cold etc. The grog was OK so the party finally got back in fairly good spirits (or wines) and negotiated their way to the common room without mishap. But when Alison went to her bed she noticed that things were not quite right - the bed looked different, but worse the electric blanket had been turned off! But there was worse to come - all male gear in the wardrobe and cupboards - no female gear anywhere. Two doors along in Room 3 Len was having somewhat similar trouble. Horror was on his face when he pulled out the drawer and picked up some of those flimsy things! No male gear anywhere - only female together with all those little pots of magic lotions. George was in worse shape for when he got to his room it was bare - no male or female gear - in fact, no gear at all. So back to the common room and - "it's alright Don, you and I aren't here, we have packed up and gone home already". Needless to say the stay-at-homes got the treatment before any more sleep was had that night.

#### SUMMER BOOKINGS.

Due to the extensive renovations being carried out this summer, those members planning to visit the lodge should check well in advance with the booking officer as to the availability of accommodation - you can't live with paint cans under your feet or ceiling dirt in your soup!

Summer tariff is -	Adults	\$2.50	per day
	Children	15c	" "

WARRUGANGSTERS SKI U.S.A.

I was so disappointed in missing the Annual General Meeting of Warrugang and missing that forum of friends to share my experiences with. So here I am in print!

Although I have a brother resident in the U.S.A., I still left Australia with some apprehension of the American people. The 'anti-American syndrome' as we know it! That loud American tourist as we see him in Australia throwing cash around, smoking cigars, and usually inappropriately dressed for the occasion. On my return I find myself a converted fan of the American people as a whole. They are polite and generous, hospitable and interested in the people who make any contribution to any situation.

Now, down to the skiing scene, and for those who are not aware, a contingent of Warrugangsters invaded the major resorts of the U.S. from 25 January to 5 March 1977. The team included Kaye and Ewan Morrison, Mike and Janet Shearer, Elton and Liz Squires, Nev, Aileen and Greg Fulthorpe, Don Widdicombe, Alison Vickery, Barbara Graham, Lorraine Stevens and of course, myself - Greg Brookes.

After a day in Honolulu, a few short days in San Francisco, we visited Sun Valley, Idaho; Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Alta, Utah; Aspen, Colorado; back to Los Angeles and then home.

First, the bad news - we had travelled thousands of miles and the snow had just not fallen to any significant degree - the worst snow drought in living memory!

Now the good news - \$2 million worth of snow making equipment, a great organisation in Sun Valley and a beautiful village and hotel complex and we all had a great introduction to one of America's fantastic ski resorts.

With the snow making equipment and two chair lifts reaching almost to the summit of Bald Mountain, we experienced a run of two and a half miles on superbly groomed snow of four feet depth. A fantastic feat by the organisation who operate in competition with so many other resorts which beckon you in the U.S.A..

On top of the super chairlift known as Squirrel my ski instructor pointed out the potential for skiing there. He showed us the almost bare "Exhibition" run famed by films and hot-dog events throughout the world. He said that if the snow had been at average depth it would take him 10 days of skiing to cover the available runs and most other people,

fourteen days - without covering the same run twice!! The number of chairlifts and areas is staggering. All runs are marked with bulletin boards over the 923 acres available and the gradient for the level of skiers suitable for the runs.

John, my brother - whom I had not seen for some eight years, was staying at the same hotel with us, and provided me with the motivation to attack the mountain from 8.45 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. when the temperatures were down to 5°F. The skiing was hard and fast with the beautifully groomed snow, it made ego skiers out of us all! Although I skied with John during this period continually, I could see the Warrugangsters all over the mountain, easily distinguishable by their unique styles.

Kaye and Ewan, on their honeymoon, more often than not were to be seen with Mike Shearer, Greg Fulthorpe, Nev and Lorraine. Don Widdicombe was out there doing his own thing and Aileen and Alison with their new ski suits took things very steadily. Elton and Liz, on their second half of their ski trip - having just completed time on the European scene, were skiing together and practising all those exercises they had been taught. Barbie Graham and Janet Shearer just picked up with the different groups as it would suit them.

