



# Bogong Bulletin

Issue 51 Winter 2005

The Alpine Rovers and Venturers Newsletter

## 2005 Winter Party Reunion

Alpine Rover Crew &  
Bogong Chalet Management Group  
Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 12th October 2005  
Victorian Rover Centre  
Highland Avenue, Clayton North

Catch up with friends you made on  
winter parties this year, share  
stories, photos, port and supper with  
friends from winters past.  
Have your say in the running of the  
chalet.

Bogong Rover Chalet  
P.O. Box 774,  
Mt. Waverley, 3149.

bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au  
www.bogongroverchalet.org.au

For Information on the  
Alpine Rover Crew, Venturer  
Unit and Chalet  
Management Group contact  
Lucas Moore, ARC  
Chairman on (03) 9737 0094.



*Ski It, Hike It, Bike It, I Like It!*

## BCMG Chairman's Report

I am pleased with the bookings we received for this winter and hope that everyone who participated in a winter party had an enjoyable experience. The fact that week 7 received no interest is of concern since this is generally one of the best weeks in terms of weather and snow conditions. Next year Rovers should consider trying to fill this week!

Regarding the AGM, we are after some enthusiastic Rovers to step up to the plate and be the face of the Chalet for 05/06. The Bogong Chalet Management Group is one of the most enjoyable committees I have been on in Rovers, and there has been ample assistance both within the group and external to assist with the running of the Chalet.

2006 might be the year that you decide to give something back to the Chalet by helping the management group convince some more Rovers to give the Chalet a go.

Now is also the time to start planning a summer getaway with your crew, partner, mum... Summer bookings are \$12 / \$18 per person per night (Scout members / non-members). Remember a minimum booking of \$100 applies to any booking.

Thankyou to all for a great season and a big thanks to those Rovers who took the plunge this year and experienced what the Bogong Rover Chalet has to offer.

I'll see you at the AGM,

Dan Angus - BCMG Chairman

## W.F. Waters Award Presented on the Snow

Tuesday 23rd, on the snow in front of Bill's Plaque and members of the Bogong Rover Crew, I read the citation and Craig Whan (BC Rovers) presented Colin Jones (CJ) with his WF Waters certificate. To my knowledge a WF waters certificate has never been presented in this manner before.

Jody Freeman (BRC)



## Congratulations to New Bogong Rovers!

The following Alpine Rovers were invested as Bogong Rovers this year in recognition for their continued service to Rover Skiing and the Chalet.

Nick Wright  
Matt Moore  
Melissa Bethune  
Chris Gunther

Steve O'Brien  
Steve Tyas  
Andrew Larter  
Jody Freeman



# Kangaroo Hoppet 2005

After a year (well, a couple of days) of extensive and focused training Mick Connor and I proved that a week of sleep deprivation, long tours, lagers and Bruce's snoring in week 9 is just the sort of preparation required for Hoppet glory. Baked corned beef was also cited as a secret training supplement. I didn't realise that Mick C was on the national team for Great Britain.

Results for the Hoppet and Birky as follows: (apologies if I missed anyone)

Place	Time	Surname	Firstname	Nation	Class	State	Bib	Class Place	
<b>Hoppet Mens (42km)</b>									
1	1:38:35	Sim	Ben	AUS	M18	NSW	12	1	Overall Winner
22	1:57:41	Connor	Paul	GBR	M40	Vic	31	2	Mick C's brother
24	1:58:34	Franzke	Ian	AUS	M25	Vic	37	8	
54	2:18:15	Fryer	Tim	AUS	M40	Vic	48	14	
63	2:22:57	Franzke	Evan	AUS	M30	Vic	77	10	
81	2:28:26	Wilcox	Robert	AUS	M40	Vic	84	18	
201	3:28:25	Brett	David	AUS	M45	Vic	255	27	
202	3:29:34	Spencer	Michael	AUS	M40	Vic	305	33	
219	3:53:54	Moore	Luke	AUS	M25	Vic	268	19	
221	3:56:29	Connor	Michael	GBR	M40	Vic	237	38	
<b>Hoppet Womans (42km)</b>									
1	1:56:56	Brumley	Clare-Louise	AUS	W25	Vic	1	1	Overall Winner
38	3:15:45	Franzke	Carolyn	AUS	W25	Vic	217	7	
41	3:24:13	Edmanson	Kim	AUS	W25	Vic	242	8	
<b>Australian Birkenbinder Mens (21km)</b>									
1	0:51:24	Koons	Ben	NZ	M18		515	1	Overall Winner
60	1:24:35	Linnell	John	AUS	M20	Vic	587	9	
91	1:37:46	Linnell	Stuart	AUS	M20	Vic	552	11	

Michael Spencer (BRC)

## Wedding Bells and Baby Bows:

Romance has been in the air this winter around the chalet.

