

**From:** Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club secretary@birkebeiner.org.au  
**Subject:** Birkie Bulletin -25th August 2022  
**Date:** 25 August 2022 at 7:43 pm  
**To:** Paul L'Huillier paulhuillier@bigpond.com



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# **Birkebeiner Bulletin**

## **26th August 2022**

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### **Hoppet Day #30 — Saturday 27th August**





Let us hope that Saturday will be like Hoppet Day 2008

Entries are open until 4:00 pm Friday 26th August

Click [\[HERE\]](#) to register

*Entries to date 884*

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## National Junior Championships - 2022





The club is conducting these championships on the weekend of Saturday 3rd September (Sprint - F) and Sunday 4th September (Distance - C). Yes the weekend after the Hoppet.

Click [\[HERE\]](#) to register and for details of age groups, distances, styles and start times.

Entries close Wednesday 31st August 2022.

**Volunteers are needed** — Please contact the volunteer coordinator Stephanie Germancheva on email <[stephanie.germancheva@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.germancheva@gmail.com)> if you can assist this weekend.

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## End of Season Dinner - Saturday 17th September

With **special guest speaker Senior Sergeant Greg Paul**, who 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. **Read Greg's Profile** [\[HERE\]](#).

- **When:** Saturday 17th September 2022.
- **Time:** 6:00pm for a 6.30pm meal.
- **Where:** Roi's Restaurant – 179 Kiewa Valley Highway, Tawonga.
- **Cost:** \$35.00 per head (the meal is partly subsidised by the club), pay for your own drinks.
- **Numbers are limited** — be sure to **RSVP** early so you don't miss out!

Please **RSVP** with any dietary requirements by **Sunday, 11th September to Mary Hall**. Email: [anmhall@yahoo.com](mailto:anmhall@yahoo.com), mobile: 0492 960 885 or text.

*As a courtesy to Roi and Sue, they need to know what to cater for so please let Mary know ASAP.*

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## Birkie Bits by *Nordic Ned*

1. **Kangaroo Hoppet** (F) Saturday 27th August 9:30 am — **Click [\[HERE\]](#) to register.**
2. **Australian Junior Championships** — Weekend of Saturday 3rd September (Sprint - F) and Sunday 4th September (Distance - C). **Click [\[HERE\]](#) to register.**
3. **[DiscoverXC](#)** — Check out DiscoverXC for an introduction to the sport. Tell your friends about the website if they have just discovered the sport. It is an excellent resource.
4. **[Alpine Resorts Victoria](#)** - What is it? (*Media Release*). This new organisation will manage all six alpine resorts at Falls Creek, Mount Baw Baw, Mount Buller, Mount Hotham, Mount Stirling and Lake Mountain, replacing four alpine resort management boards and the Alpine Resorts Co-ordinating Council.
5. **Post-Season Dinner** – The club will be conducting this function at *Roi's Restaurant - Tawonga on Saturday 17th September from 6:00 pm* and will have as its guest speaker **Senior Sergeant Greg Paul** *Officer in Charge of Victorian Police Search & Rescue Squad.*

The **club has its own S&R Unit**. To read more go to the club's website, click Programs and then Search & Rescue (BSAR).

6. **Aimee Watson** — Dual Olympian and Birkie club member *Aimee Watson* broke her leg in an unlucky accident (not while skiing) and will miss the rest of the Australia season. We wish Aimee all the best with her recovery and hope to see her back racing with the national team next summer.
7. **Allison McArdle** — Allison was a long-time Birkie member. **Click [\[HERE\]](#) to view her achievements in Australia** (scroll down). She moved to Canada in 2014. She has not been idle in



Canada as can be seen by her involvement: (1). Head Coach, Fresh Tracks Coaching & Consulting, (2) Chair, Nordiq Canada Women's Committee Representative, (3) FIS Youth & Children's Sub-Committee Representative and (4) FIS Women's Cross Country Sub-Committee. Allison keep up the good work for cross country.

8. **Club Facebook Page** — Suggest all members FOLLOW this page as important information between Birke News Bulletins is posted there. On the Facebook site search for *Birkebeiner Nordic Ski Club*.

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## The Clubhouse - its origins...



**The origins — Click [\[HERE\]](#)**

The clubhouse was built in eight months and opened on 1st June 1996.

*Jim Crebbin*, the construction manager has written a short report on the origins and it can be read [\[HERE\]](#).

This year (2022) is the 26th Anniversary of its opening and the club planned to conduct a dinner function with a slide and video presentation back in July to celebrate it but due to COVID that was cancelled.

The **slide** presentation and **video** has now been made into a 16-minute movie that has been uploaded to YOUTUBE and the LINK can be accessed via our website [\[HERE\]](#).

# Clubhouse

## 26th Anniversary

[Click the image...](#)

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### Katerina Paul – Profile

**Women of Winter** – in focus with Katerina Paul (Snow Australia)



Birkie club member **Katerina Paul** is an athlete like no other. She competes in cross country skiing where hours are spent pushing physical abilities to the limit in temperatures most people would relate frostbite and hypothermia too.

