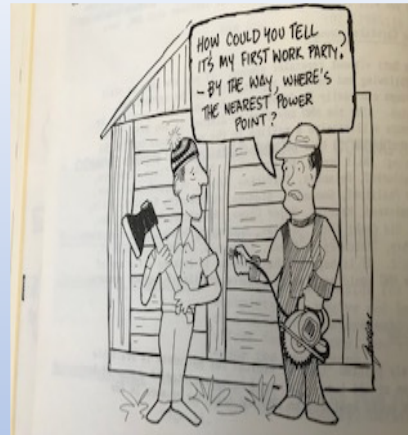
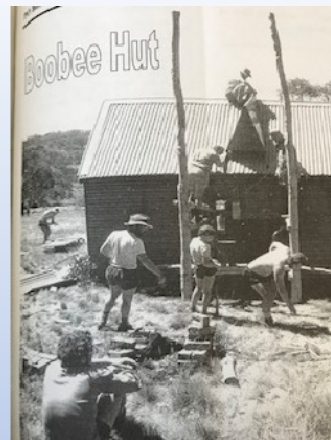


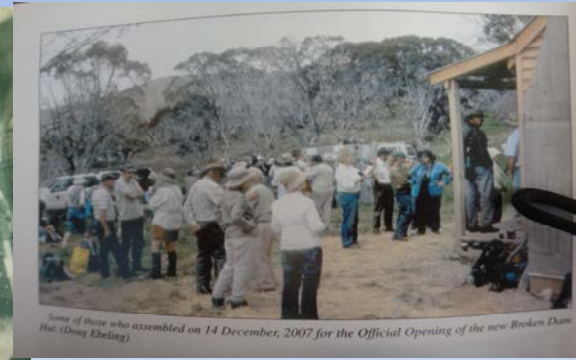
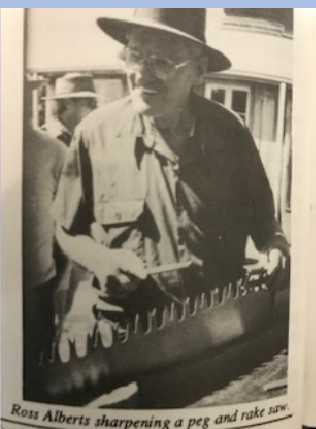
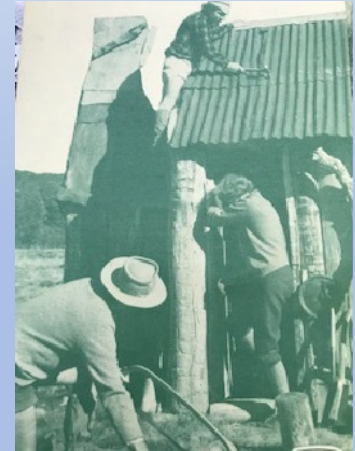
## Kosciuszko Huts Association







## Our Amazing Volunteers caring for huts



## Overview

- KHA conserves the huts and homesteads in KNP & NNP for the future
- KHA is guided by a committee
- President/Secretary/Treasurer/Huts Maintenance Officers (HMO) /Membership Secretary
- Members are volunteers, some are caretaker groups/individuals and volunteer workparties
- Membership is open to everyone interested in preserving the huts and their history
- Student/Ordinary/Corporate



- KHA has a growing library
- KHA has a Huts List of all huts, homesteads, ruins, sites, status, descriptions, history and classifications
- KHA has also a library kept in the National Library of Australia in Canberra
- KHA has a quarterly newsletter that is sent out to the members
- Upcoming events, workparties, social events, articles, editorial reports, articles from KHA activities, history of huts, members and news items related to the Alps and KHA







Happy Jacks

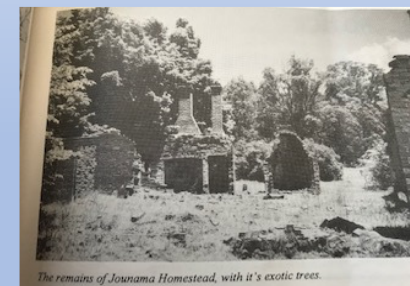
## What are the huts

- Part of Australian heritage
- Earlier generations ways of living and working
- Used for summer grazing, forestry, mining, research, hydro-electricity, skiing, bushwalking, and fishing
- Huts provide shelter, refuge in emergencies
- Ruins of significance are maintained & stabilised
- Valued by descendants whose families built them

J.Hammond KHA history presentation



Black Jack



*The remains of Jounama Homestead, with it's exotic trees.*

Jounama Homestead



Frank & Jacks

The following slides show the different styles and structures that were built in the early days which are now in the national parks









TIN MINE 1992  
Photo: Geoff Mattan



McKILLER HUT  
Photo: KJ LA Macfarlane Collection



BILL JONES HUT 2000  
Photo: Ian McNeill



CHIMNEYS BEING REBUILT



BURRUMBUGGEE HUT  
First Winter 1991  
Photo: Graham Scully



Townsend hut built 1949 by Charles Townsend, post 2003 fire



COONBIL  
The tree and the damage it caused.



POCKETS HUT Date Unknown  
KHA Collection

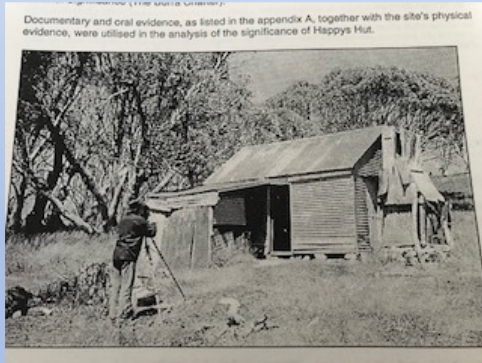






Happys hut built around 1931 by Bill McLachlan & W. Montague

Photo: Chris



Four Mile hut built 1937 by Robert Hughes. Saved from bushfire by last minute action from NPWS

Photo: Jane W



Four Mile hut built 1937 by Robert Hughes. Saved from bushfire by last minute action from NPWS

Photo: Jane W

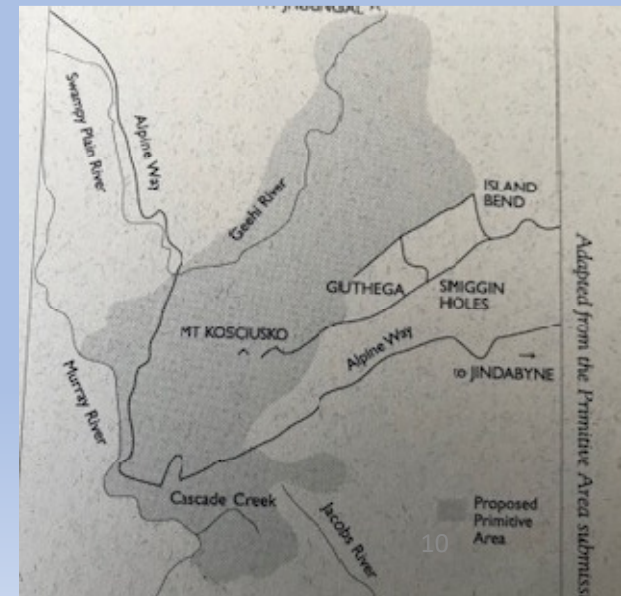


HA histor



# Kosciuszko National Park

- **1944** – recommendation for chain of huts throughout mountains
- Establishment of Parks –walkers & skiers looked after huts
- **1965** –Kosciuszko State Park Trust convened to discuss future of huts
- **1967** – National Parks and Wildlife Service formed
- NPWS obliged by the ACT of Parliament to look after heritage buildings





## Before KHA

- It was Dr Schlink who arranged to have Tin Hut built in 1927 in readiness for the Kiandra to Kosciusko crossing. Other huts built and maintained were Bretts Camp 1909:Pounds Creek 1920: Seamans1928:Alpine 1939:Albina and Koonama 1950:
- In 1960 many huts were looked after by caretaker groups
- In January 1965 The Kosciusko State Park Trust convened a meeting a document titled  
*“Recommendations regarding Jagungal Wilderness area, including preservation of shelter huts”*



## History of the Mountain Huts



Huts were built by stockmen, SMHA, prospectors, recreational fishermen to meet accommodation, shelter, recreational and hydrology needs

Many of the huts have been destroyed by fire, decay, weather conditions

98 huts remain

Leaseholders maintained or modified the huts





- **1970** – Neville Gare Superintendent of Kosciusko State Park called a meeting and motion was passed
- *“That an Association tentatively to be named the Kosciusko Huts Association be formed and an interim committee be elected”*

Simon



J. Hammond KHA history presentation

KHA members working on Wheelers



- **1971** - *Two objectives in the Draft policy of KHA*
  - *“to advise the NPWS on the use, maintenance and development of huts in the KNP and*
  - *to assist the NPWS in the management and maintenance of huts in the KNP”*
- First year of KHA it was agreed to effectively maintain the huts was to use existing & encourage new caretaker groups
- The HMO was seen as an essential function
- The huts maintenance newsletter was circulated all members
- Excellent response cleared the way for allocation of other huts





- *1973 -'74*

- 33 huts listed with 25 caretakers
- Three distinct huts under care by KHA are split slab huts, Constance, Cascade and Pretty Plain
- KHA Constitution objectives
- “To foster enjoyment of the KNP by walkers, skiers, fishermen & others
- Encourage safety in the mountains...
- To promote conservation of natural environment of KNP”
- Ranger burnt one hut and fear grew stronger more would go



# Split slab & log huts

Constance hut



Pretty Plain hut



Cascade hut

J.Hammond KHA history presentation

- **1975** – Windy Creek hut destroyed by snow creep after heavy snow
- Concern over overcrowding in huts – debate about booking
- White Rivers and Albina high usage in winter



Windy Creek 1954.

White Rivers 1935



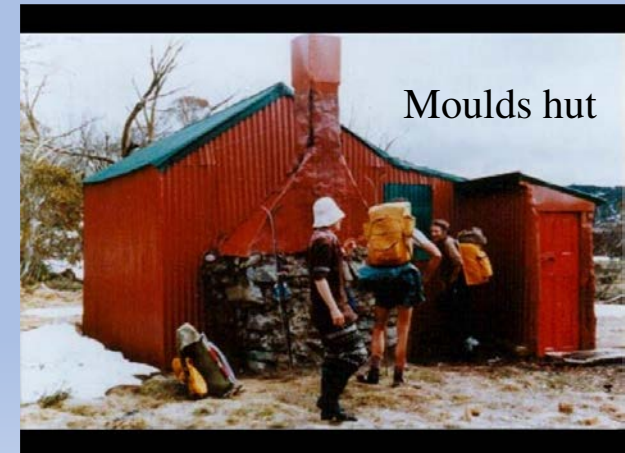
Albina. 1951





## Letter from Superintendent of KNP in 1976

- *“approval will not be given for addition of any new huts for survival system...” A wilderness advocate argues in KHA’s newsletter that “ huts are alien to wilderness, the argument of huts for safety is spurious and if they are removed then those that enter either survive or perish, which is what wilderness is all about”*
- Another hut destroyed by fire –Ranger implicated -----→
- Two girls survived staying in Four Mile Hut



Moulds hut

- A submission Feb 1976 offered certain criteria for retention of huts offered by Senior Ranger, Planning:
- *“Promotes survival in climatically dangerous areas without promoting dependence upon huts*
- *Clearly and regularly serves Park management purposes*
- *Supplements social recreational activities, has rare historical value.”*





50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first crossing of  
Kiandra to Kosciusko -1927 supported by  
KHA 1976 – *150 people skied the old route*

Original team, Drs Herbert Schlink, Eric  
Fisher, John Laidley, Mr William Gordon &  
Mr William Hughes set off in July 1927



## • 1977 –'78

- Peter Arriens publishes “Kosciusko Huts and Wilderness Values”
- *“KHA can look back on pride on work done in maintaining huts for shelter and enjoyment and safety. Many are in better condition since KHA was formed. This work preserves Australian cultural history and opportunity to experience occupying these simple buildings in living, authentic settings”*
- *“KHA was founded in close proximity with NPWS in a spirit of idealism.....”*
- KHA draft a policy on use, maintenance and development of huts in KNP
- Klaus Hueneke is commissioned to produce a film on *“The Huts of the High Country”*
- Membership had reached 300



- **1978**

- NPWS issued a policy which threatened the existence of the huts.
- Huge public outcry saved all but two huts (Rawson's and Albina)
- The Burra Charter was drafted in 1979 ensuring the development of conservation philosophy in Australia. The ICONOMOS charter defines historic site and how it should be conserved and maintained

