



30
YEARS
QANTAS SKI CLUB
1977-2007



Japan Report
See page 2 & 3



This year marks the 30th anniversary of the first domestic ski trip. Come and celebrate with us at Hotham
See page 3 for more details...



Check out the calendar for up and coming exciting events page 8

QANTAS SKI CLUB ski+snowboard news

Issue 11 | Autumn | 2008

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SKI CLUB MEETINGS

All members are welcome to attend and to be involved in these meetings

VENUE: St George Rowing Club Levey Street, Arncliffe, N.S.W.
TIME: 5:30 p.m. Generally the first Tuesday of each month. Refer to calendar for meeting dates

SKI CLUB E-MAIL

For details on club news, events and membership, please access our website or email skiclub@qantas.com.au. A committee member will reply to your enquiry as soon as possible. Please use this facility rather than contacting committee members during business hours.

SKI CLUB WEBSITES

For the latest in club news and events or for e-mail contact:
Qantas Ski Club: www.qantasskiclub.org.au
I.A.S.F.: www.ski-iasf.com
N.A.A.S.F.: www.naasf.com
Air New Zealand Ski & Snowboard Club: www.airnz-skiclub.org/

Ah soh – Great Snow

Mid February and 50 members of the ski club headed north to the land of the rising sun to spend time experiencing the food, fun, sights and snow offered by the Japanese culture and ski resorts.

First stop was the Ronshan Hotel in Sapporo where people started trickling in a few days in advance of the official commencement in order to shop, sightsee and try to get used to a completely different way of life. Walking on the icy pavements was difficult and sometimes dangerous which led to a number of people purchasing different equipment for their safety. These included attachments with spikes set in rubber on the soles which slipped onto your shoes, or boots with retractable “claws”. At \$10 - \$20, they were an excellent investment.



GUARDING THE SNOW BAR AT MOIWA

Japan 2008 continued...

On the night prior to our departure from Sapporo, the first official function was at the Sapporo “Bier Garten” - all we could eat and drink in 2 hours. As you can imagine, most acquitted themselves admirably.

The following day we piled our luggage, equipment and bodies (some slightly the worse for wear!) into two buses for the trip to Niseko. We had a bit of a laugh at the buses which had a sign on the front window - Jhon (sic) Mills and the sign on the front was LEGEND. Needless to say, Millsy thought it most appropriate.

There were 3 different accommodation locations at Niseko. The Landmark Hotel and the Gondola Apartments up near the lifts, and Miyuki, a 5 bedroom house in the town. The most interesting aspect of Miyuki was the toilet on the living level. Not only did it lift the seat when you opened the door, give you a couple of bidet options, blow dry after that and close the lid, but it also serenaded the occupant with Avé Maria. If the reason for the music was to cover the noises issuing from within, it was a failure, as all it really did was to draw attention to the fact that someone was in the loo!

English language signs in Japan were a constant source of fun. Signs on air conditioners referred to “bentilation”, an information tag on a ski jacket indicated that the outer layer was “fablic”, a sign on the hill near merging trails stated “SPEED DOWN”.

The Ronshan Hotel staff took a message to pass on – “Girrian” staying over in Tokyo and would be arriving the

following day. For the rest of the trip, Gill was called Girrian. However, the Japanese still had a better command of our language than we did of theirs. We did, however, become fairly proficient in charades in order to obtain directions or information.

The Ronshan provided another gem – a small card that was placed on the vanity table:

“This time I have you use this hotel, and thank you. In a refrigerator of the water will give a service. Please spend it slowly.”

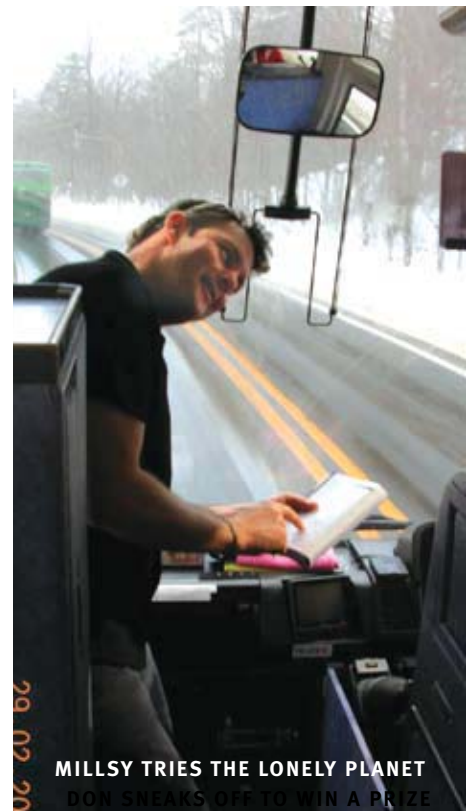
The trips to the supermarket in Kutchan were interesting but fairly intense. Trying to decide on the contents of packets based on the pictures on the outside became a bit of a game. Still, we persevered and succeeded with most of our selections. Alcohol was no problem – very identifiable and very inexpensive.