We stayed at the Sun Valley Lodge - THE PLACE TO STAY!! The out-door swimming pool at 105° was just the greatest relaxer after a hard day skiing and a re-energiser for the events to follow. The night life was rampant - starting with Joe Cannon singing anything from Rock to Blues in the Ram Bar from 5.00 p.m. - as a starter for the après skiers.

The Sun Valley Lodge also had early après ski entertainment, but offered just so many other facilities, including an indoor-outdoor ice rink, games room, ten pin bowling alley, music and television rooms. The greatest of all - the "Duchin Room" oozed out that smooth cheek-to-cheek live music that is so good to come home to - especially from the 12.00 p.m. to 3.00 a.m. expedition!!

Although the Sun Valley Lodge had its own restaurants, the Village Mall also had many restaurants - the Ore House became my favourite, but even greater was a restaurant in the nearby town of Ketchum, where I ate the most delicious meal of my life. It was billed as a "prime rib" and delivered as a massive 2 1/2 lbs. of pink meat that just melted in my mouth, with so much juice from the meat, that made me

think that it was not real! It was the ultimate! Although I had not eaten all day and skied hard, I thought I had a man-sized appetite, but could not get past half way, so I did the doggy bag trick and the remains were a juicy cold lunch the next day.

The nearby town of Ketchum is like a picture out of the wild west, timber side walks, swinging bar doors, and full of cowboys (minus guns) with 10 gallon Stetson hats, leather coats and faded jeans. The town has excellent restaurants, bars discos, nightclubs, etc. with music ranging from country and western, rock - to bluegrass with rampant action to 3.00 a.m.. As our team will tell you - I enjoyed many a jog to Ketchum!

There were so many bonuses on this trip to narrate them all would take too long.

As you stand under the famous clock town of Jackson Hole, beside the aerial tram which rises 2.4 miles, and look up at the majestic Rendezvous Mountain, the beauty of the scene just takes your breath away. Especially when you think you are going to ski down that mountain!

We were again hampered by the lack of snow with the poorest falls at that time in the recorded history of Jackson! This did not take away from the magnificent resort, Teton Village.

To quote the travel guide: "Jackson Hole is a 'skier's mountain'. Within its complex of two mountains, five chairs and an aerial tram, the vertical drop of 4,139 feet and a four mile non-stop run speaks for itself; 3,200 acres of skiable terrain and an average snowfall of 38 feet."

Well, the snow was not like the brochure said, but the view from the top of the mountain across the white plains below to the opposite mountain range was really beautiful. Would you believe that nature had carved a part of that range out in the shape of a sleeping Indian - hence its name, Sleeping Indian.

The first morning and we learn that on Sundays there is a free lesson for all visitors to the Village. So, Greg Fulthorpe, Mike and Janet, Kaye and Ewan, Lorraine, Don, Elton and I all lined up for the ski school's top class. What really turned me on was after a short test run, the instructor told 9 of his pupils to ski with their feet apart! I will not be forward enough as to mention who was omitted from this instruction!

The class had its casualties with Greg Fulthorpe being the first with the comment "It has taken me years to get my feet together and I am not going to pay to be taught to ski with them apart". Elton retired injured and like a good wife, Liz looked after him.

The town of Jackson, built on the Snake River, is named after the mountain man/trapper, Davey Jackson, and is steeped in the history of the wild west, Indians, cattlemen, trappers and homesteaders. You can still feel the past close behind when walking the town of Jackson. The bars and shops that line the street, exactly restored to retain that feeling, have names such as Dirt Jack's Wild West Theatre, The Pink Garter, The Cowboy Bar, The Silver Spur, and Hole in the Wall.

For example, when visiting the Cowboy Bar with Lorraine and Alison we sat at the bar astride real saddle seats. The bar itself has 592 silver dollars embedded into it, and provides entertainment six nights a week.

Between Jackson Town and Jackson Hole, there is a condominium complex three miles from Jackson Hole called "The Racquet Club". I was fortunate enough to have been invited to dinner at this new type of resort. There are six out-door tennis courts, but more interesting are the two in-door courts which are contained in an air conditioned balloon structure with the court surfaces marked into a carpet.

Kaye's choice of accommodation throughout the U.S.A. resorts was just great! The Sun Valley Lodge at Sun Valley, The Alpenhof at Jackson Hole and the Rustler Lodge at Alta.

