



THE GUNDAROO NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE ST GEORGE ALPINE CLUB

February 2019

Greetings

Welcome to 2019 from the Board of St George Alpine Club. Here's hoping this year is another bumper one around the snowfields.

Current Board Members and Booking Officer

- Keith Monaghan (President)
- Graham Grigg (Secretary)
- Chris Boseley (Treasurer)
- Matthew Boseley (Accommodation Director)
- Bob Philp (Membership Director)
- Phill Boseley (Board Member)
- Juha Sillan (Board Member)
- Mark Wong (Board Member)
- Karen Johnson (Booking Officer)

New Website and Booking System

The new website, which incorporates our membership and accommodation booking systems, is now complete and available for access by the membership. The address (URL) for the site is unchanged at www.stgeorgeapine.com.au.

Extensive testing has been undertaken and many changes made to the system, in the course of its development, but there are bound to be some things we didn't think of in our testing which our membership will doubtless find in the first few uses of the systems. As we find these, we will get them rectified, so please bear with us during the initial period of use.

Already you should have received your membership invoice, by email, from the new system. That part was available to us at the end of December. Now that the new website is up and running, you can check out your own account balance, and see whether you are up to date with everything.

To enable the system to price accommodation for your family correctly, it needs to know about your eligible family members to receive member pricing. These are grandparents, parents, children and grandchildren. Siblings are not eligible for member rates, unless staying in the same room as a member. If you supply this information to the Secretary, he will update it on the system to facilitate your bookings.

The process for booking accommodation has changed, with the new website. You will be able to see what's available at each lodge, and book accordingly. The Booking Officer will still retain the overall approval of all bookings, however, at least in the foreseeable future. In the long run, it is

envisaged that the system will be completely automated, using our booking rules as the basis for determining eligibility to book. Initially, though, the Booking Officer is retaining the review of all booking to ensure the system is doing the right things. Once we are confident the system is performing as we want it to, we will automate the process completely.

Instructions for using the new booking system are available on the website, under the Documents page, and appear later in this newsletter.

If you use the system and find any issues with it, please endeavour to take a screen dump (screenshot) and send it, with a description of what you were trying to do, to the Secretary. If there is a problem with the website, we will refer it to the developers and get it fixed. Helpful information includes the operating system, browser and platform you were using at the time (e.g. Windows 10, Google Chrome, PC).

Accommodation Rates for 2019

The Board has reviewed accommodation rates for both Hotham and Jindabyne and has decided that they will remain unchanged in 2019. A full list of the accommodation rates (for both lodges) is available on the website.

Memberships for Sale

If you wish to enquire about the purchase of A, B or C memberships, please contact Bob Philp on 0448 983 022.

Likewise, if you wish to sell your membership, please contact Bob Philp as there are people waiting to purchase memberships of our club.

Leaving Earlier than Expected?

If you're leaving before your scheduled departure date, it is *imperative* that you let the Booking Officer know as there is almost always a waiting list for those days. Just a reminder that you must clean your room, before you leave. There should be cleaning products in your room for this purpose. If more is required, supplies are in the cupboards over the ovens.

Ski Scholarships

Applications for 2019 ski scholarships are now open.

If you would like to nominate your child (or grandchild) for one of these scholarships in 2019, please have them write a short letter or email to us outlining their skiing history and what they would hope to gain from the scholarship. Applicants are notified of the outcome of their applications after the AGM, in May next year.

How to use the New Website for Bookings

My apologies for the small size of the text in the images below. Fitting a screen-wide image on an A4 page means it gets squeezed down a lot. If you can, perhaps enlarge the page to make the images more easily legible.

From the Home page of our website, click on the 'Book Now' button. You should be presented with the screen below.

The screenshot shows the booking interface for St George Alpine Club. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: St George Home, Make a Booking, Ski Lodge Details v, Manage a Booking v, and Manage Account v. A yellow tooltip says "Drag the ends of the date range to extend or shorten your booking." Below this are buttons for "Clear Dates" and "next step -->".

The main area features a calendar for January 2019 and February. The calendar shows dates from 19 to 18. A date range from Jan 11 to Jan 15 is highlighted in green. Below the calendar, there are two sections for room selection:

- Hotham:** Rooms 1 through 6. Room 1 is highlighted in blue.
- Jindabyne:** Bunk 1 (B) through Bunk 8 (T), and Room 1 through Room 7, plus a Family Room. Room 1 is highlighted in blue, and a date range from Jan 11 to Jan 15 is highlighted in green.

