

Ku-ring-gai Alpine Lodge – President’s Report 2017

On behalf of the Directors, I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Lodge’s operations for the 12 months ending 31 December 2017.

Financials

Receipts from bookings and subscriptions in 2017 showed a small increase (6%).

Notable expenditure variations from last year were:

- False alarms (fire) \$7,040,
- Electricity and Gas both increased by \$1,000.
- We spent \$28,000 on improvements to the lodge and \$16,000 on maintenance.

The resultant profit for 2017 was \$8,130, compared with a \$12,724 loss in 2016.

Share Transfers

There was one membership transfer in 2016:

From Win Ward to Tim Firth

I welcome Tim to membership of the Lodge.

Lodge Upgrades and Maintenance

The major upgrade work to the lodge in 2017 was to the fireplace and surrounds. We also refreshed the dining room and lounge room upholstery. The fire alarm system was replaced.

Fireplace

The installation of the Cheminees Philippe Radiante 600 slow combustion stove was completed. The brickwork was faced with granite and a granite hearth installed. A large wood drawer was installed under the hearth. The stonework was something I think we had dreamed of from the early days of the lodge, and it is good to have it now completed. The fireplace area is now much tidier and safer.

Furnishings

The dining room area was all re-upholstered with new cushioning.

The lounge room bench seats were remade, to be more comfortable, and to provide storage for the director’s chairs, and to be compatible with the new fireplace stonework. They were re-upholstered with new cushions.

The free-standing chairs were also re-upholstered with new firmer cushions.

All the cushions are now fixed to their bases (with Velcro). This will disappoint some of the children, but is more convenient overall.

Windows

We were all set to replace the main living room windows this year. Up until 22 March this year, that was on track to being achieved. However, interactions with Planning NSW over the design has introduced so many conditions and delays that we now cannot get it done before winter.

Fire alarm

We had replaced the fire alarm in 2016 (for \$2,000) to try to alleviate the false alarms that had been occurring. It transpired that this was not done in the best way, and the false alarms continued to occur through 2017 – 4 of them. However, the false alarms now attracted a call-out charge/fine of around \$1,800 each! Application for waiver of these charges has so far been unsuccessful.

We have now installed yet another new system, this time with much better functionality: it is more tolerant to steam and burnt toast in the kitchen, it suppresses false alarms in all areas, it is easier to understand, and has an alarm siren built into each sensor.

As you will have seen from the balance sheet, this has been an expensive exercise, with \$7,000 spent on false alarm fines, and \$7,000 on the new alarm system.

Perisher Cup

This year, we had two teams in the Perisher Cup.

Team 1: David Buckley, Finn Buckley, James Mort and James Crook

Team 2: Gina Andrews, Tess Buckley, Andrew Sebesfi and Ethan Zucker

Team 1 brought home both the Perisher Plate (winners of Division 2) and the Perisher Pot (most improved).

James Mort won the Longest Jump, with a 15 metre jump.

Thanks to James Crook for getting these teams together, and congratulations to the winning team for their successes.

Thanks

I would like to thank the many members who contributed to the smooth running of the lodge. This includes our weekly Lodge Captains, those who attended work parties, our booking secretary Pam Woodman, our food store manager Wendy Oppen, and your directors.

Gordon Cox

25 March 2018