



PRESIDENT AND TREASURER UPDATES

This past ski season was not very good, but this is what happens in Australia from time to time. I understand there were better snowfalls after the finish of the season than within the season.

I've been skiing for long enough in Australia to have seen situations where there was no snow at all on the ski fields in the middle of August and times where there was so much snow a number of lifts were completely buried for the major part of the season. This variation in snow conditions is the risk we take when skiing in Australia and booking accommodation. This is part of the reason for our booking rule cancellation requirements, which as an organisation we must follow in assessing any cancellation requests.

Even though it was a bad season this year and the previous seasons, which were affected by the COVID situation, were some of the best we always hope for a better season next year. I would like to thank all of our members, their families, and the people who have used our lodges all the best for Christmas and the New Year. Finally, I would like to thank the committee and our booking officer for the work they have done in this difficult season.

Best regards, Keith Monaghan

President

LODGE ENERGY COSTS

Hotham Electricity	Hotham Gas	Jindabyne Electricity	Combined
\$ 1,905.59	\$5,296.83	\$ 11,960.87	
Total energy	\$7,202.42		\$ 19,163.29

We are all reminded of the rising costs of energy. Just a reminder that energy costs are a significant part of running both lodges. The table above is the YTD 2023 costs for both lodges and as you can see it is a substantial amount of money.

The reason I am raising this is because two weeks ago, a Board Member visited Jindabyne and discovered a Bunkroom Heater was on and presumably has been left on since the end of the ski season.

As Lodge Members we all share the responsibility for power consumption, so could all members please remember to check that heaters and lights are switched off whenever they leave the lodges.

Chris Boseley



NEW CONSTITUTION

Our current constitution was originally registered in 1978. With changes in law, corporate governance, and technology we need to bring it up to date.

The draft version of the new constitution is now available to be viewed on our website (under documents). You will also have received an email with a link as well. We encourage all members to review the document over the coming months. We will then vote on its adoption at our AGM in May 2024



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

MEMBER SURVEY

We recently asked members to complete a survey with feedback regarding:

- Summer opening of the Hotham Lodge
- Design preference for a new kitchen at Hotham
- General feedback

Thank you to all the members who responded and took the time to share their thoughts. We are working through all the feedback and ask for your patience as we finalise the kitchen design and review other suggestions.

At this stage, it is unlikely we will be able to install the new kitchen before next ski season but we are certainly working behind the scenes to make it happen as soon as possible.

Hotham is now open for summer bookings and details are outlined further below.



A Facebook page will be set up for next season so members will be able to communicate quickly and easily. This site will be available to share stories, great ski days, photos, mountain updates etc. It will however not replace the newsletter.

We would love you to send us your favourite photos taken whilst at SGAC to include in future newsletters - communications@stgeorgealpine.com.au

Please ensure approval has been given by all that are featured first.



All smiles at Hotham this winter

TICKET REFUNDS? PERSISTENT PAYS OFF WHEN DEALING WITH LIFT COMPANIES!

I am sure many of us have tried to get a refund for lift tickets from Vail for a genuine reason with no luck. No customer service contact, just send an email and hope for the best.

One of our members in 2022 had a fall and was able to get a credit for the following season. So he went ahead and registered for his ticket with a deposit in the September

However, in November of that year he needed surgery. After his recovery and a commitment to exercise to get back on the slopes, his surgeon gave him the bad news he was not to ski again. And this is when the fun began!

He wrote to Perisher Blue to get a refund of the money he had in credit for over 12 months.

Perisher Blue wrote back saying he had to request a refund within 30 days so he didn't comply with the T&Cs. He wrote back again with copies of Doctors' Certificates and x-rays proving his genuine request. they responded with "we have taken this request to management but it has been denied and the decision is final.



Not taking NO for an answer he went to Fair Trading and they suggested to look at the T&C's Page 9 Section B Personal Refund Events section.

Personal Injury - you are unable to use your pass

Personal Injury. You are unable to use your Pass during the applicable Core Season because you suffer an accidental bodily injury that occurs after you purchase your Pass and that injury prevents you from using your Pass for thirty (30) or more consecutive days during the applicable Core Season. This provision applies only if you provide verification from a Physician."

He was referred then to the NSW Civil & Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) for a hearing a few weeks later. Lodgement cost \$58 and was simple as Fair Trading completed the paperwork on his behalf.

NCAT then wrote to Perisher Blue to notify them of this hearing.

On the day of the hearing Perisher Blue called our member offering a full refund which was accepted. NCAT were advised a settlement had been reached and the case withdrawn.

