

## Personalities

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The first ski "Year Book" should not go to press without some appreciation of the late Mr. Ross Gore, secretary of the Royal Sydney Golf Club, Rose Bay, and first secretary of the Ski Club of Australia. His wisdom and wise counsel when his club was at the baby bottle stage is well known to and greatly appreciated by his club colleagues, and his interest and breadth of view on ski-ing generally has helped in no mean measure to develop the sport in Australia. Always cheerful, humorous, active beyond his years, he helped to divert the true ship of sport away from the dangerous eddies into which any new adventure is apt to wander. Well does the writer remember this true sportsman going down to Betts's Creek for water in the teeth of a blizzard and after a hard day's run, while men many years his junior lay on their bunks exhausted. The courageous way in which he met his long-drawn out and painful final illness proved what manner of man he was.

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The members of the Ski Club of Australia would like to express their grateful appreciation of the help and direction given to their club by their first and only president, Mr. Consett Stephen, who, although not a first-class skier himself, consented to direct the activities of the club in memory of his popular and enthusiastic ski-loving son, Montagu, who unfortunately was cut off in the prime of his life, an event which robbed the club of one of its most enthusiastic members. The club is fortunate in having the president's third son, Leslie, on the committee, and all are satisfied that he will live up to the traditions of a great family and the great sport of ski-ing.

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Arthur Pitt will be remembered by practically everyone who skied at Kosciusko between 1909 and 1920. I do not think he has gone to the snow much lately, but for many years he was a constant visitor. Always the centre of a big and jolly party, planning enjoyment for others, coaching novices, bending toe-irons, and adjusting bindings, he seemed to be ubiquitous. His unselfishness in helping backward skiers is proverbial. He has a very fine eye for ski-ing country, is a good judge of snow, and a fine track breaker, and a capable and prudent leader of a tour. He has a wonderful knowledge of the ski-ing grounds between the Snowy River and the Thredbo Ridge and back to the Main Range. He was one of the party who first sealed the summit in winter by the hotel route, and is a foundation member of the

Kosciusko Alpine Club. Many interesting stories could be told of Arthur Pitt in the snow, and it is to be hoped that he will tell some of them himself in future issues of the "Year Book."

The members of the Ski Club of Australia would also like to record their appreciation of the help given them in their early days by Dr. Herbert Marks and Mr. David Maughan, K.C., their first vice-presidents. The former's first appearance on the snow is a treasured memory. Appearing as if he knew all about it in his six feet of plus fours that only a Maddox Street tailor could make, he was attached to the longest and fastest pair of skis in Kosciusko. After undergoing many undignified evolutions he gradually assumed command and gave forth a dignified comment: "As fast as glass." All would like him to visit us on the snows more often. David Maughan was no novice to the snow, he had gained his experience at Mount Cook, and coached us in many of the vagaries of snow craft and weather. In his position, as president of the Great Public Schools' Association, he did much to turn the mind of youth to the wonders and possibilities of ski-running in Australia.

It is with regret that we have to report the death of Chester Foy, one of the most enthusiastic and unselfish skiers that ever visited Kosciusko.

As well as being a director of Mark Foy's, he was interested in gold-mining in Kiandra, and was one of the few who helped to keep the ancient village going. The writer first met Chester at Kiandra when on a visit of preliminary exploration of the Main Divide, and he proved most informative of the Kiandra end as he had a lease of the Nine Mile Mine and owned the Lorna Doone. Well does the writer remember walking in gum boots to the Nine Mile and back. The gum boots had taken the skin off our heels and toes as they slipped up and down at each step. Chester was worse than the rest. As we stumbled down between the rough boulders of Township Hill at the end of our wearisome journey the writer was next to Chester and trying to recover his balance he brought down the solid wooden pole with which each was armed on poor Chester's skinned toes, and all he said was: "Oh, I beg your pardon." Although king of Kiandra, he transferred his ski-ing activities to Kosciusko, and all the associate members will remember how, at the end of a weary day, he always produced something for the little ladies. He was a veritable pack-horse, and always carried the heaviest rucksack cheerfully. All cherish a memory of Chester as an unselfish sporting gentleman, who is sadly missed.

The Ski Club of Australia as well as the Kosciusko Alpine Club owes a debt of gratitude to Neils Storaker who, fresh from Norway, advised them concerning proper equipment and helped to smooth the way for the importation of Norwegian ski. In addition he taught and introduced to Kosciusko a style and dignity in running entirely his own. All wish to congratulate him on his recent marriage, and hope that he will not make it an excuse for absenting himself from the snow-fields.

Fellow club members as well as all skiers who visit Kosciusko wish to congratulate old bright eyes, Eric Fisher, on his recent marriage, and they know that there will be a divorce if his wife ever wishes to divert him from the noble sport of ski-running. Eric could not be spared, while there is still further exploration to be done in our glorious fields.

Another recent deserter of the bachelors is Lennox Teece, the late indefatigable secretary of the Ski Club of Australia, and also famous for having consumed the largest meal ever eaten at Betts's Camp until Dick Allen took up ski-ing. All wish Lennox happiness in his union, and know that he will not desert the sport, because his wife is as keen on ski-ing as he is himself.

Perey Pearson's name is synonymous with Kosciusko, and all who love the sport realise what his efforts have meant for ski-ing in Australia. He was the first secretary of the original club at Kosciusko, and is still in office. He was no young man when he adopted the sport, and from being an awkward and stiff runner he has become a finished stylist. He has carried the sport and the spirit of ski-ing through many vicissitudes, and we all say "hats off to Perey."

There are few more popular figures in the lounge at the Hotel Kosciusko or on the snow on the home slopes than the genial and worthy president of the Kosciusko Club, Mr. R. Lee. His keen interest in the sport and his warm appreciation of all meritorious performances make his presence very welcome on all occasions, and all his club members hope that he will long continue to fill the office of president. The president's close friend, Mr. E. R. Moser, is another who has done yeoman service for the club. He is the hero of many interesting incidents on the snow, and as he is a conversationalist and raconteur of no mean order he is always in demand for the short day tours.