



JUNE 2021 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Dear Members,

This newsletter contains a summary of the events of the last few months in preparation for the 2021 Winter season.

SEASON OPENS EARLY

With 54cms falling at Mt Hotham and heavy falls across NSW resorts, Mt Hotham, Thredbo, and Perisher have all begun their 2021 season. We are all looking forward to a fantastic 2021 winter season!

AGM

The AGM was held via Zoom on 26 May with 36 people attending and 10 members providing their proxies. Our AGM occurring via Zoom has been a wonderful way of enabling more people to attend, particularly our Victorian members. Thank you to everyone who was in attendance or provided their proxies. All existing board members were re-elected for 2021, and we welcome Natasha Nutt who joins the board to replace Mark Wong. We thank Mark for the 5 years that he was part of the board, particularly his contributions around the Covid-19 plans across the lodges and our compliance with Australian Standards. We also thank John Cathcart for his nomination to the board, and we encourage others to consider applying to be part of the SGAC board in the future.

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)
- Natasha Nutt (Board Member)
- Karen Johnson (Booking Officer)

Financial summary

At the AGM, updates were given on the status of both lodges with 2020 being an unprecedented year due to COVID. Despite the lack of revenue during 2020, financially the club remains in a healthy state and is expecting a return to more normal operating conditions during 2021.

Chris presented the Profit and Loss and Balance sheet at the AGM for the 2020 financial year which was approved by the meeting attendees. A copy can be obtained if required by emailing secretary@stgeorgealpine.com.au

Chris went on to highlight that due to COVID-19, in 2020 our booking income was down by \$88,332 over the previous year. This was partially offset by us qualifying for the \$20,000 cash flow boost from the Federal Government and a \$29,250 grant from the Victorian Government, reducing that lost income down by \$39,082 on the previous year.

Fortunately, at the commencement of 2021 the Club was in a strong position with solid bank balances, and we are already seeing strong bookings for 2021. However, \$22,000 worth of bookings will use carry over Covid Cancellation credits from 2020 and while we should finish 2021 in a relatively strong position, the Board has agreed to freeze any capital expenditure at both Lodges until the situation settles down.

COVID-19 Lodge updates

To help keep everyone safe and to comply with government regulations, we are still operating under modified lodge conditions. Some changes/updates are listed below, but for a full update, please see [Documents](#) section of our website

Sign in - You must sign in using QR code in the foyer and show the Lodge Captain that you have done so.

Hotham check-in/check-out changes – To allow lodge sanitising to take place, Hotham bookings are being made Saturday to Saturday (check-in after 4pm, check-out by 10am). If you are staying for two weeks you must pack up and leave by 10am on the Saturday (including removing your luggage from the lodge) to allow for sanitizing. When checking in, guests are not able to drop off any belonging before 4pm, and on check-out guests must leave with all possessions by 10am. This is to ensure that the lodge is fully sanitised before the arrival of new guests.

No Guests – Unfortunately, no guests are allowed at any time at either lodge. We will notify you if/when this changes.

No access to drying room, washing machine, or dryers – Unfortunately, guests are not able to use the drying room, washing machine or dryers.

At Jindabyne - drying racks with your room number with coat hangers have been placed in the games area and we suggest you put the air-conditioner on to help dry your clothes. Ensure you dry off the outside of boots before putting on the bottom rack. There is a laundromat in Jindabyne (Snow White Laundry, ph: (02)6456 2475) that is open 6 days/week if you need to access paid laundry services during your stay.

At Hotham - drying racks are in each room. There is a laundromat at Dinner Plain, ph: (03) 5159 6366

Jindabyne – take own pillows, blankets, sheets, towels and bathmat and leave the temporary bed protectors on the bed and they will be changed on Sunday as part of the sanitising process

Hotham – take own pillows, blankets, towels and bathmat. Sheets and pillow slips are supplied in a bag in your room. Please make up your bed and when leaving put the pillow slips and sheets back into the bag and leave in your room for pickup when the lodge is sanitised. If you are staying two weeks you must pack up and leave during sanitizing.

General Cleaning / Chores - Residents must clean their room/bathroom and continue to perform their allocated chores before leaving the lodge on their last day. If the room is deemed not clean by the cleaners, a professional room cleaning fee will be back charged.

Covid Plan – The Documents section of the SGAC website includes details of the [Hotham](#) and [Jindabyne](#) COVID plans, which are State specific as they are different due to state laws.