Perisher Blue told the member numerous times with no real reasoning as to why they would not refund the money. However once it was pushed with Fair Trading, they came to the party for a full refund.

Moral of the story - Don't give up! All lift companies need to honor their own T&C's and treat their paying customers fairly.

Please make sure you review the T&C's if you are in a similar position in the future and reach out to Fair Trading/ Consumer Affairs for assistance.

EXCITING UPDATES

This is not a drill! A brand new, 6-seater chair is coming to Perisher!



8 December, 2023

We are stoked to announce that a brand new, 6-seater chairlift is on its way to Mt. Perisher!

Affectionately dubbed the "Mt. P 6", the highspeed detachable chairlift will replace the existing Mt Perisher Double and Triple chairs and is expected to spin for the 2025 Australian snow season.

Soon to be the highest lifted point in Australia at 2042m elevation, the Mt Perisher 6 will provide greater connectivity between Perisher's resort areas for skiers and snowboarders than ever before, allowing you to choose between trails in all directions without needing to traverse.

The new chair will almost halve the current travel time up Mt Perisher from 10 minutes to around five and a half minutes. Faster load and unload times at each end will also facilitate greater circulation and flow of traffic around the mountain.

EPIC AUSTRALIA PASS EXPANDS ITS INTERNATIONAL PARTNER ACCESS WITH THREE ADDITIONS ACROSS SWITZERLAND, AUSTRIA AND FRANCE

Unbeatable Access for Pass Holders

The 2023 Epic Australia Pass access begins with the 2023 Australian snow season and concludes following the 2023/24 snow season in the Northern Hemisphere. It provides:

- Unlimited, unrestricted access to Perisher, Falls Creek and Hotham
- Access to world-class terrain for the 2023/24 Northern Hemisphere snow season, including:
 - **Switzerland; five days:** Andermatt-Sedrun-Disentis
 - **Austria; three consecutive days with lodging requirement:** Ski Arlberg
 - **France; seven consecutive days:** Les 3 Vallées
 - **Japan; five consecutive days in each:** Hakuba Valley and Rusutsu
 - **Italy; seven days:** Skirama Dolomiti
 - **North America; 10 combined days:** Beaver Creek, Vail, Whistler Blackcomb
 - **North America (cont.); unlimited access excluding holidays:** Breckenridge, Keystone, Park City, Heavenly, Northstar, Kirkwood, Stowe

LODGE IMPROVEMENTS

Jindabyne

New energy-saving lights, new powerpoints, and shower taps were in place this ski season.

Updates so far include

- Installation of a lockable e-bike charging station, separate from the lodge, in the old BBQ area.
- installation of bike racks for all bike storage in the shed. No bikes are now to be kept inside. The key for the lock for the shed is located near the kitchen exit door.
- Painting has been completed externally and all Barge boards.
- New shelving was installed in the storeroom and significant rubbish has been removed.

Juha Sillan - Building Manager

Hotham

We all enjoyed the improvements from the last working bee with new lights, door handles, coat hangers and new double USB power points installed before this year's ski season.

Plans are underway with the design for the new kitchen. We will provide updates when available.

Working Bee

Volunteers welcome - for early 2024

- Sand and stain between windows
- Windows and doors have been measured up to be installed before season 2024
- General cleaning and tidy up
- Some blinds to be replaced
- Ski and board racks to be replaced

Robert Philp - Membership Manager



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



New memberships - for purchase of A, B or C memberships, please contact Bob Philp on 0448 983 022.

Selling, or thinking about selling? Please contact Bob Philp as we have a waiting list of people looking to purchase memberships now.

REMINDER - ANNUAL FEES ARE DUE JANUARY 1ST 2024

BOOKINGS FOR SKI SEASON 2024 WILL OPEN ON FEBRUARY 1ST 2024

NEW SUMMER OPENING - HOTHAM

RATES	HOTHAM	DAILY	WEEKLY
Lodge Member	Minimum fee for a Bedroom	\$ 35.00	\$175.00
	Lodge Member	\$ 14.00	\$ 70.00
	Lodge Member's Child	\$ 7.00	\$ 35.00
Ordinary Member	Minimum fee for a Bedroom	\$ 48.13	\$240.63
	Ordinary Member	\$ 19.25	\$ 96.25
	Ordinary Member's Child	\$ 9.63	\$ 48.13
Non Member	Minimum fee for a Bedroom	\$ 63.75	\$318.75
	Non Member	\$ 25.50	\$127.50
	Non Member's Child	\$ 12.75	\$ 63.75

*** When booking, if the rates don't appear as above, they will be adjusted by the bookings officer. Whole Lodge bookings are available*

It's great to see the Hotham Lodge open for summer bookings again after several years. Thank you to all the members who completed the survey and requested access. Without you, this may not have happened.