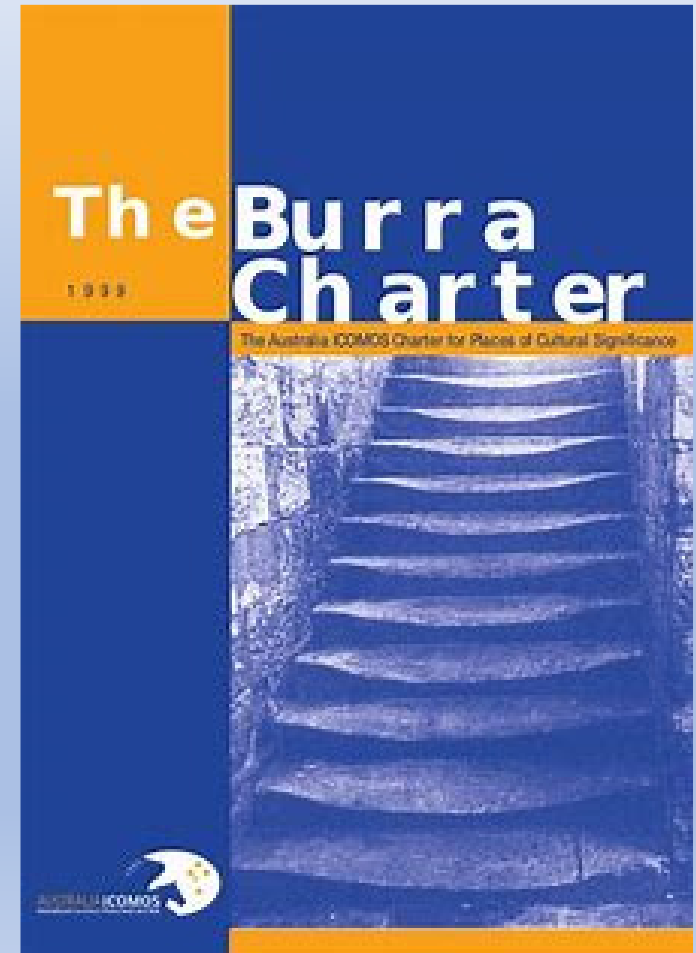


Albina.  
1951

Rawson's hut.1950



- The Burra Charter was drafted August 18th 1979 ensuring the development of conservation philosophy in Australia. A new era for conserving huts





# The Huts of the High Country

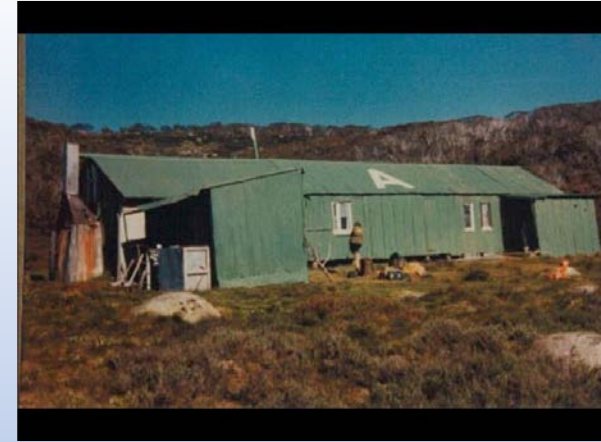
Kosciuszko

Alpine hut destroyed by fire in 1979

KHA Constitution amended to include  
*"to undertake historical research and promote the conservation of the cultural heritage of the mountains"*

NPWS draft Plan of Management was released in May with KHA efforts rewarded in that very few huts would be removed

Tin Mines Barn collapsed under weight of snow



Alpine hut.1939



Tin Mines.1935

- **1980** - “*Kosciusko huts in danger*” from NPWS preferred option:
- “To demolish all huts in the summit area except Seamans
- To demolish all huts in the White Rivers Corridor except Disappointment Spur and refurbish White Rivers
- Demolish Boobee, O’Keefes, Grey Hill Café, Happy’s, Dr Phillips, Happy Jacks 3&4, & Tantangara. *Albina & Rawsons* became sacrificial lambs
- Huts 100years old- Old Currango, Tin Mine Workshed, & Gooandra to fall to the ground
- To emasculate the KHA by severely limiting its current independence and responsibilities”



## *1981-'84*

- Funding from Heritage Council of NSW allows KHA to begin KNP Historic Sites Project
- First Film and Social evening attracts 100 people
- 30 huts have been lost since 1970
- Excess of 200 identifiable ruins and 90 structure still standing of which 10 are still threatened by official removal
- Of the 80 huts proposed to stay, 20 in moderately good condition, 60 vary from poor to fair

**1985-'86**

- Dr Phillips removed. Pockets vandalised. Montagues destroyed by fire.
- Constance Proposal submitted to NPWS



Dr Phillips



Pockets.1930

J.Hammond KHA history presentation



Montagues hut

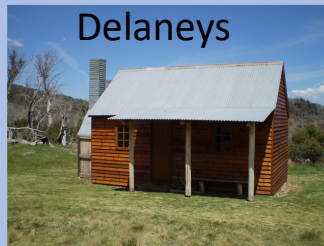
- Coolamine Homestead funded by the Australian Heritage Commission grant, the biggest restoration project undertaken in 30 years.



Coolamine

- NPWS completed major works on the most abused and used hut-Delaney's due to its location

- Special Projects sub-committee begins work on a submission to stabilise structures classified as “ruins” in the Plan of Management



- Several new sub-committees were formed in 1987
- A big increase in the number of caretaker groups enabling a surge in the conservation of huts.



- **1988**

- Cool Plain & Slaughterhouse destroyed by fire. Happys escapes with singeing
- Bill Jones saved from demolition
- NSW Premier accused NPWS of “*being unreasonably obstructive...for years...*” KHA expressed concern to the Minister about development within Park.
- Huts in Namadgi NP in ACT come under KHA.

## 1988 cont

- HMO appointed
- Conservation work carried out ACT Forests and Franks Hut and survey on all huts in Namadgi
- Huts in Namadgi NP in ACT come under KHA
- KHA now has 3 HMO's –North, South and Namadgi
- KHA steps up negotiations for fuel reduction around huts

- *1989-90*

- NPWS approval for restoration of Cooinbil
- NPWS approval for stabilisation policy-Teddys hut becomes first structure to benefit
- NPWS & KHA agree on huts Priority List
- ACT Heritage grant for \$18,300 to research Namadgi oral history
- Burrungubuggee hut construction begins, Official opening November '90
- Centenary of Kiandra Courthouse and KHA contributes to “Back to Kiandra” celebrations







Slaughterhouse.1960



Bill Jones.1952



Cool Plain Hut.1986



J.Hammond KHA history presentation



Cooinbil hut.1905



Teddys Hut.1948

Kiandra Courthouse.1917



J.Hammond KHA history presentation

Burrungubuggee hut. 1989



35 92 11 11





## Reward of 10,000



*“For the capture of one very old rat wearing a poorly fitted upper partial denture stolen from Graham Scully’s boot in Delaney’s Hut in the small hours of December 1990*

*This rat can also be identified by the Rolex watch it wears, stolen from Pieter Arriens in Bradley’s Hut in 1980”*







Brayshaw 1903

Westerman 1916



- ACT Parks and Conservation approve conservation of Brayshaws and Westerman Homesteads
- KHA Contributes to Symposium on Cultural Heritage of the Australian Alps
- NP&Wildlife foundation gives a grant of \$3,000 towards conservation studies.

- Logs for Pretty Plain hut flown in by Navy Sikorski Seahawk Helicopter
- KHA and NPA start restoration on Orroral Homestead
- Workparties schedule for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend
- Cooinbil reconstruction under the watchful eye of Harry Hill

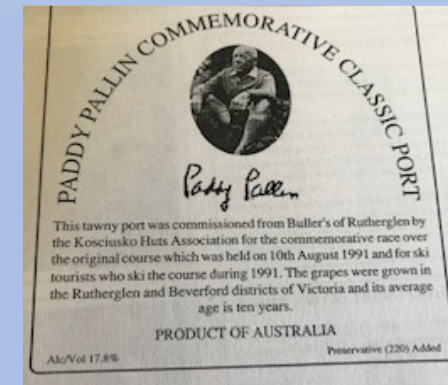
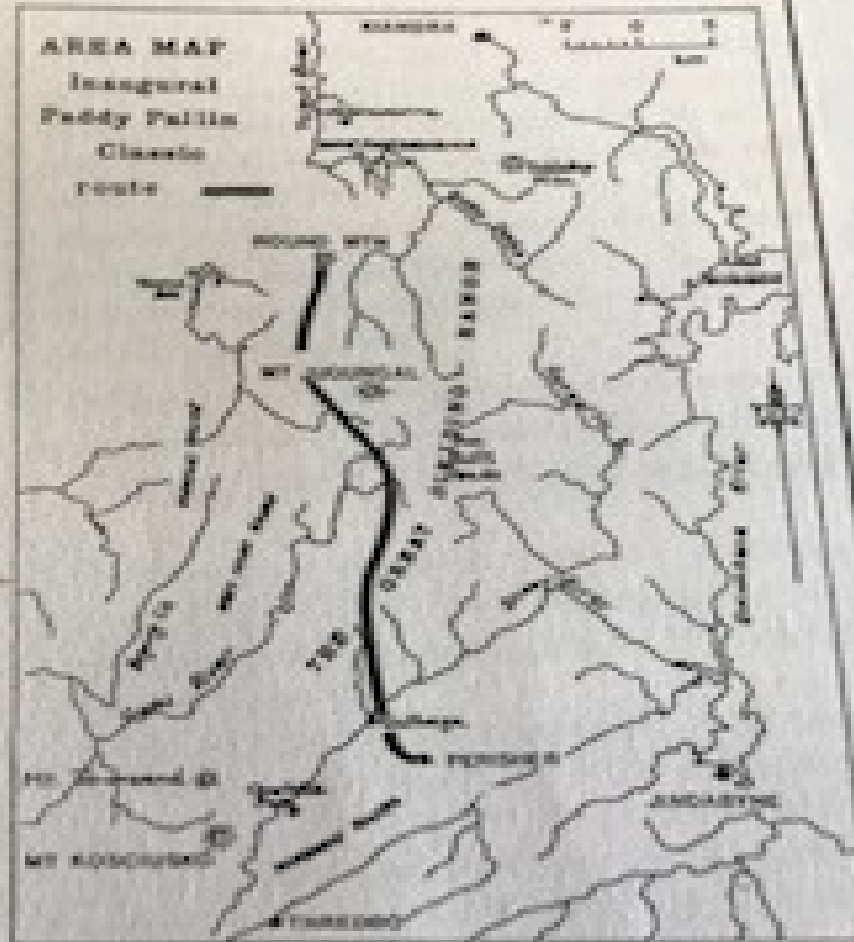


- **1991** Patron Paddy Pallin dies aged 90



Frank Austin Pallin (28.11.1900 - 1.3.1991), better known as Paddy Pallin, was a founder member of the KHA in 1970 and later became its patron. Paddy was a great lover of bushwalking, cross-country skiing and the Australian bush. Throughout his life he was concerned to help Australia's young people, particularly by encouraging them to enjoy outdoor activities. A very active man, he continued skiing until he was 85!

The inaugural 1965 Paddy Pallin Classic was a cross country skiing race that was organised by Paddy. The route was over a distance of more than 60 kilometres from Round Mountain to Perisher in the Kosciuszko National Park, Australia. The six starters were hampered by bad weather and for safety reasons crossed the finish line together after seven and a half hours. Subsequent Paddy Pallin Classics have used safer routes.





1991



**FAREWELL PADDY PALLIN**

**PALLIN, FRANK AUSTIN (PADDY)**

January 2, 1991 (peacefully) at hospital,  
loving husband of May.

Aged 90 years

"That let children walk with nature, let them see the beautiful blending and  
communion of death and life their joyous inseparable unity ... and they will  
learn that death is stingless indeed, and as beautiful as life, and that the grave  
has no victory, for it never fights, and it is a happy place."

John M.

- **1991 - '92**

- *Dick Smith becomes our new patron*
- Restoration of Tin Mines Barn completed after 10 years
- 1950's farmhouse at Orroral destroyed
- Harry Hill composes "The Wild Dog's Lament"



## **The Wild Dog's Lament** by Harry Hill

Do I have a favorite? Yes, I do,  
It's warrigal, dingo, wild dog poo.  
I admit I admire that chap,  
There's such diversity in his crap.  
I have seen what dogs can do,  
Doggy droppings, doogy poo.  
Some of it is glistening white,  
Like a beacon in the night.  
Once upon the Grey mare track,  
A turd I saw, it took me back.  
A wild dog had defecated there,  
But where's the bones, the fur, the hair?  
Upon Echidna he had dined,  
Anteater, porcupine, I don't mind.  
and that dog to get his fill,  
Had eaten every bloomin quill.

That dog turd it fairly bristled,  
In passing it he surely whistled.  
Each spine, each quill, it did protrude,  
Don't get me wrong, I'm not being rude.  
That dog was cast-iron intestined,  
He'd passed them all non-aligned.  
Many an anus would be mangled,  
To pass them all right-angled.  
I know that you've all been saying  
"struth,"  
So I'll finish with the truth.  
Perhaps you laughed at the dirty bits  
But in the main you've had the shits.  
So if one night at Pretty Plain,  
You hear a howl, it sounds like pain,  
You'll all know the reason now,  
It's a wild dog saying, "O-o-o-o wwww!"