Stuart Bailey and Sheena Rigby started thing off in week 2, getting engaged on Rocky Knobs, and Glenn Pendavingh and Melissa Bethune both Bogong Rovers were engaged on Week 8. We have also had weddings for Tim Doyle and Caitie Watz, Tyson Clugg and Bec Peterson, who met one New Years Eve at the Chalet, and the impending marriage of Bogong Rover Andrew Sanderson and Stephanie Eaves (both are also Baw Baw Rovers).

Congratulations to regular week 9er's Anthony and Pip Wood who gave birth to Jessica in July, Tim Fryer and Andrea Treweek on their new baby daughter and to Paul and Liz Sheer (Mishura) who also had girl during week 8 (in hospital, not at the Chalet).

## SkiBay

Buying or Selling Second  
Hand Outdoors Equipment?

Use SkiBay at [www.bogongroverchalet.org.au](http://www.bogongroverchalet.org.au)

Its Free!

## 2006 Winter Party Dates

Week 1	24/6 - 1/7	Vic Snow Venture
Week 2	1/7 - 8/7	Ski Party
Week 3	8/7 - 15/7	Ski party
Week 4	15/7 - 22/7	S.A. Snow Venture
Week 5	22/7 - 29/7	Ski Party
Week 6	29/7 - 5/8	Ski party
Week 7	5/8 - 12/8	Ski Party
Week 8	12/8 - 19/8	Ski party
Week 9	19/8 - 26/8	Ski Party
Week 10	26/8 - 2/9	Ski party
Week 11	2/9 - 9/9	Ski Party
Week 12	9/9 - 16/9	Ski party
Week 13	16/9 - 23/9	Vic Snow Venture

## The Other Chairman's Report

First of all I'd like to welcome the new Alpine Rovers, and congratulate the new Bogong Rovers invested this year. Its great to see that winter parties are getting booked out, as it's a reflection of how great the chalet is.

I'd also like to thank all those who have contributed to the Bogong Bulletin over the last year making my job a little easier, especially my wife Linda, for proof reading, and the Simpson's, for their letter stuffing skills.

I hope you have enjoyed reading the Bulletin this year, and attending the ARC events like Ski Fun Day and Ski Expo, and I will see many of you at the AGM and Winter Party Reunion to catch up, and share some skiing tall-stories.

Luke Moore – ARC Chairman



Western Australians.

## Week 2 Report

Just a quick note to say thanks to everyone on week 2 for another fantastic week at the Chalet! For the entire week we had plenty of ski-worthy snow and some top notch weather which meant that we were able to get out and about for the entire week. For me the most notable trip was the ski out to Mt McKay which was one of the best days skiing I have ever had in the area. Top quality snow combined with great company and a great run down Mt McKay made for a trip to remember. Never underestimate the power of word-of-mouth advertising, as for week 2 we were fortunate enough to have the company of Rovers from Tasmania and Western Australia. These keen Rovers had simply heard about 'this great place called Bogong' and decided to make the trip up to the Chalet just on the word of some Rovers they had met at AusMoot. Here are some impressions by one of the

Daniel Angus (BCMG Chairman)

## Ode to the Snow

*To stay at the Chalet we'd come a long way,  
from down in Tasmania and over in WA.*

*We really had no idea what we'd find,  
Just hoping it was away from the daily grind.*

*After some long days of travelling by plane and by car,  
We finally arrived in Tawonga – so good, so far.*

*Sleeping on the stage then up before sun,  
We nervously packed up our skis and hoped it'd be fun.*

*Carrying packs whilst wobbly on skis,  
The elusive Chalet just seemed a big tease.*

*But along with our balance we found people keen to assist,  
To help out a novice with a face-plant crisis.*

*And finally at the end of a long day,  
We arrived at the chalet, a tired hooray!*

*We moved inside and settled the Animal Room,  
And, just as expected, the shenanigans began soon.*

*Madagascar, and Bison and shibby are words,  
That will now remind us of Bogong whenever they're heard.*

*And the circle of friends which began with just a few,  
Extended to include lots of people called Stu.*

