

## Thredbo 2009



The **Qantas Ski Club's** domestic trip for 2009 was held in Thredbo where we were accommodated in the Thredbo Alpine Apartments – a hop, step and a jump away from the Kosciusko Express chair.

Late Sunday afternoon we met in the Keller Bar to renew friendships, meet new people and enjoy a pizza and pasta “Welcome to Thredbo 2009” dinner. Before eating and drinking, the programme for the week was explained.

Monday saw all participants on the mountain – some to tear up the mountain, others to attempt to improve their skills on either skis or boards. Following a busy day on the hill, most wandered down to the House of Ullr that night rigged out in the traditional beach gear. After all, what is a ski trip without a beach party?

This year our races followed a different pattern. In the past the races have been run on consecutive days. This year the new format was to run the giant slalom on Tuesday morning and the dual slalom on Tuesday afternoon.

The GS this year was a more challenging race than what we've had for quite some time, but it was still able to be raced by those who were not “elite” skiers. After a quick lunch break, the racers returned to the top of the Rossi race course for the start of the DS. The DS provided

some interesting viewing and a few excellent head-to head races. There was also a good stack or two!

At the completion of the DS, we all met at the equipment hut for a BBQ and a bevy. Both went down extremely well after a full day of racing. The race results were provided by the members of the race department, who then joined us for a sausage sanger and a beer.

On the basis of the results of the Tuesday races, medals were presented to the successful racers at the Keller Bar on Wednesday afternoon. Medals, finger food, drinks and socialising rounded off a good day on the snow.

This year's theme for the party night (another one!) was 20009BC and some of the outfits were very creative. After a false start at the Piano Bar, the group moved to the Schuss Bar and rocked on for the rest of the night. Laura got right into the zone and joined the band on the bongo drums. She excelled at this while the rest of us supported her from the dance floor. Overheard mobile phone conversation from a random at the bar: "You've gotta come here – a whole lot of Flintstones just walked in!"

On Thursday we forced our weary bodies back onto the snow for another day of playing around the mountain. Sadly the weather wasn't great and the fun race was cancelled in favour of sitting in the pub and having a drink.

The formal dinner was hosted that night at Credo where the final presentations were made to the champion skiers and boarders, and to others who had played a role in the success of the week. Excellent food, fine wines and great company were the order of the night. Everyone made an effort toward formal dress and overall we brushed up quite well – we were an impressive bunch overall.

There were some weary bodies on Friday, and with the weather being what it was – ie. lousy – the bulk of the group made moves for a return home.

My thanks to Robert and Robyn for assisting with the financial side of the trip; to Dools and Fossil for taking over the races; to Shorty for organising the bar; to others for their assistance in the trip-related issues and to all who came to Thredbo with the attitude of having a great time with a bunch of like-minded folks.

Based on the success of the trip this year, we have booked the races and accommodation in Thredbo for 15<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> August 2010. However, before that we will have a northern winter trip in February/March 2010. Stay tuned for further details.....

Ros