There continue to be changes made at state levels regarding Covid-19 restrictions and testing requirements, with Victoria having announced new restrictions with travel to Victoria Ski Resorts. Continue to monitor this advice at the following locations;

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>

<https://www.mthotham.com.au/discover/connect-with-us/latest-news/covid-19-update>

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>

2021 Bookings Update

We have seen strong bookings across both lodges for the winter season, and are expecting to be operating at capacity through July, August, and early September. This is a fantastic position to be in and shows a solid increase in lodge usage across both properties (especially at Mt Hotham), where we have previously seen occupancy rates as low as 30%.

Clarification of the Booking Rules were discussed at the AGM following the successful move to an online booking system. It was agreed that these are due for review and suggestions from members will be sought. The Board will develop and circulate a questionnaire in the coming months to canvas thoughts from members on how our booking rules can be improved.

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 we have a waiting list of people wanting to purchase memberships of our club.

Kitchen updates for Jindabyne

As a result of the 2020 water leak (and associated insurance claim), the kitchen and electrical switchboard have been replaced, as well as the replacement of bunk beds to meet WHS standards. Photos of the new kitchen can be viewed on the website.

Safety at Mt Hotham lodge

With the Jindabyne bunk beds having been replaced, the question was raised at the AGM as to whether the Hotham bunk beds meet the required safety standards. The Board are currently looking into this and will provide an update to members later in the year.

The height of the wall-mounted (overhead) kitchen cupboards was also discussed as a concern by Hotham members. This will be further reviewed by the Board with updates to follow.

Expenditure across Jindabyne and Mt Hotham Lodges

A query was raised during the AGM as to the level of expenditure at Jindabyne compared to Mt Hotham. To honour this question and ensure accurate information could be provided, Chris Boseley (Treasurer) has provided the following information.

For the benefit of the new members of the club and in particular the members who use Hotham, we feel that there's a need to make a point of clarification on the relative levels of capital expenditure at Mt Hotham Vs Jindabyne.

Jindabyne lodge first opened in 1978, with much of the fit-out including the construction of the bunk beds being done to a budget, using volunteer labour.

Fast forward 10 years and the decision to acquire Mt Hotham came about because of a request by the members to acquire "On Snow" accommodation with the fit-out and furnishings at Hotham being a newer and professionally designed and built lodge, of a much higher standard than Jindabyne. In the past Mt Hotham has lost money, but with the work of the board and the support of the members it is now profitable.

In 2019, \$18,958 was spent at Hotham for a new LPG Gas cooker, new Gas Hot Water Service and replacement flooring. Jindabyne in 2020 required a kitchen upgrade and bunk bed replacement (direct costs valued at \$22,808), which were in the pipeline for two years and we were committed to spending the money on them in-spite of the revenue turn down, due to Covid.

Finally, we have done an analysis of Asset related expenditure over the last two years and can confirm that on a per bed basis the capital expenditure in that period at Jindabyne has been tracking at \$797/bed versus \$729/bed at Mt Hotham. The membership at Hotham can rest assured that the Board is committed to maintaining the lodge to a standard that is comparable to other on snow accommodation.

Junior Ski Scholarships

In its efforts to promote skiing as a sport, St George Alpine Ski Club offers (up to 5) scholarships to school and preschool age children of financial lodge members for them to further their pursuit of the sport. The scholarship provides a financial contribution for the child to use in furthering their skills in the sport of skiing. This donation can be used to cover the cost of lessons, training, inter-schools competition etc.

Please note this scholarship applies to skiing (downhill and cross-country) as well as snowboarding. To apply for the scholarship the child or parent must apply in writing outlining what the scholarship is going to be used for. After the scholarship has been received, a letter from the child or the parent must be provided outlining the results achieved. Applications can be submitted via email to secretary@stgeorgealpine.com.au by 30th June 2021.

Eligibility: Scholarships are available to juniors (under the age of 18) and can be reapplied for after 5 years since their last scholarship. If more than five applications are received, those for first time scholarships will be prioritised. If you have any questions, please contact any of the directors.

REMINDERS

Duty Roster

A duty roster is located on the inside of each bedroom door and the Noticeboard near the kitchen. Please co-operate by doing the daily "chores" allocated to you. Garbage bins need to be put out on certain nights for collection (check the Noticeboard). It is preferable to totally fill one garbage at a time to minimize collection costs.

Consideration for Other Patrons

All common areas are available for all patrons, and all patrons should be sensitive to the needs of others. Keep noise to a minimum, particularly at night and early in the morning (not everyone wants to get up at 5am and get to the first lift of the day!). If you have been out partying at the local clubs or hotels, and you are coming home very late, please be aware that any sound made at late hours will carry throughout the lodge.

Lodge Captain

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 holidays 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.