We look forward to seeing members take advantage of the beautiful Victorian High country and enjoy the many activities available over the summer and autumn months.

Please be aware when booking, the rates will be adjusted before payment as per the table shown. We are working with the booking system as best as possible. Any questions can be emailed to the Booking Officer.

Please ensure you are aware of any closing requirements on departure.

Please note the summer rates will be reviewed and adjusted next season to ensure costs are being covered.



REMINDERS FOR LODGE USE



Duty Roster

A reminder to complete your daily duties as listed in each bedroom at both lodges. Let's keep our lodges clean and tidy for all to enjoy.

Courtesy & Consideration

Please keep noise to a minimum both early in the morning and later at night.

Clean up in the kitchen as soon as possible so others can use the services, especially at meal times.

Be considerate of those wanting to use the dining room areas. If the lodge is full and you have finished your meal, please consider moving to the lounge areas.

Lodge captains

The Lodge Captain represents the Club's management. If you require assistance or advice, or you would like to make a suggestion or complaint, please see them. Remember that they are also on holiday like you. The Lodge Captain (after notifying the Accommodation Director of the Club) is empowered to take any necessary action to ensure the proper running of the Lodge. Please review the duties on our website.

Before Departure

Clean, vacuum, and tidy your room and ensuite, with the products provided.

Please clean and empty the refrigerator, freezer, and kitchen cupboards.

Please check if there are closing procedures that are required when you are departing.

At Jindabyne - leave your room key in the door lock.







If you are the last out of the Lodge, ensure all internal bins are emptied and all windows and doors are locked. Also check all heaters are off.

The Board wishes you all a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.









SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Jindabyne

 <p>19 - 30 Dec - Apr</p> <p>EVENTS</p> <p>Snowy Trout Challenge</p> <p>The Snowy Trout Challenge offers you a chance to make the most of your next visit to the Snowy Mountains!</p>	 <p>28 Dec</p> <p>EVENTS</p> <p>Jindabyne's Man From Snowy River Rodeo</p> <p>Jindabyne's Man from Snowy River Rodeo is a truly iconic Snowy Mountains Event, which has been running in the Jindabyne</p>	 <p>28 Dec</p> <p>EVENTS</p> <p>Jindabyne Man From Snowy River Rodeo</p> <p>Jindabyne's Man from Snowy River Rodeo is a truly iconic Snowy Mountains event, which has been running in the Jindabyne</p>
 <p>06 - 07 Jan - Dec</p> <p>EVENTS</p> <p>Snowy Community Market</p> <p>Snowy Community Market is a handmade, hand-grown and hand-me-down community market showcasing local talent.</p>	 <p>16 - 10 Feb - Nov</p> <p>EVENTS</p> <p>Capture the High Country - Photography Weekends</p> <p>Fill your viewfinder with stunning shots of Snowy Mountain landscapes, cascading rivers and dramatic sunset countryside</p>	 <p>03 Mar</p> <p>EVENTS</p> <p>Dalgety Show</p> <p>The Dalgety Show Society look forward to seeing you all for the greatest little show in South East NSW!</p>

Keep up to date with everything happening in the Jindabyne area
<https://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/snowy-mountains/jindabyne-area/events>

Mt Hotham

 <p>FREE GUIDED WALKS - JANUARY PROGRAM</p> <p>Saturday 6 January, 2024</p> <p>LEARN MORE</p>	 <p>FREE GUIDED WALKS - JANUARY PROGRAM</p> <p>Saturday 13 January, 2024</p> <p>LEARN MORE</p>	 <p>FREE GUIDED WALKS - JANUARY PROGRAM</p> <p>Saturday 20 January, 2024</p> <p>LEARN MORE</p>
 <p>FREE GUIDED WALKS - JANUARY PROGRAM</p> <p>Saturday 27 January, 2024</p> <p>LEARN MORE</p>	 <p>FREE GUIDED WALK</p> <p>Saturday 10 February, 2024</p> <p>LEARN MORE</p>	 <p>PEAKS CHALLENGE</p> <p>Sunday 10 March, 2024</p> <p>LEARN MORE</p>

Keep up to date with everything happening at Mt Hotham
<https://www.mthotham.com.au/on-mountain/things-to-do/events-whats-on/summer-events>