*And Daves, and Gordons and so many more,  
But now every single one of you we adore.*

*Out on tours our skiing improved with support,  
As we tried to get the hang of this new sport.*

*And we got outside to build a toboggan slide,  
But after icing over, only the foolish would ride.*

*Our biggest adventure was to Fitzgeralds hut,  
Lost in the bush while attempting a short-cut!*

*Clear blue skies showed us views that were awesome,  
As we skied the country of Banjo Patterson and Lawson.*

*At night we behaved nothing less than expected,  
As through all sorts of activities we were infected.*

*With laughter and fun and new games galore,  
Worm, sock wrestling, trivia and so many more.*

*Celeste continued to scare us in the hall,  
Or the toilet, or stairwell, or with the bowling ball.*

*Each morning we'd drag ourselves outside for parade,  
Where being on time, from a 3 minute talk we were saved.*

*But snowball attacks would keep spirits high,  
And for breakfast we'd move on back inside.*

*Out on the slopes we'd head each day,  
Telemarking, and snowploughs with practice would pay.*

*Our skiing improved and the friendships grew,  
But nothing compares to the night of the pirate crew!*

*Costumes and chalet racing and quoits in the snow,  
We always knew Rovers could put on a great show.*

*And finally we were invested as Alpine Rovers,  
But unfortunately too soon the week was over.*

*Thank you to all, we just want to stay,  
But hopefully you'll come visit us soon, over our way!*

***Ella Maesepp***

## SA Snow Venture 2005

Snow Venture 2005 started on the early morning of July the 15<sup>th</sup> at the bottom of the freeway at 6:00am. Everyone was buzzing while busily trying to pack bags into trailers, meet up with past snow venture mates and act awake when clearly no one really was. From there the three mini busses headed off on the 1000km journey to the snow. For the first hour people slept catching up on much needed sleep. From then on the excitement kicked in of seeing the cold white fluffy stuff people like to call snow once again, although for some people it would be their first time. First stop Pinnaroo, Iced Coffee was the main purchase among the party. Swan Hill, the second stop saw more Iced Coffee purchased, and we were now just over half way there on our 1000km odyssey. As we came closer and closer to our destination, the flat ground turned into little lumps, the lumps turned into hills the hills turned into bigger hills and the bigger hills turned into... well we couldn't see because it was dark but we knew we were close.

Finally we rocked up into Towonga where our accommodation for the night was. Our rude Party Leader Nicholas Wright made us walk a whole kilometer before picking us up and driving the rest of the way to Mt Beauty where we collected our skis and had dinner at the pizza restaurant.

On Saturday we arrived at the start of our 12km ski to the chalet all quite sleepy from our late night. For the old timers, it was getting back on the skis and trekking the known route to the chalet. For the newbies who were so taken up by the beauty of the snow they took their minds off staying upright and as a result they fell over a bit more than the more experienced. Many of the venturers were specialising in the many different styles or stacking. Some were a fan of the face plant, whilst other simply liked the bum-slide and those of us who had no idea just simply fell!

The weather on the way in was not the most desirable. There were strong winds, snow and occasional sleet and very low visibility, but despite all this we all made it safely to the chalet with the last group arriving in just over 7 hours. It was a real challenge with the poor weather!

On Sunday, the first day of tour skiing the party visited Wallace Hut. This is the oldest hut in the Victorian high plains built in 1889 and was used by cattle farmers. Once the party arrived people did some looking around and taking photos before moving off to a near slope where people tried their hand at down hill skiing on cross country skis. This time though it was not just the 'newies' who were giving the snow a close up look of their face. Even the 'NOBS' otherwise known as noble leaders who are supposed to be 'good' managed to show the venturers some good stacks.

The next day was to prove a test of hill climbing for both experienced and new skiers as we took on the infamous Mt Cope. We set off after breakfast and skied to the near by Cope Hut. From there we looked in amazement at what was essentially a big hill, but as it had snow on it and we had to climb it whilst having planks strapped to our feet to some it was quite daunting. As we reached the bottom of the mountain, it looked a lot bigger than before, this may have something to do with the fact that we were closer to it. The climb was long but eventually the party made it to the top. Happy snaps were taken of the magnificent view then a snowball fight before the much easier but scarier decent down the mountain for lunch. The rest of the day was filled with snow play and rest for the people who came out a little worse for wear coming down the mountain.

