

ResortRoundUP

A newsletter for the resorts community of
Kosciuszko National Park

08

ISSUE No 26
SUMMER



newsouthwales
nationalparksandwildlife
servicenow**40years**...

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) has developed into an important land management agency over the past 40 years. Management responsibilities include protected area and reserve, and flora and fauna conservation, indigenous heritage, historic sites, walking tracks, weed and pest management, fire fighting and as we all know providers of ski resorts in Kosciuszko National Park. Synonymous with the NPWS is the lyrebird emblem, a motif that is widely recognised as a symbol of conservation management in NSW.



Summer tourists to the Snowy Mountains in 1915 in the Snowy Mountains National Chase that was later to be enlarged and become Kosciuszko State Park and now Kosciuszko National Park (photo from NPWS collection).

In 1966 the Honourable Tom Lewis – Minister for Lands introduced to parliament a National Parks and Wildlife Bill that would unify the overlapping functions of native

flora and fauna conservation and State Parks under the one administration. Prior to this Bill, native fauna conservation was administered by the Fauna Protection Panel in the Chief Secretary's Department whilst the responsibility for native flora rested with the Department of Local Government. Later, flora was placed under the responsibility of the Fauna Protection Panel. In contrast, national parks, state parks and historic sites were governed by individual Trusts that reported to the Parks and Reserves Branch of the Department of Lands. Such reserves were subject to the provisions of the Mining Act and could be revoked without any great difficulty, with the exception of a few major parks that were established by Acts of parliament (Kosciuszko State Park was one of the exempted reserves having been established under the Kosciuszko State Park Act, 1944).



On the summit of Mt. Kosciuszko in 1926. Early recreation and conservation interest in the Snowy Mountains contributed to the 'movement' to establish the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (photo from NPWS collection).

what's rounded up

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| nsw npws now 40 | P01 |
| tiobunga to be rebuilt..... | P02 |
| ready for the big one! | P02 |
| landfill rehabilitation | P03 |
| snowsafes DVD released..... | P03 |
| kosciuszko huts rebuilt | P04 |
| getting the resort experience | P05 |
| native green thumbs | P05 |
| year round at guthega | P06 |
| spot the robin | P07 |
| bongongs back | P07 |
| a special event..... | P08 |
| outhouse update | P09 |
| simple ideas and team work... | P09 |
| now you see us | P10 |
| rehabilitation guidelines..... | P11 |
| DOP news | P11 |
| badge of honour | P12 |
| back to perisher | P12 |
| climate calendar..... | P13 |
| yarrangobilly house reopened | P13 |
| email subscription | P13 |
| thredbo ski museum..... | P14 |
| revolve recycling centre..... | P14 |
| a cleaner environment | P15 |
| contacts..... | P16 |



NSW National Parks
and Wildlife Service

Department of **Environment & Climate Change** NSW



Although there was some concerns raised in both houses of Parliament as to the acceptance of the Bill as tabled by Tom Lewis, on the 1st October 1967 Parliament passed the Bill that became the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1967 and which subsequently established the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

At its inception, the NPWS was made responsible for 52 nature reserves, 12 national parks, 7 state parks and 6 historic sites encompassing a total of 861, 429 hectares. Except for nature reserves, Trusts controlled 19 of these areas. Forty years later, NPWS manages more than 6.6 million hectares or 8% of New South Wales. This includes 783 national parks and reserves including 6 marine parks and 4 world heritage areas.

National parks have always been, and will continue to be, multipurpose. They protect some of our most spectacular and iconic landscapes, and conserve representative samples of state and national ecosystems.



Limited mechanised transport was available by 1939, so horse-drawn sleighs provided access to winter accommodation (photo from NPWS collection).