At the bottom left, there is a mouse cursor icon and the text "Mouse over a room above to see details". At the bottom right, there is a yellow tooltip that says "Optionally enter first and last nights booked".

- Select the room and dates you wish to book by clicking on the first day of your intended booking on the line corresponding to the room you wish to book, and each additional day of your planned stay. To deselect a day, simply click it again. You will notice that the room is highlighted on the left, to ensure you have the correct one.

This screenshot is similar to the one above, showing the booking interface. A yellow tooltip says "Click on a date to start booking. Click on a room on the left to include in your booking." Below this are buttons for "Clear Dates" and "next step -->".

The main area features a calendar for January 2019 and February. The calendar shows dates from 19 to 18. A date range from Jan 11 to Jan 15 is highlighted in green. Below the calendar, there are two sections for room selection:

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At the bottom left, there is a mouse cursor icon and the text "Mouse over a room above to see details". At the bottom right, there is a yellow tooltip that says "Optionally enter first and last nights booked".

- When you are happy that you have the correct days and room selected (Note: Hotham is at the top of the screen, Jindabyne at the bottom) you can press the 'next step' button to proceed.
 1. Note: you can move the visible dates forward or back by clicking on the "D", "M" & "Y" buttons just above the date line on this screen.
- On the next screen, you need to enter your and any guest details. If you begin typing your surname, the system will present you with a list of recorded names to choose from. If the name is not on the list, continue typing it, and select the member and gender from the drop-down lists.
 1. If you cannot enter the names of your guests, who are eligible family members, it is probably because you haven't had them added to the database. Contact the Secretary or the Booking Officer to have them added to proceed.

George Alpine Club Jindabyne

Welcome: Graham Grigg
Type: CC [Log Out](#)

St George Home [Make a Booking](#) [Ski Lodge Details v](#) [Manage a Booking v](#) [Manage Account v](#)

Your bed(s) have been reserved for 30 minutes to allow you to complete your booking.

Jindabyne

Your check in is on: Sunday 10th February 2019
Your last night: Saturday 16th February 2019
Your check out is on: Sunday 17th February 2019

[← Previous Step](#) [Next step →](#)

• Please enter all the required information about the guests for this booking below.

Guest details for room: Room 1
Minimum guests for room: 1 | Maximum guests for room: 4

* Guest	Guest's Name: Please enter in format 'Surname, Given Name'	Member	Gender	Age
Guest 1:	Grigg, Graham	Member	Male	62
Guest 2:	Grigg, Janis	Member	Female	64
Guest 3:	Bloggs, Joe	Guest	Male	
Guest 4:	Bloggs, Jane	Guest Child 5+	Female	

Step: 1 2 3 4 Booked

On-line bookings provided by C&D Web © 2007-2019

For more online snow accommodation, see [www.stgeorgeaccommodation.info](#)

- When you are happy that you've entered everybody correctly, press the 'next step' button to proceed.

George Alpine Club Jindabyne

Welcome: Graham Grigg
Type: CC [Log Out](#)

St George Home [Make a Booking](#) [Ski Lodge Details v](#) [Manage a Booking v](#) [Manage Account v](#)

Jindabyne

Your check in is on: Sunday 10th February 2019
Your check out is on: Sunday 17th February 2019

[← Previous Step](#) [Next step →](#)

• Please enter any contact information that is missing below.

Your Booking Details

Guest Details

Room Details	Guest Details
Room 1	Grigg, Graham (Member) Cost: \$72.00 Grigg, Janis (Member) Cost: \$72.00 Bloggs, Joe (Member) Cost: \$72.00 Bloggs, Jane (Member Child) Cost: \$32.00

Pricing Details

Duration for this booking is: 7 nights
The total cost for this booking is: \$ 248.00

Your Contact Details

* Contact Name: * Email Address:
separate multiple email addresses with semicolon (,) or comma (,)

* Address Line 1: * Business Hours:
Number:

Address Line 2: Mobile Number:

* City / Town: After Hours:
Number:

- Check that the names appear correctly. The system will automatically price the booking for you, based on our booking rules and the rates for the season in which the booking falls.
 1. Note: In the example shown, Joe Bloggs is treated as a member because he's staying in the same room as a member. Likewise, Jane Bloggs receives a discount as a child aged 5+.
 2. Details of the person making the booking are displayed at the bottom of the screen.
- When you click on the 'next step' button, you will see the next screen:

Lodge: Jindabyne

Instructions ← Previous Step
 Click on Complete Booking to finish your booking Complete Booking

