



January 2026

St. George Alpine Club

# Summer Member Newsletter



**SAVE THE DATE**

**AGM  
THURSDAY  
MAY 28**

## PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Hello and welcome to 2026!

*The 2025 ski season was a success, characterised by excellent snow, high engagement, and a renewed sense of energy across the higher-altitude alpine areas.*

This is especially noted at Perisher with the launch of its new \$26 million Mt Perisher 6 chairlift during the season. Resort milestone for Hotham this year with the recording of its deepest July snowpack (123 cm) and finished with 398 cm of cumulative snow fall – the best in at least 20 years for some statistics. No sooner has winter ended than we find ourselves facing the height of summer and the devastating fires in Victoria. The Board will continue to closely monitor and assess the situation, as the areas surrounding Mt Hotham remain at risk.

At the close of the 2025 season, we decided to shut down the Hotham lodge and completely transform its kitchen in time for the 2025 Christmas and New Year holiday period.

*Thanks to the unwavering commitment of our board of directors—especially Sally Garner, Robert Philip and Keith Farrell, this ambitious goal became a reality.*

Driving this success was the extraordinary effort of Sally's husband, Mark Tilley, who worked hand-in-hand with the demolition team and builder, ensuring every detail was executed flawlessly. The result? A stunning, fully functional kitchen that stands as a testament to teamwork, vision, and relentless dedication. Thank you!

At the end of the 2025 season, new air-conditioning units were installed in the Jindabyne lodge. We have also installed defibrillators in both the Jindabyne and Hotham lodges to enhance the safety of our members and guests. Additional updates for 2026 include — Clubman has undergone a makeover, enhancing its usability with a fresh look and feel, while the booking engine and database remain the same. No changes or specific actions are required from you. Next time you make a booking or check details of any bookings, your membership details or invoices, you will be using the new interface. Details are shown later in the newsletter.

*Reminder: Please let us know if you have updated your contact details so we can keep you informed and ensure you receive all important notifications and communications promptly.*

I hope you're all looking forward to watching and cheering on the Australian 2026 Winter Olympic and Paralympic team as they compete in Milano Cortina. Their performance is sure to provide great inspiration as we head into the coming winter season.

Wishing everyone the very best for 2026. Thank you all for your continued support of the board. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Regards,  
Jane



## BOARD UPDATES

### Welcome to Daniel Lees - our new Property Board Director

Hi, I'm Daniel Lees and I'm excited to be joining the Board as Property Director. My family has been connected to the St George Alpine Club for many years, and I've been lucky enough to enjoy family holidays here since I was a kid.

These days, I'm making those same memories with my own tribe of four children, who all love the snow and our time away at the lodge. From first tracks to blue bird days, plenty of hot chocolates, last-chair rides and family dinners in the lodge, I can honestly say it doesn't get much better than this. Many great memories have been made here over the years, and many more are still to come.

*I'm proud to support the lodge and to see the association continue to grow and strengthen for generations to come.*

Professionally, I run my own building company, and I'm looking forward to applying my knowledge and expertise in property management to help the lodge maintain, improve, and plan for the future.

Daniel and his wife Asher  
skiing at Hotham



### Sitting Board members:

- Jane Courtney (President)
- Graham Grigg (Secretary)
- Graeme Beilby (Treasurer)
- Robert Philp (Membership Director)
- Daniel Lees (Property Director)
- Keith Farrell (Accodation Director)
- Sally Garner (Communications Director)
- Colin Moore (Director)

Karen Johnson (Booking Officer)

## TREASURERS UPDATE - GRAEME BEILBY

*We are pleased to report that the most recent ski season generated the highest income on record, with this remarkably strong season has led to the highest occupancy rates seen in recent years.*

Nevertheless, because of effective planning, the increased income has managed to balance out the high expenses up to now. Our profit is stable in comparison with recent years – a good overall result.

All in all, this is a healthy financial result and allows the Club to reinvest back into the Lodges and/or withstand future poor seasons. Presently, the Club has the financial balance on the right path to ensure ongoing success. This has enabled us to maintain our existing rates throughout the year, without implementing any nightly or weekly accommodation increases.

*As the newly appointed treasurer, it is clear that effective planning, budgeting, and continual management of ongoing needs are being undertaken to support the Club's continued success.*

The Club's strong financial standing is largely attributable to the dedication and guidance of both current and recently retired long-term Directors, who merit recognition for their contributions.



## PROPERTY UPDATE

Both lodges have new vacuum cleaners. Defibrillators have been purchased and will be installed in accessible areas.