These conservation values are managed whilst balancing recreational

opportunities that rejuvenate our physical and mental well-being from a hectic modern life – after all, healthy parks, healthy people! However, the future of our national parks and biodiversity will not only be challenged

by traditional threats like weeds and pests, but also from new impacts as a result of climate change like increased bushfire activity and climatic pressures on the survival of many plants and animals. This will require

continued adaptive management that meets community expectations and is inclusive of community consultation and assistance.

tiobungatoberebuilt

Tiobunga, Brindabella Ski Club's lodge at Guthega, is being rebuilt in time for the 2008 snow season. Originally a single-storey timber-framed ex-Snowy Mountains Authority hut, the building was erected on the current site by the YMCA Ski Club in 1955. Extensions in 1959, recladding and reconstruction in 1963, and a fire safety upgrade in 1982/83 were the main building adjustments until the roof was under threat of collapse in the 1990's. As an interim measure, a separate roofing structure was erected over the top of the building in 1998 which became a feature of Guthega Village for the next 9 years.



'Old' Tiobunga characterised by its second roof before a total rebuild commenced in 2007 (photo by Department of Planning).



readyfortheBIGONE!!!

When the 'big dump' arrives in 2008 then this oversnow vehicle is well placed to transport people from Kalkite (Lake Jindabyne) to the skifields - I guess you can never be over-prepared. (photo by Dave Woods).

update... wastepointlandfillrehabilitation

In the summer of 2004/05 approximately 10,000 trees and shrubs were planted at the former Waste Point landfill that was officially closed in 2001.



Final capping layer in late 2004 prior to planting
(photo by Dave Woods).



Trees and shrubs planted in early 2005
(photo by Dave Woods).

In addition to planting across the site, four trial areas of intensive 'island' planting was undertaken within wire enclosures to reduce grazing by kangaroos and rabbits, and to emulate natural ecosystem function including leaf-litter and micro-climates. When sexually mature such stands will contribute greatly to the seed pool and subsequent natural revegetation of the site. More 'islands' will be planted in the next 12 months. Take a look at some of the progress.



Trees and shrubs in late 2007 after nearly three years of growth
(photo by Dave Woods).



One of the intensive 'island' planting enclosures that will be replicated in other parts of the former tip site
(photo by Dave Woods).



A mix of compost soil, the selection of endemic trees and shrubs, a layer of mulch and some annual maintenance including weed control is part of the recipe for a successful rehabilitation project on a once completely degraded site
(photo by Dave Woods).

snowsafeDVD attitude

The release of the snow safety film – 'attitude' – prior to the 2007 snow season was well received with over 200 DVD copies being distributed amongst NSW ski clubs, ski lodges and school groups.

The 17 minute DVD was produced as part of the Snowsafe promotion of the Alpine Responsibility Code and other safety aspects for the skier, boarder and terrain-park user. Presented by some of Australia's leading snow sportsmen and women, the DVD identifies a range of risks that are inherent in all snow recreational activities and how common sense and personal awareness can reduce injury to you and to others. In summary, it's all about the right attitude!

If you would like a free copy of the DVD please contact Dave Woods (contact details on back of newsletter).



plans to rebuild kosciuszko's huts



Broken Dam Hut – the first of seven huts to be completely rebuilt and on schedule for opening before Christmas 2007 (photo by Megan Bowden).

in 1982, and which subsequently agitated the many hut users that valued these structures for purposes inclusive of history, safety, amenity and other types of personal association. A new planning principle now considers the cultural and social significance of huts, even when the traditional fabric of the original building is lost. This means that stories and family connections that bind people to a place are also important when planning for hut heritage conservation. This philosophical change to previous management is the basis for the rebuilding strategy and one that has been warmly welcomed by many hut patrons including the primary hut advocacy group – the Kosciuszko Huts Association.

NPWS and KHA volunteers (including members of 'Bogong Group' who were the caretakers of the original hut) help complete Broken Dam Hut (photo by Megan Bowden).

Recent changes to an international convention regarding the management of historic heritage has meant that many of the huts that were destroyed in the 2003 bushfires can be rebuilt. A total of 19 historic huts were either destroyed or severely damaged in Kosciuszko National Park in 2003, with two of the partially damaged huts having already been completed – Geehi and Old Geehi. Following public consultation on the reconstruction plans for Delaney's Hut and Broken Dam Hut (the latter hut burning down in a separate fire incident in 1998), work has commenced this summer with the aim of rebuilding both huts before winter 2008. Plans are also in place to commence rebuilding the partially damaged Opera House Hut in May 2008. Access to this site is one of the most challenging in Kosciuszko National Park as it is situated between Watson's Crags and Lady Northcote's Canyon on the western side of the Main Range. Material will be transported through

Snowy Hydro's aqueduct tunnel that passes underneath Watson's Crags - a tunnel distance of 2.4 km.