The specific duties for lodge captains across both lodges are located in the [Documents](#) section of the website or the following links;

[Jindabyne](#) Lodge Captain duties

[Mt Hotham](#) Lodge Captain duties

Before Departure

Clean, vacuum and tidy your room and ensuite, and the spaces you used in the refrigerator, freezers and kitchen cupboards etc. Leave your room key in the door lock. If you are the last out of the Lodge, ensure all internal bins are emptied. Ensure all windows and doors are locked.

Updates from the Ski Resorts.....

[Perisher](#) (info from Perisher.com.au)

Perisher opened early on 4th June and has enjoyed an exciting dump of 60cms of snow to get them started!

Lift tickets, lessons, rentals and Skitube for the entire 2021 season are now available online.



**(Perisher Blog
2021 – Winter Has Come**

post) 10 June

It's been a great start to the season with the cold May weather and hard work of our mountain operations team making it possible to open our slopes a week early. We saw plenty of skiers and snowboarders enjoying their first runs of the season as the snow continued to fall.

But the wins haven't stopped there! The storm we've seen this week has dumped a massive 60cms of fresh snow and we've received the big tick to open up more of the resort. We have our trusty Quad Express (mid-station), Leichhardt Quad Chair and Happy Valley & Sturt T-Bars open on Saturday at Perisher.

Smiggin Holes will also be making its season debut, with Captain Cook & Scott J-Bars and Harry's & Herman's Carpet all set to open. You can also pick up your tickets, rentals and retail bits & bobs from our Smiggin Holes outlets from Saturday.

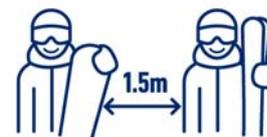
The early snowfall has certainly got us strapping up and excited for the season to come.

Perisher Covid Update:

Perisher does not anticipate 2021 Epic Australia Pass holders will need to make reservations to ski or ride at Perisher this season. However, in the event the resorts need to manage capacity to allow for physical distancing, Vail Resorts may manage access through a reservation system that prioritises pass holders.



FACE COVERINGS RECOMMENDED



MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCE



NO CASH ACCEPTED



STAY HOME IF UNWELL



PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE

Ski Tube timetable: <https://www.perisher.com.au/resort-info/mountain-operations/skitube-timetable>

Lift tickets and lessons: <https://www.perisher.com.au/tickets-passes>

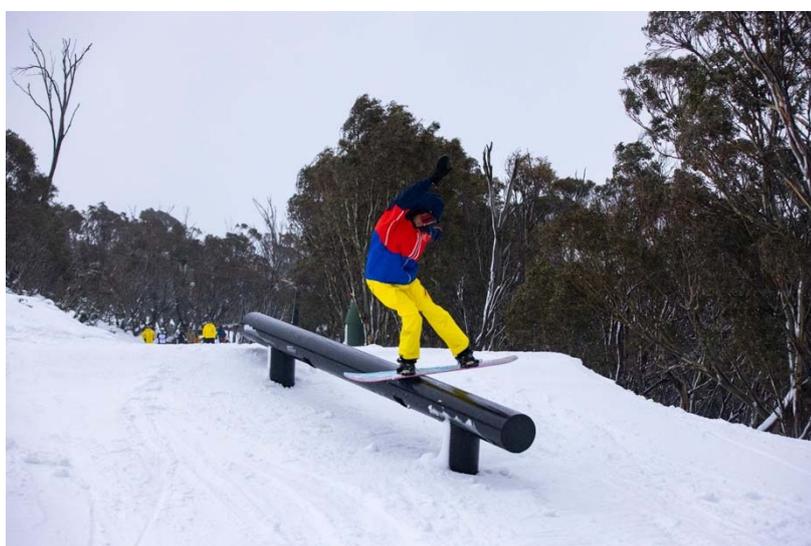
Epic Pass info: <https://www.perisher.com.au/epic-australia-pass>

Perisher Events (including Interschools dates):
<https://www.perisher.com.au/events/#/events?arrive=2021-6-14&type=all>

Thredbo (info from thredbo.com.au)

Thredbo opened on 12th June following the fresh snow that had fallen in the days leading up to opening weekend. Thredbo received 60cms of snowfall up top and 25cm of snowfall in the village. There were six lifts running over the opening weekend; Merritts Gondola, Gunbarrel, The Cruiser, Easy Does It, Syd's Snowrunner, and Easy Rider.

The snow cover up high meant the Cruiser area and the upper sections of High Noon and Dream Run were the picks of the opening day. The Easy Rider Terrain Park made its season debut with a stack of features, including rails, boxes, two 15ft jumps, and two 25ft jumps.