*Many thanks to Daniel Lees who has coordinated the works at Jindabyne*

### HOTHAM

- Kitchen demolition & replacement
- New crockery, cookware and glassware
- New Fridges to be replaced soon
- Room 4 Balcony door repaired
- Builders clean pre-Christmas

### JINDABYNE

- Ceiling fans installed in lounge
- New Air Conditioners installed
- Water heater leak fixed
- Window and gutters cleaned



*If you notice anything out of place or damaged at either lodge, please take a photograph and send to the secretary for urgent attention. All repairs must be authorised by the Board.*



## HOTHAM KITCHEN UPDATE - SALLY GARNER

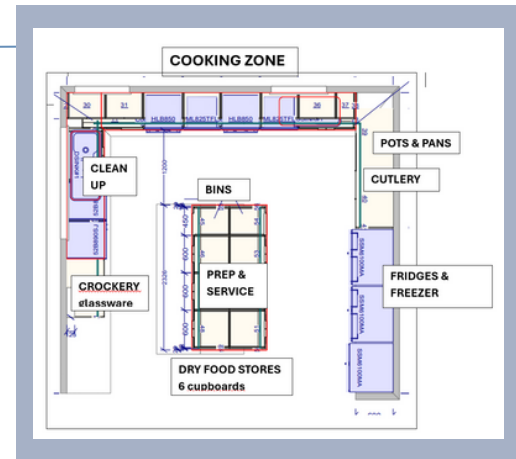
We have nearly completed the update to the Hotham kitchen. This has been a long-awaited project in the works over a few years with many people involved in ensuring we get the design and functionality correct. A few setbacks meant we did not finish as hoped prior to Christmas, however we are not far off completion. The recent bush fires have restricted trades into the area as well. However, apart from a faulty oven we are close!

Please note that the fridges are yet to be replaced with some fine tuning ahead. We may have missed some small things so please do pass on your suggestions to [communications@stgeorgealpine.com.au](mailto:communications@stgeorgealpine.com.au) when you next visit.

*Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this very special project*

Below is an outline of the kitchen and storage facilities along with some before and after photos. Please note the club stores are in the right corner cupboard which leaves the overhead cupboards for overflow storage as required by members. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this very special project. The full suite of photographs are available on our website to view.

### OLD KITCHEN - RETURN STYLE



### DEMOLITION COMPLETEXT



### NEW KITCHEN!





## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



New memberships - Two new memberships have been purchased this period. For future purchase of A or C memberships, please contact Robert Philp on 0448 983 022.

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

**REMINDER - ANNUAL FEES WERE DUE JANUARY 1ST 2026**

**BOOKINGS FOR SKI SEASON 2025 WILL OPEN ON FEBRUARY 1ST 2026 FROM 8AM ONLY**

**\*\*\*Please note - any bookings that take place prior to the 8am open time will not be processed\*\*\***

## BOOKING REMINDERS

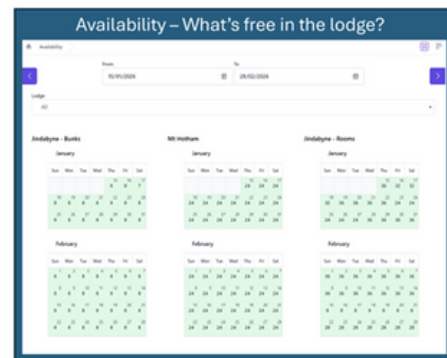
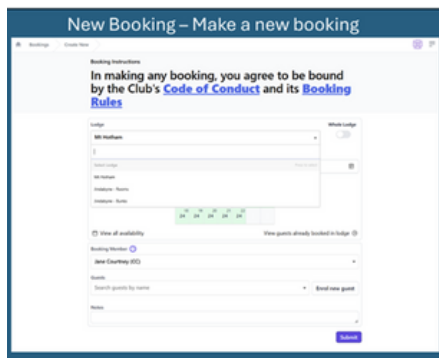
Please review the [booking rules](#) prior to commencing any bookings for Winter 2026. The rules are available on the website under Documents.

*Please Note: when making your first booking in the new year, ensure you have your dates correct.*

Where a winter booking is made by a member between February 1st and March 15th, that booking **cannot** be transferred to another party by that member. The booking must be cancelled and only 80% of the fee paid will be returned where the booking has been cancelled with 4 weeks' notice.

*Clubman: Please note the update to the look and feel of our booking system.*

Navigating the website is straightforward (screen shots below). On larger screens, the menu options appear as dropdowns from boxes located at the top of each page. For smaller mobile screens, the menu can be found under the "hamburger" icon (three small lines) at the top right corner.



**Rates:** There will be no increase in annual fees or booking rates this year. However, the increasing costs to insurance and services will be monitored over the season.

**Summer Bookings:** Please note our Booking Officer Karen will update and adjust any rates, then contact you before you make payment on a summer booking. So, if the rates don't look right - please don't cancel and rebook. Our booking system is not sophisticated enough to manage all the variables with non-member rates. Karen is well versed at making the adjustments to match the advertised rates.