Previous heritage planning conventions such as the Burra Charter placed a lot of significance on the fabric of a building that if destroyed, would diminish the value of the building as being a significant structure. This was one of the tenets that influenced the 'no replacement' policy emanating from the Kosciuszko Plan of Management



students getsome resortsworkexperience

Each year NPWS provides a number of placements for work experience students. Recently Year 10 students Dan Kroenert and Joshua Heath from St. Patrick's Parish School in Cooma spent one week in Kosciuszko National Park including a day with Resorts Section. The morning was spent at the former Waste Point Tip to help with the maintenance of the revegetation program, then on to Smiggin Holes to remove pine wildings, then to Perisher Valley to address a wombat inhibiting lodge extensions and also to participate in a proposed development site inspection. Other days were spent trapping Mountain Pygmy-possum at Charlotte Pass, helping undertake wild dog control, rehabilitating Rawson's Pass and undertaking fire-trail inspection and neighbour relations associated with Paupong Nature Reserve.



Year 10 work experience students Dan Kroenert (front) and Joshua Heath from St. Patrick's Parish School in Cooma removing redundant tree guards and stakes as part of the Waste Point Tip rehabilitation project (photo by Dave Woods).



Joshua Heath (left) and Dan Kroenert remove one of the many pine wildings growing along the Kosciuszko Road just below Smiggin Holes (photo by Dave Woods).

native plants what to plant and where to get them...



If you are wanting to plant native species around your lodge and are wondering on what species are best for your location, then please don't hesitate to contact Dave Woods – Environmental Liaison Officer (contact details on back page) who can provide you with a list of species most relevant to your site as well as provide some helpful hints to keep the plants alive.

So where do you get the plants from? A couple of nurseries in the region are under licence to collect seed and propagate plants for use in resort areas and often maintain surplus plant stock that is left over from larger projects. The following nurseries can provide plant stock in small quantities and can arrange to get the plants to your lodge:

Dealbata (Cold Climate)

Australian Plant Nursery

5 Munje St. PAMBULA NSW 2549

Ph 0427 835 226 or 6494 3283

Contact - Bill Peterie

Monaro Native Tree Nursery

"Khalassa" Gunnigrah Rd. BOMBALA NSW 2632

Ph 6458 4096

monarotrees@acr.net.au

Contact - Anne Platts

guthegaalpinehotel nowopenyearround



Top: Guthega Alpine Hotel now open year-round (photo by Dave Woods).

Middle: Views of the Main Range from the comfort of the dining room (photo by Dave Woods).

Above: Local artists take advantage of the hotel's facilities and an unsurpassed backdrop for inspiration (photo by Dave Woods).

In May 2007 Jenny and Nick Kennedy became the new owners of the Guthega Alpine Hotel with a commitment to provide year-round guest accommodation in Guthega Village. Imbued with a passion for the Snowy Mountains that dates back to Nick's introduction to skiing at Cooma Hut in the late 1950's it was only a matter of time before the Kennedy's would embed themselves in the mountains. Nick was influenced at an early age by the passion for sport and the mountains of cross-country skiing legend Kore Grunnsund and by the achievements of Guthega personality and resort developer Walter Spanring – a ski instructor who became owner/builder of Guthega Alpine Hotel and owner/director of Guthega Ski Resort.

The Kennedy's and their family have a long connection with the tourism industry which they will call on to take their restaurant and accommodation business forward. They want to maintain the place of the hotel in the fabric of this small village within Kosciuszko National Park. In essence, they wish to reflect the spirit of the workers of the Snowy Scheme who used Guthega for winter sport and as a base for year round access to the Main Range.