Just a short ski up from the chalet to the back of Cope Hut, is a slope we call the playground. The party enjoyed the afternoon there to further their down hill skills. Some skiers tried their hand at Telemark turns known by us as 'telemarketing' some people picked it up but most of their time was spent in the snow rather than on it. This place has proven to be one of the highlights of trips in the past and it certainly did not disappoint this time around.

The next morning started as usual wake up, parade, and breakfast. After breakfast the leaders gave the party the option of two tours. They were a trip to the huts and Investiture Point and the other was a 25km return trip to Mt Nelse. Three of the strongest Venturers put their hand up for it the rest went on the other trip. The Mt Nelse group set off quite early to be back before dark. The group set a 'cracking' pace only narrowly missing the long standing record of 110 minutes to Johnston's hut (1km from Mt Nelse). The party made it to the bottom of Mt Nelse in 2hrs. Then the group had to stop a while and look in amazement at what they had to climb. The climb was tiring but well worth it. The group finally made it to the top and stared in wonder at by far the best view for the

whole trip. The group took photos and had a drink before the fast decent to the bottom. Lunch was eaten at Johnston's Hut before the long ski home. The group got back to the chalet exhausted and went upstairs for a sleep.

It was nearing the end of the week and it was time for the new comers to Snow Venture to be invested into the Alpine Venturer Unit. The party skied to Investiture Point where a large-scale snowball fight was fought before lunch. Our special Investiture day finished up with a short ski tour around the Rocky Knobs, then the ski back to the chalet with all the new members of the Alpine Venturer Unit.

Friday saw the Winter Olympics like you have never seen before! We grouped in to teams to compete for gold in the annual "BOCOG" Bogong Chalet Olympics. Events included egg and spoon race on skis, team sleigh racing and people's true colours were shown in the pillow fight while on skis and standing on a hill.

There is something unique about the chalet, and the way that everyone works together there. The concept of duty groups and chores is often disliked by many venturers, but duties and meal times were some of the best parts.

The ski out on the Saturday morning was a sad moment for most of us. After calling the Chalet 'home' for a week, we finally had to return to civilisation and start the 2 day trip towards Adelaide.

The party left in 3 groups – an early, middle and late group – to ensure that we all arrived at Falls Creek at approximately the same time. The first group left in the dark and saw a magnificent sunrise whilst skiing, the second group left just after sunrise and trailed the first, whilst the last group stayed to do a final check of the chalet and lock up.

The ski out was very rewarding for many people as it was a way to measure their improvement. What once took some groups 7 hours now took them only 4. Some people, who fell over numerous times on the ski in, hardly fell over at all on the way out. It was much nicer weather and we were finally able to appreciate and take in some of the scenery, which we had missed during the blizzard on the way in.

Just before the dam wall we passed then next group of scouters who were going to inhabit the chalet for the next week and shared some stories of our trip. We saw increasingly more people, and the reality hit us that we had finally returned to civilisation after an incredible week.

We were given two options for the last stretch – an adventure down the end of one of the ski slopes at Falls Creek Ski Resort called 'Wombat's Ramble', or the nice easy coast down the road.

We all met up at the bus station in Falls Creek and began to discuss our ski before packing the bus and heading out of the hills to Mt Beauty to return skis and prepare for the long trip home. We stayed overnight at Kerang Scout Hall to break up the 1000km trip back to Adelaide, which brought a great end to our wonderful 10 day adventure.

The week was filled with activities and games organised by our amazing 'wonder woman' Jack. Each night there was fantastic evening entertainment that had us all in stitches. The week started with the usual venturer sing-a-longs and crazy games whilst sitting in a fort made of mattresses, this was followed by a night of snow games by moonlight including an amusing game of storm the lantern on the home slope which turned into an awesome snow fight. We were then graced by the acts of many talented Venturers on skit night which proved to be a great hit with the wonder group 'Wasabi Punjabi' performing some of their latest songs from their fictional album "Back off the Spice Rack". And all in a flurry it suddenly seemed necessary to hold our final party where we saw an assortment of superheros pop in to join us for tea including Wonder Woman, Batman, the Mario twins, Danger mouse and Super Grover.

The week was also fraught with snow murders in a week long game of real-size "Cluedo in the Snow". The ingenious game organised by Jack involved people 'killing' others with various creative weapons found throughout the Chalet. The game for some was a trial of patience, for other a game of team work and for the real competitive, a game of avoiding rooms and people! On many occasions you could walk through the Chalet and find people hiding in random places holding random objects. How Jarred managed to hide in the pantry holding a mug for almost forty minutes is still a mystery!!

