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# Birkebeiner Bulletin

June 2022



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## Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club

PO Box 192 Mount Beauty Victoria 3699

Secretary: Ronice Goebel

Mobile: 0409 332 642

Email <[secretary@birkebeiner.org.au](mailto:secretary@birkebeiner.org.au)>

Website <[www.birkebeiner.org.au](http://www.birkebeiner.org.au)>

— News is published online as it comes to hand —

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### 2022/23 Committee

#### Executive

- **President** – Ewen Silvester
- **Vice President** – Michelle Forrer
- **Secretary** – Ronice Goebel
- **Treasurer** – Jeanette McLaren

#### Ordinary Committee Members

- Ann Bellingham
- Allan Marsland
- Andrew Hall\*
- Peter Smith
- Paul Gray
- Stephanie Germancheva
- Michel Trnka
- Warren Sanders

#### Volunteer Positions

- *Peter Smith* – clubhouse manager
  - *Stephanie Germancheva* – membership secretary
  - *Ann Bellingham* - race secretary
  - Social secretary - **vacant**
  - *Paul L'Huillier* – website administrator & news bulletin
  - *Ronice Goebel* – Ski de Femme co-ordinator
  - *Warren Sanders* – Bush Search & Rescue (BSAR) Vic delegate
  - *Ian Franzke* – skidoo mechanic
- \* New committee member.
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The AGM was held on Tuesday 17th May with 16 members in attendance and another five online. A full committee was elected with *Andrew Hall* being added as a new member. Welcome, Andrew, and a thank you to all members who volunteered for a role (*refer to the left sidebar for the full list*).

### Additional Meeting Reports

- [Kangaroo Hoppet](#) (*Allan Marsland*)
- [Junior](#) (*Paul Gray*)
- [Search & Rescue](#) (*Warren Sanders*)

**The club relies on volunteers so please think about how you can contribute in 2022/23**

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Clubhouse working bee - Michelle Forrer, left, and Mary Hall

Ed

You are invited to the annual  
**Birkebeiner Casserole  
Dinner**

on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June**

at **OUTDOOR  
SCHOOL BOGONG**

(1 Black Possum Rd, Bogong village)

6-10pm

Please bring a meal and a salad or dessert to share



Our guest speaker is

**GREG PAUL**



Senior Sergeant Greg Paul oversees the Victoria Police specialist search and rescue squad. He has witnessed first-hand what can happen when people tackle outdoor adventures without proper preparation. The unpredictable alpine region is one area that keeps them busy throughout the year.

Bring along your

**SECOND HAND SKI GEAR**

Please RSVP to [mishforrer@gmail.com](mailto:mishforrer@gmail.com) by Thursday June 9th

**Important** — Parking near the School buildings is very limited. Suggest you park on the road down to the tennis courts or down at the old shop. Drop kids and food off first then drive down and walk back.

For a full profile of our guest speaker Greg Paul click or tap [\[HERE\]](#)

## Birkie Bits by Nordic Ned

1. **Casserole Dinner** – Saturday 11th June at the Outdoor School Bogong. It is a great venue and a great function to start the 2022 season. The guest speaker is *Senior Sergeant Greg Paul* (S&R Squad). The club's new **Birkie Award** will be awarded to a very deserving member. Refer to the Poster above.
  2. **Australian Alps Walking Track solo walk.** Vice-president *Michelle Forrer* has just completed a four week solo walk of the 650 km track from Walhalla (Vic) to Canberra (ACT). Her son Ash, 16, and friend Tommi Silvester, 17, did the walk in 2019.
  3. **Junior Birkie Ski Team Program** – Birkie juniors will start Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 with weekly rollerski sessions at the Secondary College (4 pm each Monday). The format is similar to last year, focusing on skills development and fun. There is a lot of interest from Mount Beauty and Bright juniors. *Paul Gray & Tim Retchford* are running these sessions. The club was successful in a 'Sporting Club Grant' (Vic government) for \$1,000. This will go towards custom-made high-vis training t-shirts. Email <[secretary@birkebeiner.org.au](mailto:secretary@birkebeiner.org.au)> for more information.
  4. **Social Secretary needed** — this position remains unfilled for 2022. Expressions of interest to the secretary please. A special thank you to Elaine Thomas who has filled this role over the last few years.
  5. **Kangaroo Hoppet Volunteer Co-ordinator needed.** Please send expressions of interest to the Hoppet Office <[info@hoppet.com.au](mailto:info@hoppet.com.au)>. The Hoppet has been very generous financially to the club for 30 years. It needs a Birkie member to step up.
  6. **Clubhouse:** *Peter Smith* is investigating the cost of installing a roller door to the skidoo room.
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### Snow Australia Cross Country Update

May 2022

*Finn Marsland - XC Program Director*

*The update includes the following:*

- New Cross Country Athlete Representatives Appointed (see page 5)
- Position Vacant - XC National Training Centre Coach
- National Careers Week: Cross Country Skiing and Social Economics with Lars Young Vik (Aussie Olympian)
- Cross Country Event Update

To read the latest update click or tap [\[HERE\]](#).