Merritts Gondola Passes are available – with limited availability

Take a scenic ride on the state-of-the-art Merritts Gondola, Australia's only alpine Gondola!

Ride the Gondola to the top and take in the incredible mountain and valley views from the base of the Cruiser Area plus stop in at Merritts Mountain House for an alpine breakfast, lunch or après.

Hours: 11am – 3pm (conditions permitting)
Price: Adults \$45 | 65+ \$35 | Kids 3 to 17 years \$10

Some peak season dates may sell out so we encourage guests to plan early and pre-purchase passes online.



[24/7 MyThredbo Card Kiosks](#)

Pick Up Card From 3 Convenient Locations

You can now get onto the lifts and score fresh tracks even quicker with 24-7 MyThredbo Card Kiosks. Simply purchase lift passes, lessons and activities online before collecting your MyThredbo card using a printed or digital barcode on their mobile phone.

From Friday 11 June, our kiosks will be located at [Friday Flat](#) and [Valley Terminal](#) in Thredbo and at Nuggets Crossing in [Jindabyne](#).

A photo must be uploaded to your profile before your MyThredbo card can be printed.

Get more info here: <https://www.thredbo.com.au/mythredbo/>

Lift passes: <https://www.thredbo.com.au/passes-rentals/winter-passes/>

Lessons and programs: <https://www.thredbo.com.au/lessons-programs/>

Winter activities: <https://www.thredbo.com.au/activities/?category=winter>

Thredbo Winter Calendar of Events: <https://www.thredbo.com.au/events/2021/winter-of-events/>

Mt Hotham (info from mthotham.com.au)



Mt Hotham opened on 12th June with 54cms of fresh snowfall and plenty of snow making to get the ski season off to a great start. We're excited to have Road Runner, Summit Quad and Summit Trainer open to access great skiing and boarding on Summit, Sun Run, Basin and Playground trail. Check out our [snow report](#) or [lifts and terrain](#) pages for all the latest info. Checkout our [2021 Winter Experience page](#) for all the latest on resort operations this season.

If you haven't already – make sure to [subscribe to our daily Snow Reports](#). We'll keep you up to date with the latest snow, runs and lift information delivered direct to your inbox, every morning. You can also [download the Hotham app](#) to connect with your friends on the slopes, track your ski days and view real-time resort information.

New [snowmaking](#) possibilities:

This season our snowmaking team is packing more punch than ever. We're excited to share the news that over the last 18 months we've invested in 8 new, state-of-the-art mobile snow guns.

An events calendar has not yet been released for the 2021 snow season, however keep an eye on the Mt Hotham website for more information.

Lift/Resort entry passes: <https://www.mthotham.com.au/passes>

Lessons and programs: <https://www.mthotham.com.au/lessons-hire/lesson-type/lessons>

Winter activities: <https://www.mthotham.com.au/on-mountain/things-to-do/events>

Covid-19 Updates for Mt Hotham

From Friday 18 June we look forward to welcoming all guests into the resort, following the announcement of relaxed travel restrictions for Melbourne residents. To ensure our resort remains safe and compliant with Government restrictions, we wish to make Melbourne guests aware that entry into the resort is only permitted where visitors can provide proof of a negative COVID test taken within 72 hours of departing Melbourne.

The Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board will be implementing these checks and [more information can be found here](#).

These measures will continue to be reviewed by the State Government in line with other COVID safe settings.

We're excited to have our lifts spinning, and we will continue making snow at every opportunity, and plan to open more terrain as soon as we can.

In order to facilitate a successful COVID safe 2021 snow season, we ask all guests visiting the resort to comply with current [Government COVID-19 restrictions including travel restrictions](#).

Jindabyne

Jindy has already had a dose of snowfall for the season as captured beautifully in the image below thanks to Destination Jindabyne.



<https://www.instagram.com/p/CP7SygjBsrB/>

Jindabyne offers a playground of entertainment year-round. Keep up to date with what's on at <https://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/snowy-mountains/jindabyne-area>

Looking for something different?



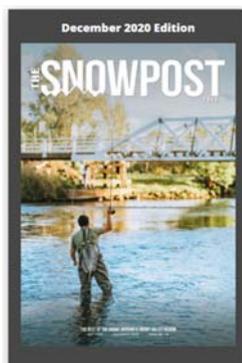
Looking for something different this winter?

Rethynk Experience are running hot air balloon flights over Lake Jindabyne

@rethynkexperience
Book ahead with Jason.
Call 0413 642 061 to book your flight.

**SNOWY
MOUNTAINS**
M A G A Z I N E

[Snowy Mountains Magazine \(snowymagazine.com.au\)](http://snowymagazine.com.au)



[The Monaro Post](#)