



# Piste Again

The Newsletter Of The Ski Club Of South Africa

The Editor : P O Box 26723, Hout Bay 7872, South Africa

## October 2012 Edition

### Bingo! ... Snow! ... Snow!

Yup ... we all saw it coming. The weekend of 11th and 12th August saw a few hardy souls up Matroosberg ... with the weather moving in and everybody hut-bound on the Saturday.

The wind howled and the Main Hut trembled, and the snow came down in buckets throughout Friday night. On Saturday morning (in the midst of the maelstrom) those in the Hut were alarmed by the entrance of 3 snow-clad 'yetis' who (after they had thawed-out) were eventually identified as **Richard, Chris and Stephen Benford** (who had been working on the Long Bowl Ski Lift the day before, and who had taken refuge in the Peak Hut when the storm struck). Their walk back down to the snow-bound Main Hut, in extreme blizzard conditions (with zero vision), must now rank with the list of other Matroosberg legends! ...  
*(Continued on P.2) ...*

### Important dates for you to put into your diary!

**3 & 4 November 2012**

### Work Party - Matroosberg

After a truly memorable skiing/'boarding Winter season, it's time to put M'berg 'to bed' for the Summer months. NB: Prospective Members, this is an ideal chance to get another mandatory Work Party under your belt ... !!!

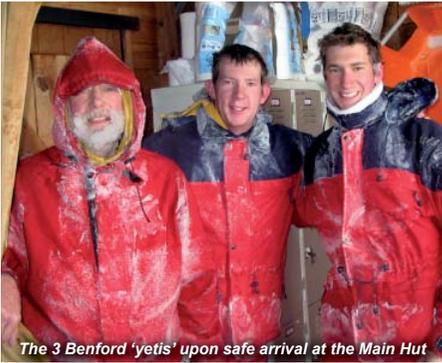
**8 & 9 December 2012**

### Cherry Picking Weekend - Matroosberg

The annual Ski Club of SA 'Cherry Picking Weekend' ('Klondyke' Cherry Farm) has always been a lot of fun for the whole family. The Ski Club SA Base Hut has already been booked for the whole weekend. There will definitely be a Braai and Party on Saturday night ... !!!



Alasdair Wiley skiing the Main Gully on Matroosberg on 12 August 2012 (pic Michael Wiley)



The 3 Benford 'yetis' upon safe arrival at the Main Hut

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The 'fun-in-the-sun-on-the-snow' was not without incident, and a number of minor injuries were recorded ... with a couple of skiers hitting the Ski Lift cable (due to the wonderful excessive depth of the snow ... and very nearly losing an eye or 2 in the process) ... one head injury caused by a Ski Lift Attachment rope snapping (but nothing that some Elastoplast couldn't fix) ... and one serious injury when a visiting snowboarder hit a rock and shattered his kneecap (necessitating a stretcher party rescue and 4x4 vehicle evacuation off the mountain).

Probably the best way to describe the really fabulous snow conditions is to not to attempt to wax lyrical ... but merely to paste a number of photographs taken by various Ski Club Members over the past 2-month period.



Ski Club of SA Base Hut : Matroosberg (pic Ron Duff)



The Long Bowl Ski Lift cable ... buried ... !!! (pic Rauri Duff)



Ski Lift queue : Main Gully : Matroosberg : 12 August 2012 (pic Ron Duff)



Lunch time : 12 August (pic Bob Elshove)



View down Long Bowl : 12 August (pic Rauri Duff)



View of Conical Peak from the 4x4 Track : Matroosberg : 12 August 2012 (pic Rauri Duff)



Mico Mamacos : 12 August (pic Nici Mamacos)



A stroll up Main Gully : 12 August (pic Nici Mamacos)

## Work Party : Matroosberg 3rd & 4th November 2012

Ski Club Members (and friends) have enjoyed a fabulous 2 months of skiing and snowboarding on Matroosberg.

But the Club's facilities on M'berg (i.e. Ski Lifts and Huts) have taken quite a bit of strain (after so much heavy usage this past Winter).

The Work Party planned for the weekend of Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th November will address a number of tasks that need to be completed at the end of this past outstanding Winter season ... and before Summer really kicks-in, e.g: the overhaul and servicing of both the Main Gully and Long Bowl Ski Lifts, the installation of Gas Cookers in the Main Hut, the clearing of fire-breaks around all major Ski Club of SA intallations on M-berg, weatherproofing of all wooden fascias on all Huts, etc, etc.

Please do plan to come along and lend a hand (and ... **Prospective Members ... this is your chance to complete another mandatory Work Party on Matroosberg**).