## KHA members influential at Symposium in 1991



Presented a paper on the cultural heritage of Namadgi



Presented a paper on Alpine saw mills

Presented paper on Alpine architecture



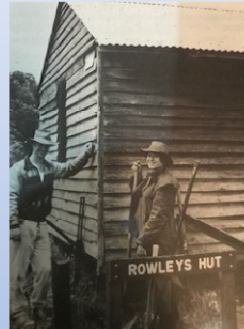
J.Hammond KHA history presentation

Pieter Arriens and Klaus Hueneker had displays



- *1992-'93*

- Biggest maintenance program with several workparties every weekend from Feb to May



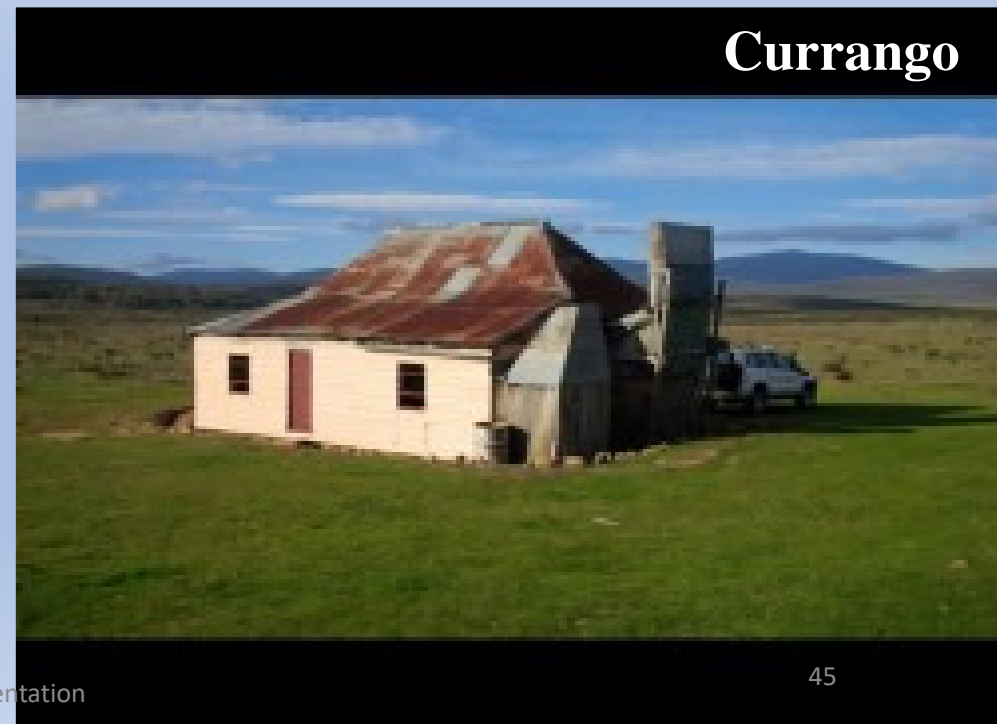
- Rowleys hut has major works
- Work begins on cultural historical map of KNP using the bequest from Paddy Pallin
- Historical interpretative sign for Boltons and Diggers Creek

- **1993-'94**

- Approval of a new constitution:

“The second objective *“to assist with the building of new huts when and where appropriate”* generated vigorous, passionate and instructive debate

NPWS obtained \$90,000 from Federal  
Heritage Assistance Program for  
conservation works on Currango  
Homestead

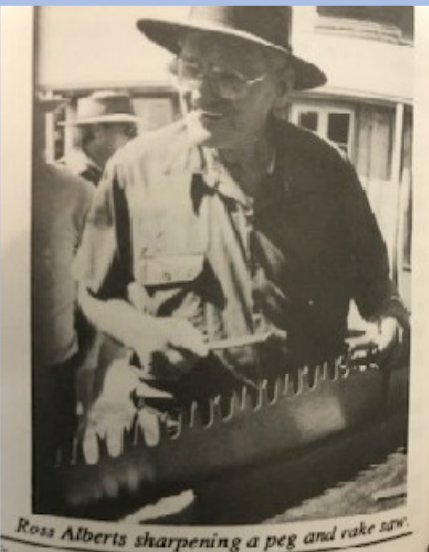
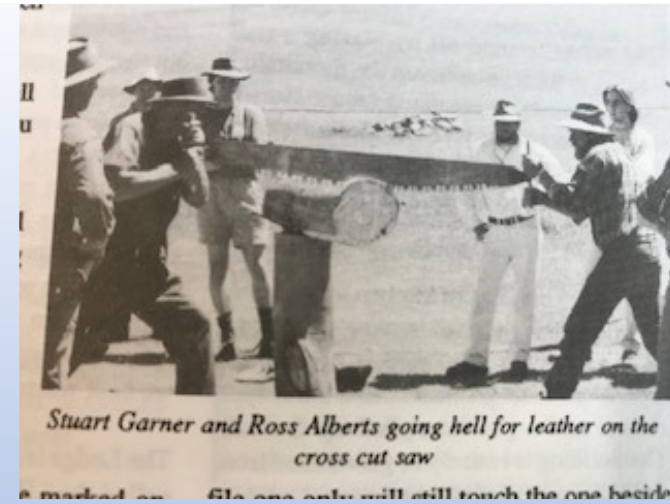


- **1994**

- Rowleys Orroral destroyed by fire July 13th
- Bush tools and skills organised at Happy Valley
- “Namadgi Sights & Sounds” highlights of Namadgi Oral History Project presented by Matthew Higgins
- Grants for Brayshaws & Westermans, a cultural site map for Namadgi to facilitate nominations of the Interim Heritage Register of the ACT



# Bush tools



## & skills







## Trade bush skills



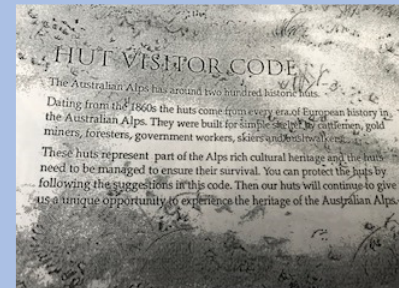
## Ted Winter's Mountain Verse

*Four walls, a roof, a wind proof door, an open fire place,  
A pile of wood, a sleeping bench, a table and some stools,  
Some nails for hooks to hang your pack, a bucket from the  
creek,*

*Give me this and take the rest, whatever lodge you seek,  
Yes! Have the pubs and all the towns,  
And they are free to me,  
I want to live! Not to be a slave to “anti-gravity”  
“Life! Be in it”*

- **1995**

- Klaus Hueneker place 4 indexed volumes of Kosciusko Oral History in National Library
- Photograph archive was instigated and pursued – to date 1000 prints of huts from 1890's to present
- National Estate grant \$11,750 for conservation on Brayshaws & Westermans
- Bradley's hut renamed to Bradley's & O'Brien's hut
- Proposed hut code has a new draft which is in line with KHA's expressed views





• *1996 - '97*

- Harris Hut destroyed by fire
- Major restoration begins at Westermans, Millers, Happys, Max & Berts, Wheelers



Harris hut

Millers hut



Wheelers hut



Max & Berts



- *1996-'97*

- New hut list produced by Charles Warner
- NPWS repositions Matthews hut at Kiandra
- 10 Namadgi huts placed on Interim ACT Heritage Places Register
- Gooandra near completion

## ***Past Presidents of KHA***

|                     |                |                    |                |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>Robin Miller</b> | <b>1971-73</b> | <b>Bren Milson</b> | <b>1986-87</b> |
| Robert Storey       | 1973-76        | Graham Scully      | 1987-92        |
| Reet Vallak         | 1976-78        | John Hamilton      | 1992-93        |
| Pieter Arriens      | 1978-80        | Dean Turner        | 1993-94        |
| Klaus Hueneke       | 1980-81        | Maurice Sexton     | 1994-96        |
| Lee Martin          | 1981-82        | David Eddy         | 1996-98        |
| John Marsh          | 1982-84        | Pauline Downing    | 1998-2001      |
| Mike Hinchey        | 1984-86        | Maurice Sexton     | 2001 to 2003   |



## *Past and present Presidents of KHA*

|                               |                      |                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Mark Cleghorn                 | 2003 to Jan 2007     |                                     |                      |
| Ian Frakes (Acting President) | Jan 2007 to May 2007 | Bob Salijevic                       | May 2017 to Oct 2017 |
| Bob Moon                      | 2007 to 2009         | Clive Richardson (Acting President) | Oct 2017 to 2019     |
| Carl Bazeley                  | 2009 to 2010         | Clive Richardson                    | May 2019             |
| Bob Moon                      | 2010 to 2012         | Simon Buckpitt                      | 2020                 |
| Barbara Seymour               | 2012 to 2015         |                                     |                      |
| Bob Moon                      | 2015 to 2017         |                                     |                      |



Robin Miller



Graham Scully



John Marsh



Pauline Downing



Maurice  
Sexton



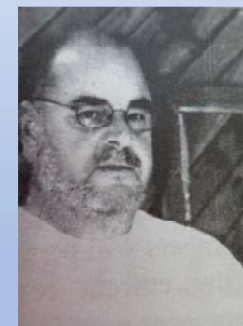
Bob Moon



Pieter Arriens



Klaus Hueneke



Mark  
Cleghorn



John Hamilton



Reet  
Vallak

## Some of KHA Past and Present Presidents

J. Hammond KHA history presentation

Clive  
Richardson



Ian Frakes



Bob Salijevic



Simon  
Buckpitt

- *1998-'99*

- Broken dam hut destroyed –despite lobbying NPWS has not approved of replacement
- The “No Hut Replacement Policy” may lead to no huts in the future



- Robert Pallin becomes KHA Patron
- 24 huts have had maintenance this past year
- KHA meets NPWS to discuss replacement of Broken Dam
- KHA conducts training course for Park staff at Currango



## Huts Lost in the High Country-Kosciusko & Namadgi since KHA was formed in 1970

- 12 huts destroyed by NP&WS
- 4 collapsed
- 7 by fire by persons (unknown x 3, Known 4)
- 2 by bushfire
- 1 by snow mass
- 1 by soil conservation
- 2 unknown causes
- 1 demolished
- *Compiled by K.Hueneke in 1999 with the help of C. Warner's 1970 Huts List and old KHA newsletters*

# 10huts saved



Tin Mines



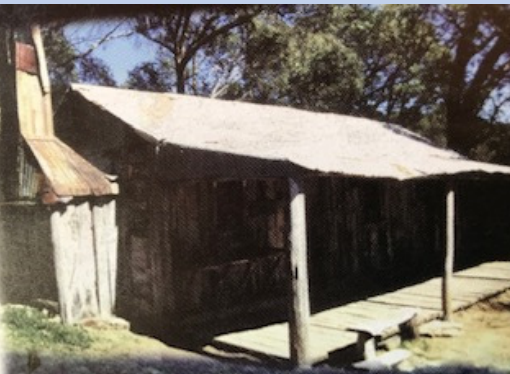
Gooandra



Pretty Plain



Old Currango



Oldfields



Four Mile



Wheelers



Vickerys



Broken Dam



Tin Hut





Rawsons.  
NPWS  
1980

## 7 lost

Harveys. NPWS  
1970



Rowleys  
Orroral. Fire '94



Pig Gully.  
Collapsed  
1980

Albina. Demolished 1980



Cool Plains. Fire  
1988



Harris.  
Fire  
1996



- *1999-'2000*

- Daveys hut gets a new toilet
- Ted Winter turns 90
- KHA media release “Kosciusko says NO to Mountain Shelter Hut”
- Newsletter publishes restoration report on Old Geehi
- Photographic display organised by Jim & Shirley Hart at Namadgi
- KNP Advisory Committee voted Broken Dam be replaced
- NPWS state environmental assessments will be required before work on any hut
- David Scott writes “No Man’s Land or Peoples Park



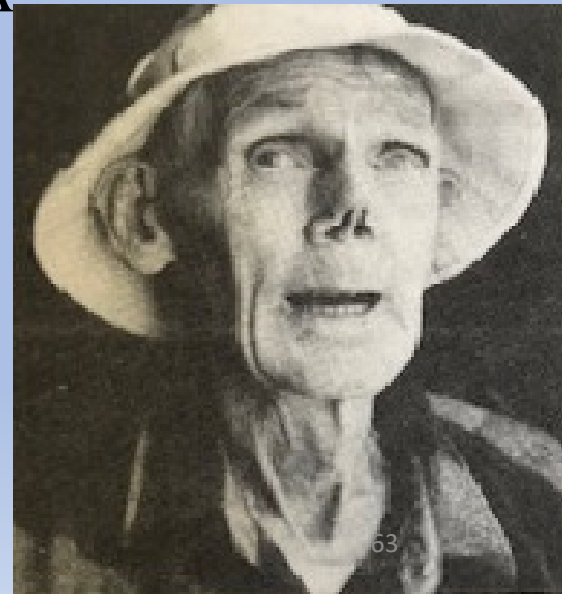
- *2001*

- Hut Expo for KNP and Namadgi Caretakers at Tumut
- KHA join Friends of the National Museum
- Preserving Program has started on unpainted wooden huts
- KHA bought 500 shingles (100 years old) building in Tumut
- Workparties on 23 huts
- Loss of membership records in fire at members house
- Draft conservation on Major Clews being examined by KNPWS



- *2000 -'01*

- Loss of Membership Records in the Christmas fires
- KHA Life Members: Ted Winter, Alan Bunsell, Graham Scully, Maurice Sexton
- KHA joined the Friends of the National Museum
- 30 years since Inaugural meeting & Foundation of KHA – Ted



- **2002**

- KHA contributes & participates in POM review for KNP
- Broken Dam Hut Appeal launched
- Proposed toilet at Rawson and Seaman's
- Workparties 12 huts
- Photographic History Project concludes
- New KHA website launched [www.kosciuskohuts.org.au](http://www.kosciuskohuts.org.au)



**2002**

- Pauline Downing awarded KHA Life Member
- Broken Dam Hut Appeal Launched
- Photographic History Project Concludes
- New KHA Website launched: <http://www.kosciuskohuts.org.au/>
- Website has had 8000 hits since created in November 2001.





