



# Bogong Bulletin

Issue 55 Summer 2006  
The Alpine Rovers and Venturers Newsletter



## Bushfires

Once again the bushfire season is on us, and we have wild fires burning in some of our favourite parts of the country. Fires have burnt through large parts of the Blue Mountains in NSW, and are currently burning through parts of the Victorian Alps and East Coast of Tasmania.

As you are all no doubt aware the wildfire situation in Victoria has been particularly grim. Of particular concern to the Chalet is the Bright-Tawonga Gap Fire that started last week and is causing spot fires on the Bogong High Plains.

Due to this, and other fires in the area, the entire Alpine National Park in Victoria is closed, and therefore Matt Anderson, Warden, Bogong Rover Chalet has determined that until further notice that the **Bogong Rover Chalet is closed to all visitors.**

The Bogong Chalet Management Group is monitoring the situation, planning for the upcoming fire season, and done some mitigation work. However access to the chalet is not possible at the current time. At all times the safety of visitors to the chalet will be paramount.

Anyone who has booked the chalet over the summer period will be contacted directly by the BCMG in due course.

Please be mindful that the Wardens and the members of the BCMG have normal day time jobs and request that contact be limited to the absolute essential.

As in the 2003 fires information will be posted on the website at [Bogong Rover Chalet](http://www.bogongrovers.com.au). The 2006-07 Bogong Rover Chalet Fire blog is up and run.

With much of the country under drought conditions, and the risk of bushfire high, we ask people to take care wherever they are, and avoid areas where there are active fires so that fire fighting services can do their job unhindered.

*Mick Simpson and Luke Moore (Alpine Rover Crew)*

## Web-watching:

Further information on the Victorian Fire situation can be found at the following websites:

The Country Fire Authority: [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

The CFA incident summary and links to maps at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/incidents/incident\\_updates.htm](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/incidents/incident_updates.htm)

The Department of Sustainability and Environment fire information [www.dse.vic.gov.au/dse/nrenfoe.nsf](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/dse/nrenfoe.nsf)

Fire weather information at [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au) (a really useful site at any time)

Satellite fire mapping at [sentinel1.ga.gov.au/](http://sentinel1.ga.gov.au/), [www.aus-emaps.com/hotspots.php](http://www.aus-emaps.com/hotspots.php) and the NASA Modis images at [rapidfire.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov](http://rapidfire.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov) (which also has heaps of really cool satellite photos)

For NSW visit: [www.bushfire.nsw.gov.au](http://www.bushfire.nsw.gov.au)

For WA visit: [fesa.wa.gov.au](http://fesa.wa.gov.au)

For SA visit: [www.cfs.org.au](http://www.cfs.org.au)

For NT visit: [www.nt.gov.au/pfes/](http://www.nt.gov.au/pfes/)

For Tasmania visit: [www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au)

## Huts Lost – Homes Lost

The Fires have largely been burning in areas not affected by the 2003 fires. To date only Craig's' Hut, built for 'The Man from Snowy River' has been confirmed lost. The Cresta Valley Lodge (Tatra Inn) on Mt Buffalo has also been destroyed although the Ski Lifts have survived. There are many other huts that are in peril, or there status unknown, including the Feathertop Huts, and Vallejo Gantner (Macallister Springs), and Geelong Grammar on Stirling. It has been hard for people to assess the status of huts as they have been busy fighting the fires.

More importantly, homes have been destroyed in this fire, people have been injured, one has died, and our thoughts over Christmas go to those affected, and those fighting these fires.

*Luke Moore (Alpine Rover Crew)*



Satellite image of smoke from the Alps Fires

# Welcome to the New Management Group

On 11<sup>th</sup> October at our AGM, the following were elected to the BCMG:

## *Venturer Positions:*

Jason Paino  
Kathleen Pearce

## *18-26 y/old Rovers*

Ben Stennett  
Cam Read  
Tony Brooks  
Chris Wesley  
Stuart Bailey  
Sheena Rigby  
John Linnell  
Kyle Nash

## *27-30 y/old Alpine Rovers*

Chris Gunther  
Bernice Mahoney

## *30+ Alpine Rovers*

Peter Rossbourough  
Steven Cornish

## *Alpine Rover Crew Chairman*

Lucas Moore

## *Alpine Rover Crew Secretary*

Mick Simpson

## *BCMG Chairman*

Stuart Bailey

## *Appointed Positions*

### *Warden*

Matt Anderson

### *Assistants*

Linda Moore  
Les Wiebenga

### *Historian*

Sue Tanck

### *Treasurer*

Jody Freeman

The new management team will have another challenging year again, having to deal with a shorter time period to deal with the maintenance schedule, as well as running activities at the chalet including the Venturer Mountain Bike Weekend, Rover Discovery Weekend, Ski Expo, Ski Fun Day, Nobs Training, and of course the Winter Parties. The Management Group has already met twice, and had a planning weekend up at the Chalet in November where we run Nobs Training for all BCMG members (a worthwhile refresher for those that had done it years ago...) and checked out what needed to be done after winter.

*Luke Moore - ARC Chairman*

## The World 2007 Centenary Logo What does it mean?



Its main elements are:

- World Scout Emblem
- Theme
- Doves
- Numbers
- The sun is rising on the second Century of Scouting. A brilliant future.
- Doves represent the education for peace that Scouting provides, and the work that Scouts are doing to create a more peaceful world.
- Movement and motion demonstrate that Scouting constantly evolves to meet real local needs; a key to its success in the first 100 years, and for its future.
- The World Scout Emblem – the symbol shared by all Scouts around the world.
- Nature and the out-of-doors are fundamental to Scouting.
- The theme: One World One Promise represents the common values and educational method shared by Scouts everywhere.