During the trip several “extras” were included, one of which was a traditional Japanese dinner. We were bused down to Kutchan one evening to partake of the joys of eating one’s meal while sitting on the floor with legs extended straight out under the table. After a while this caused back problems to some, at which time the hosts brought forth numerous “legless” chairs to relieve the unnatural posture for we of a weaker-postured nation. Having a back to lean against made the seating position a lot more comfortable. The food was enticing, unusual and generally delicious. A great night.

We had two side trips during the tour, the first of which was to Rusutsu. Unfortunately the weather wasn’t great



ARE YOU SURE?



MILLSY TRIES THE LONELY PLANET
DON SNEAKS OFF TO WIN A PRIZE



Jhon Mills, Legend



WAHINE WITH LIFESAVER



LUNCH IN SAPPORO

but the snow was excellent. We managed to ski most of the mountain, even though the weather up top was vicious and the visibility exceptionally restricted. Once out of the wind up high, skiing the runs and the trees a bit lower down was great. One important piece of advice was given out to learner tree-skiers – “concentrate on the spaces, not the trees”. While we temporarily lost a few in the powder, fortunately we didn’t leave anyone wrapped around the trees.

The second day trip was to Moiwa, which included our “blow-up” day. Prior to leaving Oz, we were all asked to bring some inflatable toy without being told what we were to do with it. Whether this was to involve an obstacle course or a race of some sort was not known at the time we all purchased our



POWDER HOUNDS GP AND JEN

toys. I did expect that someone would bring an inflatable doll, but that didn’t happen.

The weather at Moiwa was similar to what we encountered at Rututsu, and the mountain was closed to skiing around midday. That left the afternoon free for the blow-up encounter. Our organisers decided, given the conditions, that the event would be a race and would be a straight run down the hill with the toy used in some way. Sal on Colin the Caterpillar was the first to make it over the finish line, although this was ski-assisted. Our illustrious Secretary made it to the line in an inflatable boat. However, Ros and her lunatic lilo reached warp speed over the line, crashed through a forest of spectators’ legs and incurred a blow-out when it ran over the bindings of Colin the Caterpillar’s skis. Had this not occurred, lilo and rider may well have ended up in the carpark.

Julie and her monstrous inflatable boobs did nothing to help her slide down the hill, but together with the fake bum (which in the -12°C temp looked like it had a definite cellulite problem) created extreme interest and lots of giggles from some of the locals and mild hysterics in some of the club members.

The day ended with the destruction of most of the inflatables – thanks to Millsy’s Leatherman – with the exception of Jen’s dolphin, which decided to gently float off over the snow. In desperation Jen followed, and when she had nearly caught it, the wind floated it just out of reach again. To her credit, Jen tried her best to catch it, but it was a bit like a comedy –

whenever she got near the creature, it took off again. It was last seen heading toward the trees.....

On our return from Anapuri one afternoon, Kev managed to hook his skis on a downed boundary rope, crashed and messed up his calf muscle. After suffering from cabin fever when out of action the next morning, managed to limp up to “Rawson’s” (that’s Japanese for “Lawson’s”) and buy himself a chocolate ice cream. Ever vigilant, and trying to keep this indiscretion from Di by carefully disposing of the wrapper, he had, however, forgotten to wipe the evidence off his face. Needless to say Di had words with him when she came in and a chastened Kev had it reconfirmed that he can’t pull the wool over Di’s eyes!



TRADITIONAL DINNER

Our return journey to Sapporo (the signs on the bus spelled Millsy’s name right this time!) was an experience. Apart from devouring the last of the cold pizza from the previous night and getting rid of the remains of the alcohol, the buses did not have a comfort stop on the way through to the airport. This created a severe problem for one of our girls who was really in desperate need of a convenience. Millsy, using the English to Japanese phrases in Keith’s Lonely Planet Guide, tried desperately to get the driver to understand the need for a stop. However, there were no shoulders on the highway onto which the driver could pull over. Given the sheer and utter desperation, sisterhood prevailed and the girls assisted by collecting several plastic cups and bags etc to save a disaster from occurring. Wouldn’t you know it, just when the deed was done, the driver found an area in which he could pull over! To make the driver feel better, we made a couple of guys go behind the earthmoving equipment at the road-side area to make the stop seem worthwhile, while our now-relieved traveller got out to bury the evidence.

All in all, another amazing trip. Our thanks go to Millsy and Breaker Barrett for the effort they put into organising such a successful event.