All round the Snow Venture experience is definitely one that can not be recreated anywhere, the people you meet, the things you see and the amazing friendships that carry on forever along with the memories, these are the things Scouting is all about.

Written by Jack Light (Twin Peaks) and Heather Browett (Belair Venturer Unit)

## Rope Tow

Plans are progressing for the rebuild of the Rope Tow, no doubt with many ideas and initiatives discussed in the evenings at the chalet over winter.

The concrete slab of the hut was inspected during week 6, (after a considerable amount of digging) and engineering specs are under way so that we will be able to begin construction soon after the snow melts.

Cameron Cook has taken over co-ordination of the tow rebuild. You will be hearing from him as plans progress.

For more information, or to offer assistance, email to [bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au)

## FOOD SHORTAGES AT THE CHALET.

This winter there were a number of food shortages at the chalet. Thanks to those that helped carry extra food in for your winter party.

The quantities of food delivered to the Chalet for the season was similar to previous years. Food use changes every year as although we feed a similar number of people, tastes change. Cooks and QM's need to be aware of the quantities listed in the recipe books are adhered to, and that if menus are changed, you are not using another weeks allocation of food!

Also, the missing muesli was located in one of the black garbage bins, labelled 'MUESLI'!

## Week 9 2005 – Magic Week

Week 9 this year was the best week of weather I have seen at the Chalet in 9 winter parties!!!

We had beautiful clear blue skies from Monday till Saturday! A new term for rover skiing was also developed...

“Spenced – to go on a stupidly long tour with Michael Spencer and something go wrong, injuries, or arrive back after dark.”

There were several good tours during the week, Mt Cope on Monday, Fitzgerald's hut on Tuesday which arrived back in the dark and therefore was renamed the “I Got Spenced 2005” tour. On Wednesday we toured to Ryder's Yards where a BBQ lunch was enjoyed by one and all, Thursday saw three tours, one to Mt McKay for long turns, one to Rocky Knobs for little turns, and the other to Spion Kopje via Mt McKay, however despite being in Falls Creek at around 8am, the tour was cut short as Spence Spenced himself and arrived back at the chalet around 11am. Friday was another large tour with almost everyone making it out of the chalet, even though it was just up to the Pinnacles for lunch and a play on the hill. There was ski school for those still trying to master turning tele's down the steeper faces of the hill, and even some jumping going on. All this happening while Art built a four tiered stadium style seating for lunch. The lunch time entertainment was provided by Art and Brett who were good sports about being snowballed by 30 people from 5 meters above them.

All in all this was one of the best winter parties I have been on, we all skied hard played hard and came home very tired!!!

Tony Brooks (ARC & Heathmont RC)

**Chalet Summer!**

*Bogong Rover Chalet*

Need to escape the rat race? Planning a crew/unit/troop/pack weekend away? From \$12 pp/night the Bogong Rover Chalet is the perfect place for you! Activities include bushwalking, mountain biking, fishing, or just reading a book.

Summer Bookings fee includes:  
• Accommodation  
• A Cold Breakfast  
• Hot Showers  
• Use of a Commercial Standard Kitchen

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Located in the Alpine National Park, 15km from Falls Creek, the Bogong Rover Chalet provides Australia's most unique Alpine Experience.



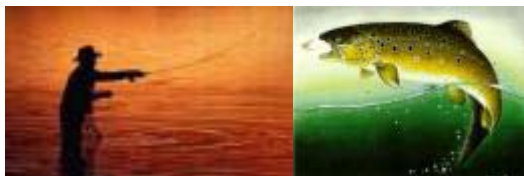
Ladies and  
Gentleman,

There are **ONLY 474 sleeps**  
until **AJ2007 starts!**



## Fishing at the Chalet.

Rocky Valley Reservoir and Pretty Valley Pondage are open for trout fishing all year! Both are well stocked and Pretty Valley is regarded as having some of the best Fly Fishing in Victoria. From this summer there will be fishing sets available for hire from the chalet, just remember to get your licence before you go.



**Address Update:**

Have you changed your address or do you have an email address? Help us keep track of our Alpine Rover Crew by completing the form below, and post this entire page (including old address label) to the above address. If you are receiving the bulletin via post, and would like to receive it by email, send your email address to [bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au)

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S.A. Snow Venture Pillow Fights