## Highest Peak Project

To commemorate the 100 years of scouting, Victorian Rovers are supporting the Highest Peak Project, where the young adults of the Rover section will repeat the first winter ascent of Mount Bogong, and on August the 1st will join scouts around the world who are hiking to their country's Highest Peaks.

The event is 8 months away, and Chris Young is locating interested Rover Scouts from across the state as well as sponsors to support this unique effort. For more information Contact: Chris Young (ABC Rover - Victoria) [chris.young@c2s.com.au](mailto:chris.young@c2s.com.au)

### ••••• Stop Press:

- Unfortunately the Branch Web Server is down due to a hacking incident, so all Victorian Rovers websites are currently Offline.
- Keep looking, they will be back up soon....

### ••••• Stop Press:

- Baw Baw Rover Crew has been able to conduct an emergency working bee on the Mountain to clear fire breaks and protect the W.F. Waters Lodge.
- Good Luck to them.

## What's On?

January 26 – 28  
Australia Day Weekend  
Chalet Working Bee

March 10 -12  
Labour Day Weekend  
Chalet Working Bee  
Rover Discovery Weekend

April 6-9  
Easter Weekend  
Working Bee & Nobs Training

April 12 -15  
Venturer Mountain Bike Weekend

April 25  
Anzac Day

May 12-13  
Food Weekend Working Bee  
Summer Bookings Close

June 9-11  
Queens Birthday Weekend  
Ski Season Opens

June 30 – July 7  
Victorian Snow Venture 1 (Wk 1)

July 7 – 14  
Week 2 Winter Party

July 14 - 21  
South Aust. Snow Venture (Wk 3)

July 22  
Ski Fun Day

July 21 – 28  
Week 4 Winter Party

July 28 – August 4  
Week 5

August 1  
Highest Peak Project,  
Bogong Ascent

August 4 – 11  
Week 6

August 11 - 18  
Week 7

August 18 – 25  
Week 8

August 25  
Kangaroo Hoppet

August 25 – September 1  
Week 9

September 1 – 8  
Week 10

September 8 – 15  
Week 11

September 15 – 22  
Week 12

September 22 – 29  
Victorian Snow Venture 2 (Wk13)

October 10  
Alpine Rover Crew AGM

November 6  
Melbourne Cup Day  
Summer Bookings Open

# Improvement and Maintenance

Closure of the Alpine National Park has put our maintenance schedule on hold. The management group have been preparing for some of these jobs over the last months, so that they are ready to go as soon as we can get vehicles in. As well as the regular cleaning and painting tasks, we have the following jobs scheduled for summer:

- Re-painting of kitchen
- Scroggin safes in small pantry
- Fixing floor around Theodore
- Cladding as required
- New door to Generator shed
- Recoating the Bathroom Floor
- Replacing the Drying Room Heater
- Repair Sand Filter
- Complete Water Filtration
- UV Treatment of Drinking Water
- Weeding and Reveg around the Chalet
- Rewiring the Electrical System

At the planning meeting in November, we were able complete the exterior of the tow hut, install the first stage of the Water Filter and assess the Sand Filter.

We need to replace the top layer of pipe work in the sand filter require a 'Dingo' mini digger or excavator to complete the job. If anyone is able to loan us one for a weekend it would be appreciated. Contact Kyle Nash at [kylenashy@bigpond.com](mailto:kylenashy@bigpond.com) to assist with this project.

If anyone has any expertise, or wants to assist in any of these jobs, contact the maintenance team through [bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au)

## Booking Report

With the bushfire situation, we are currently closed for summer bookings. We will notify everyone by email, and through the website, once the chalet is open again. Also if people are coming up for working bees, once the chalet is reopened, could they please contact the bookings officer on 0407 242 538 to book a bed.

2007 Winter Party application forms will be available in January, we will let people know when they are uploaded onto the web site.

## Nobs Training

We will be running Nobs training during working bees at the Chalet this year, as well as special Nobs weekend in April. If you would like to be trained as a Nob, or feel you might need a refresher on the new systems at the Chalet, you can register your interest by contacting me on [bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au)

## Scarves

Unfortunately we ran out of scarves for Alpine Rovers and Alpine Venturers this year. If your were invested and missed out on a scarf, could you please drop me an email to [lukem75@ozemail.com.au](mailto:lukem75@ozemail.com.au) and I'll get one to you.

*Luke Moore - ARC Chairman*

## Rover Outdoor Network

Looking for extra bodies for a hike, or any outdoor activity? Use the Rover outdoor network get in contact with them.

[www.vicrovers.com/ron](http://www.vicrovers.com/ron)



The 2007 Kangaroo Hoppet will be held at Falls Creek on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August.

If you feel like racing visit [www.hoppet.com.au](http://www.hoppet.com.au) for an entry form, and remember to put 'Victorian Rovers' as your Ski Club

Wildlife in Victoria are under threat and we need community support to help our wildlife shelters cope with the extra burdens that fires bring.

Visit [www.wildlifevictoria.org.au](http://www.wildlifevictoria.org.au) to contribute

**Address Update:**

Have you changed your address or do you have an email address? Help us keep track of our Alpine Rover Crew by completing the form below and post this entire page (including old address label) to the above address. If you are receiving the bulletin via post, and would like to receive it by email, send your email address to [bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au](mailto:bogongchalet@vicscouts.asn.au)

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Town: .....

Postcode: .....

Email Address: .....

Bogong Rover Chalet  
PO Box 774  
Mt Waverley 3149



Craig's Hut Site – December 2006