I have described a small amount of the attributes of the Sun Valley Lodge, but omitted to give you some details of the Alpenhof which I think are worth narrating. The Alpenhof is located at the foot of Rendezvous Mountain and has a magnificent view of the adjoining plains. More importantly, it also is next to the chairlift (or the aerial tram), which is just great in the mornings and even better in the evenings when you can ski straight up to the ski room of the lodge.

Here again, we had a fantastic bonus because of "Happy Hour" at the Conversation Lounge and Bar within our Lodge. A singer and her guitarist charmed us all. She was a cross between Joan Collins, Cleo Laine and Joan Baez and had a vivacious personality which commanded your attention. Her main support during our stay, of course, was mainly from the Warrugangsters who quickly established a rapport with her and were lucky enough to have their many requests granted. "Super Skier" from her repertoire became Barbie Graham's favourite.



It was also very pleasant to come back to the Alpenhof at night, after dinner at "The Mangey Moose" in Teton Village and she would be singing and entertaining from 8.30 - 11.30 pm besides a warm fire - and no complications!

Again, the Alpenhof had an outdoor heated swimming pool just made to relax in and solve the world's problems. Here I would like to tell you of an incident which has continued to tickle me since returning home.

I will set the scene for you. Eight Warrugangsters were having an intimate quiet conversation with four Americans in the pool. The water temperature was about 105°, the atmosphere temperature 15° - suddenly the lodge door flies open and a screaming body leaps through the air and lands in the middle of the pool. Whilst he was submerged Mike - a friendly U.S. eye doctor says "he must be a Texan!" When he surfaced he was casually asked "where are you from?", and of course, the reply - "TEXAS". Well, we all laughed.

I did not realise the unusual attitude of the Americans towards TEXANS until I reached Aspen, where the popular tee-shirt shop had a slogan "IF GOD HAD WANTED TEXANS TO SKI HE WOULD HAVE CREATED A MOUNTAIN IN TEXAS".

Back to Utah and the famed Alta Ski Resort, where the brochure says "the powdery snow piles deep from November to May. Average annual snowfall is 38 feet, dependable and lighter so your skis turn easier".

They will always remember the year of '77 when the average depth was 3" and again we were faced with Perisher Powder - nil! What was worse was the hidden rocks and I heard even the mild mannered Mike Shearer yelling some unpleasanties as his skis grated over what looked like a mogul. All was not bad because we did not find a beautiful steep face with snow and we knew that the adjoining resort of Snowbird was even in worse shape.

The subject of tennis automatically brings me to the experience of being invited to play at The Sports Club, Salt Lake City, Utah. The complex houses 16 indoor courts, air-conditioned, indirect lighting and facilities that just blow your mind!!! Four basketball gyms (in use at the time for gymnastics of all descriptions), four racquetball courts, an indoor-outdoor Olympic sized pool - a weight and muscle-building gym with every conceivable device for the purpose, a hot spa pool, saunas wet and dry, etc. etc.

UTAH, wow!! What a great place to live. America's lowest crime rate state, self-sufficient, lowest taxes,

highly religious. The home of the Mormon religion. Everyone of us attended a live performance of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. It was fantastic.

Again, I must get back to skiing!! Although Alta also has an average snow fall of 38 feet, we were lucky with the 8" that was available. The potential again could be seen but I guess if you travel to the U.S. to ski, you don't want Perisher conditions. I think everyone of us was not prepared for skiing more difficult terrain and especially the powder which seems to be the dream of every accomplished skier.

Snowbird has a massive aerial tram which holds 120 skiers at a time! Snowbird did have a Tram Bar which would make an engineer's eyes gleam. The whole mechanics of the giant pulleys and flywheels were in view - the equipment was a feature with plenty of chrome to reflect the lighting. The Tram Bar was also the scene of the weekly disco dance competition. "Yours truly" entered with a beautiful New York lady, but in spite of much cheering from the home team I regret to say that we were the first to be eliminated.