## 2022 club race commitments

The 2022 race calendar lists the following races which the club is to run on six weekends.

1. Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July 10.30am - *Birkebeiner Classic* – 2.5/5/10km classic (C) AB
2. Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July 9:30am – AUS Open Sprint Champs – classic (C) MJ
3. Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 10am – AUS Open Champs 10/15km Freestyle (F) MJ
4. Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August 10am - *Ski De Femme* – 1/2.5/5km RG
5. Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August 10:30am - *Rocky Valley Rush/Sun Valley Ramble* 15/7.5km (F) MJ
6. Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August 9:30am – *Kangaroo Hoppet* 42/21/7km (F)
7. Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 9:30am – AUS Jnr Sprint Champs – Freestyle (F) AB
8. Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 10am – AUS Jnr Distance Champs Classic (C) AB

*Ann Bellingham (race secretary)*

**Note:** The race committee is seeking 2 or 3 more members for 2022. Please consider offering. Contact <[racesecretary@birkebeiner.org.au](mailto:racesecretary@birkebeiner.org.au)> to express your interest.

**View** – [2022 National XC Race Calendar](#)

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## 2022/23 Memberships payable by 30th June

At the recent AGM it was resolved to keep the fees the same as last year i.e. Family \$75.00, Individual \$35.00, Junior or Student (not in a family membership) \$25.00 and Associate\* \$25.00. Fees are payable by 30th June 2022.

\*Intended for existing members who no longer ski, nor use the clubhouse, but would like to remain club members and receive correspondence and the bulletin newsletter, or for **search and rescue squad members** who do not require the use of club facilities.

**Note** — The website link for joining and fee payment is **NOT ACTIVE** as yet. *Michal Trnka* (Alpine Timing) and new membership secretary *Stephanie Germancheva* are working on it. Members will be notified when it is active.

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*Clubhouse working bee* — From left: Blair Hume & Peter Smith (clubhouse manager)

## Top Ten Reasons Why Volunteers Leave an Organisation

We hear of many organisations that struggle to get volunteers. *Birkebeiner* is no exception as a call out for assistance is given every season. A survey done some years ago and published in a *Energise Volunteer Management Update* came up with the following ten reasons of why volunteers leave an organisation. *What can Birkebeiner learn from this?*

### Reason #10

- *The reality of their experience is not what they expected when they signed on.*

### Reason #9:

- *They don't like the work they are being asked to do nor how it is being done.*

### Reason #8:

- *Veteran or leadership volunteers won't let them into the "insider" group.*

### Reason #7:

- *They spend more time meeting than doing.*

### Reason #6:

- *No one listens to their suggestions.*

### Reason #5:

- *They feel unrecognised, and see that thanks are unfairly given to everyone, no matter who did the most work or none at all.*

### Reason #4:

- *They are no longer asked to participate.*

### Reason #3:

- *They do not actually understand how to get more involved.*

### Reason #2:

- *They can no longer see how their involvement makes a difference.*

### And the #1 reason volunteers leave is:

- *It stopped being fun.*

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## New Cross Country Athlete Representatives Appointed



Cross country skiers *Phoebe Cridland* (NSW) and *Adam Barnett* (Vic) & a Birkie member are set to formally be appointed as the 2022-2024 athlete representatives on the Snow Australia XC Committee.

The two U23 athletes were elected unopposed to the two-year positions, replace outgoing athlete representatives *Casey Wright* and *Nic Blackwell*, and will attend their first committee meeting next week. The skiing community thanks you both for offering.

## Nordic Ski Adventures

### *Guided Cross Country Ski Trips to Italy*

Northern Italy hosts over 1200 kms of beautiful cross country ski trails. Come and join me on your next overseas ski holiday and enjoy skiing the Dolomites and the Italian Alps.

To ski what seems to be endlessly groomed tracks in the stunning Italian mountain scenery.

Stay in charming alpine villages, eating traditional Italian cuisine, whilst immersing yourself in the culture of the Dolomites.

Enjoy small group travel, with like-minded people, where trips can be tailored from 7 to 14 days to the best destinations in the Italian Alps for nordic skiers.

A little about myself. I have worked as a backcountry ski guide, telemark and nordic ski instructor for 30 years. Recently I have been working at Windy Corner as a ski instructor, and if you wish to discuss your next overseas ski holiday, please drop into the shop or contact me by either one of the following.

**Peter Holmes** — Mob: 0457 570 346, Email <[nordicskiadventures@inet.net.au](mailto:nordicskiadventures@inet.net.au)>

**Website** <[www.nordicskiadventures.com.au](http://www.nordicskiadventures.com.au)>



*Livigno Italy*