- *2003*

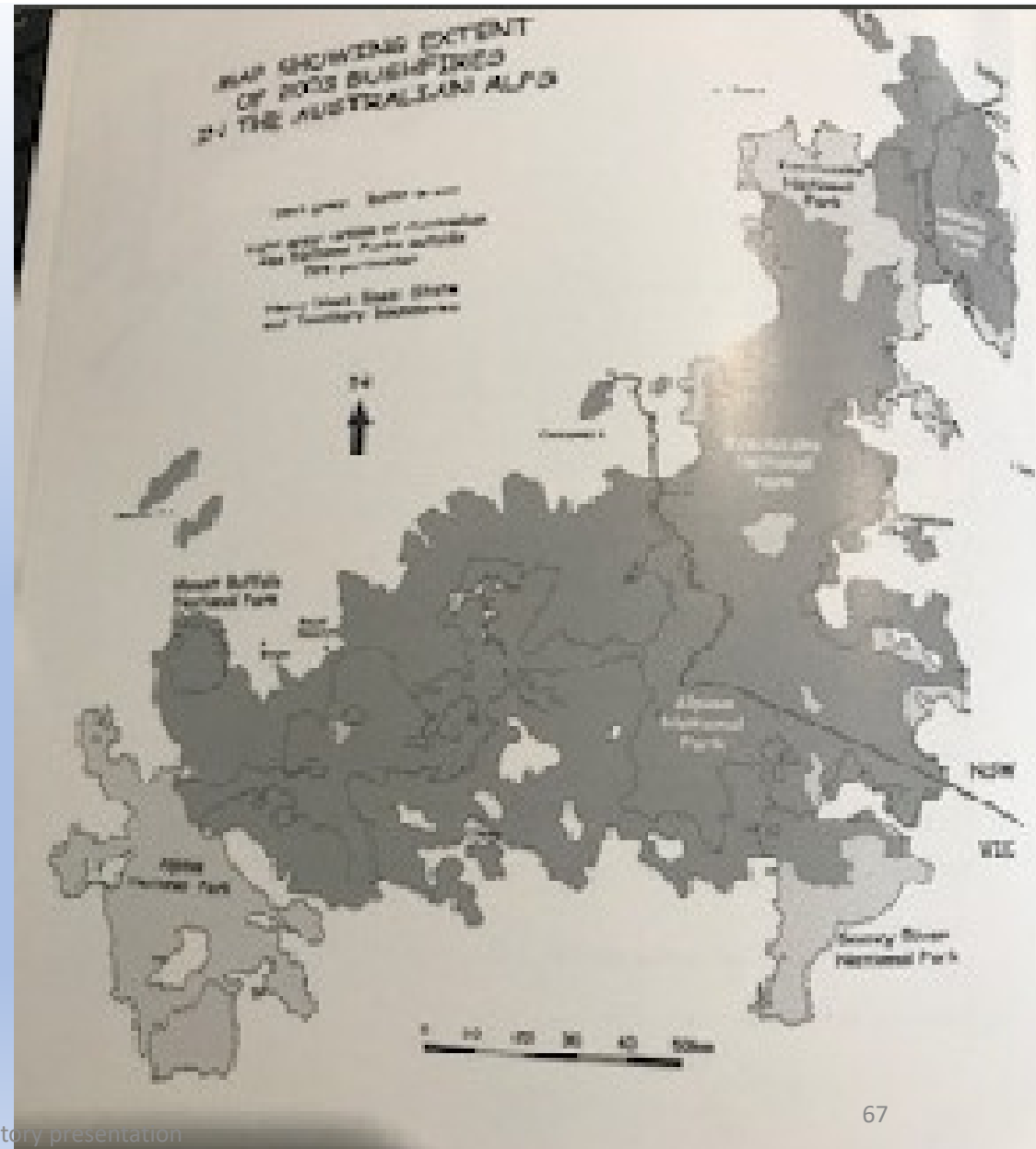
- POM info night by KHA on draft management plans
  - Drafts of POM for Namadgi & KNP
- KHA submission to NPWS-Replacement of huts
- Workparties on 32 huts
- Huts destroyed by 2003 fires – 24 in NSW/ACT & 24 in Victoria
- KHA website exceeded 45,000 in one year
- KHA prioritised huts to be replaced – 10 in total



The dark grey areas are the burnt  
light grey saved in 2003 fires



Namadgi fires ABC broadcasting



## HUTS CONFIRMED DESTROYED

### Kosciuszko National Park

Belton's Hill (NPWS)  
 Boobies (NPWS)  
 Brook's (NPWS)  
 Delancy's (NPWS – picture in Australian)  
 Geehi (NPWS/Gough) – can be rebuilt  
 Grey Hill Cafe (NPWS)  
 Happy Jacks 3 & 4 (NPWS)  
 Kidman's (NPWS)  
 O'Keefe's (NPWS)  
 Olsen's Lookout (NPWS)  
 Old Geehi/YHA (Gough) – can be rebuilt  
 Opera House (Snowy Hydro / Gough)  
 Orange / Diane (NPWS)  
 Paton's (NPWS)  
 Pretty Plain (NPWS)  
 Pugalistie (NPWS)  
 Stockwhip (NPWS)  
 Verandah Camp (Gough)



**Old Geehi**

Built 1945 by Dan and Rob Benson for the Water and Irrigation Commission. Used by Nankervis and Mitchell families, SMA 1950s, Youth Hostel 1960s and 1970s until resumed by NPWS. Over the years the hut has been known as YHA, Youth Hostel, Ibis, Bensons, and Commissioners. In recent years the hut has been lovingly restored by Noel Gough's caretaker groups. Photo: KHA Website

### Namadgi National Park

Mt Franklin Chalet (Scott / Higgins)  
 Slalom (Scott)  
 Ternent Homestead Complex (4 of 5 buildings) (Moon)  
 Sub-total = 2

### Outside the National Parks – Not on KHA's huts list

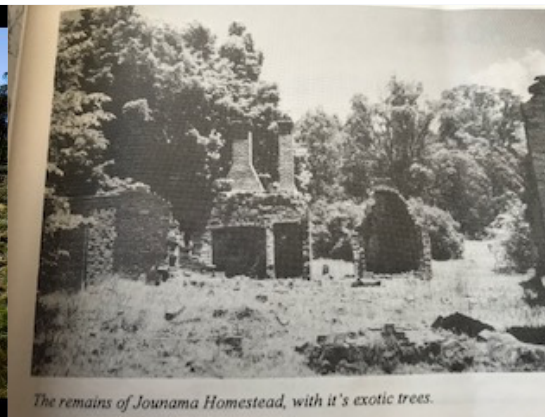
Bendora Dam Barracks Office (Scott)  
 Bendora Explosives Store (Scott)  
 Nil Desperandum (Scott)  
 Snowy Vale  
 Sub-total = 4



**Geehi (Airstrip)**

Built 1952 by Don Benson and Nankervis family as grazier's shelter, with toilet, laundry and shed (last two moved by NPWS 1970s) Complex of huts became public shelter, picnic and rest areas during the 1980s.





The remains of Jounama Homestead, with it's exotic trees.



## HUTS CONFIRMED SERIOUSLY DAMAGED

### Kosciuszko National Park

Derahkos (NPWS) – not sure of extent of damage  
 Doctors (Gough) – repairable by caretaker group  
 Dr Forbes (Gough) – probably not worth trying to repair – manage as ruin?  
 Jounama Homestead Ruin (now more of a ruin)

# Huts seriously damaged by 2003 fires

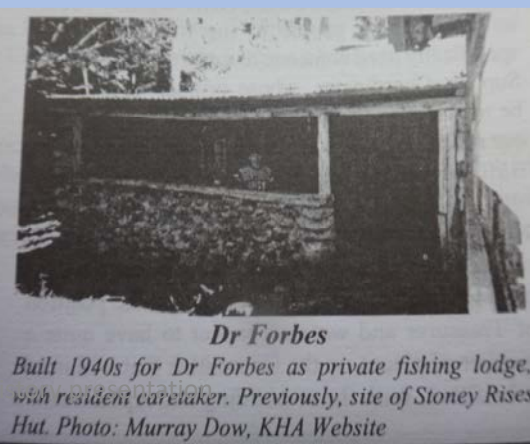


### Happy Jacks 3 and 4

Original hut (Happy Jacks 3) was built for grazing. The SMA extended the hut in 1977 by adding a standard SMA module moved from Happy Jacks 4 to the northwest.  
 Photo: KHA Website



J. Hammond KHA



### Dr Forbes

Built 1940s for Dr Forbes as private fishing lodge, with resident caretaker. Previously, site of Stoney Rises Hut. Photo: Murray Dow, KHA Website



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**Delaneys**

*Built 1910s by Jim Delaney for grazing. Tom Bolton, Kiandra mailman, left his horse here in winter, continuing by snow shoes to do his rounds.*



Delaneys



**Olsens Lookout Shelter**

*Olsen's lookout shelter is a great place to visit to take in expansive views up the western face of the Main Range. Toilet, shelter and viewing platform damaged.*  
Photo: KHA Website



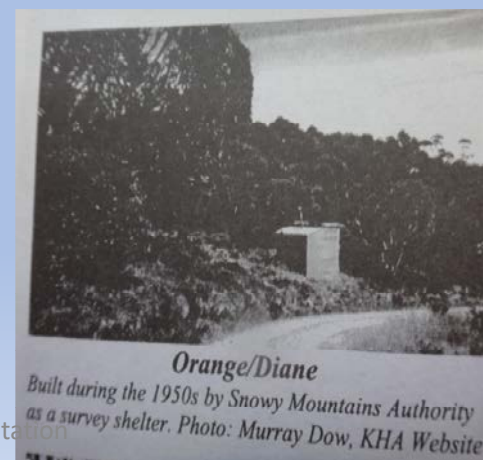
Olsens Lookout

## Before and after the fires in 2003

Verandah



Orange/Diane



**Orange/Diane**

*Built during the 1950s by Snowy Mountains Authority as a survey shelter. Photo: Murray Dow, KHA Website*







Opera

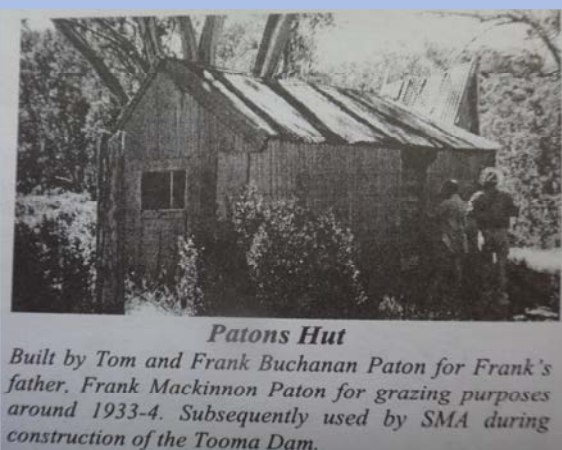


Boltons



## Before and after the fires in 2003

Patons

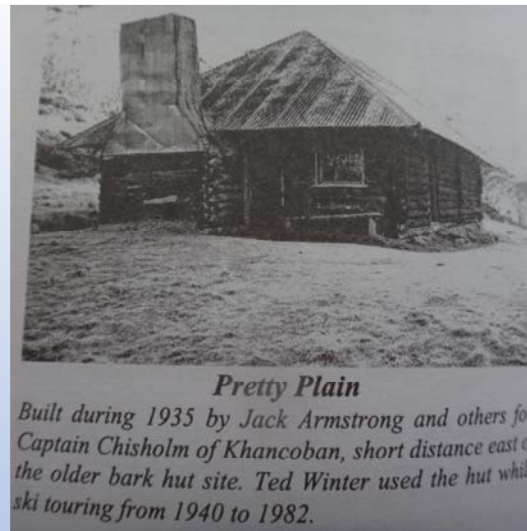
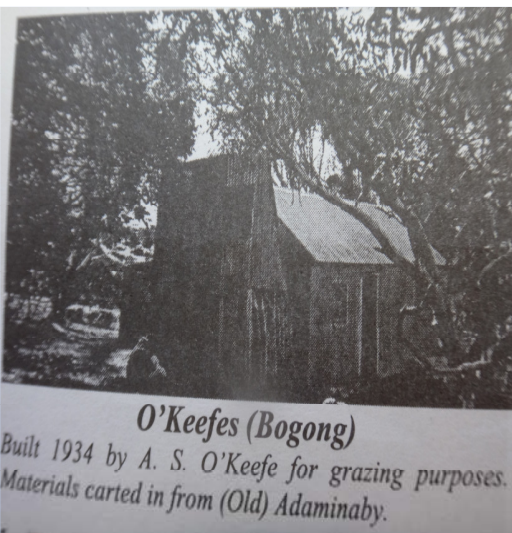


