

Ku-ring-gai Alpine Lodge – President’s Report 2021

On behalf of the Directors, I present the Annual Report of the Lodge’s operations for the 12 months ending 31 December 2021.

Through the early months of 2021 it appeared that COVID was under control and that we could return to a more normal winter 2021 ski season. The Easter work party went ahead and Winter bookings at KAL were solid. In June, first Sydney then greater Sydney and a number of regions were locked down due to increasing COVID numbers. Very few members were able to travel so KAL was again largely empty through the ski season.

Financial

Income from bookings was up in 2021 but still below pre-2020 levels due to the COVID 19 pandemic travel restrictions resulting in fewer than normal winter stays in 2021.

National Parks and Wildlife Service finalised Rent Relief for the period ended 31 December 2020 with a small increase in assistance recognised as income in 2021. The Club has elected to be represented by SLOPES for Rent Relief negotiations for 2021. Negotiations for 2021 are ongoing.

The Club applied for the NSW Business Grant and was successful in KAL being granted \$15,000.00. Notable expenditure variations from last year were:

Audit Fees returned to 2019 levels as expected. The 2021 fee was down \$4,150 to \$5,600.

Insurance down \$4,068.

Maintenance and refurbishing: with reduced income, major works were limited to living room radiator replacement.

Gas up \$4,799

Electricity down \$1,935

The net loss for 2021 is \$24,771.

Membership

There were 2 transfers in 2021:

We welcome Edward Fay and Adelaide Fay to membership of the Lodge.

Gordon Cox and Simon Berry are looking at a new class of membership for senior members who would like to sell their share but maintain association and stay occasionally.

We mourn the passing of Danny Simon, one of the foundation members of the lodge, during 2021. We also mourn the passing of John Blumer.

Lodge Upgrades and Maintenance

The major upgrade works done this year were:

- painting of sills and reveals on the new windows in the basement and room 6.
- the replacement of heating radiators in the living area. The old radiators had developed leaks due to corrosion. Thanks to Ben Cox for sourcing and installing these.

There were many smaller items of maintenance and improvements, including:

Repair/replace kitchen cupboard hinges

Cleaning the fridge radiator and surrounds. Repair to electrical wiring.

Cleaning the kitchen thoroughly.

Cleaning all windows.

Remove failed waterproofing from external chimney, repair chimney and reseal.
Painting various areas where needed.

More detail is available in the Easter work party report.

Easter Work Party

Thanks to Peter Bergman, Julian Callebaut, Daniel Cox, Ben Cox, Joelle Breault-Hood, Jeremy and Liz Dean, Hamish and Diane Anderson for their important contribution to lodge maintenance over Easter 2021 and to Ben Cox for organising the 2021 Easter Work Party. Simon Pardey also attended.

The wood store remains stocked. Due to uncertainty over COVID the food store was not re-stocked in 2021. It will be stocked for 2022 Winter season.

2022 Winter Season

We are again optimistic about opening for the winter 2022. Guidelines are in place to ensure compliance with COVID regulations whilst operating in a practical manner. The board acknowledge the frustrations with regulations that decrease the convenience and freedom traditionally associated with a stay at KAL.

Perisher View Building

Planning NSW and NPWS have allocated a building lot adjacent to the Church and below KAL on Burrumys Road. Following many objections to the initial DA last year the Perisher View rights (essentially rights to provide accommodation with an allocated number of beds) were sold to Steven House who has planned a more modest building and lodged a DA. The Board are in contact with Planning NSW and other Lodges. An objection from KAL was drawn up by Kate Lyons (Macready) and submitted along with a number of individual objections. This is currently in the hands of Planning NSW and NPWS. Both entities appear to support the application despite widespread objections from local lodges and businesses such as Hans Oversnow.

Perisher Cup

Unfortunately, like last year, this event did not run in 2021.

Thanks

I would like to thank members for their patience and support during another challenging year. The news that I have had to deliver has not been what we would hope for. None of us want our winter holidays impacted negatively. Thanks to those who attended work parties, wrote objections to the Perisher View DA, our booking secretary Pam Woodman, and your directors.

A particular thanks to the board members for continuing to plan, navigate challenges and make tough decisions due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Frequently the situation changes, rendering some of the work a waste of time.

We also acknowledge SLOPES who advocate, provide support and guidance for clubs on a range of issues.

Simon Pardey
President
20 March 2022