Your Booking Details - Please click on complete booking

Check in / Check out Details
 Check in: Sunday 10th February 2019 @ 16:00
 Your last night: Saturday 16th February 2019
 Check out: Sunday 17th February 2019 @ 14:00
 Duration for this booking is: 7 nights

Guest Details

Room Details	Guest Details
Room 1	Grigg, Graham (Member) Cost: \$72.00 Grigg, Janis (Member) Cost: \$72.00 Bloggs, Joe (Member) Cost: \$72.00 Bloggs, Jane (Member Child) Cost: \$32.00

Pricing Details
 The total cost for this booking is: \$248.00

Room Details
Room 1 - En Suite
 Upper Floor
 Double Beds: 1
 Single Beds: 2
 Minimum Guests: 1
 Maximum Guests: 4

Your transactions prior to this booking

- If everything is correct, press 'Complete Booking' and the following screen should be displayed.



Welcome Graham Grigg
 Type: CC [Log Out](#)

St George Home - [Make a Booking](#) - [Ski Lodge Details v](#) - [Manage a Booking v](#) - [Manage Account v](#)

Your booking has been recorded and the beds/rooms are reserved Make another booking

Your booking now has the status of **TENTATIVE**.

Your booking number is **JY000006**.

You will receive an emailed invoice with details of how to pay upon authorisation from the Booking Manager.

Step: 1 2 3 4 **Booked**

On-line bookings provided by [CBOnline](#) © 2007-2019 For more online snow accommodation, see [www.snowaccommodation.info](#)

- At this point, your booking is **TENTATIVE**, and you should receive an email at your registered email address with details of your booking and the methods by which you can pay for it, together with a link for credit card payments.
- Until the Booking Officer receives your payment, your booking is a tentative booking only. Once approved, only the Booking Officer can make an alteration to the booking.

If your membership is unpaid, you won't be able to book at either lodge. Pressing 'next step' at the first screen will present you with an error message screen and tell you why your booking was rejected.

If you have any questions about the new system, and there are bound to be some, please contact any of the following for advice:

Karen Johnson – Booking Officer – 02 4261 9191
Graham Grigg – Secretary – 0407 258 348
Phill Boseley – Board Member – 0438 668 920

Features of the new Booking System

- By mousing over the room description, you can see what type of room you are booking.
- By mousing over a date in a pre-existing booking, you can see who is staying in that room at that time.
- If the booking rules allow it, you can book more than one room at a time.

Lodge Maintenance (since last Newsletter)

Jindabyne

- Bollards reinstalled (yet again) in carpark to prevent dropping off the paved area on backing out of carpark. These have already been hit by reversing vehicles, twice now. On the most recent occasion, the flexible bollard has been snapped off at the base by someone driving straight over the top of it!
- Construction of the new deck on the Northern side of the lodge will commence shortly. It is proposed to extend out the width of the current bridge and run back to the rear corner of the lodge, an area of approx..3.5 x 5.5 metres. At present we are awaiting advice from the local Council as to whether our proposed deck requires a DA or not.
- Quotes are still being obtained for repairs to the fascia boards.
- Quotes are still being obtained for new blinds for the lodge.
- A study is be undertaken into the lighting in the halls and common areas with a view to replacing them with LEDs.
- We are aware of some lights in the main living area not working. Unfortunately, the fittings are old, beyond repair, and no longer available. To fix these, and maintain a common look, we will need to replace all the lights with current models. We are currently investigating availability and cost.

Hotham

- Quotes are being obtained for the replacement of the second gas hot water heater.
- One faulty stove burner has been disconnected, pending possible replacement.

Snowy Mountains News (as gleaned from various publications)

Thredbo Announced as Best Australian Ski Resort for 2018

After a successful winter, Thredbo has stamped its mark as Australia's top alpine tourist destination by winning the prestigious accolade of The Best Australian Ski Resort at the World Ski Awards held in Kitzbuhel, Austria, on 22-24 November 2018. These awards are voted on by professionals in the snow industry and by skiers and snowboarders worldwide.

Thredbo Mountain Bike Mecca

After an amazing winter, Thredbo is ready to welcome an influx of mountain bikers. Running from November 17 to April 28, Thredbo will be a mecca for two-wheeled action with the famous Kosciuszko Express Chairlift ready to take riders 1,937 metres above sea level to access of 20 kilometres of gravity mountain biking trails.

The trails are in great condition, with the refurbished areas packing in nicely with recent rain. The retail store is fully stocked, new top line bikes are ready for hire, and there will be lessons and clinics all season long available for all levels of riders.