Linesman

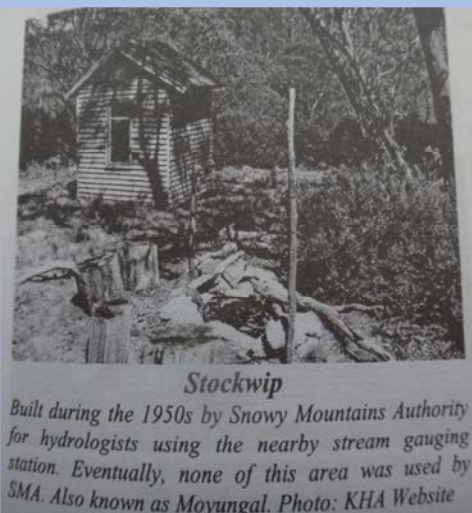


Hammond KHA history presentation





## Before and after the fires in 2003







**Brooks**

Built 1943 by Bill Brooks for grazing. Moved from Boobee by dismantling and pulling on a slide. Also known as the V hut because it was situated in the V of the hill. (Murray Dow photo from KHA Website)

Brooks



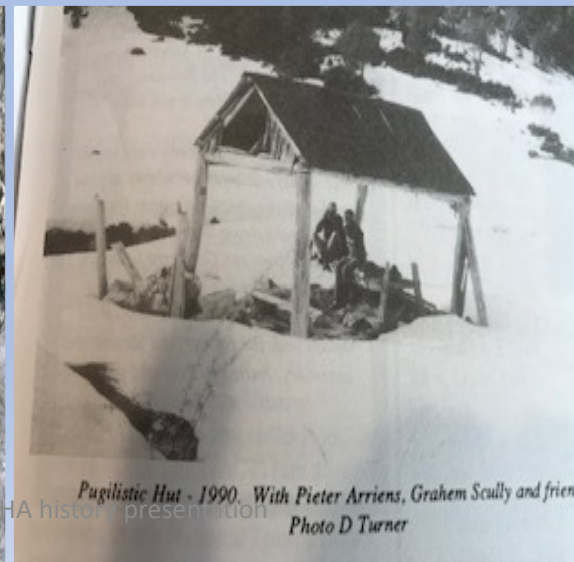
Mt Franklin Chalet



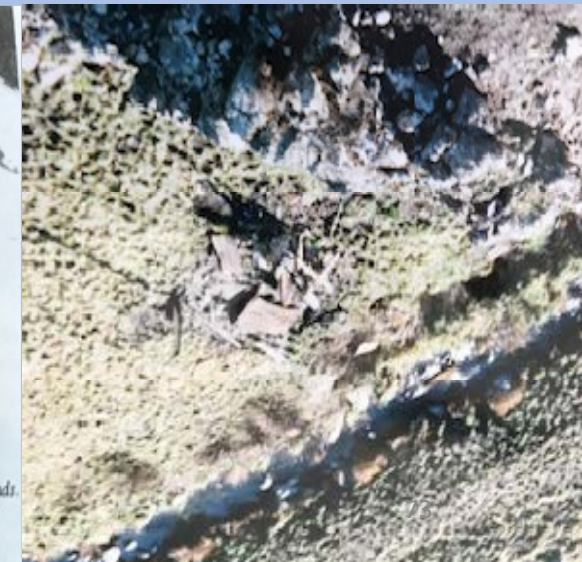
The Mt Franklin Chalet as it is today. Something to commemorate it should be erected on the site.

## Before and after the fires in 2003

Grey Hill Cafe



Pugilistic Hut - 1990. With Pieter Arriens, Graham Scully and friends.  
Photo D Turner



Pugilistic





Grey Mare



Teddy



Mackays

## Huts saved from the fires

Kidman



Tin Mine



Mawson



J. Hammond KHA history presentation

• 2003

KHA submission to NPWS- Replacement of huts.



Old Farm Ridge hut

KHA priority of replacement, Broken Dam, Farm Ridge, O'Keefe, Pretty Plain, Brooks, Boobee, Delaney's, Alpine, Constance, Patons

KHA Website page visits exceeded 45,000 in one year

- *2004 - '05*

- Proposal to add **z** to Kosciusko
- Jerry Gregg, Barbara Seymour & Noel Gough awarded Life Membership
- Harry Hill OAM Heritage award
- Photographic Collection sent to National Library





*2004 -'05*

- NPWS to initiate assessment on all sites of huts lost & remaining huts
- Huts Conservation Strategy is an active project
- Asbestos removed from Venables
- Workparties at 46 huts



- **2005**

- Workshop on Huts Conservation Strategy-positive for rebuilding huts
- Grant application for Gudgenby Readycut successful
- KHA office set up
- Work on developing MOU with NPWS
- Workparties at 19 huts
- KHA has reciprocal membership with Friends of Currango (FoC)
- Chainsaw training for KHA mbrs a requirement with re-certification-3yr
- Planning Art & Huts (Memories in Place) Project



# Namadgi





- *2006*

- NPWS committed to restoring huts, rebuilding with most heritage value & conserving others
- Stage 1 re-build of Broken Dam
- KHA Display at Snowy River Festival-Dalgety
- Galvanised iron from old Wagga Wagga brickworks
- Workparties at 21 huts
- Teddy's hut lost its roof in a storm



- *2006 – '07*

- Priority list agreed by KHA, Broken Dam, Patons, O'Keefes, Pretty Plain, Boobee, Delaney's.
- Teddy's hut lost its roof in a storm
- On the road to Rebuilding Broken Dam Hut – stage two.  
Broken Dam Official Opening December 2007
- Paton's & Pretty Plain Site Inspections performed
- Maurice Sexton awarded OAM

Teddy hut



- *'2006 –'07*

- Caves House at Yarrangobilly re-opens after 50 years.
- Mount Franklin Shelter opening in November
- Jane Wheaton awarded Life Membership
- HAS completed for Haines, Lovenest, Four Mile, Schofields, Cooimbil & Old Currango
- Long Plain, Gooandra, Witzes, Townsend, Hainsworth, Old Currango & /Currango /homestead were protected by RFS & NPS from fires



- *2007 – '08*

- Fires broke out but no huts lost, thanks to RFS & NPS.
- Workparties held at 9 huts.
- Rugman's Hut was rebuilt
- Materials donated from Malcolm Vale Homestead will go towards Paton's & Orroral



Rugman



- *2008*

- Ted Winter turns 100
- The new Paton's & hut near completion
- Rebuilding Brooks & O'Keefe's to start later in year
- Sawyers Hut progressing well Sawyers Hut



J.Hammond KHA history presentation



## *2008 cont*

- HAS written for Kells, Millers, Pedens, Pockets, Townsends, Bill Jones, Brayshaw's, Gooandra
- Member Survey shows most members are retirees,
- Workparties held at 9 huts





O'Keefes



Brook

## New huts re built

Delanys



Patons



- **2009**

- Centenary celebrations for Davey's Hut – 1909 to 2009
- Rebuild -, Boobee, Major Clews, Old Geehi, Roof on Opera House
- Official opening of O'Keefe's, & Brooks
- KHA heritage data base development has rocketed
- Timber skills workshop held at Khancoban



- Logs for Pretty Plain hut flown in by Navy Sikorski
- Seahawk Helicopter
- KHA and NPA start restoration on Orroral Homestead
- Cooinbil reconstruction under the watchful eye of Harry Hill



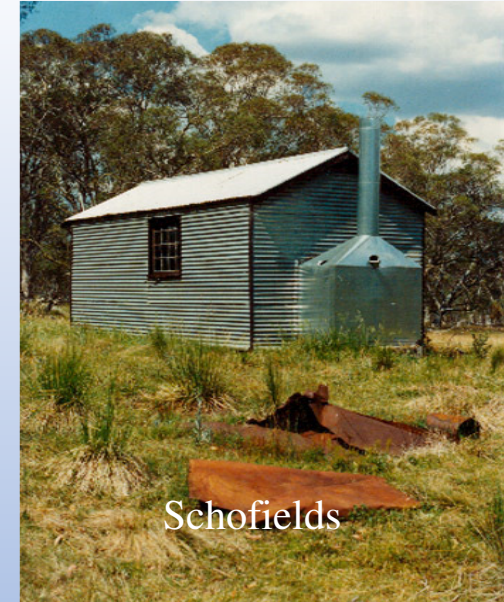
J.Hammond KHA history presentation





- *2009*

- Rebuilding of Pretty Plain underway
- Schofields hut chimney repaired
- KHA Members who died Noel Luton, Noel Gough, Mark Cleghorn, Ted Winter, Shirley Hill





Boobee



Major Clews



Old Geehi,



Pretty Plain



O'Keefe's



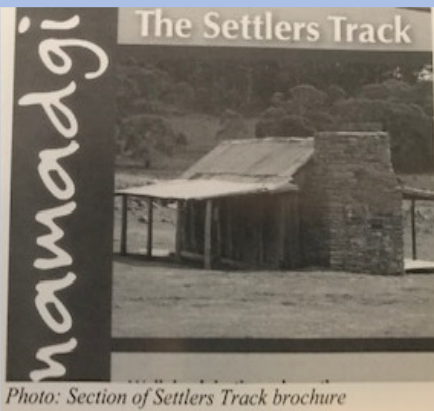
Brooks



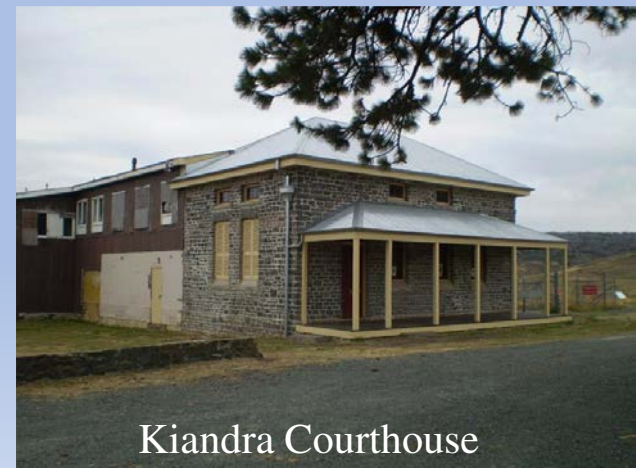
Opera House

## • 2010

- Completed first stage restoration of Courthouse & Chalet at Kiandra Pretty Plain Opening
- Conservation studies are completed for all huts
- NPA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Photo Exhibition
- Settlers Track Brochure developed
- Dr Forbes rebuild completed & opened.



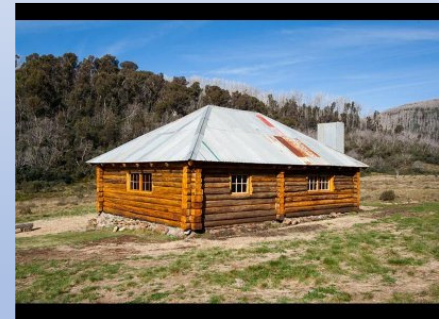
J.Hammond KHA history presentation



Kiandra Courthouse



- *2010*
- Relationships have been forged between both NPWS & ACT Parks Conservation
- Relationship between NPWS, Namadgi NP & KHA is high
- Discussion paper on KHA Huts & Heritage Data Base
- Digital Mapping Project
- Pretty Plain Opening



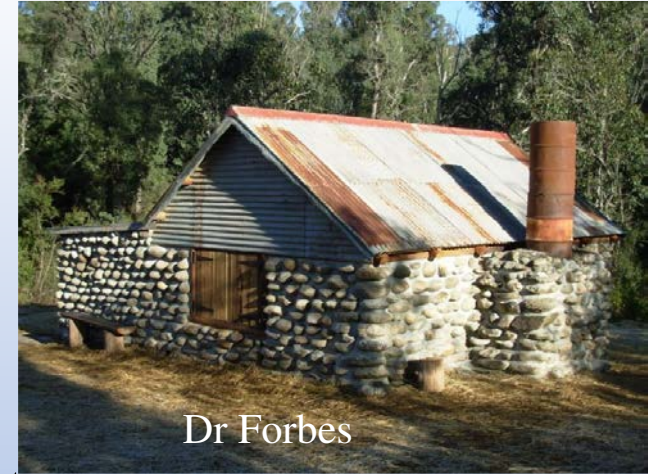
## **Pretty Plain by Ted Winter**

*“What a lovely hut in the summer!  
I’m sure that it must be,  
For it was built by stockmen  
This is all so plain to see  
For the hut has a number of lining,  
Nor a ceiling: nor what’s more  
There’s no caulking between the  
logs  
Nor air lock to the door  
Air conditioning you might call it.*

*If you want a flashy name  
For draughts blow all around you  
To condition all sides the same  
It has great ventilation  
And a Ernie used to say:-  
A horse is likely to bite you  
Through the cracks’, if one should  
stray.”*

- *2010 –'11*

- Dr Forbes rebuild completed & opened.
- Two huts were vandalised - Long Plain & Mathews Hut
- Grant for Hut Projects from NHS will enable work to be done on Davies, Mackay's, Bradleys/O'Brien's, Wheelers, Coolamine & Pedens.
- Workparties held at 22 huts