You are all welcome to join the fun in our future trips – Mt Hotham in August this year and in Björkliden, Sweden in March 2009.

Qantas Ski Club Tour 2008

Sunday 3rd to Friday 8th August 2008



2008 will see the Qantas Ski Club return to where it all began. Last year the club celebrated the 30th anniversary of its formation with a reunion dinner in Thredbo in November. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the first domestic ski trip. That event was held at Mt Hotham, Victoria, so it is to Mt Hotham that we will return this year.

Your club has booked a number of 2 and 3 bedroom apartments as well as a few studio apartments at the Arlberg. The good folks at the Arlberg are enthusiastic about having the club there again and have offered us great value for our week.

There are two options on prices and accommodation:

- \$1,220.00 per person for the 2 or 3 bedroom apartments; or
- \$1,370.00 per person for a 2 person studio apartment.

Please note, we are still trying to negotiate lift ticket prices downward with the mountain and there may be an adjustment on the prices quoted.

The cost includes accommodation, 5 breakfasts, 4 dinners, 1 final presentation dinner, 5 day lift tickets.

There is a new club requirement this year. Whilst we encourage the use of helmets generally on ski trips, if you choose to be involved in the races in 2008, you will be **required to wear a helmet**.

The party night this year will have the theme of Rubik's Cube, ie, you will be required to turn up on party night wearing the 6 colours of the cube – red, yellow, blue, green, orange and white – and will be expected to be attired in the one colour by the end of the night. Should be fun!

Please be aware that you will be required to pay vehicle entry into the park – details are available at

<http://www.mthotham.com.au/travel/entry/index.htm>

ELIGIBILITY:

You must be a member of the QANTAS Ski Club.

BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS:

Must be on the official QANTAS Ski Club booking form. One person per form which must be accompanied by your deposit or full payment. If a booking is made with a deposit, the final balance of payment must be made no later than 14 July 2008.

A waitlist will be held when the week has been fully booked, with late bookings being subject to availability.

Note: A booking will only be accepted providing a deposit is received and you meet the eligibility requirement.

TRANSPORT:

Transport to and from Hotham will be by your own arrangement.

CANCELLATIONS

The refund of moneys will be given only if the package can be sold to another person. A waitlist will be held when the week has been fully booked.

ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL...

Stephen Laws Ph: 96916015 or
Ski Club E-mail skiclub@qantas.com.au

booking form

QANTAS SKI CLUB TOUR 2008

Sunday 3rd to Friday 8th August 2008

Please print all details. One form for each applicant.

First name:

Surname:

I am a member of the QANTAS Ski Club (Please tick ✓)

QANTAS Ski Club Other Airline Airline name _____

I am a: (Please tick ✓)

Skier Snowboarder Male Female

QANTAS staff OCS address: _____

Home address: _____

State: _____ Country: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please register me for the Hotham Tour 2008 Package:

(please tick option)

2 or 3 bedroom apartment

Total Cost AUD\$1220.00

(Deposit AUD \$300)

2 person studio

Total Cost AUD\$1370.00

(Deposit AUD \$300)

Less deposit paid AUD\$ _____

Balance owed AUD\$ _____

to be paid by 14th July 2008

Do you have a preference with whom you wish to share?

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

I Acknowledge:

1. I will attend this ski trip entirely at my own risk;
2. That I am over 18 years of age;
3. Skiing / Snowboarding can be a dangerous sport;
4. That the Club recommends the use of helmets while skiing/boarding;
5. Appropriate insurances are my responsibility;
6. The QANTAS Ski Club is exempt from any claims arising however caused;
7. Every attempt will be made to meet package itinerary as requested;
8. Changes may be effected without notice or compensation;
9. I am aware of the booking cancellation policy;
10. I will abide by the QANTAS Ski Club Code of Conduct;
11. That personal information about any person on this tour will remain confidential.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Attach deposit/full payment cheque made payable to QANTAS Ski Club Inc. to completed form and forward to:

By post

QANTAS Ski Club Inc.

C/- Stephen Laws

PO BOX 320 MASCOT NSW 1460

By OCS

C/- Stephen Laws

S-271/1

By credit card

Post or fax 02 8221 9620

(Please tick) VISA Mastercard

Card Number _____

Expiry Date: ____/____ Amount: \$ _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Notes:

1. Cheques must be a Bank Cheque or equivalent unless prior arrangement is made with a QANTAS Ski Club Executive Committee Member.
2. A booking will only be accepted providing a deposit is received and you meet the eligibility requirement.