**Convenor : Bob Elshove**

**Email : < bob.elshove@gmail.com >**

**Cellphone : 083 785 4617.**



*Klondyke Cherry Farm : Blossoms (pic Rauri Duff)*

## Cherry Picking Weekend 8th & 9th December 2012

The Ski Club of SA has booked the Ski Club Base Hut for the nights of **both Friday 7th and Saturday 8th December**.

The Club will supply **firewood** and **braai** facilities. You bring your 'boerewors'n'beer' and let's have a weekend party ... with Cherry Picking happening on Klondyke Cherry Farm on Saturday 8th and/or Sunday 9th December, Come along and enjoy the fun (& the cherries).

**Convenor : Gaby Claassens**

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*Long Bowl Ski Lift cable : 12 August (pic Bob Elshove)*



*Main Gully Ski Lift : 12 August (pic Ron Duff)*



*Mico Mamacos : 12 August (pic Ron Duff)*



*View towards Main Gully : 12 August (pic Ron Duff)*



Nici M

Main Gully with Ski Lift in action : 12 August 2012 (pic Nici Mamacos)



Getting there is half the fun (pic Ron Duff)



Main Gully ski run : 2 September (pic Ron Duff)



Running repairs : Main Gully : 2 september (pic Ron Duff)



Snow fence : Main Gully (pic Ron Duff)



Matroosberg peak : 2 September (pic Ron Duff)

## Bum-boarding in the snow ... a philosophical thesis ...

'Cause and effect' (or Karma) is an integral concept of Buddhism and refers to the philosophical concept of 'causality'... but 'cause and effect' (when applied to nude bum-boarding in the snow) tends rather to the concept of 'casualty'. Ask no questions and hear no lies (but just remember ... you did not see these pictures published in this learned scientific and philosophical journal!).



*The cause ... and ... the effect ... !!!*

## 'Oktoberfest' celebrated in fine style on Matroosberg

The evening of Saturday 6th October saw 42 Ski Club Members (and partners) gathered together, in the Main Hut on Matroosberg, to celebrate 'Oktoberfest' in true 'Münchener Hofbräuhaus' style.

The photographs will confirm that there were plenty of 'dirndl' and 'lederhosen' in evidence ... and much 'getrunken, musik, gesang, tanz und jodeln' took place.

Karin Müller (Convenor) has confirmed that 30 litres of Paulaner and Erdinger Weißbier, 44 litres of Windhoek Draught, 100 Nürnberger

Würstl, 100 Thüringer Bratwürstl, 50 Brezen, 60 Semmeln, 7 kg Sauerkraut and 7 kg Bayerischen Kartoffelsalat was consumed during the course of the weekend!

The Main Hut rocked until the early hours with the sound of oompah band music, raucous singing and much 'gemütlichkeit'.

Everybody agreed that 'Oktoberfest 2012' was a truly great party ... definitely destined to be repeated next year (and there was even just enough snow left on the Main Gully to entertain a few die-hard snowboarders!).



*Belinda Morrison, Natalie Miller & Brenda Read*



*Gaby, Andries & Jacob Claassens (w. Belinda in b/ground)*



*Dinner time at Matroosberg Hofbräuhaus*



*The less attractive partygoers ...*



*... und die schönen Damen*



*Margie Louw and Ian Bradburn*



*Party-time on Matroosberg!*



Chris Inskip 'Prost!'



Dragana Jevtović (balancing trick)



Gaby Claassens



Andrew & Belinda Morrison



Stephen Benford



Der Präsident und fraulein Read

## Please diarise these dates: **2013 Annual Subs due by 1st January 2013** **Work Party : Matroosberg 3rd & 4th November 2012**

Putting the Winter Sports facilities on M'berg 'to bed' is a very necessary part of the Ski Clubs annual maintenance programme. With enough Members present it's an easy task.

## **Cherry Picking Weekend 8th & 9th December 2012**

Remember ... the Ski Club of SA has booked the Ski Club Base Hut on Matroosberg. All that is needed to make this another great weekend is **YOU** (we look forward to seeing you there!).

This is merely a timely reminder. As the year slowly draws to a close ... yup! ... it's time to start putting-away some of your hard-earned 'scheckels'. The Hon. Treasurer will be sending out accounts during December and your 2013 Annual Membership Subscriptions will be due for payment by 1st January 2013.

Adult Members : R300.00 per annum.

Junior Members : R150.00 per annum.

Locker Rental : R50.00 per locker / p.a.

(To those of you who still believe that your Annual Subs are only due for payment by the date of the AGM ... not so ... !!! ).

Also see website at : <http://www.skiclubsa.co.za>



Affiliated to : **Snow Sports South Africa**  
Affiliated to : **International Ski Federation**