Dr Forbes



Mathews Hut



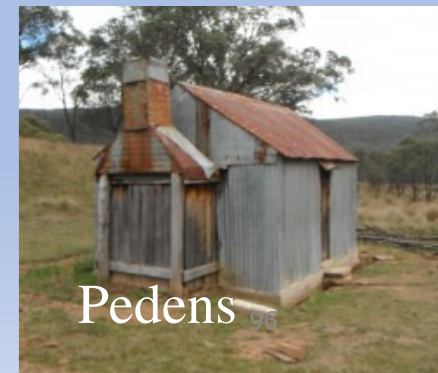
- *2010 –'11*

- Rebuilding of a slab hut on Tralee Station
- Cotterills' Cottage damaged by fierce winds in November
- Skills Woodworking Workshop held in April
- Training on Work safely at heights, chain saw, & White card
- available for members



- *2012*

- The Game & Feral Animal Control Amendment Bill 2012 was passed & has alarming implications for KHA & the public uses to the National Park.
- Klaus Hueneke awarded OAM
- Celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Alps
- Reconstruction of Pedens Hut
- Bob Moon & Ian Frakes awarded Life Membership

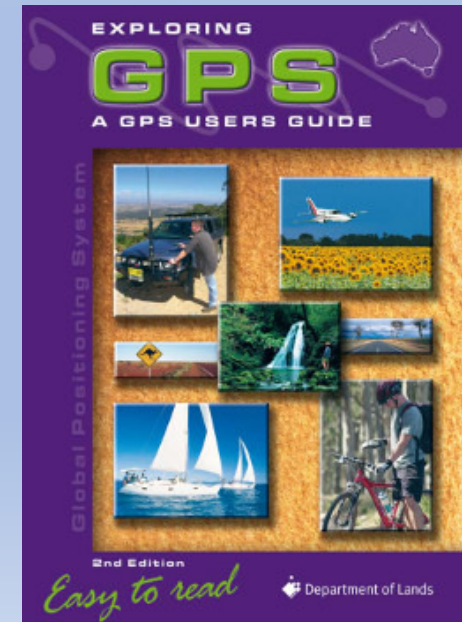


- **2012**

- Mapping the old Kosciuszko Road a planned walk
- Hut Fire Prevention Project-A Joint Project with NPWS
- Rendezvous Creek Walking track completed
- Celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Alps.
- GPS workshop combined with KHA/NPWS was held



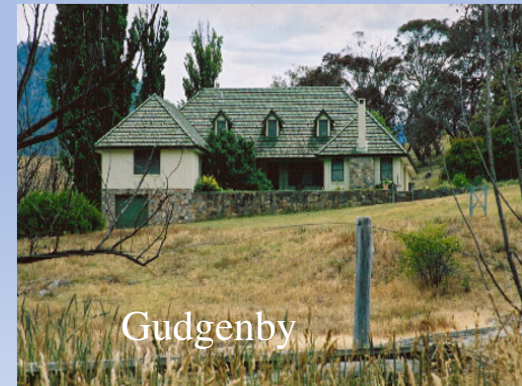
MAKE GIFS AT GIFSOUP.COM





- *2012 cont*

- White Rivers hut completed prior to winter snowfall
- Workparties held at 14 huts
- Asbestos removed from Mackays
- Wood Skills Workshop at Tralee.
- Commemoration of Noel Gough-plaque in Major Clews hut
- Gudgenby Homestead is progressing well



- *2013*

- Chimney restored at Bradleys & O'Brien's
- Tralee Slab Hut completed
- Opening of Old Gudgenby Homestead
- Delaney won the prestigious National Heritage Trust Award.
- WHS for Volunteers: held in Canberra & Tumut & online for members
- Unveiling of a plaque to commemorate Jack Riley's Hut site at Riley's Flat



Bradley & O'Brien

- **2013**

- WHS for Volunteers: held in Canberra & Tumut & online for members
- KHA Information Day at Namadgi Information centre
- Workparties held 13 huts

Old Gudgenby Homestead





- *2014*

- Change to Constitution for KHA non profit organisation, not liable to pay tax
- NPWS staff at Namadgi have worked on heritage structures, Orroral Woolshed, Frank & Jacks, Cotter hut, Westermans,
- Glendale depot-new roof & skillion between KHA containers
- Timber benches & table stolen from Sawyers.



- *2014 cont*

- MOU-NPWS & KHA under review
- Heritage Skills Workshop held: big success
- Namadgi NP celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Clive Richardson, Pat & Sue Edmondson awarded Life Membership
- C. Richardson gave a presentation on WHS legislation & its impact on KHA workparties



ACT & NPWS staff at Namadgi worked on these heritage structures





- *2014 –'15*

- Workparties held at 8 huts
- White Card training- Parramatta/Tumut for KHA members
- NSW Government announced smoking is banned in NSW National Parks
- Horse Camp Restoration commenced.



- *2015*

- Workparties held at 30 huts
- Illawarra Alpine Club made 515 shingles in readiness for the Mess Hut at Tin Mines.
- Social event: weekend organised to celebrate Townsend hut & its history with KHA members & the Townsend Clan.
- Woodskills Weekend was a success
- Horse Camp Restoration commenced



- *2016*

- KHA's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- 30 year Anniversary of the Caretaker Group for Old Currango Homestead
- Caretaker Training weekend held at Birrigai Outdoor School – huge success
- Volunteers in KHA keep high country heritage alive
- Heritage Festival at Orroral: KHA teamed up with Minders of the Tuggeranong Homestead (MOTH) & Canberra Bushwalking Club (CBC)
- KHA integration into ACT Parks & Conservation Service Volunteer Framework

- **2016**

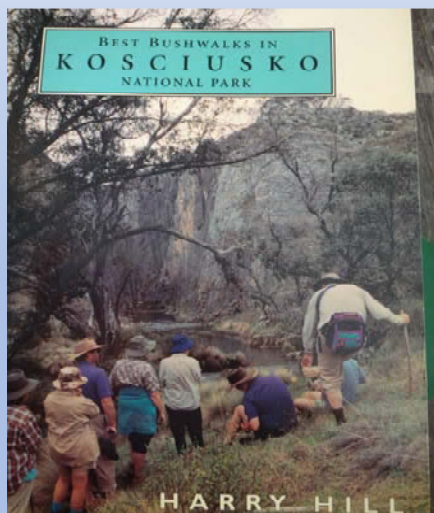
- Wood skills weekend – 70 members attended
- An Honorary KHA member, Harry Hill dies
- Life Memberships awarded to Pip Brown, Narelle Irvine & David & Sylvia Mitchell
- Service Awards were given to Bob Guy, Murray Izzard, Mike Paterson & Margaret Paterson



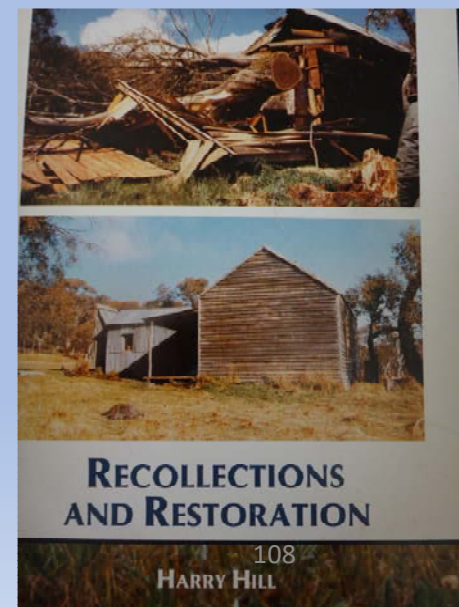
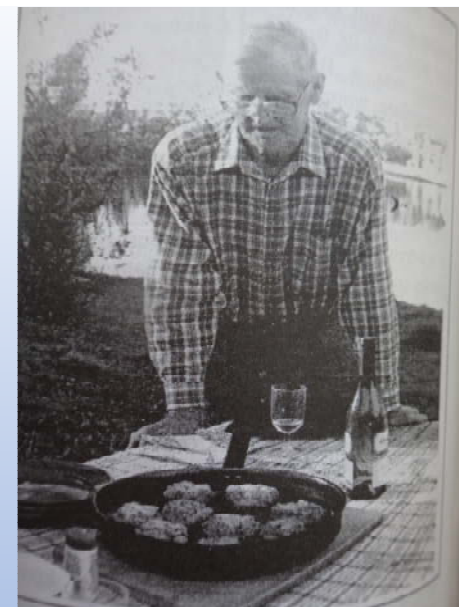
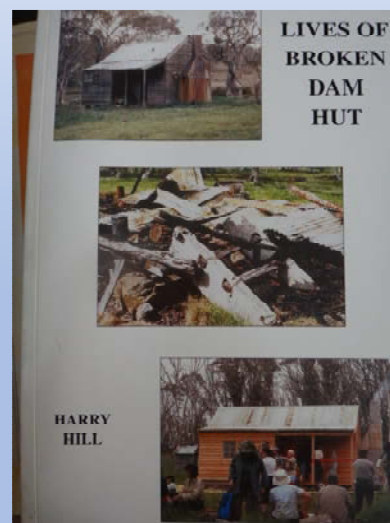


'Bushwalker, angler, adventurer,  
trek guide, park promoter,  
author, historian and educator,  
Harry loved the outdoors'

## Some Published Books by Harry Hill



Bush cooking books



*The Hume & Hovell Walking Track Guidebook* by Harry Hill,  
*Discovering Kosciuszko National Park - A Pictorial Journey* by Harry Hill  
*I Remember Rules Point* by Harry Hill

- *2016*

- Workparties held at 41 huts.
- Horse Camp -rebuild completed, Orroral Woolshed (shearing shed) by ACT PCS staff & KHA after severely damaged by storms.
- Tin Mines workparty replaced shingles on the Mess Hut
- Byadbo Project – Action Learning Initiatives Pty.Ltd joined KHA as a group & became assistant caretakers of the Byadbo Huts (Slaughterhouse & Sandy Creek Hut) working with KHA

- **2017**

- Work has started on rebuilding another 19 historical huts damaged or destroyed by fire
- Snowy Mountains Aboriginal people to be formally involved in managing Kosciuszko National Park
- Graham Scully & David Scott have an impressive body of material that record the history of the huts & mountains
- Horse Camp opening ceremony
- New Mountain Huts Code provided



- *2017 cont*

- KHA invited to sit on the Steering Committee for Maxwell's Homestead-Warragamba Dam
- Two new huts Bag Range & Pryor's are to be taken on by KHA.
- Alpine Park Heritage Workshop held at Orroral Valley Homestead
- 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of successful winter crossings on skis from Kiandra to Hotel Kosciuszko in 1927.
- 8 KHA members attended First Aid Training in Namadgi
- Members Day for members who have joined KHA in last 2-3 years held at Parks Visitor Centre -huge success



- *2017 cont*

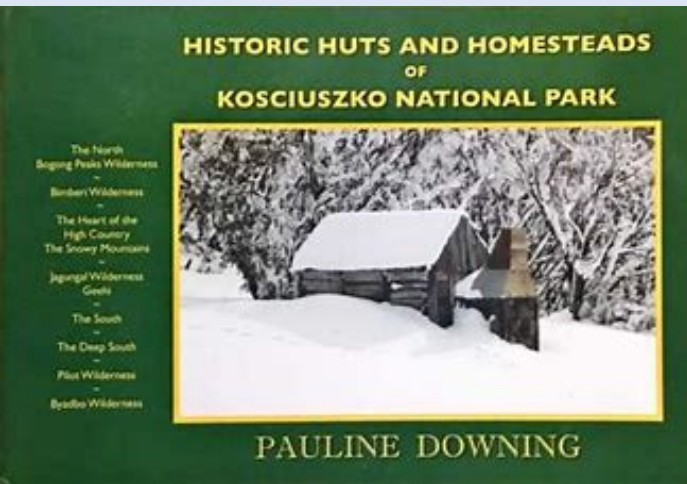
- Severe wind damage to Currango Homestead
- Parks celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Yarrangobilly Caves – KHA invited
- Orroral Homestead was vandalised after volunteers restored it
- Tin Hut re-built
- Training Funds \$5000 allocated by Parks to KHA
- Official opening of Horse Camp