Summer Fly Fishing

With the excellent snow falls in the winter just past, and good rainfalls this summer, the rivers and streams of the Kosciuszko National Park come into their own and the outlook is looking great for summer fly fishing.

Jindabyne 2036

Consultation into the revitalisation of Jindabyne has begun, under a program announced by the Deputy Premier and Member for Monaro, John Barilaro. 'Jindabyne 2036' is a \$2.4 million masterplan to 2036 to revitalise Jindabyne.

"Jindabyne is the gateway to the beautiful Snowy Mountains. It is a thriving town with enormous potential for growth, and proper planning will see Jindabyne become known as the nation's premier alpine destination," he said.

Perisher News

Among proposed changes for Perisher are replacement of the Mt Perisher double and triple chairlifts with a new six-seat quad chairlift. Perisher would also like to widen the run adjust snow making alignments and renovate the Mt Perisher double chair Restaurant.

Thredbo Development

Thredbo has announced several development proposals they have lodged with the Department of Planning and Environment. They include replacement of the Merritt's double chairlift with a state of the art high-speed 8-person gondola, plus development of new Merits Mountain House Restaurant and Conference Facility. Also included are expansion of Friday Flat's retail and rental facility, expansion of Thredbo's children's program centre, Thredboland, and additional car parking at Friday Flat.

Crackenback Resort Silver Medal

Lake Crackenback Resort and Spa has won a silver medal for Deluxe Accommodation at the recent NSW Tourism Awards. This was the third year they have contested the award, having won in 2017.

This summer families will have multiple options to keep them entertained including a totally new Segway training track. Much of the mountain bike fleet has been upgraded to 2019 model Specialised mountain bikes. The kids will love the one-hour guided Grommet Rides during school holidays where parents can sign up 6 – 16-year olds for a guided tour and tuition. There also other, more advanced tours available at the resort. The resort also has TVT (Thredbo Valley Track) shuttle buses to Thredbo where you can then ride back to Lake Crackenback.

Guests will also be counting the days until Autumn for a weekend of food and wine at the Savour the Snowy Mountains event. If you're interested in food or wine or like to cook, this weekend festival, on March 22 – 24, should be on your list for 2019.

Land for Sale in Jindabyne

Snowy Hydro Ltd recently called for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the potential sale of land holdings in Jindabyne.

The parcels of land, located at Cobbon Crescent, Old Kosciuszko Road in East Jindabyne, Coppertom Point, and Kosciuszko Road near Snowy Mountains Grammar School, are owned by Snowy Hydro Ltd and are not required for the operation of the Snowy Scheme in the future.

Upcoming Events in the Snowy Mountains

- February 8-9** Kosciusko Craft Beer Festival, Thredbo
- February 9** Cooma Rodeo – Cooma Showground
- February 16-17** Lake Jindabyne Flowing Festival Dragon Boat Challenge
All Day
Banjo Patterson Park, Jindabyne
- February 23** Trex Snowy Mountains Cross Triathlon and Aquathlon Championships
8am – 5pm
Lake Crackenback Resort and Spa, Thredbo
- February 23-24** Thredbo Super Enduro – Thredbo
- February 24** Snowies Ultra Trail Run Festival – Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa
8am – 3pm
- February 28 – March 3** Rare Cancer Research Charity Cycle Ride – Canberra to Kosciusko. Stops at Michelago, Cooma, Jindabyne & Thredbo.
- March 8-10** Jindabyne Conquer Kosciuszko for RU OK, with a charity fundraising trek from Charlotte Pass to Mt Kosciuszko.
- March 16** Bombala Show
- Tumbarumba Show
- March 23** Australian Alpine Ascent Ultra (AAA) Festival
Thredbo
- March 22 – 24** Savour the Snowy Mountains – Lake Crackenback Resort & Spa
- March 24** Jingellic Show
- April 6 – 7** Thredbo Kosi Climb for Kids fundraising walk to Mt Kosciuszko
- April 13-27** Thredbo Easter School Holidays Adventure Festival. Great events during the whole holiday period.
- April 21** Thredbo \$10,000 Golden Easter Egg Hunt – search for the golden bunnies at Friday Flat. \$5000 plus 5 x \$1000. From 9:30am must register, event from 11:00am.
- April 27** Tumut Festival of the Falling Leaf street parade and gala day at Bila Park.
- April 28** Thredbo Mountain bike and alpine hiking season close.
- May 3 – 4** Berridale Snowy River Historical Society open days, 10am – 2pm at Berridale Public School.