AGM

QANTAS SKI CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGM Booking Form

Members are invited to attend and elect the 2008/2009 Committee

First name:

Surname:

Phone: Mobile:

Email:

Will you be bringing a guest?(Please tick) Yes No

Friday night, 23rd May, 7.00pm sharp (Please be punctual)

Pyrmont Bridge Hotel – upstairs function room
Corner Bridge Road and Murray Street Pyrmont, Darling Harbour

Cost:

Members – no charge

Guest of member – \$10 per person (pay at door)

Please note: food and drinks will be available after the meeting.

Please fill in and return the attached form. Nominations for positions on the committee are welcome (position descriptions will be available at the AGM or by request). Please take an active interest in your club so we can make it bigger and better than ever.

QANTAS SKI CLUB INC 2008/2009 Committee Nomination

(Filling out this section is optional)

Executive Position	Name
President	
Vice President	
Secretary	
Treasurer	
Public Officer	

Committee Member	Name
Member	
Social Officer	
Newsletter	
Website Coordinator	
Trip Coordinator	
Race Coordinator	
Team Captain (Ski)	
Team Captain (Snowboard)	
Nominated by:	

Please complete this booking form prior to 18th May and forward by mail or fax to:

By post

QANTAS Ski Club Inc.
C/- Stephen Laws
PO BOX 320 MASCOT NSW
1460

By OCS

QANTAS Ski Club Inc.
C/- Stephen Laws
S-271/1

By fax

02 8221 9620

notice to members

Your responsibilities

When attending any QANTAS Ski Club function or event you and any invited guests are responsible for your own personal property. The QANTAS Ski Club will not pay for any members or guests personal item lost, misplaced or stolen.

Code of conduct

The QANTAS Ski Club has a Code of Conduct and expects all members and invited guests to enjoy all functions and events without being offended by others or offending other members, invited guests or members of the general public.

Organisation of events

When an Expression of Interest for a particular event or trip is published and the number interested is less than 15, the Ski Club Committee will not proceed with the arrangements for that event or trip. Members are welcome to attend an event or trip with an expression of interest of less than 15, however they must make their own arrangements. The Ski Club Committee will assist with all available details and information.

Cancellation policy

For all QANTAS Ski Club functions and events deposits and final payments are refundable, less administration cost of 5% of the amount paid, only if the package can be sold to another person. Bookings and moneys are transferable at any time.

Ski Club News

The Ski Club News is published to keep you up to date with the latest news and planned events. It is your newsletter and we would welcome your input. If you are a skier, snowboarder or just enjoy the social events have your say. If you have ski gear to sell, know of some great ski holiday packages, have had a memorable experience (on skis or snowboard) or have some good technical info, just sent us an email to skiclub@qantas.com.au

QANTAS SKI CLUB**Calendar of Events – 2007-08****EVENT LOCATION**

23 May 2008 7.00pm	Annual General Meeting Bridge Rd & Murray St, Pyrmont	Pyrmont Bridge Hotel
30 May 2008 6.30pm	Warren Miller's "Playground" Market Street, Sydney	State Theatre,
3 June 2008 5.30pm	Club Meeting Arncliffe, NSW	St George Rowing Club
1 July 2008 5.30pm	Club Meeting Arncliffe, NSW	St George Rowing Club
3-8 August 2008	Domestic Ski Trip	Arlberg, Mt Hotham, Victoria
12 August 2008 5.30pm (NB: 2nd Tuesday)	Club Meeting Arncliffe, NSW	St George Rowing Club
2 September 2008 5.30pm	Club Meeting Arncliffe, NSW	St George Rowing Club
12-15 September 2008	IASF Board Meeting	Björkliden, Sweden
7 October 2008 5.30pm	Club Meeting Arncliffe, NSW	St George Rowing Club
11 November 2008 5.30pm (note: 2nd Tuesday)	Club Meeting Arncliffe, NSW	St George Rowing Club
2 December 2008 5.30pm	Club Meeting Arncliffe, NSW	St George Rowing Club
6 January 2009 5.30pm	Club Meeting Arncliffe, NSW	St George Rowing Club
3 February 2009 5.30pm	Club Meeting Arncliffe, NSW	St George Rowing Club
No meeting in March due to IASF and international trip 8-13 March 2009	IASF, WASC	Björkliden, Sweden

End of an era

As advised in the Summer 2007 issue of the Qantas Ski Club Ski and Snowboard News, we are going green. As such, this is the last edition that will be sent out in hard copy. Future newsletters will only be sent by email, so it is imperative that you supply the club with an email address. In this way newsletters and other important information can be advised to you quickly and efficiently and with less impact on the environment, the club's funds and committee members' time.

If you have not already done so, please advise your email details to the Ski Club at skiclub@qantas.com.au. Failure to do so will result in non-receipt of club information.

Information on your club may be obtained from www.qantasskiclub.org.au