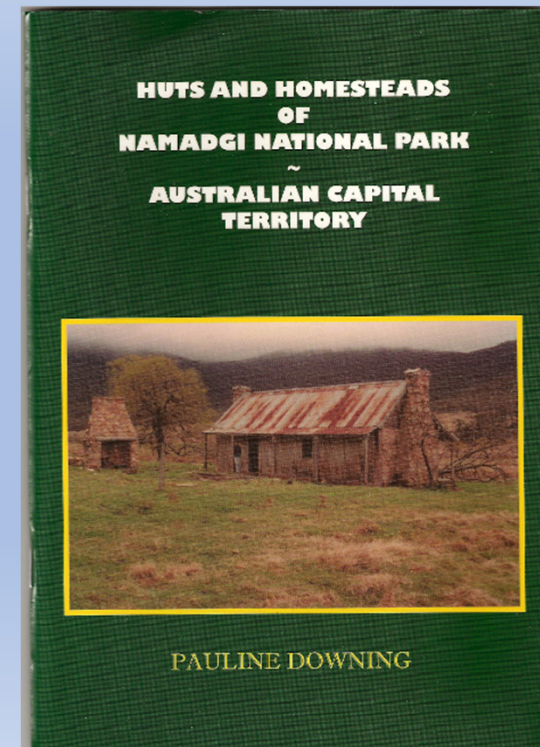
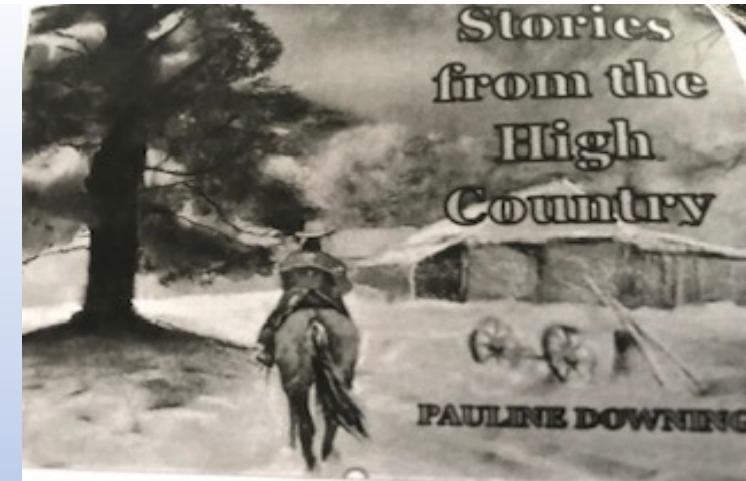
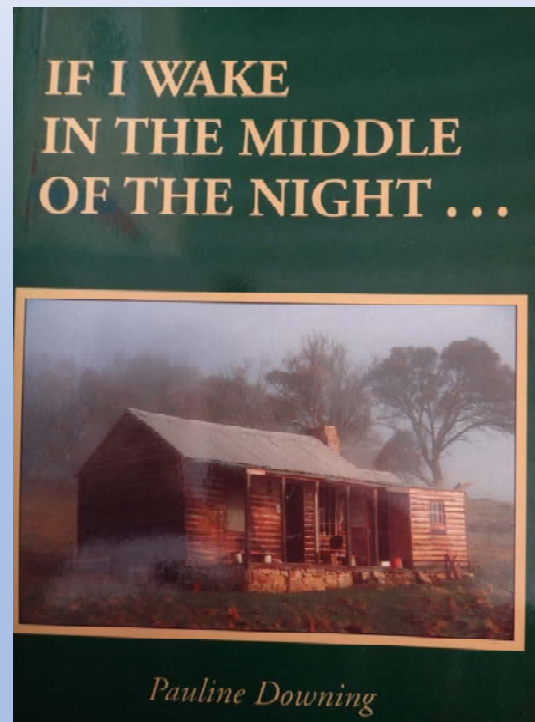
## Life Membership in KHA

| Pieter Arriens        | Debra Shaw      | Jerry Gregg         |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Harry Hill            | Jack Palmer     | Jane Wheaton        |
| Klaus Hueneker        | Alan Bunsell    | Bob Moon            |
| Paddy Pallin          | Jack Palmer     | Clive Richardson    |
| Reet Vallak           | Maurice Sexton  | Pat & Sue Edmondson |
| Robert & Sybil Storey | Graham Scully   | David Mitchell      |
| Charles Warner        | Pauline Downing | Pip Brown           |
| Ted Winter            | Barbara Seymour | Narelle Irvine      |

# Books by Pauline Downing



Pauline has been the President of KHA for 4 years. She is passionate about the high country and keen bushwalker. She writes extensively for the KHA newsletter on the history of the huts. Pauline now holds the position of newsletter editor for KHA's journal.



- *2018*

- KHA storage moved to Glendale
- Newsletters will now be electronic
- Cootapatamba Hut schedule for a rebuild in 2019
- Guys hut in Victoria was wrapped in tin foil to protect from fires
- Dianne Thompson awarded OAM





- *2018*

- Murrumbateman Field Day

- KHA Woodskills

- Workparties at 14 sites

- History walk –identify ancestor sites for Rhonda Boxall in the Bobeyan Valley



**2019**

- Nearly 300 feral pigs have been culled in Namadgi
- \$27 million to fund multi day walking and mountain bike tracks in Kosciusko
- AGM held at Talbingo in May
- Alpine Alps National Parks Heritage Skills Workshop – Howmans Gap
- Sausage Sizzle in Wanniasa ACT
- 6 x 44 Gallon drums delivered & installed at huts in Jagungal for fire protection

In memory of 5 NZ miners killed by lightning whilst sheltering under a tree. Heritage story found by Graham Scully (No 181, 2019)

*“Forgotten on Kiandra’s loney plain in their lonely mountain grave*

*They sleep in peace who joyous crossed*

*The ocean’s stormy wave*

*Their graves are daily speaking*

*Man knows not hour or day*

*When he, like them, may thus be called*

*From earth to pass away*

*To heaven’s most glorious goldfield*

*To the eternal day James” A Duff*

Alpine Pioneer and Kiandra Advertiser, 11 December 1860

- *2019*

- Cootapatamba Hut rebuilt
- Australain Alps Heritage Skills weekend a Howmans Gap, Victoria
- KHA sausage Sizzle in Wanniasa ACT
- Yallowin Hut Salvage
- Member Bob Guy dies
- Annual Woodskills held







## Woodskills weekend



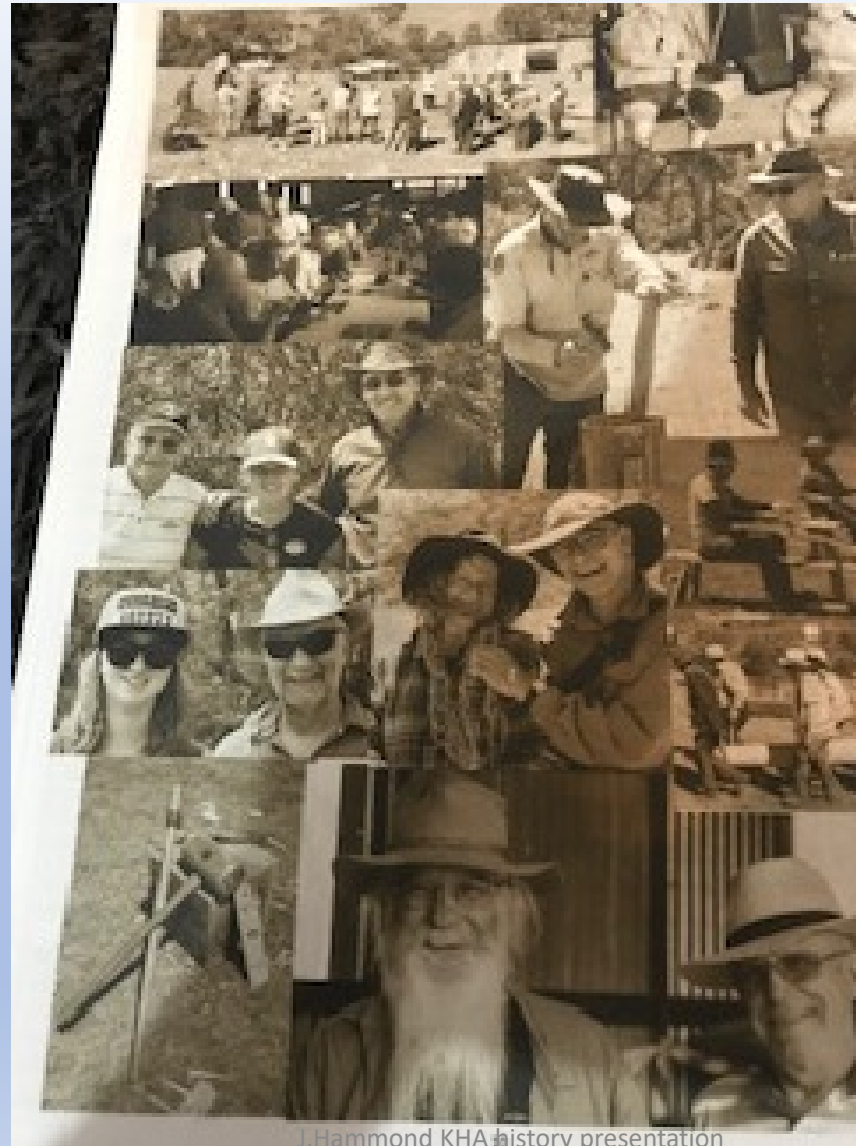




## Woodskills weekend



# Woodskills event



J. Hammond KHA history presentation

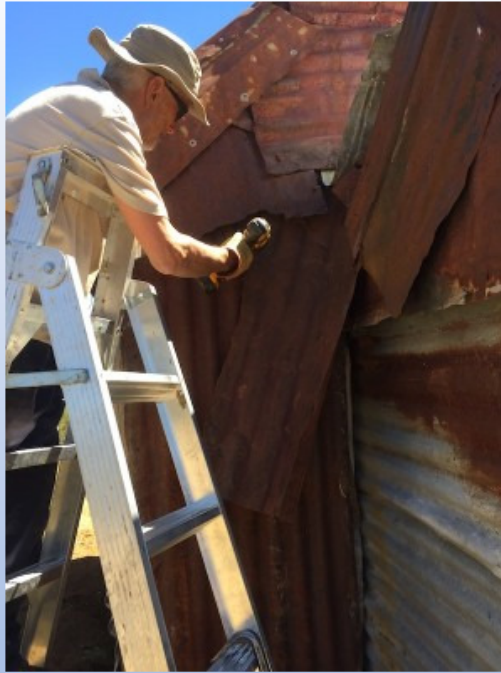


Tools of the trade





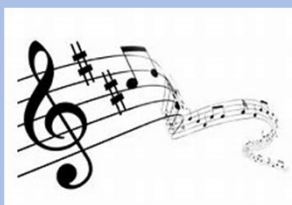
# BOB







Poet, musician and story teller that was Bob



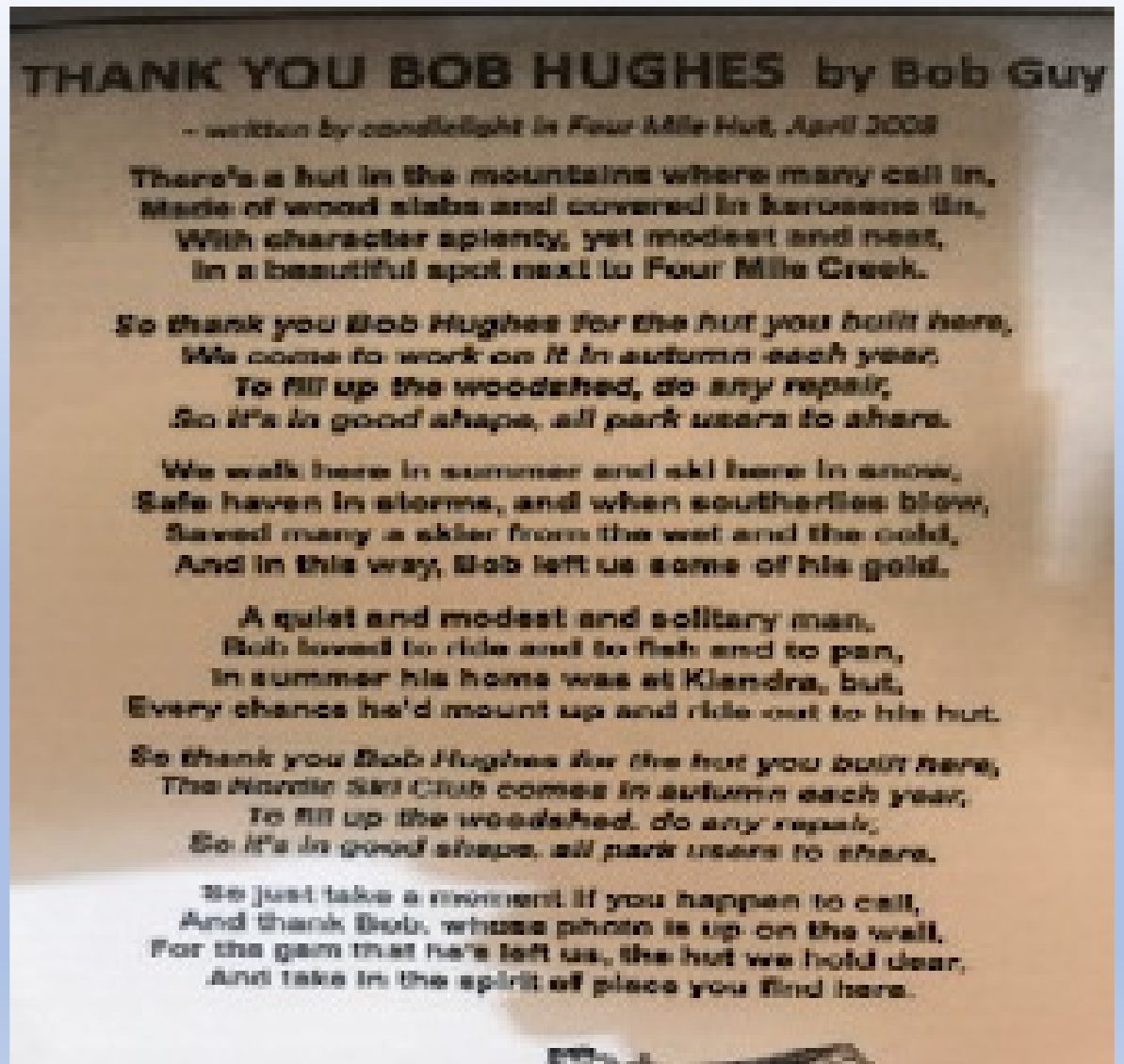
J.Hammond KHA history presentation

Thank you for the wonderful memories,



J.Hammond KHA history presentation

# Lyrics to Bob's song



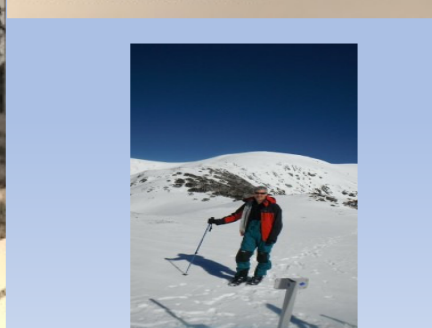




# Events



Our party of volunteer hut rebuilders, Andrew, Steve and Keith.