By the way: Ask Lorraine "how big is the king size bed at Rustler?" or "What is it like to take a bath in a bath tub built for two?" I know what you are thinking but you're wrong. What I am trying to illustrate is the sheer luxury of the accommodation at Rustler Lodge. It would appear that the owners have really made an effort in trying to provide for your every need. Games rooms, lounge rooms, intimate bars, and superb catering with the price of the accommodation. It goes without saying - a heated swimming pool, and best of all - a private tow rope to take you back to the lodge with the minimum of fuss.

Talking of the outdoor swimming pool - the Warrugang team had quite a victory over the lodge team at water polo, a cross between water polo and net ball. We almost lost Lorraine in the deep end and Greg Fulthorpe found that running on snow for 50 metres and back has quite a deal of pain attached. His feet were blue and bleeding and very painful to resubmerge in the 105° pool. All in all, great fun!!

Ewan and I had a great experience in representing Australia against the Management of Rustler at the Sports Club at indoor tennis. We narrowly lost the doubles but I am pleased to say I managed a revenge in the singles against the best they had to offer.

Well - on to bigger and better things, and I must say Kaye's planning of finishing our skiing at Aspen was the right choice.

Yes, after this long wait, we actually experienced the snow that you read about. A foot of snow overnight and it just kept fluttering down. The temperature was just so cold that it was difficult to last the distance of the total days skiing.

We had two new members of the team in Aspen. Stewart and Vicky - ex Austria (via Canada). Stewart had worked for several seasons as an instructor in Austria and Vicki had been a Ski Club of Great Britain Ski Guide in Austria .... in Niedereau of course!! Could they both ski, and it was really great to have resident deep powder snow instructors!!

Aspen is not just one mountain or skiing village as the other resorts we have experienced to date. It comprises Aspen Mountain (Ajax to the locals), Aspen Highlands, Buttermilk and Snowmass - all within a radius of 12 miles and all skiable on the same lift pass for no extra cost .. and all connected by FREE buses.

Aspen mountain just rises right out of the town, 3,300 vertical feet to a height of 11,750 feet. It is serviced by seven double chairs and its longest run is three miles. Aspen Highlands has a vertical rise of 3,800 feet has 8 double chairs and has the longest run of 3.5 miles. Buttermilk - vertical rise 2,000 feet, 5 double chairs and longest run - 2 miles. Snowmass has a vertical rise of 3,500 feet and ten double chairs, and one triple chair with the longest run 3.5 miles.

As you can see the facilities for the skier are just fantastic!!! As in all the resorts I would be remiss if I did not mention the politeness of the chairlift operators who would greet you and give you well wishes for a great time while visiting their mountain. Even the chairs would be brushed free of snow for the cold ride up, some over one mile long.

Trail maps were of importance with the resorts of such expanse. The runs bore names such as "Ruthie's Run", on Ajax and the "Naked Lady" at Snowmass (oops - watch out for the moguls)! "The Moment of Truth" at Aspen Highlands, and the Corkscrew at Ajax!

This was the final weeks skiing and everyone entered the spirit with a vengeance especially since our ski instructions (from Stewart) in the deep powder were just a fantastic experience.

Aspen town is the size of Dubbo, but totally dedicated to the skier - and was therefore hit hard by the snow drought ... thus we were lucky with super specials and 50%

discounts on ski clothes and equipment. Our girls in true Australian tradition really spent well, with new ski suits all round - and by now the members of Warrugang will have seen many of the purchases of their fellows - cowboy boots, shirts, etc. - great value.

The night life in this town with its 85 restaurants and 105 bars - all competing for your patronage was just great. Dave Brubeck was playing in one restaurant, others traded on the tradition of the cowboy image and mining background - like "The Shaft", etc.

With everyone having excess funds from good budgeting throughout the trip, Aspen nightlife was the right place to leave that extra cash! Eating out was a way of life and it was so hard to choose the restaurant for the variety was so great. The Captain's Anchorage - fabulous seafood - and just ask Ewan about that Alaska King Crab!! Don Giovanni's and Mother Lode for great Italian cooking, the Red Onion - Aspen's famous nightclub, etc. etc ...

The village itself, with that Christmas feeling, and picture postcard beauty was like being in a dream. The large Victorian mansions fitted into the alpine chalet complexes without conflict and just walking through the residential areas was a romantic delight. There is just so much that needs saying about Aspen and its surrounding resorts but time and space prevent my amblings to continue ....