The 26-year-old from Taggerty, Victoria currently competes predominantly in ski marathons in Europe but is also handy in shorter events, particularly the classic sprint (which she recently won at the 2022 Australian Championship).

[Read more >.....](#)

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## Cross Country Director Update - August

*Finn Marsland* the **Snow Australia Cross Country Director** has just published the August update. Click [\[HERE\]](#) to view. Thanks *Finn* for keeping us informed of all things Nationally. Great job.

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## Rocky Valley Rush Report



### **A good field - 50 skiers on the line**

Did you know that the **Rocky Valley Rush** is the second oldest cross-country citizen race in Victoria, first conducted in 1976. The oldest was

the **Charles Derrick Memorial Cross Country** conducted by the Wangaratta Ski Club on Mt Hotham. It was started in the late 1960s and is no longer held.

To view the origins of the RV Rush click [\[HERE\]](#).

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Another fabulous race day with great weather, fantastic grooming, a wonderful course and a cheerful field of 50 racers, all brought together with the sponsorship of **Snow Trek and Travel - Wodonga** and a good band of Birkie volunteers. The obvious highlight of the race was having **Jessie Diggins** (USA) and **Julia Kern** (USA) join the race, leaving all of us a bit star-struck!

The Rocky Valley was a tight race in both the women's and men's events, with *Phil Bellingham, John Walker and Nic Blackwell* skiing together through the first lap and only separated by metres at the end with *Phil* taking out the race in a sprint with *John*.

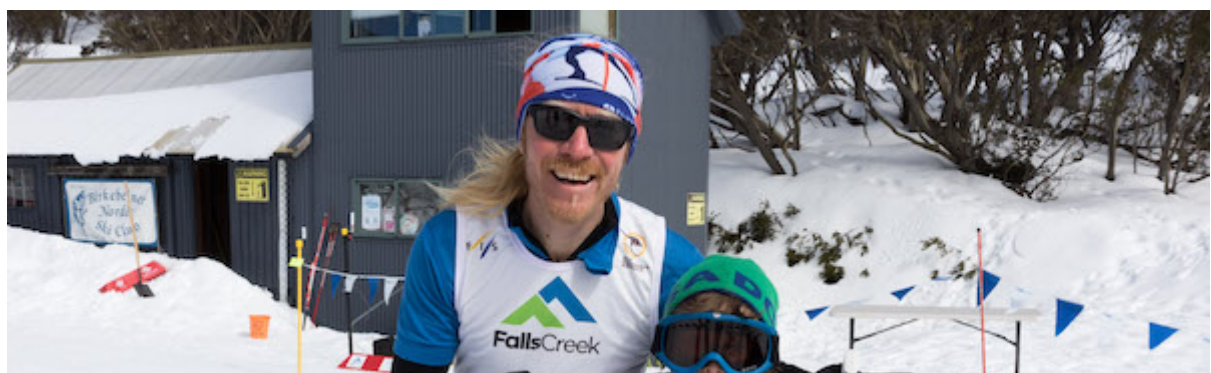
In the women's event, Jessie and Julia were trading the lead and working together until a thrilling sprint with Jessie powering down the half moon and ducking into the finish at the race hut.

In the Ramble line honours were taken by young Birkie *Rosie Franzke*.

Well done all around.

*Marg Jowitt*

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New member *Anthony Brewer-Gray* and son *Ollie*  
after the Sun Valley Ramble



Pictured from left: *Peter Cranage* (Snow, Trek & Travel - Wodonga RV  
Rush Sponsor - Peter thank you for the continued support) & Birkie  
member *Rosie Franzke* winner of the 7.5 km Sun Valley Ramble.





### Rocky Valley Rush 15 km placegetters (Women)

L-R: 2nd - Julie Kern (USA, 1st - Jessica Diggins (USA) & 3rd - Kerry Rim (Aus). **Note:** Jessica is a triple medallist from the 2022 Beijing Olympics and current World #2 while Julie is ranked #20 in the world.







### Rocky Valley Rush 15 km placegetters (Men)

L-R: 2nd - John Walker, 1st - Phil Bellingham & 3rd - Nick Blackwell

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## Falls Creek Lakeside Development

The club has a Page on our website that sets out our position. **Click [\[HERE\]](#) to view.**

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## The Petition

**NOTE** – *As of 25th August 2022 there are 4,112 signatures.*

Hi All

Kate Prest (part of our Action Group) has just put up a petition on [www.change.org](http://www.change.org). If you value the World Class XC Skiing that Falls Creek currently offers please sign the petition (link below) and share it far and wide. If you have time, please also fill out the reason for signing.

<https://chnng.it/MdtvnKHJLQ>

*Yours in XC skiing*

*Paul Gray*

<[paul.gray.ibag@gmail.com](mailto:paul.gray.ibag@gmail.com)>

**Note** – The Petition page explains the cross-country skiing position.

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