With a winter season already behind them, the new proprietors and now year-round Guthega residents have already opened their doors for the summer season, providing quality mountain accommodation as well as lunch and dinner for day visitors in surroundings that take in unsurpassed views overlooking the upper Snowy River and Main Range. They plan to provide an alternative year round tourist option providing a base for activities such as hiking, bike riding, fishing, art and for those wanting a comfortable retreat in a secluded and unspoiled setting.

The Guthega Alpine Hotel was erected in 1965 as a two-storey alpine-designed commercial lodge (formerly known as the Guthega Lodge). Some additions to the building, including extensions, were made in the 1980's and again in 1994. Whilst facilities are modern and comfortable the charm and character of the building's exterior and interior have been preserved. The Guthega Alpine Hotel is open for lunch and dinner and accepts accommodation enquiries.

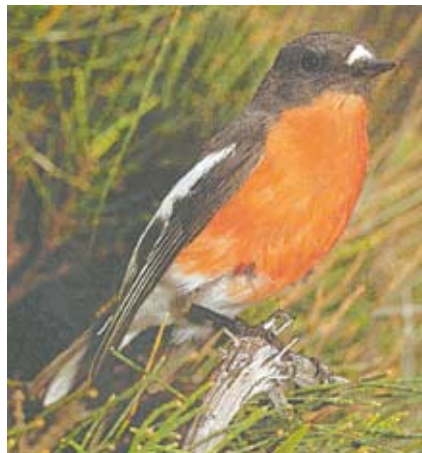
Phone 02 64575383 or
email stay@guthega.com

how to tell the difference

between a flame robin and a scarlet robin

Each year thousands of migratory birds return to the mountains after wintering in other locations that are climatically less severe. Some birds migrate hundreds and even thousands of kilometres to the north whilst others migrate away from the higher parts of the mountains and tablelands including down to lower tableland areas and coastal flats (a few birds actually hang-around and only make short journeys to lower altitudes during inclement weather). Two birds that often make such local migrations include the Flame Robin and Scarlet Robin. Their close proximity to the Snowy Mountains throughout late-autumn and winter means that they are some of the first birds to be seen at the start of spring.

Whilst the Flame Robin tends to return to higher elevations such as those sub-alpine and montane environments (eg. the ski resorts), occasionally the Scarlet Robin may be found in similar environments which may confuse people less familiar with these birds. Like most birds species, it is the male robins that have the most colourful plumage – with the male Scarlet Robin having a scarlet-red to an orange-red



Male Flame Robin (source: Readers Digest Birds of Australia).

chest, and the Flame Robin with a bright orange chest. The popularity of these Robins is no doubt due to the flashes of brightly coloured chests which contrasts with the tempered green colours of trees and shrubs that are gleaned for insects. Sometimes these brazen little birds can be seen perched on a boulder or picking up immobilised insects and spiders that have frozen on the last of the winter snow patches. Chest colour alone may not be enough to help tell these birds apart. So, a few more salient features to help you include:

Flame Robin – The male's head and back tends to be dark grey with a prominent, but small, rounded white patch on lower forehead that adjoins the bill. Females have a pale abdomen although old females may have a faint, often irregular, wash of scarlet on the breast.

Scarlet Robin - The male's head and back tends to be black with a prominent large rounded white patch on forehead. Females have a smaller white spot than the male with a breast washed with scarlet on an otherwise pale chest.



Male Scarlet Robin (source: Readers Digest Birds of Australia).

bogong moths arrive early...

NPWS alpine ecologist – Dr Ken Green – recorded the earliest arrival of the Bogong Moth when one was positively identified on the 12th September 2007. Prior to this sighting, the earliest date recorded was on 17th September 1980. Bogong Moths undertake annual migrations from inland NSW and southern Queensland to spend the summer months in the cooler mountain climates of the Australian Alps. Bogong Moths are an important food source for a large range of animals including the Mountain Pygmy-possum that relies on this protein and carbohydrate rich food to build up its body weight for winter hibernation.

snowyride

a special event for kids with cancer



A helicopter crew from HMAS Albatross (Nowra) visit the children as part of the Snowy Ride events (photo by Dale Coyte).