## COMMUNICATION UPDATE



St George Alpine Club

Private group - 137 members



*Our Facebook Page - We now have 137 members in our facebook group!*

It is great to see posts over the season with news about both lodges and locations shared. Whether skiing, riding or bushwalking, we really enjoy seeing your posts. Please keep it going!

We would love to see one of our members photos star on our Facebook home page - please send your favourites to Sally

Please email [communications@stgeorgealpine.com.au](mailto:communications@stgeorgealpine.com.au)

## PROPOSED PROJECTS

We have listed the projects for your review here. Please let us know your thoughts and if you are aware of anything else you would like us to consider for either club.

Please email [communications@stgeorgealpine.com.au](mailto:communications@stgeorgealpine.com.au), include your name and membership type as well.

Location	Project	Priority
Jindabyne	Deck	1
Hotham	Bathroom Updates	2
Hotham	Blinds/Curtains	2
Jindabyne	Bathroom Updates	2
Hotham	Internet Coverage	3
Hotham	Internal Painting	3
Jindabyne	Internet Coverage	3
Jindabyne	Internal Painting	3

## MOUNTAIN UPDATES

### Jindabyne

#### Exciting events

Mountain bikers will love the **Snowies MTB Festival**, a three-day mountain biking extravaganza held in Jindabyne each February. It's followed by the trail running and triathlon events of the **Snowies Multisport Festival**. **Lake Light** transforms the foreshore of Lake Jindabyne with huge sculptures over the Easter long weekend. Don't miss the thrills and spills of Jindabyne's Man from Snowy River Rodeo in December.



Man from Snowy River Rodeo, Jindabyne - Credit: Jenny Solomon

Head to <https://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/snowy-mountains/jindabyne-area/jindabyne> for all the details



**Jindabyne Area**  
**Jindabyne Art Gallery Pop Up Exhibition**  
Local artists showcase diverse works celebrating Snowy Mountains culture.



**Jindabyne Area**  
**Geehi huts walking track**  
Explore Geehi huts track by foot, bike, horse or 4WD. Historic huts, river crossings, Snowy Mountain views.



**Jindabyne Area**  
**Snow Gums boardwalk**  
Snow Gums boardwalk offers stunning views of Australia's highest peaks.

### Mt Hotham

#### FREE GUIDED WALKS

Back again for 2026!

Discover Hotham's diverse and extensive trail network and take part in our free guided walks this season led by our experienced and knowledgeable Hotham guides. Family-friendly and full of interesting facts and stunning views, these walks are a great way to spend a couple of hours in an amazing environment high above the clouds.



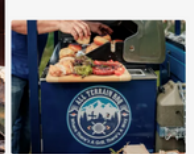
Hotham has some great guided walks available over the warmer months. Why not trek out to the Spargo hut and see the mountain without snow! Just visit the hotham website and book online. Lots of other summer activities to enjoy as shown below



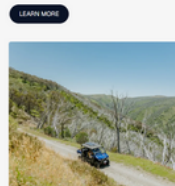
**WALKING AND HIKING**  
Mt Hotham has a range of truly iconic alpine tracks and trails that provide access to some of Australia's best views, unique flora and the High Country's rich history. When you walk our trails, you're truly getting away from it all.



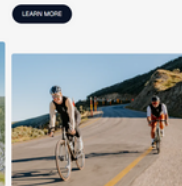
**ECO-GLAMPING EXPERIENCES**  
Let Alpine Nature Experience host you at their eco-camp during summer with the most unique camping experience you can find.



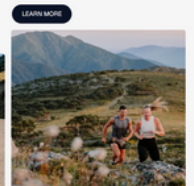
**GUIDED AND CATERED WALKS**  
For the ultimate guided and catered day walks and overnight hikes, look no further than Alpine Nature Experience and Where There's a Will, There's a Way.



**BACK COUNTRY BUGGY TOURS**  
Climb aboard an ARV buggy for a summer journey through Victoria's alpine wilderness to the iconic Silver Brumby Hut at the 'Plains of Heaven'. A perfect blend of storytelling, scenery, and off-road adventure with a delicious BBQ lunch.



**ROAD CYCLING**  
The road to Hotham is one of Australia's most iconic cycling routes with its scenic and challenging climbs and breathtaking descents. Are you up for the ultimate challenge?



**ALPINE TRAIL RUNNING**  
With kilometres of open space to explore Mt Hotham is a trail runner's dream. The resort has numerous tracks that are perfect for running or you can choose to tackle some of the many walking trails, all of which offer amazing views.



## REMINDERS FOR LODGE USE

### Safety

it is priority that all members and their guests feel safe at all times at our lodges.

Please alert a Board member if you see anything out of place that may affect the comfort and enjoyment at our lodges for all.

### 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 remind yourself of the Code of Conduct on our website
- 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 Secretary 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 safe and Happy 2026.*