GREG BROOKES

#### ANNUAL DINNER.

The Annual Dinner looks like being another great Warrugang experience - magnificent aspect, ample free parking, grog at hotel prices and, for \$12.50 per head, the menu is:-

Vol au Vent Seafood Mariners  
Roast Turkey, Leg Ham with Spiced Peach  
and Cranberry Sauce, etc.  
Passionfruit Pavlova  
Coffee & After Dinner Mints.

So send your form back now so you can join in the fun.

#### PERISHER CUP.

It appears the sailing season has opened early this year as we are unable to fill a team for the Perisher Cup. Maybe in 1978!

### LODGE IMPROVEMENTS.

The whole of the interior of the lodge will be professionally painted during the coming summer.

Lodge residents were complaining about the lodge being too hot during the winter and our heating specialist will be back during the Summer to rebalance the system and therefore take full advantage of the new heating unit that was installed prior to the Season. We also hope the common-room ceiling will have a more pleasing appearance by next winter.

We hope some of our summer tourists might volunteer to install the barbecue. Phone our building director if you are interested in assisting so that we could arrange for granite and cement to be delivered prior to your visit.

### WHAT IS A BOARD?

Somebody once defined a "board" as being long, narrow and wooden. I am sure this analogy is not relevant to the board of Warrugang, although some of our members might intimate this at our Annual General Meetings. To some extent, a flooring board has the characteristics of some Warrugang board members. Many of them are well tongued, they tend to get into a groove, can be expected to split under pressure or when being nailed down, they present a number of knotty problems for the lodge manager and are subject to dry rot(!) with the effluxion of time. Almost all of them squeak when trodden upon, but this distraction is almost totally reduced if they are kept well oiled.

Seriously, don't forget it's YOUR Club and you might like to be more involved by nominating for board membership at the next Annual General Meeting on the first Friday in March, 1978.

### W.O.M.B. CUP 1977.

The course was set on the southern side of the self-loading T-bar (old poma lift). Saturday, 16th July, presented us with good weather (slightly cloudy) and an excellent cover of snow. There were 22 gates over 400 metres with a vertical drop of 50 metres.

The cup was won by Maranatha with minor placings in the following order - Boonoona, Warrugang and Oldina. The margins between all clubs' times were narrow and it was undoubtedly the closest competition we've had so far.

Maranatha hosted the races this year and provided an excellent party on Saturday evening.

In future, the WOMB cup will always be held on the second Saturday in each July, weather permitting.

Geoff Stewart of Boonoona recorded the fastest time of the day with Chris Williams a close second. Thanks to our officials for a great job.

	<u>1st Run</u>	<u>2nd Run</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>TEAM SCORE</u>
<u>MARANATHA</u> (1st place)				251.30
<u>BOONOONA</u> (2nd place)				253.65
<u>WARRUGANG</u> (3rd place)				
Chris Williams	37.10	37.10	74.20	
Greg Fulthorpe	43.30	42.25	85.55	
Elton Squires	44.85	54.80	99.65	259.40
Greg Brookes	182.00	43.00	225.00	
<u>OLDINA</u> (4th place)				266.00

MEMBERSHIP FEES.

It is proposed that annual subscriptions for 1978 be \$15 and joining fee for new members be raised to \$100 (currently \$10 and \$60). An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held before the Annual General Meeting in March 1978 to vote on these proposals and due notice will be given at that time. Subscription notices to be sent out in January, will be for the proposed new fee and, should the motion not be passed, refunds will be made. All members would be obligated to pay the current fee of \$10 in order to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

Only half of the club membership made use of club facilities during 1977. Annual subs do not fully cover fixed costs of running the lodge and the club but we feel that all members should contribute a reasonable proportion of these charges.

BOARD MEMBERS - 1977/1978

President	George Failes	Phone 412.2771
Vice-President	Jim Brennan	406.4086
Secretary	Myrna Burke	631.9479
Treasurer	John Bible	981.3602
Booking Officer	Barbara Williamson	949.2124
Building Director	Elton Squires	827.1483
Social Director	Kaye Morrison	546.2934
Sports Director	Elton Squires	827.1483
Magazine Director	Jim Brennan	406.4086