Every year as part of the Snowy Ride a group of children with cancer, along with their carers and parents, visit the Snowy Mountains to participate in a range of events and activities. This year the children were taken up to Mt. Kosciuszko (Rawson's Pass) to see and touch snow (many for the first time) in vehicles provided by NPWS and Snowy Hydro. A visit to the NPWS Education Centre at Sawpit Creek followed where the kids learned more about the unique flora, fauna and history of Kosciuszko National Park. 'Ranger Dave' also made a visit to the kids loaded with some local animals including frogs, lizards, yabbies, a wombat

and a native bush rat – the latter being captured in some traps set earlier in the day along the Thredbo River for the kids to check in the afternoon. A helicopter and crew from HMAS Albatross also visited the children at Thredbo giving them a special ride across the mountains.

The Snowy Ride is a major motorbike riding event to raise money for the Steven Walter Foundation. The event is coordinated by Susan Walter who lost her son Steven to cancer. This year 2,834 riders participated and raised \$250,000 for the Children's Cancer Institute.

rawsonpasst^{oilet}UPDATE



A montage of how the Rawson Pass Toilet will look when construction is completed and the site completely rehabilitated.

Work on the Rawson Pass toilets that started in December 2006 recommenced in early November 2007 after sufficient snow had melted to allow access to the site along the Summit Road. The provision of a permanent toilet structure was in response to high visitation to Mt. Kosciuszko and subsequent degradation of the alpine environment from human waste. The decision for a permanent toilet structure as opposed to the previously sited temporary toilets was considered in relation to longer-term environmental impacts and operational requirements, and also comes after extensive consultation with stakeholders and the general public. To maintain the aesthetic integrity of the area, most of the structure has been built into the hillside and an intensive landscaping program has commenced with grasses and forbs already growing around the site. The landscaping of the surrounding toilet site is actually part of a wider rehabilitation plan to revegetate Rawson Pass, particularly the former carpark area that was open to private vehicles up until the late 1970's.

Barring bad weather, the new toilet is planned to be open by December. In mid-January most of the remaining work will involve landscaping and rehabilitation.

For further information please contact Tim Greville – Ranger (Summit) on 6450 5525 or email: tim.greville@environment.nsw.gov.au



Stonemason at work on the toilet entry (photo by Tim Greville).

SIMPLE IDEAS and working together

During excavation work at a development site in late October, excessive groundwater seepage challenged the sediment controls that were put in place. Coffee-coloured turbid water was running from site that was unacceptable to both the NPWS and Department of Planning. Some on site discussions amongst the construction crew and agency staff identified some simple cost-efficient measures. In one instance, water from the site was pumped into a garbage bin which was allowed to slowly overflow into a sediment-trap fence before filtering through vegetation to the roadside drainage below. This simple initiative was estimated to have improved the water clarity by 70 – 80% before leaving the site.

The essence of this short article is not necessarily to replicate this sediment control technique per se, but to realise the importance of maintaining open communication and that sometimes simple solutions is all it takes.



Simple ideas may be all that it takes to satisfy good environmental site controls (photo by Shane Trengove).

now you see us

profiling threatened species through art



Alpine Tree Frog and Little Whip Snake – some of the lesser known threatened fauna in the Snowy Mountains and southern Monaro area (source: Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia).

'Now You See Us' – In early 2007 the South East Arts Region (SEAR) approached NPWS with an offer to use local artists to help profile a range of threatened species in the region. The group identified an opportunity to use art to raise the profile of a number of species of flora and fauna that are under pressure from a variety of threatening processes including land clearing, tourism, unsuitable fire regimes, weeds and animal pests, and in particular climate change.

Under the project title 'Now You See Us', a range of threatened vascular plants and threatened vertebrate fauna of the Snowy Mountains and southern Monaro was short-listed for work by the artists. The criteria for the species chosen included: threatened species listed (or proposed species listed for determination) under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 and/or the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999; a representative of threatened species across the Snowy Mountains and southern Monaro region including different land tenure such as private and public land (eg. national park); a cross section of different types of fauna (eg. frogs, reptiles, birds and mammals) and different types of flora (eg. trees, shrubs and herbs); and a particular focus on those species that are less well known in the region.