Above: At Ready-Cut Orogenby (Graham Scully)  
Namadgi, before an





## *2019- 2020*

- Volunteer Management System VIP/Portal is a new system for KHA members to register for workparties
- World Ranger Day at Namadgi
- Hut Redistribution for HMO's
- Namadgi Staff update met Caretakers
- Charles Warner dies 2019

**2020**

- Military deploys to protect ACT's Namadgi NP and historic huts
- KHAs first woman president Reet Vallak passed away May '20
- 50<sup>th</sup> KHA anniversary cancelled
- Historical Data on huts can be found in newsletters of this year
- Bill Boyd "Broad Axe Extrordinaire" dies May 2020



# 2020 Fires that destroyed buildings in KNP

| Delaneys Hut                         | Brooks Hut              |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sawyers Hill Rest House              | Wolgal Lodge            |
| Happys Hut                           | Pattinsons Hut          |
| Kiandra Court House                  | Matthews Cottage        |
| Round Mountain Hut                   | Linesman on No 3 (1950) |
| Thompson Hill Homestead Upper Murray | Linesman on No 3 (1980) |



# 2020 Fires that destroyed buildings in KNP

- Bradley and O'Briens Hut
- Four Mile Hut
- Vickery's
- MT Selwyn Resort
- Cabramurra Housing (half)
- Broken Dam Hut survived and the NPWS continues its efforts to protect the remaining buildings



Brooks



Kiandra Courthouse



Delaneys

Sawyers



Round Mountain



Happys



ion

Matthews





Linesmans 3 both buildings



4 Mile



Bradleys & O'Briens

“Due to the extent of the damage sustained in the bushfires in 2020, Selwyn Snow Resort will finally open for the 2023 snow season. All new visitors in 2023 will see the newly transformed resort.”

[selwynsnow.com.au/about/rebuild](https://selwynsnow.com.au/about/rebuild)

Selwyn Resort





## • 2020 Fires that destroyed buildings in Namadgi

- Max & Berts
- Demanding
- Bushfolds partly burnt – Namadgi Staff will repair .
- Toilet at Brandy partly burnt – repaired by Namadgi staff



Demandering

Bushfold some damage



Max & Berts



## 2020

- Bus tour in Namadgi post fires
- KHA has lobbied hard for the rebuilding of the Namadgi Huts – huts not to be re built – history lost
- KHA involved in the rebuilds for KNP
- Chain saw course for Namadgi Caretakers
- President attended Heritage skills course in Tasmania
- COVID and Floods prevented any workparties in Namadgi
- Westerman's Re-enactment

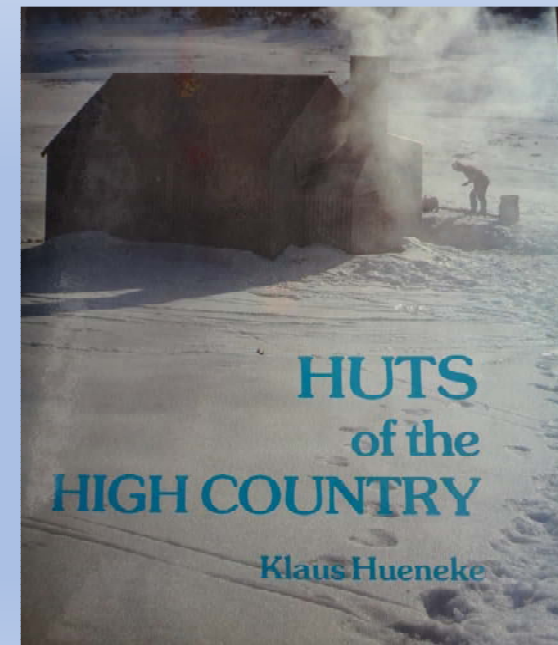
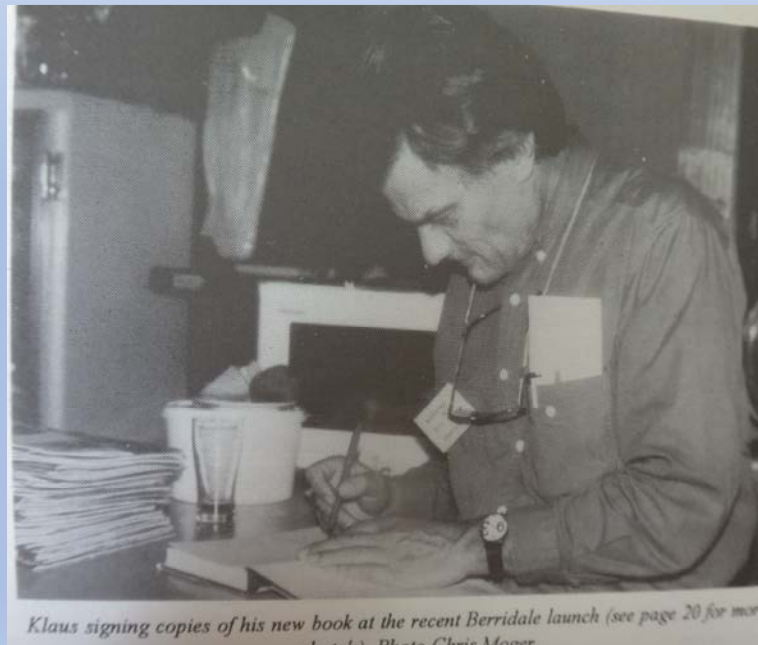
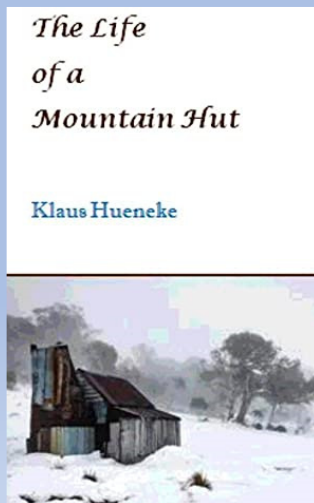
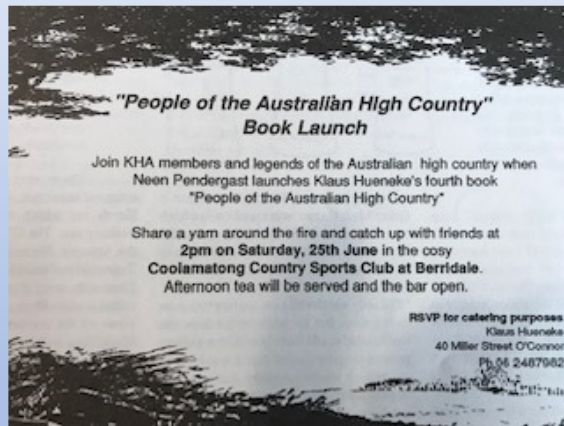


## *2021*

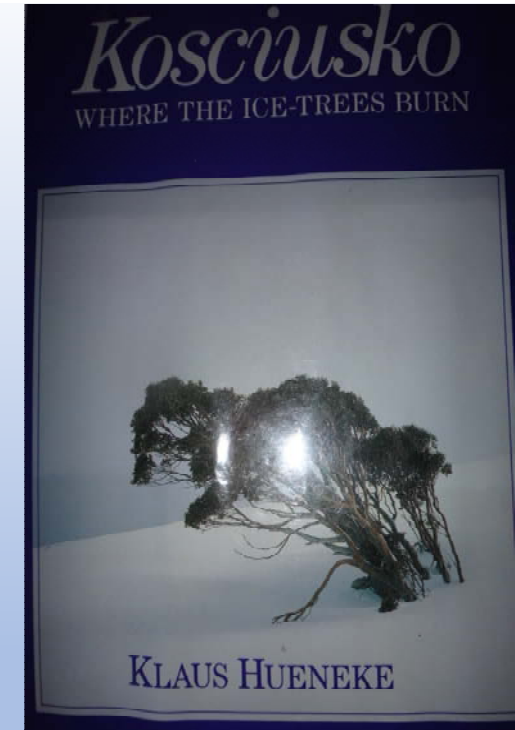
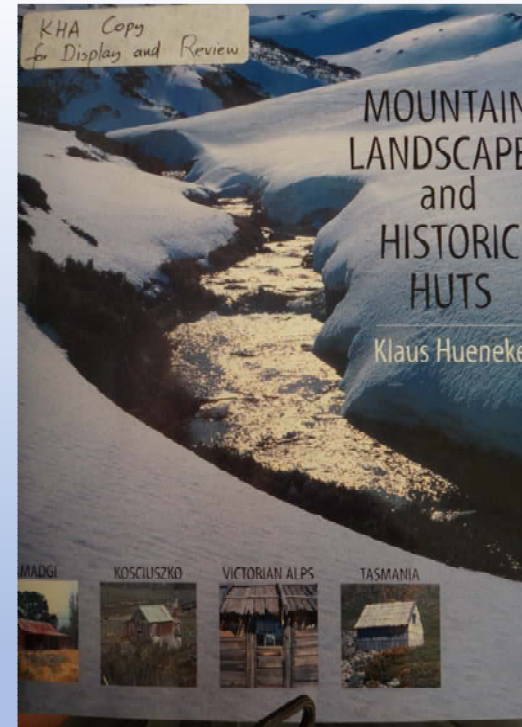
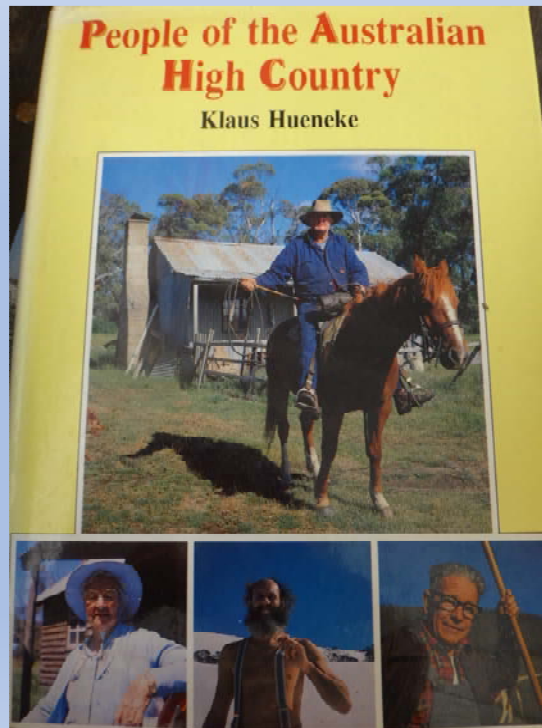
- 2 huts in Namadgi had 2 workparties each –completed
- Small Group training in traditional joinery and post scarfing in Namadgi
- More courses to be advertised for traditional heritage skills for KHA members
- Holly Grace donated Illuminated Glass Works of Round Mountain Hut for a raffle
- Peter Ariens dies.
- History articles by M. Higgins, K. Hueneke, G. Scully

Klaus Hueneker is a well known historian, writer, photographer & publisher with a special interest in Australian High Country.

Member of KHA



## Some Books by Klaus



J.Hammond KHA history presentation

## Matthew Higgins

“Is a Canberra historian, writer, speaker and photographer, who has worked for many of our national cultural institutions. His work on the He won a heritage award in 1997 for the original survey of the ACT-NSW Border in 1997.

*A Century of Learning*, jointly won a national community history award and his 2009 book, *Rugged beyond Imagination: Stories from an Australian Mountain Region*, was shortlisted for the ACT Book of the Year Award.

His first novel *Seeing Through Snow* was launched at the National Library of Australia (NLA) in September, and his new book about the high country, *Bold Horizon*, was launched at NLA April 2018.

He has been writing articles for *The Canberra Times* since 1984.

Matthew has been bushwalking and skiing the high country for over 30 years.” Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens



## Graham Scully

- “Graham has been a member of KHA dating back to the early 1980's, maybe earlier. Graham was President of KHA from 1987 to 1992
- Graham was the driving force behind the establishment of the Historical Group, which laid firm foundations for research into the cultural history of the high country huts
- His efforts in these areas broke down many of the perceived or real barriers that existed between the early builders and users of the huts and Park Management. Graham was also the driving force behind the extension of KHA's activities into Namadgi National Park. ”
- He is an amazing man with a wealth of knowledge of the high country and the history



Murray at his  
best

- *Special thank you to all the past and present members of KHA for their contributions to the newsletters, the website and my friends in NPWS for without you this presentation would not have been created*



J.Hammond KHA history presentation