

Yalara Alpine Ski Club

Newsletter

November 2023



Big season at Yalara

Despite a variable ski season – with Perisher closing a week early – Yalara had a bumper year. Booking officer Nicola Moran reports most rooms were in use most of the time. There was a total of 135 bookings throughout the season. While we introduced the eWay online payment platform this year, which confirms bookings instantly, most members still made payments via bank transfer. But we expect use of the new technology to increase over time. The lodge was due to be closed for bookings in November while we underwent renovations, but as these have been deferred until 2024, we reopened bookings for the month. The board of directors is currently on the hunt for builders and roofers – if you know anyone who might be interested, please let us know! Thanks to David Bale for the above photo of a snowy Yalara in July.

Working bee in March

Yalara's next working bee will be held on March 2 and 3. If you are interested in going down for the weekend to help out with odd jobs such as cleaning, painting and whipper-snipping, please get in touch with Macca via email at thistledome611@yahoo.com.au or phone 0412 653 158.

New booking rates and levy

In the wake of the cost-of-living crisis, the Yalara board has made the decision to increase booking rates and the annual member levy by around 10 per cent next year. This is to meet growing costs, including electricity, insurance, rent and supplies. The changes come into effect from March 18, 2024. The board has also decided to introduce a minimum charge of \$150 per night for non-member bookings over summer to cover the cost of opening the lodge during the quieter months.

Native rats at Yalara

Several native rats were spotted throughout the season at Yalara. Many were caught in one of the Elliot traps which are stored in the cupboard next to the front door and released. If possible, once a mammal is caught it's best to take it to the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service office in the valley to identify and release. Otherwise, release it around 200 metres from the lodge. The board is working on solutions to prevent them getting into the lodge, which it plans to action at the next working bee. To make the lodge less attractive to native rats, please don't leave food lying around and make sure bins are emptied daily. If you are trying to catch a native rat at the lodge, place a mixture of oats and peanut butter with a dash of honey in the Elliot trap.

Lockers wanted!

Do you have a locker you no longer need? please send an email to Matt Wiles at wilesm1000@gmail.com

YALARA PHOTO COMP WINNER!

Congratulations to Rory Harper, who is the winner of this year's Yalara photo competition! Rory captured this beautiful sunrise image during a stay at the lodge in July. The photo will be enlarged and displayed on a wall in the lodge next year. Thanks so much to everyone who entered photos in the comp – we loved seeing the pictures coming in from our members throughout the season! David Bale's image of Yalara taken during a heavy snowfall the same month (opposite) was the runner up.