Initially the artwork will be incorporated into an educational booklet targeting primary school

children as well as a series of large scale photographic images reprinted on banners with accompanying text to be displayed across the region. The original artwork will also be exhibited at venues such as libraries, galleries, visitor centres and country shows. Additional grants will also be sought with the aim of incorporating the artwork into other formats for reproduction and subsequent display.

Funding for the project was received from the Southern Rivers Community Partnership Fund and the NSW Regional Arts Fund after joint grant applications by SEAR and NPWS were successfully awarded. The artists will include children's story teller – Jane Carroll, photographer – Ruth Maddison and illustrator – Melinda Perrin.



Raleigh Sedge – an inconspicuous threatened plant that is found in some resort areas (photo by Dave Woods).

For more information on the 'Now You See Us' project please contact Dave Woods – Environmental Liaison Officer (contact details on back page).

rehabilitation guidelines

for the resorts of kosciuszko national park



After much consultation, the first edition of Rehabilitation Guidelines for the Resorts of Kosciuszko National Park have been completed. These guidelines have been prepared to assist land managers, lessees and contractors in ski resorts to plan and undertake rehabilitation work. They focus on the characteristics and requirements of the Kosciuszko resorts.

However, the guidelines will also be useful to Country Energy, Telstra, Snowy Hydro and others working in the alpine, subalpine and/or montane areas of Kosciuszko National Park and other areas of the Australian Alps.

The guidelines provide a baseline for best practice rehabilitation in the environments encountered in resort areas, focusing on six key elements for a successful rehabilitation program, including:

- A site by site approach to rehabilitation;
- The use of indigenous species;
- Management continuity;
- Skilled rehabilitation crews;
- Consideration of timing constraints; and
- Monitoring.

Using photographs, diagrams and case examples to facilitate good techniques and practices, the Guidelines explore a range of aspects including site preparation and soil management, types and choice of materials, appropriate plant species, mulching for alpine conditions, managing weeds and maintenance of rehabilitated sites after planting.

A major contributor to the Guidelines was Liz MacPhee (NPWS Rehabilitation Officer, Former Snowy Sites Scheme) who provided much of the significant planning and rehabilitation techniques that have been researched and successfully applied in Victorian alpine resorts where she worked prior to joining the NPWS.

A PDF version of the Guidelines can be downloaded from the DECC website at: www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/npws.nsf/Content/Ski+resorts+and+environmental+management or alternatively a CD copy can be obtained by contacting Shane Trengove – Environmental Management Officer (Assessments Coordinator) on 64505543 or email shane.trengove@environment.nsw.gov.au

department of planning NEWS...

update by Jim Corrigan – Team Leader

The Alpine Resorts Team has a new building surveyor - Scott Reid. Scott replaces John Gargett who left the Department of Planning (DoP) in June 2007. Scott comes to DoP from Sydney and has many years experience working in local government and as a principal certifying authority. Scott has also worked as a ski instructor and has a good understanding of alpine resort activities.

Environmental planner - Erin Fuller also recently left DoP. Lynda Weston is currently acting in this role after recently completing her post-graduate degree.

From 26th October 2007, the DoP is responsible for approving and issuing any Place of Public Entertainment Licences (POPE's for short). This follows the introduction of new regulations and a new State Environmental Planning Policy (Temporary Structures and Places of Public Entertainment) 2007. Any existing POPE's are valid until 26th April 2008. Any new POPE's or POPE's after 26th April 2008 will require the approval of DoP.

In relation to the NPWS Perisher Range Health and Building Audit, many lodges are up to the priority 2 and 3 works listed in the audit. Please note that many of these works and in particular, works requiring alternate solutions under the Building Code of Australia (BCA), need consent from the DoP before work can commence.

So if you are proposing any building work, you require a place of public entertainment licence or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Alpine Resorts Team by phone - 6456 1733; by fax 6456 1736 or email - jim.corrigan@planning.nsw.gov.au or scott.reid@planning.nsw.gov.au

badge of honour

Thredbo's 50 years celebration was not lost on the birth of baby Sarah, the new daughter of NPWS Environmental Liaison Officer - Dave Woods. Her first glimpse of dad was no doubt distracted by Thredbo's 50 year commemorative badge which was still pinned to his vest in the delivery room in Orbost Regional Hospital. For the record, Sarah will like skiing, rugby and sea kayaking!



back to perisher

april 12-19th 2008... come join us!

