

Otaihape Alpine Club

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July 2010

Winter has well and truly arrived, although the snow has been a bit slower. Turoa and Whakapapa are now both open for the season with snow bases continuing to grow.



Otaihape wearing a snowy coat – 28 June 2010.

President's piece

Hello everyone

Things have been quite busy over the last couple of months to prepare the hut for the season ahead.

Thanks to all those who volunteered for the work parties and the subsequent 'informal' working (and sewing) bees which have been a lot of fun.

Jon and Sachi Torgersen have done a brilliant job on the bathrooms – they are now freshly painted – including a tidy grey floor. Neil has installed nice new shower heads.

The lounge/kitchen refurbishment is almost complete. It's looking much more modern and clean with its new wallpaper, taps, blinds and paint job. New lino will be laid in the kitchen in the coming weeks. Thanks to Taihape Furnishings for selling us the vinyl at cost

price and donating all sundry materials for the kitchen vinyl work, and their layer for doing the work without billing us in return for a holiday at the hut in summer.

We also have some 'new' lounge suites thanks to TradeMe – purchased for the princely sums of \$65 and \$45 respectively and donated directly. They are at the National Park Fire Station awaiting transport up the hill. Neil Ranford is organising a RAL cat to take them up at a time when we have enough helpers in house to move them in. Date to be determined by RAL operational requirements and the weather.

Thanks to Johan Bonnevie (Patron) for donating funds for the refurbishment, that one action inspiring many others to contribute time and effort. We also received donations from other club members – thank you.

Johan will be celebrating his 85th birthday with friends and family this year at the club.



End of a hard weekend painting and papering (R-L) Jon Torgersen, Neil Ranford, Yvonne, Shea and Paul Holcombe, Sachi Torgersen, Jude Hamblin.

New members – We really do need more members to keep the club viable in the face of rising costs.

The most effective way is word of mouth from existing members. With the season underway it's a

great time to encourage prospective members to visit. Club will credit non-member rate paid if they join very soon after.

Also consider bringing a guest or a friend of your child, this will help club cover costs.

Otaihape has lots to offer – we are one of the friendliest, casual, unstructured clubs on the mountain and offer ski-in, ski-out accommodation. We have a poster available for work/school/community notice boards. Email Jude Hamblyn for a copy Judith_hamblyn@yahoo.com

Lockers – We need to confirm who has which locker. If you have a locker please email Jude Hamblyn on Judith_hamblyn@yahoo.com with your name and locker number.

Snow cover is looking good. Happy skiing/boarding -
Yvonne

Hut subscriptions

Invoices for subs were sent out in May – we rely on subs being paid on time to ensure we can pay bills for maintenance and hut usage. If you haven't received your invoice please email Jenny Mower on jennymower@clear.net.nz

Coffee stops

The drive to Whakapapa is a long one for many members and a break along the way is welcome relief. Here are some favourite stopping places....

Great coffee stop from Auckland is Out in the Styx café in Mapiu – beautifully renovated shed type shop next to renovated old cottage. Lots of unique charm, love and care has gone into café and food. Real good quality home made. Unfortunately closed Sunday nights. BUT definitely worth a visit. *Yvonne*

Streetwise Coffee in Otaki and Sanson do a good takeaway coffee. The Exchange café in Taihape does great food – either out of the cabinet or from the menu. The salmon roulade is to die for! *Jude*.

Contributions welcome!

This news letter is for all club members. If you have any news and/pictures you'd like to share please email Judith_hamblyn@yahoo.com