Visitation to the Perisher area during the non-winter months use to be quite popular with visitors enjoying the many summer attractions that the Snowy Mountains and in particular the Perisher Range had to offer. Well now it is time to rekindle the camaraderie and resort community spirit in the Perisher area and enjoy the splendour of the mountains in Autumn again. To help entice you back, a range of activities are being organised in and around the resorts by an enthusiastic committee that includes SLOPES, NPWS and Perisher Blue representatives. So now is the time to discuss with family and friends your desire to be a part of the celebrations that will take place in the first week of the school holidays April 12th - 19th

2008. Whilst it was too early to confirm the activities at the time of preparing this article, the following summary gives you an idea of some of the events and arrangements being explored:

- A 6.2 kilometre fun run/walk from Perisher Gap to Charlottes Pass Village that will include drink stations, ambulance officers (if needed) and return bus transport to Perisher Valley;
- A walk from Charlotte Pass to Thredbo (and for some a walk from Thredbo to Charlotte Pass) that will allow a stop at Australia's newest and highest toilet and a detour to the summit of Mt. Kosciuszko;
- A guided walk from Guthega to Illawong Lodge including

some refreshments and a tour of the historic building by one of Illawong's members;

- An interclub tug-of-war;
- A demonstration and information session by the NSW Fire Brigade;
- Historic film nights;
- Interclub/lodge visits (over drinks) to learn more about your resort neighbours and club history; and
- A number of 'watering holes' and eateries to be opened especially for this celebratory week to provide conveniences during your stay as well as more opportunities to get together over a beer!

More information will be provided by SLOPES in early 2008 but now is the time to plan your visit.

Climate changing our catchment



Each year the Upper Snowy Landcare group under the auspices of the Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority identifies an environmental theme for a calendar and selects paintings from a competition amongst primary school students across the Snowy Mountains. This year's calendar is titled

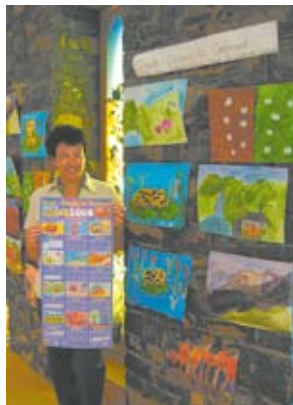
Climate – Changing our Catchment,

with many of the artists expressing concerns about less water, hotter weather, a loss of biodiversity and an increase in wildfires. Some artists also expressed positive actions such as alternative power sources like solar energy and wind farms, as well as using less resources and living sustainably. These are critical issues affecting all our regions no matter where you live.

Many of the art pieces have also gone on display at visitor centres and other public galleries in the region for the benefit of locals and visitors. You can acquire a calendar by contacting the NPWS Environmental Liaison Officer (contact details on back page).

Top right: Nahria Shannon of the Snowy Mountains Region Visitor Centre in Jindabyne displays the calendar and some of the artwork contributed by Jindabyne Central Primary School.

Right: Artwork expressing concerns about less water, loss of biodiversity and an increase of bushfires as a result of climate change affecting catchments of the Snowy Mountains area (photos by Dave Woods).



yarrangobillycaveshouse REOPENED



Caves House now ready to provide public accommodation (photo from NPWS collection).

Caves House has been restored as a heritage accommodation venue and one of the restored wings of the house is now available to the public – an opportunity that has not been available since the 1960s. For more details about accommodation and cave tours please call (02) 6454 9597 or visit the NPWS website:

<http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/parks.nsf/parkContent/N0018>

RESORTROUND-UPemaileddirectlytoyou

The Resort Round-up newsletter can be emailed directly to you as a PDF or as a hotlink for subsequent access to the NPWS Website where copies can be viewed or downloaded as a PDF or HTML file. If you would like to be on the Resort Round-up email distribution list then please contact **Dave Woods**, Environmental Liaison Officer Tel **6450 5616** or email dave.woods@environment.nsw.gov.au

thredboski museum

If you have a passion for skiing, snowboarding, a love of the Snowy Mountains or an interest in history, then you should visit the Thredbo Ski Museum. Located in the Village Square along Mowamba Place, the Thredbo Ski Museum celebrates our snow sports heritage and resort history. On display is an interesting collection of equipment, photographs, literature, clothing and trophies – all fascinating items from the 1890's to the present.



Thredbo Village and front slopes in 1964 (source: Exploring EarlyThredbo).



The original Roslyn Lodge was built in 1958 and is now known as High Noon (photo from NPWS collection).

The museum offers free admission although a gold coin donation towards the upkeep of this voluntary facility is greatly appreciated. The museum is open this summer:

- Boxing Day to Australia Day; and
- February - April weekends & public holidays 10am – 4pm.

Inquiries about Thredbo Ski Museum including membership can be obtained from the website at: <http://www.thredboskimuseum.com>



revolve recycling centre jindabyne

Up until a couple of years ago before the Jindabyne Landfill site was overhauled and redesigned, disused items of value used to be removed from the waste stream and displayed for sale at a nominal cost. Now Snowy River Shire Council is again introducing the Recycling Centre at the Jindabyne Landfill site, but only under the auspices of a three month trial to see if the venture is viable. Goods that will be sold will include:

- **Used household items;**
- **Used building materials; and**
- **Used furniture and other pre-loved items.**

If you need odd bits and pieces and are keen on doing something positive for the environment, here's your chance to purchase second hand products at very cheap prices. To prove the worth of the trial, the project needs community support and participation.

a cleaner environment as a result of the perisher clean-up days

The annual Perisher Clean-up Day held on Tuesday 20th November was another fantastic collaboration between Perisher Blue and NPWS with the day's effort hauling just over 1 tonne of rubbish from around the Perisher Range. This is in addition to an approximate half-a-tonne of litter collected by Perisher Blue staff throughout the snowseason, particularly around the carparks in Perisher Valley and Smiggin Holes. Although many construction and maintenance projects were well underway in preparation for the 2008 snowseason, 70 Perisher Blue staff and 18 NPWS staff still managed to put tools down to 'emu-bob' across the mountains.

In comparison with past litter clean-up's, no real quirky items of interest were found, although a brown glass beer bottle dated '1960' will take pride of place on someone's shelf once it is cleaned up after resting in the soil and under snow for nearly half-a-century, and part of a kitchen (excluding the sink) has now been removed from Rock Creek.

As deplorable as it is to have people litter our favourite ski resorts and iconic national park, the litter collected from this event is half of that collected two years ago. Plastic bags, confectionary wrappers, and drink cans and bottles continue to dominate the type of litter found in our mountains although less cigarette-butts were noticed compared to previous years.

Another community clean-up will again take place in Kosciuszko National Park as part of the Clean-up Australia Day campaign on Sunday 2nd March 2008. Persons wishing to participate can contact Dave Woods – Environmental Liaison Officer on 6450 5616 or email: dave.woods@environment.nsw.gov.au



A cleaner environment thanks to the efforts of Perisher Blue and NPWS staff who participated in the annual Perisher Clean-up Day (photo by Jane McIntosh).

SUMMER Cleanups

A reminder that the large bins situated around the Perisher Range Resorts are for waste and recycling, not building material waste. If you are doing summer renovations or a major clean-up, you must take your building waste or discarded furnishings to Jindabyne Landfill near the Jindabyne Dam Wall. The Jindabyne Landfill is currently operating on a summer timetable and is open:

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Monday | 8am - 12pm |
| Tuesday | 8am - 5pm |
| Wednesday | CLOSED |
| Thursday | 8am - 5pm |
| Friday | 8am - 5pm |
| Saturday | 10am - 3pm |
| Sunday | 10am - 3pm |

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Contributions to Newsletter

Readers are invited to contribute to Resort Round-up. Please keep articles relevant to resort issues and to less than 300 words. If you would like more information about your contribution, please contact Dave Woods – Environmental Liaison Officer to discuss.

Non-credited articles by Dave Woods.



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